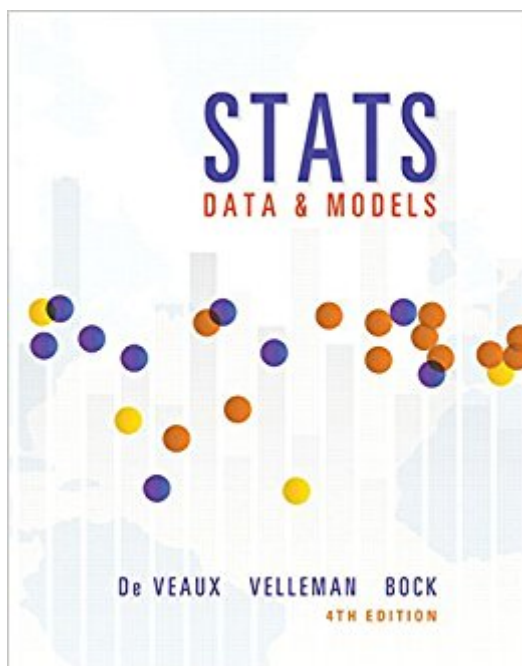


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Stats: Data And Models (4th Edition)



Synopsis

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Stats: Data and Models

MyStatLab should only be purchased when required by an instructor. For one-or-two semester introductory statistics courses. Richard De Veaux, Paul Velleman, and David Bock wrote Stats: Data and Models with the goal that students and instructors have as much fun reading it as they did writing it. Maintaining a conversational, humorous, and informal writing style, this new edition engages students from the first page. The authors focus on statistical thinking throughout the text and rely on technology for calculations. As a result, students can focus on developing their conceptual understanding. Innovative Think/Show/Tell examples give students a problem-solving framework and, more importantly, a way to think through any statistics problem and present their results. The Fourth Edition is updated with instructor podcasts, video lectures, and new examples to keep material fresh, current, and relevant to today's students.

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Customer Reviews

Richard D. DeVeaux is an internationally known educator and consultant. He has taught at the Wharton School and the Princeton University School of Engineering, where he won a “Lifetime Award for Dedication and Excellence in Teaching.” Since 1994, he has been Professor of Statistics at Williams College. Dick has won both the Wilcoxon and Shewell awards from the American Society for Quality. He is a fellow of the American Statistical Association (ASA) and an elected member of the International Statistical Institute (ISI). In 2008, he was named Statistician of the Year by the Boston Chapter of the ASA. Dick is also well known in industry, where for more than 25 years he has consulted for such Fortune 500 companies as American Express, Hewlett-Packard, Alcoa, DuPont, Pillsbury, General Electric, and Chemical Bank. Because he consulted with Mickey Hart on his book Planet Drum, he has also sometimes been called the “Official Statistician for the Grateful Dead.” His real-world experiences and anecdotes illustrate many of this book’s chapters. Dick holds degrees from Princeton University in Civil Engineering (B.S.E.) and Mathematics (A.B.) and from Stanford University in Dance Education (M.A.) and Statistics (Ph.D.), where he studied dance with Inga Weiss and Statistics with Persi Diaconis. His research focuses on the analysis of large data sets and data mining in science and industry. In his spare time, he is an avid cyclist and swimmer. He also is the founder of the “Diminished Faculty,” an a cappella Doo-Wop quartet at Williams College and sings bass in the college concert choir. Dick is the father of four children. Paul F. Velleman has an international reputation for innovative Statistics education. He is the author and designer of the multimedia Statistics program ActivStats, for which he was awarded the EDUCOM Medal for innovative uses of computers in teaching statistics, and the ICTCM Award for Innovation in Using Technology in College Mathematics. He also developed the award-winning statistics program, Data Desk, and the Internet site Data and Story Library (DASL) (lib.stat.cmu.edu/DASL/), which provides data sets for teaching Statistics. Paul’s understanding of using and teaching with technology informs much of this book’s approach. Paul has taught Statistics at Cornell University since 1975. He holds an A.B. from Dartmouth College in Mathematics and Social Science, and M.S. and Ph.D. degrees in Statistics from Princeton University, where he studied with John Tukey. His research often deals with statistical graphics and data analysis methods. Paul co-authored (with David Hoaglin) ABCs of Exploratory Data Analysis. Paul is a Fellow of the American Statistical Association and of the American Association for the Advancement

of Science. Paul is the father of two boys. David E. Bock taught mathematics at Ithaca High School for 35 years. He has taught Statistics at Ithaca High School, Tompkins-Cortland Community College, Ithaca College, and Cornell University. Dave has won numerous teaching awards, including the MAA's Edyth May Sliffe Award for Distinguished High School Mathematics Teaching (twice), Cornell University's Outstanding Educator Award (three times), and has been a finalist for New York State Teacher of the Year. Dave holds degrees from the University at Albany in Mathematics (B.A.) and Statistics/Education (M.S.). Dave has been a reader and table leader for the AP Statistics exam, serves as a Statistics consultant to the College Board, and leads workshops and institutes for AP Statistics teachers. He has recently served as K-12 Education and Outreach Coordinator and a senior lecturer for the Mathematics Department at Cornell University. His understanding of how students learn informs much of this book's approach. Dave and his wife relax by biking or hiking, spending much of their free time in Canada, the Rockies, or the Blue Ridge Mountains. They have a son, a daughter, and four grandchildren.

First off, if you never taken statistics before, this is not the easy stats of simple dice and poker probabilities. Treat any stats course that uses this book with the same respect as a calculus course (i.e. it's a bad idea to take stats and calc in the same semester). The first few chapters start light, mostly explaining normal distributions, correlation, regression, etc; easy enough. After a few chapters you start dealing with geometric, binomial, and Poisson distributions, which is a little bit harder, but doable. This is about where you have to remember a lot of formulas (e.g. formula for standard deviation is different for each distribution: it's $\sqrt{q/p^2}$, \sqrt{npq} , $\sqrt{\lambda}$, respectively). And by around chapter 20 and onwards the material is really thick (at least for me); so keep up. The book is 31 chapters long (your class may not cover the whole book; our class only went up to 26); each chapter being about 30 pages long, not counting end of chapter notes and exercises. Language of the book is easy to understand; not overly technical, mostly plain English. At the end of any chapter containing calculations, there's a section on how to do the calculations on different technology (TI-83/84, TI-89, SPSS, and other software). Pay extra attention to this section, it'll make your life easier (way faster than hand calculating) if your professor allows technology in the classroom. The back of the book contains answers for odd-number questions, and also various stats tables (for those who prefer hand calculations). Also note, the book contains yellow highlights that's printed by the publisher; don't worry, no one marked up the book you bought. I guess the author wanted to be extra sure that you knew which points were the important ones.

For a math textbook, the authors did a good job of making it enjoyable. Due to a bad professor, I found myself consulting the textbook a lot. The footnotes might be the best. They did a good job taking a dull subject and keeping it entertaining and the examples concise yet complete. However, there are grammar errors all over! I guess the editors were only math editors.

It was alright. I learned the material, I passed the class. It was anything but easy, and I believe my class only covered up to about chapter 20 (as it is a two-parter course). While it appears others liked the conversational nature of the text, I at times found it a bit uncomfortable as it felt a bit tangential. It did not however get terribly bad with this, and stayed on topic, I just did not find it a pleasurable read. Still, it was informational, gave clear examples (although in my learning style I may have preferred more variable examples). Overall, it's a statistics book, it did its job, fairly well in fact, there's not a great deal else to expect from it.

This is a fantastic Stat textbook. It's pretty much the only textbook I can actually sit down and read like a novel; it's a pleasure to read and is written very conversationally. The examples are great and presented in a very clear and easy-to-understand manner. I originally bought this for a specific class, but this textbook could help your understanding of Statistics whether it's your class' textbook or not. I highly recommend it.

Love statistics!!

I bought this as an extra for my stats class. It was a good study aide to accompany my lessons.

The text is usually good and understandable but the exercise parts are partly dubious. It's often hard to solve the problems by yourself. The book comes with the solutions for all odd numbered tasks but they lack explanations how to get to the desired results. Try to solve the problems in chapter 17 (Probability Models) and you will see what I mean. I bought this older edition because the new one was too expensive. In comparison, however, there is not much of a difference. A few new tasks are added, others revised, or eliminated in the new edition, but not significantly.

I like that the authors include lots of step-by-step explanations of problems and they even lay out the assumptions necessary to use each model. Overall it's a great college text for people who have

never taken statistics in high school.

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