Chapter 1
Introduction

OpenStat, among others, are ongoing projects that I have created for use by students, teachers, researchers, practitioners and others. The software is a result of an "over-active" hobby of a retired professor (Iowa State University.) I make no claim or warranty as to the accuracy, completeness, reliability or other characteristics desirable in commercial packages (as if they can meet these requirement also.) They are designed to provide a means for analysis by individuals with very limited financial resources. The typical user is a student in a required social science or education course in beginning or intermediate statistics, measurement, psychology, etc. Some users may be individuals in developing nations that have very limited resources for purchase of commercial products.

Because I do not warrant them in any manner, you should insure yourself that the routines you use are adequate for your purposes. I strongly suggest analyses of text book examples and comparisons to other statistical packages where available. You should also be aware that I revise the program from time to time, correcting and updating OpenStat. For that reason, some of the images and descriptions in this book may not be exactly as you see when you execute the program. I update this book from time to time to try and keep the program and text coordinated.