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IMS Bulletin

May 2006

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Executive Director reports

Elyse Gustafson, the IMS Executive Director

Each year as I sit down to write this report, I reflect a bit on the past year. One recurring theme always comes to me: the commitment of the IMS leadership. All the IMS leaders are volunteers. They give of their time and energy to grow your organization and your profession. Countless hours are spent by the Executive Committee, Editors and Committee Chairs. I have encountered numerous people who truly give of themselves to create a strong and vibrant organization.

The IMS keeps its administrative expenses incredibly low (only 7% of all income goes to administrative expenses). This happens because of the hard work of volunteers. Next time you see one of the IMS leaders, whether the President or a committee member, thank them for their time.

Our best ideas for new programming or improvements come directly from the membership. The number of changes the IMS has made because a member brought the idea to us is immeasurable. As an organization, the IMS leadership is very open to growth and change. Bring us your ideas: they will be heard! Please feel free to contact me with your thoughts. I can help get your idea to the appropriate committee. IMS is truly a grassroots organization. Please know my door (or inbox or telephone) is always open <erg@imstat.org> or 216-295-2340.

Answering your questions

I get asked a lot of questions about the IMS. So I thought I'd spend this year giving you my answers to the IMS "most FAQ". Check inside on pages 8 and 9!

Continued on **Page 8**

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IMS Members' News

IMS members awarded UK statistics funding: Science & Innovation awards for Statistics

Bristol and Cambridge Universities in the UK have won major strategic research funding for initiatives in Statistics, in the form of Science and Innovation Awards from the Engineering and Physical Sciences Research Council (EPSRC), joining Warwick, which was successful in the 2005 round.

EPSRC
Engineering and Physical Sciences Research Council

The grant to Bristol of £3.5 million (approx US$6.1 million) will fund a new initiative entitled SuSTaIn (Statistics underpinning Science, Technology and Industry), to be led by Peter Green, Guy Nason and Christophe Andrieu. It will support an ambitious programme to conduct and disseminate internationally-leading research in mathematical statistics, equipping the discipline to face the challenges of future applications. In partnership with the University of Bristol, the Award will fund a new Chair of Statistics, several Lectureships, Postdocs and Studentships, and activities including workshops and research kitchens, visitor support, an international conference and a comprehensive programme of research training for graduate students.

IMS fellow Peter Green said, "SuSTaIn will conduct and disseminate top-rank research in mathematical statistics, and implant it into the discipline of statistics in the UK. We want the most talented young researchers in statistical science, anywhere in the world, to see Bristol as a natural place to develop their careers."

Cambridge University has been awarded a grant of £2.3 million (approximately US$4 million) for an initiative to develop core aspects of methodological statistics. The initiative will be based in the Centre for Mathematical Sciences and the Engineering Department and will involve the many Cambridge Institutes where applications of statistics flourish. Potential areas of special interest include for example engineering and the biosciences, together with industrial applications of statistics. The project will be led by Ian Leslie, Geoffrey Grimmett, Steve Brooks, Simon Tavaré, and Bill Fitzgerald, together with a newly appointed Professor of Statistics. It will enable the appointment of new lecturers in statistics, and of research associates and doctoral students.

Geoffrey Grimmett, also an IMS Fellow, said, "This major investment in UK Statistics recognises historic strength in a subject central to modern science. The Cambridge grant will enable the appointment of a leading senior statistician with a dowry of supporting posts. We aim to attract some of the best statisticians worldwide to the UK."

The Engineering and Physical Sciences Research Council (EPSRC) is the UK Government's leading funding agency for research and training in engineering and the physical sciences. Further information is available from http://www.stats.bris.ac.uk and http://www.statslab.cam.ac.uk

Heard some news about an IMS member?

Don't keep it to yourself—

share it!

Email bulletin@imstat.org

CIS seeks Contributing Editors

The success of *Current Index to Statistics* (*CIS*) depends to a large extent on the dedicated work by its Contributing Editors, who presently scan hundreds of "selected-article" serials. These are journals that we do not index in their entirety because they are outside the mainstream of statistics and probability. Contributing Editors scan these serials for articles with substantial statistical or probabilistic content for inclusion in *CIS*. In order to increase the range and coverage of such journals and to replace retiring Contributing Editors, the Editors of *CIS* are always looking for volunteers to serve as Contributing Editors.

The main criterion for including the reference to an article in *CIS* is that that the article contain a contribution to statistical methodology or a substantial and innovative application of methodology, not simply a routine use of statistics. Among the areas represented are agriculture, biology, computing, economics, education, epidemiology, finance, genetics, insurance, management, mathematics, medicine, operations research, philosophy, physical sciences, psychology, and social sciences. Suitable articles are likely to fall in one of the following categories:

* Articles primarily devoted to the exposition of statistical methods;
* Exemplary applications of advanced statistical methodology (but not subject matter articles that use standard methodology in a routine way);
* Tutorials on statistical methods or concepts directed to a specific disciplinary audience;
* Discussions of issues arising in the application of statistics in a particular discipline.

Interested?

If you are interested in being a Contributing Editor, consider the journals that you regularly read (now, or potentially). Check the list of about 185 core journals linked to the *CIS* web site (http://www.statindex.org/) to see which might already be in the *CIS* core. You can check recent coverage from a journal using the "Journal Coverage" feature at the bottom of the *CIS* search page, to see if articles have been abstracted during recent years. Even if some recent articles have been included, we would still appreciate your help; sometimes issues and articles get missed, some contributing editors are less active than others, etc. New suggestions (perhaps a subject matter journal that you publish in or that you read regularly) are always welcome, especially if accompanied by an offer to scan that journal regularly for suitable articles. We are also interested in increasing our coverage of journals that publish in languages other than English. Titles of articles not in English will be included in *CIS* together with an English translation.

If you would like to help by becoming a Contributing Editor, please send your name and selection of journals (or general area of interest) to the *CIS* Abstracting Editor, Dr George P.H. Styan (styan@math.mcgill.ca), who will send you instructions. Each Contributing Editor's name is acknowledged on the *CIS* Web site.

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IMS Child Care Initiative: still time to apply

The purpose of the IMS Child Care Initiative is to encourage and support the participation at IMS Annual Meetings of IMS members who have child care responsibilities.

The IMS will reimburse members 80% of the costs of privately arranged child care (for a dependent under the age of 13) at this year's IMS Annual Meeting in Rio de Janeiro, up to a maximum of US$250 per family.

Priority will be given to those presenting papers or posters at the meeting. Not more than 40 grants may be awarded.

How to apply:

A letter requesting funds must be submitted to IMS Executive Director, Elyse Gustafson, at the IMS office (see page 2 for address) by June 1, 2006. The letter should include the following information:

1. The member's name and email address
2. Copy of IMS annual meeting registration
3. Copy of receipt for abstract submission (if applicable)
4. Projected amount of child care expenses for the time of the meeting

After the meeting, the following items should be submitted:

1. Complete receipt showing total amount of child care expenses, dates of care, and names and birth dates of dependents;
2. The member's name and address

IMS Elections 2006: *have you voted yet?*

This year there is a vote on two amendments to the IMS constitution and bylaws, as well as the regular voting for Council members. Read the candidates' statements online at http://www.imstat.org/elections/candidates.htm. Voting electronically is encouraged, though paper ballots are also accepted. You need your Member ID for voting. It can be found on the top left corner above your name on the mailing label of an IMS journal or *Bulletin*. If you prefer a paper ballot, or don't know your member ID, please contact Elyse Gustafson, IMS Executive Director, erg@imstat.org, or phone 1-216-295-2340.

Online voting is open until June 17, 2006. We'll bring you the results soon!

IMS Journals on arXiv

Elyse Gustafson (Executive Director of IMS) and Jim Pitman (Chair of the IMS Publications Committee) wrote in the November/December 2004 issue about placing IMS journals on arXiv (http://arxiv.org/). Now there is a new member service, Elyse writes:

The IMS encourages all members to post their articles in a preprint format on arXiv. Please be sure to check your copyright transfer agreements before posting, if your proposed publisher is not the IMS. For instructions on how to set up your account and post articles visit http://arxiv.org/help/. If you run into trouble posting your article, the IMS provides a service to assist you. You can access this service from http://www.imstat.org/publications/arxiv.html (you will need to log in with your member ID).

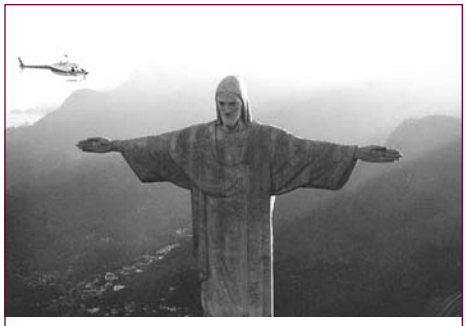
Note that the IMS posts all accepted IMS journal articles on arXiv at publication.

What is arXiv?

Started in August 1991 at the Los Alamos National Laboratory, the arXiv site is a fully automated electronic archive and distribution server for research articles, now owned and operated by Cornell University, and partially funded by NSF. The main fields it covers are physics, mathematics, non-linear science, computer science, and quantitative biology. Recently, arXiv has cooperated with IMS and the Bernoulli Society to open up a new statistics category within mathematics. We expect this category to eventually grow into a top level archive comparable to e.g. mathematics and physics. See http://arxiv.org/help/general

Rio de Janeiro: tours and trips

So you're coming to the 2006 IMS Annual Meeting and X EBP in Rio de Janeiro, and it's going to be a varied and stimulating meeting (see page 14). But surely you're not going to come to one of the most vibrant cities in the world without soaking up a little of the scenery? This issue, we offer a quick rundown of Rio's unmissable sights.



Factoid

Rio's most famous statue, Cristo Redentor, looks down from Corcovado Mountain. The statue is one of the tallest in the world, at 30m (98ft); it weighs 1145 tons. The distance between the fingertips is 28m (91ft). Soapstone was chosen for its resistance to erosion, though it is so soft that even a fingernail may scratch it. The statue was conceived in 1921, but not completed until 1931.

Rio's must-see highlights

Rio de Janeiro is a big city with a lot to see, and it can be difficult to narrow down the options. But there are a few sights that nobody should leave without seeing, at the very least so you might appreciate just why cariocas call their home *cidade maravilhosa*.

There are organized tours to several of these venues: see below.

Corcovado & Cristo Redentor

One of the first things you will notice once you get out onto the Rio de Janeiro streets is the mighty Christ the Redeemer statue that towers on top of the even mightier Corcovado Mountain. It is not hard to see why this is one of the most famous and most visited statues in the world. It's easy to get up there, either by the funicular train or by taxi. The train journey, starting in Cosme Velho, takes about 20 minutes and passes through beautiful rainforest. Once at the entrance to the Statue of Christ you can take an elevator, an escalator or the 200 or so steps that lead straight to the statue.
http://www.corcovado.com.br/principal.asp?lingua=English

Pão de Açucar (Sugar Loaf Mountain)

Next on your list has to be Sugar Loaf Mountain, a gorgeous viewpoint. It's easy to access this 396m (1300 feet) tall granite rock. There is a cable car which operates in two stages, stopping off at the Morro da Urca, where you can buy snacks and souvenirs while you wait for the second cable car to take you to the top of this fine panoramic viewpoint. Sugar Loaf Mountain is one of the most popular sights in Rio de Janeiro, and once you've been, it's easy to see why.

http://www.bondinho.com.br/

Museu de Arte Contemporânea de Niterói

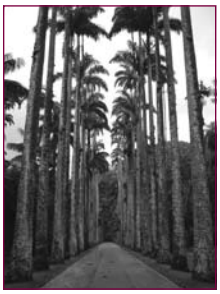
The Museum of Contemporary Art is a fantastic, futuristic building across the bay in Niterói. Both ferry and hydrofoil cross over to Niterói, where you can enjoy the view of Guanabara Bay and visit the Museum, inaugurated in 1996 and perhaps one of the greatest buildings created by the veteran Brazilian architect, Oscar Niemeyer. Worth the trip for the building alone!
http://www.macniteroi.com/

Parque Nacional da Tijuca

You can hike, explore grottos and even shower under a waterfall in Tijuca National Park. This swathe of tropical rainforest is the largest forested urban national park in the world. Some companies offer guided walks and tours: see, for example, http://www.riohiking.com.br/tours/tijuca.htm

Jardim Botanico (Botanical Gardens)

Rio's Botanical Gardens were first planted as a Royal Garden in 1808. Spread over 368 acres, it contains more than 7,000 species of tropical plants and trees, and around 140 species of birds can be counted. There's plenty to take in, from the orchid hot house



to a dried plant museum. The gardens are open daily and are highly recommended. Jardim Botanico is only 15 minutes' walk from IMPA, the ideal place to take a break between sessions.
http://www.jbrj.gov.br/

Capoeira

An Afro-Brazilian part dance, part martial art. Developed by African slaves in Brazil who were forbidden from fighting, this elegant game of human chess is played in a *roda* accompanied by music and singing. Catch it if you can!
http://www.capoeira.com

Maracanã Stadium

Football (soccer) is Brazil's national obsession, so it's not surprising that Rio should have one of the biggest stadiums in the world: stadium tours are available.
http://www.templosdofutebol.hpg.ig.com.br

Organized tours and excursions

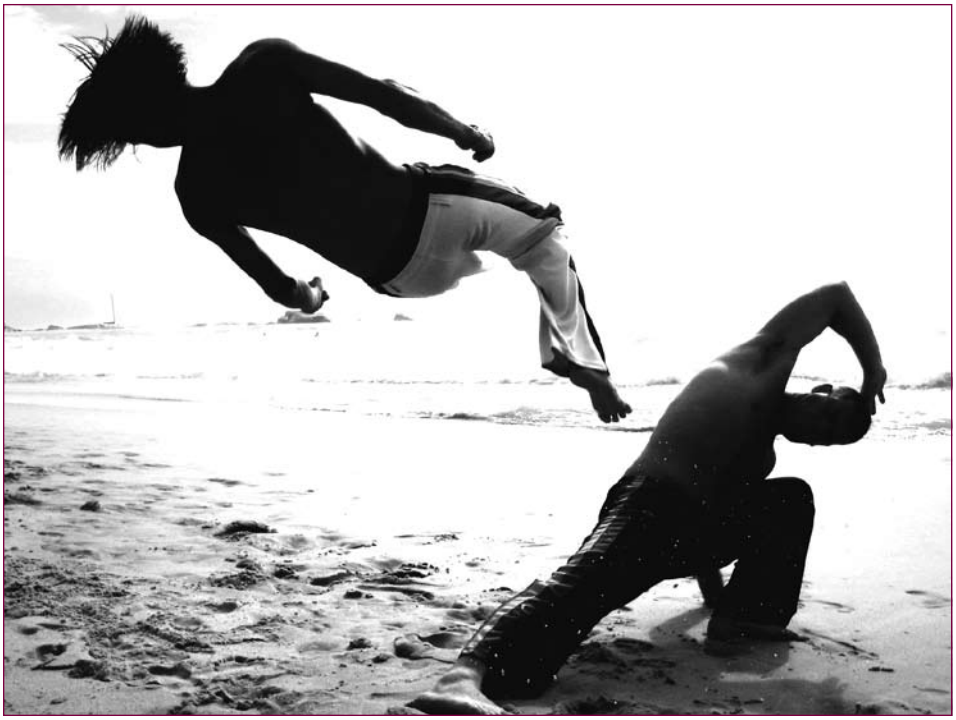
CMO Eventos have arranged some great tours: see the CMO meetings webpage at http://www.cmoeventos.com.br/congressos.html. Scroll down to the IMS/XEBP meeting section, and click on the "*Passeios Turisticos/City Tours*" link to see the current list of organized tours. These include the following:

Corcovado: by car (4 hours: R$ 90)
City Tour (half day): taking in Sugar Loaf mountain, cathedral, Maracanã, downtown and Sambódromo, including a ride on a *bondinho* tram (4 hours: R$ 90)
Colonial and modern Rio: Niterói, MAC (Museum of Contemporary Art), Fortaleza de Santa Cruz (6 hours: R$ 115)
City Tour (full day): Sugar Loaf, lunch at *churrascaria* (barbecue) restaurant and Corcovado (9 hours: R$ 195)
Tropical Islands Jaguanun: trip by *saveiro* (long, narrow boat) with lunch (10 hours: R$ 150)
Trip to Cabo Frio (12 hours: R$ 190)
Trip to Búzios (12 hours: R$ 190)

There will be representatives from the tour companies at IMPA during the meeting, so you'll be able to negotiate a van or a car to take you to any of the other tourist destinations in Rio.

Key deadlines for the meeting

Online abstract submission has now closed. A preliminary program will be available online from June 1. The last date to reserve your hotel is May 30. Advance registration closes July 20: on-site registration only after this date, from July 29 to August 4. See the meeting website: http://www.imstat.org/meetings/ims2006/



Correction: tourist visa OK for meeting

In the March *Bulletin* we mistakenly advised that those travelling to Brazil for the meeting would need a *business* visa. ***A business visa is NOT required for those attending conferences: you can use a tourist visa*** (if you need one at all: check the advice from your nearest Brazilian embassy or consulate).

Most Brazilian consulates list the requirements on their websites. The New York consulate (which has redesigned its website since March: this is a new URL) has a list at http://en.brazilny.org/index.php?/consulado/t_c/visa_requirements_by_country/

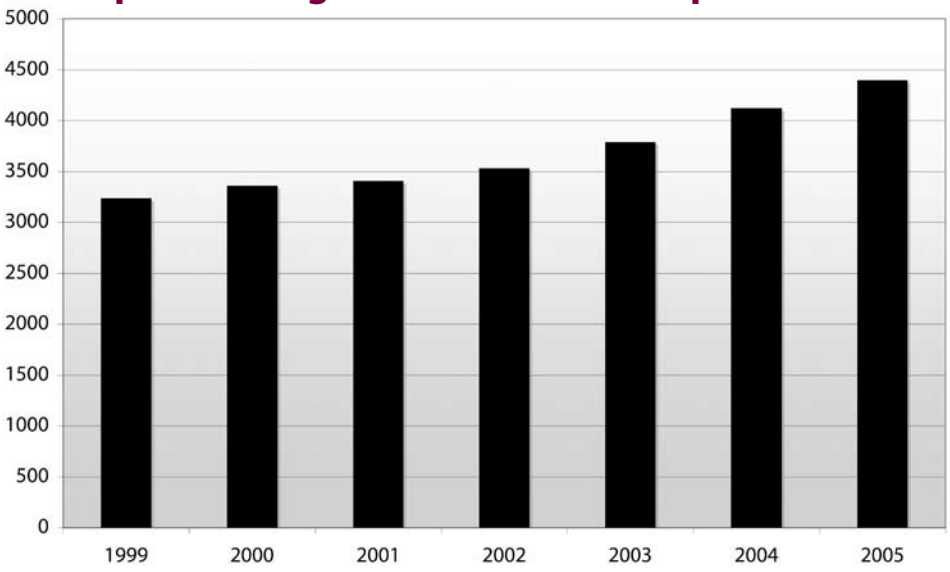
Apologies for any confusion this may have caused!

IMS Executive Director's FAQs

How many members does the IMS have?

For a sixth year in a row, 2005 was a year of membership growth for the IMS. Since 1999, our membership has grown 36%! We now have nearly 4400 IMS members. Several new programs have allowed us this increase, including free electronic access to all journals for all our members; joint membership opportunities for those in the International Statistical Institute (ISI) and the Bernoulli Society (BS); free student membership and journals; new graduate rates; life membership; and on-time renewal discounts. For more information on any of these programs, please check out the IMS web site www.imstat.org

IMS reports 36% growth in memberships since 1999:



The chart above shows the total number of IMS members for the past six years. Total membership now stands at an all-time high of 4,398 (at the end of 2005).

Last year the IMS began offering joint IMS/BS memberships and in 2006, we began offering joint IMS/ISI/BS membership. Membership rates are reduced by approximately 25% if a member joins both or all three societies. In 2005, there were 143 IMS/BS members and to date for 2006 there are 31 ISI/BS/IMS members.

The IMS continues to offer a 20% discount to members who renew on time (by December 31 for the upcoming year). This program was started in 2003 with 50% of our members taking advantage of it and now it has grown to 72% in 2006 of our members renewing on time. Renewing your dues on time saves the IMS money and we are passing that back to the members.

Why should I publish with the IMS?

The IMS continues to offers its authors visibility and value when publishing with us. All articles that appear in an IMS journal are also placed in ArXiv http://arxiv.org/ . ArXiv is an electronic open access repository for articles. Articles from *Annals of Applied Probability*, *Annals of Probability*, *Annals of Statistics* and *Statistical Science* are all placed by the IMS at no cost or time to the author. In addition, IMS members can now get assistance posting all their articles on ArXiv. For more information, please visit: http://www.imstat.org/publications/arxiv.html

IMS also offers an author-friendly copyright transfer agreement. Among other rights, authors retain the right to place the final version of this article (exactly as published in the journal) on their own homepage or in a public digital repository, provided there is a link to the official journal site. IMS provides this file as a PDF to each author of an article printed in our journals. For more information about the copyright transfer agreement visit: http://www.imstat.org/publications/copyright.htm

Finally, over the last year IMS has been finalizing the implementation of an electronic peer review system to facilitate submission for authors and to speed up review times. *AAP*, *AOP* and *Statistical Science* are using the system now. *AOS* will begin using the system in 2007. For more information on submitting your papers using the system, visit the journal web site at: http://www.imstat.org/publications/

As you look at publishing your articles, please bear in mind the opportunities offered by the IMS journals when making your submission decisions.

What journals are available electronically?

All IMS members receive complete electronic access to IMS journals. These journals include *Annals of Applied Probability, Annals of Probability, Annals of Statistics* and *Statistical Science*. Members receive access to ALL the jour-

nals regardless of the ones subscribed to in print. If you have not set up your personal access, see the information here: http://www.imstat.org/publications/eaccess.htm

Currently articles on Project Euclid from 1996-2002 are open access. We expect to be placing articles prior to 1996 on Euclid over the next year. All content older than 3 years will continue to be completely open.

The IMS also offers three co-sponsored and one affiliated electronic journal. All four are open access journals. Access to *Probability Surveys*, *Electronic Journal of Probability* and *Electronic Communications in Probability* and *ALEA - Latin American Journal of Probability and Mathematical Statistics* can be gained at: http://www.imstat.org/publications/

Beginning in late 2005, all IMS members gained free access to the *Current Index to Statistics*, which previously required a subscription. If you haven't set up your access you can setup access here: https://www.imstat.org/secure/members/WebRegister.aspx

As mentioned previously, the IMS posts all articles from *AAP*, *AOP*, *AOS* and *Statistical Science* in their entirety on http://arXiv.org. ArXiv is a fully automated electronic archive and distribution server for research papers. Covered areas include physics and related disciplines, mathematics, nonlinear sciences, computational linguistics, and neuroscience. Access to arxiv.org is completely open.

What do I get for my dues?

1. Membership in a society that distinguishes our field by serving as an advocate for the science of statistics and probability.
2. Membership in a society that works to make information and research more openly available.
3. Membership in a society that creates a system to allow authors greater visibility.
4. Membership in a society that actively creates open access electronic journals that are free of cost to anyone.
5. Electronic access to all current and past IMS journals.
6. Electronic access to the *Current Index to Statistics*.
7. Subscription to *IMS Bulletin*, the IMS monthly newsletter, which publishes articles and statistical news, conference announcements and employment opportunities.
8. Special rates for print copies of IMS journals: *Annals of Statistics, Annals of Probability, Annals of Applied Probability* and *Statistical Science*; also IMS publications, the *Lecture Notes–Monograph Series*, and *NSF-CBMS Regional Conference Series Publications.*
9. Discounted member rates on IMS-sponsored meetings.
10. Joint membership deal between for those who also wish to be members of the BS and/or ISI.
11. Special rates on journals from other societies, including: *Australian and New Zealand Journal of Statistics, Biometrika, Canadian Journal of Statistics, Chance, Journal of Time Series Analysis, Probability Theory and Related Fields, Scandinavian Journal of Statistics*, and *Statistica Neerlandica*.

But my university gets the journals, so why should I pay dues?

Because your dues go to directly supporting the profession. Items 1-4 listed above are items that benefit all statisticians/probabilists. The truth is, dues are not just about what you get, they are what they allow the IMS to do for all.

The IMS is not about making the IMS stronger, the IMS is about becoming stronger to create a stronger profession. That's the bottom line and you have your volunteer leadership to thank for that!

Elyse Gustafson
IMS Executive Director
April 2006

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$95.00: Hardback: 0-521-82675-6: c.220pp
$39.99: Paperback: 0-521-53407-0

Applied Multilevel Analysis
A Practical Guide for Medical Researchers
Jos W. R. Twisk
Practical Guides to Biostatistics and Epidemiology
$95.00*: Hardback: 0-521-84975-6: 196pp
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Nicolo Cesa-Bianchi and Gabor Lugosi
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Report from German Stochastik-Tage meeting

Götz Kersting, writing on behalf of the organizing committee for this recent IMS sponsored German meeting, reports:

The German Open Conference on Probability and Statistics (Stochastik-Tage) is a series of conferences organized by the Fachgruppe Stochastik of the DMV (German association of mathematicians), which takes place every two years in different German cities. It is developing to a major European event for our subject. A main goal of the conference is to bring together probabilists and statisticians. As the vice president of the Frankfurt university pointed out in his opening address at this years conference, "There is a constant tendency for sciences to become over-specialized and isolated from each other, and I understand that it is a continuing goal of the Stochastik-Tage to counteract such tendencies."

This year's conference in Frankfurt am Main, from March 14–17, was the seventh in the series. The conference was held at the new campus of the university of Frankfurt, the 'Westend Campus', offering short distances between sessions, and pleasant surroundings. More than 400 participants were present, many from outside Germany. For the first time the Bernoulli Society and the IMS acted as co-sponsors of the Stochastik-Tage. We were pleased to have both societies' presidents with us [*see photograph below*].

The program committee chaired by Anton Wakolbinger (Frankfurt) had agreed to limit the number of sections to 13, plus an open section, namely:

1. *Stochastic Analysis*
2. *Limit Theorems, Deviations, and Extremes*
3. *Stochastic Geometry, Spatial Statistics, and Image Analysis*
4. *Random Discrete Structures, Combinatorial Probability, and Analysis of Algorithms*
5. *Stochastic Processes, Random Fields, and Time Series*
6. *Nonparametrics, Semiparametrics, and Multivariate Statistics*
7. *Data Analysis, Computational Statistics and Statistical Computing*
8. *Operations Research, Stochastic Optimization, and Networks*
9. *Quality Control, Reliability Theory, Experimental Design, and Industrial Statistics*
10. *Stochastic Models in Physics and Biology*
11. *Statistics in Biosciences and Medicine*
12. *Economic and Social Statistics*
13. *Finance, Insurance, and Risk Modelling.*

Each section consisted of an invited lecture and contributed talks. This time the section organizers had been included in the process of selecting and accepting talks.

Moreover there where five plenary talks, given by Adrian Baddeley (Perth), David Cox (Oxford), Luc Devroye (Montreal), Mark Low (Philadelphia) and Sylvie Meleard (Nantes). At Wednesday a 'Lehrernachmittag' (teachers' afternoon) was organized by Lutz Führer (Frankfurt). There was a panel discussion on stochastics and general education on secondary school level, preceded by three reports of Rolf Biehler (Kassel), Joachim Engel (Hannover) and Gerd Gigerenzer (Berlin) on this topic aiming at the fundamental importance of stochastics in mathematical education. This afternoon with vivid discussion was attended by more than 70 teachers from inside and outside Frankfurt.

With the University of Frankfurt as a backdrop, left to right stand Anton Wakolbinger (chair of the program committee), Tom Kurtz, and Götz Kersting (chair of the organizing committee)

A novel feature of the conference was that travel allowances could be granted to a number of participants, mainly from outside Germany. This was made possible by sponsors.

During the conference the Fachgruppe Stochastik held a general meeting and decided that the next Stochastik-Tage in 2008 will take place in Aachen (Aix-la-Chapelle). Major topics of the meeting were the introduction of bachelor and masters studies at German maths departments and the planned formation of a 'German umbrella organization for Statistics' (DDS) bringing together various statistical societies of Germany.

Further information on program and progress of the conference can be found at http://stoch2006.math.uni-frankfurt.de/index_en.html

Presidential address
The presidents of IMS and the Bernoulli Society in conversation: Tom Kurtz (left) and Peter Jagers.

IMS Le Cam Lecture: Stephen Stigler

Stephen Stigler is Ernest DeWitt Burton Distinguished Service Professor at the Department of Statistics of the University of Chicago. His Le Cam lecture will be delivered at the IMS Annual Meeting in Rio de Janeiro.

The Tragic Story of Maximum Likelihood

At one level the idea of maximum likelihood must be prehistoric: early hunters and gatherers may not have used the words "method of maximum likelihood" to describe their choice of where and how to hunt and gather, but it is hard to believe they would have been surprised if their method had been described in those terms. It seems a simple, even unassailable idea: Who would rise to argue for a method of minimum likelihood, or even average likelihood? And yet the mathematical history of the topic shows this "simple idea" is really anything but simple. Joseph Louis Lagrange, Daniel Bernoulli, Leonard Euler, Pierre Simon Laplace, and Carl Friedrich Gauss are only some of those who explored the topic, not always in ways we would sanction today. My plan is to tell some of that history, from back well before Fisher, to the time of Lucien Le Cam's dissertation. In the process I shall present Fisher's unpublished 1930 characterization of conditions for the consistency and efficiency of maximum likelihood estimates, and try to shed light on the degree to which his claims had a mathematical basis, and the degree to which they were founded on intuition. And I will explain why my choice of title for this lecture is singularly apt.

A secondary goal will be to treat this as a paradigm for a broad class of statistical theories that seem simple only when viewed either superficially or with benefit of hindsight. I will argue that in some cases, even work that was later challenged as without mathematical basis has propelled the subject forward. Indeed, bold errors frequently can be more revealing in the development of concepts than are cautious successes.

After several centuries maximum likelihood still retains the power to puzzle researchers and inspire new work. Throughout his research life, Lucien Le Cam was fascinated by maximum likelihood. His 1953 dissertation made important advances upon earlier work by Fisher, Hotelling, Doob, Dugué, and Wald, and over the next half century he refined and generalized his approach to demonstrating the optimality of maximum likelihood, in a sequence of deep works that was punctuated by occasional forays that seemed to question the wisdom of the very idea of maximum likelihood. Lucien was my dissertation advisor and I had the opportunity to discuss some of this history with him over his last years. He retained his unique perspective and open collegiality throughout the years I knew him, and it is a privilege to participate in this occasion honoring him.

Lucien Le Cam: biographical notes

Lucien Le Cam (1924–2000) was Professor Emeritus of Mathematics and Statistics at the University of California, Berkeley, and was IMS President in 1972–73. Born a '*fils de paysans*' in France, Lucien's higher education would only be possible with scholarships. He attended a seminary after high school, but, unable to accept that permission was needed to read chemistry books, he quit after one day. He gave up chemistry for mathematics, taking courses with financial support in Clermont-Ferrand, then at the University of Paris, where he was awarded the degree *Licence es Sciences* in 1945. Le Cam worked at Electricité de France for the next five years. In his first publication at age 23, he introduced characteristic functionals (after but independently of Kolmogorov) to study the temporal and spatial flows of streams.

An encounter with Jerzy Neyman in 1950 resulted in a one-year invitation to Berkeley as an instructor, which was to last 50 years (apart from a brief stint as Director of the Centre de Recherches Mathématiques in Montreal, Canada in 1972) as Neyman urged him to stay to work for a PhD. Appointed Assistant Professor of Mathematics in 1953, Le Cam joined Berkeley's new Department of Statistics at its founding in 1955 and was promoted to full Professor in 1960. He was a co-editor with Neyman of the celebrated *Berkeley Symposia* volumes. The 38 PhD students he supervised at Berkeley include prominent names in our field; he was renowned among students, colleagues, and university administrators for being generous with ideas in discussions and for upholding a strong standard of fairness. In 1991, Le Cam became Professor Emeritus, a transition that scarcely changed the daily pattern of this outstanding scholar and teacher.

Le Cam was a principal architect of the modern asymptotic theory of statistics. His life's work was a coherent theory of statistics in which asymptotic "approximations" played a strong role. This work culminated in his "big" book, *Asymptotic Methods in Statistical Decision Theory*, published in 1986. Le Cam's most widely-recognized contributions were the local asymptotic normality condition (LAN) in 1960, the contiguity concept and its consequences, and simple one-step constructions of asymptotically optimal estimates. He also introduced a concept of metric dimension with which he proposed a new method of constructing confidence sets for arbitrary parameter spaces.

Notes taken from "Lucien Le Cam, 1924–2000" by Grace Yang, in *The Annals of Statistics*, 2002, Vol 30, No 3, 617–630.

IMS Medallion Lecture: Thomas Mountford

Thomas Mountford is Professor in the Department of Mathematics at École Polytechnique Fédérale de Lausanne in Switzerland. A past recipient of a Presidential Young Investigator Grant (1990) and a Sloan Fellowship (1991), he has also been awarded the Rosenbaum Prize and the Rollo Davidson Prize. He is an IMS Fellow.

Tom will also be delivering this Medallion Lecture at the IMS Annual Meeting in Rio. He summarizes:

We investigate the large deviations regimes for various models including the Parabolic Anderson model and first passage percolation. While it may easily be seen that for positive large deviations the probability for a large deviation is exponentially small in n, the scale, the real question is when or whether the deviations in the negative direction have probabilities which are the exponential of minus the scale to the spatial dimension. This is joint work with M. Cranston and D. Gauthier.

Marvin Zelen Leadership Award in Statistical Science

The Department of Biostatistics at the Harvard School of Public Health named Mitchell Gail, Chief of Biostatistics Branch, Division of Cancer Epidemiology and Genetics, National Institutes of Health, the recipient of the 2006 Marvin Zelen Leadership Award in Statistical Science. Dr Gail will deliver a lecture entitled "Absolute Risk: Clinical Applications and Controversies" on June 2 at Harvard University. Previous awardees have been Frederick Mosteller, Sir David R. Cox, John W. Tukey, Lincoln Moses, Neils Keiding, Robert O'Neill, Wayne Fuller, Robert Elston and Ross L. Prentice.

Nominations sought

This annual award, supported by colleagues, friends and family, was established to honor Dr Marvin Zelen's long and distinguished career as a statistician and his major role in shaping the field of biostatistics.

The award recognizes an individual in government, industry, or academia, who by virtue of his/her outstanding leadership has greatly influenced the theory and practice of statistical science. While individual accomplishments are considered, the most distinguishing criterion is the awardee's contribution to the creation of an environment in which statistical science and its applications have flourished. The award recipient will deliver a public lecture on statistical science at the Harvard School of Public Health and will be presented with a citation and an honorarium.

Last year's Marvin Zelen award recipient, Ross Prentice (left) pictured with Dr Zelen

Nominations for next year's award, to be given in June 2007, should be sent to:

Marvin Zelen Leadership Award Committee,
Department of Biostatistics,
Harvard School of Public Health,
655 Huntington Avenue,
Boston, MA 02115, USA.

Nominations should include a letter describing the contributions of the candidate, specifically highlighting the criteria for the award, and curriculum vitae. Supporting letters and materials would be extremely helpful to the committee.

All nominations must be received by November 1, 2006.

The jobs section on the IMS website is updated regularly. Check it out at http://imstat.org/jobs

IMS Meetings around the world

2006 IMS Annual Meeting & X Brazilian School of Probability (XEBP)

IMPA, Rio de Janeiro, Brazil July 30–August 4, 2006

http://www.imstat.org/meetings/IMS2006/

Registration and hotel bookings now open

The 2006 IMS Annual Meeting will be held jointly with the 10th Brazilian School of Probability (XEBP) at IMPA (Instituto Nacional de Matemática Pura e Aplicada), Rio de Janeiro, Brazil from July 30 to August 4, 2006.

IMS Special Invited Speakers:

The 2006 Wald Lectures will be delivered by Peter Hall; the Le Cam lecture by Stephen Stigler, and the Medallion Lectures by Paul Glasserman, Greg Lawler, Thomas Mountford, and Michael Woodroofe.

XEBP Mini-courses: Yuval Peres (UC Berkeley) "Determinantal processes and zeros of Gaussian analytic functions"; Murad Taqqu (U Boston) "Self-similarity and long-range dependence". EBP **invited speakers are:** Vincent Beffara (ENS Lyon); J van den Berg (CWI); Stella Brassesco (IVIC); Donald Dawson (Carleton Univ); Paul Dupuis (Brown Univ); Vlada Limic (UBC); Jim Pitman (UC Berkeley).

Travel grants for students and new researchers: deadline for Laha Travel Award has passed; apply for a travel grant from EBP: check the EBP website for details: http://www.impa.br/eventos/2006_escola_brasileira_de_probabilidade_impa.html

Statistics and probability programs

Details of the statistics and probability programs are on the website.

Statistics program (July 30–August 2)

Co-chairs for statistics: Sara van de Geer and Guenther Walther

1. *Analysis of longitudinal data* (Damla Senturk)
2. *Statistical learning* (Sayan Mukherjee)
3. *Statistics in Finance* (Yacine Ait-Sahalia)
4. *Aggregation of estimators* (Yuhong Yang)
5. *Statistical analysis of shapes and images* (Victor Patrangenaru)
6. *Estimation in time series that are both non-linear and non-stationary* (Joon Park)
7. *Adaptive smoothing applied to images and processes* (Vladimir Spokoiny)
8. *Inference for high-dimensional data and models* (Peter Bickel)
9. *Graphical models: Algorithms and statistics* (Martin Wainwright)
10. *Statistics and the Environment* (Bin Yu)
11. *Inverse problems, deconvolution and applications* (Geurt Jongbloed)
12. *Modeling dependencies via copulas and applications* (Irene Gijbels)
13. *Information and complexity* (Peter Grunwald)
14. *Advances in statistical genomics* (Sylvia Richardson)
15. *Analysis of functional data* (Hans Mueller)
16. *Astrostatistics* (Chad Schafer)
17. *Multiple hypothesis testing and false discovery rate* (Felix Abramovich)
18. *Frequentist analysis of Bayesian procedures* (Aad van der Vaart)
19. *Likelihood/Bayesian methods for discretely observed stochastic processes* (Gareth Roberts)
20. *Session organized by Mexican Society (AME): Statistics for Levy processes* (Victor Perez Abreu)
21. *Session organized by Brasilian Society (ABE)* (Silvia Regina-Lopez)
22. *Session organized by Argentinian Society (SAE)* (Victor Yohai)
23. *Session organized by the Chilean Society (SOCHE)* (Wilfredo Palma)
24. *Vardi memorial session*
25. *Medallion lecture: Michael Woodroofe* (Guenther Walther)
26. *LeCam lecture: Stephen Stigler* (Guenther Walther)
27-9. *Wald lectures: Peter Hall* (Guenther Walther)

Fifth International Symposium on Probability and its Applications (August 2–4)

Co-chairs for probability: Robert Adler and Steve Lalley

Medallion Lectures: *Greg Lawler, Tom Mountford, Paul Glasserman*

Invited Speaker Sessions:

1: *Random motion in a random environment* (Nina Gantert)
2: *Percolation* (Russ Lyons)
3: *Random matrices* (Alexander Soshnikov)
4: *SLE and Scaling Limits of Planar Processes* (Wendelin Werner)
5: *Interacting particle systems* (Pablo Ferrari)
6: *Stochastic networks* (Marty Reiman)
7: *Mathematical finance* (Steve Shreve)
8: *Levy processes and applications* (Gennady Samorodnitsky)
9: *Probability and Genetics* (Vlada Limic)
10: *Stochastic Geometry and Applications* (Eva Vedel Jensen)
11: *Combinatorial probability* (Alexander Gnedin)
12: *Spin glass: statics, dynamics, and aging* (Erwin Bolthausen)
13: *Concentration inequalities* (Michel Ledoux)
14: *Mixing rates of finite Markov chains* (Dana Randall)
15: *Gaussian processes, geometry and applications* (Jonathan Taylor)
16: *SPDE and measure-valued processes* (Sylvie Meleard)
17: *Stochastic Numerical Methods* (Denis Talay)
18: *Random flows* (Yves Le Jan)

Joint Statistical Meetings: Seattle, August 6–10, 2006

IMS sponsored meeting:
w http://www.amstat.org/meetings/jsm/2006/

Join the largest international gathering of statisticians in the world. Each year, the Joint Statistical Meetings offer cutting-edge presenters for four days of technical sessions, roundtable sessions, continuing education courses, computer technology workshops, and poster sessions. JSM is held jointly with IMS, ASA, the International Biometric Society (ENAR and WNAR), and the Statistical Society of Canada. For information, contact jsm@amstat.org or phone toll-free (800) 308-8943.

Key Dates for JSM

May 1 Registration and hotel reservations open
May 31 Preliminary program posted on the JSM website
May 19 Draft manuscripts due to session chairs.
June 30-July 20 Advance registration (increased fees apply).
July 7 Hotel reservations deadline.
July 14 Final program available on JSM website.
August 5-10 On site registration (increased fees apply)

IMS Topic Contributed Sessions at JSM

Jennifer Hoeting, Colorado State Univ, is the IMS Contributed Session Chair at JSM:

IMS is sponsoring five topic contributed sessions at the Seattle Joint Statistical Meetings. The sessions cover a variety of topics which should be of interest to IMS members.

August 8: Topics in function estimation using isotonization and smoothing techniques

Organizer: Moulinath Banerjee, Univ of Michigan. Speakers: Ryan Elmore, Colorado State Univ. *Nonparametric density estimation from covariate information.* Marloes Maathuis, Univ of Washington. *Current status data with competing risks.* Jayanta Pal, Univ of Michigan. *Penalized Likelihood ratio method for spiking problem in non-increasing density estimation.* Bodhisattva Sen, Univ of Michigan. *Fractile graphical analysis with multiple covariates.* Discussant: Moulinath Banerjee, Univ of Michigan

August 9: Sparse Inference and Multiple Comparisons

Organizer: Jiashun Jin, Purdue Univ. Speakers: Ruth Heller, Tel-Aviv Univ. *False Discovery Rates for Spatial Signals.* Jinchi Lv, Princeton Univ. *Large Dimensional Covariance Matrix Estimation Using a Factor Model.* Feng Liang, Duke Univ. *A Bayesian Approach for Incomplete Paired Data.* Harrison Zhou, Yale Univ. *Quantile Coupling for Median and Its Application to Nonparametric Robust Estimation.* Hui zou, Univ of Minnesota. *Sparse Principal Component Analysis.*

August 9: Statistical Phylogenetics

Organizer: Bret Larget, Univ of Wisconsin, Madison. Speakers: Ruiyan Luo, Univ of Wisconsin, Madison. *A model of AFLP evolution and its use in Bayesian estimation of phylogenies.* Soowan Sohn, Univ of Wisconsin, Madison. *A Random Duplication/Deletion Model in Genome Rearrangement.* Vladimir Minin, UCLA. *Phylogenetic Mapping of Recombination Hot-Spots with Spatially Smoothed Change-Point Processes.* Liang Liu, Ohio State Univ. *Reconstructing posterior distributions of a species phylogeny using estimated gene tree distributions.* Jeff Pan, Ohio State Univ. *Reconstructing Evolutionary Trees Using Amino Acid Substitution Models that Allow Rate Variation to Depend on Spatial Location.*

August 9: Multidimensional Scaling and Manifold Learning

Section on Statistical Computing, IMS, Section on Statisticians in Defense and National Security. Organizer: Michael W. Trosset, The College of William & Mary. Speakers: Ulas Akkucuk, Bogazici Univ. *Parametric Mapping (PARAMAP): An Approach to Nonlinear Mapping.* David Johannsen, Naval Surface Warfare Center. *Metric MDS to surfaces.* Lisha Chen, Univ of Pennsylvania. *Local Multidimensional Scaling: A Nonlinear Dimension Reduction Method.* Michael W. Trosset, The College of William & Mary. *Classical Multidimensional Scaling and Laplacian Eigenmaps.* Alfred Hero, Univ of Michigan. *Manifold learning and dimensionality reduction for classification.*

August 10: Statistics of Extremes

Organizer: Liang Peng, Georgia Institute of Technology. Speakers: Dan Cooley, Colorado State Univ. *Dependence Estimation and Prediction in Max-Stable Random Fields.* Eric Gilleland, National Center for Atmospheric Research. *Analyzing the extreme behavior of large-scale meteorological variables found to have influence on severe storms and tornadic events using global re-analysis data.* Liang Peng, Georgia Institute of Technology. *Variance reduction in multiparameter likelihood models.* Yongcheng Qi, Georgia Institute of Technology. *Bootstrap Confidence Band for Dependence Functions in Extreme Value Statistics.* Zhengjun Zhang, Univ of Wisconsin. *Asymptotically (In)dependent Multivariate Maxima of Moving Maxima Processes.*

IMS Meetings around the world

9th IMS meeting of New Researchers in Statistics and Probability

University of Washington, Seattle, WA
August 1–5, 2006

Co-chairs: Peter Craigmile and Peter Hoff:
nrc@stat.ohio-state.edu
w http://www.stat.ohio-state.edu/~pfc/NRC/

The IMS Committee on New Researchers is organizing another meeting of recent PhD recipients in statistics and probability. The conference aims to promote interaction among new researchers, primarily by introducing them to each other's research in an informal setting. Participants will present talks and posters on their research and discuss interests and professional experiences over meals and social activities organized through the meeting as well as by the participants themselves.

The meeting is to be held immediately before the 2006 Joint Statistical Meetings in Seattle, WA (see previous page).

Application is now closed. For any questions or comments contact Peter Craigmile (Department of Statistics, The Ohio State University) or Peter Hoff (Department of Statistics, University of Washington).

At 605 feet, the Seattle Space Needle towers over the Experience Music Project on the Seattle Center grounds. Photo: Tim Thompson/Seattle CVB

Profile: Savas Dayanik, Tweedie New Researcher

Savas Dayanik, assistant professor at Princeton University, is this year's Tweedie New Researcher Award winner. The award, in memory of Richard Tweedie, is to fund travel to present the Tweedie New Researcher Invited Lecture at the IMS New Researchers' Conference (see above).

Erhan Cinlar, who nominated Savas for the award, writes a short profile about Savas's research:

Savas Dayanik received his BS and MS degrees from Bilkent University in Turkey, and his PhD from Columbia University in 2002. He is now an assistant professor in the Department of Operations Research and Financial Engineering at Princeton University.

His dissertation work was under the direction of Ioannis Karatzas. It was on the optimal stopping of one-dimensional diffusion processes. He showed that the value function is the smallest nonnegative concave (in some generalized sense) majorant of the terminal reward function. This characterization was the key that led to a geometric solution method. Unlike traditional variational methods, this new method enables one to calculate the value function directly. His paper on the method and its applications won him the first prize in the 2002 George Nicholson Student Paper Competition of INFORMS, the Institute of Operations Research and Management Sciences. Later, he extended these results to optimal stopping problems with multiple stopping and random discounting—important in pricing financial contracts in energy markets.

His recent work is on the quickest detection problems and the related problems of hypothesis testing. The old problem of Poisson disorder had to do with detecting a sudden change in the arrival rate. He and his co-workers have provided the first sequential Bayes solution to the case where the new rate is unknown. A further extension to the case of compound Poisson processes was the winner of the INFORMS 2005 Junior Faculty Interest Group Paper Competition. In this paper, Savas and his Ph.D. student described a complete sequential Bayes detection rule for an unobservable sudden change in the arrival rate and mark distribution of a compound Poisson process. The preprints of his papers can be obtained from his personal web at http://www.princeton.edu/~sdayanik/.

Savas Dayanik

IMS co-sponsored meeting

IWAP 2006: Third International Workshop in Applied Probability
May 15–18, 2006, University of Connecticut, Storrs, CT

http://www.stat.uconn.edu/IWAP2006

The workshop will bring together and foster exchanges and collaborations among scientists in the field of probability. It is planned to have an interdisciplinary conference in probability with applications in several areas of science and technology, including: actuarial science and insurance, bioinformatics, biosurveillance, computer science, data mining, finance, learning theory and target tracking. The plenary speakers, members of the scientific committee and the organizers of invited sessions include leading scientists in diverse areas of research in probability from all over the world, ensuring a strong and broad scientific program and wide participation.

The format of the workshop will be: two plenary one-hour lectures, including a ten minute discussion, each day, followed by several invited sessions, run in parallel. Participants are going to be invited to submit their research presentations to *Methodology and Computing in Applied Probability*, a journal published by Springer. Moreover, we are planning to publish a collection of review articles based on selected articles presented at the workshop.

The proposed workshop will build on the success of IWAP 2002, which took place at the University of Simon Bolivar, Caracas, Venezuela, and IWAP 2004, held at the University of Piraeus, Greece. Seventy researchers from fifteen countries attended IWAP 2002 and over two hundred participants from twenty countries attended IWAP 2004. IWAP 2002 and 2004 were co-sponsored by the Bernoulli Society and the Institute of Mathematical Statistics. Financial support was provided by several organizations, including: Institute of Mathematical Statistics and National Security Agency.

Information on registration and abstract submission is available on the workshop website.

Contact Joseph Glaz, Department of Statistics, University of Connecticut **e** joseph.glaz@uconn.edu

IMS sponsored meeting:

31st Conference on Stochastic Processes and their Applications

July 17–21, 2006, Paris, France

w http://www.proba.jussieu.fr/spao6/

IMS reps: Edwin Perkins, Jim Pitman, Philip Protter, Alain-Sol Sznitman, Simon Tavaré and Ed Waymire.

Participant Support for 31st Conference on Stochastic Processes and their Applications

Travel support is requested for US participants attending the 31st Conference on Stochastic Processes and their Applications, an international meeting to be held July 17-21, 2006, in Paris, France. Junior researchers and members of groups underrepresented in the research area will be particularly encouraged to apply for the available support. See http://www.proba.jussieu.fr/spao6/ustravelsupport.php

The conference is sponsored by the Committee for Conferences on Stochastic Processes (CCSP) of the Bernoulli Society for Mathematical Statistics and Probability, and IMS. The local organizing committee is Jean Bertoin, Laboratoire de Probabilités, U. Paris VI and VII, Mireille Chaleyat-Maurel, Mathematiques Appliquées, Paris V, Anne Estrade, Mathematiques Appliquées, Paris V, Erwan Le Pennec, Laboratoire de Probabilitiés, U. Paris VI and VII and Sylvie Méléard, U. Paris X

The conference program is a mix of plenary invited lectures in the mornings and parallel sessions for contributed talks in the afternoon, and is designed to allow time for research discussions outside the formal presentations. This year the invited speakers are: Rick Durrett, Cornell University (**IMS Medallion Lecture**); Nicole El Karoui, École Polytechnique; Hans Föllmer, Humboldt Universität (**Lévy Lecture**); Harry Kesten, Cornell; Michel Ledoux, Université Paul-Sabatier (**IMS Medallion Lecture**); Zeng Hu Li, Beijing Normal U; Sean Meyn, U of Illinois; Thomas Mikosch, University of Copenhagen; Elchanan Mossel, UC Berkeley; Jaime San Martin, U de Chile; Marta Sanz-Solé; Terry Speed, UC Berkeley; Maria Eulália Vares, IMPA, Brazil; Cedric Villani, École Normale Supérieure de Lyon; and Balint Virag, U of Toronto.

Check the website for updates.

Above: *the Louvre museum, one of Paris's foremost attractions.* Below: *getting around Paris is easy on the metro.*

Photos: Ian Britton / www.freefoto.com/

IMS Meetings around the world

IMS co-sponsored meeting

Statistical Models for Biomedical and Technical Systems
May 29–31, 2006
Limassol, Cyprus

IMS Rep: Filia Vonta
w http://www.ucy.ac.cy/biostat2006

The conference will provide a forum for presenting new statistical models and mathematical methods for Survival Analysis, the Reliability of Engineering and Technical Systems as well as the Reliability of Biological and Biomedical Systems. The Conference is organized by the University of Cyprus and the Seminaire Européen – European Seminar "Méthodes Mathématiques pour l' Analyse de Survie, Fiabilité et Qualité de Vie". The meeting will be held at the Beach Hotel Miramare Bay Resort, in the seaside town of Limassol, Cyprus http://www.miramare.com.cy/

The topics at the meeting will include: Epidemiology of Cancer Risk and Environmental or Nutrition Factors; Statistical Models and Methods in Epidemiology; Semi-Markov Processes with Applications; Generalizations of the Cox Regression Model; Statistical Models and Methods in Reliability; Probabilistic Models in Reliability; Semi-parametric Inference in Survival Analysis; Models and Methods in Longevity, Aging and Degradation; Models and Methods in Survival Analysis; Models in Biosciences and Medicine; Accelerated Life Models; and Analysis of Quality of Life

For further information, please contact the conference organizer, I Vonta:
Department of Mathematics and Statistics, University of Cyprus, CY-1678 Nicosia, CYPRUS
Phone: (357) 22892625; Fax: (357) 22892601; email: biostat2006@ucy.ac.cy

IMS co-sponsored meeting

Young Researchers Symposium
August 5–6, 2006
IMPA, Rio de Janeiro, Brazil

NEW

IMS Representative on Program Committees: S.R.S. Varadhan
w http://www.impa.br/opencms/pt/eventos/store/evento_0010.html

Now IMS co-sponsored meeting

Workshop on Probabilistic Symmetries and Their Applications
May 15–17, 2006
University of Ottawa

NEW

IMS Representatives: Gail Ivanoff and Raluca Balan
w http://www.mathstat.uottawa.ca/~givanoff/workshop.htm

IMS Mini meeting

UPDATED

Recent Advances on Stochastic Computation and Bioinformatics
August 2–3, 2006: University of British Columbia, Vancouver

Organizers: Arnaud Doucet and IMS Rep Raphael Gottardo **e** raph@stat.ubc.ca
w http://hajek.stat.ubc.ca/~raph/workshops/ims-mini/ims_workshop.html

The meeting will focus on recent developments in both statistical modeling and stochastic computing for bioinformatics. Registration is now closed. The program is now available online.

Invited Speakers: Christophe Andrieu (Bristol University), Peter Muller (MD Anderson), Dave Stephens (Imperial College), Jon Storey (UW, to be confirmed), Jon Wakefield (UW), Mike West (Duke)

Practical details: The meeting will take place in the MSL lecture theater on the UBC campus in Vancouver. Participants are responsible for making their own travel and accommodation arrangements. Please be advised that summer is a very busy season and we urge you to make reservations as soon as possible.

Acknowledgments: This meeting is sponsored by the Institute of Mathematical Statistics and the UBC bioinformatics centre (UBiC).

At a glance: forthcoming IMS Annual Meeting dates

2006

IMS Annual Meeting: Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, **July 30–August 4, 2006**. With X Brazilian School of Probability (XEBP) http://www.imstat.org/meetings/IMS2006/

JSM: Seattle, **August 6-10, 2006**. IMS Program Chair: Chris Genovese; IMS Contributed Paper Chair: Jennifer Hoeting http://www.amstat.org/meetings/jsm/2006/

2007

IMS Annual Meeting @ JSM: Salt Lake City, **July 29–August 2, 2007**

2008

IMS Annual Meeting: Singapore, **July 20–26, 2008**. With VII Bernoulli World Congress.

JSM: Denver, **August 3–7, 2008.**

2009

IMS Annual Meeting @ JSM: Washington, **August 2–6, 2009.**

IMS co-sponsored meeting

International Indian Statistical Association Joint Statistical Meeting and International Conference on Statistics, Probability and Related Areas
January 2–5, 2007
Cochin, India

w http://www.stat.ohio-state.edu/~hnn/IISAConf2007.pdf

The International Indian Statistical Association (IISA) in collaboration with other Statistical organizations in India, will hold its Biennial Joint Statistical Meeting during January 2–5, 2007, followed by a **Workshop in Financial Mathematics on January 6, 2007.**

The conference will be organized by Department of Statistics, Cochin University of Science and Technology, Cochin, India. The venue for the International Conference on Statistics, Probability and Related Areas is Hotel Renaissance in Cochin, a beautiful coastal town in Southern India. The sessions will cover a wide range of topics and the International Advisory Committee consists of Professors James Berger, Peter Bickel, Kjell Doksum, Peter Hall, and C.R. Rao.

The International Organizing Committee is chaired by Professor J. K. Ghosh while the Program Committee is chaired by Professor S. Rao Jammalamadaka. Please contact him at rao@pstat.ucsb.edu or the Co-Chair Dr P.G. Sankaran at pgsankaran@cusat.ac.in if you would like to participate or receive an invitation to attend. More details can be found at the conference website given above.

IMS co-sponsored meeting

15th International Workshop on Matrices and Statistics
June 13–17, 2006
Uppsala, Sweden

w www.bt.slu.se/iwms2006/iwms06.html

The purpose of the workshop is to stimulate research, in an informal setting, and to foster the interaction of researchers in the interface between matrix theory and statistics. Additional emphasis will be put on related numerical linear algebra issues and numerical solution methods, relevant to problems arising in statistics. The workshop will include a special session in honour of Dr Tarmo Pukkila's 60th Birthday.

IMS co-sponsored meeting

Markov Processes and Related Topics: A conference in honor of Tom Kurtz on his 65th birthday
July 10–13, 2006
University of Wisconsin–Madison

w http://www.math.utah.edu/~ethier/kurtzfest.html

IMS Representative on Program Committees: Stew Ethier

IMS co-sponsored meeting

Classification Society of North America 2006 Meeting on Network Data Analysis and Data Mining: Applications in Biology, Computer Science, Intrusion Detection, and Other areas
May 10–13, 2006
DIMACS, CoRE Building, Rutgers University, Piscataway, NJ

http://dimacs.rutgers.edu/Workshops/CSNA/

IMS Representative: David Banks

IMS co-sponsored meeting

Multivariate Statistical Methods in the 21st Century
December 28–29, 2006
Eastern Zonal Cultural Center, Govt. of India, Salt Lake City (Kolkata), India

Program Committee: International Advisory Committee: J
IMS Representatives on Program Committees: Barry C. Arnold, Ashis SenGupta, J.K. Ghosh, K.V. Mardia and P.K. Sen

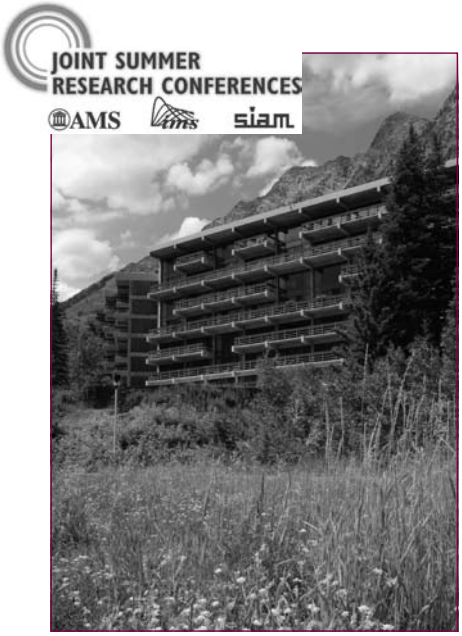
2006 Summer Research Conferences: Snowbird, Utah

2006 Joint AMS-IMS-SIAM Summer Research Conferences
Snowbird Resort, Snowbird, Utah
June 4–29, 2006

The 2006 Joint Summer Research Conferences will be held at the Snowbird Resort (http://summer.snowbird.com/pages/home/default.php) from June 4 to June 29, 2006. The topics and organizers for the conferences were selected by a committee representing the American Mathematical Society (AMS), the Institute of Mathematical Sciences (IMS), and the Society for Industrial and Applied Mathematics (SIAM).

It is anticipated that the conferences will be partially funded by a grant from the National Science Foundation and perhaps others. Particular encouragement is extended to junior scientists to apply. A special pool of funds expected from grant agencies has been earmarked for this group. Other participants who wish to apply for support funds should so indicate; however, available funds are limited, and individuals who can obtain support from other sources are encouraged to do so.

All persons who are interested in participating in one of the conferences should request an invitation by sending the information required (see list at http://www.ams.org/meetings/srco6.html) to *Summer Research Conferences Coordinator, AMS, P.O. Box 6887, Providence, RI 02940*, or by email to wsd@ams.org no later than March 3, 2006.



Snowbird Lodge. Credit: Eric Schramm/Snowbird

IMS co-sponsored meeting

Statistical Challenges in Modern Astronomy IV
June 12–15, 2006 (plus associated tutorials, June 6–10 & June 11)
The Penn State University, University Park, PA, USA
w http://astrostatistics.psu.edu/scma4/
IMS Rep: G Jogesh Babu **e** babu@stat.psu.edu

The SCMA conferences, held every five years since 1991, are the premier cross-disciplinary gatherings of statisticians and astronomers to discuss methodological issues arising in astronomical research. Invited talks from each field are intermixed with commentaries by scholars in the other field. Poster contributed papers will be on display throughout the meeting. The schedule will encourage informal interchange between the two communities.

The conference proceedings will be published by the Astronomical Society of the Pacific Conference Series. Full text will also be available online.

Funding for young researchers: Limited funds are available for partial support of participant costs of graduate students and young researchers at U.S. institutions to attend the SCMA IV research conference. Contact Eric Feigelson (edf@astro.psu.edu) by March 1, 2006 to apply for this funding. Please give your full name, institution & educational status; briefly describe your research interests; state whether you intend to present a contributed poster paper at SCMA IV; state whether you are a U.S. citizen or green card holder or not; and outline your travel funding situation.

The registration deadline for all the events is May 1, 2006.

The sessions for SCMA IV (Monday-Thursday, June 12-15) conference include: cosmology (cosmic microwave background, galaxy clustering & spatial statistics, weak & strong gravitational lensing); planetary systems (extrasolar planets detection & characterization, Solar System minor bodies); large survey projects & mega-datasets (Large Synoptic Survey Telescope, Sloan Digital Sky Survey, Virtual Observatory); time series analysis (periodicity detection, pulsating stars, gravitational wave detection); small-N problems in physics and astronomy (Feldman-Cousins upper limits, Poisson images); recent developments in statistics (False Discovery Rate, wavelets & image reconstruction, Bayesian & MCMC methodology, model selection); cross-disciplinary perspectives

There will be a pre-conference software tutorial (Sunday, June 11, 2006) and a Summer School in Statistics for Astronomers & Physicist II (Tuesday-Saturday, June 6-10, 2006). Attendance at the tutorials require separate registration. See the website for details.

IMS co-sponsored meeting:

Second Cornell Probability Summer School
June 26 – July 7, 2006
Cornell University, Ithaca, NY

w www.math.cornell.edu/~durrett/CPSS2006/

The 2006 Cornell Probability Summer School will be held June 26–July 7, 2006 at Cornell. The theme is probability problems that arise from genetics. The aim is to introduce probabilists who have no prior experience in this area to research problems in this exciting interface. No knowledge of molecular biology will be assumed. The three main lecturers who will give six lecture series are Warren Ewens (U of Pennsylvania), Bob Griffiths (Oxford), and Simon Tavare (U of Southern California). There will also be one hour lectures by Allison Etheridge, Steve Evans, Steve Krone, Paul Joyce, Jason Schweinsberg, and Vlada Limic. This conference is supported by an NSF grant to the probability group at Cornell. We ask that participants please register on the web page above. Graduate students and young faculty members can apply for support for local expenses. In addition, participants who would like to give a thirty minute talks on a topic related to the conference theme can submit the proposed title of their lecture. People who want support or to give a lecture should submit their information by **March 17, 2006 [new date]**.

PLEASE NOTE: Due a glitch in the Cornell computer system, some registrations submitted around the END OF DECEMBER were lost. If you are uncertain about your registration you can contact rtd1@cornell.edu

IMS co-sponsored meeting:

Workshop on Frontiers of Statistics
May 18–20, 2006
Princeton, NJ

w http://www.orfe.princeton.edu/conferences/frontiers/index.htm

IMS Reps: Jianqing Fan, Luisa Fernholz, Hira Koul

The work intends to bring top and junior researchers together to define and expand the frontiers of statistics. It provides a focal venue for top and junior researchers to gather, interact and present their new research findings, to discuss and outline emerging problems in their fields, and to lay the groundwork for fruitful future collaborations. A distinguished feature is that all topics are in core statistics with interactions with other disciplines such as biology, medicine, engineering, computer science, economics and finance. Topics include Nonparametric inference and machine learning; Longitudinal and functional data analysis; Nonlinear time series, Financial econometrics; Computational biology, genomics and survival analysis; MCMC, Bootstrap, robust statistics; Experimental design and industrial engineering

Travel support:

There is financial assistance available for graduate student, postdoctoral fellows, and junior scholars to contribute to their expenses such as housing or travel or registration. Download an application form from the website.

IMS co-sponsored meeting

International Conference on Frontiers in Statistics: Biostatistics and Bioinformatics
July 7–8, 2006
Northeast Normal University, Changchun, China

IMS Representative on Program Committees: Samuel Kou

w http://math.nenu.edu.cn/icf

The purpose of the Conference is to stimulate research at the interface between statistics and the biomedical and biological sciences. The Conference will provide a forum through which the participants may exchange ideas and be better informed of the latest developments in biostatistics and bioinformatics.

Co-organized by Northeast Normal University and the Chinese Academy of Sciences, the meeting is co-sponsored by the Chinese Society of Probability and Statistics, the National Natural Science foundation of China and the IMS.

Featured speakers: Norman Breslow, University of Washington; Burton Singer, Princeton University; Jianqing Fan, Princeton University; and Jun Liu, Harvard University.

Contacts:

Professor Jianhua Guo, Northeast Normal University (Chair) **e** jhguo@nenu.edu.cn

Professor Min Chen, Chinese Academy of Science

Professor Baoxue Zhang, Northeast Normal University **e** bxzhang@nenu.edu.cn

IMS co-sponsored meeting:

2007 ENAR/IMS Spring Meeting
March 11-14, 2007
Hyatt Regency Atlanta, Georgia

Please note new date and location

w http://www.enar.org/meetings.htm

IMS co-sponsored meeting:

2008 ENAR/IMS Spring Meeting
March 16-19, 2008
Hyatt Regency Crystal City, Arlington, VA

w http://www.enar.org/meetings.htm

IMS sponsored meeting:

2006 WNAR/IMS Western Regional Meeting
June 27-30, 2006, Flagstaff, Arizona

w http://www.math.nau.edu/wnar/

IMS Program Chair: Wolfgang Polonik

(see advert, page 22)

WNAR/IMS 2006 at 7,000 feet!

June 27–30, 2006 Flagstaff, Arizona

www.math.nau.edu/wnar/

Northern Arizona University in Flagstaff, AZ, is hosting the 2006 WNAR/IMS meeting (Western North American Region of the International Biometrics Society and the Institute of Mathematical Statistics)

Short Course, June 27
Statistical Methods for Analysis of Missing Data
XH Andrew Zhou, University of Washington

WNAR Presidential Invited Address:
"(Data) Size Does Matter, but you might be in for a surprise…"
Xiao-Li Meng, Harvard University

Sample of Invited Sessions
Mixture Models in Genetic and Genomic Studies; Statistical Methods in Functional Imaging; Spatial Aspects of Design-Based Samples in Model-Based Estimation; New Methods for Sample Size Calculation

Activities for New Researchers
Student paper competition

New researchers' luncheon

New researchers' session on longitudinal data analysis

Traveling to Flagstaff
America West offers flights to Flagstaff, or fly to Phoenix and take the shuttle. Amtrak trains serve Flagstaff. Some student travel awards are available.

Join our societies!
WNAR: www.wnar.org
IMS: www.imstat.org

Other Attractions
Conference banquet

Textbook publishers' booths

Comfortable weather, with daily highs around 82°F, and less than half an inch of rain in June

The Grand Canyon. The San Francisco Peaks. Walnut Canyon. The Painted Desert. Wupatki. Sunset Crater. Oak Creek. Sedona. Meteor Crater. Lowell Observatory.

And a whole lot more!

NORTHERN ARIZONA UNIVERSITY

Main photo above: Grand Canyon from Pima Point, West Rim Drive [US National Park Service (NPS) photo]. *Below:* Ponderosa pine forest around Flagstaff [Oregon State University, Dept of Botany and Plant Pathology]; Wupatki National Monument [NPS]; California Condor [Mark Lellouch, NPS]; Walnut Canyon [NPS]; Sunset Crater [NPS]

Other Meetings Around the World:
Announcements and Calls for Papers

2006 Annual Conference of the South African Statistical Association
November 1–3, 2006
Stellenbosch, South Africa

NEW

w www.sastat.org.za

This conference is annually the major event of the South African Statistical Association. This year it will be held in Stellenbosch (about 50 kms from Cape Town), to coincide with the sixtieth anniversary of the Department of Statistics and Actuarial Science at the University of Stellenbosch. The conference will be preceded by two days of workshops on 30 and 31 October. See the SASA website Conference University for more information.

Venue: Statistiek en Rekeningkunde building, Stellenbosch University

BioInfoSummer2006:
ICE-EM Summer Symposium in Bioinformatics
December 4–8, 2006
Australian National University, Canberra, Australia

NEW

w http://wwwmaths.anu.edu.au/events/BioInfoSummer06/

Theme: *Genome to Phenome Modelling*

The BioInfoSummer symposium comprises both a research meeting in bioinformatics, and a summer school, aiming to promote bioinformatics as an interdisciplinary research area to interested researchers and students in the provision of an educational programme. The mornings will be devoted to educational lectures and the afternoons to keynote and contributed presentations.

Invited speakers:

* Bruno Gaeta from the University of New South Wales
* Warren Kaplan from the Garvan Institute
* Anna Tramontano from the University of Rome "La Sapienza"
* Lars Jermiin from the University of Sydney
* Susan Holmes from Stanford University
* Geoff McLachlan from the University of Queensland
* Robert Gentleman from the Fred Hutchinson Cancer Centre, USA
* Terry Speed from the Walter & Eliza Hall Institute/University of California, Berkeley
* Hidde de Jong from INRIA (French National Institute for Research in Computer Science and Control) Rhône-Alpes

Travel scholarships

Travel scholarships are available to students (advance undergraduate/honours and postgraduate) from Australian and New Zealand universities, and to students and early career researchers from Asian universities. See http://wwwmaths.anu.edu.au/events/BioInfoSummer06/students.html

For further information, please consult the symposium webpage, or email Katie Lau, BioInfoSummer@yin.anu.edu.au

Biodefense Immune Modeling Symposium
June 22–23, 2006
Rochester, NY

NEW

This symposium aims to promote collaboration between immunologists and mathematical modelers in creating immune response models by providing a forum for presentation of cutting edge research on influenza virology, immune responses to influenza in human and animal models, and techniques of mathematical and computational modeling of immunity. The symposium provides an opportunity to develop a consensus on the biological parameters most important to include in models. The event will feature oral presentations by invited speakers, roundtable discussions, breakout sessions and a poster session.

For more information, contact Hulin Wu, Department of Biostatistics and Computational Biology, University of Rochester, 601 Elmwood Ave, Box 630, Rochester, NY 14642. **t** 585-275-6767. **e** hwu@bst.rochester.edu

First International Workshop on Gerber-Shiu Functions
August 7–8, 2006
Concordia University, Montreal, Canada

NEW

w http://www.mathstat.concordia.ca/gerber_shiu2006

The purpose of this satellite workshop is to sum up the latest theoretical developments on Gerber-Shiu functions and to stimulate applications, both in finance and risk theory. A small number of 1-hour invited talks is planned, with ample opportunity for discussions.

It will be held just prior to the Actuarial Research Conference (see listing [*right*] and ARC 2006 website at http://www.crm.umontreal.ca/Arc2006/index_e.html), where contributed papers should be submitted. All participants to ARC 2006 and other interested researchers are welcome to the workshop.

Please check the website for details on the program, registration and accommodation.

Organizers: Jose Garrido, Patrice Gaillardetz, Qihe Tang, Xiaowen Zhou **e** ger-shiu@mathstat.concordia.ca

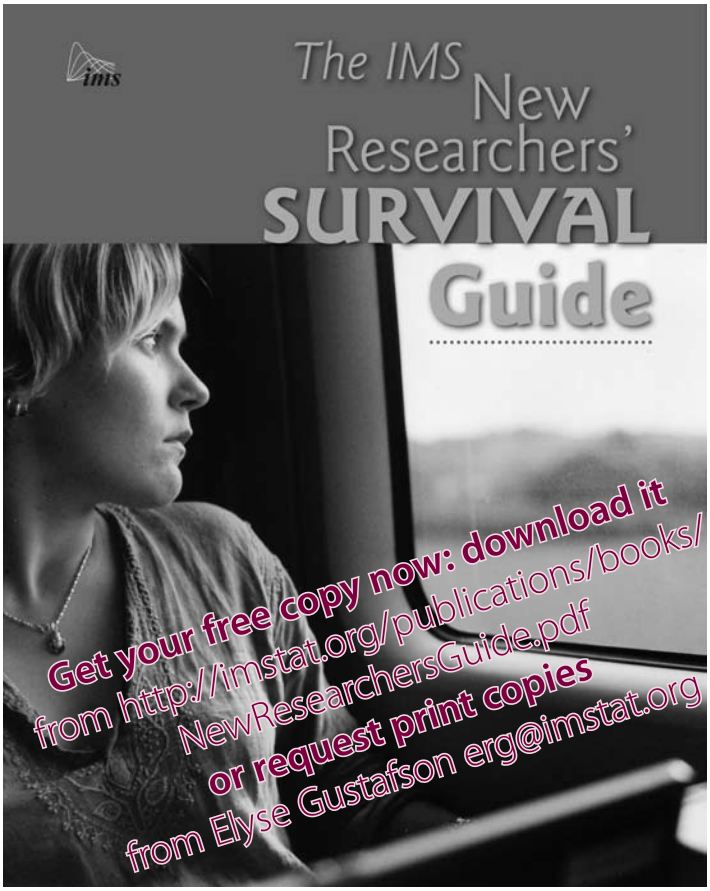
41st Actuarial Research Conference
August 10–12, 2006
Centre de recherches mathématiques, Université de Montréal, Québec, Canada

NEW

w http://www.crm.umontreal.ca/Arc2006/index_e.html

The annual Actuarial Research Conference (ARC) provides an opportunity for academics and practitioners to meet and discuss actuarial problems and their solutions. Presentations are welcome on all topics of interest to actuaries. The 41st Actuarial Research Conference, hosted by the Department of Mathematics and Statistics of the Université de Montréal and Centre de recherches mathématiques (CRM) will be held August 10-12, 2006, in Montréal, Canada.

Conference sponsors include AERF Committee of The Actuarial Foundation, American Academy of Actuaries, American Society of Pension Professionals & Actuaries, Institut Canadien des Actuaires, Casualty Actuarial Society, Colegio Nacional de Actuarios, A.C., Conference of Consulting Actuaries, Society of Actuaries, Département de mathématiques et de statistique (DMS) of the Université de Montréal, and CRM.



Workshop on Algorithms for Modern Massive Data Sets
June 21–24, 2006
Stanford University and Yahoo Research, CA

UPDATED

w http://mmds.stanford.edu

There is now have a new dedicated website. Registration fee is $200 for industrial/government participants, $50 for academic participants, and $5 for speakers, students, and postdocs. Note that all participants will need to register. Please see the website for details.

Send your meeting announcement to Elyse Gustafson erg@imstat.org

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Qatar
See: Carnegie Mellon, below

United Kingdom
Warwick: The University of Warwick

USA
Pennsylvania: Carnegie Mellon University & Qatar campus

Canada: Winnipeg, Manitoba

Head, Department of Statistics, University of Manitoba

UNIVERSITY OF MANITOBA

Applications or nominations are invited for the position of Head of the Department of Statistics in the Faculty of Science at the University of Manitoba. The appointment will be at the rank of Professor or Associate Professor, and will begin on July 1, 2007 (or January 1, 2007 or on a mutually agreed date). The Department of Statistics is one of the oldest and largest in Canada. It consists of 15 full-time academic members, with research expertise in diverse areas of Statistics and Probability (www.umanitoba.ca/statistics).

The successful candidate must have a Ph.D. in Statistics or a cognate discipline. Strong academic leadership experience in research and teaching at the undergraduate and graduate levels is preferred. The successful candidate will be expected to stimulate and promote excellence in education, research and service to the community. He or she will also be expected to develop the vision and strategic plan for the Department, and to effectively communicate the vision throughout the University and to the external community.

Nominations or applications, including a CV, names of three referees and a brief statement of the candidate's views on the future of research and teaching in Statistics and Probability in an academic department, should be sent to: *Dr Mark Whitmore, Dean, Faculty of Science, University of Manitoba, 250 Machray Hall, Winnipeg, Manitoba, Canada, R3T 2N2.* Phone: (204) 474-9348 ; mark_whitmore@umanitoba.ca

Please refer to Position #AP631. Review of applications will begin on June 15, 2006 and continue until the position is filled.

The University of Manitoba encourages applications from qualified women and men, including members of visible minorities, Aboriginal peoples and persons with disabilities. All qualified candidates are encouraged to apply; however, Canadians and permanent residents will be given priority. Application materials, including letters of reference will be handled in accordance with the Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act (Manitoba).

Winnipeg has a great deal to offer, both culturally and recreationally, with a number of professional and ethnic arts groups, professional sports teams, outstanding restaurants, and opportunities for all types of outdoor activities in all seasons. The Winnipeg housing market is one of the most favourable in Canada. Further information can be found on the web at www.tourism.winnipeg.mb.ca/

UK: Warwick

THE UNIVERSITY OF WARWICK

Statistics

Lecturer

Centre for Research in Statistical Methodology (CRiSM)

£28,829 - £36,959 pa **Ref: 34426-036**

Warwick is one of Britain's leading universities with an enviable reputation for educational opportunities, first rate research and its commitment to the local community.

The University Values Diversity

Based at the new Centre for Research in Statistical Methodology (CRiSM) and funded by the UK EPSRC/HEFCE Science and Innovation Awards Initiative, this is funded as a research position for the first five years and continuing as a regular faculty position at the University of Warwick thereafter.

A related research fellowship will be made available within CRiSM in the near future.

You should have a PhD in Statistics or an equivalent qualification, and should be an active researcher in any area of statistics.

Informal enquires: Professors John Copas (j.b.copas@warwick.ac.uk), Jim Smith (j.q.smith@warwick.ac.uk), Mark Steel (m.steel@warwick.ac.uk)

Application packs are available from Personnel Services on 024 7652 3685 (24 hour answerphone), by email recruit@warwick.ac.uk, our website below or www.jobs.ac.uk/warwick. An application form MUST be completed if you wish to be considered for this post.

Closing date: 25 May 2006

www.warwick.ac.uk/jobs

USA: Pennsylvania, and Qatar

Carnegie Mellon Qatar Campus

Statistics Lecturer/Instructor Position

Carnegie Mellon University established a branch campus in Qatar in the fall of 2004. We are offering BS degrees in Computer Science and Business to an international student body. The university invites applications for a position as lecturer or instructor to teach in Pittsburgh Fall 2006/Spring 2007 and then in Qatar beginning Fall 2007.

We are looking for an outstanding educator, interested in working closely with undergraduate students. Candidates should have a PhD in Statistics or related field and an independent research record or potential.

Relevant areas of expertise and interest are computer science, business, and finance. Exceptional candidates in other areas will also be considered.

The position offers competitive salaries, overseas assignment, travel and housing allowances and other benefits packages, as well as an attractive research support.

Interested candidates should send their resume, statement of teaching interest and research, and have three reference letters sent to: *Faculty Search Committee, Department of Statistics, Carnegie Mellon University, Pittsburgh, PA 15213*

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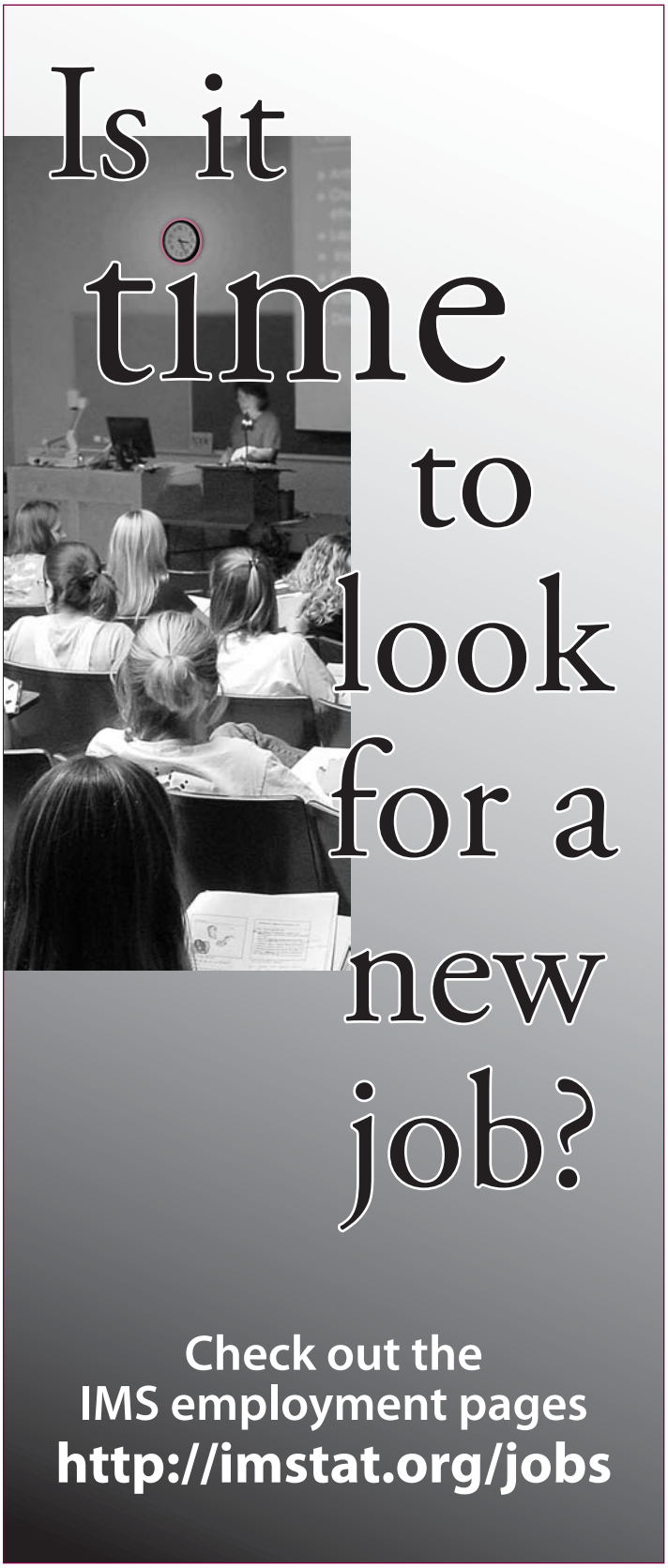

International Calendar of Statistical Events

IMS meetings are highlighted in maroon with the IMS logo and new or updated entries have the NEW symbol. t means telephone, f fax, e email and w website. Please submit your meeting details and any corrections to Elyse Gustafson at erg@imstat.org

May 2006

May 5–6: University of Pittsburgh, PA. **Conference and Celebration for Leon Gleser and Tom Savits.** Contact Henry W Block (hwb@stat.pitt.edu) or Allan R Sampson (asampson@stat.pitt.edu). **w** www.stat.pitt.edu/conference

IMS May 10–13: Rutgers University, Piscataway, NJ. **Classification Society of North America 2006 Meeting on Network Data Analysis and Data Mining:** Applications in Biology, Computer Science, Intrusion Detection, and other areas. IMS Rep: David Banks **w** http://dimacs.rutgers.edu/Workshops/CSNA/

May 12–13: Carnegie Mellon University, Pittsburgh, PA. **Third Workshop on Statistical Analysis of Neuronal Data (SAND3).** **w** http://sand.stat.cmu.edu

NEW IMS May 15–17: University of Ottawa, Canada. **Workshop on Probabilistic Symmetries and their Applications.** IMS Reps: Gail Ivanoff and Raluca Balan. **w** http://www.mathstat.uottawa.ca/~givanoff/workshop.htm

May 15–17: Al-Azhar University, Gaza, The Palestinian Authority. **First International Conference on Mathematical Sciences in Gaza.** Contact Dr Mahmoud K Okasha **e** m.okasha@alazhar-gaza.edu or m.okasha@palnet.com **t** +970 59 9441133 **w** www.alazhar-gaza.edu/ICMS

IMS May 15–18: University of Connecticut, Storrs. **IWAP 2006: Third International Workshop in Applied Probability.** **w** www.stat.uconn.edu/IWAP2006

May 17–19: Hotel Europe, Killarney, Ireland. **CASI 2006: Conference of Applied Statistics in Ireland.** Kingshuk Roy Choudhury **e** kingshuk@stat.ucc.ie **w** http://euclid.ucc.ie/pages/casi06/index.html

IMS May 18–20: Princeton, NJ. **Workshop on Frontiers of Statistics.** IMS Reps: Jianqing Fan, Luisa Fernholz, Hira Koul. **w** www.orfe.princeton.edu/conferences/frontiers/index.htm

May 22–26: U of Nevada, Las Vegas. NSF-CBMS: **Mathematical and Numerical Treatment of Fluid Flow and Transport in Porous Media. Organizers** Jichun Li jichun@unlv.nevada.edu and Yi-Tung Chen uuchen@nscee.edu **w** www.ncacm.unlv.edu/cbms/

May 24–27: Pasadena, California. **Interface 2006: Massive Data Sets and Streams.** **e** Amy.Braverman@jpl.nasa.gov **w** www.galaxy.gmu.edu/Interface2006/i2006webpage.html

May 28–31: London, Ontario. **2006 Annual Meeting of the Statistical Society of Canada.** Local Chair, David Bellhouse, U of Western Ontario, London. **e** bellhouse@stats.uwo.ca Scientific program chair Richard Lockhart **e** lockhart@sfu.ca

IMS May 29–31: Limassol, Cyprus. **Statistical Models for Biomedical and Technical Systems.** IMS Rep: Filia Vonta, University of Cyprus. **e** biostat2006@ucy.ac.cy **w** www.ucy.ac.cy/biostat2006

June 2006

June 1-7: Benidorm, Spain. **Valencia / ISBA 8th World Meeting on Bayesian Statistics.** Valencia 8 mailing list: **e** valenciameeting@uv.es **w** www.uv.es/valenciameeting

IMS June 4–29: Snowbird Resort, Utah. **2006 Joint AMS-IMS-SIAM Summer Research Conferences.** Write for invitation: Summer Research Conferences Coordinator, AMS, PO Box 6887, Providence, RI 02940 **e** wsd@ams.org by March 3, 2006. **w** www.ams.org/meetings/src06.html

June 5–9: Smolenice, Slovak Republic. **PROBASTAT 2006: 5th International Conference on Probability and Statistics.** **e** probastat@savba.sk **w** http://aiolos.um.savba.sk/~viktor/probastat.html

June 6–8: Sydney, Australia. **Salford Systems Data Mining 2006 Conferences.** **w** www.salforddatamining.com/

June 6–11: Penn State University. **Summer School for Statistical Challenges in Modern Astronomy IV**, June 6-10; **software tutorial**, June 11. Precedes Statistical Challenges in Modern Astronomy (see below) **w** http://astrostatistics.psu.edu/scma4/

June 11–16: Colorado State University, Fort Collins, CO. **2006 Graybill Conference:** Multiscale methods and statistics. **w** www.stat.colostate.edu/graybillconference/

IMS June 12–15: Penn State University, University Park, PA. **Statistical Challenges in Modern Astronomy IV.** IMS Rep: G Jogesh Babu **e** babu@stat.psu.edu **w** http://astrostatistics.psu.edu

IMS June 13–17: Uppsala, Sweden. **15th International Workshop on Matrices and Statistics.** **w** www.bt.slu.se/iwms2006/iwms06.html

Continued on **page 28**

International Calendar *continued*

June 13–17: North Carolina State Univ. NSF-CBMS: **Cluster Algebras and Applications.** Organizer: Naihuan Jing (919-513-3584, jing@unity.ncsu.edu) **w** www.math.ncsu.edu/~jing/conf/CBMS/cbms06.html

June 14–17: University of Connecticut, Storrs, CT. **ICSA 2006 Applied Statistics Symposium.** Ming-Hui Chen, Dept of Statistics, Univ of Connecticut, **e** mhchen@stat.uconn.edu **w** www.icsa.org

June 15–17: Ferdowsi University of Mashhad, Iran. **Conference on Ordered Statistical Data and Related Topics.** Organizers: N Balakrishnan bala@univmail.cis.mcmaster.ca and N R Arghami arghami@math.um.ac.ir **w** http://osdrt.um.ac.ir/

June 18–23: Bressanone-Brixen, Italy. **Computational and Statistical Aspects of Microarray Analysis (IV).** Contact stefano.iacus@unimi.it **w** www.economia.unimi.it/marray

June 19–24: Univ of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign. **Conference on Stochastic Networks.** Chair: PR Kumar. **w** www.comm.csl.uiuc.edu/~srikant/stochnet.htm

NEW June 21–24: Stanford University, CA. **Workshop on Algorithms for Modern Massive Data Sets.** Organizers: Gene Golub, Michael Mahoney, Petros Drineas, Lek-Heng Lim lekheng@cs.stanford.edu. **w** http://mmds.stanford.edu

NEW June 22–23: Rochester, NY. **Biodefense Immune Modeling Symposium.** Hulin Wu, Department of Biostatistics and Computational Biology, University of Rochester, 601 Elmwood Ave, Box 630, Rochester, NY 14642. **t** 585-275-6767. **e** hwu@bst.rochester.edu

June 25–30: Vilnius, Lithuania. **9th International Vilnius Conference on Probability Theory and Mathematical Statistics.** Aleksandras Plikusas **e** conf@ktl.mii.lt **w** www.science.mii.lt/vilconf9/

June 26–29: Prague, Czech Republic. **S4G (Stereology, Spatial Statistics, Stochastic Geometry): 6th International Conference.** Viktor Benes **e** benesv@karlin.mff.cuni.cz or Radka Juzkova **e** radka.juzkova@svses.cz. **w** www.karlin.mff.cuni.cz/s4g/

ims June 26 – July 7: Ithaca, NY. **2nd Cornell Probability Summer School.** **w** www.math.cornell.edu/~durrett/CPSS2006/

ims June 27–30: Flagstaff, Arizona. **2006 WNAR/IMS Western Regional Meeting.** IMS Program Chair: Wolfgang Polonik. **w** www.math.nau.edu/wnar/

July 2006

July 2–7: Salvador, Brazil. **ICOTS7: Working Cooperatively in Statistics Education.** Carmen Batanero **e** batanero@ugr.es **w** www.maths.otago.ac.nz/icots7

July 3–6: Auckland, New Zealand. **ASC/NZSA 2006: Australian Statistical Conference and New Zealand Statistical Association. w** www.statsnz2006.com/ **e** statsnz2006@tourhosts.com.au

July 4–6: Leeds, UK. **25th LASR workshop: Interdisciplinary Statistics and Bioinformatics. e** workshop@maths.leeds.ac.uk **w** http://www.maths.leeds.ac.uk/statistics/workshop/

ims July 7–8: Northeast Normal Univ, Changchun, China. **International Conference on Frontiers in Statistics: Biostatistics and Bioinformatics.** IMS Rep Samuel Kou. **w** http://math.nenu.edu.cn/icf

ims July 10–13: University of Wisconsin–Madison. **Markov Processes and Related Topics: A conference in honor of Tom Kurtz on his 65th birthday.** IMS Representative on Program Committees: Stew Ethier. **w** http://www.math.utah.edu/~ethier/kurtzfest.html

July 10–14: Leiden, The Netherlands. **Asymptotics: particles, processes and inverse problems, on the occasion of the 65th birthday of Piet Groeneboom. w** www.lorentzcenter.nl/lc/web/2006/20060710/info.php3?wsid=189

July 16–21: Technical Univ of Lisbon, Portugal. **ICORS 2006: International Conference on Robust Statistics. w** www.math.ist.utl.pt/icors2006 **e** icors2006@math.ist.utl.pt

July 16-21: Montreal, Canada. XXIII **International Biometrics Conference.** Travel Support: apply by May 1, 2006 to Lynne Billard **t** 706-542-3281 **e** lynne@stat.uga.edu **w** www.ibc2006.org

ims July 17–21: Paris, France. **Stochastic Processes and Applications XXXI.** IMS reps: E Perkins, J Pitman, P Protter, A Sznitman, S Tavare and E Waymire. **w** www.proba.jussieu.fr/pageperso/spao6/index.html

July 24–28: Caxambu, Minas Gerais, Brazil. **17th Brazilian Symposium of Probability and Statistics. w** http://www.redeabe.org.br

July 24–28: Toruń, Poland. **26th European Meeting of Statisticians. e** ems2006@umk.pl **w** www.ems2006.umk.pl

July 24–28: Rey Juan Carlos University Foundation, Madrid, Spain. **2nd SIPTA School on Imprecise Probabilities.** Contact Enrique Miranda **e** enrique.miranda@urjc.es **w** http://bayes.escet.urjc.es/~emiranda/sipta

July 27–28: Penn State University, University Park, PA. **Workshop on Matrix Theory and Computations. w** www.stat.psu.edu/news/conferences/MatrixTheory_July2006.pdf

July 29 – August 2: Kansas State Univ. NSF-CBMS: **Interplay between Convex Geometry and Harmonic Analysis.** Organizers: Dmitry Ryabogin ryabs@math.ksu.edu and David Auckly dav@math.ksu.edu **w** www.math.ksu.edu/main/events/convex-geom

July 30 - August 4: Rio de Janeiro, Brazil. **IMS Annual Meeting and XEBP Brazilian School of Probability meeting.** Program Chairs: Robert Adler and Steve Lalley (Probability); Sara van de Geer and Guenther Walther (Statistics); Local Chair: Maria Eulália Vares, CBPF. Abstract submission deadline April 1; hotel reservation deadline May 30. Program online June 1. **w** www.imstat.org/meetings/IMS2006/

August 2006

August 1–5: University of Washington, Seattle. **9th IMS meeting of New Researchers in Statistics and Probability.** Co-chairs: Peter Craigmile and Peter Hoff: **e** nrc@stat.ohio-state.edu **w** www.stat.ohio-state.edu/~pfc/NRC/

August 2–3: University of British Columbia, Vancouver, Canada. IMS Mini-meeting: **Recent Advances on Stochastic Computation and Bioinformatics.** Organizers: Arnaud Doucet and IMS Rep Raphael Gottardo **e** raph@stat.ubc.ca **w** http://hajek.stat.ubc.ca/~raph/workshops/ims-mini/ims_workshop.html

NEW August 5–6: IMPA, Rio de Janeiro, Brazil. **Young Researchers Symposium.** IMS Rep: S R S Varadhan. **w** http://www.impa.br/opencms/pt/eventos/store/evento_0010.html

August 6–10: Washington, Seattle. **JSM2006.** IMS Program Chair: Christopher Genovese; IMS Contributed Paper Chair: Jennifer Hoeting; IMS Local Chair: TBA **w** www.amstat.org/meetings/jsm/2006

August 6–12: Kent State University. NSF-CBMS: **Probabilistic and Combinatorial Approach in Analysis.** Organizers: Artem Zvavitch zvavitch@math.kent.edu, Per Enflo enflo@math.kent.edu and Andrew Tonge tonge@math.kent.edu **w** www.math.kent.edu/math/CBMS.cfm

NEW August 7–8: Concordia University, Montreal, Canada. **First International Workshop on Gerber-Shiu Functions. w** http://www.mathstat.concordia.ca/gerber_shiu2006 [Preceding ARC 2006 at http://www.crm.umontreal.ca/Arc2006/index_e.html]**e** ger-shiu@mathstat.concordia.ca

August 21-25: Prague, Czech Republic. **Prague Stochastics 2006:** joint session of 7th Prague Symposium on Asymptotic Statistics and 15th Prague Conference on Information Theory, Statistical Decision Functions and Random Processes. Zuzana Prášková **e** praskova@karlin.mff.cuni.cz **w** www.utia.cas.cz/pragstocho6

August 22–24: Shiraz University, Iran. **8th Iranian Statistical Conference.** Conference Secretary Dr A Borhani-Haghighi, **e** isc8@susc.ac.ir **w** www.shirazu.ac.ir/isc8

August 22-30: Madrid, Spain. **International Congress of Mathematicians (ICM). w** www.icm2006.org

August 23–25: University of Dublin, Trinity College, Ireland. **High Performance Computing and Statistical Inference.** Local organiser Simon Wilson **e** simon.wilson@tcd.ie **w** www.tcd.ie/Statistics/hpcsi/

August 28 – September 1: Rome, Italy. **COMPSTAT2006: 17th Conference of the International Association for Statistical Computing. w** http://w3.uniroma1.it/compstat2006 **e** compstat2006@uniroma1.it

September 2006

September 1–4: Lisbon, Portugal. SCRA 2006-FIM XIII: **13th International Conference of the Forum for Interdisciplinary Mathematics on Interdisciplinary Mathematical and Statistical Techniques. w** http://scra2006.southalabama.edu/

September 10–14: Queen's University Belfast, Northern Ireland. **RSS 2006 Conference.** Paul Gentry **e** conference@rss.org.uk **w** www.rss.org.uk/rss2006

September 14–15: Foggia, Italy. **Spatial Data Methods for Environmental and Ecological Processes. w** www.unifg.it/spatial

September 27–29: Pamplona, Spain. **International Workshop on Spatio-**

Continued on **page 30**

International Calendar *continued*

Temporal Modelling (METMA3). Lola Ugarte: **t** +34 948 169 202 **e** metma3@unavarra.es **w** www.unavarra.es/metma3

October 2006

October 11–14: University of Missouri, Columbia, MO. **6th Annual Winemiller Conference on Methodological Developments of Statistics in the Social Sciences.** Lori Thombs: **t** (573) 882-3844, **f** (573) 884-5524, **e** thombsl@missouri.edu. Stas Kolenikov, **t** (573) 882-1577, **f** (573) 884-5524, **e** kolenikovs@missouri.edu. **w** http://www.socialsciencestatistics.com

October 22: University of Washington, Seattle. **8th Northwest Probability Seminar**, dedicated to the memory of Ron Pyke. No formal registration, but please e-mail Chris Burdzy burdzy@math.washington.edu. **w** http://www.math.washington.edu/~burdzy/nwprob2006.shtml

November 2006

NEW November 1–3: Stellenbosch, South Africa. **2006 Annual Conference of the South African Statistical Association. w** www.sastat.org.za

December 2006

NEW December 4–8: Australian National University, Canberra, Australia. **BioInfoSummer2006: ICE-EM Summer Symposium in Bioinformatics.** Katie Lau **e** BioInfoSummer@yin.anu.edu.au **w** http://wwwmaths.anu.edu.au/events/BioInfoSummer06/

December 18–20: Jerusalem, Israel. **The Book of Ester Samuel-Cahn: From Empirical Bayes to Prophet Inequalities.** Isaac Meilijson, Chair of Program Committee **e** isaco@post.tau.ac.il, **t** +972-3-640-8826 or Aliza Shadmi, Conference Coordinator **e** shadmi-n@012.net.il, **t** +972-2-641-6394. **w** http://www.EsterConference.huji.ac.il

IMS December 28–29: Calcutta, India. Now an IMS co-sponsored meeting: **Multivariate Methods in the 21st Century: international conference to mark the birth centenary of Professor S N Roy and his legacy in Statistics.** Co-organizers: Barry C Arnold barry.arnold@ucr.edu or Ashis SenGupta ashis@isical.ac.in or ashis@stat.ucr.edu

January 2007

IMS January 2-5: Cochin, India. **IISA meeting on Statistics, Probability and Related Areas. w** http://www.stat.ohio-state.edu/~hnn/IISAConf2007.pdf

March 2007

IMS March 11-14: Hyatt Regency Atlanta, Georgia. **2007 ENAR/IMS Spring Meeting. w** www.enar.org/meetings.htm

March 27–30: Bielfeld, Germany. **Statistik unter einem Dach / Statistics under one roof. w** www.statistik2007.de/enhome/index.html **e** dagstat2007@uni-bielefeld.de

June 2007

June 9–13: St John's, Newfoundland. **35th Annual Meeting of the Statistical Society of Canada.** Local Arrangements Chair: Brajendra Sutradhar **e** bsutradh@math.mun.ca **t** (709) 737-8731 **f** (709) 737-8731

July 2007

July 9–11: Vienna, Austria. **MCP 2007 Vienna:** 5th international conference on multiple comparison procedures. **w** www.mcp-conference.org

July 9-11: Eindhoven, The Netherlands. **2007 Applied Probability INFORMS Conference.** Hosted by EURANDOM and Eindhoven University of Technology. Local organiser Onno Boxma boxma@eurandom.tue.nl **w** http://appliedprob.society.informs.org/INFORMS2007/Index.html

IMS July 29 – August 2: Salt Lake City, Utah. **IMS Annual Meeting at JSM2007** IMS Program Co-chairs: Tony Cai and Mark Low. **w** www.amstat.org/meetings/jsm/2007

March 2008

IMS March 16-19: Hyatt Regency Crystal City, Arlington, VA. **2008 ENAR/IMS Spring Meeting. w** www.enar.org/meetings.htm

July 2008

IMS July 20–26: Singapore. **71st IMS Annual Meeting in conjunction with 7th Bernoulli Society World Congress.** Details to follow.

August 2008

IMS August 3–8: Denver, Colorado. **JSM2008.**

August 2009

IMS August 2–6: Washington, DC. **IMS Annual Meeting at JSM2009**

August 2010

IMS August 1–5: Vancouver, British Columbia, Canada. **JSM2010.**

Membership and Subscription Information

Journals: The scientific journals of the Institute of Mathematical Statistics are *Statistical Science*, *The Annals of Statistics*, *The Annals of Probability* and *The Annals of Applied Probability*. The *IMS Bulletin* is the news organ of the Institute.

Individual and Organizational Memberships: Each individual member receives the *IMS Bulletin* and may elect to receive one or more of the four scientific journals. Members pay annual dues of $75. An additional amount is added to the dues of members depending on the scientific journal selected as follows: *Statistical Science* ($15), *The Annals of Statistics* ($30), *The Annals of Probability* ($30), and *The Annals of Applied Probability* ($20). Of the total dues paid, $28 is allocated to the *Bulletin* and the remaining amount is allocated among the scientific journals received. Reduced membership dues are available to full-time students, new graduates, permanent residents of countries designated by the IMS Council, and retired members. Organizational memberships are available to institutions at $680 per year and to corporations at $850 per year. Organizational memberships include two multiple-readership copies of all IMS journals in addition to other benefits specified for each category (details available from the IMS Business Office).

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The *IMS Bulletin* publishes articles and news of interest to IMS members and to statisticians and probabilists in general, as well as details of IMS meetings and an international calendar of statistical events. Views and opinions in editorials and articles are not to be understood as official expressions of the Institute's policy unless so stated; publication does not necessarily imply endorsement in any way of the opinions expressed therein, and the *IMS Bulletin* and its publisher do not accept any responsibility for them. The *IMS Bulletin* is copyrighted and authors of individual articles may be asked to sign a copyright transfer to the IMS before publication.

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Issue	Deadline for Advertisement	Online by	Scheduled Mail Date
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3: April	***March 1***	March 15	April 1
4: May	***April 1***	April 15	May 1
5: June	***May 1***	May 15	June 1
6: July	***June 1***	June 15	July 1
7: August/September	***July 1***	July 15	August 1
8: October	***September 1***	September 15	October 1
9: November	***October 1***	October 15	November 1
10: December	***November 1***	November 15	December 1

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in the next issue

June 2006

More information about Rio as we look forward to the 2006 IMS Annual Meeting, as well as news of members around the world, meeting announcements and job opportunities.

Send in your articles, feedback, letters…

DEADLINE for submissions

May 1, 2006

Please see inside the back cover for subscription details and information for advertisers, including all our deadlines and requirements

The purpose of the Institute is to foster the development and dissemination of the theory and applications of statistics and probability

IMS: Organized September 12, 1935

Kakuro corner

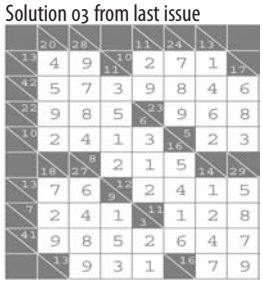
How to play: Place single digits (1 to 9 inclusive) in the white boxes in the grid. The row or column of digits which make up a sequence must add up to the black box to the left or at the top. Each digit in a sequence must be different. In the example below, the first row sequence is to make 8:

No repeated digits in a sequence.

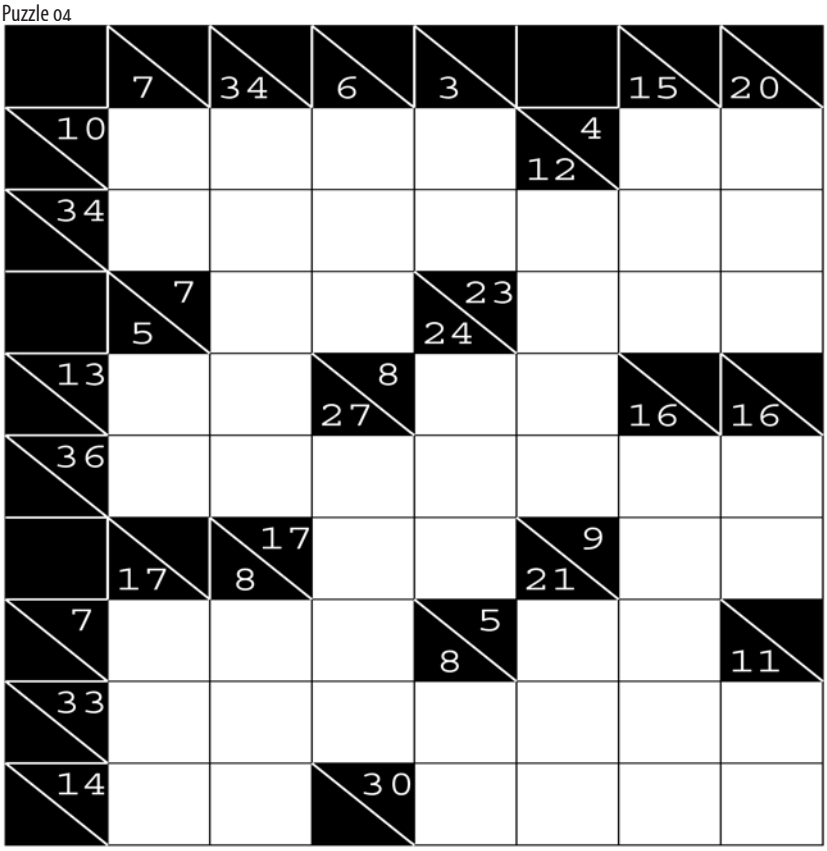
This row sequence doesn't add up to 8.

...this one does! (So does 1,2,5 and 3,1,4 and so on)

Solution 03 from last issue



Puzzle 04



Puzzle by www.yoogi.com