

NOTES FOR M358K INSTRUCTORS USING DEVEAUX, VELLEMAN AND BOCK,
STATS: DATA AND MODELS, 3RD EDITION

GENERAL COMMENTS ON THE TEXTBOOK AND ACCOMPANYING DISK

General Comments on the Textbook:

- There is a student solutions manual containing complete solutions to all odd numbered exercises. The instructor's edition of the textbook has answers to all exercises.
- Note that the Answers in the back of the book are just that – “answers,” as contrasted with solutions. Quoting from p. A-1, “Here are the “answers” to the exercises for the chapters and the unit reviews. As we said in Chapter 1, the answers are outlines of the complete solutions. Your solution should follow the model of the Step-By-Step examples, where appropriate. ... For some problems, what you decide to include in an argument may differ somewhat from the answers here.” *Be sure to instruct your students and grader accordingly!* My standard practice was to grade a couple of papers from each assignment myself, then go over them with the grader before handing over the homework papers for grading.
- Also be aware that it's not always the case that an odd-numbered problem is like the following even-numbered problem.
- The “What Can Go Wrong” sections at the end of each chapter (except 1) are analogous to the “caution” symbols in Moore and McCabe, but they collect all the “cautions” for each chapter in one place. This has advantages, at the expense of the possible disadvantage that students might neglect these sections. But I think this disadvantage can be avoided if the instructor i) emphasizes that these sections are important and ii) assigns exercises where the points in these sections are needed.
- Most chapters include an “On the Computer” section just before the Exercises. These usually consist of a “general” section plus instructions for various software options. Often the general sections are worth having the students read, even if you are giving your own computer instructions.

Comments on the ActivStats disk:

- The User's Guide for the ActivStats disk included with the text is available on the web at <http://www.aw-bc.com/activstats>, or in the file User's Guide on the disk.
- To enlarge font, use Preferences on the ActivStats menu. Enlarging font on the statistics software Data Desk included on the disk is more awkward: Some (not all) windows have a “hyperview menu” accessible by clicking the triangle just to the left of the window title. The hyperview menu may have an option for enlarging font size.
- To save and be able to open again, save to your own disk, not the ActivStats disk. If you try the latter, you will need to enter the serial number again when you use the disk the next time.
- The textbook items with the “ActivStats Pointer” symbol don't seem to correspond with what is in the disk.
- The search function is extremely slow, and not very helpful.

- Using the table of contents is more helpful – click on the chapter with the same number (but perhaps a slightly different title.)
- The disk doesn't seem to correspond to the textbook very well – for example, the “teaching applet” on histograms seems to assume that stem-and-leaf plots have been discussed, whereas the textbook does histograms before stem-and-leaf plots.

Last revised Oct. 14, 2012