



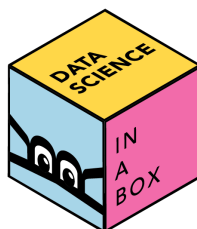
August 23, 2019

News You Can Use

Book Review: Data Science In A Box

By Donna LaLonde

“Cherish day one” is the guiding principle for the design of the instructional resources made available on the site Data Science In A Box (<https://datasciencebox.org/>). This site



was created by Dr. Mine Çetinkaya-Rundel who is a Senior Lecturer in the School of Mathematics at the University of Edinburgh and a Professional Educator and Data Scientist at RStudio. Mine also is the current chair of the American Statistical Association’s (ASA) Section on Statistics and Data Science Education. Her contributions to statistics and data science education have been recognized by awards such as the 2018 David Pickard Teaching Award and the 2016 ASA Waller Education Award. As the creator and maintainer of datasciencebox.org she has added to her list of contributions.

A visitor to the Data Science in a Box site sees these categories: Hello #dsbox, Course Content, Infrastructure, and Pedagogy. Hello #dsbox contains the traditional “about” information. Visitors immediately learn this site is for both educators and learners. Learners are encouraged to “jump into” the course content. Educators are encouraged to pursue a more systematic path through the materials.

WHO’S WHO:

LEADERSHIP TEAM

Mike Brilleslyper,
Air Force Academy

Jenna Carpenter,
Campbell University

Danny Kaplan,
Macalester College

Kathryn Kozak
Coconino Community
College

Donna LaLonde,
ASA

Ambika Silva
College of the Canyons

Rachel Levy
MAA

HUB LEADERS

Joe Roith, St. Catherine’s
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(2017-18)

Ambika Silva, College of the
Canyons, Santa Clarita, CA
(2017-18)

Helen Burn, Highline Col-
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Hwayeon Ryu, University of
Hartford, Hartford, CT (2018
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Carol Howald, Howard Com-
munity College, Columbia,
MD (2019-2020)

Thomas Kinzeler, Tarrant
County College, Fort Worth,
TX (2019-2010)

Rona Axelrod, Florida SW
State College, Fort Myers, FL
(2020-2021)

Brooke Orosz, Essex Com-
munity College, Newark, NJ
(2020-2021)

Book Review: Data Science in a Box (continued)

This includes reviewing the design principles, course syllabus, and the tech stack. This will make browsing the course content more fruitful. Having a sense of the course structure will make the review the details of the computing infrastructure more meaningful.

From the learner's perspective, the materials are designed as a first course in an undergraduate data science or statistics curriculum so there are no prerequisites. Instructors can be new to teaching with R but the basics of the language are a prerequisite. However, there is a lot of support for acquiring the necessary knowledge. Acting on the "cherish day one" design principle means on day one students are creating meaningful data visualizations. The course materials are all available on GitHub repo in three parts "exploring data", making rigorous conclusions," and "looking further." The initial lesson explicitly addresses the potential issues with computational infrastructure and guides an educator through the process of setting up a course on R Studio Cloud.

The materials provided include: slides for class presentations, homework assignments, labs, exams, and a final project. These materials all follow the design principle of showing the end result to engage students from day one then working backwards to teach the underlying components. In practice this means that students are initially provided with a lot of support but by the final project are required to work independently. All the materials for the three units can be found on the GitHub repo and will eventually be on the site. Currently, the "Exploring Data" unit is complete with links to the materials included. The organization of the course supports use of the course as a whole or parts to augment or support an existing course.

In the overview of the course, the content is described as "newcomer friendly," and I believe this description is accurate.

Save the Date!

StatPREP 2020 Summer Workshops



We'd love to have you join us for one of our 2020 Summer StatPREP Workshops!

Applications will open in early 2020. Mark your calendars now:

- * Fort Myers, FL: May 29 - 30, 2020, Florida SW State College
- * Fort Worth, TX: June 3 - 4, 2020, Tarrant CC
- * New Jersey: June 5 - 6, 2020, Essex CC
- * Columbia, MD: June 12-13, 2020, Howard CC

StatPrep September Webinar

Using the Activities for the Little App “Common and Rare”



Do you have an unusually high pulse rate?

How can a person find out?

This webinar will present an activity developed for the Little App called “Common and Rare.” This activity is a group activity that is available to use in a class today.

In this webinar, you will learn how to use the activity and the Little App in an introductory Statistics course to introduce and investigate the concept of rare and common events utilizing the normal curve.

This webinar will be presented on Thursday, September 19, 2019 at 4 pm EST, 3 pm CDT, 2 pm MDT and 1 pm PDT and Arizona time.

Webinar Leaders are Kate Kozak and Kelly McConville.

To register for the webinar, please visit <https://statprep.org>

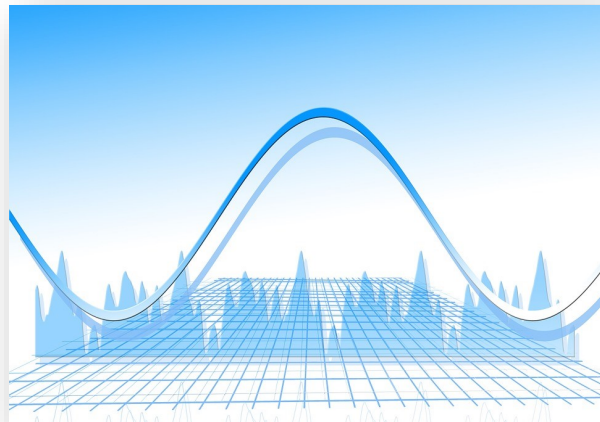


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