Question

What is Statistics?

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占卜學	Statistics
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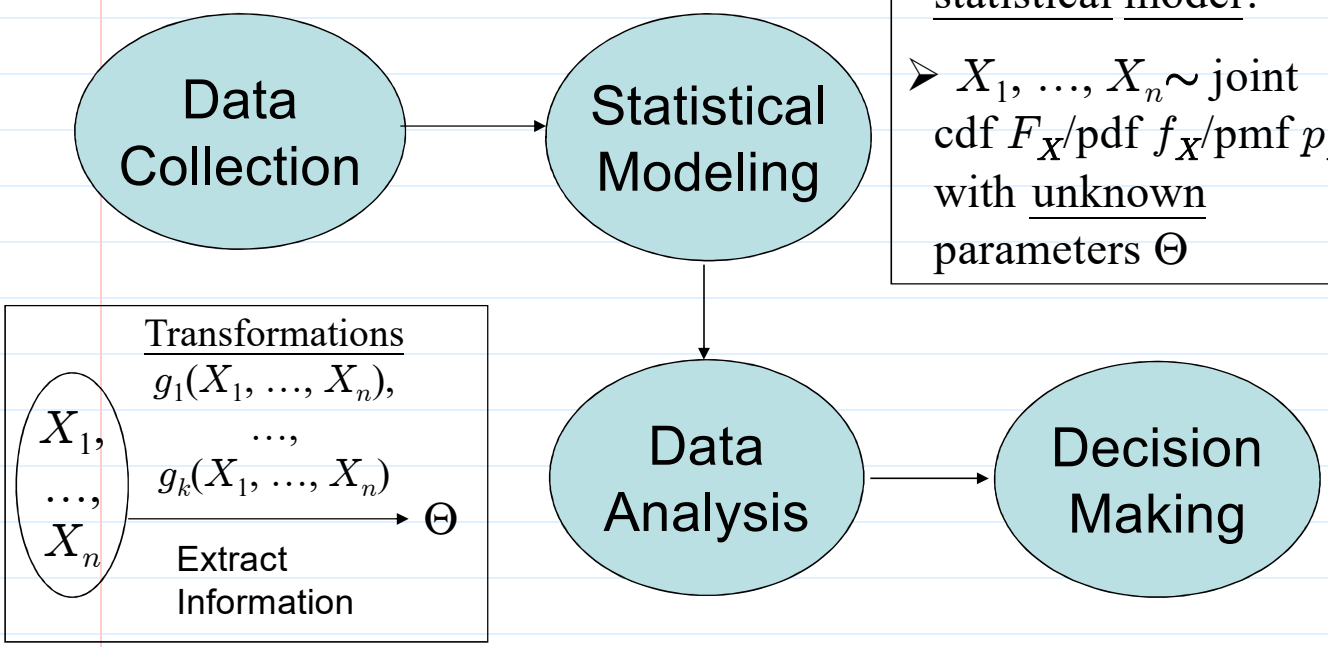
水晶球	Data
未來的資訊	Information

aim of statistics: provide ***insight*** by means of ***data***

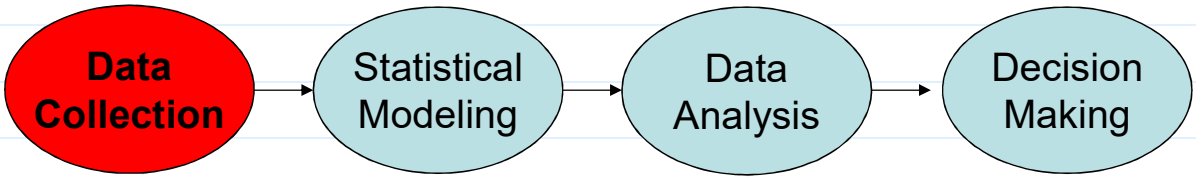
Basic Procedures of Statistics

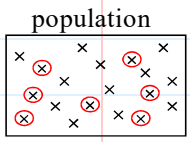
• Statistics divides the study of data into *four* steps:

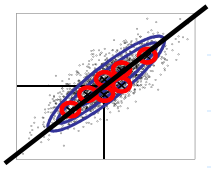
Data: $X_1, \ldots, X_n$ (random variables)



- **Q**: What is a statistical model?
- $X_1, \ldots, X_n \sim$ joint cdf F_X/pdf f_X/pmf p_X with unknown parameters Θ

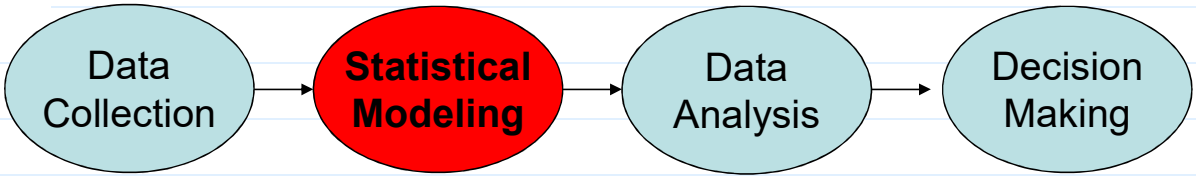






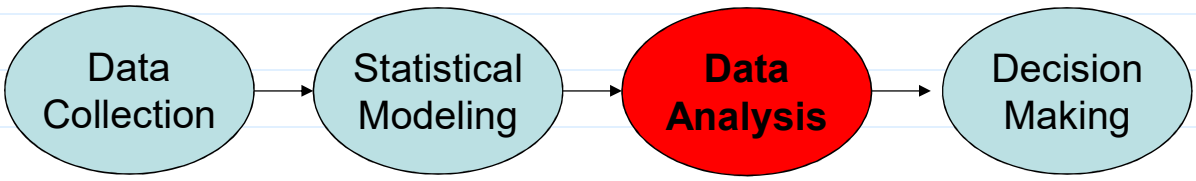
1. Data collection: producing *representative* data for drawing correct information

- design of experiment
- survey sampling
- observational data



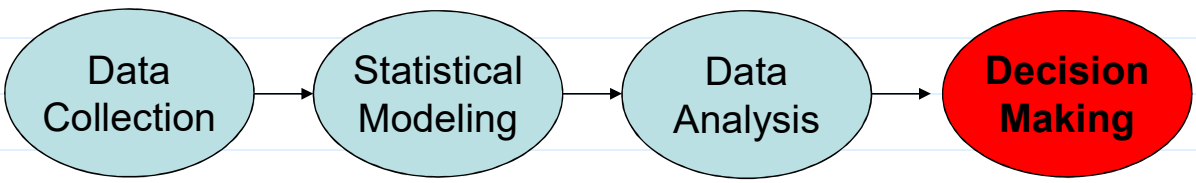
2. Statistical modeling: using the information that we possess to develop *a representation of the underlying system*, which also accounts for *uncertainty* in data

- a statistical model is a description of the joint distribution of data



3. Data analysis: mining information from data

- graphical methods
- numerical methods
  - *estimation*
  - *hypothesis testing*



4. Decision making: drawing conclusions & answering questions based on results obtained in **3**.

Data collection

Example (heat of fusion of ice, TBp. 423)

(Natrella, 1996) Two methods, A and B, were used in a determination of the latent heat of fusion of ice. The following table gives the change in total heat from ice at $-.72°C$ to water $0°C$ in calories per gram of mass:

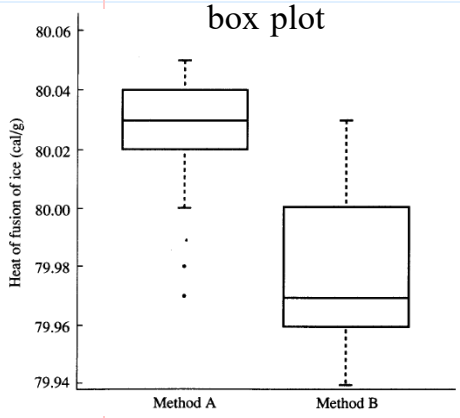
Method A	79.98	80.04	80.02	80.04	80.03	80.03	80.04	79.97
	80.05	80.03	80.02	80.00	80.02			
Method B	80.02	79.94	79.98	79.97	79.97	80.03	79.95	79.97

The investigators wished to find out:

how much the two methods "differ"?

- **Q**: Why not all the values from Method A/B are identical?
- **Q**: Beyond the uncertainty existing in the data, are there some "certain" information?

Data analysis - graphical method



Q: From the plot, the two methods are different? or not different? and why?

Question

How to model the data and the question, i.e., state them in a mathematical/statistical language?

Statistical modeling

- Let $X_1, \ldots, X_n$ be the n observations from method A
- Let $Y_1, \ldots, Y_m$ be the m observations from method B
- To account for the uncertainty in data,
  regard $X_1, \ldots, X_n$ and $Y_1, \ldots, Y_m$ as random variables.
- Assign distribution to random variables
  method A: $X_1, \ldots, X_n \sim$ i.i.d. Normal(μ_X, σ^2)
  method B: $Y_1, \ldots, Y_m \sim$ i.i.d. Normal(μ_Y, σ^2)

$\mu_X = \mu_Y$?

Data analysis - numerical methods

- Estimation: what are the values of μ_X, μ_Y, σ^2?
- Hypothesis testing: $\mu_X = \mu_Y$? true or false? how confident?
  - $\hat{\mu}_X = 80.02, \hat{\mu}_Y = 79.98, \hat{\sigma}^2 = 0.0007178$
  - p-value<0.01, H_0: $\mu_X = \mu_Y$ is rejected under significance level 0.99.

- Compare the graphical and numerical methods
  - graphical methods: intuitive perception, vague conclusion
  - numerical methods: lack of intuition, accurate conclusion

Decision making

- There is a (statistically significant) difference between the means of the 2 methods: $\mu_X > \mu_Y$
- level of evidence?

- Some other examples of statistical applications
  - Election: survey on voting
  - Lung cancer ⟷ Smoking
  - Moneyball (魔球)
  - Thinking, fast and slow (快思慢想)
  - The signal and the noise (精準預測)
  - Big data
  - Data-based AI
  - …
- Materials to be covered in this course
  - Probability – A Review: Chapters 1~6
  - Estimation: Chapter 8
  - Hypothesis Testing: Chapter 9
  - Decision Theory: Chapter 15 (Rice, 1995, 2nd Edition)
  - Applications:
    - Survey Sampling: Chapter 7
    - Two-Sample Comparison: Chapter 11
    - Analysis of Variance: Chapter 12
    - Some Graphical Methods from Chapter 10

Website of my mathematical statistics course

http://www.stat.nthu.edu.tw/~swcheng/Teaching/stat3875/index.php

❖ **Further reading:**

- Lewis (2004), Moneyball (中譯：魔球).
- Kahneman (2011), Thinking, Fast and Slow (中譯：快思慢想).
- Silver (2012), The Signal and the Noise (中譯：精準預測).
- Stigler (2016), The Seven Pillars of Statistical Wisdom.