Statistics 406: Introduction to Statistical Computing

Meeting Times/Places:
Course: B760 East Hall, 10-11:30 Tuesday/Thursday
Lab: B760 East Hall, 4-5:30 Tuesday

Instructor: Kerby Shedden
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Office Hours: Friday 3-4, Monday 1-2

GSI: Adam Rothman
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Office Hours: TBD

Course web site: http://www.stat.lsa.umich.edu/~kshedden/Courses/Stat406

Description: The main goals of this course are to demonstrate how computing can be used to understand the performance of core statistical methods, and to introduce modern statistical methods that require computing for their application. Relevant programming fundamentals are also covered.

Coursework: Grades will be based on problem sets and one examination. Problem sets will be given weekly, and account for 75% of the final course grade. The problem sets will primarily involve writing computer programs. There will be one written examination given in class on November 15th. This exam accounts for 25% of the final course grade, and will test your ability to correctly construct computer programs similar to those in the problem sets. Practice problems for the exam will be available.

Lab section: The lab section will be led by the GSI each Tuesday. Each week an assignment will be due, and the graded assignment from the previous week will be returned.

Programming: All coursework will involve programming using the language R. You do not need to have prior experience with this or other programming languages. You will be expected to adhere to programming style guidelines that will be provided in class.

Getting help: Feel free to e-mail the instructor or GSI at any time with questions. The instructor and GSI will hold office hours, and will be available at other times by appointment. You may discuss the homework problems in general terms with other students, but the code and written responses that you submit must be your own.