Chapter 106

The Procedure Navigator Window

Introduction

This chapter discusses the operation of the NCSS Procedure Navigator Window, one of the four main windows of the NCSS statistical analysis system. The other three windows are the Data Window, the Procedure Window, and the Output Window. These are described in other chapters. The Procedure Navigator Window lets you quickly and easily find the appropriate procedure to be loaded. Procedure categories and subcategories are given on the left. Clicking on any category or subcategory gives a list of all procedures in that category or subcategory. The list of procedures can be shown as large buttons, medium tile buttons, or small list buttons. Favorite procedures and recently run procedures can be shown by clicking on the respective buttons. Procedures may also be found by entering keywords and clicking on Search.

The Procedure Navigator Window is comprised of five main items: the Category Tree, the Procedure List, the Search Bar, the Menu, and the Toolbar. Each of these components will be described in the sections that follow.

Using the Procedure Navigator Window

The Procedure Navigator window was designed to be easy to use. The window has a set of menus, a toolbar, and a large display area. On the left side of the display area is an outline list of the major categories of procedures in NCSS. The right side displays the procedures corresponding to the chosen category or the results of the search.

Category Tree

The Category Tree expands and contracts as you either click on a plus or minus sign at the left. This gives you quick, intuitive access to all of the procedures in NCSS. Procedures are not selected here directly, but instead a category is chosen. When you click on a category or subcategory, all of the procedures corresponding to that category or subcategory are displayed in the procedure list to the right.

The plus and minus buttons at the top right can be used to expand and contract the entire tree, respectively.

The Favorites, Recent, and Show All buttons can be used to display the corresponding procedures in the box on the right.
Procedure List

The procedure list shows all the procedures corresponding to the selected category or all the procedures with keywords matching those of the search. The number in parentheses shows the number of procedures in the group. The three buttons on the top right are used to change the view of the list of procedures. The left button gives a list, the middle button gives tiles, and the right button gives large buttons.

Load a procedure with a single right-click on the procedure button. You can also right-click the procedure button to load the procedure, add or remove the procedure to/from the favorites list, or to view the PDF documentation for the procedure.

Search for a Procedure

The Search Bar is used to find a procedure. The program contains a list of key words for each procedure. As you type a key word in the search bar, a list of words will be generated below the bar. Use the down arrow or the mouse to select these words, or type in the word(s) directly.

When the desired search words are in the box, press the Search button to generate a list of procedures corresponding to the words. You can view or open these procedures as described in the Procedure List section above.

Menus

We will now discuss the various options that appear in the Procedure Navigator Window menus.

Home Menu

This menu is used to view or change system options or to exit NCSS.

View Menu

This menu is used to change the appearance of the procedure buttons or to expand and collapse the Category Tree.

Analysis and Graphics Menus

These menus load the corresponding procedure windows.

Tools Menu

From this menu you can load various statistical calculators, data procedures, and the macro command center window. You can also play the active macro from this menu.
Window Menu

This menu lets you transfer to one of the other NCSS windows such as the Output window or one of the currently open procedure windows.

Help Menu

From this menu you can launch the NCSS Help System and view documentation, tutorials, and references. From this menu you can also view licensing information.

Toolbar

The Toolbar is provided for single-click access to the most commonly used menu options. You will find that each of the options on the toolbar can also be found in the menus. The Toolbar is located at the top of the screen just under the menus. On the left, the toolbar contains buttons that allow you to set program options or visit the NCSS website. On the right, the toolbar contains navigation buttons to help you quickly move among windows in the system and load new procedures.