Design of Experiments: I, II



Avignon, 18 March 2010

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- I: Basic tips
- ► II: My book Design of Comparative Experiments
- III: Factorial designs—Confounding and Fractions
- IV: Panel diagrams and skeleton ANOVA
- V: Two-phase experiments

Basic tips

Replication



Randomization

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Three principles of experimental design

Replication

- Increased replication usually decreases variance.
- Increased replication may increase variability.
- Increased replication usually increases power.
- Increased replication increases costs (monetary and other).
- Beware of false replication.
- Control

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 - Concurrent comparison with "do nothing".
 - Concurrent comparison with at least one other treatment.
- Randomization

Three principles of experimental design

Replication

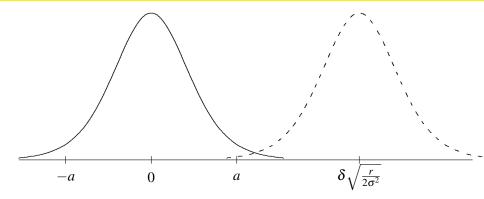
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- Randomization
 - Why do we randomize?
 - How do we randomize?

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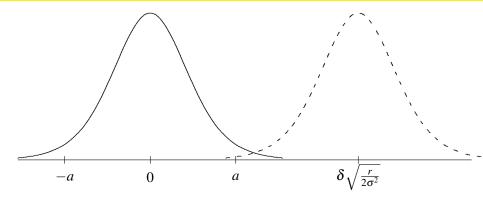
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- If there is too little replication then any genuine differences between treatments may be masked by the differences among the experimental units. An experiment which is too small to give any conclusions is also a waste of resources. It is also an unethical use of animals or people.

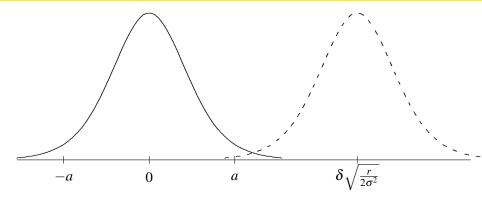
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- If there is too little replication then any genuine differences between treatments may be masked by the differences among the experimental units. An experiment which is too small to give any conclusions is also a waste of resources. It is also an unethical use of animals or people.
- Watch out for false replication.



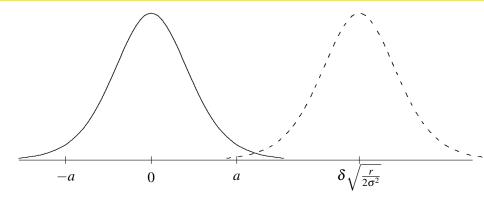
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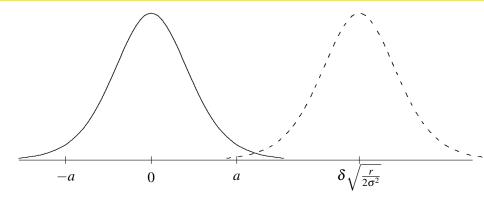
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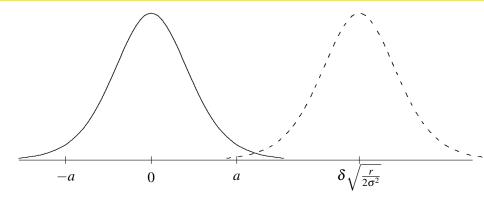
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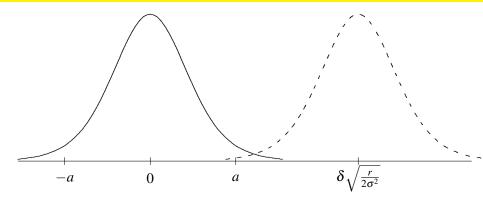
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Power for detecting a difference as big as δ is the proportion of the area under the dashed curve outside the interval [-a,a]. Increase $\delta \implies$ move dashed curve to right \implies increase power. Decrease $\sigma^2 \implies$ move dashed curve to right \implies increase power. Increase $r \implies$ move dashed curve to right AND make both curves thinner \implies increase power.

This is what she did.

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
000000000	11111111111	2222222222	3333333333	444444444

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Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
000000000	11111111111	2222222222	3333333333	444444444

Are the perceived differences caused by differences in size?

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Are the perceived differences caused by differences in size?

Did she get better at preparing the samples as the week wore on?

This is what she did.

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
000000000	11111111111	2222222222	3333333333	444444444

Are the perceived differences caused by differences in size?

Did she get better at preparing the samples as the week wore on?

Were there environmental changes in the lab that could have contributed to the differences?

MondayTuesdayWednesdayThursdayFriday00000000001111111112222222223333333333444444444

MondayTuesdayWednesdayThursdayFriday0000000000111111111122222222233333333334444444444

Better to regard each day as a block.

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
0011223344	0011223344	0011223344	0011223344	0011223344

MondayTuesdayWednesdayThursdayFriday0000000000111111111122222222233333333334444444444

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Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
0011223344	0011223344	0011223344	0011223344	0011223344

There may still be systematic differences within each day, so better still, randomize within each day.

MondayTuesdayWednesdayThursdayFriday0000000000111111111122222222233333333334444444444

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1040223134	2230110443	1421324030	4420013312	3204320411

12 human subjects are each to undertake 4 tasks using computers to draw sketch maps. Response is number of correct features.

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Subjects make one sort of blocks. Positions in time-order make another. 12 human subjects are each to undertake 4 tasks using computers to draw sketch maps. Response is number of correct features.

Subjects make one sort of blocks. Positions in time-order make another.

		Subject										
Time-order	a	b	С	d	е	f	g	h	i	j	k	l
1	1	1	1	2	2	2	3	3	3	4	4	4
2	2	2	2	1	1	1	4	4	4	3	3	3
3	3	3	3	4	4	1 4	2	2	2	1	1	1
4	4	4	4	3	3	3	1	1		2	2	2

Human-computer interaction: an alternative interpretation

		Subject										
Experience	a	b	С	d	е	f	g	h	i	j	k	l
1	1	1	1	2	2	2	3	3	3	4	4	4
2	2	2	2	1	1	1	4	4	4	3	3	3
3	3	3	3	$\frac{a}{2}$ 1 4	4	4	2	2	2	1	1	1
4	4	4	4	3	3	3	1	1	1	2	2	2

Human-computer interaction: an alternative interpretation

		Subject										
Experience	a	b	С	d	е	f	g	h	i	j	k	l
1	1	1	1	2	2	2	3	3	3	4	4	4
2	2	2	2	1	1	1	4	4	4	3	3	3
3	3	3	3	4	4	4	2	2	2	1	1	1
4	4	4	4	3	3	3	1	1	1	2	2	2

If we think that the 16 combinations of task with level of experience should give 16 different responses, then we cannot estimate them all from the above design, because the same combinations always occur with the same people.

Human-computer interaction: an alternative interpretation

		Subject										
Experience	a	b	С	d	е	f	g	h	i	j	k	l
1	1	1	1	2	2	2	3	3	3	4	4	4
2	2	2	2	1	1	1	4	4	4	3	3	3
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4	4	4	4	3	3	3	1	1	1	2	2	2

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						Sub	ject	t						
Experience	a	b	С	d	е	f	g	h	i	j	k	l		
1	1	2	3	4	1	2	3	4	1	2	3	4		
2	2	1	4	3	4	3	2	1	3	4	1	2		
3	3	4	1	2	2	1	4	3	4	3	2	1		
4	4	3	2	1	3	4	1	2	-2	• 🗗	4	3 ≤ ≣	▶ 運	୬ ९ (୦ 11/6

Why do we randomize?

It is to avoid

systematic bias

(for example, doing all the tests on treatment A in January then all the tests on treatment B in March)

selection bias

(for example, choosing the most healthy patients for the treatment that you are trying to prove is best)

accidental bias

(for example, using the first rats that the animal handler takes out of the cage for one treatment and the last rats for the other)

cheating by the experimenter.

It also helps to justify the model.

Treatments: extra milk rations or not.

These should have been randomized to the children within each school.

The teachers decided to give the extra milk rations to those children who were most undernourished.

7 varieties of guayule tree in a 5×7 rectangle, using a randomized complete-block design with the rows as blocks.

В	D	G	A	F	С	Ε
A	G	С	D	F	В	Ε
G	Ε	D	F	В	С	Α
В	Α	С	F	G	Ε	D
G	В	F	С	D	Α	Ε

7 varieties of guayule tree in a 5×7 rectangle, using a randomized complete-block design with the rows as blocks.

В	D	G	A	F	С	E
A	G	С	D	F	В	E
G	E	D	F	В	С	Α
В	Α	С	F	G	E	D
G	В	F	С	D	Α	E

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В	D	G	A	F	С	Ε
A	G	С	D	F	В	Ε
G	Ε	D	F	В	С	Α
В	Α	С	F	G	Ε	D
G	В	F	С	D	Α	Ε

"Throw it away and re-randomize."

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В	D	G	A	F	С	Ε
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В	Α	С	F	G	Ε	D
G	В	F	С	D	Α	Ε

"Throw it away and re-randomize."

For the 5×7 rectangle, the proportion of plans with no repeat in any column is only 0.000006.

"I didn't want to bother you with those details."

Constraints on the conduct of the experiment should be incorporated into the design (and therefore into the analysis), not fudged in the randomization.

A field was divided into three areas and one pesticide applied to each area. Ladybirds were counted on three samples from each area.

- Treatments = ?
- Experimental units = ?
- Observational units = ?
 - Replication = ?

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Treatments = 3 pesticides Experimental units = 3 areas Observational units = ? Replication = ?

A field was divided into three areas and one pesticide applied to each area. Ladybirds were counted on three samples from each area.

- Treatments = 3 pesticidesExperimental units = 3 areas Observational units = 9 samples
 - Replication = ?

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A field was divided into three areas and one pesticide applied to each area. Ladybirds were counted on three samples from each area.

- Treatments = 3 pesticides
- Experimental units = 3 areas
- Observational units = 9 samples
 - Replication = 1

My book Design of Comparative Experiments

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Design of Comparative Experiments: Meaning?

NOT experiments to determine the exact value of g

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BUT experiments to find out if A is better than B, and, if so, by how much.

The aim is to develop a coherent framework for thinking about the design and analysis of experiments

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BUT you cannot build a general theory until the reader has some pegs to hang it on.

Chapter 1 Forward Look

Show the reader that we are going to cover real experiments. Get the reader thinking about experimental units, observational units, treatments

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Chapter 14 Backward Look Putting it all together reflections that need most of the foregoing

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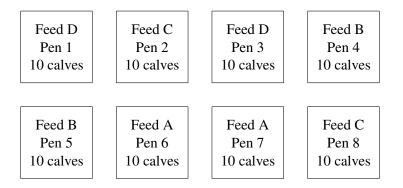
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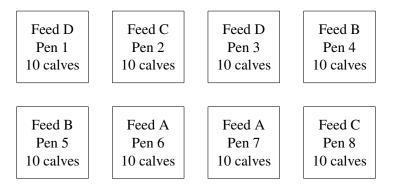
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 - A treatment is the entire description of what can be applied to an experimental unit.
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- 5. Linear model

Calves were housed in pens, with ten calves per pen. Each pen was allocated to a certain type of feed. Batches of this type of feed were put into the pen; calves were free to eat as much of this as they liked. Calves were weighed individually.

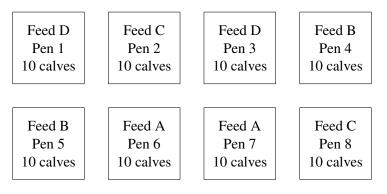


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treatment = type of feed

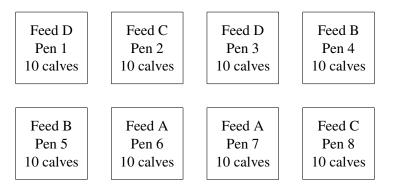
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treatment = type of feed experimental unit = pen

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Running example

0	160	240
160	80	80
80	0	160
240	240	0
↑ Crorran	 ↑ Malha	
Cropper	Melba	Melle

160	80	0
0	160	80
240	0	240
80	240	160
 Melba	↑ Cropper	↑ Melle

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Running example

0	160	240		160	80	0
160	80	80		0	160	80
80	0	160		240	0	240
240	240	0		80	240	160
↑ Cropper	↑ Melba	↑ Melle	I	↑ Melba	↑ Cropper	↑ Melle

experimental unit = observational unit = plot

Running example

0	160	240		160	80	0
160	80	80		0	160	80
80	0	160		240	0	240
240	240	0		80	240	160
↑ Cropper	↑ Melba	↑ Melle	1	↑ Melba	↑ Cropper	↑ Melle

experimental unit = observational unit = plot treatment = combination of cultivar and amount of fertilizer

Treatments in the running example

Treatments are all	factor	levels		
combinations of:	Cultivar (<i>C</i>)	Cropper, Melle, Melba		
	Fertilizer (F)	0, 80, 160, 240 kg/ha		

How many treatments are there?

Treatments in the running example

Treatments are all	factor	levels		
combinations of:	Cultivar (<i>C</i>)	Cropper, Melle, Melba		
	Fertilizer (F)	0, 80, 160, 240 kg/ha		

How many treatments are there?

Cultivar	Fertilizer			
	0	80	160	240
Cropper				
Melle				
Melba		\checkmark		

Treatments in another example

Treatments are all	factor	levels
combinations of:	Timing (T)	early, late
	Fertilizer (F)	0, 80, 160, 240 kg/ha

How many treatments are there?

Treatments are all	factor	levels
combinations of:	Timing (T)	early, late
	Fertilizer (F)	0, 80, 160, 240 kg/ha

How many treatments are there?

Timing	Fertilizer			
	0	80	160	240
None				
Early				\checkmark
Late		\checkmark		

Absolute basics. First, some notation.

 $\omega = \text{plot} = \text{observational unit}$

 $T(\omega) =$ treatment on plot ω $Y_{\omega} =$ response on plot ω $E(Y_{\omega}) = \tau_{T(\omega)}$

So if ω is the third plot with treatment 2 then $E(Y_{\omega}) = \tau_2$.

Absolute basics. First, some notation.

 $\omega = \text{plot} = \text{observational unit}$

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$$\mathrm{E}(Y_{\boldsymbol{\omega}})=\tau_{T(\boldsymbol{\omega})}$$

So if ω is the third plot with treatment 2 then $E(Y_{\omega}) = \tau_2$.

Calling this response Y_{23}

- ignores the plots;
- encourages non-blindness;
- encourages operation by treatment instead of by inherent factors.

- Completely randomized designs
- Why and how to randomize

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- Why and how to randomize
 - How do we randomize? Write down a systematic plan. Then choose a random permutation (from a computer, or shuffle a pack of cards) and apply it to the systematic plan.

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- ► The treatment subspace, Orthogonal projection,
- Linear model, Estimation, Matrix notation
- Sums of squares, Variance
- Replication: equal or unequal

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- Replication: equal or unequal
- Allowing for the overall mean, Hypothesis testing

Source	SS	df	MS	VR
mean	107161.3513	1	107161.3513	13147.39
diets	117.8964	2	58.9482	7.23
residual	236.3723	29	8.1508	—
Total	107515.62	32		

- Completely randomized designs
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Total	107515.62	32		

Fitting the grand mean as a submodel of the treatment space is a first taste of what we shall do many times with structured treatments: fit submodels and see what is left over.

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- Allowing for the overall mean, Hypothesis testing
- Replication for power

Chapter 3 Simple Treatment Structures

Replication of control treatments

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Chapter 3 Simple Treatment Structures

- Replication of control treatments
- Comparing new treatments in the presence of a control

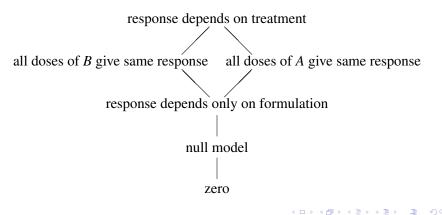
- Replication of control treatments
- Comparing new treatments in the presence of a control
- Other treatment groupings
 Repeated splitting of groupings, obtaining nested submodels without the complication of understanding interaction.

Drugs at different stages of development

A pharmaceutical company wants to compare 6 treatments for a certain disease. There are are 3 different doses of formulation A, that has been under development for some time, and 3 different doses (not comparable with the previous 3) of a new formulation B, that has not been so extensively studied.

Drugs at different stages of development

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Types of block

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- Orthogonal block designs—treatment *i* occurs n_i times in every block

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- Models for block designs—block effects may be fixed or random

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- Loss of power with blocking

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Twelve treatments are all	factor	levels
combinations of:	Cultivar (C)	Cropper, Melle, Melba
	Fertilizer (F)	0, 80, 160, 240 kg/ha

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$$E(Y_{\omega}) = \tau_{C(\omega),F(\omega)}$$

$$|$$

$$E(Y_{\omega}) = \lambda_{C(\omega)} + \mu_{F(\omega)}$$

$$E(Y_{\omega}) = \lambda_{C(\omega)} \quad E(Y_{\omega}) = \mu_{F(\omega)}$$

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factor	levels
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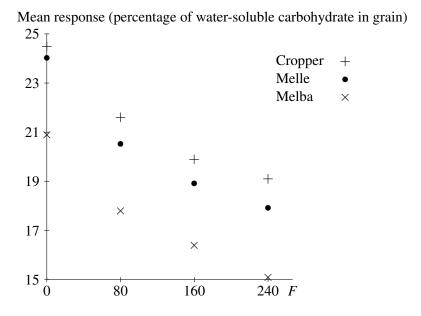
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$$\downarrow$$

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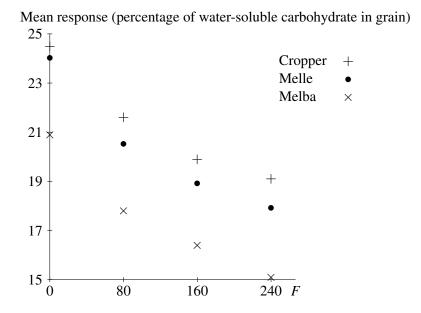
Most books give a single model which has these six models as special cases but which also specializes to some inappropriate models, which your software may let you fit.



34/65

-2

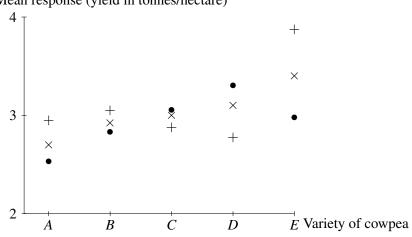
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The difference between cultivars is (essentially) the same at each quantity of fertilizer—no interaction.

-2

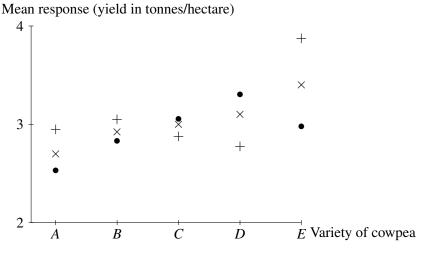
- Cultivation method 1 •
- Cultivation method 2 +
- Cultivation method 3 \times



Mean response (yield in tonnes/hectare)

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- Cultivation method 1 •
- Cultivation method 2 +
- Cultivation method 3 \times



There is interaction between Variety and Cultivation Method.

Analysis of data (from factorial experiments)

1. Starting at the top of the model diagram, choose the smallest model that fits the data adequately.

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- 2. Estimate the parameters of the chosen model.
- 3. There is no need to parametrize the other models.
- 4. Orthogonality \Rightarrow different routes down the model diagram give consistent results.

- ▶ ...
- Three (or more) treatment factors
- Factorial experiments (benefits)
- Construction and randomization of factorial designs
- Factorial treatments plus control

	Judge							
Tasting	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
1								
2								
3								
4								

				Juc	lge			
Tasting	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
1	A	B	C	D				
2	D	A	B	С				
3	C	D	A	B				
4	B	С	D	Α				
. T								

a Latin square

				Juc	lge			
Tasting	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
1	A	B	С	D	С	D	A	B
2	D	A	В	С	D	С	B	A
3	C	D	Α	В	Α	В	С	D
4	B	C	D	Α	В	Α	D	C
	a I	a Latin square			a	nd ai	nothe	er

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	Judge							
Tasting	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
1	A	B	C	D	С	D	A	B
2	D	A	B	С	D	С	B	A
3	С	D	A	B	Α	В	С	D
4	B	C	D	A	B	Α	D	C
	a I	a Latin square			a	nd aı	nothe	er

Randomize the (order of) the 4 rows Randomize the (order of) the 8 columns

Applications of previous ideas

- Applications of previous ideas
 - A crossover trial with no carry-over effects is a row-column design.

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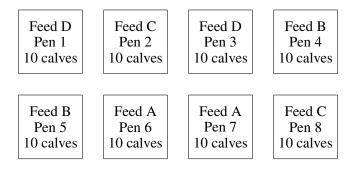
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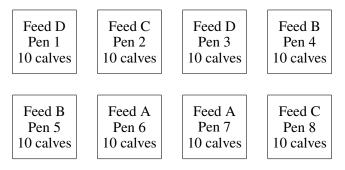
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 - One mouthwash is more effective at preventing gum disease than another, but also more unpleasant, so some subjects may give up taking it.

Chapter 8 Small Units inside Large Units



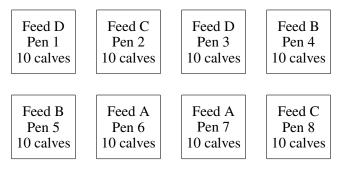
Chapter 8 Small Units inside Large Units



Stratum	Source	Degrees of freedom
mean	mean	1
pens	feed	3
	residual	4
	total	7
calves	calves	72
Total		80 < = > < # > < \ > < \ > > \

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Chapter 8 Small Units inside Large Units



Stratum	Source	Degrees of freedom		
mean	mean		1	
pens	feed	3		
	residual	4	no matter how many calves per pen	
	total		7	
calves	calves		72	
Total			80	-
				-

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Modification

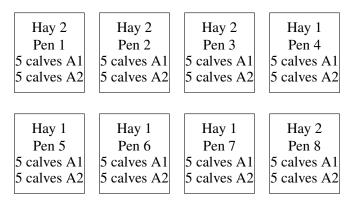
The 4 feeds consist of all combinations of

- ► 2 types of hay, which must be put in whole pens
- 2 types of anti-scour treatment, which are given to calves individually.

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Treatment factors in different strata

Stratum	Source	Degrees of freedom
mean	mean	1
pens	hay	1
	residual	6
	total	7
calves	anti-scour	1
	hay \land anti-scour	1
	residual	70
	total	72
Total		80

Treatment factors in different strata

Stratum	Source	Degrees of freedom
mean	mean	1
pens	hay	1
	residual	6
	total	7
calves	anti-scour	1
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	total	72
Total		80

Residual df for hay increase from 4 to 6, so power increases.

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	total	7
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	hay \land anti-scour	1
	residual	70
	total	72
Total		80

Residual df for hay increase from 4 to 6, so power increases. Anti-scour and the interaction have smaller variance (between calves within pens rather than between pens) and substantially more residual df, so power increases. Like the last one, but arrange the pens in complete blocks.

Using Latin squares for

- row-column designs
- two treatment factors with n levels each, in n blocks of size n, if it can be assumed that there is no interaction
- ► three treatment factors with *n* levels each, in n² experimental units, if it can be assumed that there is no interaction

A	В	С	D
В	Α	D	С
C	D	А	В
D	C	В	Α

Rows	Columns	Letters
Tasting	Judge	Wine
Field	Variety	Fertilizer
Factor 1	Factor 2	Factor 3

Let Ω = the set of observational units, and *F* a factor on Ω . *F*-class containing $\alpha = F[[\alpha]] = \{\omega \in \Omega : F(\omega) = F(\alpha)\}.$

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The universal factor U has just one class.

A factor *F* is a function for which we are more interested in knowing whether $F(\alpha) = F(\beta)$ than in knowing the value $F(\alpha)$.

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The equality factor E has one class per observational unit.

0	160	240
160	80	80
80	0	160
240	240	0
↑ Cropper	↑ Melba	↑ Melle

160	80	0
0	160	80
240	0	240
80	240	160
`'	`'	↑
Melba	Cropper	Melle

0	160	240
160	80	80
80	0	160
240	240	0
↑ Cropper	↑ Melba	↑ Melle

 $E = \operatorname{plot} \prec \operatorname{strip} \prec \operatorname{field} \prec U$

160	80	0
0	160	80
240	0	240
80	240	160
↑ Melba	↑ Cropper	↑ Melle

0	160	240
160	80	80
80	0	160
240	240	0
↑ Cropper	↑ Melba	↑ Melle
plat strip (field / U		

160	80	0
0	160	80
240	0	240
80	240	160
↑ Melba	↑ Cropper	↑ Melle

 $E = \text{plot} \prec \text{strip} \prec \text{field} \prec U$ strip $\prec \text{cultivar}$ Given two factors *F* and *G*, the factor $F \wedge G$ is defined by

 $(F \wedge G)[[\boldsymbol{\omega}]] = F[[\boldsymbol{\omega}]] \cap G[[\boldsymbol{\omega}]].$

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0	160	240
160	80	80
80	0	160
240	240	0
↑ Cropper	↑ Melba	↑ Melle

 $cultivar \wedge fertilizer = treatment$

160	80	0
0	160	80
240	0	240
80	240	160
↑ Melba	↑ Cropper	↑ Melle

0	160	240
160	80	80
80	0	160
240	240	0
↑ Cropper	↑ Melba	↑ Melle

 $\label{eq:cultivar} \begin{array}{l} {\rm cultivar} \wedge {\rm fertilizer} = {\rm treatment} \\ {\rm field} \wedge {\rm cultivar} = {\rm strip} \end{array}$

Given two factors *F* and *G*, the factor $F \lor G$ is the finest factor whose classes are unions of *F*-classes and unions of *G*-classes. Given two factors *F* and *G*, the factor $F \lor G$ is the finest factor whose classes are unions of *F*-classes and unions of *G*-classes.

If you try to fit *F* and *G* in a linear model, you will get into trouble unless you fit $F \lor G$ first.

0	160	240
160	80	80
80	0	160
240	240	0
↑ Cropper	↑ Melba	∱ Melle

160	80	0
0	160	80
240	0	240
80	240	160
↑ Melba	↑ Cropper	↑ Melle

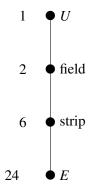
field \lor fertilizer = U

0	160	240
160	80	80
80	0	160
240	240	0
↑ Cropper	↑ Melba	↑ Melle

field \lor fertilizer = U strip \lor treatment = cultivar

160	80	0
0	160	80
240	0	240
80	240	160
↑ Melba	↑ Cropper	↑ Melle

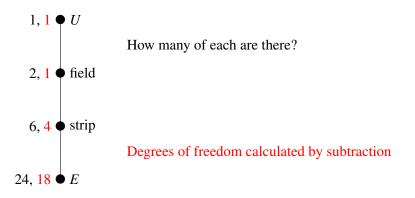
Hasse diagram for factors on the observational units



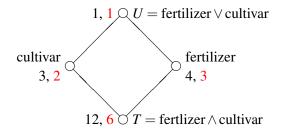
How many of each are there?

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Hasse diagram for factors on the observational units



Hasse diagram for factors on the treatments



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Factorial treatments plus control

dose	type						
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single				\checkmark	\checkmark		
double		\checkmark		\checkmark	\checkmark		

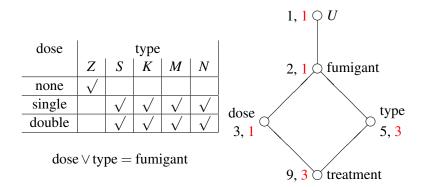
Factorial treatments plus control



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Factorial treatments plus control



Hence a complete theory for orthogonal designs, including the location of treatment subspaces in the correct strata.

This covers everything so far, and there are many further examples. Blocks are incomplete if

- the block size is less than the number of treatments
- no treatment occurs more than once in any block.

Chapter 11 Incomplete-Block Designs

Blocks are incomplete if

- the block size is less than the number of treatments
- no treatment occurs more than once in any block.

Balanced incomplete-block designs and square lattice designs.

Blocks are incomplete if

- the block size is less than the number of treatments
- no treatment occurs more than once in any block.

Balanced incomplete-block designs and square lattice designs.

Inserting a control treatment in every block.

If the number of blocks is equal to the number of treatments, algorithm to arrange the blocks as the columns of a row-column design in such a way that each treatment occurs once per row.

Combining the above.

Chapter 12 Factorial Designs in Incomplete Blocks

Characters		Treatments							
A	0	0	0	1	1	1	2	2	2
В	0	1	2	0	1	2	0	1	2
A+B	0	1	2	1	2	0	2	0	1
A + 2B	0	2	1	1	0	2	2	1	0
2A + B	0	1	2	2	0	1	1	2	0
2A + 2B	0	2	1	2	1	0	1	0	2
2A	0	0	0	2	2	2	1	1	1
2B	0	2	1	0	2	1	0	2	1
Ι	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0

Chapter 12 Factorial Designs in Incomplete Blocks

Characters	Treatments								
A	0	0	0	1	1	1	2	2	2
В	0	1	2	0	1	2	0	1	2
A+B	0	1	2	1	2	0	2	0	1
A + 2B	0	2	1	1	0	2	2	1	0
2A + B	0	1	2	2	0	1	1	2	0
2A + 2B	0	2	1	2	1	0	1	0	2
2A	0	0	0	2	2	2	1	1	1
2B	0	2	1	0	2	1	0	2	1
Ι	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0

- $A \equiv 2A$ main effect of A
- $B \equiv 2B$ main effect of B
- $A + B \equiv 2A + 2B \quad 2 d$ $A + 2B \equiv 2A + B \quad 2 d$
- 2 degrees of freedom for the A-by-B interaction
 - 2 degrees of freedom for the *A*-by-*B* interaction, orthogonal to the previous 2

Chapter 12 Factorial Designs in Incomplete Blocks

Characters	Treatments								
A	0	0	0	1	1	1	2	2	2
В	0	1	2	0	1	2	0	1	2
A+B	0	1	2	1	2	0	2	0	1
A + 2B	0	2	1	1	0	2	2	1	0
2A + B	0	1	2	2	0	1	1	2	0
2A + 2B	0	2	1	2	1	0	1	0	2
2A	0	0	0	2	2	2	1	1	1
2 <i>B</i>	0	2	1	0	2	1	0	2	1
Ι	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0

- $A \equiv 2A$ main effect of A
- $B \equiv 2B$ main effect of B
- $A + B \equiv 2A + 2B$ 2 degrees of freedom for the *A*-by-*B* interaction $A + 2B \equiv 2A + B$ 2 degrees of freedom for the *A*-by-*B* interaction.
 - *B* 2 degrees of freedom for the *A*-by-*B* interaction, orthogonal to the previous 2

For 3 blocks of size 3, can alias blocks with any character,

(3)

A factorial design is a fractional replicate if not all possible combinations of the treatment factors occur.

A fractional replicate can be useful if there are a large number of treatment factors to investigate and we can assume that some interactions are zero.

Chapter 9 constructed some fractional replicate designs from Latin squares.

Here we use characters to give us more types of fractional replicate.

Includes quantile plots for analysis.

- 1. Randomization
- 2. Factors such as time, sex, age and breed— Are they treatment factors or plot factors?
- 3. Writing a protocol
- 4. ...

Not all the examples are agricultural.

Almost all of the examples in this book are real. On the other hand, almost none of them is the whole truth.

Each chapter ends with questions for discussion: there is no single correct answer.

There are more general exercises at the end.

Sources of all these are given, as far as possible.

A question from Chapter 1

Several studies have suggested that drinking red wine gives some protection against heart disease, but it is not known whether the effect is caused by the alcohol or by some other ingredient of red wine. To investigate this, medical scientists enrolled 40 volunteers into a trial lasting 28 days. For the first 14 days, half the volunteers drank two glasses of red wine per day, while the other half had two standard drinks of gin. For the remaining 14 days the drinks were reversed: those who had been drinking red wine changed to gin, while those who had been drinking gin changed to red wine. On days 14 and 28, the scientists took a blood sample from each volunteer and measured the amount of inflammatory substance in the blood.

Identify the experimental units and observational units. How many are there of each? What is the plot structure?

What are the treatments? What is the treatment structure?

A group of people researching ways to reduce the risk of blood clotting are planning their next experiments. One says:

We know that aspirin thins the blood. Let's experiment with the quantity of aspirin. We could enrol about 150 healthy men into the trial, give 50 of them one aspirin tablet per day for a year, another 50 one and a half aspirin tablets a day, and the final 50 will get two aspirin tablets per day. When we have decided which quantity is best, we can run another trial to find out if there is any difference between taking the aspirin after breakfast or after dinner.

How do you reply?

A horticulture research institute wants to compare nine methods of treating a certain variety of houseplant while it is being grown in a greenhouse in preparation for the Christmas market. One possibility is to ask twelve small growers to test three treatments each in separate chambers in their greenhouses. A second possibility is to ask three large commercial growers to test nine methods each, also in separate greenhouse chambers.

- 1. Construct a suitable design for the first possibility.
- 2. Randomize this design.
- 3. If the plots stratum variance is the same in both cases, which design is more efficient?
- 4. Compare the designs in terms of likely cost, difficulty and representativeness of the results.

Design of the Month Rest and exercise

The following quotation is taken from page 18 of the *New Scientist* of 28 July 2007.

"Less pain, more gain" may become the new mantra for gym junkies. Taking a break during your workout may result in you burning more fat than the same amount of exercise without a break, according to a report from Kazushige Goto of the University of Tokyo, Japan, and his colleagues (*Journal of Applied Physiology*). They studied seven men with an average age of 25. On different days, the men did no exercise, exercised on stationary bikes for 1 hour, or exercised at the same intensity for two half-hour periods separated by a 20-minute rest.

- 1. What were the experimental units and how many of them were there?
- 2. What were the treatments and how many of them were there?
- 3. How do you think the experiment was designed?
- 4. Can you improve on the design?

Design of the Month Preventing diabetes in the local Bangladeshi community

The following quotation is taken from the May 2007 issue of *The Bulletin* of Queen Mary, University of London.

Colleagues ... are piloting how to best identify those at highest risk in the local Bangladeshi community using GP registers. They will then test the feasibility of interventions to prevent diabetes. In a factorial design, usual care provided by the GP will be compared to a behavioural change programme to improve lifestyle run by 'lay tutors' attached to Social Action for Health; medication strategies and a mix of lifestyle education and medication.

- 1. What are the observational units?
- 2. What are the experimental units?
- 3. What are the treatments and how many of them are there?
- 4. Draw the Hasse diagram for the factors on the treatments.
- 5. How should this trial be randomized?

Design of the Month The greening of healthcare

The following quotation is taken from page 32 of the *New Scientist* of 22 December 2007.

We also compared the effects of running on a treadmill while runners were faced with one of four views, which we classified as rural pleasant, rural unpleasant, urban pleasant and urban unpleasant. There was also a control group who had no view at all, as in most gyms. "Rural pleasant" was the winner, with improved psychological outcomes and substantially reduced blood pressure, while the "urban unpleasant" view came bottom. Runners with "no view" fared better than those viewing gritty urban scenes.

- 1. What were the observational units?
- 2. What were the experimental units?
- 3. What were the treatments and how many of them were there?
- 4. Draw the Hasse diagram for the factors on the treatments.