Volume 36 • Issue 5

IMS Bulletin

June 2007

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Durrett and Kingman elected to NAS

The National Academy of Sciences has announced the election of 72 new members, and 18 foreign associates from 12 countries, in recognition of their distinguished and continuing achievements in original research. Among the list are two IMS Fellows, Professor Rick Durrett and Sir John Kingman.

The National Academy of Sciences is a private organization of scientists and engineers dedicated to the furtherance of science and its use for the general welfare. It was established in 1863 by a congressional act of incorporation signed by Abraham Lincoln that calls on the Academy to act as an official adviser to the federal government, upon request, in any matter of science or technology. Additional information about the Academy and its members is available online at http://www.nasonline.org.

Rick Durrett, one of the *IMS Bulletin*'s Contributing Editors, is Professor in the Department of Mathematics at Cornell University, Ithaca, New York.

Sir John Kingman, who as a British citizen was elected a Foreign Associate, is the former director of the Isaac Newton Institute for Mathematical Sciences, based at the University of Cambridge in the United Kingdom.

We'll bring you profiles in a future issue.

Rick Durrett, above, and Sir John Kingman, below, have been elected to the US National Academy of Sciences, Rick as a Fellow and John as a Foreign Associate.

An invitation to attend the

IMS Business Meeting at JSM

**Tuesday July 31, 2007, 12:30-1:30pm
Salt Palace Convention Center, Room 250A
Joint Statistical Meetings, Salt Lake City**

All IMS members are invited. At this short meeting, you'll be able to find out what the IMS has been doing, via summary reports from Executive Committee members and IMS editorial officers. You'll also witness the passing of the gavel from outgoing to incoming IMS President, and have the opportunity to ask questions about IMS plans and business policies, and make suggestions. The IMS wants to represent you and serve the statistical profession with distinction and excellence. **Come and get involved!**

IMS Members' News

Fienberg Elected to American Academy of Arts & Sciences

Stephen E. Fienberg has been named a fellow of the American Academy of Arts & Sciences. A long-time IMS member, Fienberg is Maurice Falk University Professor of Statistics and Social Science at Carnegie Mellon University in Pittsburgh, PA, and holds appointments in the Department of Statistics, the Machine Learning Department, and Cylab. He served as IMS president in 1998–99 and is one of the founding editors of the new IMS journal, the *Annals of Applied Statistics*. Steve is a member of the National Academy of Sciences and a fellow of the Royal Society of Canada.

The American Academy was founded in 1780 by several of America's founding fathers, including John Adams, to provide a forum for a select group of scholars, members of the learned professions, and government and business leaders to work together on behalf of the interests of the new nation. The 2007 class of fellows includes former Vice President Al Gore, former US Supreme Court Justice Sandra Day O'Connor, filmmaker Spike Lee, New York City Mayor Michael Bloomberg, actor and filmmaker Robert Redford, and Israeli novelist Amos Oz.

"It's certainly a great honor to be linked with such public luminaries, as well as with the nation's most distinguished scholars and scientists, including several IMS members," said Fienberg. "Much of my research is collaborative, and being recognized in this fashion is also recognition of the accomplishments of my many collaborators." Fienberg has been on the Carnegie Mellon faculty since 1980. He previously served as head of the Department of Statistics and dean of the College of Humanities and Social Sciences.

Dipak Dey receives Purdue Statistics Department's 2007 Outstanding Alumnus Award

Dipak K. Dey, professor and head of the department of statistics at University of Connecticut, Storrs, received the Purdue University Department of Statistics Outstanding Alumnus Award for 2007. He was honored at a banquet at Purdue on March 30 for outstanding achievement in the field of statistics. Dey received research excellence awards in 2004 and 2005 from the University of Connecticut. He is a fellow of IMS and ASA, and an elected member of the International Statistical Institute He served as president of the International Indian Statistical Association, and is a past Editor of this publication. He earned bachelors and master's degrees from the Indian Statistical Institute, and his master's degree and doctorate in statistics from Purdue in 1977 and 1980, respectively. For further information visit http://www.stat.purdue.edu/people/alums/profiles/dipak_dey.html

Pictured right: Dipak Dey receiving the award from Mary Ellen Bock, Head of the Department of Statistics, Purdue University

IMS Election: *have you voted yet?*

IMS Council elections are open until June 15. Online voting is encouraged (though paper ballots are also accepted: contact Elyse Gustafson for details). Five of the Council nominees will be elected. Cast your vote at http://imstat.org/secure/vote2007/vote2007.asp

President-Elect Nominee:
Nanny Wermuth

Council Nominee:
Martin Barlow

Council Nominee:
Jean Bertoin

Council Nominee:
Mireille Chaleyat-Maurel

Council Nominee:
Ming-Yen Cheng

Council Nominee:
Montse Fuentes

Council Nominee:
Geoffrey Grimmett

Council Nominee:
Tobias Rydén

Council Nominee:
Marta Sanz-Sole

Council Nominee:
Maria Eulalia Vares

Council Nominee:
Jon A. Wellner

Council Nominee:
Alan Welsh

Geoffrey's and Alan's photos were accidentally switched in the last issue: our apologies for any confusion!

Duke University's Institute of Statistics and Decision Sciences has awarded its Alumni Distinguished Undergraduate Teaching Award to Assistant Professor Jerome P Reiter. Jerry won the award in recognition of outstanding undergraduate teaching. According to the departmental website, at http://www.isds.duke.edu/, one of his students wrote, "I so enjoyed this professor's eager and enthusiastic teaching style that I convinced another senior (an English major) to take the class with me, not as a requirement (because neither of us is required to take it) but to benefit in our last semester from the passion of a gifted instructor."

The Impact of Impact Factors

Robert Adler writes a guest column on how and why journal impact factors are being manipulated and misused— and asks for your help

We have all come across impact factors of journals at one time or another. They were created in the late 1950s, and are indices obtained by calculating the average number of citations per article over a specific period of time. Since citations reflect the interest of scholars in an article, the impact factor should reflect the average interest in articles appearing in a journal.

Precisely *what* impact factors in fact measure has never been terribly clear to most of us (or, perhaps, to anyone). However, our ignorance has not been overly worrisome, since most workers in the mathematical sciences tended to treat these numbers as little more than a curiosity. After all, among ourselves there tends to be relatively broad agreement as to which are the leading journals in our various sub-disciplines, and we all also know that the sub-disciplines can vary greatly in terms of their citation culture, without one necessarily being "better" than another.

Over the last few years, however, things have been beginning to change. Outside of the scientific community, some university administrators and national "academic evaluation" bodies have been beginning to use impact factors and citation counts to quantify differences between universities, departments and individuals, and to use them to make funding decisions.

Of course, once the rules of the game change, so does the behaviour of the players. Thus, in some areas of science, there are now generally commercial, but scientifically respectable, journals which work hard to increase their impact factors in unscientific ways. For example, they encourage their authors to cite only papers in a specific journal, or family of journals, and encourage as many citations of this kind as possible.

Another example of adaptive behaviour is exhibited by authors who are more concerned with getting a paper into a high-impact factor journal, rather than an appropriate one. (Thus, while such a paper may never be cited much, since it has not reached its natural audience, the fact that it has appeared in a high impact journal will nevertheless impress promotion committees.)

There is now a significant and growing literature documenting these phenomena, and I recommend John Ewing's 2006 excellent short survey [Measuring journals, *Notices of the AMS*, **53**, 1049–1053] as a place to get a feel for what impact factors are, what damage they might be doing, and how we in the applied and theoretical mathematical sciences might do something to improve the situation. (There is also a very nice 1997 article by Per Seglen [Why the impact factor of journals should not be used for evaluating research, *British Medical Journal,* **314**:497] describing the situation in the biological sciences. While the examples are different, the messages are much the same, and some of his data sets are both amusing and alarming.)

The problems arising from the misuse of impact factor and citation data are now worrying many, in all branches of science, and in the mathematical sciences more than most. This includes statistics and probability, since our journals, like those of other areas of mathematics, are consistently low scorers. (In general, applied statistics journals score higher than those in the theory of statistics, which do slightly "better" than probability journals. But, on a global scale, with scores running between 0.8 and 1.5, we are but poor relations of the life sciences, where top journals score in the 30–50 range.)

Consequently, the IMS has recently joined forces with ICIAM and IMU, as institutions representing the world wide communities of mathematicians and statisticians, to investigate and document the use and misuse of impact factors. In particular, we plan to publicise, both within our communities and among academic decision makers, the possible dangers or advantages that the widespread use of impact factors and similar simple measures may have on publication behavior, recruitment, balance between scientific disciplines, etc.

Peter Hall, in an article (to appear) in the *Gazette of the Australian Mathematical Society*, recently described what is currently happening in Australia, and noted in his introduction that "we live in an age where the notion that almost everything can, and should, be quantified and analysed … is rapidly gaining adherents." (A pyrrhic victory for mathematics?) Acknowledging this, the joint committee will also attempt to investigate whether it sees possible alternatives to measures based solely on citations that may help to evaluate research and academic achievement and indicate quality in a sensible way.

Since I shall be representing the IMS on this committee, I shall be delighted to get feedback from IMS members. I shall be particularly happy to hear from data-savvy statisticians interested in getting involved in the data analysis which will almost definitely be part of our investigation.

In the meantime, recall the truism, attributed to Albert Einstein, that *not everything that can be counted counts, and not everything that counts can be counted.*

Obituary: Walter Philipp

1936–2006

WALTER PHILIPP died July 19, 2006, while mountain climbing in his native Austria. He was born in Vienna, Austria in 1936. He is survived by his wife Ariane and four children. Professor Philipp received his PhD in Mathematics and MS in Mathematics Education and Physics at the University of Vienna, 1960. He was an Assistant at the University of Vienna 1960–1963, 1965–1967; Habilitation 1967; and a Visiting Assistant Professor at the University of Montana, Missoula, 1963–64 and at the University of Illinois 1964–65. Since 1967 he was at the University of Illinois; Professor of Mathematics, 1973–2000; Professor of Statistics, 1988–2000; and Chair of the Department of Statistics, 1990–1995. He was an Associate member in the Center for Advanced Study, 1984–85. He became Professor Emeritus in May 2000 and Affiliate Professor at the Beckman Institute, University of Illinois, August 2000. He was a Corresponding member of the Austrian Academy of Sciences; Associate Editor, *Annals of Probability* 1976–1981; and on the Advisory Board, *Monatshefte für Mathematik*, since 1994. He published more than 70 publications, including two monographs, and gave more than 100 invited lectures given in the United States, Germany, Austria, Hungary, Soviet Union, England, Switzerland, and Canada. He was a Fellow of the Institute of Mathematical Statistics, and an elected member of the International Statistical Institute. Philipp was an avid climber, making many first and repeat climbs in the 1950s. The Philipp-Flamm route in the Dolomites, for which he was named one of the top 100 climbers of the century, was considered a rite of passage for many famous climbers.

This obituary first appeared in the Fall 2006 issue of Math Times*, the Department of Mathematics newsletter at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign:* http://www.math.uiuc.edu/mathtimes/Fall2006/mathtimes_fall06.htm#memoriam
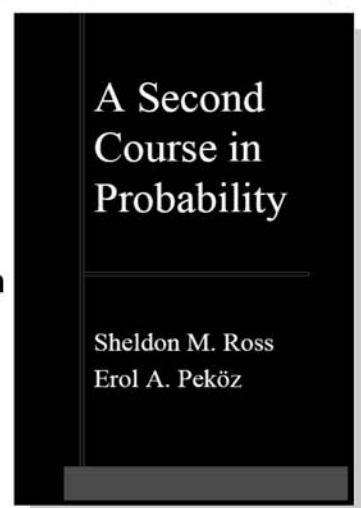
Obituary: Frank B Knight

1933–2007

After receiving his PhD from Princeton University in 1959, Frank Knight joined the mathematics department of the University of Minnesota. Frank liked Minnesota; the cold weather proved to be no difficulty for him since he climbed in the Rocky Mountains even in the winter time. But there was one problem: airborne flour dust, an unpleasant output of the large companies in Minneapolis milling spring wheat from the farms of Minnesota. Frank discovered that he was allergic to flour dust and decided that he would move to another location. His research was already recognized as important. His first four papers were published in the *Illinois Journal of Mathematics* and the *Transactions of the American Mathematical Society*. At that time, J.L. Doob was one of the editors of the *Illinois Journal* and attracted some of the best papers in probability theory to the journal, including some of Frank's. He was hired by Illinois and served on its faculty from 1963 until his retirement in 1991. After his retirement, Frank continued to be active in his research, perhaps even more active since he no longer had to grade papers and carefully prepare his classroom lectures as he had always done before.

In 1994, Frank was diagnosed with Parkinson's disease. For many years, this did not slow him down mathematically. He also kept physically active. At first, his health declined slowly but, in recent years, more rapidly. He died on March 19, 2007.

Frank Knight's contributions to probability theory are numerous and often strikingly creative. One example is his introduction and development of what he called the prediction process. To study a particular stochastic process, Frank could often construct a prediction process, which is a Markov process that can be used to

the great benefit of the study. A number of examples of its use are contained in his monograph, *Essays on the Prediction Process*, published by IMS in its *Lecture Notes-Monograph Series*, volume 1, 1981. His further work on this topic includes a number of papers and the monograph, *Foundations of the Prediction Process*, published in 1992 by the Oxford University Press in their *Oxford Studies in Probability*.

The American Mathematical Society's MathSciNet lists over 100 papers in response to the phrase 'Ray-Knight'. The Ray and Knight compactifications are important pillars of modern probability theory. There are many pillars in Frank's other work that spans nearly half a century. Mathematicians seldom use superlatives in their reviews of papers that appear in *Mathematical Reviews*. But Frank's work has been described there as "elegant" and "extraordinary".

In addition to his research papers and books, he wrote at least 22 book reviews. These he reprinted, perhaps for his own amusement but possibly with a hope of wider publication, in *Collected Book Reviews by F. B. Knight in Probability Theory*, 53 pages in all. He wrote reviews of books by Meyer, Itô and McKean, Maisonneuve, Murali Rao, Friedman and Pinsky, Port and Stone, Lévy, Chung, Harrison, Sharpe, Revuz and Yor, Stroock, Rogers and Williams, Kallenberg, Jacod and Protter, Varadhan, and others. Frank took the job of reviewing books seriously. As a result, his reviews are well worth reading. Not every author will be completely satisfied, not every reader will agree with all of Frank's opinions, but authors and readers will see that Frank worked hard to be interesting, useful, and accurate. Some of his reviewing, for example, six volumes of Lévy's collected
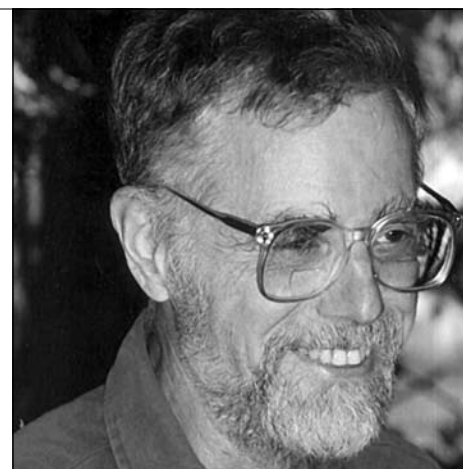
works, must have taken an enormous amount of his time.

Frank was born in Chicago on October 11, 1933, son of Frank and Ethel Knight. His mother was a prominent social worker and his father was a professor of economics at the University of Chicago. According to Paul Samuelson, the economist Knight was "one of America's most influential intellectuals" (*Newsweek*, July 31, 1972).

Frank married Ingeborg Belz on July 30, 1970. She survives as do their three children, Marion, Ellen, and Mark; their granddaughter, Chloe; and Frank's younger brother, Charles Knight of Boulder, Colorado, who often joined his older brother on hikes in the Rocky Mountains.

Frank was an avid mountain climber in North and South America and the Alps, including the Matterhorn and some of the highest mountains in Peru. He was also a regular Saturday hiker, along with Doob, Haken, and others. Frank was a good pianist, playing mostly in his home. The concerts that he enjoyed the most were those devoted to baroque music. He was a strong supporter of the excellent local baroque ensemble.

Donald Burkholder
University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign

Terence's Stuff: *Data Doctors*

> **Terry Speed applied the medical model to statistical consultants. How can we improve our data-side manner?**

RA Fisher once wrote: "To consult the statistician after an experiment is finished is often merely to ask him to perform a post-mortem examination. He can perhaps say what the experiment died of." I've often made the analogy between consulting statisticians and doctors. Fisher was likening the statistician to a pathologist, but I think we can do much better than that.

Why would I want to? For a start, to explain our profession to others. Most people have a good idea how the medical profession goes about its work. They understand that although much of the practice of medicine is based on science, personal skills, experience, and judgment also play a vital role. People believe that doctors are trying to help them, and that most of the time they leave a doctor better off. It doesn't seem to me unreasonable to hope that consulting statisticians might be seen in this light. Can we push the analogy further, and in the process learn something about our job?

"Good morning. When did I last see you? What was that for? How did it work out? Why are you here today? Let me have a look at it. I'd like to ask you a few questions. Does this hurt? How did this come about? What did you do about it before coming here? What do you want? I am going to get a few tests done. Can you come back in a week?"

Here, the doctor is establishing some rapport, quizzing the patient about his/her symptoms, the body and its reaction, seeking background to the current visit, and getting started on figuring out what is wrong and what might be needed to set it right. I think most of us who let people walk into our offices with data and questions will recognize the similarity between our initial discussions and a medical consultation. The term "bedside manner" also comes to mind.

Before I get much further into this analogy, I need to establish the basic correspondence. Am I saying that those who consult us similar to ill people, and that the data they bring are analogous to their minds or bodies, exhibiting the symptoms of their illness? Yes I am, so let's see how far we can go.

I often have people ask me "How good are my data?" and I find myself thinking that they are asking "Doctor, how am I doing?"

I usually reply "There's no such thing as good data or bad data, there's just data. The issue is whether you can do what you want with that data, and how well you can do it." I point out that some questions can be answered with a given body of data, while others can't. This is not a trivial point. Once I took to class a set of data brought to me by a collaborator. It had a few defects, with about 10 to 15 per cent "missing", in the sense that while the observations should all have been replicated 3 times, many were replicated just twice, and a few just once. But it was solid, hard-earned data, warranting careful analysis. I was shocked to find that several of my students thought that data with this degree of "missingness" should be discarded, and that I should ask my collaborator to repeat the experiment, and gather a complete data set.

Doctors usually have no choice but to treat the patients who come to them. They can't say, and I imagine rarely think, "Please go away and get better before you return to ask for my help." I feel similarly about peoples' data.

We're all familiar with the idea of an experienced physician, who can look at your tongue, ask an innocuous or perhaps outlandish question (*Have you been feeling skew recently?*) and go on to make the correct diagnosis, and prescribe a simple effective treatment. Isn't one of our dreams as a statistical consultant to be able to glance at our client's data, pinpoint the problem, observe that a simple adjustment just might work, and learn shortly after that it did, and that everything was then fine? Of course the reality is that most of the time nothing quite so brilliant happens. Often we prescribe a simple remedy (e.g. a *t*-test) and tell them to go home and rest. Occasionally we are in the position of the physician who is stumped, and is forced to ask more and more questions, to review the case history over and over, to prescribe more and more tests, waiting for science and/or inspiration to reveal what is going on. I frequently seek a second opinion in such cases.

The medical model has served me well over the years, but then I did start out studying medicine. However, I do wonder how to tell when radical surgery is needed, and what to do with incurable data.
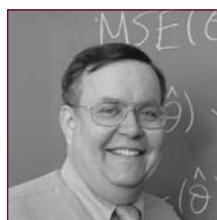
Presenting *the 2007 IMS Class of Fellows*

We are pleased to announce the names of the new IMS Fellows. They will be presented by Jianqing Fan, Chair of the IMS Committee on Fellows, at the IMS Presidential Address and awards ceremony at JSM, on Monday, July 30, at 8pm. Join us, if you can, for the ceremony and the reception afterwards: it will be held in the Salt Palace Convention Center, Ballroom A. Congratulations to all the Fellows!

Kani Chen, The Hong Kong University of Science and Technology: *For significant contributions to statistical theory and methodology in semiparametric inference, nonparametric methods, survival analysis, and the large-sample theory.*

Ming-Hui Chen, Univ Connecticut: *For outstanding contributions to research in Bayesian methodology, Bayesian computation, categorical data analysis, and analysis of missing data; and for innovative interdisciplinary work within industry and medicine, especially in advancing the understanding of prostate cancer.*

Zhen-Qing Chen, University of Washington: *For research on Dirichlet form approach to Markov processes, reflected Brownian motion, stable processes, and for editorial services for the IMS affiliated journals.*

Ming-Yen Cheng, National Taiwan University: *For her outstanding contributions to nonparametric and semiparametric statistics, and for her dedicated service to statistical profession.*

Hans Föllmer, Humboldt University, Berlin: *For his leadership role in developing research in Germany, Europe, and the world, through his ground-breaking research, his inspiring lectures, his role in teaching and inspiring others.*

Fred J. Hickernell, Illinois Institute of Technology: *For innovations in the construction and analysis of quasi-Monte Carlo methods and their applications to experimental design.*

Yuzo Hosoya, Tohoku University and Meisei University: *For theoretical contributions of outstanding originality, depth, and breadth to statistical time series analysis.*

Inchi Hu, Hong Kong University of Science and Technology: *For original contributions to sequential analysis, importance sampling and hidden Markov models.*

Michael Rene Kosorok, University of North Carolina-Chapel Hill: *For contributions to the applications of empirical processes and semiparametric methods in biostatistics, especially in event-time analysis, clinical trials, and microarray analysis; and for dedicated editorial service.*

Partha Lahiri, University of Maryland and University of Michigan: *For outstanding research contributions to survey sampling and related areas, for ingenious applications of the theory so developed, and for conscientious editorial work.*

Bing Li, The Pennsylvania State University: *For his contributions to sufficient dimension reduction, and semi-parametric optimal estimating equations and inference methods, and for conscientious editorial service.*

Gang Li, University of California, Los Angeles: *For important contributions to research in the fields of non-parametric likelihood ratio methods for survival analysis, ROC curves, goodness-of-fit, and non-parametric/semi-parametric inference.*

Xihong Lin, Harvard University: *For her outstanding contributions in the areas of non- and semi-parametric regression models, random effects models, measurement errors, analysis for correlated, clustered, longitudinal and spatial data, and multivariate survival analysis; for outstanding collaborative research; and for stellar service to the profession.*

Oliver Linton, London School of Economics and Political Science: *For extensive and influential contributions to statistical and econometric theory and practice, especially for outstanding research on non- and semiparametric methods, the analysis of censored data, and inference from time dependent data.*

Wei-Liem Loh, National University of Singapore: *For important contributions to statistics of random fields, latin hypercube sampling, and orthogonal arrays, for creative use of Stein-Chen methods in challenging central limit problems, and for dedicated editorial service.*

Zhi–Ming Ma, Chinese Academy of Sciences: *For fundamental contributions to the theory of Dirichlet forms and Markov processes; for original contributions to invariant aspects of Malliavin calculus, probabilistic studies of Schrodinger operators and Feynman-Kac semigroups, and for dedicated professional service.*

Adrian E. Raftery, University of Washington: *For seminal contributions to Bayesian model selection and computation, demography, clustering, and stochastic modeling, for influential and novel high-impact statistical applications, and for conscientious professional service.*

Eugenio Regazzini, University of Pavia: *For his important contributions to finitely additive probabilities and exchangeability; for his pioneering work on the theory of the Dirichlet process.*
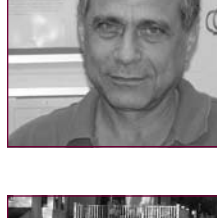
Sanat K. Sarkar, Temple University: *For fundamental contributions to the field of multiple hypothesis testing; for important contributions to probability inequality and multivariate statistical inference; and for service to the profession.*

Jack William Silverstein, North Carolina State University: *For seminal contributions to the theory and application of random matrices.*

Rick Vitale, University of Connecticut: *For deep and influential contributions to probability inequalities, random sets and stochastic geometry, and symmetric statistics.*

Matthew P. Wand, University of New South Wales: *For fundamental contributions to the theory, computation, and applications of nonparametric and semiparametric statistical methods.*

Hongyu Zhao, Yale University: *For fundamental contributions to statistical genomics, genetic epidemiology, and computational biology; for editorial service; and for training of graduate and postdoctoral students.*

Profile: *Jiashun Jin*

Jiashun Jin, an IMS member since 2004, is Assistant Professor of Statistics at Purdue University. He has recently been granted a Faculty Early Career Development (CAREER) Award by the US National Science Foundation. CAREER is the National Science Foundation's most prestigious award to junior researchers. Jiashun is profiled below, and answers a few questions, opposite.

Jiashun Jin received his PhD in 2003 from Stanford University. He joined the Statistics Department of Purdue University in August 2003. His primary research interests involve exploiting sparsity in large-scale inference, where a large number of parameters need to be estimated or a large number of hypotheses tested. For example, he has extensively explored inference on the proportion of signals: given a large set of data points/hypotheses/transform coefficients, where most of them contain irrelevant cases or noise, but a small proportion contain relevant case or signals, how to make inference effectively on the signals? On this topic, he has developed new statistical theory and methods, including Higher Criticism for detecting sparse heterogeneous mixtures, Cai–Jin–Low confidence lower bound for the proportion, and a family of oracle estimators for proportions based on the Fourier transform. He has explored several application areas, including astrophysics and genomics, where sparsity is a dominant feature in the analyses.

The five-year CAREER award will enable Dr Jin to develop and refine new tools for large-scale multiple comparisons, and integrate his research and education as a fine teacher-scholar.

Dr Grace Yang, a Program Director of Statistics at NSF, said in a recent conversation with the *Bulletin* (April 2007) that the activities supported by a CAREER award should build a firm foundation for a lifetime of integrated contributions to research and education. Shortly after the CAREER award was announced, the *Bulletin* asked Professor Mary Ellen Bock, Head of the Statistics Department at Purdue University and President of the American Statistical Association, how her department supports junior faculty like Dr Jin to pursue excellence in research and education. Professor Bock said that at Purdue the junior faculty members are given reduced teaching loads, opportunities to teach topics courses that relate to their research, encouragement to travel to attend conferences and meetings with travel funds, limited committee assignments, and active mentoring with semester-by-semester monitoring of progress towards tenure and promotion.

We interviewed Dr Jin last month to gain better understanding of his professional and personal life. Part of the interview is published opposite. We congratulate Dr Jin for the CAREER award, for his upcoming promotion to Associate Professor at Purdue, and for his becoming a proud father.

National Academy of Sciences Award in Mathematics: nominations open

The NAS Award in Mathematics was established by the American Mathematical Society and is awarded for excellence of research in the mathematical sciences published within the past ten years. Nominations for NAS awards to be presented in the year 2008 will be accepted through September 10, 2007. Nominators should submit the following: a letter (three pages or fewer) describing the candidate's work and indicating why the candidate should be selected for the award; the candidate's curriculum vitae, including country of citizenship and date of birth; a selected bibliography of of the candidate's most significant publications (maximum of 12 publications); and a maximum of three supporting letters. Send nomination materials to the National Academy of Sciences Awards Program at awards@nas.edu

The National Academy of Sciences does not accept self-nominations. Joint nominations are discouraged; they are considered only when nominees have collaborated closely—usually in the same laboratory—on the work to be recognized by the award. Full instructions for nominators are available on the NAS website at http://www.nasonline.org/site/PageServer?pagename=AWARDS_how_to_nominate.

The awards recipients will be announced in January 2008. For more information about the nomination process, contact the Academy at awards@nas.edu or call 202.334.1602.

Q: What went through your mind when you were notified about the CAREER award?

Several things crossed my mind almost simultaneously. I felt very lucky and very honored. At the same time, I felt very grateful to my collaborators and friends for their hard work, constant support, and valuable suggestions.

Q: Statistics is playing a bigger role as a cross-cutting discipline. Do you agree that your research can be best characterized as research on the fundamentals of statistics? If so, can you tell us how important it is to emphasize core research in our ever-changing discipline?

Yes, I agree. I am glad to see that statistics plays a bigger role in many interdisciplinary areas, but I believe it is very important to emphasize the core research. I think core research is the part of our discipline that holds all different areas together: you might collaborate with astronomers, biologists, chemists, computer scientists, mathematicians, but what defines your identity is that you are a statistician. Literally, I think statisticians are researchers who develop statistical tools and implement statistical tools, and what keeps our discipline dynamic is a balanced development of both the interdisciplinary research and the core research: the former concerns in solving real world problems and frequently demands for better tools, the latter responses by developing new methodology and new theory, which frequently leads to better understanding of nature and science.

Q: Assistant professors are always under pressure to publish. Does this pressure hinder your freedom and ability to work on the most important problems in your area?

Certainly I feel the pressure most of the time, but it is hard to speculate whether I will be better off one way or another, as pressure is a double-edged sword. What I know is that the constant support from my colleagues and friends helps me greatly in overcoming anxiety and unsettled emotion as an assistant professor. Especially, I am grateful for my thesis advisor David L. Donoho, whose constant support and encouragement makes me believe that I am always pursuing the right thing at the right time. What also means a lot to me is the sustained support of my department head at Purdue, Mary Ellen Bock.

Q: When you submit your papers to statistics journals, what are the main factors that you consider? For example, reputation, review time, readership, impact factor, etc.

I would say the reputation and the long-term impact.

Q: What advice do you have to other junior researchers who might be interested in submitting their proposals to the CAREER program?

I think the NSF program directors are much better people to give advice than me, but if I have to say something, I would suggest these two things. First, spend substantial time and energy on the writing. My thesis advisor had a humorous remark on academic life, saying that writing a paper is just like playing Jazz; the only one who truly understands it is you. I think, despite the exaggeration, the remark reflects some reality, and we need to try very hard to make our work easier to understand. Second, take every chance to present your work in seminars, workshops, and conferences. Don't hesitate to bug the leaders in your area; this is the chance to impress them. Though they might be annoyed if they can't find time to finish a cup of coffee, they probably would understand.

Q: How much time do you spend on research? What else do you do besides research and teaching at Purdue? What about hobbies and family?

It is hard to say exactly how many hours per day I spend on research, as it varies significantly from one day to another. If I feel very passionate about a topic, I could spend every minute I have on it. Otherwise, I would spend more time with my family. Right now, I am undergoing a phase change in my life as my daughter Amy was born earlier this year. It seems that she has already learned how to attract my attention! I have many hobbies, and I probably have spent more time on them than I should. Back in Stanford, I had a reputation for hosting poker parties in my apartment, and most of the players are now statisticians either in academia or industry. I like to read history books, and I play a little bit of golf. I like to watch TV, and the sitcom *Seinfeld* is one of my favorite programs.

Thank you, Jiashun Jin.

Got some news about another IMS member? Or yourself?

Don't be shy: share it with the IMS Bulletin!

*We're relying on **you** to keep us informed…*

JSM Previews: IMS invited & contributed programs

IMS Invited Program at JSM

Tony Cai and Mark Low are the IMS Invited Program Co-chairs for the Joint Statistical Meetings in Salt Lake City, July 29–August 2, 2007. They've written an overview of the IMS invited sessions.

The IMS sessions at the Joint Statistical Meetings in Salt Lake City cover a wide range of topics which should prove to be of interest to IMS members. Included in these sessions are the Rietz Lecture, three Wald Lectures and five Medallion Lectures. This year the Rietz Lecture will be given by David Siegmund. His talk, *"Statistical Problems of Gene Mapping"*, will examine the difficulties of multiple comparisons, and computational problems in addition to general modeling issues that arise in gene mapping. Problems from both experimental and human genetics will be considered.

The series of three Wald Lectures will be presented by Jim Berger. The first, *"A Review of Some Surprises in Bayesian Modeling"* focuses on hypothesis testing and model selection including a discussion of large dimensional statistical models. The second, *"Model Selection: Multiplicities and Approximations"*, will discuss the different types of multiplicities that occur as well as how to handle these difficulties. In addition it will also address ways of improving on BIC as an approximation for model likelihoods. The final Wald Lecture, *"Working with Inexact Models: The World of Computer Modeling"* will consider the statistical issues that arise when using models which only approximate reality. [Read Jim's preview of his lectures on page 14.]

There are also a total of five Medallion Lectures. The first will be given by Peter Donnelly who will describe statistical challenges faced in modern genetics. Claudia Neuhauser will give the second focusing on a probabilistic approach to understanding ecological communities. Hans-Georg Müller will discuss methods and applications of functional regression analysis. Xuming He will provide approaches to the analysis of quantile regression models under both fixed and random censorship. Finally Jane-Ling Wang will present several methods for the joint modeling of longitudinal and survival data.

In addition to these named lectures there are 21 IMS invited sessions. There are two sessions on July 29. The first organized by Ben Hansen, focuses on recent developments in the use of propensity score matching for observational studies. The second session *"Probing the Universe with Nonparametric Methods"* organized by Christopher Genovese is devoted to statistical problems arising in astronomy. John Rice will describe the *"Statistical issues in Detecting Gamma-ray Pulsars"*. Chad Schafer will present a semi-parametric estimator of a bivariate density based on truncated data arising from the measurements of quasars. Ji Meng Lo will discuss the clustering of absorbers found while looking at distant quasars.

On July 30 there are five sessions. The morning sessions have talks on survival analysis, causal inference and optimal transformations. The survival analysis session organized by Lu Tian discusses non-proportional hazards models, semi-parametric accelerated failure time models and varying coefficient Cox models. The causal inference session organized by Mark van der Laan is devoted to individualized treatment rules. The final session of the morning, *"Optimal Transformations"* organized by Anirban Dasgupta contains two talks one which describes a useful way to transform nonparametric regression data and another which studies the choice of a smoothing parameter in deconvolution problems.

The afternoon sessions turn to financial econometrics and machine learning. The financial econometrics session, by organized Jianqing Fan, considers inference for hidden semimartingale models, diffusion processes and autoregressive volatility models. The machine learning session organized by Jon McAuliffe has talks on model selection, support vector machines and large-scale covariance selection. In the evening Jim Pitman will give the IMS presidential address on *"Open Access to Professional Information"*.

There are another five sessions on July 31. The morning sessions are *"Robust Inference and model selection"*, organized by Tianxi Cai, *"Asymptotic decision theory and its applications"*, organized by Harrison Zhou and *"Statistical Analysis and Forecast of Space-time Wind Power Data"* organized by Marc Genton.

In the afternoon Bernard Silverman has organized a session on *"Functional Data Analysis"* with two talks on functional linear models and another on an iterative way of performing principal component analysis. The session *"Bayesian Model Selection"* organized by Edward George considers Bayesian approaches to nonparametric regression, regression trees and prediction.

On August 1 there are three sessions during the morning. The machine learning session organized by Peter Bühlmann has an emphasis on boosting with talks on fast boosting algorithms, model-based boosting, and convergence results for boosting algorithms. The session on the analysis of microarray data, organized by Cun-Hui Zhang, looks at estimating the fraction of non-null effects, measurement of epigenetic marks and the use of rate distortion theory for model selection. The third session organized by Xuming He considers quantile regression in the context of nonparametric, semi-parametric and GARCH models.

In the afternoon there is a session dedicated to large-scale multiple comparisons organized by Jiashun Jin with talks on the maxima of random fields, kriging, and the use of Bayes and empirical Bayes in the control of FDR.

There are four sessions on the final day of the meeting. Per Mykland has organized a session on financial applications with a range of interesting topics. Florentina Bunea has organized a session on recent advances in statistical aggregation with talks on empirical risk, and aggregation algorithms. A session organized by Heping Zhang looks at problems arising from Genomics. The final IMS session organized by Ker-Chau Li focuses on a number of important issues arising in dimension reduction and information visualization. Further information about the joint meetings, including the full online program, can be found at the JSM website: www.amstat.org/meetings/JSM/2007

IMS Topic Contributed Sessions at JSM
Jiashun Jin, Purdue University, is the IMS Contributed Session Chair at JSM. He provides an overview:

There are 18 topic contributed sessions sponsored by IMS at the Salt Lake City Joint Statistical Meetings. These sessions cover a wide range of topics which should be of interest to IMS members. Specifically, we have:

Five sessions on *methodology and applications to bioinformatics, genetics, medical science*, organized by Dylan Small (Univ of Pennsylvania, July 30), Bret Larget (Univ of Wisconsin, July 30), Vladimir Minin (UCLA, July 30), Jun Xie (Purdue Univ, July 31), and Zhiyi Chi (Univ of Connecticut, August 2).

Four sessions on *high dimensional data and related topics*, organized by Lexin Li (North Carolina State Univ, July 29), Woncheol Jang (Univ of Georgia, July 29), Sijian Wang (Univ of Michigan, July 29), Jinchi Lv (Princeton, July 31), and Jing Qiu (Univ of Missouri, August 1).

Three sessions on *spatial statistics and related topics*, organized by Tonglin Zhang (Purdue Univ, July 29), Zepu Zhang (Univ of Chicago, July 29), Fang Li (Indiana Univ, Purdue Univ).

Two sessions on *time series*, organized by Zhengjun Zhang (Univ of Wisconsin, July 30) and Michael Levine (Purdue Univ, July 31).

We also have one session on *Monte-Carlo Methods* organized by Yuguo Chen (Univ of Illinois at Urbana Champaign, August 1), and one session on *nonlinear Dynamics* organized by Giles Hooker (Cornell Univ, August 1).

Below: Salt Palace Convention Center is the venue for the 2007 JSM. Photo: Steve Greenwood/Salt Lake City CVB

Wald Lectures: Model Uncertainty and Validation

This year's IMS Wald Memorial Lectures are to be delivered by Professor James O Berger, the Arts & Sciences Professor of Statistics at Duke University, and Director of SAMSI. Here, Jim gives us a preview of his lectures (see box below for times).

Model uncertainty and validation cover an enormous range of topics, only a few of which will be addressed in these sessions. The first session is a review of some of the surprising issues that arise in Bayesian (and frequentist) approaches to dealing with model uncertainty. The second session will consider strategies for dealing with multiplicities (e.g., multiple testing), and will also discuss some useful computational approximations to marginal likelihoods. The third session looks at the vast non-statistical world of computer model validation, from a statistical viewpoint.

A Review of Surprises Encountered in Bayesian Model Selection briefly reviews the following statements, all of which I once thought true, but now think false.

· Use of *p*-values is better than fixed alpha-level testing, since *p*-values are conditional on the data.

· Frequentist testing and Bayesian testing are incompatible; for instance, Bayes tests do not depend on the stopping rule in sequential settings while frequentist tests do so depend, necessitating 'spending alpha' for looks at the data.

· The best single model to a Bayesian is the highest posterior probability model.

· Model selection priors cannot be derived from the data.

· Only a relatively small number of models will typically receive significant posterior probability (or other 'weight'), and hence description of model uncertainty can focus on a few best models.

I will discuss why I now view all these statements to be false.

The last issue above has arisen only relatively recently, as efficient strategies have finally been devised for searching large model spaces. The typical result of an effective search is that no models are found with significant posterior probability (or weight); instead there can be thousands or millions of roughly equivalent models. The key issue that then must be considered is how to effectively summarize the model information that has been obtained from the search.

Model Selection: Multiplicities and Approximations addresses two of the biggest hurdles in implementation of strategies for dealing with model uncertainty: multiplicity and computation. Issues of multiplicity in testing are increasingly being encountered in practice, and failure to properly adjust for multiplicities is often being blamed for the apparently increasing lack of reproducibility in science. We will review some of the different types of multiplicities that are encountered, including multiple testing and subgroup analysis, and discuss the general approaches for dealing with them that are being adopted by frequentists and Bayesians (with much more emphasis on the latter).

IMS Wald Lecturer,
Jim Berger

On the computational side, in addition to the search issue mentioned in the first session, the major hurdle for Bayesians is the computation of marginal likelihoods of the various models. Because of the difficulty of this computation, BIC is often used as an approximation to this marginal likelihood. Unfortunately, BIC has a number of problems. We will thus discuss new approximations that show considerable promise in significantly improving on BIC, even potentially applying to situations where the model size grows with the sample size.

Working with Inexact Models: the World of Computer Modeling takes a look—from a statistical viewpoint—at one of the major activities in science and engineering today, namely the development of math-based or simulation-based computer models of scientific and engineering processes. Such models are virtually always incomplete representations of reality and, hence, can usually be rejected by statistical tests of their faithfulness to reality. Nevertheless, the models are going to be used, and the statistical challenge is to understand how they can be effectively used.

Issues surrounding the use of such 'inexact' models include the use of statistical methods to attempt to determine the model 'bias' and adjust predictions accordingly, and efforts to account for all uncertainties that are present, including uncertainty in model parameters or inputs. The statistical methodology used for this purpose is a mix of Bayesian spatial, hierarchical and nonparametric techniques; such techniques seem necessary to approach the problem, as will be shown with a simple example.

In implementing the methodology, numerous difficulties arise, such as the frequent need to deal with functional data, the presence of severe confounding between unknowns, and the rather surprising phenomenon that full Bayesian analysis is often inferior to 'modular' Bayesian analysis, which allows some unknowns to be influenced by only some of the data.

2007 COPSS Fisher Lecturer: Marvin Zelen

Madhuri S. Mulekar, the Secretary/Treasurer of COPSS, writes:
The 2007 Fisher Lecturer is the "Father of Biostatistics" Marvin Zelen, Professor of Statistical Science at Harvard School of Public Health. The Fisher Lectureship, awarded annually by the Committee of Presidents of Statistical Societies (COPSS), honors Sir Ronald Aylmer Fisher and recognizes a leading current day statistician who has contributed significantly to scientific investigation through the development and promotion of statistical methods. In the opinion of his colleague Professor Joe Ibrahim, "Marvin is a true scholar and intellect, leader, mentor, and visionary. His lifelong achievements in the profession are extraordinary". Professor Zelen's lecture on, "Fisher, Randomization and Current Practice", will be delivered at the COPSS Awards Session to be held at 4:00pm on Wednesday, August 1, 2007, at the Joint Statistical Meetings in Salt Lake City.

Professor Zelen received his MA from the University of North Carolina in 1951 and PhD from the American University in 1957, since when Professor Zelen has traveled on a vibrant career path. After graduation, moving across the country, he started his academic career at the University of California, Berkeley. From there, he moved through various academic positions at the University of Maryland, the University of Wisconsin, Imperial College of Science and Technology and London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine, State University of New York at Buffalo, the University of Waterloo, and Hebrew University, finally landing at Harvard in 1977. During his thirty years at Harvard, he also served as the Chairman of the Department of Biostatistics for 10 years, and the Chair of the Department of Biostatistical Sciences at the Dana-Farber Cancer Institute. Besides academia, he also worked as a mathematician with the National Bureau of Standards and Stevens Institute of Technology. From 1963 to 1967 he was the Head of the Mathematical Statistics and Applied Mathematics Section of the National Cancer Institute, NIH.

His path-breaking and original contributions to the field of statistics are reflected in an enormous number of articles, book chapters, letters, editorials, and discussions he has published in leading journals, on topics spanning the design of experiments, the design and analysis of clinical trials, randomization, length-biased sampling, screening methodologies for chronic diseases, and stochastic modeling with applications to cancer research. He is recognized as one of the pioneers of using Kronecker products and orthogonal projection operators in experimental design problems involving factorial and unbalanced designs. He is also known for his "play the winner rule" in randomized clinical trials and his methods are still used in designing cutting-edge, multi-center clinical trials. Another one of his passions, the early detection of disease, has led to internationally recognized ground-breaking research on breast cancer screening, for which he was recently interviewed by CNN.

Leading associations like the American Statistical Association, the American Association for the Advancement of Science, the Institute of Mathematical Statistics, and the International Statistical Institute have recognized his contributions by electing Dr Zelen a Fellow. He is an elected member of the International Statistical Institute and the American Academy of Arts and Sciences. He is a recipient of the Statistician of the Year award, the Samuel S. Wilks award, and the Morse Award for his contributions to cancer research. He was also bestowed with the honorary degrees of AM and ScD by Harvard University and Universite Victor Segalen Bordeaux II, respectively.

After a remarkable research career spanning over 50 years, Professor Zelen is still active in methodological and collaborative research. He has contributed his knowledge to the community by serving as the Chairman of the Board and President of Frontier Science and Technology Research Foundation, a not-for-profit corporation formed to advance statistical science, and by serving on the scientific committees of St Jude Children's Hospital and Herbert Irving Comprehensive Cancer Center, both of which are well known for their cancer research. With his leadership, balanced vision, successful mentorship, and objective way of thinking he was a major force in the development of the Harvard Biostatistics program, and has made a tremendous impact on the statistical community and the profession of biostatistics. Due to his fundamental contributions in shaping the field of biostatistics, impact on the theory and practice of biostatistics through research, and vision for the future of the profession, Professor Zelen is aptly considered by many scientists, scholars, and educators as the "Father of Biostatistics". His mentorship has shaped the careers of many in the field of biostatistics; his students and colleagues consider him a great mentor and friend.

COPSS established the Fisher Lectureship in 1963. This award aims to recognize the importance of broad-based applications of statistical methods for scientific investigation, and the emphasis of statistical and probabilistic aspects of the scientific collection and interpretation of data. Members of the 2007 Fisher Lecture Committee, chaired by Elizabeth Thompson (COPSS), are Lori Thombs (ASA), Michael Newton (IMS), Louis-Paul Rivest (SSC), Jeremy Taylor (ENAR), and Loveday Conquest (WNAR).

IMS Meetings around the world

IMS sponsored meeting

IMS Annual Meeting at Joint Statistical Meetings 2007

July 29 – August 2, 2007
Salt Lake City, Utah
IMS Program Co-chairs: Tony Cai and Mark Low (invited);
Jiashun Jin (contributed).
w www.amstat.org/meetings/jsm/2007/
Registration and hotel bookings now open at the JSM website. Register before June 21 for Early Bird Rates!

Key Dates for JSM 2007	
Now	Invited program available online
May 1, 2007	JSM **main registration opens**
May 10, 2007	Draft manuscripts due to session chairs
May 29, 2007	Preliminary PDF program posted online
June 21, 2007	Early Bird Registration closes
July 2, 2007	Hotel reservations deadline
July 15, 2007	Final Program available online

The 2007 Joint Statistical Meetings will be held July 29–August 2, 2007 at the Salt Palace Convention Center located at 100 South West Temple, Salt Lake City, Utah 84101. The Headquarter hotels are the Grand America, 555 South Main Street, and, opposite this, the Little America at 500 South Main Street. Book your hotel through the JSM website for preferential rates.

Fancy a tour while you're at JSM? You could choose a baseball or soccer game, a walking tour of downtown Salt Lake City, or how about visiting Antelope Island and the Great Salt Lake [*pictured below*]? This tour is on the morning of Wednesday, August 1. According to the Tours section of the JSM website, Antelope Island, located in the middle of the Great Salt Lake, has remained pristine since Utah was settled in 1849. This tour will head west across the Great Salt Lake causeway to visit the island, which is home to a unique ecosystem that reflects what the pioneers encountered when they arrived in the Salt Lake Valley. The tour will stop at Buffalo Point, which provides a stunning view of the Great Salt Lake. Today, Antelope Island is home to mule deer, bighorn sheep, antelope, and a herd of 600 bison.

Photo: Eric Schramm/ Salt Lake CVB

IMS sponsored meeting

Tenth IMS Meeting of New Researchers in Statistics and Probability: July 24–28, 2007, University of Utah, Salt Lake City, UT
w http://www.bios.unc.edu/~gupta/NRC
Co-chairs: Mayetri Gupta and Xiaoming Sheng, nrc@bios.unc.edu
The IMS Committee on New Researchers is organizing another meeting of recent PhD recipients in Statistics and Probability. The purpose of the conference is to promote interaction among new researchers, primarily by introducing them to each other's research in an informal setting. Participants will present a short, expository talk or a poster on their research and discuss interests and professional experiences over meals and social activities organized through the conference and the participants themselves. The meeting is to be held immediately prior to the 2007 Joint Statistical Meetings in Salt Lake City, UT. **The application deadline has now passed.**

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 bioin-formatics
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

IMS co-sponsored meeting:
Third Cornell Probability Summer School
June 17–30, 2007
Cornell University, Ithaca, NY

w www.math.cornell.edu/~durrett/CPSS2007

The Third Cornell Probability Summer School will be held June 17–30, 2007 at Cornell University in Ithaca, NY.

The three main lecturers for the Cornell Probability School are:

Richard Bass, University of Connecticut. *Harmonic functions and Harnack inequalities for stochastic processes with jumps.*

Maury Bramson, University of Minnesota. *Stability for queueing networks.*

Michel Ledoux, Université Paul-Sabatier (Toulouse III). *Concentration inequalities for random matrix and random growth models.*

In addition, there will be one or two one-hour lectures by Rodrigo Bañuelos, University of Purdue, Chris Burdzy, University of Washington, Seattle, and Ruth Williams, University of California, San Diego.

More information about the program can be found on the web at www.math.cornell.edu/~durrett/CPSS2007/

There will be time in the program for roughly two dozen 25-minute talks. Participants interested in giving a talk should submit a title and abstract when they register. The deadline for applying for support was April 1, 2007.

IMS Meetings around the world

IMS co-sponsored meeting

Skorokhod Space: 50 Years On
June 17–23, 2007
Kyiv, Ukraine

w http://www.imath.kiev.ua/~skor_space
IMS Representatives on Program
Committee: Paul Dupuis, David Nualart

IMS co-sponsored meeting

Fourteenth Applied Probability Society of INFORMS Conference
July 9–11, 2007
Eindhoven University of Technology, Netherlands

w http://appliedprob.society.informs.org/INFORMS2007/Index.html
IMS Representatives: R. Atar, B.D. Choi, D. Denteneer, P. Dupuis, P. Glynn, G. Grimmett, I. Kaj, O. Kella, T. Mikosch, I. Norros, W. Schoutens, H. Schmidli, A. Zeevi

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 sponsored meeting

IMS Annual Meeting/7th World Congress in Probability and Statistics
National University of Singapore, Singapore
July 14–19, 2008

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 the 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

WNAR/IMS meeting

June 24–27, 2007: The joint meeting of the Western North American Region (WNAR) of the International Biometric Society and the Institute of Mathematical Statistics (IMS)

Dan Gillen writes: This year's host for the annual WNAR/IMS meeting will be the Department of Statistics at the University of California, Irvine (UCI). On Sunday, June 24th we are very fortunate to have Professor Don Rubin of Harvard University present a short course on causal inference. This will be followed by regular sessions, contributed and invited, on Monday, June 25th through Wednesday June 27th. In addition, here are some of the highlights to look forward to at this year's meeting:

· **WNAR Presidential Invited Address** – On Monday June 25th, Professor Terry Speed of the Statistics Department at UC Berkeley will present this year's presidential invited address. Professor Speed is a leading expert in the area of statistical genetics and the application of statistics to molecular biology problems. He currently serves on the editorial board of the *Journal of Computational Biology, JASA, Bernoulli* and the *Australian and New Zealand Journal of Statistics*.

· **Annual Meeting Banquet** – This year's banquet will take place on the evening of Tuesday June 26th at Villa Nova restaurant, a fantastic Italian restaurant with picturesque views of Newport Harbor and the Pacific Ocean. The banquet will offer plenty of time to socialize with other conference attendees.

· **WNAR Student Paper Competition** - Cash prizes will be given for the best written paper as well as the best oral presentation. All students participating in the Student Paper Competition will receive a registration reimbursement for the meeting, free admission to the New Researcher's luncheon, and free admission to the annual WNAR/IMS banquet. Papers may be submitted to the student paper competition by current students and recent graduates (since June 1, 2006) of programs in the WNAR Region (Mexico and areas in Canada and the United States west of approximately 104 degrees west longitude) in biostatistics, statistics, or other applied mathematical fields having a biometric focus. The deadline for submitting papers to this year's competition is April 30th. For questions regarding the student paper competition, please contact Raphael Gottardo (chair of the competition committee) at raph@stat.ubc.ca or visit http://www.stat.ubc.ca/~raph/Wnar/Wnar.php.

About Irvine

Located in Orange County California, Irvine benefits from the sunny forecasts and warm temperatures that Southern California is known for. Newport Beach is located just 5 miles from the UCI campus. In addition, popular destinations such as Disneyland,

Laguna Beach and Huntington Beach are located approximately 15 miles from UCI. Irvine and the surrounding Orange County area offers an abundance of restaurants and shopping.

For evening entertainment, the home of the Pacific Symphony is located just 10 minutes from campus and the Los Angeles Angels of Anaheim Stadium is located 15 miles from UCI.

For further information about places and attractions in Orange County, please visit http://www.visitorangecounty.net.

Registration, abstract submission, and further information

Registration for this year's meeting is currently open. Advance registration will be available until May 27th. In addition, abstracts are currently being accepted for contributed presentations. Abstract submissions will be accepted until March 31st. For more information regarding registration and submitting an abstract, please visit this year's WNAR/IMS meeting website at http://www.ics.uci.edu/statistics/wnar/.

IMS co-sponsored meeting

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:
Before April 30, 2007: regular $150; student $50. *After April 30, 2007:* regular $200; student $75
Abstract Deadline: May 31, 2007

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

Local chair: Ryan Elmore. Details to follow.

Future ENAR/IMS co-sponsored Meetings:
2008 ENAR/IMS Spring Meeting
March 16–19, 2008, Hyatt Regency Crystal City, Arlington, VA

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

2009 ENAR/IMS Spring Meeting
March 15–18, 2009, Grand Hyatt San Antonio, San Antonio, TX

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

Now an IMS co-sponsored meeting
The 16th International Workshop on Matrices and Statistics,
June 1-3, 2007
University of Windsor

w http://www.uwindsor.ca/iwms

The Department Mathematics and Statistics at the University of Windsor is proud to be the host for The 16th International Workshop on Matrices and Statistics.

The purpose of this Workshop is to stimulate research, in an informal setting, and to foster the interaction of researchers in the interface between matrix theory and statistics. The Workshop will include both invited and contributed talks, and a special session with talks and posters by graduate students is planned. A special issue of the journal *Linear Algebra and its Applications* will be devoted to selected papers presented at the conference.

This workshop is a satellite meeting of the 35th Annual Meeting of the Statistical Society of Canada, St. John's, Newfoundland, June 10-13, 2007.

For information about abstract submission, or to participate as a speaker, please email Dr George P.H. Styan, Chair of the International Organizing Committee at styan@math.mcgill.ca

The local organizing committee for the workshop consists of S. Ejaz Ahmed (Chair), Lihua An, Shahid Bhatti, Myron Hlynka, Md. Shakhawat Hossein, Abdul Hussein, Sévérien Nkurunziza, and Wai Ling Yee. Christine Young is the Workshop Administrator (email iwms@uwindsor.ca). For more information, please visit our website.

IMS co-sponsored meeting
33rd Conference on Stochastic Processes and their Applications
July 27–31, 2009
Berlin, Germany

Organizing committee chair: Prof. Peter Imkeller
Details to follow.

Other Meetings Around the World:
Announcements and Calls for Papers

13th International Conference on Random Structures and Algorithms
Tel Aviv University
May 28 – June 1, 2007

w http://www.math.tau.ac.il/~rsa2007/
Conference organizers: Noga Alon, Ehud Friedgut, Michael Krivelevich

DYNSTOCH+ workshop: Statistics for Stochastic Processes
Amsterdam, The Netherlands
June 7–9, 2007

w http://remote.science.uva.nl/~spreij/
dynstoch/dynstoch2007ams.html
Previous workshops took place as part of the Human Capital and Mobility research project *Statistical Inference for Stochastic Processes* (1994–1996), and of the activities of the Research Training Network *DYNSTOCH* (2000–2004). The workshops have been continued between and after termination of these European projects.

All Pakistan Mathematical Conference
Pakistan Academy of Sciences, Islamabad, Pakistan
June 7–9, 2007

w http://www.ciit.edu.pk
The All Pakistan Mathematical Association is organizing an All Pakistan Mathematical Conference for three days from 7–9 June, 2007. The Conference will cover all disciplines of Mathematics. About thirty talks are scheduled in the Conference. Ten international speakers are expected to present their papers in the Conference.

The conference is open to university and college teachers, researchers and graduate students. The last date for registration is 25 May 2007. For online registration and further details please visit our website. Local hospitality will be provided to participants from outside Islamabad.

Objectives:
· Reviving All Pakistan Mathematical Association
· Interaction between mathematics communities and scientific communities
· Promotion of research in mathematics
· Regional and international research collaboration
· Exchange of ideas
· Deliberation on the promotion of mathematics in the country
· Developing a permanent forum for discussion of issues relating to mathematics

Call for papers:
Last date for submission of abstract of papers is 25 May 2007.

Announcing your meeting

Meetings announcements should be sent to Elyse Gustafson, IMS Executive Director, erg@imstat.org who will then submit them to the *IMS Bulletin*, e-Bulletin and IMS web site, www.imstat.org/meetings. There is no charge for this service. Announcements for non-IMS sponsored meetings may be included in an IMS e-bulletin (monthly email to members) upon request. Announcements are updated on the web site daily, and will be included in the next available printed *IMS Bulletin*.

Announce as early as possible

As soon as the meeting name, dates, location, and web page are set for the meeting, submit this information. We will place it immediately into the web and *Bulletin* calendars. This will help people put it on their radar screen. The sooner, the better for this: we can place this information months to years in advance.

Print advertisements

IMS publishes meeting advertisements as a service to its members and the statistical community. All advertisements are subject to editorial approval and may be edited. For guidance on content and style, please read http://www.imstat.org/program/prog_announce.htm. Full details about the requirements are inside the back cover of every issue.

Advertisements should be submitted at least 6–9 months prior to the meeting. Special consideration should be given to deadlines when placing advertisements. You want to ensure people have a chance to see the ad in time to make your deadlines. Mail dates for the *Bulletin* can be found inside the back cover. Most members will receive the *Bulletin* by 3–4 weeks after the mail date, and it is available (free) online 1–2 weeks before the mail date.

Stochastic processes:
Theory and Applications
on occasion of the
65th birthday of
Wolfgang Runggaldier

Accademia Cusanus
Bressanone, ITALY
July 16-20, 2007

Conference for the 65th birthday of Wolfgang Runggaldier.
July 16–20, 2007
Bressanone, Italy
e brixen07@math.unipd.it
w http://www.math.unipd.it/~brixen07

The conference *"Stochastic processes: Theory and Applications, on the occasion of the 65th birthday of Professor Wolfgang Runggaldier"* will take place from the 16th to the 20th of July in Bressanone. The conference focuses on forty years of scientific activity of Professor Runggaldier and its aim is to bring together the people of the scientific and industrial world with whom he has co-operated during this time (see the website for a list of the speakers who have confirmed their participation). The topics of the meeting will therefore reflect the research interests of Wolfgang Runggaldier during his career and will mainly focus on Operations Research, Nonlinear Filtering and Mathematical Finance.

Bressanone is a small charming town in the Italian Alps reachable by train (about two hours) from Verona or Innsbruck (both towns have quite well connected airports). The Venue is the Accademia Cusanus (named after the famous philosopher who was bishop there). It has nice conference facilities and the environment is very relaxed. There will be an outing in the Alps on Wednesday afternoon and a banquet on Thursday.

The conference fee is 100 Euros (free for doctoral students). Further informations as well as a Registration form can be found on the web page. Hotel booking will be handled directly by the Accademia Cusanus.

For further informations, contact brixen07@math.unipd.it

NOTE: Due to the limited space availability of the conference facilities, conference participation will be put on hold in a waiting list for new registrations if and when the number of registrations will have exceeded 100.

South West England & South Wales Probability Meeting
July 31, 2007
University of Bath, UK
w http://www.bath.ac.uk/math-sci/events/prob2007/
This one-day probability meeting at the University of Bath will consist of six talks to be given by:
Götz Kersting (Frankfurt); Janos Englander (UC Santa Barbara); Stas Volkov (Bristol); Ben Hambly (Oxford); Chenggui Yuan (Swansea); Roger Tribe (Warwick)
In addition to this excellent line up of speakers, we hope this one-day probability meeting will help to strengthen links, stimulate further research and foster new collaborations amongst those working in probability within the region, including PhD students.

Conference on Emerging Design and Analysis Issues in Genomic Studies in Population Sciences
October 11–12, 2007
Harvard Medical Conference Center, Boston, MA, USA

w http://biosun1.harvard.edu/complab/genomics_workshop/

The goal is to examine the interplay between emerging genomic technologies, population-based studies, and developing statistical and computational methods. Three important topics will be discussed: genome-wide association studies; gene-environment interactions; "omics" techniques in population sciences.

Instructional Workshop in Bioinformatics
December 16–19, 2007
Hyderabad, India

followed by…

International conference on Bioinformatics
December 20–22, 2007
Hyderabad, India

w http://www.uohyd.ernet.in/sls/cbt/bif/Training/conf2007.htm

The Instructional Workshop in Bioinformatics (December 16–19) precedes the International Conference on Bioinformatics (December 16–19). Both will be held in Hyderabad, India. The workshop and conference are organized by the School of Life Sciences (SLS) and the Centre for Modeling, Simulation and Design (CMSD) of the University of Hyderabad, and the C.R. Rao Advanced Institute for Mathematics, Statistics and Computer Science.

Topics to be covered: Statistical methods for microarray gene expression and proteomics; Statistical applications in microbiology and pharmacokinetics; Mathematical algorithms; Biocomputing; Forensics; Molecular modeling and drug design.

There will be invited and contributed papers sessions. Abstract submission deadline: October 31, 2007. The best paper presented at the contributed paper sessions of the conference by a scientist of age 40 or below will be awarded **The C.R. and Bhargavi Rao Prize.**

Contacts: in India, Anand Kondapi **e** akondapi@yahoo.com, in USA, C.R. Rao **e** crr1@psu.edu

17th International Workshop on Matrices and Statistics (IWMS08) in Honor of Professor T.W. Anderson's 90th Birthday
23–26 July, 2008
Tomar, Portugal

w www.ipt.pt/iwms08

For further information, please contact Prof Francisco Carvalho **t** +351 249 328 100; **f** +351 249 328 186; **e** fpcarvalho@ipt.pt

Pyrenees International workshop on Statistics, Probability and Operations Research (SPO 2007)
September 12–15, 2007
Jaca, Spain

w http://metodosestadisticos.unizar.es/~jaca2007

The Pyrenees International workshop on Statistics, Probability and Operations Research (SPO 2007) will be held at Jaca (Spain) from September 12 to September 15, 2007, giving established researchers, young specialists and graduate students the opportunity to discuss and work together.

The meeting features a school and a workshop in the fields of Statistics, Probability and Operations Research, introducing relevant topics and some of the most recent advances and prospective challenges of the fields with special emphasis on applications.

A limited number of scholarships for PhD students and advanced undergraduate students that may cover partial or totally the expenses will be provided by the organizers.

The school will feature three advanced short-courses, each taught by a leading specialist in the area. In addition, there will be some invited talks and contributed sessions.

For registration and more information, including scholarships, please check the website.

The city of Jaca is located in the heart of the Pyrenees, 30 kilometres from the French border. Jaca is a key point in the Way of Saint James (pilgrim route). Its surroundings offer exceptional views and richness in natural resources as well as historic and artistic heritage.

Contact: *Dr Gerardo Sanz, Director, Dept. Metodos Estadisticos, Facultad de Ciencias, Universidad de Zaragoza, C/ Pedro Cerbuna, 12, 50009 ZARAGOZA, Spain.* **t** +34 976 762860; **f** +34 976 761115; **e** gerardo.sanz@unizar.es
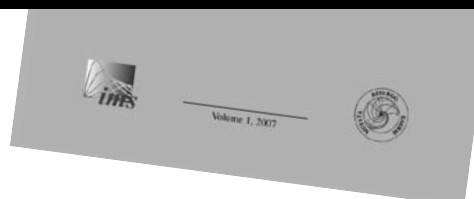
Employment Opportunities around the world

Directory of Advertisements

USA: North Carolina

SAMSI
Postdoctoral Fellows

The Statistical and Applied Mathematical Sciences Institute (SAMSI), a national institute funded by the National Science Foundation and partners in North Carolina, is soliciting applications for Postdoctoral Fellows for 2007–2008, to participate in SAMSI research programs. Postdoctoral Fellows are typically appointed for two years, earn a very competitive salary, and receive exceptional mentoring. See www.samsi.info for further information and application instructions. Members of underrepresented groups are particularly encouraged to apply. AA/EOE.

Switzerland: Lausanne

Postdoctoral/PhD Positions in Statistics, EPF Lausanne

Applications are invited for Postdoctoral/PhD positions in STATISTICS at the Institute of Mathematics of the Ecole Polytechnique Fédérale de Lausanne (EPFL).
The appointments are available from 1 September 2007 (or a later date to be agreed).
Postdoctoral appointments are between 1-3 years, while the period of PhD studies is normally 3 years. The EPFL offers highly competitive salaries for Postdoctoral positions, and highly competitive scholarships for PhD studies.
The positions will be in the Chair of Mathematical Statistics, under the supervision of Victor M. Panaretos.
Research topics are within the broad area of statistical/probabilistic modeling and methodology for physical/biological applications. Indicatively, these may include spatial statistics, inference for stochastic processes and statistical inverse problems with applications to epidemiology, natural phenomena, and structural biology. One particular research area for a postdoctoral position is that of statistical methodology, data analysis and computation for single-particle electron microscopy experiments.
Candidates for the Postdoctoral position(s) should hold a PhD in Statistics or a related field, with excellent statistical computing and data analytic skills, and a solid background in mathematics. Candidates for the PhD position should hold a degree in mathematics, or in statistics with a strong mathematical background. Knowledge of French is not a requirement, but will be helpful.
Candidates for the Postdoctoral positions should send a CV (including list of publications and the names and email addresses of three referees), a research statement, and one reprint/preprint.
Candidates for the PhD positions should send a CV (including the names and email addresses of two referees), a copy of their transcripts and a research statement.
Referees will be contacted directly. Review of applications will start immediately, and shortlisted candidates may be invited for an interview.
All files should be sent as attachments in PDF format to anne-lise.courvoisier@epfl.ch, including a brief cover letter in the main body of the email and subject: Application for Postdoc (or Ph.D.) position (as the case may be).

USA: North Carolina

SAMSI
Visiting researchers and graduate students

The Statistical and Applied Mathematical Sciences Institute, a national institute in North Carolina, seeks visiting researchers and graduate students for participation in the three 2007–2008 research programs: Risk Analysis, Extreme Events and Decision Theory; Random Media; and Environmental Sensor Networks. See www.samsi.info for further information. Members of underrepresented groups are particularly encouraged to apply. AA/EOE.

International Calendar of Statistical Events

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

June 2007

ims June 1–3: Windsor, ON, Canada. **16th International Workshop on Matrices and Statistics. e** iwms@uwindsor.ca **w** http://www.uwindsor.ca/iwms

June 2–5: Cornell University, Ithaca, NY. **Workshop on Random Matrices. w** www.math.cornell.edu/~durrett/

NEW June 7–9: Pakistan Academy of Sciences, Islamabad, Pakistan. **All Pakistan Mathematical Conference. w** http://www.ciit.edu.pk

NEW June 7–9: Amsterdam, The Netherlands. **DYNSTOCH+ workshop: Statistics for Stochastic Processes. w** http://remote.science.uva.nl/~spreij/dynstoch/dynstoch2007ams.html

June 9–12: Rome, Italy. 6th International **Workshop on Objective Bayesian Analysis.** Short course on June 8. **e** brunero.liseo@uniroma1.it **w** http://3w.eco.uniroma1.it/OB07

June 10–13: St John's, Newfoundland. **35th Annual Meeting of the Statistical Society of Canada.** Local Arrangements Chair: Brajendra Sutradhar **e** bsutradh@math.mun.ca **t** (709) 737-8731 **f** (709) 737-8731

June 10–15: Ascona, Switzerland. **Statistics for Biomolecular Data Integration and Modeling.** Christina Künzli **e** kuenzli@stat.math.ethz.ch **w** www.stat.math.ethz.ch/talks/Ascona_07/

June 11–13: Harvard University, MA, USA. **Harvard University Statistics Department Second Summer Retreat: Modern Perspectives on Quantitative Financial Modeling. w** http://www.stat.harvard.edu/summer

June 12–14: The University of Jordan, Amman, Jordan. **Ordered Statistical Data & Inequalities: Theory & Applications.** Contact Prof Mohammad Z. Raqab, University of Jordan, **t** +962-06-5355000 ext 3135 **f** +962-6-5355570 **e** mraqab@ju.edu.jo or osdi@ju.edu.jo or Prof H N Nagaraja, Ohio State University, **t** +614-292-6072 **f** +614-292-2096 **e** hnn@stat.ohio-state.edu **w** www.ju.edu.jo/osdi

June 14–16: València, Spain. **Fifth Workshop on Bayesian Inference in Stochastic Processes w** http://www.uv.es/bisp5/

ims June 17–23: Kyiv, Ukraine. **Skorokhod Space: 50 Years On.** IMS reps Paul Dupuis, David Nualart **e** skor_space@imath.kiev.ua **w** http://www.imath.kiev.ua/~skor_space

ims June 17–30: Cornell University, Ithaca, NY. **3rd Cornell Probability Summer School. w** www.math.cornell.edu/~durrett/

June 18–22: EURANDOM, Eindhoven, The Netherlands. **Workshop on Random Polymers.** Contact Frank den Hollander **e** denholla@math.leidenuniv.nl or Stu Whittington **e** swhittin@chem.utoronto.ca **w** http://www.eurandom.tue.nl/workshops/2007/Random%20Polymers/RandomPolymers_main.htm

June 18–22: Bressanone-Brixen, Italy. **Computational and Statistical Aspects of Microarray Analysis. w** http://www.economia.unimi.it/marray

June 25–27: Academia Sinica, Taiwan. **2007 Taipei International Statistical Symposium and ICSA International Conference.** Program Chair: Chi-Lun Cheng **e** 2007symp@stat.sinica.edu.tw **w** http://www.stat.sinica.edu.tw/2007symp

June 25–29: Fleurance, France. **International Workshop on New Directions in Monte Carlo Methods. w** http://www.adapmc07.enst.fr

July 2007

ims July 1–21: Park City, Utah. **IAS/Park City program on Statistical Mechanics. w** http://www.admin.ias.edu/ma/

July 2–6: Barcelona, Spain. **IWSM 2007: International Workshop on Statistical Modelling.** Also short course on July 1: **Models for repeated discrete data. w** http://mat.uab.es/~iwsm2007/

July 4–6: Leeds, UK. **LASR 2007 - Systems Biology & Statistical Bioinformatics.** Contact: Stuart Barber **e** workshop@maths.leeds.ac.uk **w** http://www.maths.leeds.ac.uk/lasr2007

July 4–7: Todi, Italy. **Fluctuations and Scaling in Materials.**
e fsm@isc.cnr.it **w** http://fsm.isc.cnr.it/

July 8–21: Saint-Flour, Auvergne, France. **37th Saint-Flour Probability Summer School. w** http://math.univ-bpclermont.fr/stflour/

July 9–11: Vienna, Austria. **MCP 2007 Vienna:** Fifth international conference on Multiple Comparison Procedures.
w www.mcp-conference.org

July 9-11: Eindhoven, The Netherlands. 2007 **Applied Probability INFORMS Conference.** Hosted by EURANDOM and Eindhoven University of Technology. IMS reps: R. Atar, B.D. Choi, D. Denteneer, P. Dupuis, P. Glynn, G. Grimmett, I. Kaj, O. Kella, T. Mikosch, I. Norros, W. Schoutens, H. Schmidli, A. Zeevi. Local organiser Onno Boxma **e** boxma@eurandom.tue.nl
w http://appliedprob.society.informs.org/INFORMS2007/Index.html

July 9–13: Genova, Italy. **STATPHYS 23**.
w http://www.statphys23.org

July 9–13: Texas A&M University. **Workshop in Analysis and Probability: Concentration Week on** *"Free Probability Theory"*
w http://www.math.tamu.edu/research/workshops/linanalysis/

July 9–27: Institute for Pure and Applied Mathematics (IPAM), Los Angeles, CA. Graduate Summer School: **Probabilistic Models of Cognition: The Mathematics of Mind.**
w http://www.ipam.ucla.edu/programs/gss2007/

July 14–19: Erice, Sicily. **Statistical physics of social dynamics: opinions, semiotic dynamics, language.** Satellite Meeting of STATPHYS23. **e** erice2007@gmail.com **w** http://pil.phys.uniroma1.it/erice2007 [Includes atelier by Luc Steels: *"Modeling Language Evolution with Computational Construction Grammar"*, Saturday 14 **w** http://www.csl.sony.fr/erice2007/]

NEW July 16–20: Bressanone, Italy. **Stochastic processes: Theory and Applications, on the occasion of the 65th birthday of Prof Wolfgang Runggaldier. e** brixen07@math.unipd.it
w http://www.math.unipd.it/~brixen07

July 22–25: Auburn University, AL. **First International Workshop in Sequential Methodologies** 2007.
Co-Chairs Nitis Mukhopadhyay **e** nitis.mukhopadhyay@uconn.edu and Mark Carpenter **e** carpedm@auburn.edu
w http://www.stat.auburn.edu/iwsm2007/

July 23–27: Bern, Switzerland. **Fifth Conference on Extreme Value Analysis. w** www.imsv.unibe.ch/eva2007

July 24–28: University of Utah, Salt Lake City, UT. **Tenth IMS Meeting of New Researchers in Statistics and Probability.** Co-chairs: Mayetri Gupta and Xiaoming Sheng **e** nrc@bios.unc.edu **w** http://www.bios.unc.edu/~gupta/NRC

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

NEW July 31: University of Bath, UK. **South West England & South Wales Probability Meeting.**
w http://www.bath.ac.uk/math-sci/events/prob2007/

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: 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/

International Calendar *continued*

August 2007 continued

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

ims August 13–14: Yunnan University, Kunming, China. **International Conference on the Frontier 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 (TIES07)**

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: 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/iasc07/

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.** 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/

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

NEW 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

September 24–28: Aussois, France. **European Course in Advanced Statistics (ECAS).** Topic: Structural Equation Models
w http://web.upmf-grenoble.fr/labsad/pages/ecas2007

October 2007

NEW 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

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/

December 2007

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

December 10–14: Australian National University, Canberra, Australia. **BioInfoSummer07: Sequence, Structure, Evolution & Networks.** ICE-EM Summer Symposium in BioInformatics
w http://wwwmaths.anu.edu.au/events/BioInfoSummer07/

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
w http://math.utsa.edu/~ahmad/cbms/

NEW 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 or C.R. Rao **e** crr1@psu.edu
w 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; Prof. Sheng-Tsaing Tseng **e** sttseng@stat.nthu.edu.tw; Prof. Fu-Chuen Chang **e** changfc@math.nsysu.edu.tw

January 2008

ims January 9–11: Bormio, Italy. **MCMSki II: Markov Chain Monte Carlo in Theory and Practice.** 3rd joint international meeting of the IMS and ISBA. Program Chairs: Bradley P. Carlin and Antonietta Mira. **w** 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 **w** http://gocps2008.rwth-aachen.de

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

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 . Program: Bruno Rémillard (HEC Montréal) **e** bruno.remillard@hec.ca
w http://www.ssc.ca/2008/index_e.html

June 2008

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

International Calendar *continued*

2008 continued

July 2008

July 7–10: University of Technology of Compiegne, 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

NEW **23–26 July:** Tomar, Portugal. **17th International Workshop on Matrices and Statistics (IWMS08) in Honor of Professor T.W. Anderson's 90th Birthday.** Contact Prof 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.

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.**

Membership and Subscription Information

Journals:

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

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The *IMS Bulletin* (ISSN 1544-1881) is published ten times per year in January/February, March, April, May, June, July, August/September, October, November and December by the Institute of Mathematical Statistics, 3163 Somerset Dr, Cleveland, Ohio 44122, USA. Periodicals postage paid at Cleveland, Ohio, and at additional mailing offices. Postmaster: Send address changes to Institute of Mathematical Statistics, 9650 Rockville Pike, Suite L2407A, Bethesda, MD 20814-3998.

Printed by The Sheridan Press, 450 Fame Avenue, Hanover, PA 17331, USA.

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

in the
next
issue

July 2007

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

We'd love to hear from you! Send in your articles, feedback, letters…

DEADLINE
for submissions

June 1, 2007

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

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

IMS: Organized September 12, 1935

Kakuro corner

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

2 2 4 ✗ *No repeated digits in a sequence.*

2 1 3 ✗ *This row sequence doesn't add up to 8.*

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

Solution 14 from last issue

Puzzle 15

Puzzle by www.yoogi.com