Volume 40 • Issue 4

IMS Bulletin

June/July 2011

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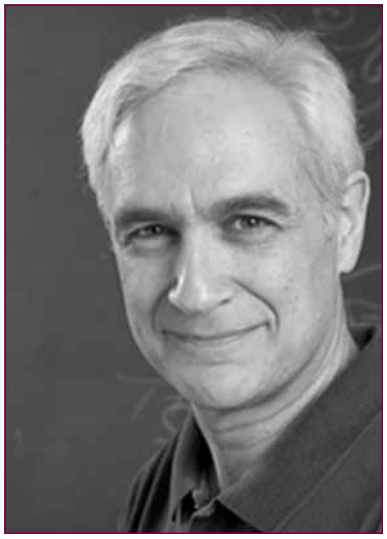
Fellows Elected to National Academies

The US National Academy of Sciences has announced the election of 72 new members and 18 foreign associates from 15 countries, in recognition of their distinguished and continuing achievements in original research. Among them are two IMS Fellows, Stuart Geman and H. Vincent Poor.



Stuart Geman

Stuart Geman is the James Manning Professor of Applied Mathematics in the division of applied mathematics at Brown University, Providence, RI, USA. He graduated from the Massachusetts Institute of Technology in 1977, having completed his thesis on stochastic differential equations with smooth mixing processes. His advisors were Herman Chernoff and Frank Kozin. Professor Geman's current research focuses on the mathematical formulation for compositionality, and the implications of this formulation for interpreting neural activity patterns and for building computer vision systems.

Vince Poor

At Princeton, Vince Poor is Dean of the School of Engineering and Applied Science, and the Michael Henry Strater University Professor. His research interests are in the areas of statistical signal processing, stochastic analysis and information theory, and their applications in wireless networks and related fields. Among his publications in these areas are the recent books Quickest Detection (Cambridge University Press, 2009) and Information Theoretic Security (Now Publishers, 2009). An IMS Fellow since 2001, Vince is also a member of the U. S. National Academy of Engineering, the American Academy of Arts & Sciences, and the Royal Academy of Engineering of the U. K. Other recognition of his work includes a Guggenheim Fellowship in 2002, the 2005 IEEE Education Medal, the 2010 IET Ambrose Fleming Medal, the 2011 IEEE Eric E. Sumner Award, and an honorary doctorate from the University of Edinburgh, awarded in June 2011.

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Executive Committee

IMS Members' News

American Academy of Arts and Sciences elects Members


Laurent Saloff-Coste


Michael I. Jordan

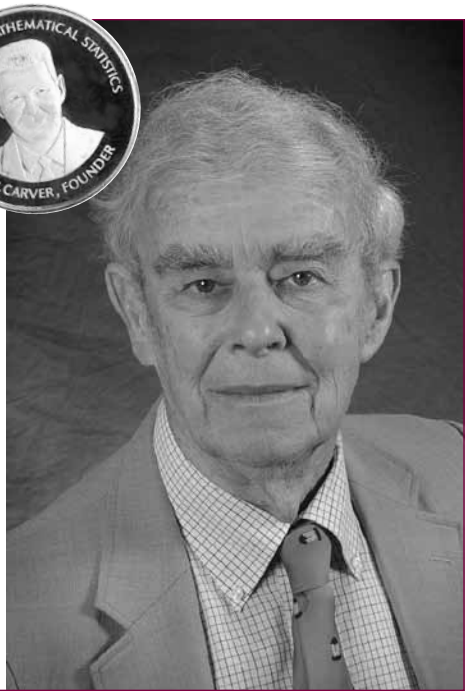
Some of the world's most accomplished leaders from academia, business, public affairs, the humanities, and the arts have been elected members of the American Academy of Arts and Sciences. Among them are two IMS Fellows, Michael I. Jordan (Pehong Chen Distinguished Professor, Professor of Computer Science and Professor of Statistics, at University of California, Berkeley) and Laurent Saloff-Coste (Professor of Mathematics at Cornell University).

The 212 new members join one of the nation's most prestigious honorary societies and a leading center for independent policy research. Members contribute to Academy studies of science and technology policy, global security, social policy and American institutions, the humanities, and education.

"It is a privilege to honor these men and women for their extraordinary individual accomplishments," said Leslie Berlowitz, Academy President and William T. Golden Chair. "The knowledge and expertise of our members give the Academy a unique capacity—and responsibility—to provide practical policy solutions to the pressing challenges of the day. We look forward to engaging our new members in this work."

Among the 2011 class are winners of the Nobel, Pulitzer, and Pritzker Prizes; the Turing Award; MacArthur and Guggenheim fellowships; and Kennedy Center Honors, Grammy, Golden Globe, and Academy awards.

Harry C Carver Medal



The 2011 IMS Carver Medal is awarded to Professor Ross Leadbetter, Department of Statistics and Operations Research, University of North Carolina, "*For his contributions to the success of the 1994 Third World Congress at North Carolina, for his service on the IMS Council, and for his editorial work.*"

Dimitris Politis Guggenheim Fellow

In its 2011 competition for the US and Canada the John Simon Guggenheim Memorial Foundation has awarded 180 Fellowships to artists, scientists, and scholars, chosen from some 3,000 applicants. Only one fellowship was awarded in statistics, to our editor, Dimitris Politis.

IMS Meeting news

World-class speakers for World Congress

An impressive lineup of plenary speakers has been selected for next year's IMS Annual Meeting, the eighth World Congress in Probability and Statistics, which will be held in Istanbul, Turkey, from July 9 to 14, 2012.

Next year's IMS Special Invited Lectures are the Wald Lectures, the Le Cam lecture, and eight Medallion Lectures, five of which will be at the World Congress. The Wald Lectures will be given by Steffen Lauritzen, University of Oxford, and the Le Cam lecturer is Pascal Massart, Université de Paris-Sud. The World Congress Medallion lecturers are Sourav Chatterjee, University of California, Berkeley; Franco Flandoli, Università di Pisa; Nicole El Karoui, École Polytechnique; Alexandre Tsybakov, Université Paris VI; and Van Vu, Rutgers University.

[The other three 2012 Medallion lectures will be delivered at JSM in San Diego, by Yoav Benjamini, Emmanuel Candes and Don Geman.]

The Tukey Lecturer is chosen every four years by the Bernoulli Society Subcommittee on Named Lectures for the World Congress; it is one of the highest academic honours bestowed by the Bernoulli Society. Next year's Tukey lecturer is Bin Yu, Chancellor's Professor of Statistics and EECS and Chair of Statistics at Berkeley.

The other Bernoulli Society lectures are the Lévy lecture, by Maria Eulália Vares, Brazilian Center for Research in Physics; the Laplace lecture, by Anestis Antoniadis, University Joseph Fourier; the Bernoulli lecture, by Peter Green, University of Bristol; and the Kolmogorov lecture, by Stas Smirnov, Université de Genève. There will also be a public lecture from Peter Diggle, Lancaster University. "."

Keep an eye on the Congress website for updates: http://www.worldcong2012.org/

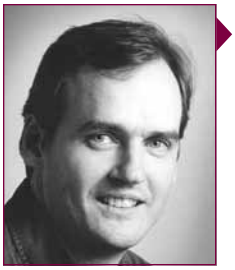
Yuval Peres receives MAA Robbins Award

The Mathematical Association of America's David P. Robbins Prize in Algebra, Combinatorics, and Discrete Mathematics has been awarded to IMS Fellow Yuval Peres and his co-authors for two papers published in *American Mathematical Monthly.* Yuval received the $5000 prize on behalf of the group—Mike Paterson, Yuval Peres, Mikkel Thorup, Peter Winkler, and Uri Zwick—at the MAA's 2011 Joint Mathematics Meetings in New Orleans in January. The papers were "Overhang" (*American Mathematical Monthly* **116**, January 2009); and "Maximum Overhang" (*American Mathematical Monthly* **116**, December 2009).

Yuval Peres receiving the award on behalf of his co-authors, at the JMM in New Orleans

The prize was established in memory of David P. Robbins; every third year it honors the author or authors of a paper reporting on novel research in algebra, combinatorics, or discrete mathematics.

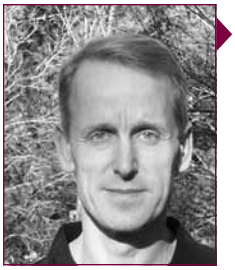
2011 IMS Fellows



Peter Bartlett, University of California at Berkeley:
For world-leading contributions to research at the interface between statistics and machine learning, including the development of a variety of measures of complexity, and for editorial service.

Gérard Ben Arous, Courant Institute of Mathematical Sciences:
For fundamental contributions to probability theory, including the theory of large deviations, to the theory of stochastic flows, to hypoelliptic diffusions and their associated heat kernels, to the study of metastability in spin-glass systems and aging phenomena, and to the theory of large random matrices.

Freddy Delbaen, Eidgenössische Technische Hochschule Zürich:
For his wide-ranging influential research in functional analysis, probability and economics, including fundamental contributions to mathematical finance, and for similarly widespread editorial service.



Paul Dupuis, Brown University:
For seminal research in broad areas of pure and applied probability, for expository publications that have helped shape important research areas, for editorial work for many leading journals, and for vital leadership within his university and in the wider academic community.

Jiashun Jin, Carnegie Mellon University:
For outstanding contributions to sparse signal recovery, the analysis of high-dimensional data more generally and the optimality of statistical methods, exhibiting deep technical expertise and the ability to create path-breaking new research strategies.

Wesley Johnson, University of California at Irvine:
For world-class contributions in various areas of statistical methodology and applications, including the topics of influential observations, diagnostic screening tests, asymptotics and Bayesian nonparametric survival analysis; and for authoritative editorial service.

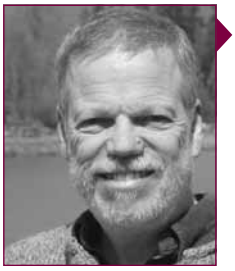
Estate Khmaladze, Victoria University of Wellington:
For highly-regarded work on empirical processes, especially based on martingale representations, and on geometric probability, the latter involving a deep combination of methods from differential geometry and statistics that has implications for applied areas such as image analysis.

Wolfgang Polonik, University of California at Davis:
For many important and mathematically challenging results in nonparametric regression and time series, often involving the rigorous application of nontrivial techniques for handling empirical processes; and for editorial service.

William F. Rosenberger, George Mason University:
For major contributions in sequential analysis and clinical trials, involving rigorous treatment of adaptive randomization and response-adaptive design and including development of a framework for optimal allocations, work that has been accepted by practitioners as the standard in the field.

Laurent Saloff-Coste, Cornell University:
For exceptional contributions at the interface between probability and analysis, especially concerning the mixing of Markov chains, random walks on groups, and the use of probabilistic methods for the study of heat kernel bounds.

Marta Sanz-Solé, University of Barcelona:
For influential work in a variety of branches of stochastic analysis, including anticipating calculus, large deviations and especially the application of Malliavin calculus to stochastic partial differential equations; and for leadership within the European Mathematical Society.



Gordon Slade, University of British Columbia:
For fundamental contributions to the study of percolation, self avoiding walks and related topics, in particular for internationally-acclaimed extensive development of the lace expansion method of studying critical phenomena in high dimensions.

Hal Stern, University of California at Irvine:
For world-class Bayesian methodological research, especially in the context of hierarchical models, for influential interdisciplinary work in disease mapping and health statistics, medicinal imaging, biology and the atmospheric sciences, and for extensive professional service.

Maria Eulália Vares, Centro Brasileiro de Pesquisas Físicas, Rio de Janeiro:
For important contributions to interacting particle systems, metastability, large deviations and hydrodynamics of these systems, especially to stochastic systems motivated by statistical physics problems; also for editorial service and for scientific leadership in South America.

Weng Kee Wong, University of California at Los Angeles:
For prolific and path-breaking work on optimal design, including continuous optimal designs, min-max, heteroscedastic and multi-objective optimal designs, and for substantial editorial service.

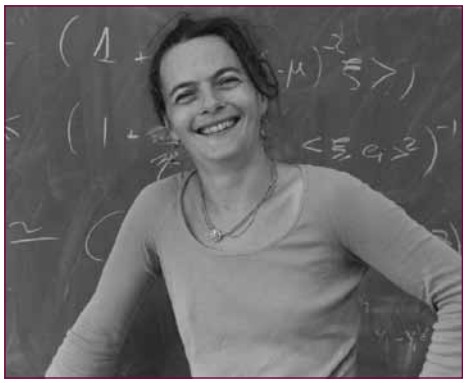
Yimin Xiao, Michigan State University:
For world-leading contributions in the fractal analysis of stochastic processes and sample functions of random fields, for developing a potential theory for a wide class of Markov random fields, and for the solution of long-standing problems concerning additive Lévy processes.

Chunming Zhang, University of Wisconsin, Madison:
For influential contributions to theory and methodology for high-dimensional data, for unifying common loss functions through Bregman divergence, and for fundamental work in nonparametric and semiparametric methodology together with applications in multiple testing, brain-imaging and finance.

Hongtu Zhu, University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill:
For outstanding and prolific work in handling missing data problems and latent variable models, in developing neuroimaging ideas including diffusion tensor image methodology, and in creating a general approach to diagnostics.

These 18 new IMS Fellows will be presented at JSM in Miami, at the IMS Presidential Address on Monday, August 1, 2011, 8:00–9:30pm. Hope you can make it!

Medallion Lecture preview: Alice Guionnet



Alice Guionnet is the other IMS Medallion Lecturer at the 35th Conference on Stochastic Processes and their Applications, held in Oaxaca, Mexico, from June 19–25, 2011. (The other Medallion Lecturer at SPA is Itai Benjamini, whose lecture was previewed in the last issue).

Having worked on spin glasses in statistical physics in the nineties, Alice Guionnet has focussed on random matrices in the last 15 years. She is currently working in ENS de Lyon, France. She has been awarded several prizes, including the Oberwolfach Prize in 1999, the Rollo Davidson Prize in 2003, the Doistau-Blutet Prize from the French Academy of Sciences in 2006, the Loève prize in 2009, and the Medaille d'argent (Silver Medal) from the Centre national de la recherche scientifique, France, in 2010.

Non-normal random matrices

During the past fifteen years, random matrices became a central object of study in probability theory, with very diverse motivations coming from other branches of mathematics, physics, statistics or telecommunications for instance. The random matrices which show up in these applications are often self-adjoint and the study of their spectrum then relies on functional calculus based on the fact that we can diagonalize these matrices in an orthonormal basis. This motivates the study of the traces of moments of these matrices, as the moments of their spectral measure. Such an analysis was performed in most classical cases, such as the so-called Wigner or Wishart ensembles, and led to the understanding of the asymptotic behaviour of the spectral measure as the size of the matrices go to infinity.

What happens when the matrices are not normal, that is do not commute with their adjoint, is a very different story. The simplest of such random matrices is given by a square matrix with independent and equidistributed entries. When the entries are Gaussian, this is the Ginibre ensemble, whose eigenvalues have a simple joint law. It can then be shown that the spectral measure of such a matrix converges towards the uniform measure on the unit disc. Showing that this result remains true when the entries are not Gaussian — the so-called universality — happened to be a *tour de force* starting with the work of Girko, which was put on a firm mathematical ground first by Bai and recently in full generality by Tao and Vu. Since then, understanding the spectrum of non-normal matrices seemed to be a challenge. In a joint work with M. Krishnapur and O. Zeitouni, we studied an ensemble of random non-normal matrices which is unitarily invariant and with given singular spectral measure. We proved the convergence of the spectral measure towards the so-called Brown measure. The Brown measure of an operator is given by the traces of polynomials in this operator and its adjoint, and thus can be computed following the usual trick developed for self-adjoint matrices or, more recently, in free probability. The Brown measure seems to be even more natural than the spectral measure itself which can change dramatically if the matrix is perturbed by an extremely small matrix. It appears as the limit of the spectral distribution of any matrix to which a small Gaussian matrix is added.

Medallion Lecture preview: Jianqing Fan

Jianqing Fan is Frederick L. Moore Professor of Finance and director of the Committee of Statistical Studies at Princeton University. After earning his PhD from the University of California at Berkeley, he was appointed assistant, associate, and full professor at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill (1989–2003), professor at the University of California at Los Angeles (1997–2000), and professor and chair at the Chinese University of Hong Kong (2000–2003). He is a past president of the IMS, and co-edited *The Annals of Statistics, Probability Theory and Related Fields*, and *Econometrical Journal*. His work earned him the 2000 COPSS Presidents' Award, the 2007 Morningside Gold Medal of Applied Mathematics, and Guggenheim Fellow in 2009. Jianqing will give his Medallion Lecture, "A Journey to Ultra-High Dimensional Space," at JSM Miami, on August 1 at 10:30am.

High-dimensional Statistical Learning and Tour

High-dimensionality and massive data collection characterize many contemporary statistical problems from frontiers of science, engineering, and humanities. Massive data collections and new scientific research have strong impact on statistical thinking, methodological development, scientific computing, and theoretical studies. In this lecture, I will give the rise of dimensionality from various emerging problems in genomics, genome wide association studies, expression quantitative trait loci, machine learning, portfolio management, forecasting based on spatial-temporal data from economics, marketing, meteorology, earth sciences, and ecology.

What are the main objectives of high-dimensional statistical learning? What are the key impacts of high dimensionality on statistical endeavor? These will be clearly summarized and demonstrated. Particular emphasis will be given to the issues of "noise accumulation" and "spurious correlation".

What makes the seemingly unsolvable problems solvable? What are the popular assumptions? What are the essential assumptions? The popular assumption is the sparsity and this assumption is exploited by various regularization methods. Through a simple line of mathematics, the regularization by L_1 penalty can control nicely noise accumulation issues in risk approximations.

For a more stringent goal of model selection consistency and good risk controls, penalized L_1 methods have a limited capacity due to its shrinkage biases for estimating coefficients of important variables. Indeed, the LASSO can have model selection consistency when the irrepresentable condition is met, yet such a condition is very stringent when the number of signals is not very sparse or the number of unimportant variables is not too large. In fact, when one of the important variables is missing, to achieve aforementioned good risk property, LASSO picks a number of unimportant variables to approximate it, resulting in large model size with many spurious variables. The biases issues can be neatly handled by introducing a family of folded concave penalty functions. Through a local linear or quadratic approximation (LLA or LLQ), the folded concave penalized likelihood can be cast as a sequence of convex optimization problems, the algorithm now understood as the majorization-minimization algorithm. The convergence of such an algorithm can easily be seen from one line of mathematical argument. In particular, when the LLA is used, the folded-concave penalized least-squares can be cast as the iteratively re-weighted LASSO. Through this re-weighting scheme, the biases are reduced.

Can the folded-concave penalized methods achieve global optimality? Can they have the model selection consistency with a much wider capacity? Can they have the oracle property even though the dimensionality is of non-polynomial order of sample size? These will be demonstrated.

When the sample size is in the order of tens of thousands or even millions, the penalized methods do not work very well due to the spurious correlation and noise accumulation. How can we visit the most important regions in ultra-high dimensional feature spaces? We advocate an iteratively two-scale method, called iteratively sure independence screening (ISIS). The method iteratively applies to a large-scale independence screening followed by a moderate selection. The independence screening ranks the importance of features by their marginal utilities. Can such a simple and quick method of independence screening have a sure screening property? In what capacity can they reduce the dimensionality? The issues will be critically analyzed. The methods will be illustrated and applied by a case study: forecasting the US housing market over 381 core-based statistical areas.

Obituary: Benoît Mandelbrot

1924–2010

Benoît Mandelbrot

In the back of the cab, Benoît Mandelbrot was at work. We had an appointment in Manhattan together, and the Polish-born, Franco-American mathematician did not like the geometry of the route the taxi driver was taking.

"Why don't you go down Second Avenue?" he asked the driver. Cross on 25th, he ordered. Go left at Park — no, not here. It was a running commentary — and was causing a small explosion in the front seat. But Mandelbrot didn't care.

"Look, it's just a matter of elegance," he explained. "I'd like him to do it with a minimum of motion — an elegant solution." I joked that he was trying to solve a 'travelling salesman' problem in the back of a cab. "I already solved it," he chuckled.

That was vintage Mandelbrot: an indomitable will, leavened with some humour, pushing into other people's business. He died October 14 in Cambridge, Mass., at the age of 85. In life he was the archetypal campaigner — the scientist who, when his reason convinced him of a fact, would not back down. This was the man, after all, who fought the cliquish math world for half a century to earn respect for the branch of mathematics he created, fractal geometry; who, from his base as an industrial researcher at IBM's Yorktown Heights lab made a career of tweaking posh academic noses (he was 75 before he earned tenure at Yale); who, as early as 1962, argued that the math on Wall Street was all wrong and would lead to the kind of financial disaster that hit in 1987 and again in 2008. He was, he liked to say, a 'maverick' — a forceful frontiersman of science who relished a good, intellectual fight. But in the bigger picture, he was more: an exemplar of the kind of independent, inter-disciplinary researcher that is all too rare—and necessary—in the big business of science that characterizes our age.

The research enterprise, whether in universities or corporate labs, is a complex affair. Science is huge: $935 billion in the developed world alone in 2008, according to the Organisation for Economic Cooperation and Development. It is powerful, shaping fundamental policy debates from climate change to management of the economy. And it is divided into thousands of narrow specialities, each one a small world of received wisdom, rigid hierarchies, and strict entry requirements.

In that realm, a number theorist is not welcome to publish on high energy physics, and a biochemist is not often invited to a conference of economists, however much their tangential perspectives on the topic might possibly stimulate some new thinking. "The specialization of science is an inevitable accompaniment of progress; yet it is full of dangers, and it is cruelly wasteful," wrote J. Robert Oppenheimer, the Manhattan Project leader (and a friend to the younger Mandelbrot.)

Mandelbrot built a career fighting against that trend towards specialization. He was a mathematician who told hydrologists how to build dams, a computer scientist who studied financial markets. He analyzed the noise on telephone lines, the branching of bronchia in the lungs, the shape of coastlines and clouds, the distribution of word frequencies in literature and of stars and galaxies in the universe.

To be sure, he had a method. Wherever there was a phenomenon with large amounts of data and huge variation from one point in the data to another — a stock market chart, a hospital EKG readout, a telescope's CCD output — he had a mathematical tool for it, fractal geometry. It was a tool to study what he called roughness, or irregularity. It showed an underlying and often unexpected unity among phenomena in nature and society.

"The complexity of the world is absolutely boundless, and the number of tools you can use to get a handle on it is extremely small," Mandelbrot once told me. "Very often the problem consists in taking a tool from one field, and applying it elsewhere… What I think has been my contribution in a broad sense is to take a problem of roughness in nature and to, in part, identify and to, in part, invent new tools to handle it. Some of these tools were used in the past. Some of them were never used."

A fractal, a term he coined while leafing through one of his sons' Latin grammars (it comes from 'broken'), is a shape or pattern that can be seen repeating over and over at different scales in the same object or set of data – the way the florets in broccoli are a small-scale image of the whole vegetable, or the way stars cluster into galaxies which in turn group into in galaxy clusters, or the way the fluctuations of stock prices during an hour can, statistically speaking, look similar to the way they move around in a day or a month. Today, this math is used in data-compression algorithms on the Internet, in computer graphics, and in financial market analysis, among many other fields. It is also familiar to millions through the Mandelbrot Set, a psychedelic-looking mathematical shape that appears

on screen-savers and T-shirts, or through the fractals-made-easy modules now incorporated into numerous high school and college math courses.

He was particularly troublesome to economists. Working at IBM, he began to look at the way financial markets work. He concluded that the data didn't fit the theories of the academic economists; their mathematical formulae—in Modern Portfolio Theory, Black-Scholes options pricing, the Capital Asset Pricing Model—were based on a series of embedded assumptions that were plainly false. Sure, the equations were easy to use and produced decent results most of the time; but when they failed (which was more often than the experts liked to admit) there were the crashes and bankruptcies. In the aftermath of the 2008 crash, his views have seemed more prescient than ever. Said one Nobel-winning economist, the late Paul A. Samuelson: "On the scroll of great non-economists who have advanced economics by quantum leaps, next to John von Neumann we read the name of Benoît Mandelbrot." (The Nobel Prize committee never agreed.)

The world's problems seem to grow by the year—energy supply, climate, pandemics, financial turmoil. We still need specialists, but we also need creative agitators who cross from one field to another fertilizing ideas and shaking up the received wisdom. Now, more than ever, we need scientists like Mandelbrot.

Richard Hudson is the CEO & Editor of Science|Business, http://www.sciencebusiness.net. *He co-authored with Mandelbrot (who was an IMS Fellow) a 2004 book,* The (Mis) Behavior of Markets: A fractal view of risk, ruin and reward. This obituary is reprinted by permission: *The Wall Street Journal*

NISS partners on Census Bureau's Synthetic Longitudinal Business Database

The United States Census Bureau announced in March that it is releasing its Synthetic Longitudinal Business Database Beta Data Product (SynLBD) for use by the general public. The database was produced by the Census Bureau together with a team of collaborators that includes the National Institute of Statistical Sciences (NISS), Duke University, Cornell University, the Internal Revenue Service (IRS) and the National Science Foundation (NSF). Research statistician Satkartar (Saki) Kinney led the NISS effort, under an Intergovernmental Personnel Act (IPA) agreement between NISS and the Census Bureau.

The purpose of SynLBD is to provide users access to a longitudinal business data product that can be used outside of secure Census Bureau facilities. The SynLBD contains synthesized information on establishments' employment and payroll, as well as their birth and death years and actual industrial classification. The synthetic data are generated by fitting models to the confidential data and using these to simulate the replacement values. The goal is to preserve broad analyses in the data while protecting the confidentiality of individual establishments.

According to NISS Director Alan Karr, "Within the data confidentiality world, establishment data are more problematic than household or individual data, especially because large establishments are so easy to recognize. Although the nature of the difficulties is still emerging, longitudinal data are proving to be challenging in multiple ways, especially when there are ongoing releases of data. What Saki and her collaborators—who include Jerome Reiter of Duke, her doctoral advisor—are doing is leading to revolutionary new data products."

Researchers and others interested in using the SynLBD product may apply for a free user account on the Cornell University Virtual RDC. For more information, visit the SynLBD website at http://www.ces.census.gov/index.php/lbd.

IMS Laha Travel Awards

Thanks to a generous bequest by the late Professor Radha Govind Laha, IMS established the Laha Awards to provide funds for travel to present a paper at the IMS Annual Meeting, this year held at JSM in Miami, July 30 – August 4, 2011. This year the IMS Committee on Travel Awards has selected 14 students and new researchers for the award.

Guanqun Cao
Department of Statistics and Probability, Michigan State University

Garvesh Raskutti
Department of Statistics, University of California, Berkeley

Peng Wang
Department of Statistics, University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign

Xiang Liu
Dept of Biostatistics and Computational Biology, University of Rochester Medical Center

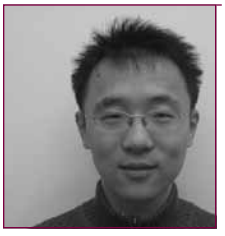
Dan Shen
Dept of Statistics and Operations Research, University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill

Gongjun Xu
Department of Statistics, Columbia University

Xin Liu
Dept of Statistics and Operations Research, University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill

Minjing Tao
Department of Statistics, University of Wisconsin–Madison

Yunwen Yang
University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign



Hui Nie
Department of Statistics, The Wharton School, University of Pennsylvania

Xin Tong
Princeton University

Kai Zhang
Department of Statistics, The Wharton School, University of Pennsylvania

Aleksey Polunchenko
Department of Mathematics, University of Southern California, Los Angeles

Yueqing Wang
Department of Statistics, University of California, Berkeley

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You?
Could this be you, next year? Make a date to apply for the 2012 Laha Award for travel to Istanbul!

Calls for papers, nominations

RSS Discussion Papers

The Research Section of the Royal Statistical Society would like to remind readers of the *Bulletin* of the opportunity to submit manuscripts for possible publication, with discussion, in the *Journal of the Royal Statistical Society Series B (JRSSB)*. With a 5-year impact factor of 4.75, *JRSSB* is ranked as second by the ISI Web of Knowledge in the Statistics and Probability category, and first among mainstream Statistics journals.

Publication of discussion papers is a long-standing tradition of the Journal. Upon acceptance, a discussion paper is presented before the Society at one of its Ordinary Meetings and is published in the Journal with contributions from discussants together with the authors' response. Typically, as perusal of some recent issues of the Journal will confirm, *JRSSB* discussion papers attract a large number of discussion contributions, either presented at the meeting itself or submitted subsequently in writing, and go on to become exceptionally highly cited.

We seek papers containing exciting original work which is at the leading edge of methodological development, with a strong emphasis on relevance to statistical practice and with the clear potential for stimulating discussion. This includes papers on statistical models, methods of analysis and the theory that underlies them—almost invariably motivated or illustrated by real examples. *JRSSB* aims to disseminate work which is innovative, insightful and likely to have a substantial impact on the way that data are collected and analysed; within these parameters the Journal's scope is broad, embracing for example relevant work in applied probability, computational methods and the foundations of statistics. Crucially, discussion papers should be written in such a way as to attract a large and varied audience, and to encourage discussion contributions from others. Papers which are written for narrow specialist groups are unlikely to be accepted as read papers.

To submit your work, go to ScholarOne Manuscripts at http://mc.manuscriptcentral.com/jrss, and, in the submission process, choose "Paper for Reading – Series B" as Manuscript Type. We will, naturally, be happy to answer any queries: please email the Research Section Secretary at the address below.

Piotr Fryzlewicz **e** p.fryzlewicz@lse.ac.uk
Secretary, Research Section
The Royal Statistical Society, London

Raymond J. Carroll Young Investigator Award
Department of Statistics, Texas A&M University

Nominations for the 2011 Raymond J. Carroll Young Investigator Award are currently being accepted. This award is presented bi-annually by the Department of Statistics at Texas A&M University to an outstanding young researcher in statistical science. The awardee must have completed his/her PhD within the previous 10 years of receiving the award and must have demonstrated outstanding scholarly contributions in statistical methodology and applications. Nominations must be written and include a curriculum vita. Nominators are encouraged to supply supporting documents such as letters of recommendation. Self-nominations are invited and encouraged. Correspondence by e-mail is preferred but not required. Nominations and supporting documents should be sent to the address listed below. The deadline for award submissions is August 15, 2011.

Professor Jeff Hart **e** hart@stat.tamu.edu
Chair, Raymond J. Carroll Young Investigator Award
Department of Statistics, Texas A&M University
3143 TAMU, College Station, TX 77843-3143

News from Japan: earthquake and tsunami

Nitis Mukhopadhyay was deeply concerned about the welfare of his Japanese colleagues, collaborators and friends in the wake of the catastrophic earthquake and tsunami that hit just as the last Bulletin went to print, and wrote this article in April about his reaction.

On March 11, 2011, Japan experienced one of the world's strongest earthquakes, which was followed by the Pacific tsunami of historic proportions. Japan may never be the same. I have many colleagues, collaborators, and friends in Japan, and some of them are very close to my heart. When I heard of this disaster, I felt distraught—especially since I had seen first-hand the effect of the 2004 Indian Ocean earthquake and tsunami that devastated Sri Lanka, Indonesia, and other countries and islands in that region. Those horrific images of the 2004 tsunami engulfed me all over again. As one of the main organizers of an international conference in Sri Lanka, I had arrived there with my family just two days before that tsunami hit. Hence, on hearing of the Japanese earthquake, I immediately started visiting the websites of a number of universities in Japan. Many were down but I eventually connected with the official site for the University of Tsukuba. I felt miserable knowing that this university was shut down completely and that it was also badly damaged. My heart sank as I saw many official warnings and announcements posted on that site.

I know many friends from the Institute of Mathematics at the University of Tsukuba including Professors Masafumi Akahira (Vice-President of the university), Makoto Aoshima, and Kazuyoshi Yata, as well as Professor Aoshima's PhD student, Miss Yuko Kobayashi. It was already the morning of March 13th and I had not heard anything about the whereabouts and wellbeing of these friends, colleagues, and collaborators. I decided to send out the following e-mail to a number of my Japanese colleagues:

Sent: Sunday, March 13, 2011 7:20 AM. Subject: How Are You?

My Dearest Colleagues: I realize that you live in different places in Japan, but you also may have families, other loved ones, colleagues, students, and friends in some of those devastated areas. In this time of utter misery and total despair, my earnest hope and prayer is that you and yours are all safe and everyone is doing as well as can be expected... When you get a chance, just let me please know that you are all doing alright. A reply from you will help ease some of the distress and pain that I feel for my super friends and colleagues in Japan… All the best and God bless, Nitis

This photo sent by Professor Makoto Aoshima shows how the Institute of Mathematics library at the University of Tsukuba looked immediately after the earthquake.

Professor Eiichi Isogai (Niigata University) wrote back: *"I appreciate your kindness. My family and I are safe and my house was not damaged. Thank you again"*. Professor Akimichi Takemura (University of Tokyo) wrote, *"Tokyo area is OK. However the north-east coastal area of the main island of Japan is devastated."* Professor Yoshikazu Takada (University of Kumamoto) wrote, *"Thank you very much for your concern of the earthquake occurred in Japan last week. The place is very far away from my town. So I am all right."* I heard from some of the other colleagues too from Tokyo and other places.

I felt relief knowing that these colleagues and their families were safe. But, thus far, I did not hear from anyone at the University of Tsukuba. My worries steadily increased, expecting the worst while hoping for the best. Eventually, I received a note from Professor Yata who wrote, *"Since the e-mail has returned, I am now able to read emails from you. Thank you for your concern. My city has been broken a little by the earthquakes. However, I am OK and Prof. Aoshima is also OK. Thank you very much for worrying. We are fine…"*

Then, I heard from Professor Akahira, *"Thank you very much for your e-mail. Fortunately, my family and I are fine. But, the lifeline of our university is still incomplete. So, I am very busy for returning to normal as a vice president of our university. I would like to do my best to make a good recovery from it."*

At last, on March 17, I heard from Professor Aoshima. He wrote from his heart and with great passion: *"I saw your email just today because the university's mail server had been down after the earthquake (magnitude 9.0) hit my place. I escaped the disaster. My office is on the eighth floor, that is, the top of the building. The tall bookshelf behind my desk fell down and pieces of broken glass scattered here and there on my chair. The desk & chair & computers & printers & phone & copy machine were crushed by the fallen bookshelf. At that time, I was in the*

seminar room. I ordered my graduate students to keep themselves under the desks. I tried to open the door, however it was very difficult to even stand myself with such heavy shakes. The terrible shakes continued and grew for a few minutes. The seminar room's heavy bookshelves moved one meter right and left in front of my eyes like a monster spitting out lots of books here and there. During a short rest, I ordered students and colleagues to get out of the building from fire stairs. I was the last person to escape from the building. My past students, Yata and Yuko, are safe & no damage since they are on the fifth floor even in the same building. My family and my house are safe since my house is on the first floor. It takes a while to revive. However, I learn from this very special experience. I am lucky to be alive. We are all safe. Thank you very much for your great consideration. … All the best …"

Since Professor Aoshima was so expressive, I first thought of requesting him to prepare a news piece from Japan. But he obviously had his plate full and I did not want to impose. However, he kindly answered a number of my questions. What follows is edited from the email conversation, and offers a glimpse of the story in an affected University campus in Japan.

Mukhopadhyay: Where was your family at the time? Could you connect with them?
Aoshima: *They were in my house. I could not connect with them right away because mail server and telephone communication were down. However, I could get together after I was back to my house.*
M: Did you hide or live in a shelter of some sort?
A: *We Japanese do not have such a shelter.*
M: In your campus, were many buildings damaged? How severely? Anybody got hurt? What was the general situation on day 1 and now?
A: There are many cracks in most buildings on campus, and the University Hall and the gymnasium were damaged. The graduation ceremony was cancelled. Fortunately, I have not heard that anybody got hurt on campus.
M: When do you expect your university's normal operations to begin again?
A: *We are preparing to start our university's normal operations in April, which is the beginning of the Japanese school year.*
M: Which other universities in Japan are badly affected?
A: *It seems that universities in Tohoku-North Kanto areas were mainly affected. Although our university is in North Kanto area, it seems not to be badly affected. I have not heard news of injuries or loss of lives among university students and faculty and their friends. However, I have to mention that people hit by tsunami are still badly affected. Also, people living within 20km from nuclear stations received official advice to evacuate, while some foreign media reported the distance"80km".*
M: What is your impression of the nuclear disaster? Is it media hype?
A: *I think the foreign media has portrayed Japanese situations very dramatically. Especially, their reports about the nuclear disaster seem to be excessively sensational. We Japanese are often perplexed by rumors spread from abroad.*

Thanks to Professor Aoshima and the rest of my colleagues from Japan for sharing their sense of despair, relief as well as hope. I am delighted that they, as well as their friends and families, are safe. With the help pouring in from all over this globe, Japan has already begun a vigorous process of rebuilding the road to recovery which is expected to take its own uncharted course.

My friends from Japan, keep well.

The Second IMS Asia Pacific Rim Meeting

~~**July 4–6, 2011**~~
~~**OMIYA Sonic City, Tokyo, Japan**~~

Program Chairs: Byeong U. Park **e** bupark@stats.snu.ac.kr), Runze Li **e** rli@stat.psu.edu
[NEW] w http://www.ims-aprm2012.org/

MEETING POSTPONED

Since the massive earthquake struck Japan on March 11, we, the local organizing committee and the scientific program committee have been intensively discussing its effect on the meeting. In view of the tremendous damage caused by the disaster, we are afraid that we have no alternative but to postpone the meeting until next year.

The situation in Fukushima nuclear power plant remains critical, and although the Japanese government and the whole nation are working so hard to resolve the situation, we can not ignore the effect of radioactive materials on your safety. Additionally, we expect substantial power shortages in the Tokyo area this summer.

Taking the above situation into consideration, we have decided to postpone the meeting until next year. We have rescheduled it to **July 1–4, 2012**, and moved it to **Tsukuba**, the science city and academic center of Japan, which is about 60km from Tokyo.

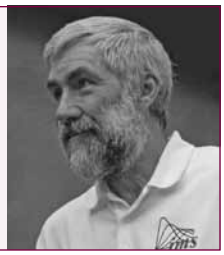
To those of you who already have registered, the local organizing committee will refund the registration fee to the credit card used for registration.

We hereby cordially invite you all to attend the meeting next year, when we are certain that you will witness a strong recovery of Japan from one of the most severe natural disasters in recent history.

Akimichi Takemura, LOC Chair
Byeong Park & Runze Li, SC Co-Chairs

Terence's Stuff: Interdisciplinary Statistics

Terry Speed recently attended a meeting on interdisciplinary statistical science, which got him thinking, what *does* that mean?



We all pride ourselves that Probability and Statistics (note the capitals) are important for many areas of academic research. Sufficiently important that we find courses in probability and/or statistics taught in departments of Biostatistics, Computer Science, Economics, Education, Engineering, Mathematics, Political Science, Psychology, Sociology, Statistics, and many other areas. Graduate programs with a substantial statistical component can be found in specialized centers, institutes or units devoted to fields such as Bioinformatics, Computational Biology, Demography or Survey Research. We all have experience of this diversity, and each of us lives it out in our own way. Faculty may have joint appointments, teach cross-listed courses, and be on the thesis committees of students from other branches of our discipline. Grad students typically take courses and perhaps act as teaching or research assistants in units other than their home department, and often have other statisticians as "outside members" on their thesis committees. This sounds like a lot of intermingling, but is it? And can — or should — there be more?

Here's a question for you. At your institution, how often do faculty and students from the different branches of our subjects get together in groups of more than two or three? I don't think my experience is atypical, and my answer is *rarely*. Perhaps at meetings of the local statistical society, or at social functions such as celebrations or memorials. Joint seminars can bring two or three branches together for a period, and the occasional talk can attract a broad audience from across the campus, but this is rare. What else could be done? My short answer is: a lot, and here's one way.

I recently had the privilege and pleasure of participating in the Fifth Michigan Student Symposium for Interdisciplinary Statistical Sciences (MSSISS), a day of talks, posters, and good food, capped by a trip to a pub where we could savor local beers (*b*). I went away thinking that every campus should have an annual event like it. Organized entirely by graduate students from Statistics, Biostatistics, Electrical Engineering and Computer Science and the Program in Survey Methodology from the Institute for Social Research, and held in the University of Michigan's art deco gem known as the Rackham Building *(see photo below)* housing the School of Graduate Studies, students and faculty from all these four branches of our discipline and from neighbouring institutions were treated to a superb day celebrating our diversity.

The organization of the 2011 MSSISS was near-perfect. There were not too many talks, all but one presented by students from the four branches above. The talks (*t*) were interleaved with poster sessions (*p*) and lunch (*l*) as follows: *ttpttplttptb*. The atmosphere at the three poster sessions was terrific, confirming my belief that this is a really excellent mode of professional communication. Every session was well-attended, with groups of people around all the posters engaged in animated questioning, answering, listening and looking. It was hard to get your head in, and once in, out. We had to be encouraged (dragged) to the lecture theatre at the end of every session. Which is not to say that the talks weren't excellent too: they were, but the degree of audience engagement is necessarily much lower. The paucity of questions after each said to me that students greatly prefer to put their questions face-to-face to a poster presenter, rather than to a speaker at a podium at the end of a talk. The food was exceptionally good, which is a great way to draw in students (and others), and as already mentioned, the physical surroundings were a delight.

I had one minor quibble, and that was the possible suggestion that a symposium consisting of students and faculty from four branches of our subject constituted an *interdisciplinary* activity. I do not consider the different branches represented at the MSSISS *different* disciplines, but rather parts of the *same* discipline. But maybe I am missing the point, and perhaps the real meaning of the term interdisciplinary in this symposium was intended to reside in the wide range of disciplines discussed by the speakers and the poster presenters. If so, then they succeeded admirably. There were posters and a talk about cancer research, a talk on the analysis of fault diagnosis data from noisy networks, of Raman spectroscopic image data, of neuronal spike-train data, of periodontal data, of dynamic social networks, returns to education, and social survey data. In fact, looking at the different departments and units in my introduction, I found that there was at least one talk or poster, frequently several, on material from every one. Interdisciplinary indeed.

A mural in Michigan's art deco Rackham Graduate School Building, where Terry was impressed by the MSSISS meeting.

Photo: Susan Murphy

IMS meetings around the world

IMS co-sponsored meeting

Statistical Challenges in Modern Astronomy V
June 13–17, 2011
Center for Astrostatistics, Penn State University

w http://astrostatistics.psu.edu/su11scma5/

The Statistical Challenges in Modern Astronomy (SCMA) conferences, held every five years since 1991, are the premiere forum for research statisticians and astronomers to discuss methodological issues of mutual interest. Astronomers face an incredible range of problems in statistical inference, including mega-datasets, modeling data with nonlinear astrophysical models, time series analysis from irregularly spaced observations, spatial analysis of clustering processes, treatment of censoring and truncation, heteroscedastic measurement errors, and more. The issues arise in all fields of astronomy—planetary, stellar, extragalactic and cosmological—and with observations at all wavebands of light. Major investments in new telescopes require advanced statistical methodologies to attain their scientific goals. Statistics serves many research communities and is constantly enriching its methodology and capabilities. Astrostatistics today is a vibrant and growing cross-disciplinary enterprise.

Contacts: Eric Feigelson, Dept. of Astronomy& Astrophysics, Penn State University **e** edf@astro.psu.edu; and G. Jogesh Babu, Dept. of Statistics, Penn State University **e** babu@psu.edu

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IMS co-sponsored meeting

First Wuxi International Statistics Forum NEW
July 17–19, 2011
Wu Xi, China

w http://www.people.fas.harvard.edu/~junliu/Workshops/workshop2011/

This conference will promote statistical research in China and encourage collaboration among statisticians across continents. This conference will focus on the statistical application in economics and biomedical research, as well as other fields of statistical theory and applications. Drs. Bradley Efron (Stanford), Donald B. Rubin (Harvard) and Jianqing Fan (Princeton) have agreed to be the keynote speakers.

Abstract submission is welcomed and encouraged (the deadline is June 1st 2011). Selected abstracts will be included for oral presentation. The rest will be presented as posters.

Early registration (before June 1) is encouraged. The registration fee includes lunch and refreshment. Discounted on-site hotel accommodation rate has been negotiated. See http://www.people.fas.harvard.edu/~junliu/Workshops/workshop2011/regis_google.html

Organizing Committee contacts:

Jun Liu (Chair) **e** jliu@stat.harvard.edu; Zhaohui Steve Qin **e** zhaohui.qin@emory.edu

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IMS co-sponsored meeting

Colloquium in honor of Hans Rudolf Künsch on the occasion of his 60th birthday
October 3–4, 2011, ETH Zurich, Switzerland

IMS Reps: Peter Bühlmann, Marloes Maathuis, Sara van de Geer

w https://stat.ethz.ch/events/Colloquium_Kuensch

Keynote speakers are Jim Berger (Duke University), Stuart Geman (Brown University), Peter Green (University of Bristol). Invited speakers are: Rainer Dahlhaus (University of Heidelberg), Arnoldo Frigessi (University of Oslo), Reinhard Furrer (University of Zurich), Havard Rue (Norwegian Univ. S&T Trondheim), Reto Knutti (ETH Zurich), Christian P. Robert (Université Paris-Dauphine).

Hans R. Künsch

At a glance:

forthcoming IMS Annual Meeting and JSM dates

2011

IMS Annual Meeting @ JSM: Miami Beach, FL, **July 30–August 4, 2011**

2012

IMS Annual Meeting @ World Congress: İstanbul, Turkey, **July 9–14, 2012**

JSM: San Diego, CA, **July 28–August 2, 2012**

2013

IMS Annual Meeting @ JSM: Montréal, Canada, **August 3–8, 2013**

2014

IMS Annual Meeting: Sydney, Australia, **July 7–11, 2014**

JSM: Boston, MA, **August 2–7, 2014**

2015

IMS Annual Meeting @ JSM: Seattle, WA, **August 8–13, 2015**

IMS sponsored meeting

IMS Annual Meeting @ 2011 Joint Statistical Meetings
July 30 – August 4, 2011, Miami Beach, FL

UPDATED

w http://amstat.org/meetings/jsm/2011/

Registration and housing reservations are now open for the 2011 Joint Statistical Meetings in Miami Beach, Florida. You can also view the online program at the website above.

Apply (by June 1) to IMS for child care funding while attending JSM: see http://imstat.org/meetings/childcare.htm

IMS sponsored meeting

2012 Joint Statistical Meetings
July 28 – August 2, 2012, San Diego, CA

w http://amstat.org/meetings/jsm/2012/

IMS sponsored meeting

IMS Annual Meeting @ 2013 Joint Statistical Meetings
August 3–8, 2013, Montréal, Quebec, Canada

w http://amstat.org/meetings/jsm.cfm

IMS sponsored meeting

2014 Joint Statistical Meetings
August 2–7, 2014
Boston, Massachusetts, USA

w http://amstat.org/meetings/jsm.cfm

IMS sponsored meeting

IMS Annual Meeting @ 2015 Joint Statistical Meetings
August 8–13, 2015
Seattle, Washington, USA

w http://amstat.org/meetings/jsm.cfm

IMS co-sponsored meeting

Seventh Cornell Probability Summer School
July 11–22, 2011. Cornell University, Ithaca, NY

NEW WEBSITE http://www.math.duke.edu/~rtd/CPSS2011/index.html

The 7th Cornell Probability Summer School will feature six lecture series by Marek Biskup (UCLA), Geoffrey Grimmett (Cambridge) and Greg Lawler (Chicago). In addition Omer Angel (UBC), Julien Dubedat (Columbia), Dmitry Ioffe (Technion), and Alan Sly (Microsoft) will each give two lectures. The conference web page has more information, and a registration form (deadline April 1). Accepted participants will have their dorm room paid for. US participants can apply for $400 toward the cost of meals. This meeting is supported by an NSF Research Training Group grant to the probability group at Cornell.

IMS co-sponsored meeting

35th Conference on Stochastic Processes and their Applications
June 19–25, 2011
Oaxaca, Mexico

w http://www.matem.unam.mx/SPA2011/

The 35th Conference on Stochastic Processes and their Applications is organized under the auspices of the Bernoulli Society for Mathematical Statistics and Probability and co-sponsored by the Institute of Mathematical Statistics. It will take place in the city of Oaxaca, Mexico from the 19th to the 24th of June 2011. It is the major annual meeting for researchers working in the field of Stochastic Processes and their Applications.

The conference covers a wide range of active research areas, in particular featuring 20 invited plenary lectures presented by leading specialists. In addition, there will be a large variety of special sessions (consisting of three talks each), contributed sessions, contributed talks and posters.

For further information, please see the webpage: http://www.matem.unam.mx/SPA2011/ or email: spa2011@matem.unam.mx

IMS sponsored meeting

2014 IMS Annual Meeting
July 7–11, 2014
Sydney, Australia

w TBC

The location for the 2014 IMS Annual Meeting has been selected as Sydney, Australia. Details will follow, but you can mark your calendars now!

IMS sponsored meeting

2012 ENAR/IMS Spring Meeting
April 1–4, 2012
Washington DC, USA

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

IMS sponsored meeting

2013 ENAR/IMS Spring Meeting
March 10–13, 2013
Orlando, Florida, USA

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

IMS sponsored meeting

2014 ENAR/IMS Spring Meeting
March 16–19, 2014
Baltimore, Maryland, USA

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

IMS co-sponsored meeting

International Symposium in Statistics (ISS) on Longitudinal Data Analysis Subject to Outliers, Measurement Errors, and/or Missing Values
July 16–18, 2012
Memorial University, St. John's, Canada

w www.iss-2012-stjohns.ca

IMS Rep: Brajendra Sutradhar

IMS co-sponsored meeting

Patient-Reported Outcomes and Quality of Life
July 4–5, 2011
Université Pierre et Marie Curie, Paris, France

IMS Rep: Mounir Mesbah

w http://www.lsta.upmc.fr/PROQOL/

IMS co-sponsored meeting

Graybill 2011 Conference "Modern Nonparametric Methods" UPDATED

June 22–24, 2011

Hilton Hotel, Colorado State University, Fort Collins, Colorado

w http://www.stat.colostate.edu/graybillconference/

IMS Representative(s) on Program Committees: Mary Meyer, Jean Opsomer, Rui Song

Well-developed nonparametric methods are an essential part of modern data analysis, and an important and growing research topic within statistics. The focus of the conference is on nonparametric and semiparametric modeling and functional estimation methods. The program consists of a short course, invited plenary talks and a contributed poster session.

The conference will bring together some of the top researchers in this area, and the topics of the presentations will range from general overviews of relevant statistical material to more specialized presentations of current developments. The focused yet relaxed nature of the conference will allow for concentrated discussion and interaction among the participants. Following the conference, there will be opportunities for various outdoor activities in the area.

In order to encourage students to participate, we are planning a student poster competition, with the winners receiving travel support awards. The short course on semiparametric regression by Matt Wand will provide a hands-on introduction to the topics in the conference and is particularly suitable for students and other people interested in learning more about smoothing methods.

Waterfall near Fort Collins, Colorado

The conference is co-sponsored by the Department of Statistics at Colorado State University and the ASA Section on Nonparametric Statistics. If you have questions about the conference, send an email GraybillConference@Stat.ColoState.Edu. We look forward to welcoming you in Fort Collins and Northern Colorado!

Early-bird registration ends May 31.

Keynote Speakers:

Jon Wellner, U. of Washington, Seattle
David Ruppert, Cornell U.
Jianqing Fan, Princeton U.
Ingrid Van Keilegom, U. Catholique de Louvain, Belgium

Invited Speakers:

Mouli Banerjee, U. of Michigan
Gerda Claeskens, Katholieke U. Leuven, Belgium
Aurore Delaigle, U. of Melbourne, Australia
Wenceslao Gonzalez-Manteiga, U. de Santiago de Compostela, Spain
Joshua Habiger, Oklahoma State U.
Marc Hallin, U. Libre de Bruxelles, Belgium
Geurt Jongbloed, Technische U. Delft, Netherlands
Goran Kauermann, U. Bielefeld
Xihong Lin, Harvard U.
Reza Modarres, George Washington U.
Bodhisattva Sen, Columbia U.
Jiayang Sun, Case Western U.
Naisyin Wang, U. of Michigan
Yazhen Wang, U. of Wisconsin–Madison
Yuhong Yang, U. of Minnesota
Hui Zou, U. of Minnesota

IMS co-sponsored meeting

Workshop on Finance, Probability and Statistics

June 23, 2011

Columbia University, NYC

w http://www.ieor.berkeley.edu/~xinguo/IMSworkshop-FPS2011/

IMS Representative(s) on Program Committees: X. Guo, T. L. Lai

This is the inaugural workshop, co-sponsored by IMS, for the recently formed focus group within IMS on Finance: Probability and Statistics. The focus of the workshop is the use of probabilistic and statistical analysis and models for problems arising in finance. By bringing together both leading experts and junior researchers, the conference will highlight important contributions made through the use of statistics and probability, and identify emerging issues where statistics and probability promise to play an important role in the future. This workshop is held in conjunction with the two-day conference at Columbia (**June 24–25**) on **Imaging, Communications and Finance in honor of Larry Shepp**.

IMS co-sponsored meeting

Conference on Modeling High Frequency Data in Finance 3

July 27–31, 2011

Stevens Institute of Technology, Hoboken, New Jersey

w http://kolmogorov.math.stevens.edu/conference2011/

IMS Reps: Ionut Florescu, Jose Figueroa Lopez

Support: The National Science Foundation and the conference organizers will support a number of participants, graduate students, young researchers and speakers for the conference. Please see http://kolmogorov.math.stevens.edu/conference2011/index.php/registration-and-support for details.

IMS co-sponsored meeting

36th Conference on Stochastic Processes and their Applications

July 29 – August 2, 2013

University of Colorado, Boulder, USA

w TBC

More IMS meetings around the world

IMS sponsored meeting

2012 World Congress/IMS Annual Meeting
July 9–14, 2012, Grand Cevahir Hotel & Convention Center, Istanbul, Turkey

w http://www.worldcong2012.org/

The eighth World Congress in Probability and Statistics will be held in Istanbul from July 9 to 14, 2012. It is jointly organized by the Bernoulli Society and the Institute of Mathematical Statistics. Scheduled every four years, this meeting is a major worldwide event for statistics and probability, covering all its branches, including theoretical, methodological, applied and computational statistics and probability, and stochastic processes. It features the latest scientific developments in these fields.

Contacts: Elvan Ceyhan and Mine Çağlar, Co-chairs of the Local Organizing Committee; Arnoldo Frigessi, Chair of the Program Committee.

IMS co-sponsored meeting

Conference in Genetics, Probability and Statistics, in Honor of David Siegmund
June 17–18, 2011
Stanford University, Stanford, CA

IMS Reps: Jiayang Sun and Tze Lai

w http://stat.stanford.edu/gps11

This two-day conference GPS11 will be held at Stanford University in conjunction with the 3rd IWSM (International Workshop in Sequential Methodologies), June 14–16 at Stanford University[*see announcement below*]; and the WNAR/IMS meeting, June 19–22 at Cal Poly, San Luis Obispo, CA. GPS11 will feature invited lectures on advances and recent developments in probability, mathematical and applied statistics, statistical genetics, and computational biology, in honor of the 70th birthday of Professor David Siegmund.

David Siegmund has made seminal contributions and left far-ranging impacts on these fields. He is the John T. and Sigrid Banks Professor of Statistics at Stanford University, a member of both the National Academy of Sciences and the American Academy of Arts and Sciences, and a Wilks medalist of the ASA. He is serving on the Scientific Advisory Board of American Institute of Mathematics and the US National Mathematics committee. David was a Wald lecturer and Rietz lecturer of IMS, and the president of both Bernoulli Society and the IMS, among many honors and services for the statistical profession and beyond.

The GPS11 registration deadline is June 6, 2011.

For more info, see http://stat/stanford.edu/gps11 or email siegmund-fest@googlegroups.com.

IMS co-sponsored meeting

Third International Workshop in Sequential Methodologies (IWSM)
June 14–16, 2011, Stanford University, Stanford, CA

IMS Rep: Tze Leung Lai

w http://iwsm2011.stanford.edu

IMS co-sponsored meeting

2nd International Workshop on Integer-Valued Time Series (WINTS 2011)
June 18–21, 2011
Protaras, Cyprus

w http://www2.ucy.ac.cy/~wints2011/

IMS Rep: Konstantinos Fokianos

The aim of this meeting is to bring researchers together to discuss their recent contributions to this area. The workshop will cover topics such as integer autoregressive models and their generalizations; generalized linear models for time series; applications and case studies.

IMS co-sponsored meeting

International Statistics Conference 2011
December 28–30, 2011
Colombo, Sri Lanka

w TBC

Organized by the Applied Statistics Association of Sri Lanka (ASASL). IMS Rep: Peter Hall. The meeting location is at the water's edge in the capital city of Sri Lanka. The website is under construction.

IMS co-sponsored meeting

16th INFORMS Applied Probability Society Conference
July 6–8, 2011, Royal Institute of Technology (KTH), Stockholm, Sweden

w http://meetings.informs.org/APS2011

The conference focuses on the theory and applications of probability to stochastic systems arising in operations research, computer networks, biology and finance, and also draws specialists in related fields such as statistics and physics. There will be sessions related to operations research, random graphs, random algorithms, stochastic networks, stochastic control and games, mathematical finance, stochastic optimization, call centers, health care, simulation, etc.

Registration deadline May 1, 2011.

Contacts: Henrik Hult, Kavita Ramanan, Marty Reiman (co-chairs program committee); Tom Britton, Henrik Hult, Ingemar Kaj, Filip Lindskog (local organizers)

IMS co-sponsored meeting

NSF-CBMS Regional Research Conference:
Mathematical Epidemiology with Applications
July 25–29, 2011
East Tennessee State University, Johnson City, TN

w http://www.etsu.edu/cas/math/cbms.aspx

Carlos Castillo-Chavez and Fred Brauer will give ten keynote lectures, and there will be breakout sessions and formation of working research groups. A poster session will also be held for participants to display their work. Full support will be offered to between 35 and 40 participants.

Please see the website for more details.

IMS co-sponsored meeting

WNAR/IMS Meeting UPDATED
June 19–22, 2011
San Luis Obispo, California

NEW WEBSITE: w http://statweb.calpoly.edu/WNAR2011

IMS Program Chair: Jay Bartroff **e** bartroff@usc.edu

The 2011 WNAR/IMS meeting will be held on the campus of Cal Poly San Luis Obispo, located halfway between San Francisco and Los Angeles. See http://www.calpoly.edu/visitors/visitors.html for local information.

Registration is currently via the link from the abstract submission page: http://statweb.calpoly.edu/WNAR2011/2011abstracts.html Please visit the website for updates, and information about the **student paper competition**.

The local organizer is Jimmy Doi **e** jdoi@calpoly.edu

IMS sponsored meeting

IMS-China International Conference on Statistics and Probability
July 8–11, 2011
XiAn, China

IMS Organizing Chair: Heping Zhang, Yale University

w http://www.stat.umn.edu/~statconf/imschina2011/index.html

We are pleased to announce the 3rd IMS-China International Conference on Statistics and Probability 2011 in XiAn, China. The first two meetings in this series were held in Hangzhou (2008) and WeiHai (2009), China.

The registration deadline is April 15.

If you live in China, contact Professor Geng Zhi (zhigeng@pku.edu.cn) and Gong Fuzhou (fzgong@mail.amt.ac.cn) for more information. If you live in other countries, send your enquiries in English to Professor Heping Zhang (heping.zhang@yale.edu).

IMS co-sponsored meeting

8th Workshop on Bayesian Nonparametrics
June 26–30, 2011
Veracruz, Mexico

w http://www.bnpworkshop.org/

The workshop aims at presenting the latest developments on Bayesian nonparametric statistics, covering a wide range of theoretical, methodologic and applied areas. The meeting will be structured in 4 tutorials on special topics, a series of invited and contributed talks and contributed posters sessions. Some NSF and BNP2011 travel awards for young researchers are available.

IMS co-sponsored meeting

IMS Asia Pacific Rim Meeting UPDATED
~~**July 3–6, 2011**~~
~~**Tokyo, Japan**~~

w ~~http://www.ims-aprm2011.org/~~

The second IMS Asia Pacific Rim Meeting will take place in OMIYA Sonic City conference hall, Tokyo, Japan from July 3– 6, 2011. This conference is sponsored by IMS, International Chinese Statistical Association (ICSA), International Indian Statistical Association (IISA), Japan Statistical Society (JSS), Korean Statistical Society (KSS) and the Institute of Statistical Mathematics (ISM). This meeting series provides an excellent forum for scientific communications and collaborations for researchers in Asia and Pacific. It also promotes communications between researchers in this area and those from other parts of the world. The program covers a wide range of topics in statistics and probability, presenting recent developments and the state of the art in a variety of modern research topics and in applications. Plenary speakers are Peter Hall (University of Melbourne), and S.R.S. Varadhan (New York University). A number of celebrated scholars will deliver distinguished lectures and invited talks in this conference. Details on the website.

Contact the program chairs: Byeong U. Park (bupark@stats.snu.ac.kr) and Runze Li (rli@stat.psu.edu).

Meeting postponed to July 1–4, 2012, and relocated to Tsukuba, Japan
See announcement on page 13 for details

Other meetings around the world

Workshop on New Questions in Probability Theory Arising in Biological Systems
September 12–16, 2011
Mathematical Biosciences Institute, Columbus, Ohio
w http://mbi.osu.edu/2011/ws1description.html

Increasingly, stochastic models are being used to study biological systems and are leading to new questions in probability. The aim of this five-day workshop is to introduce such questions to probabilists, especially those who have not previously worked on biological problems. The workshop will feature background tutorial lectures as well as talks giving examples of new developments in probability that have been stimulated by problems in biology. All of the talks are intended to be accessible to probabilists who have not previously worked on questions arising in biology.

The first two days of the workshop will feature tutorial lectures by three well-known researchers in biology: Nick Barton (evolutionary genetics), Johan Paulsson (systems biology) and John White (neuroscience). The tutorials are intended to introduce probabilists to important biological problems that can engage probability theorists.

The last three days will feature talks on research on new mathematical questions in probability stimulated by recent biological research. Each of these talks will begin by giving biological background. Topics of the talks will include stochastic spatial models and other aspects of ecology and epidemiology; adaptive dynamics; population genetics and evolution including coalescent theory; cancer modeling; stochastic models in neuroscience and systems/synthetic biology.

The speakers include Paul Atzberger, Rick Durrett, Alison Etheridge, Steven Evans, Jasmine Foo, Priscilla Greenwood, Paul Joyce, Steve Krone, Thomas Kurtz, Sylvie Méléard, Jason Schweinsberg, Anton Wakolbinger, Ruth Williams and Lorenzo Zambotti.

For further information about this workshop including information on how to apply to participate and for assistance with travel funding see the webpage at http://mbi.osu.edu/2011/ws1description.html

The organizers of the workshop are Richard Durrett, Thomas Kurtz, Peter March and Ruth Williams.

This workshop is the inaugural workshop for a year-long program at MBI titled *Stochastics in Biological Systems*. Further information on the program can be found at http://mbi.osu.edu/2011/scientific2011.html

Imaging, Communications and Finance: Stochastic Modeling of Real-world Problems
Conference in honor of Lawrence A. Shepp
June 24–25, 2011
Columbia University, New York, NY
w http://www.stat.columbia.edu/~martin/LAS-Conference/LAS-conf-2011.html


Larry Shepp

To celebrate the 75th birthday of Dr. Lawrence Shepp we highlight the many contributions to stochastic modeling of real-world problems that he has made throughout his career.

In addition to invited sessions, a poster session is scheduled for June 24, 2011. Participants who are interested in presenting posters should e-mail their proposals to martin@stat.columbia.edu before June 1.

Conference participants may also be interested in the inaugural workshop for the recently formed interest group within IMS on Finance, Probability, and Statistics to be held on June 23rd at Columbia University. Register for this workshop (no fee) by June 10. See http://www.ieor.berkeley.edu/~xinguo/IMSworkshop-FPS2011/

Leeds Annual Statistical Research Workshop 2011 (LASR 2011)
July 5–7, 2011
Leeds, United Kingdom
w http://www.maths.leeds.ac.uk/lasr2011

The 2011 Leeds Annual Statistical Research Workshop will focus on developments at the interface between statistical methodology and bioinformatics and more generally in interdisciplinary statistics. This is the 30th anniversary of the workshop, and to commemorate this, there will be a special session on shape analysis in memory of David Kendall on the second day of the workshop.

The registration is now open. Early registration ends on 31 May 2011, and the registration is closed on 10 June 2011. If you wish to present a poster please contact the organiser at workshop@maths.leeds.ac.uk

Organisers: Department of Statistics, University of Leeds, United Kingdom

Contact Person: Dr. Jochen Voss, Tel: +44 113 3435125, Fax: +44 113 3435090, email: workshop@maths.leeds.ac.uk

11th Islamic Countries Conference on Statistical Sciences (ICCS-11)
December 18–21, 2011
Amman, Jordan

w http://www.iccs11.isoss.net/

Theme: *Statistics for Strategies in Development*
Sponsor: Department of Statistics (DOS), Government of Jordan
LOC contact: **e** jameel@dos.gov.jo **t** +9626 530 0700 Ext. 580
ISOSS contact: **e** secretary@isoss.com.pk

I am pleased to invite you to participate in the 11th Biennial Islamic Countries Conference on Statistical Sciences (ICCS-11) to be held in the historical city of Amman, the capital of Jordan during 18–21 December 2011. The Conference is hosted by the Department of Statistics (DOS), The Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan, and will be held simultaneously with the Conference of the Union of Arab Statisticians (UAS). The Chair of the Local Organising Committee is Dr Haidar Fraihat, Director General of DOS, and can be contacted on stat@dos.gov.jo by email or on +9626 530 0700, Extension 580.

If you wish to organise an invited session (with 4–5 speakers) in an area of your expertise, or contribute a paper, please contact the Scientific Program Committee on spc-iccs11@isoss.net

Professor Abdel ElShaarawi (Canada) and Professor José Bernardo (Spain) have agreed to present keynote addresses in the conference.

For further details including submission of abstract/paper and registration please contact the Conference Secretariat via Mr. Jamil Hamdan on jameel@dos.gov.jo or ISOSS Secretariat via Mr Iftekhar Ahmed on secretary@isoss.com.pk. Updates on the progress of the conference are accessible from the official homepage of the conference above.

I look forward to meeting you in Amman.

Shahjahan Khan

2012 ISBA World Meeting
June 25–29, 2012
Kyoto, Japan

w http://www2.e.u-tokyo.ac.jp/~isba2012/

The ISBA 2012 World Meeting—the premier conference of the International Society for Bayesian Analysis (ISBA)—will be held in beautiful Kyoto, Japan, from June 25 to June 29, 2012. Preliminary program and announcements can be found at http://www2.e.u-tokyo.ac.jp/~isba2012/ . The call for abstracts, including the call for special topic contributed sessions, will be coming out later in 2011.

Note that this is immediately before the rescheduled IMS-APRM meeting, which will be held in Tsukuba, near Tokyo, from July 2–4, 2012.

Applied Statistics 2011
September 25–28, 2011
Ribno, Bled, Slovenia

w http://conferences.nib.si/AS2011

I am pleased to inform you, that abstract submission and registration for the international conference on Applied Statistics 2011 in Ribno (Bled), Slovenia, from September 25 – 28, 2011, is now opened. Please note that the abstract submission deadline is June 1. This year we invited three distinguished speakers:

* Adrian Bowman, Department of Statistics, University of Glasgow
* Hans C. van Houwelingen, Leiden University Medical Center
* Niels Keiding, Institute of Public Health, University of Copenhagen

A workshop will be given by Gerald van den Boogaart, Technical University Freiberg, Germany.

Please note that the abstract submission deadline is June 1. Instructions for abstract submission and abstract submission form are available at http://conferences.nib.si/as2011/Abstracts.htm. If you haven't registered yet, please use the conference registration form: http://conferences.nib.si/AS2011/register.htm at the time of abstract acceptance or by August 15.

Registration and payment details are available at http://conferences.nib.si/AS2011/Registration.htm

Don't forget to arrange the accommodation in Hotel Ribno. Please contact them as soon as possible. Look at http://conferences.nib.si/as2011/Accommodation.htm

The conference e-mail address is info.AS@nib.si , but you are welcome to directly contact either me, Andrej Blejec, chair of Organizing Committee (andrej.blejec@nib.si) or Janez Stare, chair of the International Program Committee (janez.stare@mf.uni-lj.si) (with the subject: AS2011).

On behalf of the IPC and OC I would like to invite you to attend Applied Statistics 2011. We are sure that your presence will significantly contribute to the success of the conference and look forward to meeting you again in Slovenia.

Sincerely yours

Andrej Blejec

Other meetings

First Annual NIGMS-funded Short Course on Statistical Genetics & Genomics
July 18–22, 2011
University of Alabama at Birmingham, AL, USA
w http://www.soph.uab.edu/ssg/nigmsstatgen/first

The University of Alabama at Birmingham's Section on Statistical Genetics is pleased to announce the 1st Annual NIGMS-funded Short Course on Statistical Genetics & Genomics in Birmingham, Alabama, from July 18–22, 2011.

Focusing on the analysis of complex traits characterized by quantitative variation, this five-day course will offer an interactive program to enhance researchers' ability to understand & use statistical genetic methods, as well as implement & interpret sophisticated genetic analyses. Travel fellowships available, see website for details!

Topics to include: Intro (Genetics & Genomics; Biostatistics); GWAS Design/Analysis/Interpretation; Structural Variation & Human Diseases; Epigenomics methods; Microarray Processing, Design & Inference; Rare Variants & Exome Sequencing; Pharmacogenetics/Pharmacogenomics; Next Gen Sequencing; Integrating different data domains; GWAS Pathway based approaches

Software demos: Intro R & Bioconductor; PLINK, PENNCNV, Epigenetic Analysis; RMANOVA, HDBSTAT, POWER ATLAS; Sequence & Pharmacogenetics data analyses; Ingenuity Pathways Analysis (IPA) - and others!

Speakers: UAB: David Allison, UAB; Xiangqin Cui, UAB; Harold Kincaid, UAB; Hemant Tiwari, UAB; L. Kelly Vaughan, UAB; Degui Zhi, UAB; David Conti, Univ S California; Warren Ewens, Univ Pennsylvania; Christina Kendziorski, Univ Wisconsin–Madison; Carl Langefeld, Wake Forest Univ; Suzanne M. Leal, Baylor College; Shili Lin, Ohio State Univ; Alison Motsinger-Reif, NC State Univ; Michael Newton, Univ Wisconsin–Madison; Nicholas J. Schork, UCSD; Kimberly F Sellers, Georgetown Univ; Mahlet G. Tadesse, Georgetown Univ.

For more details & registration please see http://www.soph.uab.edu/ssg/nigmsstatgen/first.

Funded by the National Institute of General Medical Sciences.

Employment Opportunities around the world

Canada: St. John's, Newfoundland

Memorial University of Newfoundland, Department of Mathematics and Statistics
Assistant Professor
http://jobs.imstat.org/c/job.cfm?site_id=1847&jb=7941091

Chile: Santiago

Pontificia Universidad Catolica de Chile, Department of Statistics
Assistant Professor of Statistics
http://jobs.imstat.org/c/job.cfm?site_id=1847&jb=7746048

France: Paris-Cergy

ESSEC Business School, Department of Information Systems and Decision Sciences
Faculty position in Econometrics and Mathematical Statistics
http://jobs.imstat.org/c/job.cfm?site_id=1847&jb=7936276

United States: Auburn, AL

Auburn University, Department of Mathematics and Statistics
Visiting Assistant/Associate/Full Professor
http://jobs.imstat.org/c/job.cfm?site_id=1847&jb=7877257

United States: Columbia, MO

University of Missouri
Faculty Positions Starting Fall 2011
http://jobs.imstat.org/c/job.cfm?site_id=1847&jb=7926623

United States: Arlington, VA

National Science Foundation
Deputy Division Director, Division of Mathematical Sciences
http://jobs.imstat.org/c/job.cfm?site_id=1847&jb=7976950

International Calendar of Statistical Events

IMS meetings are highlighted in maroon with the IMS logo, and new or updated entries have the NEW or UPDATED 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 2011

June 5–8: Hickory Knob State Park, McCormick, SC. **Southern Regional Council on Statistics Summer Research Conference** **t** (803) 777-7800

June 5–10: Ascona, Switzerland. **Workshop on Statistical Challenges and Biomedical Applications of Deep Sequencing Data** **w** http://www.cbg.ethz.ch/news/ascona2011

June 7–10: Università La Sapienza, Rome, Italy. **ASMDA 2011: XIV International Conference on Applied Stochastic Models and Data Analysis** **w** www.asmda.eu

June 11–15: East China Normal Univ., Shanghai, China. **2011 International Workshop on Objective Bayes Methodology (O-Bayes2011)** **w** http://www.sfs.ecnu.edu.cn/obayes2011/index.html

June 12–15: Wolfville, Nova Scotia, Canada. **2011 SSC Annual Meeting** **w** http://www.ssc.ca/en/meetings/2011

IMS June 13–17: Penn State University, USA. **Statistical Challenges in Modern Astronomy V.** **w** http://astrostatistics.psu.edu

June 13–17: Firenze/Florence, Italy. **4th La Pietra week in Probability at Finaly.** **w** http://php.math.unifi.it/users/paf/LaPietra2011

June 13–17: Norrfällsviken, Sweden. **3rd Baltic-Nordic Conference on Survey Statistics (BaNoCoSS)** **w** http://www.mathstat.helsinki.fi/msm/banocoss/2011/

June 14–16: Stanford University, CA. **3rd International Workshop in Sequential Methodologies (IWSM)** **w** http://iwsm2011.stanford.edu

IMS June 17-18: Stanford, CA. **Conference in Genetics, Probability and Statistics, in Honor of David Siegmund** **w** http://stat.stanford.edu/gps11

IMS June 18–21: Protaras, Cyprus. **WINTS2011: 2nd International Workshop on Integer-Valued Time Series** **w** http://www2.ucy.ac.cy/~wints2011/

IMS June 19–22: San Luis Obispo, California. **WNAR/IMS Meeting.** **w** http://statweb.calpoly.edu/WNAR2011

IMS June 19–25: Oaxaca, Mexico. **35th Conference on Stochastic Processes and their Applications.** **w** http://www.matem.unam.mx/SPA2011/

June 20-24: Beijing Institute of Technology, China. **Seventh International Conference on Mathematical Methods in Reliability** **w** www.mmr2011.cn

June 20–24: Institut Elie Cartan, Nancy, France. **Journées de Probabilités 2011** **w** http://jp2011.iecn.u-nancy.fr/ (in French)

NEW IMS June 22–24: Fort Collins, Colorado. **Graybill 2011 Conference "Modern Nonparametric Methods"** **w** http://www.stat.colostate.edu/graybillconference/

NEW June 24–25: Columbia University, New York, NY. **Imaging, Communications and Finance: Stochastic Modeling of Real-world Problems. Conference in honor of Lawrence A. Shepp.** **w** http://www.stat.columbia.edu/~martin/LAS-Conference/LAS-conf-2011.html

June 26–29: New York City, NY, USA. **ICSA 2011 Applied Statistics Symposium.** **w** http://www.icsa.org/2011/

IMS June 26–30: Veracruz, Mexico. **8th Workshop on Bayesian Nonparametrics.** **w** http://www.bnpworkshop.org/

June 27 – July 1: University of Lyon, France. **7th Conference on Extreme Value Analysis, Probabilistic and Statistical Models and their Applications (EVA 2011)** **w** http://eva2011.univ-lyon1.fr/

June 27 – July 1: Valladolid, Spain. **ICORS 2011: International Conference on Robust Statistics** **e** congreso.icors2011@uva.es **w** http://www.icors11.uva.es

July 2011

July 1–2: Westin Chosun, Busan, Korea. **2011 International Conference on Statistics and Probability** and 40th anniversary of the Korean Statistical Society **w** http://www.kss-icsp2011.org/main/

July 1–4: Montreal, Canada. **Statistics 2011 Canada / IMST-2011-FIM XX** **w** http://www.stat2011.ca

IMS ~~July 3–6: Tokyo, Japan. IMS Asia Pacific Rim Meetings.~~ ~~**w** http://www.ims-aprm2011.org/~~ **MEETING POSTPONED TO JULY 2012**

Continues on **page 24**

International Calendar *continued*

July 2011 continued

July 4–5: Paris, France. **Patient-Reported Outcomes and Quality of Life.** **w** http://www.lsta.upmc.fr/PROQOL/

NEW July 5–7: Leeds, UK. **Leeds Annual Statistical Research Workshop 2011 (LASR 2011)** **w** http://www.maths.leeds.ac.uk/lasr2011

July 6–8: Stockholm, Sweden. **INFORMS Applied Probability Society Conference** **w** http://www.informs.org/Community/Conferences/APS2011

July 8–11: XiAn, China. **IMS-China International Conference on Statistics and Probability.** IMS Organizing Chair: Heping Zhang. **w** http://www.stat.umn.edu/~statconf/imschina2011/index.html

July 10–15: Ascona, Switzerland. **Environmental Risk and Extreme Events** **w** http://stat.epfl.ch/ascona2011

July 11–13: Qingdao, China. **The First International Symposium on System Informatics and Engineering** **w** http://issie2011.qdu.edu.cn

July 11–22: Ithaca, NY. **7th Cornell Probability Summer School.** **w** http://www.duke.cornell.edu/~rtd/CPSS2011/

NEW July 17–19: Wuxi, China. **First Wuxi International Statistics Forum** **w** http://www.people.fas.harvard.edu/~junliu/Workshops/workshop2011/

July 18–19: Vancouver, Canada. **ICIAM 2011: AWM Workshop for Women Graduate Students and Recent PhDs.** Deadline has passed **w** https://sites.google.com/site/awmmath/programs/workshops/ICIAM-workshop

NEW July 18–22: Birmingham, AL. **Short Course on Statistical Genetics & Genomics** **w** http://www.soph.uab.edu/ssg/nigmsstatgen/first

July 18–22: Vancouver, Canada. **ICIAM 2011: 7th International Congress on Industrial and Applied Mathematics** **w** http://www.iciam2011.com/

July 18–26: SAMSI, Research Triangle Park, NC. **Education and Outreach Program: Industrial Math/Stat Modeling Workshop for Graduate Students** **w** http://www.samsi.info

July 21–23: Bangkok, Thailand. **7th IMT-GT International Conference on Mathematics, Statistics and its Application (ICMSA 2011)** **w** http://icmsa2011.nida.ac.th

July 25–29: East Tennessee State University, Johnson City, TN. *NSF-CBMS Regional Research Conference:* **Mathematical Epidemiology with Applications** **w** http://www.etsu.edu/cas/math/cbms.aspx

July 27–31: Stevens Institute of Technology, Hoboken, New Jersey. **Conference on Modeling High Frequency Data in Finance 3** **w** http://kolmogorov.math.stevens.edu/conference2011/

July 30 – August 4: Miami Beach, Florida. **IMS Annual Meeting at JSM2011.** **w** http://amstat.org/meetings/jsm/2011/

July 31 & August 3: at JSM Miami. **2011 NISS/ASA Writing Workshop for Junior Researchers** **w** http://www.amstat.org/meetings/wwjr/

August 2011

August 1–4: Boulder, Colorado, USA. **Uncertainty Quantification in Scientific Computing.** **w** http://www.nist.gov/itl/math/ifip-woco-10.cfm

August 1–5: Sandbjerg Estate, Sønderborg, Denmark. **Conference in Honour of Søren Asmussen: New Frontiers in Applied Probability** **w** www.thiele.au.dk/asmussen

August 11–13: University of Connecticut, Storrs, USA. **46th Actuarial Research Conference.** **w** http://www.math.uconn.edu/~valdez/46arc/46arc-storrs.php

August 15–19: Prague, Czech Republic. **Nonparametrics and Geometry** **w** http://nonparam11.karlin.mff.cuni.cz

August 16–18: University of Warwick, Coventry, UK. **useR! 2011** **w** http://www.R-project.org/useR-2011

August 17–19: Belfast, Northern Ireland. **International Association for Official Statistics conference** *"The Demography of Ageing and Official Statistics"* **w** http://www.nisra.gov.uk/IAOS2011.html

August 17–19: Copenhagen, Denmark. **Dynamic Statistical Models** [ISI Satellite Meeting] **w** http://statistics.ku.dk/isi-satellite/

August 19–21: Dublin, Ireland. **Young Statisticians Meeting (YSI 2011)** *ISI Satellite Meeting* **w** http://www.scss.tcd.ie/conferences/YSI2011

August 21–26: Dublin, Ireland. **ISI Dublin: 58th World Statistics Congress w** www.isi2011.ie

August 29 – September 1: Washington DC, USA. **7th International Conference on Multiple Comparison Procedures w** http://www.mcp-conference.org

September 2011

September 5–9: Lisbon, Portugal. **17th European Young Statisticians Meeting w** http://www.fct.unl.pt/17eysm

September 7–8: Statistical Center of Statistics Korea, Daejeon, South Korea. **Third International Workshop on Internet Survey Methods w** www.kostat.go.kr

NEW September 12–16: Mathematical Biosciences Institute, Columbus, Ohio. **Workshop on New Questions in Probability Theory Arising in Biological Systems w** http://mbi.osu.edu/2011/ws1description.html

September 12 – December 16: Institute for Pure and Applied Mathematics, Los Angeles, USA. **Mathematical and Computational Approaches in High-Throughput Genomics w** www.ipam.ucla.edu/programs/gen2011/

September 13–16: Jaca, Spain. **Statistics, Probability and Operations Research (SPO 2011) w** http://metodosestadisticos.unizar.es/~jaca2011

September 24: Cambridge, MA. **2011 New England Symposium on Statistics in Sports w** http://www.amstat.org/chapters/boston/nessis11.html

NEW September 25–28: Ribno, Bled, Slovenia. **Applied Statistics 2011 w** http://conferences.nib.si/AS2011

October 2011

IMS October 3–4: ETH Zurich, Switzerland. **Colloquium in honor of Hans Rudolf Künsch on the occasion of his 60th birthday w** https://stat.ethz.ch/events/Colloquium_Kuensch

October 12–14: Washington DC/ Silver Spring MD. **Conference on Risk Assessment and Evaluation of Predictions w** http://brac.umd.edu/~Risk2011/Main.htm

October 18–20: Harvard Medical School, Cambridge, Mass. **2011 Non-clinical Biostatistics Conference w** http://www.hsph.harvard.edu/ncb2011/

November 2011

November 7–9: Łódź, Poland. **Multivariate Statistical Analysis Conference w** http://www.msa.uni.lodz.pl

November 25–27: Lahore, Pakistan. **3rd International Conference on Statistical Sciences w** http://www.icss3.co.nr/

December 2011

NEW December 18–21: Amman, Jordan. **11th Islamic Countries Conference on Statistical Sciences (ICCS-11) w** http://www.iccs11.isoss.net/

IMS December 28–30: Colombo, Sri Lanka. **International Statistics Conference 2011. w** TBC

December 28–31: Hong Kong, China. **International Conference on Advances in Probability and Statistics Theory and Applications: A celebration of N. Balakrishnan's 30 years of contributions to statistics. e** icaps2011@gmail.com **w** http://faculty.smu.edu/ngh/icaps2011.html

April 2012

IMS April 1–4: Washington DC, USA. **2012 ENAR/IMS Spring Meetings. w** http://www.enar.org/meetings.cfm

April 18–20: Poznań, Poland. **International Congress of Polish Statistics** to celebrate the 100th anniversary of the Polish Statistical Association **w** http://www.stat.gov.pl/pts/

Continues on **page 26**

International Calendar *continued*

June 2012

June 3–6: Guelph, Ontario, Canada. **SSC Annual Meeting w** TBC

June 23–26: Boston, MA, USA. **ICSA 2012 Applied Statistics Symposium. w** TBC

NEW June 25–29: Kyoto, Japan. **2012 ISBA World Meeting w** http://www2.e.u-tokyo.ac.jp/~isba2012/

July 2012

NEW IMS July 1–4: Tsukuba, Japan. **IMS Asia Pacific Rim Meetings. w** http://www.ims-aprm2012.org/ **(meeting postponed from July 2011 due to the earthquake—see announcement on page 13)**

July 3–6: University of Oslo, Norway. **Third biennial International Statistical Ecology Conference w** http://www.cees.uio.no/news/2010/isec2012.html

IMS July 9–14: Istanbul, Turkey. **IMS Annual Meeting 2012 in conjunction with 8th World Congress in Probability and Statistics. w** http://www.worldcong2012.org/

IMS July 16–18: Memorial University, St. John's, Canada. **International Symposium in Statistics (ISS) on Longitudinal Data Analysis Subject to Outliers, Measurement Errors, and/or Missing Values w** www.iss-2012-stjohns.ca

IMS July 28 – August 2: San Diego, California. **JSM2012. w** http://amstat.org/meetings/jsm/2012/index.cfm

March 2013

IMS March 10–13: Orlando, Florida. **2013 ENAR/IMS Spring Meeting. w** http://www.enar.org/meetings.cfm

July 2013

NEW IMS July 29 – August 2: University of Colorado, Boulder, USA. **36th Conference on Stochastic Processes and their Applications w** TBC

August 2013

IMS August 3–8: Montréal, Canada. **IMS Annual Meeting at JSM2013. w** http://amstat.org/meetings/jsm/

March 2014

IMS March 16–19: Baltimore, Maryland. **2014 ENAR/IMS Spring Meeting. w** http://www.enar.org/meetings.cfm

July 2014

IMS July 7–11: Sydney, Australia. **2014 IMS Annual Meeting. w** TBC

August 2014

IMS August 2–7: Boston, MA. **JSM2014. w** TBC

August 2015

IMS August 8–13: Seattle, WA. **JSM2015. w** TBC

Are we missing something? If you know of any statistics or probability meetings which aren't listed here, please let us know. Email the details to Elyse Gustafson at erg@imstat.org. We'll list them here in the *Bulletin*, and online too, at www.imstat.org/meetings

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.

Individual and Organizational Memberships

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