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## Central Moments of Our Lives

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*-Striving to make the world a cmooler place*

### KNOWN BIRTHDAYS

Hong Qui and Ice-T celebrate on February 16

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### REASONS TO GIVE RANDOM ACTS OF KINDNESS

Saturday, February 17 is Random Acts of Kindness Day

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### REASONS TO CELEBRATE

Sunday, February 18 is Chinese New Year  
Tuesday, February 20 is National Pancake Day

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### NON-STATISTICAL WORD OF THE WEEK USED IN A STATISTICAL SETTING

**lachrymose** \LAK-ruh-mohs\, *adjective*:

1. Generating or shedding tears; given to shedding tears; suffused with tears; tearful.

“When Joe and Soma took office, many people in the department were lachrymose during the inauguration.”

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### FACULTY COUPLES PROFILES

Laura Kubatko's Part:

In spite of the terrible weather this week, I'm truly glad to be back in Ohio. I grew up here, and have spent most of my life in Ohio, though in various parts of the state. I'm originally from Steubenville, Ohio, a pretty little town right on the Ohio river (drive east on I-70 and stop before West Virginia and you're there). My parents are both faculty members in Mathematics at a small university there, and when I started my undergrad studies at Hiram College (near Cleveland), I planned to major in Biology -- partly to avoid working in the same field as my parents. Though I did complete a degree in Biology, it wasn't long before I realized that I enjoyed math the most. Now I am lucky to be able to work in an interdisciplinary field that combines both interests. I also blame my family for my choice of teaching as a

profession - not only are my parents both teachers, but my only sibling, Karen, is a K-6 music teacher.



I came to grad school here at OSU directly from Hiram, and finished a Ph.D. in Biostatistics with Dennis Pearl in 1999. If you look hard, you can spot me as a student in a couple of the pre-2000 departmental newsletters. After graduating, I decided it was time to live someplace new, and I took a job on the faculty at the University of New Mexico. In a single calendar year, I managed to complete a Ph.D., move across the country, and get married -- it was quite a year! Justin and I lived in Albuquerque for seven years, and enjoyed many things about the southwest. Right now, we're really missing the warm temperatures and the sunshine! But it is good to be back here all the same.

*Dr. Laura Continued:*

Justin and I have two children. Zachary is almost five, and Cristian just turned three. They are happy kids who keep us busy and keep us smiling (even when school is cancelled for the FIFTH day in two weeks!). Between the kids and work, there's not much time left over, but when I do get free time I enjoy reading fiction (my two current favorites are "Life of Pi" by Yann Martel and "The Secret Life of Bees" by Sue Monk Kidd) and sports, both as a spectator and as a participant.

Justin Kubatko's Part:



For those who don't know me, I am in my first year as a lecturer for the Department of Statistics. Prior to coming to Ohio State, I was a lecturer of statistics for five years at the University of New Mexico. I have also been (in reverse chronological order) a biostatistician, a marketing analyst, a graduate teaching assistant (in this very department), and a high school mathematics teacher. Yes, I'm having some trouble deciding what I want to be when I grow up.

My wife, Laura, is an associate professor in the department. We have two wonderful boys, Zachary (age 4) and Cristian (age 3). I'm sure she's already told you all about them in her profile, so I'll just say that they are great kids who I enjoy spending a lot of time with.

In my spare time (spare time?) I have two main interests: running and web site design. I run 30-40 miles per week, and I have run races ranging from 3 miles to 32 miles. I also run the web site Basketball-Reference.com (<http://www.basketball-reference.com>), which is essentially an online professional basketball encyclopedia. If you like both basketball and statistics, you should check it out. Thanks to the wonderful invention of the DVR, I also enjoy the television shows "24", "Heroes", and "Lost".

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## SAD GRAD STUDENT PROFILE

Arun Kumar a.k.a. Kunwarji writes:



*Arun begins:*

I grew up in a small village in eastern part of India. I got my bachelor's and master's degree in mathematics and joined Ohio State in winter 2004 for my PhD. My research interest is in Computer Experiment and I am working on my thesis under guidance of Dr. Bill Notz. I love math even though getting good scores on exams is becoming increasingly difficult. When not working, I listen to Indian music and watch all sorts of Indian and English movies. I tried listening to English music only to discover that I still have a long way to go before I can claim I know English well. I

practice yoga in the morning and meditation in the evening. "My meditation practice is for mental relaxation and has nothing to do with any kind of abstinence". Whenever I get an opportunity, I like to play or watch cricket (a game popular in the Indian subcontinent, England, South Africa, Australia, New Zealand and Caribbean's), field hockey, table tennis and tennis. I also work out at the gym at least thrice a week. I believe in Idealism though don't reject pragmatism completely. If you want to know more about me send me an e-mail or show up on any weekend in the department and you will find me somewhere on the fourth floor.

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**Guess the Distribution!**  
*From Nader Gemayel*

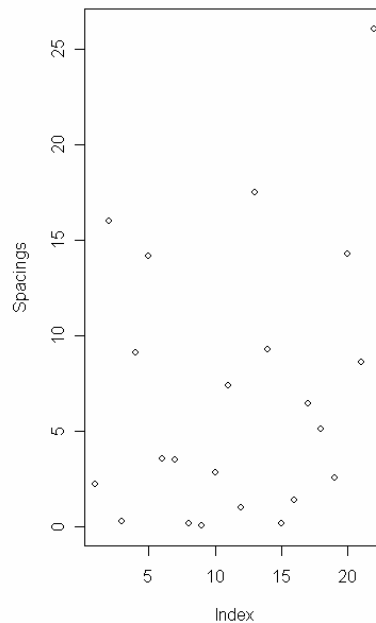
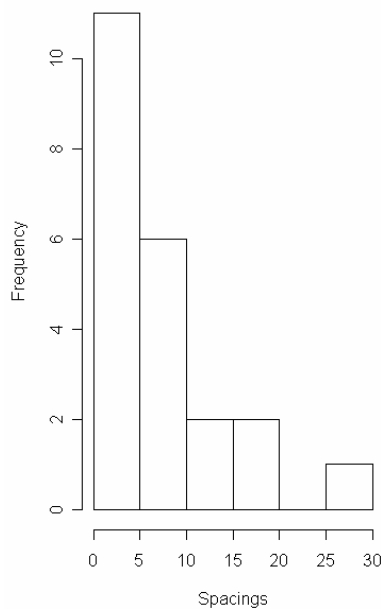
For each distribution a-e below, I generated a SRS of size 1000, ranked the observations in increasing order, and then took the difference of consecutive order statistics. Thus, I obtained 999 spacings. The histograms and plots below are of the first and last ten spacings. You must match the five figures to the five distributions. You get one point for each correct answer. Good Luck!

Distribution

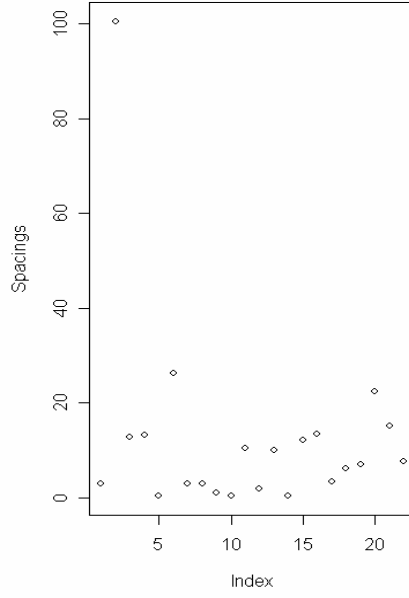
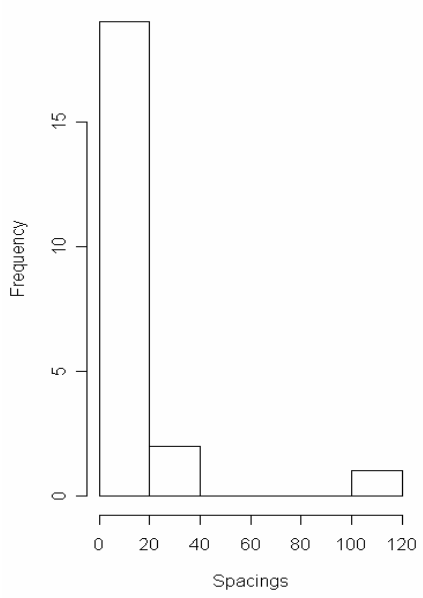
My Guess (1-5)

- a. Minus Chi-square(20)
- b. Laplace (Double Exponential)
- c. Exponential (1)
- d. Normal (0, 10000)
- e. Cauchy (0, 1)

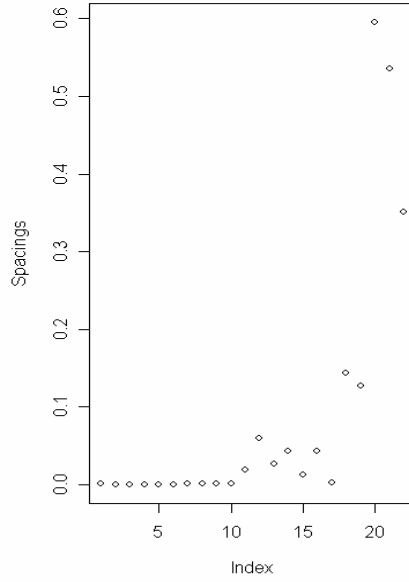
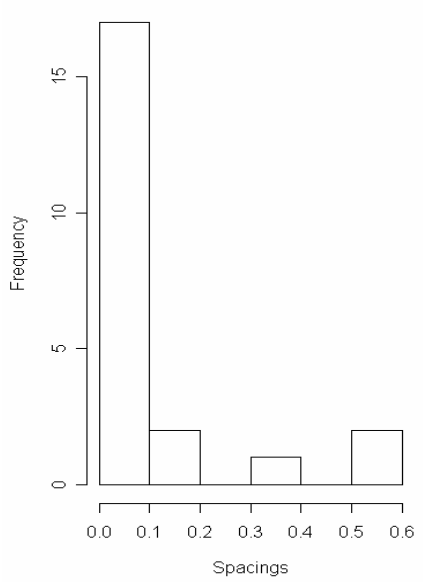
**Distribution 1**



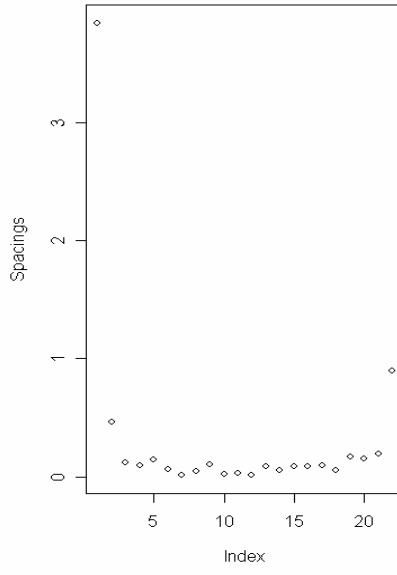
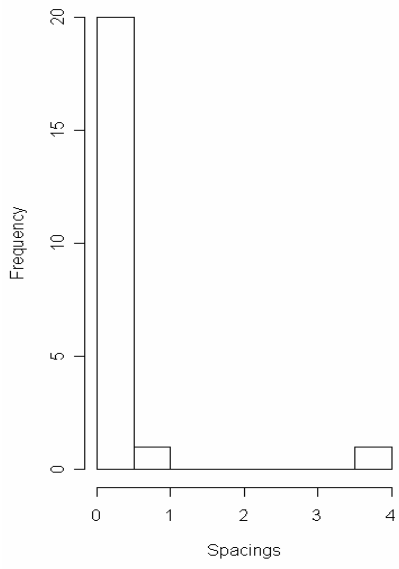
**Distribution 2**



**Distribution 3**



**Distribution 4**



**Distribution 5**

