
CENTRAL MOMENTS OF OUR LIVES

FRESH IDEAS DEPARTMENT

The Central Moments Staff is soliciting entries for the newsletter "Official Crest". We'd like a symbol, shield, or insignia to put at the top of this publication. The person submitting the winning design electronically will receive a used copy of *Mathematics For Canadians*. Design it to easily fit at the top of this page! Deadline: 10/31/2006

STATISTICS SEMINAR SERIES

3:30PM Tuesday, October 17, 2006, Room 170 East Eighteenth Avenue Bldg. (EA 170)
Feng Liang, Institute of Statistics and Decision Sciences, Duke University
Nonparametric Bayesian Kernel Models

3:30PM Thursday, October 19, 2006, Room 170 East Eighteenth Avenue Bldg. (EA 170)
John Holcomb, Department of Mathematics, Cleveland State University
Teaching statistics at the college level: how did I get here?

PETER'S POETRY PLACE

The Function of Love

Calculated infatuation
speaking in whispers of
automorphic transcendental
antidifferentiation. The slow sweet
trickle of triangles and pascalian patterns
while algebra meets the fictitious i.

Preservation of lattices in
the true transformation is within
the confines of all the coprime
relationships that left you desolate
and indivisible.

Lying alone, relying only on that
bitter comfort of the multiplicative
identity. When you realize all you
have is the additive, and all the estimators
in your life have been biased, insufficient,
and the likelihood is that you are
abnormal.

Fermat primes
Mersenne primes
Primal fury and the intoxicant
of mathematical immortality
converge in the vector space
of my pre-determination.

When lost, add and subtract a constant.
When confused, multiply by one.
When angry, divide by zero.
When hopeless, think:
Love might be one to one,
but it is not onto.

-PES

REASONS TO CELEBRATE

Today is Columbus Day in Mexico,
Honduras, Uruguay, and Venezuela
The Cleveland Browns are on a bye week
Monday is Dictionary Day in the United
States

ANCIENT STAT WISDOM

A statistician can have his head in an oven
and his feet in ice, and he will say that on
the average he feels fine.

COMPLAINTS AND REBUTTALS

BD from Columbus writes:

Although Peter's poems are astonishingly creative, I must object to the HUGE historical inaccuracy in the poem about Pythagorus. The square root of 2 was proven to be irrational by a follower of Pythagorus named Hippasus of Metapontum. The belief in only the existence of natural numbers is what blinded Pythagorus to accept the possibility of irrational numbers. Hippasus was murdered for his discovery by fellow Pythagoreans.

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

bloviate \BLOH-vee-ayt\, intransitive verb: To speak or write at length in a pompous or boastful manner.

Usage: "It is natural to bloviate about Pythagoras when one knows so little about the history of Greek mathematics."

KNOWN BIRTHDAYS

Hugh Jackman (the actor) and Luciano Pavarotti (the opera singer) celebrate their birthdays October 12.

Usher (the singer) celebrates his 27th birthday on October 14.

Noah Webster (the lexicographer) was born on October 16, 1758. He would have turned 248.

Coming Up: The month of Joe

GRADUATE STUDENT PROFILES

Lai Wei writes:



Hello, my name is Lai Wei, the girl behind the big guy. That big guy is my almost 3 years old son. It is hard to tell I am the fourth year or fifth year PhD student because I took all the courses and exams with fifth years PhD students though I transferred from Department of Electrical Engineering four years ago. I am enjoying the life in Columbus and doing research with Peter Craigmile.

I am originally from Sichuan, China. You might be familiar with "Sichuan". Do you remember where you saw it? Bingo, Chinese restaurant. Sichuan province is famous for its spicy food, but it is not only Sichuan chicken (beef, or pork). There are thousands and thousands delicious dishes I even don't know how to name them in English. I love cooking and enjoy the different kinds of food all over the world.

Jie Ding tells us about his favorite tree:



Hi, my name is Jie Ding. I first came here from China as a graduate student in biology. After doing bench work for a few years, I got tired of it and thought maybe working with numbers would be more fun. That's when I changed my major to biostatistics and started my life in Cockins Hall. Since then, I have stayed here for 3 years and enjoyed most part of it, if not all of it. Currently I am making a living by writing and running R codes in linux system, which is not that boring partly because I like text-based computer interface, which brings back my childhood memory. Before I came to Columbus, I had lived through steaming hot summers in Wuhan, which is my hometown, and freezing cold winters in Beijing, where I went to college, so the weather here is not bad for me, except last week's storm. My favorite tree is ginkgo and there are some on OSU campus. Soon you will be able to see their beautiful fan-shaped yellow leaves.

At the OSU Club Hockey Game



Joanne, Deedra, Shari, Peter, & Faculty Chaperone Dr. Hans