

August/September 2007

CONTENTS

- 1 **Carver Medal:** Bill Harkness;
Election results
- 2–3 **Members' News:** Alan
Gelfand; Ed Perkins; CR Rao;
Mir Masoom Ali
- 4 **SSC Awards:** Agnes
Herzberg; Don McLeish;
Brajendra Sutradhar;
Anthony Davison; David
Hinkley
- 6 **Obituary:** Charlie Dunnett
- 7 **AOAS in the News**
- 8 **SAMSI Programs**
- 9 **Quantitative Assessment
of Research review**
- 10 **Terence's Stuff:** Changing
my mind (again)
- 11 **Profile** of DNA Profiling
- 12 **IMS Meetings**
- 14 **Other Meetings and
Announcements**
- 18 **Employment Opportunities**
- 22 **International Calendar of
Statistical Events**
- 27 **Information for Advertisers**
- 28 **Kakuro corner**

Carver Medal for William L Harkness

The IMS Carver Award committee has announced that the recipient of the 2007 Carver Medal is William L. Harkness, Professor Emeritus at Penn State University, *"for his years of distinguished service as Program Secretary and on various committees of the IMS."*

The Carver Medal was created by the IMS in 2002 in honor of Harry C. Carver, Founding Editor of the *Annals of Mathematical Statistics* and one of the founders of the IMS. The medal is for exceptional service specifically to the IMS and is open to any member of the IMS who has not previously been elected President.

David Siegmund, who chaired the Carver committee with Louis Chen and Stephen Stigler, thanked Bill for his "years of diligent, friendly and helpful service to IMS."

Bill said, "I am thankful to the committee and wish to assure them that I am deeply touched by their action. I have always had the utmost respect and regard for IMS for its great leadership in the field. Its standards have always been very high and so it is particularly gratifying to be selected for the Carver Medal."

Previous recipients of the Carver Medal are Bruce Trumbo, George P.H. Styan, Paul Shaman, Jessica Utts and Robert V. Hogg. Bob Hogg was unable to travel to Rio last year for the IMS Annual Meeting, so he will also be presented with his medal at the ceremony in Salt Lake City.



William L. Harkness

Election results

The new IMS President-Elect is **Nanny Wermuth**. Elected to Council for a 3 year term are **Montse Fuentes**, **Geoffrey Grimmett**, **Maria Eulalia Vares**, **Jon Wellner** and **Alan Welsh**; and for a 2 year term, **Martin Barlow**.

They will join Maury Bramson, Merlise Clyde, John Einmahl, Jun Liu and Daniel Peña (until August 2008), and Frank Den Hollander, Iain Johnstone, Karen Kafadar, and Xiao-Li Meng (until August 2009). Leaving Council this year after three years are Susan Holmes, Nancy Flournoy, Erwin Bolthausen, Michael Steele and Xuming He. Thank you to all of you for your dedicated service!



Top row, l-r:
Martin Barlow,
Montse Fuentes,
Geoffrey Grimmett,
Eulalia Vares; lower
row: Jon Wellner,
Alan Welsh, Nanny
Wermuth



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IMS Members' News

Duke University re-brands statistics department

The Institute of Statistics and Decision Sciences at Duke University has become the Department of Statistical Science. This name change reflects expansion of the program to include a new undergraduate major and minor that complements our already outstanding graduate program. The new name will continue to signify that statistical research and interdisciplinary science remain as primary missions.

Alan Gelfand will serve as Head of the department, following Dalene Stangl's five years as director of the Institute. Professor Stangl's exemplary service enabled the changes to get underway.

Gelfand notes, "As ISDS, we achieved a form of 'brand recognition' in the international statistical community as, arguably, the premier Bayesian program in the world. Our name is now different and we will add new faces [see below] but our ongoing objective is to enhance our role as cutting-edge, collaborative statistical scientists both within the University and within the community."

The new department will begin in growth mode. At least six new permanent positions (open rank) will be filled over the next three years. This will provide an exciting opportunity to shape the future for statistical science here at Duke and will make the department an even more attractive place for visiting researchers. Formal hiring advertisements will appear soon.



Alan Gelfand, new Head of Duke's new Department of Statistical Science

Ed Perkins elected FRS

The Fellowship of the Royal Society <http://www.royalsoc.ac.uk/> is composed of 1317 of the most distinguished scientists from the United Kingdom, Commonwealth and the Republic of Ireland. The main criterion for election as a Fellow is scientific excellence.

Among this year's 44 new Fellows is IMS Fellow Professor **Edwin Arend Perkins**, Canada Research Chair in the Department of Mathematics at the University of British Columbia.

Early in his career Ed Perkins distinguished himself by solving several hard problems concerning the behavior of Brownian motion, and by the application of non-standard analysis to probability. His main research has been on complex stochastic processes: measure-valued diffusions, and super-Brownian motion. He introduced a "particle picture" into this theory, and has used this to develop powerful techniques to construct and study measure-valued processes with interactions.

C R Rao's thirty-first Honorary Doctorate

Calyampudi R. Rao, US National Medal of Science Laureate, Emeritus holder of the Eberly Family Chair in Statistics and Director of the Center for Multivariate Analysis at the Pennsylvania State University, has received an honorary



DSc degree from the University of Rhode Island. This brings to thirty-one the number of honorary doctoral degrees he has received from universities in eighteen countries on six continents. The award recognizes Rao for his pioneering work in statistics and its applications, and for having influenced not only statisticians but also scientists worldwide in a number of diverse fields. The award also recognizes his ongoing efforts to promote the use of statistics in national security, industry, business and economic policy.

IMS Members' News

Distinguished Professor Mir Masoom Ali retires from Ball State University

A two-day statistics conference, organized by Professor Dale Umbach, was held at Ball State University, Muncie, Indiana, USA, on May 18–19, 2007 on the occasion of the retirement of Mir Masoom Ali, the George and Frances Ball Distinguished Professor of statistics and Professor of mathematical sciences at Ball State University. He has recently been appointed by the Ball State University board of trustees as George and Frances Ball Distinguished Professor Emeritus of statistics and Professor Emeritus of mathematical sciences. Eighty-seven authors and co-authors either presented invited papers at the conference or contributed to a Festschrift in his honor. The conference concluded with a banquet where former students, colleagues, administrators, and friends such as Madan Puri paid tribute to Dr. Ali for his outstanding dedication and contribution to the statistics profession.



Dr Ali started his professional career as a statistician with the government of Pakistan in 1957 after completing his Master's degree in Statistics from the University of Dhaka (*see photo below on the occasion of R. A. Fisher's visit to Dhaka University*). After finishing his PhD degree in 1969 from the University of Toronto under the supervision of D. A. S. Fraser, he founded the graduate program in statistics at Ball State University in 1971. He has received many honors and awards for teaching and research including the Qazi Motahar Husain Gold Medal in 1990 and the ISOSS Gold Medal in 2005. In 2002, Indiana Governor Frank O'Bannon named Dr Ali 'Sagamore of the Wabash', the highest award of the State. He was also awarded the Meritorious Service Awards in 1987, 1997, 2002, and 2007 by the Midwest Biopharmaceutical Statistics Workshop (MBSW), which is co-sponsored by the American Statistical Association, for his role as a co-founder, program co-chair, and local arrangements chair.

Dr Ali is an elected Fellow of the American Statistical Association, the Royal Statistical Society, the Institute of Statisticians, and the Bangladesh Academy of Sciences. He is also an elected member of the International Statistical Institute. He is the founding president of the North America Bangladesh Statistical Association.



Mir Masoom Ali (seated on chair, far right) was an honors student in statistics at Dhaka University when Sir R. A. Fisher (seated, center) visited in 1954. Others in the photo are the teachers and students of the Department of Statistics of Dhaka University in Bangladesh (East Pakistan at that time)

He has published extensively in leading statistical journals. The *Journal of Statistical Studies* and the *Pakistan Journal of Statistics* published special volumes in Professor Ali's honor in 2002 and 2004, respectively. Currently, the *International Journal of Statistical Sciences* is in the process of publishing a special volume in Dr Ali's honor on the occasion of his 70th birthday. At the time of his retirement, Dr. Ali has rendered fifty years of service as a statistician, including thirty-eight years at Ball State University.

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Statistical Society of Canada Awards

SSC Honorary Membership awarded to Professor Agnes M. Herzberg

The Statistical Society of Canada (SSC) has awarded Honorary Membership to Professor **Agnes M. Herzberg**, an IMS Fellow. Honorary Membership of the SSC is awarded to a statistical scientist of outstanding distinction who has contributed to the development of the statistical sciences in Canada.

Agnes Herzberg obtained her PhD from the University of Saskatchewan; she spent her early career in the Department of Mathematics at the Imperial College of Science and Technology, London, ON, and more recently in the Department of Mathematics and Statistics at Queen's University where she is currently Professor Emeritus.

Professor Herzberg has a long and distinguished record of research in experimental design and applied statistics. In the 1960s and 1970s she was at the forefront of research on rotatable response surface designs. She also contributed extensively to the theory of optimal experimental design. In the past two decades, Professor Herzberg has made substantial contributions in areas such as model selection, robust designs and experimental design for medical experiments.

Other notable activities include Editor, for 26 years, of *Short Book Reviews*, a publication of the International Statistical Institute, and Associate Editor of both the *Annals of Statistics* and *Biometrika*. She established and maintains an annual conference on Statistics, Science and Public Policy at Herstmonceux Castle, UK. Professor Herzberg has also had a long history in the Statistical Society of Canada, serving on many committees over the years and most notably as President of the Society in 1991–92. In 1999, she was awarded the SSC Distinguished Service Award in recognition of her long and excellent service to the Society and to the development of the statistical sciences in Canada.

The award citation reads: “*To Agnes Margaret Herzberg for fundamental contributions to the design of experiments, applied statistics and data analysis; for her organization and leadership of conferences on statistics, science and public policy, and for dedicated service to the international statistical community.*”



A standing ovation for new SSC Honorary Member Agnes Herzberg

SSC Gold Medal awarded to Professor Don L. McLeish

The SSC has awarded Professor **Don L. McLeish** the 2007 Gold Medal (see photo, facing page).

The Gold Medal is the highest award of the SSC and is awarded to a person who has made substantial contributions to statistics or probability, either in mathematical development or in applied work. The Gold Medal is intended to honour outstanding current leaders in their fields.

An IMS Fellow, Don McLeish received his PhD from McGill University in Montreal. He followed that with a post-doctoral fellowship at the University of Chicago. He spent time at York University and the University of Alberta, and a number of visiting positions around the world, before taking up his present position in the Department of Statistics and Actuarial Science at the University of Waterloo in 1982, where he was appointed full professor in 1984.

Don McLeish has been an outstanding researcher in probability and statistics throughout his career. His early work was on the asymptotic theory of martingales and in 1975 he originated the idea of mixingales which has had a great impact on a wide range of applications of probability and statistics. He has also been very active in the area of statistical inference and estimating functions. In 1988 and 1994 he and Professor Christopher Small published two books on this topic which are still widely cited.

In recent years, McLeish has been interested in quantitative finance and in 2005 published a book on Monte Carlo Methods in Finance which has been very well received. Professor McLeish has been productive in his research, publishing 38 refereed papers as well as three books and scores of invited presentations. He has also supervised over 50 graduate students. His research has been continuously supported by NSERC since 1974 and he chaired the NSERC Statistical Sciences grant selection committee in 1982–83.

He served as editor of the *Canadian Journal of Statistics* 1985–88 and won that journal's best paper award in 2002.

The Gold Medal award citation reads: “*To Donald Leslie McLeish for his groundbreaking contributions to the theory of martingales and the development of mixingales, for outstanding contributions to the theory and methodology of estimation, and for exceptional research contributions in probability, statistics and quantitative finance.*”

SSC Distinguished Service Award awarded to Professor Brajendra Sutradhar

Professor Brajendra Sutradhar has been awarded the 2007 SSC Distinguished Service Award, given to a member of the SSC who has made substantial contributions to the running or welfare of the Society over a period of several years. (See photo, below center).

Brajendra obtained his PhD from the University of Western Ontario in 1984 and then joined the faculty in the Department of Mathematics and Statistics at Memorial University of Newfoundland. In 2004, he was awarded the rank of University Research Professor in recognition of his outstanding contributions to research in statistics particularly in the areas of longitudinal data analysis, generalized linear mixed models and modeling using multivariate t -distributions. Brajendra has published over 80 papers and has supervised 24 graduate students. He is an elected member of the ISI and an elected fellow of the ASA.

The award citation reads: “*To Brajendra Chandra Sutradhar, for many years of contributions to the Society, and especially for distinguished service to our Annual Meetings*”



Pictured below: [left] Charmaine Dean, SSC President, presents the SSC Gold Medal to Don McLeish; [center] Charmaine Dean presents the SSC Distinguished Service Award to Brajendra Sutradhar; [right] Chris Field, 2006 Gold Medallist, who delivered his Gold Medal Address on “Modelling biological data”. Pictured above: scenes around St John's, Newfoundland, the location of the 2007 SSC annual meeting. All photos courtesy of Chris Hammond for SSC



Canadian Journal of Statistics Award

The SSC has awarded the *Canadian Journal of Statistics* Award for the best paper published in the journal for 2006, judged according to excellence, innovation and presentation, to IMS Fellows **Anthony Davison** (EPFL Switzerland) and **David Hinkley** (University of California, Santa Barbara), together with Angelo Canty and Valérie Ventura. Their paper is titled “Bootstrap diagnostics and remedies”. Bootstrap techniques are popular, flexible tools that statisticians use to quantify uncertainty in estimation procedures. These methods are applied in many areas from the analysis of data arising from cancer studies to modeling insurance claims. However, bootstrap techniques require certain mathematical assumptions to be met in order for the computed quantities to be valid and reliable. Because this paper provides fast and simple procedures for checking some of these assumptions, the methods will be quickly incorporated into the toolboxes of many statisticians.



OBITUARY: Charles W Dunnett

1921–2007

CHARLES WILLIAM DUNNETT passed away peacefully at his home in Hamilton, Ontario, Canada on May 18, 2007 after a brief hospitalization. Along with John Tukey, Henry Scheffé and David Duncan, Charlie Dunnett was one of the founders of the still-flourishing field of multiple comparisons. His 1955 paper [*Journal of the American Statistical Association*, vol. 50, pp. 1096–1121] on multiple comparisons with a control is one of the most cited papers in statistics, with nearly 4000 citations according to the ISI Web of Knowledge™. The Dunnett procedure based on the multivariate t -distribution proposed in this paper is widely used in diverse applications, especially in clinical trials. His work in stepwise testing procedures, ranking and selection, dose finding, and superiority-equivalence testing is also well-known.

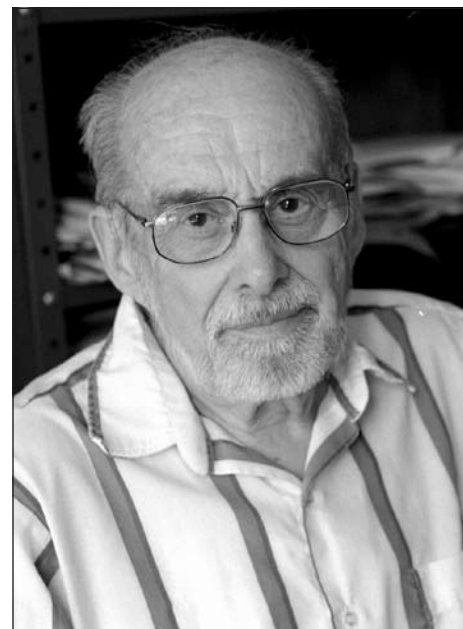
Charlie had a fascinating career path. Mary Thompson's 1988 interview with Charlie [*SSC Liaison*, vol. 3, no. 1, November 1988], available on the Statistical Society of Canada web site at http://www.ssc.ca/main/about/history/dunnett_e.html, gives us a delightful glimpse into his life. What follows is a brief extract. Charlie was born on August 24, 1921 in Windsor, Ontario. He graduated in 1942 with a BA in Mathematics and Physics from McMaster University. He served in the Royal Navy during World War II, traveled the Murmansk convoy run, and was awarded an MBE for his work on radar, his job being to keep the new technology working in the field, all before reaching age 24.

He returned to Canada and obtained an MA in Mathematics at the University of Toronto in 1946. Following two years at Columbia University and a year spent teaching at the New York State Maritime

College, in 1949 he joined the Food and Drug Laboratories of the Department of National Health and Welfare in Ottawa as a biometrician. He spent the academic year 1952–53 on leave at Cornell University, where he worked with Bob Bechhofer and Milton Sobel on selection procedures. This work required the extension of Student's t -distribution to the multivariate case which he was to later use in his famous procedure for multiple comparisons with a control. A detailed bibliography of Charlie's publications is being prepared and will be available on the SSC web site in due course.

Next, he accepted a position as a statistician at Lederle Laboratories, a pharmaceutical division of American Cyanamid Company. On a two-year leave from Lederle, Charlie took his family to Aberdeen and obtained his DSc in 1960 working with David Finney on the statistical theory of drug screening. He left Lederle in 1974 when he was appointed Professor of Clinical Epidemiology and Biostatistics in the Health Sciences Faculty at McMaster University. He was chairman of the Department of Applied Mathematics at McMaster from 1977 to 1979 and oversaw its merger into the Department of Mathematical Sciences, now called the Department of Mathematics and Statistics. He was awarded the title of Professor Emeritus in the Departments of Clinical Epidemiology and Biostatistics and Mathematics and Statistics when he retired in 1987.

Charlie was a Fellow of the American Statistical Association and an elected member of the International Statistical Institute. He served as President of the Statistical Society of Canada in 1982. In 1986 he became the second recipient of the



Charles Dunnett, photographed by Peter Macdonald in 2002

Statistical Society of Canada's Gold Medal.

Charlie was a passionate researcher, always exploring new ideas. Unusual in his generation of researchers, he was extremely good at computing and was excited to discover new programming tricks. Until illness forced him to slow down about a year ago, he came in regularly to work in his office at McMaster, and even answered some e-mails from his hospital bed. He maintained his individual research grant to the end. He was a marvellous example to young researchers and always provided generous guidance and support to them.

Charlie leaves behind his wife, Connie, a son, William, daughters Catherine and Mary, six grandchildren and one great-granddaughter. He was a kind and loving family man. We remember him as a man of faith, integrity and peace.

Ajit Tamhane, Northwestern University,
and Peter Macdonald, McMaster University

AOAS in the news



The *Annals of Applied Statistics* has been receiving some extra attention lately. An article titled “Chemical and forensic analysis of JFK assassination bullet lots: Is a second shooter possible?” by Clifford Spiegelman, William A. Tobin, William D. James, Simon J. Sheather, Stuart Wexler, and D. Max Roundhill, has gained worldwide attention. The AOAS website <http://imstat.org/aoas> had more than twenty times its usual traffic, following the publicity in national and international media.

Cliff Spiegelman is Professor in the Department of Statistics at Texas A&M University. He explains how *AOAS* came to publish the paper:

“The *Annals of Applied Statistics* accepted the paper on May 4, 2007. The paper shows that the testimony about the JFK bullet fragments presented to the House Select Committee on Assassinations is seriously flawed. The paper includes new data and a statistical and probabilistic evaluation of the evidence. Initially, we chose *Science* and *PNAS* as the outlets for the paper. Both of those journals said that the topic was not sufficiently interesting for their readership and suggested that the paper be submitted to a subject matter journal. Professor Steve Fienberg, *AOAS* Editor for social science, government, sample surveys and economics, knew of these outcomes and suggested that the manuscript be submitted to *AOAS*.”

Since being accepted, the release has been carried extensively by US and international media outlets in electronic, print, radio and television formats.

With some 5,000 downloads per day of the paper from the *AOAS* website, the new IMS journal has received a great deal of positive media attention. The paper has tens of thousands of web citations generating a potentially excellent impact number for *AOAS*. The authors state that the editorial review process was very helpful and that the

editorial review speed was consistent with the best science publications. Currently, the authors are considering television documentary inquiries related to the findings of the paper. In addition, the authors are now considering their options in an attempt to get the JFK bullet evidence to be reconsidered by the scientific community as well as the US Government.

According to the Texas A&M University release, the researchers combined statistics and chemistry to “shoot holes in traditional bullet lead analysis techniques and the accuracy of expert testimony” — specifically, calling into question critical evidence that has long supported the theory of a lone gunman in the 1963 assassination of United States President John F. Kennedy.

In challenging the evidence for the lone-gunman theory, Cliff Spiegelman, an expert in bullet lead analysis, teamed with former FBI agent and forensic scientist William A. Tobin of Forensic Engineering International in Virginia. They conducted a chemical and forensic analysis of bullets reportedly derived from the same batch as those used by suspected assassin Lee Harvey Oswald to gun down Kennedy on that fateful day at Dealey Plaza. The measurements were taken by Dr William D. James, a research chemist with the Texas A&M Center for Chemical Characterization and Analysis (CCCA).

The team’s findings show that evidence used to rule out a second assassin is fundamentally flawed. The researchers say it is “scientifically desirable” for the bullet fragments to be reanalyzed.

The paper is available online at www.imstat.org/aoas/next_issue.html and background information on the research and the team is at <http://www.science.tamu.edu/articles/550>

AOAS Volume 1, Issue 1 published

The first issue of *The Annals of Applied Statistics* is out, with 14 papers:

Applied statistics: A review • D. R. Cox

A correlated topic model of *Science* • David M. Blei and John D. Lafferty

Coupling hidden Markov models for the discovery of *Cis*-regulatory modules in multiple species • Qing Zhou and Wing Hung Wong
A statistical approach to simultaneous mapping and localization for mobile robots • Anita M. Araneda and Stephen E. Fienberg

Random-set methods identify distinct aspects of the enrichment signal in gene-set analysis • Michael A. Newton, Fernando A. Quintana, Johan A. den Boon, Srikumar Sengupta, and Paul Ahlquist

On testing the significance of sets of genes • Bradley Efron and Robert Tibshirani

Elevated soil lead: Statistical modeling and apportionment of contributions from lead-based paint and leaded gasoline • R. Dennis Cook and Liqiang Ni

Of mice and men: Sparse statistical modeling in cardiovascular genomics • David M. Seo, Pascal J. Goldschmidt-Clermont, and Mike West

Control of the mean number of false discoveries, Bonferroni, and stability of multiple testing • Alexander Gordon, Galina Glazko, Xing Qiu, and Andrei Yakovlev

Spatial variation of total column ozone on a global scale • Michael L. Stein

A resampling-based test to detect person-to-person transmission of infectious disease • Yang Yang, Ira M. Longini, Jr., and M. Elizabeth Halloran

Probabilistic projections of HIV prevalence using Bayesian melding • Leontine Alkema, Adrian E. Raftery, and Samuel J. Clark

A multivariate semiparametric Bayesian spatial modeling framework for hurricane surface wind fields • Brian J. Reich and Montserrat Fuentes

Extending the rank likelihood for semiparametric copula estimation • Peter D. Hoff

AOAS is free to AOS subscribers

SAMSI Programs for 2007–2008

The Statistical and Applied Mathematical Sciences Institute, SAMSI, is a US national institute whose vision is to forge a new synthesis of the statistical sciences and the applied mathematical sciences with disciplinary science to confront the very hardest and most important data- and model-driven scientific challenges. SAMSI achieves profound impact on both research and people by bringing together researchers who would not otherwise interact, and focusing the people, intellectual power and resources necessary for simultaneous advances in the statistical sciences and applied mathematical sciences that lead to ultimate resolution of the scientific challenges.

Programs and Events for 2007–2008:

Risk Analysis, Extreme Events and Decision Theory (Fall 2007, Spring 2008)

<http://www.samsi.info/programs/2007riskanalysisprogram.shtml>

This full-year program will address fundamental issues in risk analysis and the linked problems associated with extreme events and decision theory.

Additional information about the program and opportunities to participate:

For research visits, including New Researcher Fellowships and SAMSI-University Fellowships, consult Visiting and Employment Opportunities for 2007–08. For postdoctoral appointments, consult Postdoctoral Positions for 2007–08. For other questions, send email to risk@samsi.info.

Kickoff Workshop: <http://www.samsi.info/workshops/2007riskanalysis-opening200709.shtml> (September 16–19, 2007)

The principal goal will be to engage a broadly representative segment of the statistical, applied mathematical and decision analysis/operations research communities in formulation and pursuit of specific research activities to be undertaken by the Program Working Groups. The application/registration deadline is **August 16, 2007**. Online application form at <http://www.samsi.info/200708/risk/riskanalysis-opening-application200709.html>

Risk: Perception, Policy and Practice Workshop October 4–5, 2007 at Radisson RTP <http://www.radisson.com/researchtrianglerc>, Research Triangle Park, NC

Extremes: Probability Theory and Application Last week of January at SAMSI <http://www.samsi.info>, Research Triangle Park, NC

Random Media (Fall 2007, Spring 2008)

The Random Media program will provide a forum to investigate statistical and deterministic components of random media for applications including, but not limited to, time reversal, interface problems, imaging in random media, and scattering theory for discontinuous media.

Additional information about the program and opportunities to participate is available: For research visits, including New Researcher Fellowships and SAMSI-University Fellowships, consult Visiting and Employment Opportunities for 2007–08. For postdoc-

toral appointments, consult Postdoctoral Positions for 2007–08. For other questions, send email to ranmedia@samsi.info.

Kickoff Workshop and Tutorial (September 23–26, 2007)

The principal goal of the workshop will be to engage a broadly representative segment of the applied mathematical, statistical, physical and engineering communities to determine research directions to be pursued by working groups during the program.

Environmental Sensor Networks (Spring 2008)

This program will bring together an interdisciplinary group of ecologists, mathematicians, statisticians, and computer scientists with the objective of formulating and addressing optimization of data gathering, data analysis, data coverage, modeling and inference when the network itself is a dynamic system of self-organizing nodes. This collaborative effort will include both development of new mathematical, computational and statistical tools and also specific application to existing environmental networks designed to study biosphere-atmospheric interactions.

Additional information about the program and opportunities to participate is available: For research visits, including New Researcher Fellowships and SAMSI-University Fellowships, consult Visiting and Employment Opportunities for 2007–08. For postdoctoral appointments, consult Postdoctoral Positions for 2007–08. For other questions, send email to envsensors@samsi.info.

Kickoff Workshop (January 2008 – dates TBD)

To examine existing networks, models and data, preparatory to integration of mathematical/computational/statistical aspects of sensor networks into the understanding of these specific forest networks and these specific environmental models for global change.

SAMSI is a partnership of Duke University, North Carolina State University, the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, and the National Institute of Statistical Sciences, in collaboration with the William R. Kenan, Jr. Institute for Engineering, Technology and Science. SAMSI is part of the Mathematical Sciences Institutes program of the Division of Mathematical Sciences at the National Science Foundation.

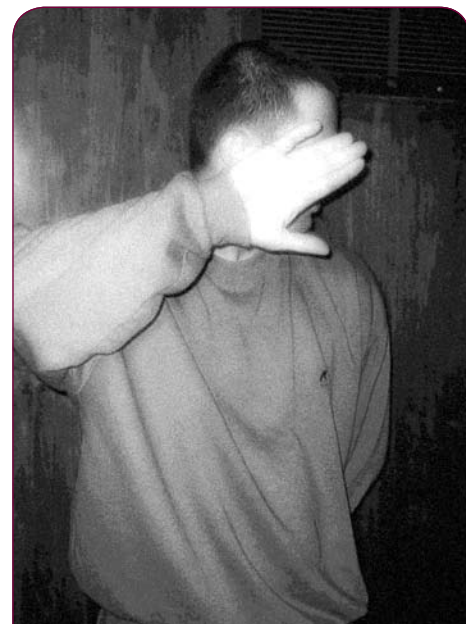
ICIAM/IMS/IMU set up joint Committee on “Quantitative Assessment of Research”

The International Council of Industrial and Applied Mathematics (ICIAM), the Institute of Mathematics and Statistics (IMS) and the International Mathematical Union (IMU) have formed a Committee of “Quantitative Assessment of Research” that will investigate various aspects of the quantitative assessment of research in mathematics. The Committee will, in particular, look into impact factors and similar ways to measure research output.

The Committee consists of **Robert Adler** (Haifa, Israel, appointed by IMS), **Peter Taylor** (Melbourne, Australia, appointed by ICIAM), and **John Ewing** (Providence, USA, appointed by IMU).

The Committee is expected to create a summary of its findings to be endorsed by the Executive Committees of ICIAM, IMS and IMU, and to be published afterwards.

ICIAM, IMS and IMU have formulated an aspirational charge to help set direction rather than prescribe the final outcome of the committee’s work: see <http://www.ceic.math.ca/News/impact.pdf> for details.



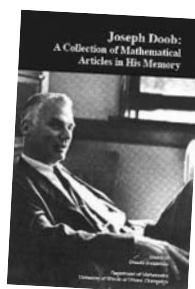
Don't be shy!

Tell us your news. We all like to hear about IMS members' awards, prizes, promotions, retirements...

Email your news to bulletin@imstat.org

Joseph Doob: A Collection of Mathematical Articles in His Memory

Donald Burkholder, Editor
Department of Mathematics,
University of Illinois, Urbana, Illinois
March 2007, 1036 pp.
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Joseph Doob (1910–2004) was the leading American mathematician working in the area of probability theory during the 1930s and 1940s. During those two decades and the three that followed, he made major contributions to ergodic theory, potential theory, the foundations of probability theory, Markov process theory, martingale theory, and complex function theory. He has had a profound influence on the work of many others.

This volume contains 31 invited papers written by experts in probability, analysis, and allied areas. It reflects some of Doob’s influence and exhibits some of the exciting activity at the frontiers of probability and related fields today.

Terence's Stuff: *Changing my mind (again)*

Terry Speed finds that expressing his strong opinions about statistics leads to him having to eat his words sooner or later



Over the years I've had many strong likes and dislikes for the various parts of our subject. At different times I have confidently asserted this or that topic to be useless, wrong-headed, stupid, superficial, impossible, inappropriate, irrelevant, phony, boring, or finished. I've been in love with sufficiency and hated cluster analysis. I thought the theory of games was elegant, while that of linear models lacked style. Group theory and invariance were fascinating to me, while maximum likelihood seemed mundane. Coordinate-free was the way to go, explicit parameters were to be avoided. Brownian theory was hot, sampling theory was not. The Markov property was natural, the mixing property artificial. Category theory was pure, applied probability wasn't applied. Rao-Blackwellizing was cool, the delta method left me cold. Exact results were good, approximate ones bad. Scientific applications were beautiful, technological applications were ugly. Frequentist inference was objective, Bayesian inference subjective. And so it went on. My view was that means were to be avoided; extremes were the place to be.

There were times when I wondered whether my interest in statistics was kept alive by these strong feelings, and that if my likes and dislikes became more moderate, my interest might fade. That never happened. As time passed, I fell out of love. I saw more and more flaws in my favorites and, worst of all, I was forced to eat my words. I found myself embracing many top-

ics I had previously (and publicly) strongly disliked. For me, the cliché "Be careful what you wish for" became replaced by "Be careful what you dislike". These days, every time I curl up my lips in distaste at some new indignity perpetrated in the name of statistics, a little voice inside tells me "Be careful what you say—soon you'll be loving this!"

I've noticed another trend over my career. For decades I have jealously watched other people work on fascinating, complicated things—data, questions, contexts, models, methods and theory—leading them to fame and fortune, while I have been working on uninteresting, simple things, condemning myself to obscurity and poverty. I hasten to add that my things are always very interesting to me, and sometimes quite complicated too, just not to others. But the strange thing is that as time passed, many of those dimly-recalled, fascinating, complicated things from the past that others worked on, turn out to be just what I needed in order to answer a question at a later date. I've been behind the times, but, at least in some cases, I've caught up eventually.

All of this began as a reflection on the question of why we do what we do. A beautiful answer for mathematicians can be found in G. H. Hardy's *A Mathematician's Apology*, now freely available on the www in its entirety courtesy of the University of Alberta. *A Statistician's Apology* was written thirty years ago by Jerome Cornfield, who gives his reasons for being a statistician.

My aim here is simpler: I'm taking it as given that we are all mathematical statisticians of some kind. I'm asking how did we choose the part of the territory, our field, that we inhabit?

We usually begin our career doing a PhD, and that will typically be in some narrow field, chosen from the selection on

offer at one institution. Not a few of us stick with that for the rest of our careers. Some will switch fields immediately after their PhDs, others will change slowly, but eventually most of us will end up at a very different place from the field of our PhD.

Did we choose that new field because it was (at some time) 'hot', because it was useful, or because we thought it harbored important, unsolved problems? Were we personally influenced by someone, a collaborator or an admired colleague who worked in the field? Perhaps we got a glimpse of the field, liked what we saw, and so dived into it? Or maybe chance played the main role, with some unforeseen event, like a consultation, leading us to it.

The last two reasons, personal preference and chance, explain most of my changes of field, plus congeniality. I'm a social statistician, one who likes company and collaboration. When I see that a field is hot, I don't want to touch it, thinking of perhaps coming back to it in a few years, when it cools down. Unless, of course, I was there before it got hot, in which case I just sit it out, knowing that the heat-seekers will move on soon enough.

As Oscar Wilde said in another context, "Fashion is a form of ugliness so intolerable that we have to alter it every six months."

So, what strong likes and dislikes do you have, and how did you land in the field you are now in?

Why not drop us a line at bulletin@imstat.org and tell us?



Profile... of DNA Profiling

Wing Kam Fung, Department of Statistics and Actuarial Science, The University of Hong Kong, writes:

"Based on the results of these seven genetic loci, specimen K39 is the source of the DNA obtained from specimen Q3243-1, to a reasonable degree of scientific certainty". This statement on the match between DNA specimens from Bill Clinton and from Monica Lewinsky's dress could have led to the impeachment of the President.

DNA profiling or DNA fingerprinting has become the most commonly used technique for human identification since its inception by Alec Jeffreys and co-workers, 20 years ago. Nowadays, many forensic laboratories have the largest teams of scientists working in this area. DNA can be found in blood, hair, bone, semen and body fluid such as saliva and sweat. No two persons, except for identical twins, have the same DNA sequence. However, with the DNA markers that are currently in use, a unique identification may not be assured. In 1996, the US National Research Council released its second report (NRC II) on the evaluation of forensic DNA evidence. Many discussions were provided on the statistical issues of forensic DNA, and several recommendations related to the proper use of statistics were given.

Currently the technique is widely employed and accepted in the courtroom due to its extremely discriminating power and reliability. It is a very powerful tool in criminal investigations, from rape and homicide to theft and burglary. There is also a lot of research conducted in this area. Nowadays, forensic genetics constitutes the highest proportion of research in forensic science. According to the announcement in the founding volume of *Forensic Science International (FSI): Genetics*, 2007, 46% of submissions to *FSI* fall in the area of forensic genetics. Statistics and probability

play an important role in the interpretation of forensic DNA.

There are hundreds of thousands of cases of paternity and kinship determinations every year in the United States. DNA profiling is particularly relevant for such determinations. Most of these paternity cases are standard, testing if the alleged father is the biological father of the child — whether or not the mother is available. Complex kinship problems arise when the mother and/or the alleged father are unavailable for DNA typing but their relatives are. Kinship determination is also needed for the identification of victim and human remains in mass disasters, which can be a difficult task. Examples of such events include the 1998 Swissair plane crash, the terrorist attacks on the World Trade Center on September 11, 2001, and the Indian Ocean tsunami in 2004. The sheer scale of the identification exercise often presents great difficulties.

"A mixed blood stain was recovered from the centre console of a Bronco owned by the defendant." This refers to a DNA mixture example found in the OJ Simpson case. In fact, it is not unusual in many crimes that the samples contain material from more than one person. This is especially common in sexual offences such as rape cases. And in other crimes, like thefts, DNA mixtures can also be observed, e.g. DNA from both the thief and the owner-driver is found on a steering wheel. The general DNA mixture problems are often complex, as commented on by the NRC II report. The OJ Simpson case was further complicated by the fact that the defendant was African-American and the victim was Caucasian: *what was the ethnic origin of the perpetrator?*

Besides autosomal markers which are most commonly used nowadays for forensic investigation, mitochondrial DNA (mtDNA) and Y chromosome STR analyses

are also employed in some situations. These two kinds of markers are particularly useful for lineage and genealogy studies. Some well known applications of mtDNA analysis include the identification of the unknown soldier remains in the Vietnam War and of the Russian Tsar, Nicholas II. Unlike DNA, mtDNA resides outside the nucleus of the cell. MtDNA profiles can be obtained from bones, teeth, hairs and other samples that are severely decomposed. MtDNA is almost entirely maternally inherited, i.e. only mtDNA of the mother will be transmitted to the offspring. Excluding mutations, a mtDNA sequence is identical for all maternally linked relatives. Thus, mtDNA samples have been widely used in human evolutionary genetics, about the origins and population histories of humans. We could all be descendants of 'African Eve'!

Nowadays, many countries have built up their 'offender' DNA databases, which may contain a few million samples. The samples in the database may be collected during the investigation of unsolved criminal cases, from convicted felons, and other kinds of criminals. The DNA database search has become an important tool in identifying the suspects for different sorts of offences. When the suspect is identified through a database search, the evaluation of the weight of DNA evidence requires a different formulation. Two approaches which provided very different results were suggested; there were heated debates between the two camps. It is not until recent years that the two approaches are unified under a Bayesian formulation.

Statistical DNA profiling has been an interesting research area. Challenging statistical research topics such as the database search involving relatives and DNA mixtures, multiple ethnicities, complex kinship determinations and peak area/height of DNA profiles are yet to be tackled.

IMS Meetings around the world

IMS co-sponsored meeting

International Workshop on Recent Advances in Time Series Analysis

June 8–11, 2008

Protaras, Cyprus

w www.uci.ac.cy/~rats2008/

IMS Rep: Rainer von Sachs (UC Louvain, Belgium).

Call for posters: extended abstracts (1 to 2 pages) should be submitted electronically to fanis@uci.ac.cy by **1 March 2008**

Registration forms and local information are available on the website.

Program includes: Murray Rosenblatt, Michael Neumann, Peter Brockwell, Rainer Dahlhaus, Peter Robinson, Dag Tjøstheim, Richard Davis, Dimitris Politis, Anestis Antoniadis, Helmut Luetkepohl, Manfred Deistler, Thomas Mikosch.

NEW

IMS co-sponsored meeting

International Conference on the Frontier of Statistics:

High Dimensional Data Analysis

August 13–14, 2007

Yunnan University, Kunming, China

IMS Rep: Samuel Kou

w <http://peace.med.yale.edu/pub/kunming.htm>

This international conference will be co-organized by Yunnan University, Yale University, and the Chinese Academy of Sciences, and co-sponsored by the IMS. The theme, high dimensional data analysis, covers theoretical, methodological, and scientific topics related to the analysis of complex and large scale data. Examples of the topics include machine learning, dimension reduction, analyses of post-genome data, and nonparametric theory and methods.

For program and general information, email Heping Zhang

e Heping.Zhang@yale.edu

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 co-sponsored meeting:

2009 ENAR/IMS

Spring Meeting

March 15–18,

2009, Grand Hyatt

San Antonio, San

Antonio, TX

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

At a glance:

forthcoming

IMS Annual

Meeting dates

2007

IMS Annual Meeting @

JSM: Salt Lake City,

July 29–August 2,

2007

w www.amstat.org/meetings/jsm/2007/

2008

IMS Annual Meeting/

7th World Congress

in Probability and

Statistics: Singapore,

July 14–19, 2008.

w <http://www.ims.nus.edu.sg/Programs/wc2008/index.htm>

JSM: Denver,

August 3–7, 2008

2009

IMS Annual Meeting

@ JSM: Washington,

August 2–6, 2009

2010

IMS Annual Meeting:

Location TBA,

dates TBA

JSM: Vancouver,

Canada, **August**

1–5, 2010

2011

IMS Annual Meeting @

JSM: Miami Beach,

FL, July 31–

August 4, 2011

IMS sponsored meeting

IMS Annual Meeting/7th World Congress in Probability and Statistics

July 14–19, 2008, National University of Singapore, Singapore

w <http://www.ims.nus.edu.sg/Programs/wc2008/index.htm>

e wc2008@ims.nus.edu.sg

Chair of the Local Organizing Committee: Louis Chen; Chair of Scientific Program Committee: Ruth Williams

The seventh joint meeting of the Bernoulli Society and the Institute of Mathematical Statistics will take place in Singapore from July 14 to 19, 2008. This quadrennial joint meeting is a major worldwide event featuring the latest scientific developments in the fields of statistics and probability and their applications.

The program will cover a wide range of topics and will include about a dozen plenary lectures presented by leading specialists. In addition there will be invited paper sessions highlighting topics of current research interest as well as many contributed talks and posters.

The venue for the meeting is the National University of Singapore.

Singapore is a vibrant, multi-cultural, cosmopolitan city-state that expresses the essence of today's New Asia. It offers many attractions both cultural and touristic, such as the Esplanade and the Singapore Night Safari. On behalf of the Scientific Program and Local Organizing Committees we invite you to join us in Singapore for this exciting meeting. Your participation will ensure that the 2008 BS/IMS meeting will be a memorable scientific event.



The merlion, symbol of Singapore
Photo: www.visitsingapore.com

IMS co-sponsored meeting

32nd Conference on Stochastic Processes and their Applications



32nd Conference on Stochastic Processes and their Applications
August 5–11, 2007
Urbana, Illinois

w <http://www.math.uiuc.edu/SPA07/>

e spa07@math.uiuc.edu

Featuring two IMS Medallion lectures from **Russ Lyons** and **Victor de la Peña**, the Lévy lecture by **Martin Barlow** and the inaugural Doob lecture by **Marc Yor**.

Other invited speakers include Thierry Bodineau, Shizan Fang, Antal Jarai, Tze Leung Lai, Avi Mandelbaum, Sylvie Méléard, Martin Mohle, David Nualart, Yann Ollivier, Hirofumi Osada, Jim Pitman, Silke Rolles, Scott Sheffield, Vladas Sidoravicius, Gordon Slade, Craig Tracy and David Yao.

Registration fees: regular \$200; student \$75
The abstract deadline has passed.

IMS co-sponsored meeting

33rd Conference on Stochastic Processes and their Applications
July 27–31, 2009
Berlin, Germany

w <http://www.math.tu-berlin.de/SPA2009/>

Organizing committee chair: Professor Peter Imkeller

IMS Reps to Program Committee: Martin Barlow, Gerard Ben Arous, Peter Donnelly, Hans Föllmer, Luis Gorostiza, Dmitry Kramkov, Russ Lyons, Claudia Neuhauser, Gordon Slade, Ed Waymire, and Ofer Zeitouni

IMS sponsored meeting

11th IMS Meeting of New Researchers in Statistics and Probability
July 29–August 2, 2008, Denver, Colorado

Local chair: Ryan Elmore.
 Details to follow.

IMS co-sponsored meeting

MCMSki II: Markov Chain Monte Carlo in Theory and Practice
January 9–11, 2008
Bormio, Italy (Italian Alps)

w <http://musing.unipv.it/IMS-ISBA-08/>

Program Chairs: Bradley P. Carlin and Antonietta Mira

The third joint international meeting of the IMS and ISBA (International Society for Bayesian Analysis) will be held in Bormio, Italy from Wednesday, January 9 to Friday, January 11, 2008.

A central theme of the conference will be Markov chain Monte Carlo (MCMC) and related methods and applications.

The conference will also feature 3 plenary speakers (**Peter Green**, **Kerrie Mengersen**, **Xiao-Li Meng**) and 6 invited sessions from internationally known experts covering a broad array of current and developing statistical practice:

- Recent Advances in MCMC Methodology
- Integrative genetics and bioinformatics
- Bayesian Models for Financial Risk Management
- State Space Methods and Applications
- Complex Bayesian Models with Applications in Genomics
- Bayesian Applications in Technology

As with the first joint IMS-ISBA meeting in Isla Verde, Puerto Rico, and the second joint in Bormio, Italy, nightly poster sessions will offer substantial opportunity for informal learning and interaction.

There will be a 'prequel' satellite meeting, **"AdapSki II"**, organized by Christian Robert, that will take place January 7–8, 2008 (details to follow). This research workshop presents the theoretical tools for the development of adaptive Monte Carlo algorithms and explores barriers to the dissemination of such algorithms in more realistic settings.

We anticipate the provision of Young Investigator Travel Awards, subject to funding; please check the website for details.

MCMSki II Tentative Daily Schedule

Wednesday January 9

8:30–8:45 Introduction and Welcome

8:45–9:45 Plenary: Peter Green

10:05–12:05 Recent Advances in MCMC Methodology

1:00–4:30 Ski/Spa Time

4:45–6:45 Integrative genetics and bioinformatics

7:00–11:00 Dinner, Posters: A–L

Thursday January 10

8:45–9:45 Plenary: Kerrie Mengersen

10:05–12:05 Bayesian Models for Financial Risk Management

1:00–4:30 Second "Tweedie Cup Ski Race"; Ski/Spa Time

4:45–6:45 State Space Methods and Applications

7:00–11:00 Dinner, Posters: M–Z

Friday January 11

8:45–9:45 Plenary: Xiao-Li Meng

10:05–12:05 Complex Bayesian Models with Applications in Genomics

1:00–4:30 Ski/Spa Time

4:45–6:45 Bayesian Applications in Technology

8:00–11:00 Closing Banquet & Cabaret



Other Meetings Around the World: Announcements and Calls for Papers

Workshop on Innovative Teaching Methodologies for Mathematics and Science Teachers

August 20–21, 2007

Centre for Advanced Studies in Mathematics,
Lahore University of Management Sciences,
Pakistan

w <http://web.lums.edu.pk/~casm>

The use of innovative approaches to teaching and learning have the potential not only to improve education, but also to empower people, strengthen governance, open up new markets and galvanize the effort to achieve the human development goal for the country. The aim of this workshop is to examine and evaluate teaching methods—say traditional or innovative and to suggest some modifications in the delivery of knowledge. All interested are invited to register.

Resource Persons: Anjum Halai (IDE, Agha Khan University, Karachi); Sherwin Rodrigues (IDE, Agha Khan University, Karachi); G.M. Habibullah (Education University, Lahore); Ashraf Iqbal (Lahore University of Management Sciences, Lahore)

Registration Fee: Rs. 200, Participation is only by registration. Number of participants is bounded above by 45.

For registration and further information contact:

The Secretary,

*Centre for Advanced Studies in Mathematics,
LUMS, 54792-Lahore, Pakistan*

e kashifi@lums.edu.pk

t 042-5722670-79, Ext. 2121

NEW

Workshop on “Sandpile models and related fields”

September 10–13, 2007

EURANDOM, Eindhoven, The Netherlands

w http://www.eurandom.tue.nl/workshops/2007/Sandpile_Models/main.htm

In recent years, much progress has been made in the rigorous understanding of several sandpile models, and other models closely related to these, like forest fire models, the rotor-router model, the Bak-Sneppen model and Zhang’s continuous sandpile model. These models represent a rich source of challenging new mathematical problems.

For the abelian sandpile model and its variations, such as the rotor-router model, much progress has been made in the understanding of its mathematical structure. On the algebraic combinatorics site, people have investigated the abelian group on various graphs, while in the probability and mathematical physics literature, several new results on the ergodic structure of the process in the infinite volume limit have been obtained. The techniques developed in the ASM have also been applied successfully in the study of models of activated random walkers. The study of forest-fire models has led to an interesting so-called self-destructive percolation model. The rigorous understanding of the phase transition in the Bak-Sneppen model has also led to several new developments.

The aim of this workshop is to bring together senior and junior people involved in this relatively new area of research. We want to create communication and links between the different directions of research, notably between probability, physics, combinatorics and algebra.

Speakers: **Rob van den Berg** (CWI, Amsterdam); **Robert Cori** (Université Bordeaux); **Deepak Dhar** (Tata Institute Bombay); **Anne Fey** (EURANDOM, VU Amsterdam); **Alexis Gillet** (VU Amsterdam); **Antal Jari** (Carleton University); **Lionel Levine** (University of California, Berkeley); **Criel Merino** (Universidad Nacional Autónoma de México); **Yuval Peres** (University of California, Berkeley); **Philippe Ruelle** (Université Catholique Louvain); **Ellen Saada** (CNRS / Université de Rouen); **Vladas Sidoravicius** (CWI Amsterdam); **Rinke J. Wijngaarden** (VU University Amsterdam)

NEW

International Conference on Trends and Perspectives in Linear Statistical Inference, LinStat2008, in celebration of Tadeusz Caliński’s 80th Birthday

April 21–25, 2008

Bedlewo, near Poznan, Poland

w <http://linstat08.au.poznan.pl/>

The Conference will be held in Bedlewo, in the Mathematical Research and Conference Center of the Polish Academy of Sciences with accommodation on site.

The aim of the conference is to bring together researchers sharing an interest in a variety of aspects of statistics and its applications and offer them a possibility to discuss current developments in these subjects. The format of this meeting will involve several sessions with plenary and contributed talks and the special session dedicated to Prof Tadeusz Caliński.

For further information contact Katarzyna Filipiak by e-mail at linstat@au.poznan.pl or visit the website.

NEW

11th Edition of the European Courses in Advanced Statistics (ECAS): The Structural Equation Model (SEM)

UPDATED

September 24–28, 2007

Grenoble, France

w <http://web.upmf-grenoble.fr/labsad/pages/ecas2007>

The ECAS 2007 session will give a general overview of the methodological and theoretical aspects of SEM, in the case of numerical variables (normal distribution or else) as well as categorical and ordinal cases. Most recent developments will be considered, and the PLS approach will receive attention, for models integrating formative as well as reflective constructs.

The audience of this ECAS Session are PhD students, substantive researchers, and methodologists in marketing, economics, the social and the behavioral sciences, as well as biometricians and statisticians with interests in Structural Equation Modeling.

It is assumed that the participants benefit from a good background in statistics up to and including multivariate analysis, and have been exposed to matrix algebra. Participants will learn modeling real data — eventually on their own WIFI compatible laptop — but no previous acquaintance with one of the currently available software packages in Structural Equation Modeling is required.

Lecturers:

K. Bollen, Univ. of North Carolina, Chapel Hill, USA; **I. Moustaki**, Athens Univ. of Economics and Business, Greece; **J. Arbuckle**, Temple Univ., USA; **M. Tenenhaus**, HEC Business School, Jouy-en-Josas, France; **P. Valette-Florence**, IAE, Univ. Grenoble 2, France; **V. E. Vinzi**, ESSEC Business School, Paris, France.

The application deadline was July 15, 2007.

Young European Statisticians Workshop: Shape Restricted Inference October 8–10, 2007

NEW

EURANDOM, Eindhoven, The Netherlands

w www.eurandom.tue.nl/workshops/2007/YES_1/YES_1_main.htm

At EURANDOM (Eindhoven, The Netherlands), a workshop will be held on “Shape Restricted Inference”, especially aimed at young researchers in statistics. The event will take place on October 8, 9 and 10, 2007.

Three well known researchers in the field (**Lutz Dümbgen**, **Guenther Walther** and **Jon A. Wellner**) will give presentations focusing on asymptotics, algorithms and testing respectively. Moreover, young statisticians are encouraged to give a presentation themselves for the audience consisting of other young statisticians and senior researchers.

There is no registration fee.

More information on the workshop can be found at the website. If you are planning to come, please register via that page.

We hope to be able to welcome many young statisticians at this workshop.

First International Workshop on Functional and Operatorial Statistics June 19–21, 2008

Université Paul Sabatier, Toulouse, France

NEW

w <http://www.lsp.ups-tlse.fr/staph/IWFOS2008>

The objective of the conference is to highlight the major trends in different areas of statistics with infinite dimension through the exchange of ideas and the promotion of collaboration between researchers from different countries. Deadline for submission of talks: **December 1, 2007**

Invited Speakers: **David Brillinger** (Univ. California, Berkeley, USA); **Nicolae Dinculeanu** (Univ. Florida, Gainesville, USA); **Karl Gustafson** (Univ. Colorado, Boulder, USA); **Gareth James** (Univ. Southern California, Los Angeles, USA); **Peter Hall** (Australian National Univ., Canberra, Australia); **James S. Marron** (Univ. North Carolina, Chapel Hill, USA); **Dimitris Politis** (Univ. California, San Diego, USA); **Mohsen Pourahmadi** (Univ. Northern Illinois, Dekalb, USA); **David Stoffer** (Univ. Pittsburgh, USA)

Contact Karim Benhenni and Sonia Hedli-Griche, Université Pierre Mendes-France, Grenoble, France. **t** 04 76 82 57 07; **e** Karim.Benhenni@upmf-grenoble.fr

Send your meeting announcement to erg@imstat.org

Twenty-ninth Midwest Probability Colloquium**October 19–20, 2007****Northwestern University, Evanston, Illinois****NEW****w** www.math.northwestern.edu/conferences

The Twenty-ninth Midwest Probability Colloquium will be held at Northwestern University on October 19–20, 2007. The program was organized by a committee consisting of Maury Bramson, Lea Popovic, and Greg Lawler (chair)

The program will feature the following talks:

Chris Burdzy: I-Reflected Brownian Motion; II-Branching Brownian Motion and Potential Theory in Euclidean Domains

Vladas Sidoravicius: Growth systems with columnar defects and the polymer pinning problem

Eulalia Nualart: Potential Theory and Stochastic Heat Equations

We also anticipate a Thursday Program, the details forthcoming in a subsequent announcement.

The Friday lectures will be held in Swift Hall, Room 107, which is directly across the lawn from the Mathematics Department. The Saturday lectures are also (provisionally) scheduled for Swift Hall, Room 107.

The Midwest Probability Colloquium will begin with a registration period* at 2:30 pm, Friday. Burdzy's first talk will begin at 3:00 pm. Following a coffee break, the second talk (Sidoravicius) will begin at 4:30. There will be a hotel reception for all participants from 5:30–7:00 pm. On Saturday morning the first talk (Burdzy) will begin at 9:30 am, followed by a coffee break and the regular annual business meeting. The conference will conclude with Nualart's talk from 1:30 pm to 2:30 pm.

Rooms have been reserved at Homestead Residence [1-847-475-3300], Best Western University Plaza [1-847-491-6400] and Comfort Inn Northshore Skokie [1-847-679-4200]. We expect to be able to partially supplement the room rates by conference funds, as we have done in the past. Please note that, when making reservations, IT IS ESSENTIAL to give the name of the group: Midwest Probability Colloquium, in order to be included in the list for possible reimbursement; otherwise your name will be lost among a large group of unaffiliated hotel guests.

As in the past, we expect to have NSF funds to offset the expenses of graduate students and other younger investigators. All such requests should be received by the conference organizer on or before October 1, in order to be eligible for consideration. In every case, first consideration will be given to chronological priority.

Workshop on Contemporary Frontiers in High-dimensional Statistical Data Analysis**January 7–11, 2008****Isaac Newton Institute, Cambridge, UK****NEW****w** www.newton.cam.ac.uk/programmes/SCH/schw01.html

Organizers David Banks, Mike Titterton, Sara van de Geer

Theme of Workshop: The motivation for the research programme itself derived from the realization that, with the spectacular evolution of computing facilities and the proliferation of applications in which the number of experimental units is comparatively small but the underlying dimension is massive, it has become necessary to fit complex models for which the effective number of parameters is very large. Areas of application include image analysis, microarray analysis, finance, document classification, astronomy and atmospheric science. Methodological advances have been made, but with them comes the need for further development and appropriate theoretical underpinning. The workshop will review the state-of-the-art of this rapidly developing field. Timed as it is at the beginning of the six-months research programme, the workshop will be broad in scope, with the aim of laying the groundwork for research interactions during the rest of the programme and beyond. Particular topics likely to be covered include the following: strategies for explicit and implicit dimension-reduction; classification methods for complex datasets, including machine-learning approaches; asymptotic theory for increasing dimension; graphical and other visualization methods for complex datasets; and presentation of topical case studies, probably drawn from the areas of application listed above.

The workshop will therefore cover fundamental areas of modern statistical theory and methodology required for the analysis of important large-scale practical problems. The nature of the topics is such that it should be of interest to those working in machine learning research and others in computer science, as well as to mainstream statisticians.

Confirmed Speakers: **Peter Bickel** (Berkeley); **Peter Buhlmann** (Zurich); **Emmanuel Candes** (Caltech); **Brenton Clarke** (Vancouver); **Dennis Cook** (Minnesota); **Dianne Cook** (Iowa); **Lutz Dümbgen** (Bern); **Jianqing Fan** (Princeton); **David Hoyle** (Manchester); **Enno Mammen** (Mannheim); **Charles Micchelli** (Albany); **Fionn Murtagh** (Royal Holloway); **Boaz Nadler** (Weizmann); **Richard Samworth** (Cambridge); **Werner Stuetzle** (Seattle); **Jon Wellner** (Seattle); **Ernst Wit** (Lancaster); **Alastair Young** (Imperial) and **Bin Yu** (Berkeley).

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- Elevated soil lead: Statistical modeling and apportionment of contributions from lead-based paint and leaded gasoline* R. Dennis Cook and Liqiang Ni
- Of mice and men: Sparse statistical modelling in cardiovascular genomics* David M. Seo, Pascal J. Goldschmidt-Clermont, and Mike West
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- Spatial variation of total column ozone on a global scale* Michael L. Stein
- A resampling-based test to detect person-to-person transmission of infectious disease* Yang Yang, Ira M. Longini, Jr., and M. Elizabeth Halloran
- Probabilistic projections of HIV prevalence using Bayesian melding* Leontine Alkema, Adrian E. Raftery, and Samuel J. Clark
- A multivariate semiparametric Bayesian spatial modeling framework for hurricane surface wind fields* Brian J. Reich and Montserrat Fuentes
- Extending the rank likelihood for semiparametric copula estimation* Peter D. Hoff

Vol.1, No. 1—June 2007

For information on submitting papers and subscribing, please visit
www.imstat.org/aoas

Employment Opportunities around the world

Directory of Advertisements

Canada

Ontario: University of Ottawa [2 ads: Bayesian postdoc in Functional Genomics; Tenure-track position in statistics or biostatistics]

Denmark

Aarhus: Thiele Centre for Applied Mathematics in Natural Science [3 postdoc positions]

USA

California: University of California, Berkeley [2 ads: postdoctoral fellowship in probability or statistics; tenure-track/tenured position in statistics]
University of California, Los Angeles [various faculty positions]
University of California, San Diego [tenure-track/tenured positions]

Pennsylvania: Fox School, Temple University [tenure-track position]

USA/North America

Any location: Association for Women in Mathematics [Executive Director]

Canada: Ontario

University of Ottawa

Bayesian Postdoc in Functional Genomics

The new Statistical Machine Learning in Functional Genomics (Statomics) Lab of the Ottawa Institute of Systems Biology seeks a postdoctoral researcher who will, in collaboration with University of Ottawa faculty, develop and apply statistical methods to solve current problems in analyzing and integrating gene-expression, proteomics, metabolomics, SNP, ChIP-chip, and/or clinical data. At present, the lab is targeting the inference of regulatory networks from multiple sources of information and improvements in the repeatability of microarray results and will attack similar statistical challenges of importance to functional genomics. The researcher's background will complement that of any students and any postdoctoral researcher to be recruited to the Statomics Lab from the machine learning and bioinformatics communities, creating an interdisciplinary environment for high impact on the biological sciences as well as on statistics.

Scientific creativity and a thorough knowledge of Bayesian statistical theory and methods of posterior computation such as MCMC are essential, as is the demonstrated ability to quickly and accurately implement such methods in software. Strong initiative, excellent communication skills, and reception of a PhD in statistics or a closely related field within the four years prior to the start date are also absolutely necessary. The following qualities are desirable but not required: knowledge of biology; familiarity with BUGS, R, S-PLUS, C, Fortran, and/or LaTeX; experience in a UNIX or Linux environment.

To apply, send a PDF CV that has contact information of three references to dbickel0@uottawa.ca (without the zero), with "Bayesian postdoc" and the year of your graduation or anticipated graduation in the Subject line of the message; in the plaintext message body, concisely include evidence that you meet each requirement for the position and a description of your most significant papers and software packages with an explanation of your own contributions to them. Only those applicants selected for further consideration will receive a response.



uOttawa

L'Université canadienne
Canada's university

Denmark: Aarhus

Thiele Centre for Applied Mathematics in Natural Science

Three four-month postdoctoral positions

At the Thiele Centre for Applied Mathematics in Natural Science (www.thiele.au.dk), Department of Mathematical Sciences, University of Aarhus, three four-month postdoc positions are available in 2007, 2008 and 2009, respectively.

The focal points of the Thiele Centre are (1) stochastic geometry and statistical image analysis, (2) Lévy theory and applied probability, (3) stochastic processes and spatio-temporal modelling and (4) computational stochastics and bioinformatics. Applicants with research interests in one of these areas will be preferred.

Applications should include a curriculum vitae, a complete list of publications, and a motivation and plan for the research in relation to the planned postdoc stay. Applications should be submitted electronically to the director of the Thiele Centre, Eva B. Vedel Jensen, email: eva@imf.au.dk. Deadline for the postdoc position in 2007 is **1 August 2007** at 12.00 while the deadline for the postdoc positions in 2008 and 2009 is **1 November 2007** at 12:00.

Canada: Ontario**University of Ottawa**

With its strategic location at the heart of Canada's capital, its broad variety of teaching and research initiatives offered in the two official languages, the cosmopolitan environment, and its national perspective, the University of Ottawa is truly Canada's University.

The Department of Mathematics and Statistics of the University of Ottawa invites applications to fill at least one tenure-track position in statistics or biostatistics at the Assistant or Associate professor level starting July 1, 2008. We are seeking a candidate that has a proven track-record in research and teaching at both the undergraduate and graduate level, and will be willing and able to supervise graduate students upon arrival.

Conditions of employment are set by a collective agreement.

Information about the department can be found at <http://www.science.uottawa.ca/mathstat>

Applicants should send a curriculum vitae, a research plan, and arrange for four confidential letters of recommendation, with one addressing teaching, to be sent to *Victor LeBlanc, Chairman, Department of Mathematics and Statistics, University of Ottawa, Ottawa, ON Canada, K1N 6N5*. Applicants are also encouraged to include copies of up to three of their most significant publications. The closing date for receipt of applications is **November 15, 2007** or until the position is filled.

All qualified candidates are encouraged to apply; however, Canadians and permanent residents will be given priority. Equity is a University of Ottawa policy; women, aboriginal peoples, members of visible minorities and persons with disabilities are encouraged to apply.

The University of Ottawa is justly proud of its 150-year tradition of bilingualism. Through its Second Language Institute, the University provides training to staff members and to their spouses in their second official language. At the time of tenure, professors are expected to have the ability to function in a bilingual setting. In certain cases, professors must have the ability to teach in both official languages to be granted tenure.

USA: California**University of California, Berkeley
Department of Statistics**

We invite applications for a three-year postdoctoral fellowship in probability or statistics, funded in part by a VIGRE grant from the National Science Foundation, effective July 1, 2008.

For more information and online self-registration, please go to: <http://www.stat.berkeley.edu/?id=65>

The University of California is an Equal Opportunity, Affirmative Action Employer.

USA: California**University of California, Berkeley
Department of Statistics**

We invite applications for positions at both the tenure-track (Assistant Professor) and tenured (Associate or Full Professor) level, in all areas of Statistics, effective July 1, 2008.

For more information and online self-registration, please go to: <http://www.stat.berkeley.edu/?id=65>

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USA: California**UCLA Department of Mathematics****2008–2009 Faculty Positions**

The Mathematics Department is in a period of increased hiring of tenure and tenure-track faculty. Subject to administrative approval, we expect to make several regular appointments in a wide range of possible fields. Appointments begin July 1, 2008. We will be making appointments beginning in the academic year 2008–09 in the following categories:

1. Tenure Track/Tenured Faculty Positions.
2. E.R. Hedrick Assistant Professorships. The salary is \$55,400, and appointments are for three years. The teaching load is four quarter courses per year.
3. Research Assistant Professorships in Computational and Applied Mathematics (CAM). The salary is \$55,400, and appointments are for three years. The teaching load is normally reduced to two or three quarter courses per year by research funding as available.
4. Assistant Adjunct Professorships in the Program in Computing (PIC). Applicants for these positions must show very strong promise in teaching and research in an area related to computing. The teaching load is four one-quarter programming courses each year and one seminar every two years. Initial appointments are for one year and possibly longer, up to a maximum service of four years. The salary is \$59,100.
5. Assistant Adjunct Professorships and Research Postdocs. Normally appointments are for one year, with the possibility of renewal. Strong research and teaching background required. The salary range is \$50,900–\$55,400. Teaching load for Adjuncts is five quarter courses per year.

If you wish to be considered for any of these positions you must submit an application via www.mathjobs.org. Submit the AMS Cover Sheet and supporting documentation electronically.

For fullest consideration, an application must be submitted on, or before, **December 12, 2007**. PhD is required for all positions.

The University of California asks that applicants complete the Equal Opportunity Employer survey for Letters and Science, at the following URL: <http://cis.ucla.edu/facultysurvey>

Under Federal law, the University of California may employ only individuals who are legally authorized to work in the United States as established by providing documents specified in the Immigration Reform and Control Act of 1986.

UCLA is an Equal Opportunity/Affirmative Action Employer.

USA: California**University of California, San Diego**

The Department of Mathematics at the University of California, San Diego, is seeking outstanding candidates to fill approximately 6 tenure track/tenured positions to start July 2008. The level for the large majority of these positions is at the Assistant Professor level, however, one or two positions are available for distinguished mathematicians with exceptional research records of the highest caliber.

Applicants for all positions must possess a PhD and should have outstanding accomplishments in both research and teaching. We encourage applications from any area of pure mathematics, applied mathematics, or statistics. Level of appointment will be based on qualifications with appropriate salary per UC pay scales. To receive full consideration, applications should be submitted online through <http://www.mathjobs.org/> by **November 1, 2007**. For further instructions and information, see <http://www.math.ucsd.edu/about/employment/faculty>.

In compliance with the Immigration Reform and Control Act of 1986, individuals offered employment by the University of California will be required to show documentation to prove identity and authorization to work in the United States before hiring can occur. UCSD is an equal opportunity/affirmative action employer with a strong institutional commitment to the achievement of diversity among its faculty and staff.

All applications should include the following items:

- * Three Reference Letters
(Writers should upload their reference letters to mathjobs.org or send them under separate cover; at least one letter should address teaching experience in some depth.)
- * One Cover Letter
- * One Curriculum Vitae
- * One Publications List
- * One Research Statement
- * One Teaching Statement, and optionally a statement about contributions to diversity.

USA: Pennsylvania**Temple University**

Statistics Department, Fox School of Temple University, invites applications for tenure-track Assistant Professor. Requires a PhD in Statistics and excellent research/teaching. Preference given for research involving data mining and statistical modeling, especially pertaining to business or biostatistics. Send applications electronically to: *Chair, Faculty Search Committee, Department of Statistics, Temple University, Philadelphia, PA 19122* or stat@temple.edu.

Include cover letter, CV, three recommendation letters.

Temple University is an Equal Opportunity/Affirmative Action Employer.

Are you recruiting?

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Send your advertisement to IMS Advertising Co-ordinator, Audrey Weiss:
admin@imstat.org

USA/North America**Association for Women in Mathematics**

The Association for Women in Mathematics is seeking applicants for the position of Executive Director.

The AWM is dedicated to achieving full participation and equity for women and girls in the mathematical sciences. In support of this mission, AWM seeks to promote awareness and recognition of women's achievements in the mathematical sciences, to administer programs that encourage women and girls, and to build community among all mathematical scientists.

This position requires a PhD in the mathematical sciences. The successful candidate will be expected to represent the AWM at mathematics conferences and to be responsible, together with the AWM Managing Director, for administrative activities supportive of the mission and programs of the organization. Excellent writing skills and organizational expertise are essential. The Executive Director will also work closely with the AWM President and Executive Committee.

We seek an outstanding individual who is passionate about supporting women in mathematics. This is a part-time position that can be combined with an existing academic appointment (e.g., via course reduction). The AWM office is in the DC area, but the geographic base of the Executive Director can be anywhere in North America.


A letter of application, contact information for at least three people who have agreed to serve as references, and a curriculum vitae should be submitted to mathjobs.org. Review of applications will begin immediately, and will continue until the position is filled. The letter of application should include a description of why the candidate is well-suited for this position, and how this position fits with the candidate's current career trajectory. Date of availability should be indicated, together with any special considerations. Questions about this position should be directed to President Cathy Kessel, cbkessel@earthlink.net.

AWM is an Equal Opportunity, Affirmative Action Employer

International Calendar of Statistical Events

IMS meetings are highlighted in **maroon** with the  logo and new or updated entries have the  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

August 2007

 **August 5–11:** Urbana, Illinois. **32nd Conference on Stochastic Processes and their Applications.**
w <http://www.math.uiuc.edu/SPA07/>


August 6–8: UCLA, Los Angeles. 2007 SOCR/CAUSEweb Statistics Education Workshop.
w http://wiki.stat.ucla.edu/socr/index.php/SOCR_Events_Aug2007

August 6–10: Isaac Newton Institute for Mathematical Sciences, Cambridge, UK. **Construction and Properties of Bayesian Nonparametric Regression Models.** Meeting in association with Newton Institute programme *Bayesian Nonparametric Regression: Theory, Methods and Applications* (which runs from 30 July to 24 August, 2007)
w <http://www.newton.cam.ac.uk/programmes/BNR/bnrwo1.html>

August 6–10: Texas A&M University. **Workshop in Analysis and Probability: Concentration Week on “Probability Inequalities with Applications to High Dimensional Phenomena”**
w <http://www.math.tamu.edu/research/workshops/linanalysis/>

August 10–12: Texas A&M University. **Informal Regional Functional Analysis Seminar (SUMIRFAS)**
w <http://www.math.tamu.edu/research/workshops/linanalysis/>

August 9–12: Sandbjerg, Denmark. **Satellite Summer School on Lévy Processes: Theory and Applications.**
w <http://www.math.ku.dk/conf/levy2007/levy.html>


 **August 13–15:** Yunnan University, Kunming, China. **International Conference on the Frontiers of Statistics: High Dimensional Data Analysis.** IMS Rep: Samuel Kou. Contact Heping Zhang **e** Heping.Zhang@yale.edu
w <http://peace.med.yale.edu/pub/kunming.htm>

August 13–17: Copenhagen, Denmark. **Fifth International Conference on Lévy Processes: Theory and Applications.**
w <http://www.math.ku.dk/conf/levy2007/levy.html>

August 16–20: Mikulov, Czech Republic. *ISI satellite mtg:* **Computational Environmetrics: Protection of Renewable Environment and Human and Ecosystem Health (TIESo7)**

August 18–20: The Azores Archipelago, Portugal. *ISI satellite mtg:* **ISBIS-2007: International Symposium on Business and Industrial Statistics.** Contact Francisco Samaniego, Program Chair **e** fjsamaniego@ucdavis.edu or Bovas Abraham, ISBIS President **e** babraham@uwaterloo.ca **w** <http://www.isbis2007.uac.pt>

August 19–20 (Provisional date): DMCT, Universidade do Minho, Guimaraes, Portugal. *ISI satellite mtg:* **Assessing Student Learning in Statistics**

 **August 20–21:** Lahore University of Management Sciences, Pakistan. **Workshop on Innovative Teaching Methodologies for Mathematics and Science Teachers.** Contact The Secretary, Centre for Advanced Studies in Mathematics, Lahore University of Management Sciences, 54792-Lahore, Pakistan **e** kashifi@lums.edu.pk **t** 042-5722670-79, Ext. 2121 **w** <http://web.lums.edu.pk/~casm>

August 20–21: ISEG, Lisbon, Portugal. *ISI satellite mtg:* **Advances in Semiparametric Methods and Applications.**
w <http://pascal.iseg.utl.pt/~cemapre/asma2007/>

August 22–29: Lisbon, Portugal. **56th Session of the ISI.** Registration and abstract submission are now open.
w <http://www.isi2007.com.pt/>

August 30–31: Faculty of Medicine of Lisbon, Lisbon. *ISI satellite mtg:* **International Conference on Statistical Methods for Risk Analysis Conference (ICSMRA)**

August 30 – September 1: Aveiro, Portugal. *ISI satellite mtg:* **Statistics for Data Mining, Learning and Knowledge Extraction**
w <http://www.mat.ua.pt/iasco7/>

August 30 – September 1: FEUP (Faculty of Engineering of the University of Porto). *ISI satellite mtg:* **Probability and Statistics in Science and Technology.** **w** <http://paginas.fe.up.pt/~bsconf07/>

August 31 – September 2: S3RI, University of Southampton, UK. *ISI satellite mtg: Innovative methodologies for censuses in the new millennium.* **e** censusmeet@s3ri.soton.ac.uk
w <http://www.s3ri.soton.ac.uk/isi2007/>

September 2007

September 1–6: Hejnice, Czech Republic. **Robust and Nonparametric Statistical Inference.** Contact Jana Jureckova
e jurecko@karlin.mff.cuni.cz **t** +420 221913285; **f** +420 222323316
w <http://www.fp.vslib.cz/kap/centrumJH/workshop07/>

September 3–5: University of Pisa, Faculty of Economics, Italy. *ISI satellite mtg: Conference on Small Area Estimation*

September 6–8: Göttingen, Germany. **Biometrical Feature Identification and Analysis.**
w <http://www.stochastik.math.uni-goettingen.de/biometrics2007/>

NEW **September 10–13:** EURANDOM, Eindhoven, The Netherlands. **Workshop on Sandpile models and related fields.** **w** http://www.eurandom.tue.nl/workshops/2007/Sandpile_Models/main.htm

September 10–14: Castro Urdiales, Spain. **European Young Statisticians Meeting (EYSM 2007).**
w <http://kolmogorov.unex.es/~idelpuerto/15thEYSM>

September 11–15: Belarusian State University, Minsk, Republic of Belarus. **8th International Conference on Computer Data Analysis and Modelling: Complex Stochastic Data and Systems.** Contact Prof Dr Yuriy Kharin **e** kharin@bsu.by **w** <http://www.cdam.bsu.by>

September 12–15: Jaca, Spain. **Pyrenees International workshop on Statistics, Probability and Operations Research (SPO 2007).** Dr Gerardo Sanz, Universidad de Zaragoza **t** +34 976 762860
f +34 976 761115 **e** gerardo.sanz@unizar.es
w <http://metodosestadisticos.unizar.es/~jaca2007>

UPDATED **September 24–28:** Grenoble, France. **11th Edition of the European Course in Advanced Statistics (ECAS).** Topic: Structural Equation Models
w <http://web.upmf-grenoble.fr/labsad/pages/ecas2007>

October 2007

NEW **October 8–10:** EURANDOM, Eindhoven, The Netherlands. **Young European Statisticians Workshop: Shape Restricted Inference.** **w** www.eurandom.tue.nl/workshops/2007/YES_1/YES_1_main.htm

October 11–12: Harvard Medical Conference Center, Boston, MA. **Conference on Emerging Design and Analysis Issues in Genomic Studies in Population Sciences.**
w http://biosun1.harvard.edu/complab/genomics_workshop/

October 11–12: University of South Carolina, Columbia. **Current and Future Trends in Nonparametrics.**
w <http://www.stat.sc.edu/~hitchcock/2007nonparametrics.html>

NEW **October 19–20:** Northwestern University, Evanston, Illinois. **Twenty-ninth Midwest Probability Colloquium.** Organizers: Maury Bramson, Lea Popovic, and Greg Lawler. **w** www.math.northwestern.edu/conferences

October 19–20: Carnegie Mellon University, Pittsburgh, PA. **9th Workshop on Case Studies of Bayesian Statistics.** Jay Kadane **e** kadane@stat.cmu.edu **w** <http://workshop.stat.cmu.edu/bayes9>

October 22–24: Beijing, China. **Fourth International Conference on Agricultural Statistics (ICAS-4).**
w <http://www.stats.gov.cn/english/icas/>

November 2007

November 7–9: Bristol, UK. **Modern challenges of curve modelling: inverse problems and qualitative constraints.** Contact Aurore Delaigle **e** aurore.delaigle@bristol.ac.uk
w <http://www.sustain.bris.ac.uk/ws-curves.html>

November 12–13: Doha-Qatar. **The First Arab Statistical Conference.** **w** www.aitrs.org/english/fasc

International Calendar *continued*

December 2007

December 3–7: Atlantic City, NJ. **63rd Deming Conference on Applied Statistics.** Walter R. Young [e demingchair@gmail.com](mailto:demingchair@gmail.com)
[w www.demingconference.com](http://www.demingconference.com)


December 10–14: Australian National University, Canberra, Australia. **BioInfoSumm07: Sequence, Structure, Evolution & Networks.** ICE-EM Summer Symposium in BioInformatics
[w http://www.maths.anu.edu.au/events/BioInfoSumm07/](http://www.maths.anu.edu.au/events/BioInfoSumm07/)


December 16–20: University of Texas at San Antonio. **Finite Morse Index Solutions and Related Topics.** Contact Shair Ahmad
[t 210-458-4758 e shair.ahmad@utsa.edu](mailto:shair.ahmad@utsa.edu)
[w http://math.utsa.edu/~ahmad/cbms/](http://math.utsa.edu/~ahmad/cbms/)

December 16–22: Hyderabad, India. **Instructional workshop in Bioinformatics (December 16–19) and International conference on Bioinformatics (December 20–22).** Contacts: Anand Kondapi [e akondapi@yahoo.com](mailto:akondapi@yahoo.com) or C.R. Rao [e crr1@psu.edu](mailto:crr1@psu.edu) [w http://www.uohyd.ernet.in/sls/cbt/bif/Training/conf2007.htm](http://www.uohyd.ernet.in/sls/cbt/bif/Training/conf2007.htm)

December 28–30: Shin-Juang, Taipei County, Taiwan. **International Conference on Multiple Decisions and Related Topics in Honor of DY Huang.** Contacts: Prof. Ming-Chung Yang [e yang@stat.ncu.edu.tw](mailto:yang@stat.ncu.edu.tw); Prof. Sheng-Tsaing Tseng [e sttseng@stat.nthu.edu.tw](mailto:sttseng@stat.nthu.edu.tw); Prof. Fu-Chuen Chang [e changfc@math.nsysu.edu.tw](mailto:changfc@math.nsysu.edu.tw)

January 2008

 **January 7–11:** Isaac Newton Institute, Cambridge, UK. **Workshop on Contemporary Frontiers in High-dimensional Statistical Data Analysis.**
 Organizers: David Banks, Mike Titterton, Sara van de Geer.
[w www.newton.cam.ac.uk/programmes/SCH/schwo1.html](http://www.newton.cam.ac.uk/programmes/SCH/schwo1.html)


 **January 9–11:** Bormio, Italy. **MCMSki II: Markov Chain Monte Carlo in Theory and Practice.** Third joint international meeting of the IMS and ISBA. Program Chairs: Bradley P. Carlin and Antonietta Mira. [w http://musing.unipv.it/IMS-ISBA-08/](http://musing.unipv.it/IMS-ISBA-08/)

March 2008

March 4–7: Aachen, Germany. **8th German Open Conference on Probability and Statistics (“Aachener Stochastik-Tage 2008”).** Contact Christine Müller, University of Kassel [e gocps2008@stochastik.rwth-aachen.de](mailto:gocps2008@stochastik.rwth-aachen.de) [w http://gocps2008.rwth-aachen.de](http://gocps2008.rwth-aachen.de)

 **March 16–19:** Hyatt Regency Crystal City, Arlington, VA. **2008 ENAR/IMS Spring Meeting.** [w www.enar.org/meetings.htm](http://www.enar.org/meetings.htm)



April 2008


 **April 21–25:** Bedlewo, near Poznan, Poland. **International Conference on Trends and Perspectives in Linear Statistical Inference, LinStat2008, in celebration of Tadeusz Caliński’s 80th Birthday.** Contact Katarzyna Filipiak [e linstat@au.poznan.pl](mailto:linstat@au.poznan.pl) [w http://linstat08.au.poznan.pl/](http://linstat08.au.poznan.pl/)

May 2008

May 25–29: Ottawa, Canada. **2008 Joint Meeting of SSC and the Société Française de Statistique.** Local Arrangements: Pierre Lavallée, Statistics Canada [e pierre.lavallee@statcan.ca](mailto:pierre.lavallee@statcan.ca). Program: Bruno Remillard (HEC Montréal) [e bruno.remillard@hec.ca](mailto:bruno.remillard@hec.ca) [w http://www.ssc.ca/2008/index_e.html](http://www.ssc.ca/2008/index_e.html)

June 2008

  **June 8–11:** Protaras, Cyprus. **International Workshop on Recent Advances in Time Series Analysis.** IMS Rep: Rainer von Sachs, UC Louvain, Belgium.
[w www.ucy.ac.cy/~rats2008/](http://www.ucy.ac.cy/~rats2008/)

 **June 19–21:** Université Paul Sabatier, Toulouse, France. **First International Workshop on Functional and Operatorial Statistics.** Contact Karim Benhenni and Sonia Hedli-Grice, Université Pierre Mendès-France, Grenoble, France. [t 04 76 82 57 07 e Karim.Benhenni@upmf-grenoble.fr](mailto:Karim.Benhenni@upmf-grenoble.fr) [w http://www.lsp.ups-tlse.fr/staph/IWFOS2008](http://www.lsp.ups-tlse.fr/staph/IWFOS2008)


June 26–28: University of Coimbra, Portugal. **Workshop on Nonparametric Inference: WNI2008.** **w** <http://www.mat.uc.pt/~wni2008>

July 2008


July 7–10: University of Technology of Compiègne, France. **IWAP2008: International Workshop on Applied Probability.** Contact: N. Limnios **e** nikolaos.limnios@utc.fr and J. Glaz **e** joseph.glaz@uconn.edu **w** <http://www.lmac.utc.fr/IWAP2008/>

July 13–18: University College, Dublin, Ireland. **IBC2008: XXIVth International Biometric Conference.** **w** <http://www.conferencepartners.ie/ibcdublin2008/>

July 14–18: Sandbjerg, Denmark. **Efficient Monte Carlo: From Variance Reduction to Combinatorial Optimization.** Conference on the occasion of Reuven Y. Rubinstein's 70 birthday. Contact Oddbjørg Wethelund **t** +45 8942 3515 **w** <http://www.thiele.au.dk/Rubinstein/>

 July 14–19: Singapore. **IMS Annual Meeting/7th World Congress in Probability and Statistics.** Local chair: Louis Chen. **w** <http://www.ims.nus.edu.sg/Programs/wc2008/index.htm> **e** wc2008@ims.nus.edu.sg

23–26 July: Tomar, Portugal. **17th International Workshop on Matrices and Statistics (IWMS08) in Honor of Professor T.W. Anderson's 90th Birthday.** Contact Professor Francisco Carvalho **t** +351 249 328 100; **f** +351 249 328 186; **e** fpcarvalho@ipt.pt **w** www.ipt.pt/iwms08

 July 29–August 2: Denver, CO. **Eleventh IMS Meeting of New Researchers in Statistics and Probability.** Local chair: Ryan Elmore.


August 2008

 August 3–8: Denver, Colorado. **JSM2008.** **w** <http://www.amstat.org/meetings/jsm/2008/>

March 2009

 March 15–18: Grand Hyatt, San Antonio, Texas. **2009 ENAR/IMS Spring Meeting.** **w** www.enar.org/meetings.htm

July 2009

 July 27–31: Berlin, Germany. **33rd Conference on Stochastic Processes and their Applications.** Organising committee chair: Peter Imkeller. **w** <http://www.math.tu-berlin.de/SPA2009/>

August 2009

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

August 2010

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

August 19–27: Hyderabad, India. **International Congress of Mathematicians 2010.** Program Committee Chair: Prof. Hendrik W. Lenstra, Leiden University **e** hwlicm@math.leidenuniv.nl

July 2011

 July 31 – August 4: Miami Beach, Florida. **IMS Annual Meeting at JSM2011.**

July 2012

 July 29 – August 2: San Diego, California. **JSM2012.**

August 2014

 August 3–7: Boston, MA. **JSM2014.**

<http://www.imstat.org/meetings>



Electronic Journal of Statistics

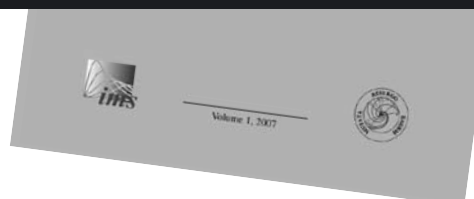
The Institute of Mathematical Statistics (IMS) is launching a new journal, the *Electronic Journal of Statistics (EJS)*, which will publish research articles and short notes on theoretical, computational and applied statistics. All articles in this **open access** journal are refereed and are held to the same high standard as articles in other IMS journals. Authors will find that articles become publicly available shortly after they are accepted.

EJS joins a growing portfolio of open access journals sponsored jointly by the IMS and the Bernoulli Society. These include two research journals, *Electronic Journal of Probability* and *Electronic Communications in Probability*; and the survey journals *Probability Surveys* and *Statistics Surveys*.

Larry Wasserman of Carnegie Mellon University, will serve as editor for the journal. Please visit www.imstat.org/ejs/ for more information and to submit papers.



www.imstat.org/ejs/



Membership and Subscription Information

Journals:

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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

in the next issue October 2007

IMS Annual Meeting
and JSM news,
news of members,
announcements and
information about
meetings, and new job
opportunities.

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you! Send in your
articles, feedback,
letters...

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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 16 from last issue

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
1	3	9	4	2	6	5	8
5	2	4	8	3	6	1	7
8	6	9	2	5	1	7	4
6	3	8	9	5	7	2	1
7	9	5	8	6	2	4	1
2	3	1	4	1	2	7	6
9	8	6	5	7	3	1	4
1	7	9	8	7	6	5	4

Puzzle 17

	11	27	38	10		5	12
28					13		
30					37		
	13					37	16
	26						
6				10			
38				12			
		11					
	3	7					17
29							
4			30				

Puzzle by www.yoogi.com