QUOTES

• “If you do what you love, it is the best way to relax.” Christian Louboutin

• “Your mind will answer most questions if you learn to relax and wait for the answer.” William S. Burroughs

• “I have so much chaos in my life, it’s become normal. You become used to it. You have to just relax, calm down, take a deep breath and try to see how you can make things work rather than complain about how they’re wrong.” Tom Welling

• “If you want to relax, watch the clouds pass by if you’re laying on the grass, or sit in front of the creek; just doing nothing and having those still moments is what really rejuvenates the body.” Miranda Kerr

• “Nothing in life is to be feared, it is only to be understood. Now is the time to understand more, so that we may fear less.” Marie Curie
UPCOMING DEPARTMENT MEETINGS

- None (no Department Meeting due to spring break and Epidemiology Chair Seminar).

INTERESTING READS (good things to “Read, read read!”)

- NSF CAREER Award to Emory Math Professor:
- “The spread of true and false news online” from *Science* (thanks to Andrea Lane for sharing!)
  - [http://science.sciencemag.org/content/359/6380/1146.full](http://science.sciencemag.org/content/359/6380/1146.full)
- “The science of fake news” from *Science*
  - [http://science.sciencemag.org/content/359/6380/1094.full](http://science.sciencemag.org/content/359/6380/1094.full)

NIH NEWS

- Application and Funding Trends in FY 2017 (with graphs)
- Requesting input on NIH Draft Plan for Data Science
  - **Online comments due by April 2**
- Funding Opportunity for Development of Training Modules to Enhance the Rigor and Reproducibility of Biomedical Research
WORKSHOPS

- Registration is still open for the following Webinar sponsored by the Mental Health Statistics Section:

  Title: **Mixed Models for Intensive Longitudinal Data**  
  Presenter: **Donald Hedeker**  
  Date and Time: **Wednesday, March 21, 2018, 12:00 p.m. – 2:00 p.m. Eastern time**  
  Sponsor: **Mental Health Statistics Section**  
  **Registration Deadline:** Monday, March 19, at 12:00 p.m. Eastern time

- **Description:**
  Modern data collection procedures, such as ecological momentary assessments (EMA), experience sampling, and diary methods have been developed to record the momentary events and experiences of subjects in daily life. These procedures yield relatively large numbers of subjects and observations per subject, and data from such designs are often referred to as intensive longitudinal data. Data from such studies are inherently multilevel with, for example, (level-1) observations nested within (level-2) subjects, or observations (level-1) within days (level-2) within subjects (level-3). Thus, mixed models (aka multilevel or hierarchical linear models) are increasingly used for data analysis. In this webinar, focus will be on some of the extended uses of mixed models for analysis of intensive longitudinal data. A primary focus area of the webinar will be on the modeling of variances from EMA data. In the standard mixed model, the error variance and the variance of the random effects are usually considered to be homogeneous. These variance terms characterize the within-subjects (error variance) and between-subjects (random-effects variance) variation in the data. In EMA studies, up to thirty or forty observations are often obtained for each subject, and there may be interest in characterizing changes in the variances, both within- and between-subjects. Thus, an extension of the standard mixed model will be described which adds a subject-level random effect to the within-subject variance specification. This permits subjects to have influence on the mean, or location, and variability, or scale, of their mood responses. These mixed-effects location scale models have useful applications in many research areas where interest centers on the joint modeling of the mean and variance structure.

- **Registration Fees:**
  Member of the Mental Health Statistics Section: $60  
  ASA Member: $90  
  Nonmember: $110

  Each registration is allowed one web connection. Sound is received via audio streaming from your computer’s speakers. Multiple persons are encouraged to view each registered connection (for example, by projecting the webinar in a conference room).

- For additional details and to register, go to [www.amstat.org/education/weblectures/index.cfm](http://www.amstat.org/education/weblectures/index.cfm).
WORKSHOPS

- Upcoming Webinar sponsored by the Mental Health Statistics Section:
- Title: **Sensitivity Analysis in Observational Research: Introducing the E-Value**
  Presenter: **Tyler VanderWeele**
  Date and Time: **Tuesday, April 24, 2018, 2:00 p.m. – 3:30 p.m. Eastern time**
  Sponsor: **Mental Health Statistics Section**
- **Registration Deadline:** Friday, April 20, at 12:00 p.m. Eastern time
- **Description:**
  Sensitivity analysis is useful in assessing how robust an association is to potential unmeasured or uncontrolled confounding. This webinar introduces a new measure called the "E-value," which is related to the evidence for causality in observational studies that are potentially subject to confounding. The E-value is defined as the minimum strength of association, on the risk ratio scale, that an unmeasured confounder would need to have with both the treatment and the outcome to fully explain away a specific treatment–outcome association, conditional on the measured covariates. A large E-value implies that considerable unmeasured confounding would be needed to explain away an effect estimate. A small E-value implies little unmeasured confounding would be needed to explain away an effect estimate. The speaker and his collaborators propose that in all observational studies intended to produce evidence for causality, the E-value be reported or some other sensitivity analysis be used. They suggest calculating the E-value for both the observed association estimate (after adjustments for measured confounders) and the limit of the confidence interval closest to the null. If this were to become standard practice, the ability of the scientific community to assess evidence from observational studies would improve considerably, and ultimately, science would be strengthened.
- **Registration Fees:**
  - Member of the Mental Health Statistics Section: $60
  - ASA Member: $90
  - Nonmember: $110
CARTOONS SOURCES:

- [https://i.pinimg.com/originals/cc/d1/29/ccd1299c877f67e5173201902682cb98.jpg](https://i.pinimg.com/originals/cc/d1/29/ccd1299c877f67e5173201902682cb98.jpg)
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