



Course information



Data to decisions (GB704)

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Office hours: Tuesdays, 1pm-3pm, Wednesdays, 1pm-4pm,
and by appointment



Grading

- HW (15%), midterm (40%), final (45%)
- HW assignments are due at the beginning of lecture on the due date – one per ICA group
- Midterm: September 26th, in class
- Final: October 19th



Teaching assistants

- Section 1: Carl Biggers
- Section 2: Kevin Cencula
- Available to help you with the material in general and the assignments in particular



Course plan

1. Preliminaries
2. From probability to statistics, and back
3. Hypothesis testing
4. Regression analysis: a primer
5. Regression analysis for categorical variables
6. Model selection
7. Time series analysis
8. Data mining/Machine learning
9. Monte-carlo simulations



Course Material

1. Power Point slides
2. Recommended reading and watching are detailed in [syllabus](#)



Tools

1. Excel

- a) Basics
- b) Math and statistical functions (SUM, AVERAGE, ...)
- c) Logical functions (IF...)
- d) Goal seek
- e) Data analysis toolpak (regressions, RAND...)
- f) Data-mining add-in

2. Math

- a) Basic algebra
- b) Notions of probability

3. Stata (briefly, for probits)

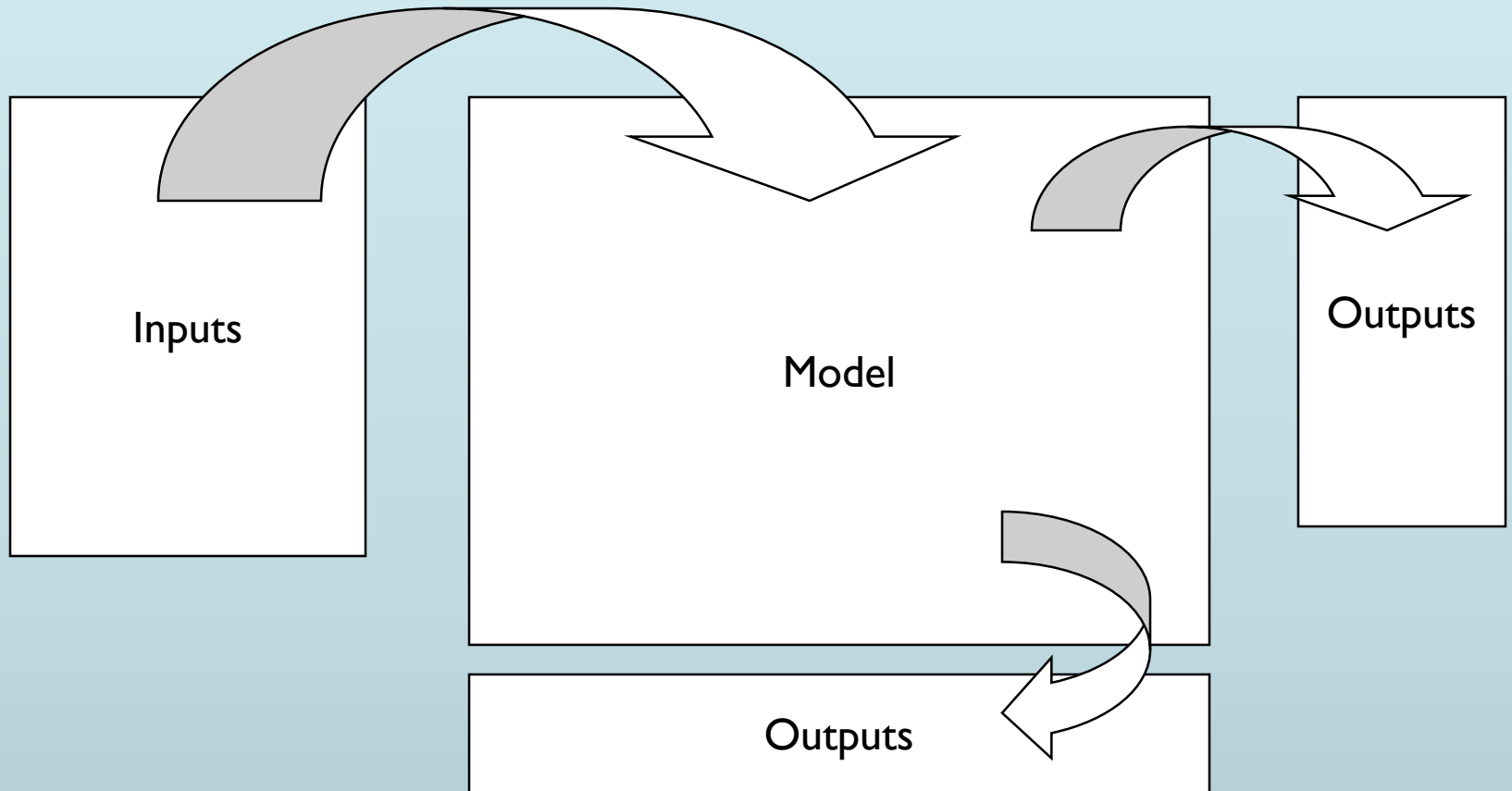


How to turn in computer tasks

- Include print-outs of the **KEY** Excel sheets you used to derive answers
- Keep it short. Hide most data in long tables. Show me enough, but not more.



Excel etiquette



Good spreadsheets

1. Correct, clean and clear
2. As simple as possible
3. Use multiple sheets when and only when necessary



Questions?

