

Stat 998, Fall 2013 (Larget)
Diesel Engine Problem
Due Thursday, September 12
Issues to Consider While Reading the Reports

For each of the two reports, write up brief answers to the following. They will form the basis for class discussion (and I will also collect them and make comments as appropriate). Bring **2 copies** of this assignment with you on paper; one to turn in, and one for you to keep for the discussion.

1. What are the key 1 or 2 findings about this study (from the perspective of the client)?
2. Provide an overall evaluation of each report from the perspective of the client.
3. Provide 2 particularly good features and 2 particularly bad features of each report.

In addition, fill in the following tables for each of the reports.

- (1) focus on client
- (2) concise summary
- (3) experimental design
- (4) graphics and tables
- (5) data analysis

Jot brief comments with page and paragraph reference. Step back and view the focus area (e.g. graphics and tables) as a whole and comment briefly [see sub-headings in table below]. When done, score each part as

- + well done; satisfactory
- ± gets major points but needs some work
- needs real improvement

You may choose to score sub-headings below (say 1–5 scale) and combine these to evaluate each area.

Sometimes a question is better than a comment. Your comments/questions should be “neutral”, without judgement and without leading the consultant [this is hard to do!]. Do not rewrite sections. Examples:

- p. 2, l. 1: unclear; how else could you convey this aspect of design?
- p. 3, para. 2, l. 3: what is the experimental unit for silage treatment?
- p. 4, para. 1, l. 4: how did you arrive at this model?
- p. 9, para. 2, l. 6: how does this figure connect with the analysis of periods?

Report #1:	Reviewer:
concise summary	score/comments
clear and organized?	
not too wordy?	
sufficient detail?	
summarizes goal and findings?	
graphics and tables	score/comments
plots and tables neat?	
relevant to questions?	
connected to text?	
key features highlighted?	
experimental design	score/comments
understand design?	
convey key features?	
special aspects (outliers, missing data)?	
connect design to analysis smoothly?	
data analysis	score/comments
address key questions?	
sufficient detail for another consultant?	
appropriate/innovative approach?	
interpret results for client?	
focus on client	score/comments
written at client's level?	
answers his/her questions?	
neat, clear presentation?	
avoids jargon and formulas?	

Report #2:	Reviewer:
concise summary	score/comments
clear and organized?	
not too wordy?	
sufficient detail?	
summarizes goal and findings?	
graphics and tables	score/comments
plots and tables neat?	
relevant to questions?	
connected to text?	
key features highlighted?	
experimental design	score/comments
understand design?	
convey key features?	
special aspects (outliers, missing data)?	
connect design to analysis smoothly?	
data analysis	score/comments
address key questions?	
sufficient detail for another consultant?	
appropriate/innovative approach?	
interpret results for client?	
focus on client	score/comments
written at client's level?	
answers his/her questions?	
neat, clear presentation?	
avoids jargon and formulas?	