## The 42nd Professional Statistical Analysis Workshop" hosted by the IDCJ Evaluation Department

## (2024/06/25, 26 & 28) (via Zoom) Post-event Survey (English translation)

- 1. You learned about "random assignment." Please give us your comments on your satisfaction and future improvements.
  - I am satisfied.
  - Very satisfied
  - I'm glad I was able to understand the actual allocation method in Excel. This time, the materials were shared in PDF format instead of being sent by mail, but I couldn't find the explanation materials. (However, the teacher projected the screen during the lecture, so it wasn't a problem.)
  - I am satisfied. I can't think of many opportunities to use it in my work, but knowing how to do it
    and the concepts means I won't miss any opportunities, and even if I don't actually use it, I
    can use the concepts as a reference for smaller-scale surveys, for example. I realized that it
    was surprisingly manual work.
  - I understand.
  - The explanation was clear and easy to understand.
  - If possible, I would appreciate it if you could introduce other variations, or random allocation methods other than just Excel.
- 2. You learned about "histograms, mean, median, and standard deviation." Please give us your comments on your satisfaction and future improvements.
  - I am very satisfied. I think that this was taught thoroughly, so it was easier for me to understand the following lectures. It was very helpful to get a real feel for what you are doing by doing manual calculations.
  - The explanation of standard deviation was very easy to understand, and I was able to fully understand the concept of the test in later lectures.
  - The explanation was clear and easy to understand.
  - Although it is a basic subject, it was good to have the opportunity to study it again.
  - I am satisfied.
  - Very satisfied
  - I was able to reaffirm my understanding.
  - I understand.
- 3. You learned about "t-tests (pre-post t-tests, two-group t-tests)". Please give us your comments on your satisfaction and future improvements.
  - For me, this was the content I was most likely to use in practice, so I think learning it through the workshop really deepened my understanding.

- I am very satisfied. Things I had been trying to remember but couldn't before now remain clearly in my head, and I can now use them with confidence. I think this is because I didn't just look at the words, but instead built up my knowledge one by one. I immediately put it to use, and performed some t-tests on the data for a project for which I am currently writing a report, to support my argument. I think I will be able to use the t-test quite a bit in the future, so I am very happy that I can now use it.
- The explanation was clear and easy to understand.
- Until now, I had been using statistical software to perform analyses, but by actually doing the
  calculations by hand, I was able to consider the meaning of the numbers and deepen my
  understanding.
- it well.
- I am very satisfied.
- Very satisfied.
- I get it.
- 4. You learned about the "Proportion Test (Chi-Square Test)". Please give us your comments on your satisfaction and future improvements.
  - This is also the kind of content that is likely to be used frequently in practical work, so it was good to be able to learn it through workshops.
  - I am very satisfied. I think I can use this in the future. The discussion on the 5- point scale and the 4- point scale was interesting. As with the other discussions, I learned that there is a philosophy and a way of thinking behind statistical procedures, and I think it is important to look at the methods you choose and the methods used in papers and reports from that perspective.
  - From this point onwards, it was particularly difficult. If you just follow the explanations on Excel without thinking about things like "This is the formula here," "This is the value here, so it becomes like this, the value is more than or less than this, so you can say this," it will certainly be as it is, but once you start thinking about why it is as it is, or "This is what it says, but isn't this part like this," etc., you can't keep up with the flow. Some of the other participants had statistical textbooks on hand, or had already done statistical analysis in their research, but there were some parts that seemed to be explanations and flow that were not aimed at beginners who had never touched statistics before.
  - I found it a little difficult and fast paced.
  - I am very satisfied.
  - Very satisfied.
- 5. You learned about "regression analysis." Please give us your comments on your satisfaction and future improvements.
  - I am satisfied. I would like you to briefly touch on other types of regression analysis and explain the differences between them.

- I am satisfied. I also understood the way of thinking. When I manually entered the intercept and slope in the exercise, I seemed to have made a mistake in the numbers, and when I was correcting it, I missed the flow. I thought it would be a good idea to return the lecture for such a reason, but it was difficult to concentrate on the content after that, so I will do the calculations again by hand and redo them in the video later. This may be something that often happens online, but I can get it back because I can get the video. I am very grateful for the video. Also, regarding the aspect of regression analysis that can be arbitrary, I used to think that it was important to try various things to find factors that I had not noticed, but after listening to your lecture and the other students' stories, I understood the issue. Here, too, there is the analyst's thinking before the technique of what to show and how to show it, and I would like to keep this in mind somewhere in my head as a reader of reports, etc.
- I'm sure the analysis method differs depending on the situation, but I would like to hear about more advanced methods as well.
- when regression analysis should be used or its relationship to RCTs, so I was able to gain a
  deeper understanding after hearing about recent trends in impact evaluation.
- I had almost no idea what was going on in the manual calculations. I wish they had cut down on this time and explained more about the chi-square test and regression analysis.
- Although I was only able to take part of the class, I was able to understand the parts I was able to attend well. I will study the recording later.
- What was great about this was that I not only learned how to do it in Excel, but also how it can
  easily become arbitrary for the evaluator.
- Very satisfied.
- I found it a little difficult and fast paced.

Please give us your comments on your level of satisfaction and future improvements regarding the "Pre-training: Basic Design and Examples of Impact Evaluation" course.

- I had looked at the 10- step NGO impact evaluation document in advance, so I was able to confirm my understanding.
- I am satisfied. I took the evaluator course last year, so it was a very good review, and I think I
  was able to deepen my understanding by learning other case studies.
- I understood it very well.
- The case study was easy to understand.
- not only examples of Japanese international cooperation, but also solid examples of impact evaluations of international organizations and NGOs overseas.
- The lecture was very practical and informative, with the advantages and disadvantages of each impact evaluation design being explained using actual examples.
- I am satisfied.

## 7. What did you think about holding the event on Zoom?

• The session is a little long, but there is time for breaks, so I think it's generally satisfactory.

- Rather than just listening one-sidedly, there was also pair work, which made it very fulfilling.
- I was able to participate without any problems.
- As I wrote in 5., it's easy to fall behind on small things, but there are ways to catch up, so it's not a problem. I don't live in the Tokyo metropolitan area, so I'm very grateful that the classes are held on Zoom. I'll also use the videos to review later.
- I was very grateful that it was easy to participate. I also really appreciate that the recording was distributed.
- It's good to have both face-to-face and online options.
- I thought it would be better to hold the event on Zoom rather than in person because there would be no travel time to the venue.
- Although there were occasional connection issues and screen glitches that made it difficult to see, I thought the overall experience was efficient and good. I also liked the fact that you can watch the recording later.

## 8. Please feel free to write any other comments or requests.

- He also gave us real-life examples and explanations of events related to the papers, which I
  found fascinating and educational. Overall, the explanations are very thorough and the pacing
  is just right.
- Thank you for this time. I was able to learn a great deal. I am also thinking of applying for the applied course. We appreciate your continued support.
- lt was very good to learn that the things I learned by myself from books and other sources can be applied to actual evaluation. Nowadays, in training sessions on evaluation, the explanation of analysis is often along the lines of "If you want to know more, read the books," and I think there are quite a few people who are involved in evaluation without fully understanding this point (including myself), so I think opportunities like this training are very valuable. Also, I don't know if this is an area for improvement, but I was studying for the 3rd level statistical test, so I was able to follow the explanations on normal distribution, t- distribution, p- values, etc. without any particular problems, but I felt that if I hadn't studied those things, I might not have been able to understand the explanations halfway through. The participants this time were people who were quite involved in the work, so if such people were to participate every time, it might not be necessary, but if they have almost no work experience, it might be good to have some follow-up. Thank you very much for the three days. I would definitely like to take the advanced course. I look forward to working with you in the future.
- As mentioned at the beginning, the American approach to teaching is easy to understand, and the course was taught step by step, making it very easy to understand. Important points were repeatedly emphasized while also doing calculations by hand, which helped me to deepen my understanding. I am really glad that I was able to take the course. The next applied course may not be available on the same date, but I feel that I still need to review what I learned this time. I would like to take the course again if I can get a passing grade, so I look forward to your help.

- I became a researcher without having had the opportunity to learn statistics systematically. I have been studying on my own, but I was not good at it and I could not shake the anxiety that I might have misunderstood it. I was able to learn everything at once this time, and I was relieved to see that I had not been so misguided. Also, for the first time, I thought statistics was interesting! Thank you very much.
- thank you
- Overall, it was very easy to understand. Thank you very much.
- I believe that impact assessment methods will continue to evolve over time, so I would like to hear about your future prospects and how you update your knowledge.
- I have learned the basics of statistics in lectures and textbooks before, but I thought I understood it every time, but I didn't really master it, and it was difficult to use it in practice. In this workshop, statistical analysis methods were explained very clearly without using formulas, and I was able to understand it practically by doing calculations manually in Excel. It was by far the easiest to understand of all the statistics lectures I have taken so far, and it was a very meaningful three days. Since I don't often have the opportunity to consult about impact evaluation and statistical analysis in my everyday work, I felt it was very reassuring to know that individual consultations were available for a fee. Thank you very much.

(All comments received in the follow-up survey are listed below.)