
Central Moments of Our Lives

Striving to make the world a cmooler place

VOTE NOW!!!

Grad students-

Those who have voted already, thank you for being responsible members of the OSU Stats community☺. If you have not cast your vote yet, now is the time. The ballots are due Wednesday, May 30. The ballot papers are in your mailboxes. Please indicate your choice and return to the mailbox of either Joe Kupresanin or Soma Roy. Election results will be announced next Thursday in the Capstone CMOOL.

CMOOLIES NOW!!!

Help our staff write the CMOOLIES. Joe has about 50 floating around in his head, but would prefer to let the community speak its mind. Email today!

REASONS TO CELEBRATE

For all Douglas Adams (author of “*The Hitchhiker’s Guide to the Galaxy*”) fans out there, May 25th (tomorrow) is “Towel Day.” What do you need to celebrate this holy day? Carry your towel with you throughout the day, and everywhere you go.
<http://www.towelday.kojv.net/>.

It is almost the end of the 9th week of Spring 2007. Yay!!!

KNOWN BIRTHDAYS

Ian “Gandalf” McKellen shares his birthday with Miles Davis. They celebrate tomorrow, May 25.

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

agitprop \AJ-it-prop\, *noun*:

Propaganda, especially political propaganda, disseminated through literature, drama, music, or art (or flyers).

Usage: “The halls of Brown hall are currently plastered with agitprop for the current Co-Presidential election.”

CONFIDENCE INTERVAL OF THE WEEK

As a newly minted MAS exam passer, Joe figured he would create one of those confidence-interval thingies to estimate the department proportion of voters in favor of the Berrett-Yang party. Lazily, he took three ballots off the top of the pile, tallied 2 ballots for the Berrett-Yang party, and calculated the following interval:

$$\hat{p} \pm z^* \sqrt{\frac{\hat{p}(1-\hat{p})}{n}}$$

$$0.667 \pm 1.96 \sqrt{\frac{0.667(1-0.667)}{3}}$$

$$0.667 \pm 0.533$$

$$(0.114, 1.20)$$

Joe claims he is 95% confident that \hat{p} falls between 11.4% and 120.0%. He also claims he is 95% confident he is graduating on June 10 with a statistics degree.

FINAL CMOOL NEXT WEEK

- ✓ Soma Roy & Joe Kupresanin Profiles
- ✓ All Other Profiles
- ✓ Election Results & CMOOLIES

FACULTY PROFILE

Dr. Tao Shi writes ...



Every time I told someone that I moved from California (to be precise, Berkeley) to Columbus OH, I was immediately asked how I felt about the Midwest and how difficult the transition must be. To be honest, I still miss the wonderful sunshine and cold summer in the bay area. I love to be here simply because...I can play tennis with Mike (yes, Dr. Fligner) throughout the year. Although we get frustrated on our imperfect swings and bad ball controls all the time, we are very happy with the fact that we still have plenty of room to improve our skills. Well, you know I'm kidding that playing tennis is the highest point of my day. I do work on Statistics occasionally by counting to 60 with funny incremental steps: 15, 15, 10, and 20.

It seems that everyone in our department likes to travel around the world. But, I must conclude that I like travel around the world if I'm a Bayesian. In this case, I'm not sure since I haven't traveled to other countries except the US and China (where I was born). Without prior information, instead of going to my posterior following my illusion, I'm going to hold on and say at this point, "I don't know if I like travel around the world or not." One thing I'm sure is that I'm going to find it out by collecting more data through *experience* in the *future*. Oh, I forgot to mention, I'm not even a Bayesian yet. Maybe I will be one in the future. I really mean, maybe.

GRAD STUDENT PROFILES

Qinying He talks about the 23 years of school...



My name is Qinying He. I am a fifth year Ph.D. student. I received my Bachelor's degree in Economics from Nankai University, Tianjin, China. Then I moved to Wuhan for my Master's in Economics. This picture was taken at Wuhan University last summer.

I am graduating this quarter and I will move back to China to be a faculty member this coming June. I am happy to finish my 23 years schooling and begin to work soon. Statisticians are always interested in numbers. I'll tell you more about my 23 years schooling. It is made up of 5 years in primary school, 3 years in middle school, 3 years in high school, 4 years for Bachelor's degree, 3 years for Master's degree and 5 years for Ph.D.

While I am excited about obtaining my Ph.D., I am also sad to be leaving our department. I am very grateful to our department for giving me the opportunity to study in such a wonderful

academic environment. I would also like to thank the faculty, staff, classmates and friends for all the warm help in various aspects of my life.

I do not know when I will come back to visit Columbus, which is a random variable. Hopefully I'll see you again. Please contact me when you visit China. My permanent email address is qinying_he@hotmail.com.

Josh Svenson tells us what is common between Jim Tressel and Jeremy Christman...



My name is Josh Svenson, and I'm a first year PhD. student. I guess my story starts in Wadsworth, a small town in northeast Ohio where I grew up. I played football and threw shot and discus for the track team at Wadsworth High School (Go Grizzlies!). Despite the fact that I was generally slow and un-athletic, I earned All-Ohio honors as an offensive lineman, defensive end, and long snapper for the football team, and was the captain of both the track and football teams.

After graduating from Wadsworth, I went on to study mathematics at Baldwin-Wallace College in Berea, Ohio. Some of our

notable alumni include Harrison Dillard (former Olympic gold medalist hurdler and sprinter), Jim Tressel, and world-famous STAT 135 T.A. Jeremy Christman. I originally intended to major in adolescent/young adult education and pursue a career teaching high school mathematics, but after a year of mind-numbing education classes, I decided to focus solely on mathematics. I also played one year of college football and threw shot and discus for the track team for four years. I had some modest success as a thrower, but my relatively high GPA allowed me to earn Academic All-American honors as a senior.

Some of my favorite activities include lifting weights, eating at Chipotle, watching Conan O'Brien and Deadliest Catch, and hanging out with my beautiful girlfriend Amy, which can be a big challenge since she lives in Cleveland and we both have busy schedules. I also enjoy going to Buckeyes football games in the fall and hanging out with the other first year students at the Thirsty Scholar after a stimulating regression and/or experimental design experience.

Here are some random facts you might not know about me:

- Even though I shave my head, I am not bald or balding. I just prefer not to have hair.
- I have a younger brother, Brian, who is an undergraduate turf grass science major at OSU. I also have an older brother that is a mechanical engineer for Firestone Tires in Akron, Ohio.
- I am a huge Cleveland Browns fans, and I think Bernie Kosar is the greatest quarterback ever to play the game of football, and possibly the greatest athlete EVER. President Kupresanin (another Browns fan) and I predict a 14-2 season this year with a Super Bowl victory.