

mathematical details of the tests in the book in order to program these tests because no computer programs are available in the book or the author's web site. Some practical issues such as the selection for the number of Monte Carlo samples are also not covered in this book. Some references such as Zhu, Yuen, and Tang (2002) and (2000) are either missing or misplaced. But overall, this is an interesting book, which gives a nice introduction to this new and specific field of resampling methods.

REFERENCE

Shao, J. and Tu, D. (1995). *The Jackknife and Bootstrap*. New York: Springer.

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BRIEF REPORTS BY THE EDITOR

DAVISON, A., DODGE, Y., and WERMUTH, N. (eds). **Celebrating Statistics: Papers in Honour of Sir David Cox on His 80th Birthday**. Oxford University Press, Oxford, 2005. xiv + 304 pp. US\$79.50/£40.00, ISBN 0-19-856654-9.

As the title suggests, *Celebrating Statistics* is a proceedings from a conference honoring Sir David Cox held in July 2004 in Neuchâtel. The book begins with a brief biography of Sir David Cox, including numerous photos, excerpts from interviews, and a 14-page listing of his publications. Most of the 12 subsequent papers published in this volume are surveys of their respective areas, often with some speculation regarding future work in those areas. The papers are an interesting mix of those that relate directly to areas upon which Cox's work has had direct influence, and those for which the connection to Cox is not readily apparent. Chapters cover theoretical statistics and asymptotics, semiparametric and nonparametric statistics, computing, various aspects of time series, and modeling dynamic processes. There is also a chapter presenting the results of a series of meta-analyses of breast cancer trials. Some papers are discourses on their subjects, while others take a distinctly technical approach. Regardless of the style, the papers tend to be written by well-recognized authorities, and virtually all of the papers might be considered "essential reading" for students and researchers in their respective fields.

RABE-HESKETH, S. and SKRONDAL, A. **Multilevel and Longitudinal Modeling Using Stata**. Stata Press, College Station, Texas, 2005. xxi + 317 pp. US\$54.00, ISBN 1-59718-008-4.

Multilevel and longitudinal models are commonly used by statisticians practicing in the biological sciences. The more the statistical software creators expand and improve their offerings in these areas, the more their users can focus on learning one software package for all of their analysis needs. With this book, Professors Rabe-Hesketh and Skrondal demonstrate Stata's capabilities for modeling random effects. The authors begin simply, with one-way random-effects models.

With successive chapters they incrementally increase the complexity of the problems they consider. Analogous models for normal, binary, ordinal, and count data are considered in turn, and by the end of the book, multiple crossed and nested random effects are added. The description of all models is clear. The emphasis is on explaining models, demonstrating the corresponding Stata commands for an analysis of that model, and interpreting the results. Analysis of each example is carried through completely, from initial examination of the data to model diagnostics. There are ample plots and output tables to support each analysis, and very little mathematical content to interfere with the flow of the exposition. There are exercises at the end of each chapter, and they, like the examples, span a wide range of application areas (they include, but are not restricted to, applications to biological problems). Considering the low mathematical level of the book, I especially appreciated the presence of a "Further Reading" section at the end of each chapter that directs readers wanting more depth to numerous resources for each type of analysis.

Established users of Stata who already possess knowledge of random effects and longitudinal models will be well served by this book. The book does not provide an introduction to Stata, so it would not be immediately useful to beginners to the software. Also, because the presentation is inextricably tied to the software, I cannot really recommend this book to non-Stata users who are just interested in a quick read on random effects modeling.

ZELTERMAN, D. **Models for Discrete Data, Revised Edition**. Oxford University Press, Oxford, 2006. x + 285 pp. US\$94.50/£50.00, ISBN 0-19-856701-4.

This is a revision of a book that was published in 1999 and reviewed in *Biometrics* in 2000 (p. 321). The author has added applied exercises, so that each chapter now offers ample choices for both theoretical and applied student assignments. Most data sets are health science examples taken from the literature. Also, a new section covers Poisson regression using an example of a rate regression with several explanatory variables.