

Statistical Geography, EnvironmentBasic Concepts of the terms "Health" and "Morbidity" and other Related Terms

Health is a state of complete physical, mental, and social well-being and not merely the absence of disease or infirmity". The term "morbidity" or "sickness" means departure from the above ideal healthy condition.

Disease and Injury

It should be noted that a "morbid condition" appears due to an attack of one or more "diseases" or "injury". The term disease denotes a disturbance in the normal physical and/or mental health. This disturbance may not be apparent but discovered only after special investigation. The term injury is a condition produced by an external cause such as violence, accidents, poisoning and misadventure.

Need for and Importance of Morbidity Statistics

The need for and importance of morbidity statistics lies in general in providing information on the following:

- a) How many people suffer from particular diseases, how often and for how long?
- b) What types of demands these diseases make on the medical and public resources; and what financial loss they cause?
- c) How fatal the different diseases are?
- d) To what extent are people prevented by these diseases from carrying out their normal activities?
- e) To what extent the diseases concentrated in specific group of the population. e.g. according to age, sex, marital status, ethnic group, occupation or place of residence. etc?
- f) How far do the above factors vary over time?
- g) What is the effect of medical care and health services on the control of disease incidence?

Sources of Morbidity Statistics

The availability of morbidity statistics is mainly restricted to the developed countries. However, among the various sources of morbidity statistics which are available at present in different countries, the following are of importance:

- i) Notifiable disease records.
- ii) Hospital records of in-patients together with records of attendance of out patients in hospitals, clinics and dispensaries.
- iii) Cases seen by the staff of Primary Health Care centres, clinics, school medical services by factory medical staff and other medical staff responsible for special groups of population.
- iv) Special sickness surveys covering the whole population on samples of it.
- v) Statistics on illness collected in connection with life or sickness insurance.
- vi) Medical case statistics, that is, statistics collected under community medical care programmes.
- vii) National or local registers on cancer, tuberculosis.
- viii) Statistics of causes of death in relation to knowledge of duration of illness, if recorded.
- ix) Records from Industrial sickness benefit association.
- x) Records from recruitment to the armed forces on goal records.
- xi) Screening survey and supervision of some diseases e.g. tuberculosis, sexual diseases and HIV/AIDS infections.
- xii) Absenteeism and sickness records in educational institutions, civil service examinations and industrial concerns.
- xiii) National Family Health surveys phase I and II conducted in all Indian states and UTs during 1992-93 and 1998-99 also provide limited but valuable information on morbidity statistics.

Uses of Morbidity Statistics

Given below are some specific areas having a very good potential to use morbidity statistics at different levels.

- i) Required for the purposes of medical administration.
- ii) To indicate the popⁿ's requirements for medical care at home and hospital, etc.
- iii) Required by public health agencies for the control of diseases and epidemics, and for the location, design

and administration of public health and medical facilities and services, including rehabilitation programmes, and for estimating healthy manpower needs.

iv) Required by various industrial sections, as sickness prevents employees associated with various industries to carry out their normal duties: the armed forces has a similar concern with respect to its manpower resources.

v) Pharmaceutical houses and manufacturers of medical, surgical and hospital supplies assess their markets from morbidity statistics.

vi) Many research activities are guided by morbidity statistics, particularly when the data are sufficiently detailed to establish causal relationship during the course of the disease.

In deciding upon the appropriate rates of morbidity, the illness that exist in a population during a given time period may first be classified as follows:

- i) Illness beginning during the period and ending during the period.
- ii) Illnesses beginning during the period and still existing at the end of the period.
- iii) Illnesses existing before the beginning of the period and ending during the period.
- iv) Illnesses existing before the beginning of the period and existing at the end of the period.

Incidence Rate

The crude incidence rate (C.I.R.) is defined by the number of new cases of illness or injury (I) in a community on an annual basis per 1,000 average number of persons (P) living in the community during the reference period.

Symbolically, C.I.R. may be defined as follows:

$$C.I.R. = \frac{I}{P} \times 1000$$

When a population is exposed to the risk of a disease for a limited period of time only, the incidence rate may be termed as, the 'attack rate'.

In order to study the spread of infection in familial exposure, a morbidity investigation may be conducted among families brought under observation as a result of the presence of the disease in one of its members; this member may be termed as the "index person". The number of new illnesses with the same disease may then be related to the number of persons exposed, excluding the index in each instance.

Thus,

$$\text{Secondary attack rate} = \frac{\text{The number of new illnesses with the same disease of the index person}}{\text{Number of persons exposed excluding the index person}} \times 100$$

Prevalence Rate: Prevalence of a disease indicates how common the disease is in a population. It is of two types: Period prevalence rate and Point prevalence rate.

Period prevalence rate: It is used to measure the frequency of illness in existence during a defined period. It includes all the cases in the defined period old and new cases occurring during the same period.

The crude period prevalence (C.P.R) is defined as the number of illness (e) existing at any time within a specified period per 1000 average number of persons (P) exposed to risk during that period.

Point prevalence rate: The term is used to measure the number of cases of illness, new and old, existing at a particular point of time, such as 10.00 AM on Monday, the 25th October, 1999 and related to the number of persons exposed to the risk at that point of time. More specifically, the numerator includes all cases (spell of illness on persons affected by the disease) at the given moment, irrespective of the length of time which has elapsed from the beginning at the illness to the time when point prevalence is measured. The denominator is the total persons within which the disease is ascertained.

Duration of illness: There is another measure for morbidity which is calculated as follows:

a) Average duration of illness per person = $\frac{\text{Total days of illness of all sick persons}}{\text{Total population exposed}}$

b) Average duration of illness per person sick = $\frac{\text{Total days of illness of all sick persons}}{\text{Number of persons fell ill}}$

c) Average duration of illness per spell = $\frac{\text{Total days of illness of all sick persons}}{\text{Number of spell of illness}}$

Case Fatality Rate (C.F.R): If I_i is the number of new cases of illness or injury for cause (i) during a specified period, and D_i is the number of deaths from cause (i) within the same period and community, then the case-fatality rate (C.F.R) is defined by

$$\text{C.F.R} = \frac{D_i}{I_i} \times 1000$$

The C.F.R is intended to measure the risk of death from a specific condition among those suffering from it.

Cancer cure rate = $\frac{\text{No. of cases still alive and without evidence of the disease five years after treatment}}{\text{No. of cases treated during the reference period under study}}$

Interrelationship between measures

Date - 23/05/22

Let, P and I denote the prevalence and incidence rate respectively of a disease in a community and \bar{x} represent the average duration of the disease from the onset to termination, measured in the same time units used to specify the incidence. It is found that P is directly proportional to the product I and \bar{x} .

Since, P varies proportionally to the product I and \bar{x} , a change in the prevalence rate on disease from the period to another may arise due to the changes in incidence or duration or both. In an ideal circumstances where incidents

and duration present to remain constant over time, the disease is said to be stable and then the prevalence (P) equals to the product of incidence (I) and duration (D). Symbolically P equals to

$$P = I \times D$$

Another relation that exists if the disease is stable or nearly so - is between incidence (I) and mortality (M) from which the case fatality rate (F) may be estimated -

$$F = \frac{M}{I}$$

Intra-class Correlation

Rate - 25/05/22

$$\sigma_x^2 = \sigma_y^2$$

$$= \frac{\sum (k_i - 1) \sum (x_{ij} - \bar{x})^2}{N}$$

$$\text{cov}(x_i, x_j) = \frac{1}{N} \sum_i \left\{ \sum_{j \neq i} (x_{ij} - \bar{x})(x_{ij} - \bar{x}) \right\}$$

$$= \frac{1}{N} \sum_i \left\{ \sum_{j=1}^{k_i} \sum_{l=1}^{k_i} (x_{ij} - \bar{x})(x_{il} - \bar{x}) - \sum_{j=1}^{k_i} (x_{ij} - \bar{x})^2 \right\}$$

$$= \sum_i \left\{ \sum_{j=1}^{k_i} \sum_{l=1}^{k_i} (x_{ij} - \bar{x})(x_{il} - \bar{x}) \right\} -$$

$$\sum_i \left\{ \sum_{j=1}^{k_i} (x_{ij} - \bar{x}) \sum_{l=1}^{k_i} (x_{il} - \bar{x}) \right\} -$$

$$= \sum_i \left\{ k_i (\bar{x}_i - \bar{x}) k_i (\bar{x}_i - \bar{x}) \right\} -$$

$$\text{cov}(x_i, x_j) = \frac{1}{N} \left\{ \sum k_i^2 (\bar{x}_i - \bar{x})^2 - \sum_i \sum_j (x_{ij} - \bar{x})^2 \right\}$$

$$\sigma = \frac{\sum k_i^2 (\bar{x}_i - \bar{x})^2 - \sum \sum (x_{ij} - \bar{x})^2}{\sum_i (k_i - 1) \sum_j (x_{ij} - \bar{x})^2}$$

$$k_i = k$$

$$r = \frac{\sum k^2 (\bar{x}_i - \bar{x})^2 - \sum \sum (x_{ij} - \bar{x})^2}{\sum \sum (k-1) (x_{ij} - \bar{x})^2}$$

$$= \frac{k^2 \sum (\bar{x}_i - \bar{x})^2 - \sum \sum (x_{ij} - \bar{x})^2}{(k-1) \sum \sum (x_{ij} - \bar{x})^2}$$

Let, $\sigma_m^2 = \frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^n (\bar{x}_i - \bar{x})^2$

$n\sigma_m^2 = \sum (\bar{x}_i - \bar{x})^2$

$\sigma^2 = \frac{1}{nk} \sum_i \sum_j (x_{ij} - \bar{x})^2$

$\therefore nk\sigma^2 = \sum_i \sum_j (x_{ij} - \bar{x})^2$

$n = \frac{nk^2 \sigma_m^2 - nk\sigma^2}{(k-1)nk\sigma^2}$

$= \frac{k^2 \sigma_m^2}{(k-1)k\sigma^2} - \frac{1}{k-1}$

$= \frac{1}{k-1} \left\{ \frac{k\sigma_m^2}{\sigma^2} - 1 \right\}$

$n = \frac{1}{k-1} \left\{ \frac{k\sigma_m^2}{\sigma^2} - 1 \right\}$

$\therefore n(k-1) + 1 = \frac{k\sigma_m^2}{\sigma^2} \geq 0$

$n(k-1) + 1 \geq 0$

$\therefore n \geq -\frac{1}{k-1}$

$(+n(k-1) \leq k$

$n(k-1) \leq k - 1$

$n \leq 1$ (ii)

$-\frac{1}{k-1} \leq n \leq 1$

Q. In 4 families each containing 8 persons, the chest measurements of persons are given below. Calculate the intraclass correlation coefficient.

Family 1	Family 2	Family 3	Family 4
43	33	56	34
46	34	52	37
48	37	50	38
42	39	51	46
50	82	54	40
45	35	52	41
45	37	39	44
49	41	52	44

CLINICAL RESEARCH & CLINICAL TRIALS-I

Define Clinical Research:

Clinical research is a branch of healthcare science that determines the safety and effectiveness of medications, devices, diagnostic products and treatment, diagnosis or for relieving symptoms of a disease. Clinical research is different from clinical practice. In clinical practice established treatments are used, while in clinical research evidence is collected to establish a treatment.

Define Clinical Trials:

Clinical trials experiments or observations done in clinical research. Such prospective biomedical or behavioral research studies on human participants are designed to answer specific questions about biomedical or behavioral interventions, including new treatments and known interventions that warrant further study and comparison. Clinical trials generate data on dosage, safety and efficacy. They are conducted only after they have received health authority/ethics committee approval in the country where approval of the therapy is sought. These authorities are responsible for vetting the risk/benefit ratio of the trial - their approval does not mean the therapy is 'safe' or effective, only that the trial may be conducted.

Why we need the clinical trials?

Clinical trials show us what works in medicine and health care. They are the best way to learn what works in treating diseases like cancer. Clinical trials are designed to answer some important questions:

- Does the new treatment work in people? If it does, doctors will also look at how well it works. Is it better than treatment now being used? If

it's not better, is it as good and cause fewer side effects? Or does it work in some people who aren't helped by current treatments?

- Is the new treatment safe? No treatment or procedure - even one already in common use - is without risk. But do the benefits of the new treatment outweigh the risks.
- Is this treatment better than the standard treatment given for this disease? Clinical trials help show if a new drug or treatment, or a new treatment combination, works better than what is now used.

Phases of Clinical Trials:

The different phases of clinical trials are:

Phase 1: The purpose of phase 1 is to ensure that the treatment is safe in human and to determine how and where it distributes within the body. This testing normally takes place with a small group of healthy volunteers. At the end of phase 1, the results are collected, analyzed, and submitted to the authority for permission to proceed to phase 2 clinical trials. However, if the results show that the treatment was associated with one or more serious adverse events, then the authority may not give ~~the~~ permission to proceed to phase 2.

Phase 2: The purpose of a phase 2 clinical trial is to determine the right dosage and effectiveness in treating that particular disease. This testing normally takes place with a larger number of volunteers who have the disease. There are many different ways that a trial sponsor can conduct their trial, but the plan normally involves assigning participants to different treatment groups, where each group can receive different doses or delivery of the treatment. Normally, there is a "control group" that receives either the current

Standard of care, if another type of treatment is already available on the market for the disease, on a "placebo" treatment, such as a sugar pill or harmless injection that does not contain the treatment. The health of the group(s) of patients who received the different types of treatment is compared to the control groups. However, if the results show that the treatment did not work better than the current standard of care or even caused acceleration of the disease or other unexpected serious adverse events, the authority may not give permission to proceed to phase 3.

Phase 3: A phase 3 clinical trial involves a much larger group of volunteers and primarily focuses on determining whether the treatment would be safe and effective for a wide variety of people. The plan normally involves assigning participants to treatment or control groups. There can be more than one treatment group, especially if the treatment involves a combination of drugs or different components. Again, there is a control group that receives either the current standard of care regimen or a placebo treatment. After completion of phase 3 clinical trials, the health of the patients who received the different types of treatment are compared to the control groups. If the results show that the treatment did not work better than the current standard of care or even caused acceleration of the disease or other unexpected serious adverse events, the authority may not give permission to proceed to apply for a New Drug Application (NDA).

Phase 4: After approval by the authority and manufacturing of the drug on a large scale by the sponsor, the process enters what is called phase 4 clinical trial/post-market surveillance/report adverse events. For at least the entire time a treatment* is on the market, the authority monitors for public safety and potentially serious adverse events.

Kappa Statistics

Date - 1/6/22

The reliability of clinical ratings is an important consideration in areas such as diagnosis and the interpretation of examination findings. Often these ratings lie on a nominal or ordinal scale. For such data the kappa coefficient is an appropriate measure of reliability.

A common example of a situation in which a researcher may want to assess agreement on a nominal scale is to determine the presence or absence of some disease or condition. This agreement could be determined in a situation in which two researchers or clinicians have used the same examination tool or different tools to determine the diagnosis. One way of gauging the agreement between two clinicians is to calculate overall percentage of agreement or effective percentage of agreement. Although these calculations provide a measure of agreement, neither takes into account that would be expected purely by chance. If ^{clinician} clinicians agree purely by chance, they are not really "agreeing" at all.

Only agreement beyond that expected by chance can be considered "True" agreement. Kappa is such a measure of true agreement. It indicates the proportion of agreement beyond that expected by chance, i.e., the achieved beyond chance agreement as a proportion of the possible beyond chance agreement. It takes the form

$$K = \frac{\text{Observed agreement} - \text{chance agreement}}{1 - \text{chance agreement}}$$

In terms of simple this is,

$$K = \frac{P_o - P_e}{1 - P_e}$$

where P_o is the proportion of observed agreements and P_e is the proportion agreement of chance

0.61 - 0.80 : substantial

0.81 - 1 : Almost perfect]

Screening

Date - 06/06/22

The search for unrecognized disease or defect by means of rapidly applied tests, examinations or other procedures in apparently healthy individuals is known as screening.

Screening differs from periodic health examinations in the following respects -

- i) Capable of wide application
- ii) Relatively inexpensive
- iii) Requires little physician time. In fact the physician is not required to administer the test, but only to interpret.

Differences between Screening and Diagnosis

A screening test is not intended to be a diagnostic test. It is only an initial examination. Those who are found to have +ve test results are referred to a physician for further diagnostic work-up and treatment.

Screening

- a) Done on apparently healthy.
- b) Applied to groups.
- c) Test results are arbitrary and final.
- d) Based on one criteria on cut-off point.
- e) Less accurate.
- f) Less expensive.
- g) Not a basis for treatment.
- h) The initiative comes from the investigator or agency providing care.

Uses of Screening:

Four main uses have been described.

- a) Case detection - This is also known as prescriptive screening. It is defined as the presumptive identification of unrecognized disease, which doesn't arise from a patient's request.
- b) Control of disease - This is also known as prospective screening. People are examined for the benefit of others. For example, screening of immigrants from infectious diseases such as tuberculosis to protect the home population.
- c) Research Purpose, d) Educational Opportunities

Diagnostic test

- a) Done on those with indication or sick.
- b) Applied to single patients, all diseases are considered.
- c) Diagnosis is not final but modified in light of new evidence, diagnosis is the sum of all evidence.
- d) Based on evaluation of a no. of symptoms, signs and laboratory findings.

- e) More accurate.
- f) More expensive.
- g) Used as a basis for treatment.

- h) The initiative comes from a patient with a complaint.

c) Research Purposes - Screening may sometimes be performed for research purposes. For example there are many chronic diseases whose natural history is not ~~fully~~ ^{fully} known (like on cancer, ^{hypertension}). Screening may aid in obtaining more basic knowledge about the natural history of such diseases.

d) Educational Opportunities - screening programs provide opportunities for creating public awareness and for educating health professionally.

Types of Screening :-

Three types of screening have been described -

a) Mass screening - mass screening simply means the screening of a whole population or a subgroup. It is offered to all, irrespective of the particular risk individual may run of contracting the disease in person.

b) High risk or selective screening - Screening will be most productive if applied selectively to high risk groups, the groups defined on the basis of epidemiological research. For ex. since measles ^{occurs} ~~more~~ ^{more} often in children than the adult, screening for measles in the children would increase the yield of new cases.

e) Multistage screening - It has been defined as the application of two or more screening tests in combination to a large no. of people at one time then to carry out separate screening tests for single diseases. The procedure may also include a health question year, clinical examination and a range of measurements and investigations.

Evaluation of a Screening Test :-

The following measures are used to evaluate a screening test.

1) Sensitivity - The term sensitivity was introduced by Yenushalmay in 1940's as a statistical index of diagnostic accuracy. It has been defined as the ability of a test to identify correctly all those who have the disease. A 90% sensitivity means that 90% of the disease people screened by the test will give a true +ve result and the remaining 10% a false -ve result. Sensitivity is the prob. that the test will indicate the disease will among those with the disease.

	<u>Diagnosis</u>		
	<u>diseased</u>	<u>not diseased</u>	
Screening +ve	a (true)	b (false) (a+b)	
Screening -ve	c (false) (a+c)	d (true) (b+d)	
			a+b+c+d = N

$$\left\{ \frac{a}{a+c} \times 100 \right\}$$

2) Specificity - It is defined as the ability of a test to identify correctly those who do not have the disease, i.e. true negative. A 90% of the specificity means that 90% of the non-disease persons will give true negative result. 10% of non-disease people screened by the test will be wrongly classified as diseased when their not.

Predictive value of a +ve test :

It is defined as the percentage of true +ve among the total +ve in screening "diseased" identified by diagnosis among the ~~disease~~ positive cases identified by screening.

Therefore,

Predictive value of a +ve test = $\frac{a}{a+b} \times 100$

Predictive value of a -ve Test : It is defined as the percentage of not diseased identified by diagnosis among the -ve identified by screening.

\therefore Predictive value of -ve test = $\frac{d}{c+d} \times 100$

① Calculate the prevalence of disease, sensitivity, specificity, positive predictive value, and -ve predictive value for the following data:

		Truth	
		Disease	Non-Disease
Test Result	Positive	10	40
	Negative	5	50
		15	100

$$\frac{10}{15} \times \frac{2}{3} \times 100 = \frac{2}{3}$$

+ve predictive value = $\frac{10}{15} \times 100 = \frac{2}{3}$

-ve predictive value = $\frac{45}{85} \times 100 = \frac{900}{17}$

Sensitivity = $\frac{10}{15} \times 100$

specificity = $\frac{45}{85} \times 100$

prevalance = $\frac{15}{100} \times 100 = 15\%$

②

20 33

10 37

Epidemiology :-

The epidemiology is defined as the study of the distribution and determinants of health related states or events in specified popⁿ and the application of this study to control of health problems.

Aims and uses of Epidemiology :-

According to the International Epidemiological Association aims of epidemiology are -

- ① To describe the distribution and magnitude of disease problem in human populations.
- ② To identify aetiological factors (risk factors) in the pathogenesis of disease.
- ③ To provide the data essential to the planning, implementation and evaluation of services for the prevention control and treatment of disease and to the setting up of priorities among those services.

Uses of Epidemiological :-

Uses of epidemiology are -

- ① To study the natural history of disease, this ability, injury and death - It helps to study the rise and fall of diseases and changes in their character.

Remember that the occurrence of disease in the community is never static. It keeps on changing over a period of time effective new susceptible popⁿ. Epidemiology has played a major role in the understanding of the occurrence of new and diseases and in the control of other diseases.

- ② To make a community diagnosis - refers to the identification of health problems, related factors and their quantification in the popⁿ.

③ To assess risk factors of diseases in the popⁿ - There are several contributing factors of occurrence of diseases apart from causal agents. Sometimes it may be difficult to identify the causal agents we may only come across associated with the disease in the community. Such factors are considered to be risk factors. As an example the risk factors for hypertension, obesity, family history of hypertension, uncontrolled lifestyle, smoking, alcoholism, high salt intake, high intake of saturated fats etc.

④ To assess, evaluate and conduct research on the health programs - There are several health programs launched by the gov. with the aim of controlling, preventing or giving treatment to the affected persons in the popⁿ. It is necessary to understand the progress and effectiveness of these health programs for further modifications in the program, if needed, and also to understand how well do public health and health services meet the problems and needs of the popⁿ. (Epidemiological methods are applied in assessing and evaluating the outcome, effectiveness of health programmes in the popⁿ. Studies using epidemiological approaches are also used for conducting research on the health problems and bringing out appropriate solutions to tackle the problems).

⑤ To complete a clinical picture - Understanding of the clinical spectrum of diseases is often the ^{result of} reports of diseases which are presented in the hospitals or clinics. Why it is easier for the physician to study details of the disease in hospital setup, it is limited

by a large no. of diseases which go unreported to the doctor in the hospital. Epidemiological approaches in the community health in overcoming this gap to a complete clinical picture of the disease.

⑥ To Identify Syndromes - Syndromes are a group of clinical features, characteristically related to a particular disease. Syndrome identification is done by describing the distribution, association and disassociation of clinical phenomena in the population using appropriate epidemiological methods.

⊕ To search for causes of health and disease by studying the incidence in different popⁿ groups, in terms of inheritance, behaviour and environment.

Epidemiological models of causation of disease:

When we talk about the occurrence of a disease, we need to understand that it involves certain causative factors, affected person and the circumstances under which the disease occurs. In an outbreak of the disease several factors often play a role. As an example when Cholera outbreak occurs, there is a ~~the~~ causative factors i.e. a type of bacteria called as *Vibrio cholerae*; transmitting medium which is usually contaminated water or food items, and occasion where a large no. of people gather together, take foods or drinks from a common source which may be contaminated by the bacteria, the quantum of bacteria

ingested and the condition of immune-system of the person affected.

These factors can be interrelated to each other and absence of one or more factors may not lead to the occurrence of Colera. When we talk about this factors we try to categorize these factors into 3 broad groups. Namely - ① Agent, ② Host, ③ Environment. In this example agent is Vibrio colony, host is human being and environment factors are water supply and sanitation etc.

Interrelationship of Agent, Host and Environment

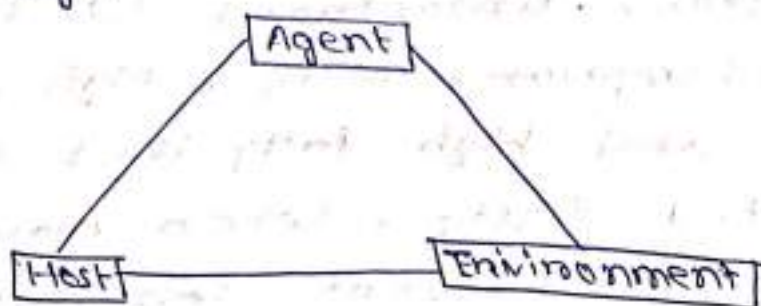
Agent - Agent is usually considered to be the causal factor. A single factor must be present for an infectious disease occur. It may be the microbes which may be bacteria, fungi, virus. In occupation related disease lead is the agent of lead poisoning, asbestos for asbestosis etc. In other disease conditions disability, injury, death situation the agent may be chemical such as a poison, physical factor such as cold, heat, radiation, nutritional deficiency, animal poison such as that of a snake etc. However all disease conditions can't be attributed to a single causal agent, such as ~~and~~ heart attack which has several factors i.e. family history, uncontrolled lifestyle, smoking, alcohol consumption, obesity, high blood pressure and high fatty diet consisting of saturated fats. When more than a single cause is present for occurrence of a disease this is called multiple causation.

Host - The presence of agent alone doesn't leave to disease condition. The agent should enter the body of another living be such as a human or animal to cause the disease or harbour the disease agent. Thus a host harbours the disease. The host may or may not get the disease. It again depends upon several factors such as immunity level, general makeup and the state of health.

Environment - The external conditions or surroundings of the human or animal favouring transmission of the disease agent are considered to be environmental factors. In the case of cholera it may include a poor sanitation leading to contamination of the water supply with disease causing microbes, in case of dengue fever, malaria fever - stagnant water for mosquito breeding and so on. The environment includes 3 components -

- ① Biological environment,
- ② social environment,
- ③ Physical environment.

The relationship between the agent, host and environment is shown in the form of a triangle.



Epidemiology Triangle

Concepts of Disease Transmission :-

Fomites - Fomites are inanimate objects which play a role in disease transmission. This could be towel, drinking glasses, pen, pencil, door handles etc. which can help in transmission of infection by mean contaminated with infectious agent and then touched and claim in close contact with another person.

Vector - A vector is an arthropod such as mosquito, fly, rat etc. which is living non-human carrier of disease that transports or survives the process of disease transmission. The vector carries the agent from an infected persons or animals through bite, body fluids, waste products or by contaminating foods and spreads to another person.

Reservoir - A reservoir is human, animal, plant, soil or inanimate organic matter (food) in which the infectious organisms live and multiply. Human being can serve both as a reservoir ~~to~~ or a host.

Carrier - A carrier harbours, contains or spread and infectious organisms. A person or animal may appear to be normal despite harboring the infectious organism but he or it can transmit the infectious agent to another persons or animal. Through contact a transmission media such as water, food etc. and cause disease. Depending on the stage of disease state carriers can be classified as

① Incubatory carrier : A person who sheds the infectious agent during early phase

of the disease when the infectious disease has entered the body and the body has not started showing symptoms and signs of the disease.

② Convalescent carrier :- An individual who has been exposed to a harmful disease causing organism during the recovery phase of the course of the illness, but is still infectious, it is considered to be a convalescent carrier.

③ Healthy carrier : An individual who has been exposed to a harmful and disease causing organism, but has not become ill and has not shown any symptoms and signs of the illness at any point at time is called as a healthy carrier.

Modes of Disease Transmission :-

The modes of disease transmission can be either direct or indirect.

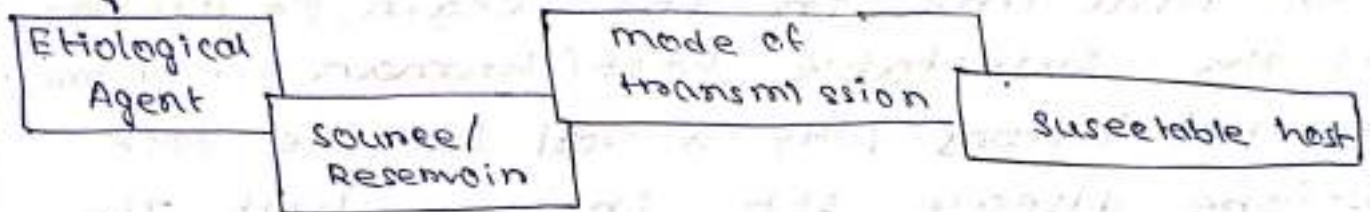
Direct Transmission - It is also referred to as person to person transmission. In this there is direct and immediate transfer of the microorganism or the agent from a host or reservoir to a susceptible host. Direct transfer can happen through: ① direct contact, ② droplets, ③ contact with soil, ④ inoculation through skin or mucosa, ⑤ Transplacental (through placenta from mother to the fetus).

Indirect Transmission - This is a condition when the disease causing agent are

transfer or carried by some intermediate items, means, processes or organisms to the susceptible host resulting in disease. Indirect transmission can occur through several means: (1) Air born transmission, (2) Water born transmission, (3) Vehicle born transmission, (4) Food born transmission, (5) Vector born transmission.

Chain of Infection :-

Communicable disease transmission follows a medical model shown in the following figure:



Chain of infection

This is termed as chain of infection. Transmission of disease occurs when the infectious disease agent leaves the reservoir through a portal of exit, and is spread by one or more modes of transmission to the susceptible host. The infectious agent enters the host through a portal of entry. The etiologic agent / Infectious agent can be microbes such as bacteria, virus, worms, chemicals, other plant or animal related substances having the potential to cause diseases, disability or death. The source is the person, animal, object or substance from which and infectious agent passes on is disseminated to the host. The reservoirs are

mostly human, animal or non living things such as soil, food, decaying organic matter or substance where in the infectious agent lives, multiplies or reproduce. In hookworm infestation the source of infection is the soil, contaminated with infective larva and man is the reservoir of infection. Wants the aetiological agents needs the reservoir, it is past on to the host by mode of transmission either by direct (person to person) or indirect transmission. The final link in the chain of infection is the susceptible host (human or animal). Several factors play a role in the host before disease sets in the host. The host have defensive mechanism against infective agent in the form of deterrent protection scheme of the body. If the infectious agents overcome these protective mechanism enter the body of the host, it is likely that the host will fall in.

Definitions Used in Disease Epidemiology:-

Endemic - The constant presence of a disease or infection within a specified geographical area or popⁿ group is considered to be endemic for that particular area. For example upper respiratory infection, diarrhoeal disease are endemic in India.

Epidemic - When a large no. of persons are effected out of proportions to the routine occurrence of disease in a specified population then it is termed as epidemic. In other words epidemic is

Occurrence of unusual frequency disease above the endemic or expected frequency of occurrence in a specified popⁿ place and time. For example epidemics of infections such as measles, hepatitis, chicken pox, Colera etc. keeps on occurring on and on in specified populations.

Sporadic - When the disease occurs in scattered popⁿ irregularly haphazardly from time to time and generally infrequently then it is considered to be sporadic. There is no specific pattern in occurrence of disease in the popⁿ with respect to time and place. The cases are usually few in number.

Pandemic - An epidemic affecting large popⁿ groups extending to a wide geographical areas such as a nation, continent or the world is considered to be pandemic. For example is Corona in 2020, Spanish flu 1918.

Described Epidemiology

Described epidemiology are usually the 1st phase of an epidemiological investigation. This studies are concern with observing the distribution of disease or health related characteristics of human popⁿ. The data is collected about :

- ① personal characteristics such as age, gender, marital status, occupation, education, income, social class, dietary pattern habits.
- ② Places disⁿ of cases i.e. areas of high concentration, low concentration and spotting of cases in the map.
- ③ Time disⁿ/ trends such as year, season, month, week, data and hour of onset of the disease. such information gives clues to possible associated factors such as age specific disease for example - mumps, diphtheria in early childhood, cancer, dietary pattern with obesity, seasonal variation, periodic fluctuation etc. The data collected are analysed and presented in terms of % at rates and ratios. These refers to statistical information of a problem and given in the table for use to learn and compare. Thus descriptive epidemiology provides information for -

① making community diagnosis i.e. describing the nature of diseases or problems and measuring these problems and terms of incidence/prevalence rate / ratios / mortality rate etc. by

age, gender, occupation, social class etc.

② Providing the clues to etiology of disease for further vigorous investigation and confrontation of the causes.

③ Planning, organising and implementation of health care services to deal with this problems.

Analytical Epidemiology:

The descriptive studies yield etiological cause for various disease which helps in making a guess or formulation of hypothesis for further vigorous study ~~what~~ testing for example - "cigarette smoking (10-20) in a day causes lung cancer in 10-15% of smokers after 20 years of exposure." These type of hypothesis are further study and tested by analytical studies to determine the association of cause with the effect.

The analytical studies are of two types.

① case control study and

② Cohort study.

From each of these study designs one can determined:

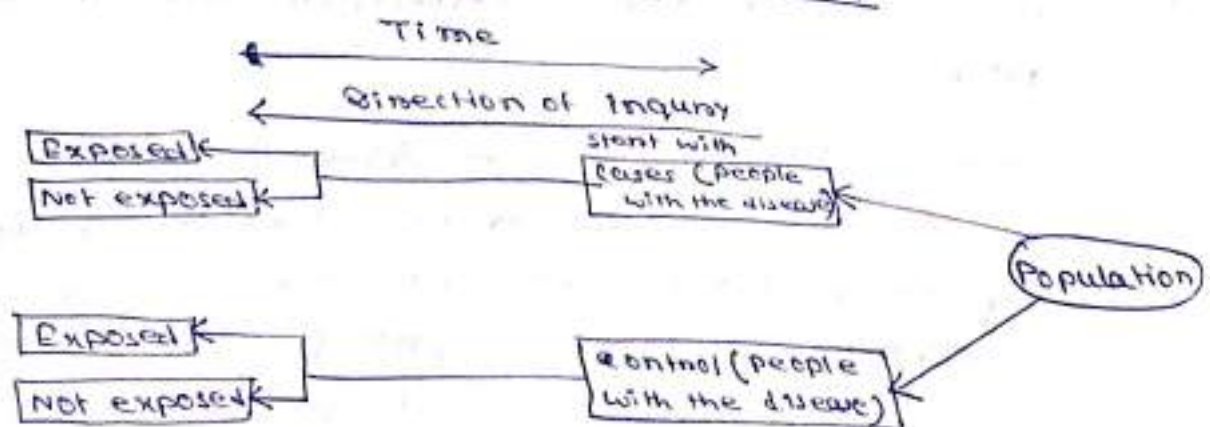
① Whether or not a statistical association exist between a disease and a suspected factor.

② If one exist, the strength of the association.

Case Control Study: In these method a group of people who have been diagnosed as having a particular problem (cases) are compared with a group of people who are similar in characteristics to that of cases but they are free from

the problem under study (controls). Hence the approach we use is retrospective i.e. the disease have already occur and epidemiology goes that go back in time. He reviews the record interviews the cases and there family member. The data has collected about the suspected factors and analysed statistically to determine the extend of its association with the disease. These method therefore is called as retrospective method. These approach has held is identification of causative factors of many disease / problems etc. For example - Rubella in mother, during early pregnancy in the cause of congenital deformities in children, smoking associated with lung cancer. Iodine deficiency associated with hyper thyroidism. These conclusions are based on repeated case control studies. Case control studies are easy to organize and are less expensive. Schematic of case control study is given below:

Design of a Case Control study —



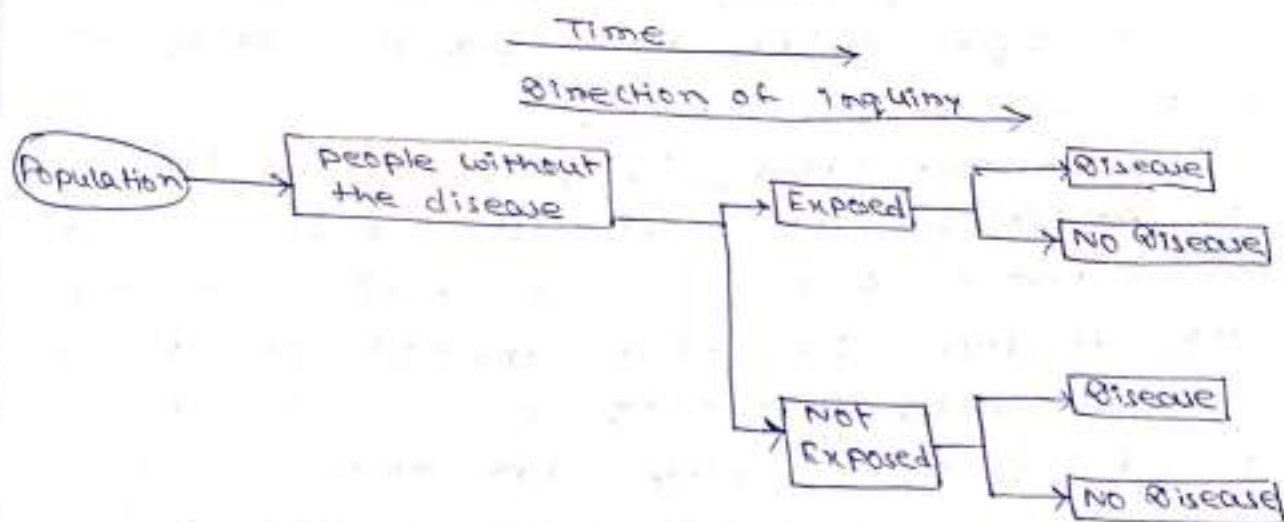
Cohort Study: A cohort is a specific group of people, at a certain time, sharing common characteristics or experience for example people born on the same date on the same year (birth cohort), couple married in the same year (marriage cohort) a class of nursing students (experience cohort), people with the same occupation (occupational cohort) etc.

Cohort study is prospective in nature because the group under study is free from the disease but exposed to risk factors. In this method of study the epidemiology selects a cohort i.e. a group of people say in the same age group and who are exposed to a certain risk factors say cigarette smoking (study group) and who are not exposed to the risk factors (control group). Both the groups are followed up for several years and observations are made with reference to frequency and distribution of the suspected disease (in these example lung cancer) over a period of time. The data is statistically analysed and comparisons are done between the incidence among smokers and non smokers to determine the association of risk factors to the disease. ~~Three types of cohort study~~ The prospective study is expensive and time consuming but it has its advantages over retrospective method. This method can help in studying the natural history of disease, estimating incidence rate, risk factors

under study to other disease or problem. For example cigarette smoking and high blood pressure, cardiovascular problems etc.

A schematic design of cohort studies is shown below:

Design of a cohort study



Date-06/07/22

Relative Risk :-

The estimation of disease risk associated with exposure is obtained by an index known as relative risk or (RR) risk ratio. which is defined as the ratio between the incidence of disease among exposed person and incidence among non exposed. It is given by the formula.

$$\text{Relative Risk} = \frac{\text{Incidence among exposed}}{\text{Incidence among non exposed}}$$

Let us,

if ~~we~~ consider the following hypothetical table:

		Disease		Total
		Yes	No	
Exposure	Yes	a	b	(a+b)
	No	c	d	(c+d)
Total		(a+c)	(b+d)	N

$$R.R = \frac{(a/ab)}{(c/c+d)}$$

How Odds Ratio :-

From a case control study we can derive what is known as odds ratio (OR), which is a measure of the strength of the association between the risk factor and the outcome. Odds ratio is closely related to relative risk. The derivation of odds ratio is based on 3 assumptions.

- ① The disease being investigated must be relatively rare.
- ② The cases must be representative of those with the disease.
- ③ The control must be representative of those without the disease.

Let us consider the following hypothetical table :

		Disease		Total
		Yes	No	
Exposed	Yes	a	b	a+b
	No	c	d	c+d
Total		(a+c)	(b+d)	

The odds ratio is defined by $\frac{(a/b)}{(c/d)} = \frac{ad}{bc}$

Attributable Risk :-

Attributable risk (AR) is the difference in incidence rate of disease (or death) between and exposed group and non exposed group.

Attributable is often expressed as a person. This is given by the formula of: ~~Incidence of disease rate among exposed - incidence of disease rate among no exposed~~

~~of disease rate among no exposed~~

$$\frac{\text{rate among exposed} \times 100 - \text{incidence of disease rate among the exposed} - \text{incidence of disease rate among no exposed}}{\text{incidence rate among exposed}} \times 100$$

Attributable risk indicates to what extent the disease under study can be attributed to the exposure.

$$\frac{\frac{33}{33+55} - \frac{2}{2+27}}{\frac{33}{88}} \times 100$$

a = 33
 b = 55
 c = 2
 d = 27

= 81%

Population Attributable Risk :-

It is the incidence of the disease in the total population - the incidence of disease among those who were not exposed to the suspected causal factor. The concept of popn attributable risk is useful in that it provides an estimate of the amount by which the disease could be reduce in that population. If the suspected factor eliminated or ~~fee~~ modified. Let us consider a following hypothetical example: exposed to suspected factor (A) nonexposed to suspected causal factor (B) incidence of the total population (c) then popn AR $\times \frac{c-B}{c} \times 100$

Difference between case control study and cohort control study :-

Case Control Study

- ① Proceeds from effect to cause.
- ② Starts with the disease.
- ③ Test whether the suspected cause occurs more frequently in those with the disease than among those without the disease.
- ④ Usually the first approach to the testing of a hypothesis but also useful for exploratory studies.
- ⑤ Involves fewer no. of subjects.
- ⑥ Yields relatively quick results.
- ⑦ Suitable for the study for rare diseases.
- ⑧ Generally yields only estimate of RR and OR.
- ⑨ Can't yield information about disease other than that selected for study.

Cohort Control Study

- ① Proceeds from cause to effect.
- ② Starts with people exposed to risk factor or suspected cause.
- ③ Test whether disease occur more frequently in those exposed, than in those not similarly exposed.
- ④ Result of testing of precisely formulated hypothesis.
- ⑤ Involves larger no. of subjects.
- ⑥ Long followup period often needed involving delayed results.
- ⑦ In appropriate when the disease of exposure under investigation is rare.
- ⑧ Yields incidence rate, relative risk as well as attributable risk.
- ⑨ Can yield information about more than one disease outcome.

⑩ Relatively inexpensive.

⑪ Expensive

Blinding :-

Blinding can be done in three ways.

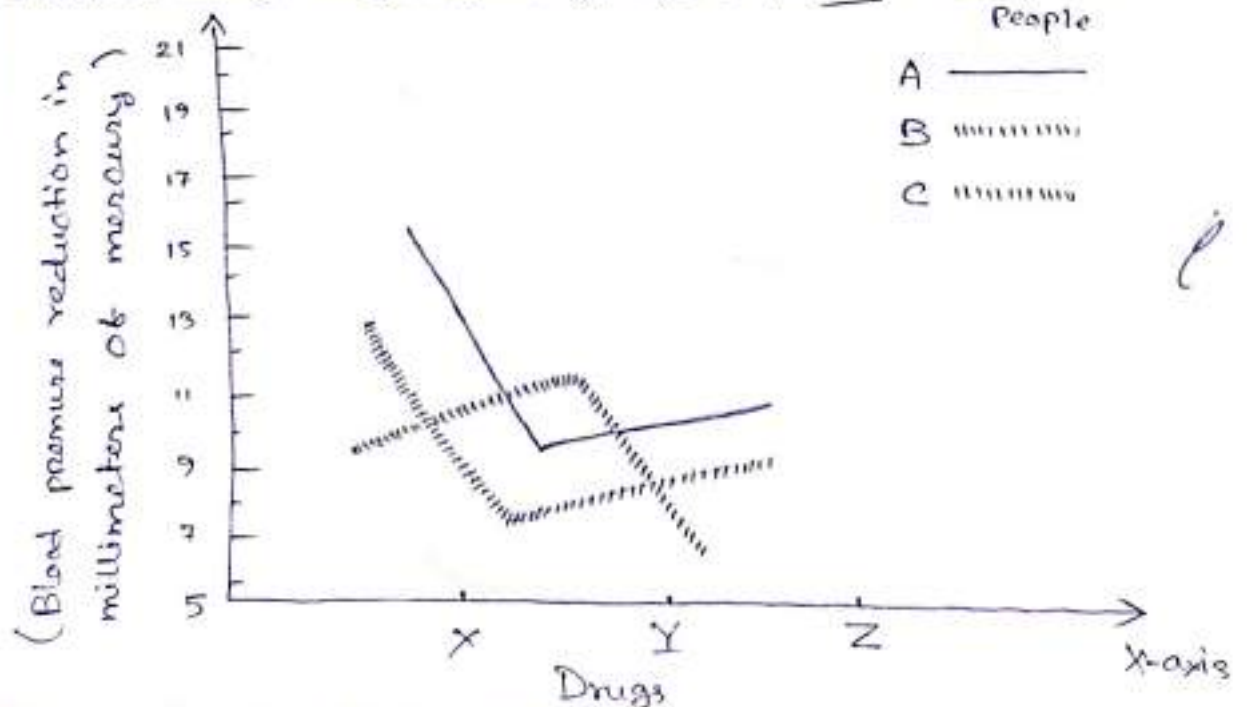
① Single Blind Trial - The trial is so plan that the participant is not aware wheather he belongs to the study to control group.

② Double Blind Trial - The trial is so plan that nither the doctor not the participant is aware of the group allocation and the treatment receive.

③ Triple Blind Trial - This goes one step further the participant, the investigator and the person analysing the data all 'Blind'. Ideally offcourse triple blinding should be used, but the double blinding is the most frequently use method when a blind trial is conducted.

Graphic method of studying interaction in a two way design:

Interaction can be studied in a two-way design with repeated measurements through graphic method also. For such a graph we shall select one of the factors to be used as the x-axis. Then we plot the average for all the samples on the graph and connect the averages for each variety of the other factor by a distinct mark. If the connecting lines do not cross over each other, then the graph indicates that there is no interaction, but if the lines do cross, they indicate definite interaction or inter-relation between the two factors.) Let us draw such a graph for the data of illustration 3 of this chapter to see whether there is any interaction between the two factors viz., the drugs and the groups of people. [Groups of the averages for amount of blood pressure reduction in millimeters of mercury for different drugs and different groups of people]



The graph can alternatively be drawn by taking different group of people on x-axis and drawing lines for various drugs through the average.

The graph indicates that there is a significant interaction because the different connecting lines for groups of people do cross over each other. We find that A and B are affected very similarly, but C is affected differently. The highest reduction in blood pressure in case of C is with drug Y and the lowest reduction is with drug Z, whereas the highest reduction in blood pressure in case of A and B is with drug X and the lowest reduction is with drug Y. Thus, there is definite inter-relation between the drugs and the groups of people and one cannot make any strong statements about drugs unless he also qualifies his conclusions by stating which group of people he is dealing with. In such a situation, performing F-tests is meaningless. But if the lines do not cross over each other (and remain more or less identical), then there is no interaction or the interaction is not considered a significantly large value, in which case the researcher should proceed to test the main effects, drugs and people in the given case, as stated earlier.

R^2 and Adjusted R^2 Coefficient

As in simple linear regression analysis, here also we can use coefficient of determination

R^2 to judge goodness of fitted model by the same formula:

$$R^2 = (SSR / SST) = 1 - (SSE / SST)$$

where, SSR, SSE and SST are obtained using the same formula as discussed earlier.

The only difference is in calculating predicted \hat{Y} values which are given

$$\text{by } \hat{Y} = \hat{a} + \hat{b}_1 X_1 + \hat{b}_2 X_2 + \dots + \hat{b}_k X_k.$$

In example 14.8, $R^2 = 0.5215$. If we consider fitting a simple linear regression model taking Pie sales as response variable and Price as explanatory

variable, $R^2 = 0.1965$. If we fit a simple linear regression model taking Pie

Sales as response variable and Advertising Expenditure as explanatory variable, $R^2 = 0.3055$

Thus, we observe here R^2 is higher when there are more explanatory variables in the model. This is not just a coincidence, but a property of R^2 . Whenever an explanatory variable is added to the model, the value of R^2 increases. This increase is regardless of the contribution of newly added explanatory variable. Thus the value of R^2 may be misleading in multiple linear regression models. Therefore, an adjusted value of R^2 is defined, which is called as adjusted R^2 and defined as

$$R^2_{\text{adj}} = 1 - \frac{SSE / (n - k - 1)}{SST / (n - 1)}$$

Adjusted R^2 increases only if the

added explanatory variable contributes variable contributes in explaining the variation in response variable Y .

In example 14.8, Adjusted $R^2 = 0.4417$

Variable Elimination

There are mainly three techniques of variable elimination: (i) stepwise method, (ii) forward inclusion method, and (iii) backward elimination method.

Stepwise method

This method is based on the p-value of F-test obtained in ANOVA. The method is illustrated as below:

Suppose we have a response variable and 5 explanatory variables X_1, X_2, X_3, X_4, X_5 .

Step 1: Fit 5 simple linear regression models:

- Predicted $Y = a + b_1 X_1$
- Predicted $Y = a + b_2 X_2$
- Predicted $Y = a + b_3 X_3$
- Predicted $Y = a + b_4 X_4$
- Predicted $Y = a + b_5 X_5$

We obtain the p-value of F-test for all the five simple linear regression models mentioned above.

Suppose that the p-value corresponding to the fourth model (having X_4) is the smallest (and below 0.05 as well), then the first explanatory variable included in the model is X_4 .

Step 2: Fit 4 two-variable linear regression models having X_4 as one explanatory variable:

- Predicted $Y = a + b_4 X_4 + b_1 X_1$
- Predicted $Y = a + b_4 X_4 + b_2 X_2$
- Predicted $Y = a + b_4 X_4 + b_3 X_3$
- Predicted $Y = a + b_4 X_4 + b_5 X_5$

We again obtain the p-value of F-test for all four models of this step. Suppose that the p-value corresponding to the third model (having X_4 and X_3) is the smallest (and below 0.05 as well), then the second explanatory variable included in the model is X_3 .

Step 3: Fit 3 three-variable linear regression models having X_4 and X_3 as two explanatory variable:

• Predicted $Y = a + b_3 X_3 + b_4 X_4 + b_1 X_1$

• Predicted $Y = a + b_3 X_3 + b_4 X_4 + b_2 X_2$

• Predicted $Y = a + b_3 X_3 + b_4 X_4 + b_5 X_5$

Suppose p-value is not below 0.05 for any of these models. We stop here. The best model is the one with X_3 and X_4 only.

Q

What is agglomerative clustering? How it is different from divisive clustering?