

how to use spss cronk

How to Use SPSS Cronk: A Comprehensive Guide to Reliability Analysis

how to use spss cronk is a common question among students, researchers, and data analysts who want to measure the reliability of their scales or survey instruments. SPSS, a powerful statistical software, offers various tools to help with reliability analysis, and one of the most important methods is Cronbach's alpha. Often misspelled or misheard as "Cronk," Cronbach's alpha is a widely recognized coefficient used to assess the internal consistency of a set of items or variables. Understanding how to use SPSS Cronk effectively can significantly enhance the validity of your research findings.

In this article, we will dive deep into what Cronbach's alpha is, why it matters, and how you can compute and interpret it using SPSS. Along the way, you'll also get practical tips and learn about related reliability metrics to expand your analytical toolkit.

What is Cronbach's Alpha and Why is it Important?

Before jumping into the technicalities of how to use SPSS Cronk, it's essential to grasp what Cronbach's alpha represents. Named after psychologist Lee Cronbach, this coefficient measures the internal consistency or reliability of a set of scale items — basically, how closely related a group of items are as a group.

When creating questionnaires or tests, researchers often compile multiple items to measure a single construct, like "job satisfaction" or "customer loyalty." Cronbach's alpha helps determine if these items collectively measure the same underlying concept consistently.

The value of Cronbach's alpha ranges from 0 to 1:

- Values closer to 1 indicate high internal consistency.
- A commonly accepted threshold is 0.7 or higher for acceptable reliability.
- Values below 0.6 are often considered poor, suggesting the items may not reliably measure the construct.

By calculating this coefficient in SPSS, you can confidently assess the effectiveness of your survey instruments before proceeding with more advanced analyses.

How to Use SPSS Cronk: Step-by-Step Guide

If you're new to SPSS or reliability analysis, the process of computing Cronbach's alpha might seem daunting. Fortunately, SPSS makes it straightforward with a user-friendly interface and clear output. Let's walk through the essential steps to perform this analysis.

Step 1: Prepare Your Data

Before running Cronbach's alpha, ensure your dataset is clean and organized. Each row should represent a respondent or observation, and each column should be a survey item or test question.

- Check for missing values and decide how to handle them (e.g., listwise deletion, imputation).
- Confirm that all items intended to measure the same construct are coded consistently (e.g., same scale direction).
- Label your variables clearly to avoid confusion during analysis.

Step 2: Access the Reliability Analysis Menu

Once your data is ready, open SPSS and follow these steps:

1. Click on the "Analyze" menu at the top.
2. Navigate to "Scale" and then select "Reliability Analysis."

This will open a dialog box where you can specify the items for your reliability test.

Step 3: Select Items for Analysis

In the "Reliability Analysis" window:

- Move all the items (variables) you want to test into the "Items" box.
- Ensure you only include the relevant questions measuring the same construct.

Step 4: Choose the Model (Cronbach's Alpha)

Under the "Model" dropdown, select "Alpha" — which is the default setting. This tells SPSS you want to compute Cronbach's alpha coefficient.

Step 5: Customize Options (Optional)

Click on the "Statistics" button to include additional useful information in the output:

- Select "Scale if item deleted" to see the impact of removing individual items on reliability.
- Choose "Inter-item correlations" to examine how items correlate with each other.
- You can also opt for "Item-total statistics" to explore each item's contribution.

Click "Continue" to return to the main dialog box.

Step 6: Run the Analysis

Click “OK” to execute the reliability test. SPSS will generate output displaying Cronbach’s alpha and related statistics.

Interpreting the Results of SPSS Cronk

Understanding your output is just as important as running the analysis. Here’s how to make sense of the key components.

Cronbach’s Alpha Coefficient

In the output, look for the “Reliability Statistics” table. The “Cronbach’s Alpha” value indicates the overall internal consistency of your scale.

- If the alpha is above 0.7, your scale is generally considered reliable.
- Values between 0.6 and 0.7 may be acceptable depending on the research context.
- Values below 0.6 suggest you might need to revise or remove problematic items.

Item-Total Statistics

This section shows “Cronbach’s Alpha if Item Deleted” for each variable. It helps identify any item that, if removed, would improve the overall reliability.

- If removing an item increases alpha substantially, consider dropping or rephrasing that item.
- Items with low or negative correlations with the total scale might not fit well.

Inter-Item Correlations

Good internal consistency is often reflected by moderate positive correlations among items. Extremely high correlations might indicate redundancy, while very low or negative correlations suggest inconsistency.

Tips for Enhancing Reliability Using SPSS Cronk

Reliability is not just a number but a reflection of your measurement quality. Here are some practical tips to improve your Cronbach’s alpha and ensure robust data:

- **Review and refine items:** Poorly worded or ambiguous questions can reduce reliability. Use

SPSS's item statistics to identify weak items.

- **Ensure homogeneity:** The items should all measure the same underlying construct. Mixing diverse items can lower alpha.
- **Increase the number of items:** More items generally improve reliability, but avoid redundancy.
- **Check for reverse-coded items:** Items phrased negatively should be reverse-scored before analysis to maintain consistency.
- **Consider subscales:** If your instrument measures multiple dimensions, analyze each subscale separately.

Beyond Cronbach's Alpha: Exploring Other Reliability Measures in SPSS

While Cronbach's alpha is the most popular reliability coefficient, SPSS offers several other methods worth exploring, especially if your data have different characteristics.

Split-Half Reliability

This method divides items into two halves and calculates the correlation between them. It can be accessed via the "Reliability Analysis" options by selecting "Split-Half" under "Model." It provides an alternative perspective on internal consistency.

Composite Reliability and Average Variance Extracted (AVE)

For more advanced users working with structural equation modeling, composite reliability measures internal consistency similarly to Cronbach's alpha but is considered less sensitive to the number of items. While SPSS doesn't compute this directly, understanding these concepts complements your analysis.

Test-Retest Reliability

If your data collection includes repeated measures, assessing test-retest reliability ensures the stability of your instrument over time. This is done outside of the "Reliability Analysis" function but can be calculated using correlation procedures in SPSS.

Common Mistakes to Avoid When Using SPSS Cronk

Knowing how to use SPSS Cronk also involves being aware of pitfalls that can mislead your interpretation:

- **Ignoring sample size:** Small samples can produce unstable alpha estimates.
- **Mixing unrelated items:** Including items that do not belong to the same construct inflates or deflates alpha artificially.
- **Over-relying on alpha:** A high alpha doesn't guarantee validity; always consider the content and theoretical framework.
- **Failing to reverse-code items:** This can severely distort reliability results.
- **Assuming alpha measures unidimensionality:** Cronbach's alpha assumes that all items reflect a single factor, so factor analysis might be needed to confirm this.

Understanding these nuances ensures you get the most accurate and meaningful insights from your SPSS reliability analysis.

Learning how to use SPSS Cronk effectively opens the door to stronger, more reliable research instruments. Whether you're conducting academic research, market surveys, or psychological testing, mastering Cronbach's alpha in SPSS equips you with a critical tool for validating your data. With this guide, you are well on your way to confidently interpreting internal consistency and improving the quality of your measurement scales.

Frequently Asked Questions

What is SPSS Cronk and how is it used?

SPSS Cronk is not a standard term in SPSS. However, if you mean 'Cronbach's Alpha' in SPSS, it is used to measure the internal consistency or reliability of a scale or test. You can use SPSS to calculate Cronbach's Alpha by navigating to Analyze > Scale > Reliability Analysis.

How do I perform Cronbach's Alpha reliability test in SPSS?

To perform Cronbach's Alpha in SPSS, go to Analyze > Scale > Reliability Analysis. Select the variables you want to test, ensure the model is set to 'Alpha', and click 'OK'. SPSS will output the Cronbach's Alpha coefficient, indicating the reliability of the scale.

What does a Cronbach's Alpha value calculated in SPSS indicate?

A Cronbach's Alpha value ranges from 0 to 1 and indicates the internal consistency of a set of items. Values above 0.7 are generally considered acceptable, showing good reliability. Values below 0.7 suggest the scale may need improvement.

Can SPSS Cronbach's Alpha be used for both Likert-scale and dichotomous data?

Yes, SPSS can calculate Cronbach's Alpha for both Likert-scale (ordinal) and dichotomous (binary) data, as long as the items measure the same underlying construct. This helps assess the reliability of the scale.

How to improve a low Cronbach's Alpha result in SPSS?

If Cronbach's Alpha is low, you can check the item-total statistics in the SPSS output to identify items that decrease reliability. Removing or revising such items and re-running the analysis can improve the overall reliability coefficient.

Additional Resources

How to Use SPSS Cronk: A Professional Guide to Reliability Analysis

how to use spss cronk emerges as a critical inquiry for researchers, statisticians, and data analysts aiming to assess the reliability of their measurement instruments. In the realm of social sciences, psychology, marketing research, and other fields reliant on survey data or scale construction, Cronbach's alpha serves as a principal metric. SPSS, a widely utilized statistical software, integrates this function under its reliability analysis suite, facilitating an accessible yet robust computation of internal consistency. This article delves into the precise steps and best practices for leveraging SPSS Cronk, analyzing its application, interpretation, and nuances to optimize research quality.

Understanding the Role of Cronbach's Alpha in SPSS

Reliability, in statistical terms, refers to the consistency of a measurement tool or scale. Cronbach's alpha, often abbreviated as α , quantifies the internal consistency among a set of items designed to measure a single latent construct. SPSS Cronk, shorthand for the Cronbach's alpha calculation in SPSS, allows users to determine if their questionnaire items or test components yield stable and coherent results.

The coefficient α ranges between 0 and 1, with values closer to 1 indicating higher reliability. Common thresholds suggest that an alpha of 0.7 or above signals acceptable reliability, though this depends on the context and purpose of the scale. Cronbach's alpha is sensitive to the number of items and the average inter-item correlation, making its interpretation nuanced.

Setting Up Data for Cronbach's Alpha in SPSS

Before executing SPSS Cronk procedures, data must be properly organized. Each item intended for reliability analysis should be represented as a separate variable in the SPSS dataset. Respondent scores or ratings populate rows, ensuring that each row corresponds to an individual case.

Data integrity is paramount: missing values, outliers, or inconsistent coding can distort Cronbach's alpha results. It is advisable to perform preliminary data cleaning and verification, including recoding reversed items if necessary, to standardize item directionality.

Step-by-Step: How to Use SPSS Cronk

The process of calculating Cronbach's alpha in SPSS is straightforward yet requires precision:

1. **Open your dataset** in SPSS and verify that all items intended for reliability testing are present and correctly coded.
2. Navigate to the menu: *Analyze > Scale > Reliability Analysis*.
3. In the dialog box, select the variables representing the scale items and move them into the *Items* box.
4. Ensure the model is set to *Cronbach's Alpha*, which is the default.
5. Optionally, click *Statistics* to request additional outputs such as item-total statistics, scale if item deleted, and inter-item correlations.
6. Click *OK* to run the analysis.

SPSS then produces an output window with the reliability coefficient, item statistics, and detailed matrices. The alpha coefficient is prominently displayed, accompanied by insights into how individual items contribute to overall reliability.

Interpreting SPSS Cronk Output: Insights and Implications

The SPSS reliability output offers multiple layers of information beyond the simple alpha value. The primary table shows the Cronbach's alpha for the entire scale, while additional tables reveal:

- **Item-Total Statistics:** These indicate the correlation of each item with the total score and the impact on alpha if the item is removed.

- **Inter-Item Correlation Matrix:** Displays pairwise correlations between items, highlighting potential redundancies or weak items.
- **Scale Statistics:** Mean and variance of the scale score.

High alpha values (above 0.9) may suggest redundancy among items, while low values (<0.6) often indicate poor internal consistency. Researchers should examine items with low item-total correlations or those whose removal increases alpha, as these may be candidates for exclusion or revision.

Common Pitfalls and Considerations When Using SPSS Cronk

While SPSS simplifies the computation of Cronbach's alpha, users must be vigilant about its limitations and correct application:

- **Dimensionality:** Cronbach's alpha assumes unidimensionality; scales measuring multiple constructs may yield misleading alpha values.
- **Item Homogeneity:** Highly heterogeneous items can depress alpha despite meaningful constructs.
- **Sample Size:** Small samples may produce unstable estimates.
- **Item Number:** Alpha tends to increase with more items; short scales require careful interpretation.

SPSS provides tools to diagnose these issues, but complementing reliability analysis with exploratory or confirmatory factor analysis enhances scale validation.

Comparing SPSS Cronk with Alternative Reliability Measures

Although Cronbach's alpha is ubiquitous in reliability testing, alternative coefficients like McDonald's omega or the Greatest Lower Bound (GLB) offer different perspectives. SPSS's built-in Cronbach's alpha functionality remains the most accessible and widely recognized method, but researchers seeking a more nuanced reliability assessment may consider additional software or custom scripts.

For instance, McDonald's omega accounts for the hierarchical structure of factors, potentially providing a more accurate estimate in multidimensional scales. However, the ease of use and familiarity of SPSS Cronk make it the standard choice in many applied research settings.

Enhancing Reliability Analysis Using SPSS Features

Beyond the basic calculation, SPSS offers several features that empower users to conduct a comprehensive reliability evaluation:

- **Reliability Analysis with Item Deletion:** Investigate how removing specific items affects overall alpha.
- **Split-Half Reliability:** Though different from Cronbach's alpha, SPSS can analyze internal consistency through split-half methods.
- **Graphical Displays:** Using SPSS charts, users can visualize item distributions and detect anomalies.

Mastering these tools enhances the interpretative depth when using SPSS Cronk, fostering more robust and defensible research outcomes.

Practical Applications of SPSS Cronk in Research

In practical research scenarios, the use of SPSS Cronk extends across disciplines. Psychologists utilize it to validate personality inventories, educators assess test reliability, and marketers refine customer satisfaction scales. Its role in ensuring that measurement instruments produce consistent results underpins the credibility of empirical findings.

Moreover, the ability to quickly compute and interpret Cronbach's alpha within SPSS streamlines the iterative process of scale development, enabling researchers to refine instruments prior to formal deployment.

Navigating the intricacies of how to use SPSS Cronk involves more than executing commands; it demands an understanding of statistical principles and data quality. As a fundamental tool in the arsenal of quantitative analysis, SPSS Cronk equips professionals with a reliable means to assess and enhance the consistency of their measurement scales, thereby strengthening the foundation upon which valid conclusions are drawn.

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using SPSS for research in their industry. Employing examples directly from the tourism, hospitality and events sector, it provides a comprehensive explanation on how appropriate statistical tools and methods can be identified for this research context and provides a step-by-step demonstration on how to carry out the chosen statistical operations. Each chapter opens with a sector-specific case study reflecting current research trends and issues from a range of different countries that are affecting the industry today. It is followed by an examination of the SPSS procedures relating to the case study and various solutions are offered. The implementation of clear, step-by-step demonstrations on how to carry out statistical operations using a combination of screenshots, diagrams, and tables aids the reader's understanding. Chapters close with thorough guidance on how to appropriately write up interpretations of the research in a report. Research implications and recommendations for tourism and hospitality businesses are also provided, to enable them to successfully create and manage research strategies in action. Adopting an interdisciplinary perspective and written by a range of industry experts from all over the globe, this book will be essential for all students and researchers in the field of tourism, hospitality, and events as well as all those in related fields with an interest in statistical data analysis.

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examples provided by the author to simplify research methods are familiar to orthopedic surgeons as well as clinicians in other specialties of medicine and surgery. Whereas statistical inference is essential in our application of the research findings to clinical decision-making regarding the care of our patients, statistical inference without clinical relevance or importance can be very misleading, and meaningless. The authors have attempted to deemphasize the p-value in the interpretation of clinical and biomedical research findings, by stressing the importance of confidence intervals, which allow for the quantification of evidence. For example, a large study due to a large sample size that minimizes variability may show a statistically significant difference while in reality, the difference is too insignificant to warrant any clinical importance. In contrast, a small study as frequently seen in most clinical trials or surgical research may have a large effect size of clinical relevance but not statistically significant at ($p > 0.05$). Thus, without considering the magnitude of the effect size with the confidence interval, we tend to regard these studies as negative findings, which is erroneous, since the absence of evidence, simply on the basis of an arbitrary significance level of 5% does not necessarily mean evidence of absence.¹ In effect, clinical research results, cannot be adequately interpreted without first considering the biological and clinical significance of the data, before the statistical stability of the findings (p-value and 95% Confidence Interval), since the p-value as observed by the authors merely reflects the size of the study and not the measure of evidence. In recommending this text, it is one's inclination that this book will benefit clinicians, research fellows, clinical fellows, postdoctoral students in biomedical and clinical settings, nurses, clinical research coordinators, physical therapists, and all those involved in clinical research design, conduct, and analysis of research data for statistical and clinical relevance. Convincingly, knowledge gained from this text will lead to our improvement of patient care through well-conceptualized research. Therefore, with the knowledge that no book is complete, no matter its content or volume, especially a book of this nature, which is prepared to guide clinicians on sampling, statistical modeling of data, and interpretation of findings, this book will benefit clinicians who are interested in applying appropriate statistical technique to scientific evidence discovery. Finally, we are optimistic that this book will bridge the gap in knowledge and practice of clinical and biomedical research, especially for clinicians in busy practice who are passionate about making a difference in their patient's care through scientific research initiatives.

how to use spss cronk: Applied Public Health Essentials Laurens Holmes, Jr, 2025-03-07
Applied Public Health Essentials - Guidelines for Population Health Understanding and Application in Human Health Optimization Public health—the science and art of disease prevention and health promotion—remains significant in the advances of medical and health sciences in ameliorating the health of the population. The contributions of public health to the health of the U.S. population has been remarkable in the 21st century, and it continues to be so as public health confronts emerging challenges due to the aging U.S. population, climate changes, global warming, bioterrorism, and emerging pathogenic microbes. Remarkably, the epidemiologic transition from infectious diseases as the leading cause of mortality in 1900s to chronic diseases today came as a result of persistent immunization, the reduction in vaccine-preventable diseases, and improvements in sanitation and nutrition—even before the streptomycin trials in mycobacterium tuberculosis in 1947—thanks to public health contributions. Illustratively, public health achievements in the 21st century are viewed in light of their contributions to motor vehicle safety, safer workplaces, infectious disease control, decline in coronary artery disease and stroke mortality, safer and healthier food, healthier mothers and babies, family planning, fluorination of drinking water, vaccination, and recognition of tobacco as a health hazard. The scope of public health is broad and reflects what we, as a society, do collectively to ensure the conditions necessary for people to remain healthy. Within this scope, the framework for public health performance recommends the collaboration between governmental agencies (federal, state, and local), public and private sectors, and the communities. The Institute of Medicine, in its 1988 response to “public health in disarray,” clearly described the core functions of public health as (1) assessment, (2) policy development, and (3) assurance. The process upon which public health carries out these functions requires the integration of its core functions into the

essential public health services, namely, (1) health services monitoring and identification of community health needs; (2) diagnoses and investigation of health problems and health hazards in the community; (3) informing, educating, and empowering people about health issues; (4) mobilizing community partnerships to identify and solve health problems; (5) enforcing laws and regulations that protect and ensure safety; (6) linking people with needed personal health services and ensuring the provision of health care when otherwise unavailable; (7) ensuring a competent public health and personal health care workforce; (8) evaluating effectiveness, accessibility, and quality of personal and population-based health services; and (9) researching new insights and innovative solutions to health problems. The training of public health professionals to address the essential public health services requires a curriculum that integrates the core functions of public health into the core disciplines of public health, mainly (1) epidemiology, (2) biostatistics, (3) behavioral and social sciences, (4) environmental sciences, and (5) management and policy sciences. The knowledge of these areas and the application of cross-cutting core competencies (such as communication and informatics, diversity and culture, animal control, public health biology and pathology, professionalism, programs planning, and systems thinking) serve to provide the graduates of public health programs with the preparation (knowledge and skills) needed to succeed in this field today. This novel textbook very clearly and simply explains and illustrates the gene as DNA sequence and environment interaction in disease causation and preventive modalities. The understanding of several environments such as toxic waste, air pollutants, nutritional imbalance, physical inactivity, stress and isolation, discrimination, racism, etc. allows for community and public health intervention mapping and individual and population health improvement and optimization.

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how to use spss cronk: Concise Biostatistical Principles and Concepts Laurens Holmes, Jr, 2025-03-18 Concise Biostatistical Principles and Concepts, 2nd Edition Clinical medicine or surgery continues to make advances through evidence that is judged to be objectively drawn from the care of individual patients. The natural observation of individuals remains the basis for our researchable questions' formulation and the subsequent hypothesis testing. Evidence-based medicine or surgery depends on how critical we are in evaluating evidence in order to inform our practice. These evaluations no matter how objective are never absolute but probabilistic, as we will never know with absolute certainty how to treat future patients who were not a part of our study. Despite the obstacles facing us today in an attempt to provide an objective evaluation of our patients, since all our decisions are based on a judgment of some evidence, we have progressed from expert opinion to the body of evidence from randomized controlled clinical trials, as well as cohort investigations, prospective and retrospective. The conduct of clinical trials though termed the "gold standard", which yields more reliable and valid evidence from the data relative to non-experimental or observational designs, depends on how well it is designed and conducted prior to outcomes data collection, analysis, results, interpretation, and dissemination. The designs and the techniques used to draw statistical inferences are often beyond the average clinician's understanding. A text that brings hypothesis formulation, analysis, and how to interpret the results of the findings is long overdue and highly anticipated. Statistical modeling which is fundamentally a journey from sample to the application of findings is essential to evidence discovery. The four past decades have experienced modern advances in statistical modeling and evidence discovery in biomedical, clinical, and population-based research. With these advances come the challenges in accurate model stipulation and application of models in scientific evidence discovery. While the application of novel

statistical techniques to our data is necessary and fundamental to research, the selection of a sample and sampling method that reflects the representativeness of that sample to the targeted population is even more important. Since one of the rationale behind research conduct is to generate new knowledge and apply it to improve life situations including the improvement of patient and population health, sampling, sample size, and power estimations remain the basis for such inference. With the essential relevance of sample and sampling technique to how we come to make sense of data, the design of the study transcends statistical technique, since no statistical tool no matter how sophisticated can correct the errors of sampling. This text is written to highlight the importance of appropriate design prior to analysis by placing emphasis on subject selection and probability sample, randomization process when applicable prior to the selection of the analytic tool. In addition, it stresses the importance of biological and clinical significance in the interpretation of study findings. The basis for statistical inference, implying the quantification of random error is a random sample. When studies are conducted without random samples as often encountered in clinical and biomedical research, it is meaningless to report the findings with p value. However, in the absence of a random sample, the p-value can be applied to designs that utilize consecutive samples, and disease registries, since these samples reflect the population of interest, and hence representative sample, justifying inference and generalization. Essential to the selection of test statistics is the understanding of the scale of the measurement of the variables, especially the response, outcome or dependent variable, type of sample (independent or correlated), hypothesis, and normality assumption. In terms of the selection of statistical tests, this text is based on the scale of measurement (binary), type of sample (single, independent), and relationship (linear). For example, if the scale of measurement of the outcome variable is binary, repeated measure, and normality is not assumed, the repeated measure logistic regression model remains a feasible model for evidence discovery in using the independent variables to predict the repeated outcome. This book presents a simplified approach to evidence discovery by recommending the graphic illustration of data and normality test for continuous (ratio/interval scale) data prior to statistical test selection. Unlike current text in biostatistics, the approach taken to present these materials is very simple. First, this text uses applied statistics by illustrating what, when, where, and why a test is appropriate. Where a text violates the normality assumption, readers are presented with a non-parametric alternative. The rationale for the test is explained with a limited mathematical formula and is intended in order to stress the applied nature of biostatistics. Attempts have been made in this book to present the most commonly used statistical model in biomedical or clinical research. We believe since no book is complete to have covered the basics that will facilitate the understanding of scientific evidence discovery. We hope this book remains a useful guide, which is our intention in bridging the gap between theoretical statistical models and reality in the statistical modeling of biomedical and clinical research data. As researchers we all make mistakes and we believe we have learned from our mistakes during the past three decades hence the need to examine flaws and apply reality in the statistical modeling of biomedical and research data. We hope this text results in increased reliability in the conduct, analysis,

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of clinical trials though termed the “gold standard”, which yields more reliable and valid evidence from the data relative to non-experimental or observational designs, depends on how well it is designed and conducted prior to outcomes data collection, analysis, results, interpretation, and dissemination. The designs and the techniques used to draw statistical inferences are often beyond the average clinician’s understanding. A text that brings hypothesis formulation, analysis, and how to interpret the results of the findings is long overdue and highly anticipated. Statistical modeling which is fundamentally a journey from sample to the application of findings is essential to evidence discovery. The four past decades have experienced modern advances in statistical modeling and evidence discovery in biomedical, clinical, and population-based research. With these advances come the challenges in accurate model stipulation and application of models in scientific evidence discovery. While the application of novel statistical techniques to our data is necessary and fundamental to research, the selection of a sample and sampling method that reflects the representativeness of that sample to the targeted population is even more important. Since one of the rationale behind research conduct is to generate new knowledge and apply it to improve life situations including the improvement of patient and population health, sampling, sample size, and power estimations remain the basis for such inference. With the essential relevance of sample and sampling technique to how we come to make sense of data, the design of the study transcends statistical technique, since no statistical tool no matter how sophisticated can correct the errors of sampling. This text is written to highlight the importance of appropriate design prior to analysis by placing emphasis on subject selection and probability sample, randomization process when applicable prior to the selection of the analytic tool. In addition, it stresses the importance of biological and clinical significance in the interpretation of study findings. The basis for statistical inference, implying the quantification of random error is a random sample. When studies are conducted without random samples as often encountered in clinical and biomedical research, it is meaningless to report the findings with p value. However, in the absence of a random sample, the p-value can be applied to designs that utilize consecutive samples, and disease registries, since these samples reflect the population of interest, and hence representative sample, justifying inference and generalization. Essential to the selection of test statistics is the understanding of the scale of the measurement of the variables, especially the response, outcome or dependent variable, type of sample (independent or correlated), hypothesis, and normality assumption. In terms of the selection of statistical tests, this text is based on the scale of measurement (binary), type of sample (single, independent), and relationship (linear). For example, if the scale of measurement of the outcome variable is binary, repeated measure, and normality is not assumed, the repeated measure logistic regression model remains a feasible model for evidence discovery in using the independent variables to predict the repeated outcome. This book presents a simplified approach to evidence discovery by recommending the graphic illustration of data and normality test for continuous (ratio/interval scale) data prior to statistical test selection. Unlike current text in biostatistics, the approach taken to present these materials is very simple. First, this text uses applied statistics by illustrating what, when, where, and why a test is appropriate. Where a text violates the normality assumption, readers are presented with a non-parametric alternative. The rationale for the test is explained with a limited mathematical formula and is intended in order to stress the applied nature of biostatistics. Attempts have been made in this book to present the most commonly used statistical model in biomedical or clinical research. We believe since no book is complete to have covered the basics that will facilitate the understanding of scientific evidence discovery. We hope this book remains a useful guide, which is our intention in bridging the gap between theoretical statistical models and reality in the statistical modeling of biomedical and clinical research data. As researchers we all make mistakes and we believe we have learned from our mistakes during the past three decades hence the need to examine flaws and apply reality in the statistical modeling of biomedical and research data. We hope this text results in increased reliability in the conduct, analysis

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