

The Optimization and Statistics in Data Science Workshop



The Optimization and Statistics in Data Science Workshop was held at the University of Canterbury on Tuesday 22 November. Six fantastic speakers presented their work and explained the research challenges arising in this new data science era. The speakers were Thomas Lumley (Statistics, University of Auckland), Golbon Zakeri (Engineering Sciences, University of Auckland), Tim Robinson (Statistics, University of Wyoming), Miriam Hodge (Statistics, Lincoln University), Blair Robertson (Mathematics and Statistics, University of Canterbury) and Kourosh Neshatian (Computer Science, University of Canterbury). The workshop brought together nearly 50 participants from a wide range of backgrounds, including mathematics and statistics, biological sciences, forestry, electrical engineering, computer science and ecology. Rachael Tappenden, Blair Robertson and Marco Reale, organized the workshop, and they gratefully acknowledge enthusiasm and financial support from the School of Mathematics and Statistics and the College of Engineering at the University of Canterbury.

(<http://www.math.canterbury.ac.nz/~r.tappenden/Workshop/index.html>)

- Rachael Tappenden

Papers Submitted

B. Creutz., *Zero-cycles of degree one on Skorobogatov's bielliptic surface*

Papers Published

B. Creutz, J.F. Voloch, *Local-global principles for Weil-Châtelet divisibility in positive characteristic*, to appear in *Mathematical Proceedings of the Cambridge Philosophical Society*,
<https://doi.org/10.1017/S0305004117000032> Published online: 01 February 2017

Nicholas Carah, Carla Meurk, Matthew Males & Jennifer Brown. 2017. *Emerging social media 'platform' approaches to alcohol marketing: a comparative analysis of the activity of the top 20 Australian alcohol brands on Facebook (2012-2014)*, *Critical Public Health*



Daniel and Elena are familiarising themselves with every stage of wine production process in Blenheim for their new research project, that is sponsored by MBIE grant and led by Lincoln Agritech.

-Elena Moltchanova

Conferences and Visits

Jack Simpson: travels to Auckland for Waiheke Conference 2017 on 12th-17th February

Rachael Tappenden: travels to Vancouver, Canada to participate in the SIAM Conference on Optimization 20th-26th May 2017.

Charles Semple: travels to Banff, Canada to participate in the 5-day workshop “Mathematical approaches to evolutionary trees and networks” being held at the Banff International Research Station. Talk Title: “What is a typical tree-child network?” on 11th- 19th February 2017.

K Ramasublahmanian: travels from India for a research visit for Rutherford fellowship project on 18th February to 5th March 2017

Chris Price: travels to Bremen, Germany for the 4th European Optimization in Space Engineering Workshop 25th March- 1st April

Jennifer Brown: travels to Qatar, Netherlands and France for research visits and conferences on 1st July – 16th July 2017.

Pom-Pom with Love



The Friday 'Stitch n Bitch' group made a pom-pom mobile for our newest School baby, Ian. Here's Brendan with the mobile, wondering how he's going to get it home on his bike. The right is Ian enjoying the pom-pom mobile. His t-shirt says it all – "I am awesome" Indeed!

School Visitors

Visitor	University	Host	From	To	Room	Extn
Anica Hoppe & Sonja Turpitz		M Steel	02/12/16	30/03/17	616	
Markus Stroppel		G Steinke	13/02/17	21/04/17	605	
Bianca Viray		B Creutz	17/02/17	24/03/17	607	
Krishnamurthi Ramasuburamanian		C Montelle	18/02/17	05/03/17	710	

New Staff Aboard

The School welcomes Varvara Vetrova, the new Statistics lecturer. She will be based in room 712.

Prize Winners



Congratulations to Sarah Mark and Stephen Merry for winning prizes for talks they gave in December last year. Sarah was awarded the prize for Best Pure Maths Presentation at the NZMASP conference, and Stephen won the prize for Best Student Lightning Talk at the Te Pūnaha Matatini Investigator Hui.

-Jeanette McLeod

Congratulations – Rodelyn and Peter have tied the knot!



Rodelyn, a Post Graduate student at Maths and Stats has married to Peter who is a former PG student at the UC in December 2016. Congratulations to the newly wedded couple and all the best for their future.

News from the Library

- Library Liaison Officer for Mathematics and Statistics, Assoc. Prof. Marco Reale <http://bit.ly/1zwYHKa>
- New books: Librarians' Picks of the Month <http://canterbury.libguides.com/newbooks>
- New titles for Mathematics and Statistics <http://bit.ly/NVj1hV>; for Mathematical Statistics <http://bit.ly/MIS2WA>; new-titles-list generator <http://bit.ly/1brTl3E>
- Education Library Relocation to Ilam Campus <http://bit.ly/2ftAUe2>

From the Web

1. Math Games Might Be Sort of Good for Your Brain (Blog on Math Blogs) <http://bit.ly/2etBLWW>
2. When Is the Library Open? How About Now? [library budgets and open access] (Library Babel Fish) <http://bit.ly/2eMlwYn>
3. The Terrible (Big) Businesses of Twitter and Higher Ed (Inside Higher Ed) <http://bit.ly/2fx1Jht>
4. How the Internet Is Loosening Our Grip on the Truth (NY Times) <http://nyti.ms/2eMKhQW>
5. Women in STEM: Where Are All My Girls at? (Loud and Alive) <http://bit.ly/2eY0YIA>
6. Even Physicists Are 'Afraid' of Mathematics (EurekAlert!) <http://bit.ly/2gbxo7A>
7. The Mathematics of Science's Broken Reward System (Nature News & Comment) <http://go.nature.com/2fXDh3X>
8. Asking Users to Tag Fake News Isn't Going to Work If They Don't Know What It Is (The Conversation) <http://bit.ly/2fPcmug>
9. What We Can Learn from Fake News (The Scholarly Kitchen) <http://bit.ly/2feljue>
10. How's That "Abundance" Thing Working Out For You? [information quantity vs quality] (The Scholarly Kitchen) <http://bit.ly/2fBqQ14>
11. How Wrong Is Greta Van Susteren about Libraries? (The Scholarly Kitchen) <http://bit.ly/2fTO0Op>

John

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John Arnold | Mathematics/Statistics Subject Librarian

<http://bit.ly/johnarnold-uc>