

TIES 2008, the 19th Annual Conference of The International Environmetrics Society

Co-Chairs: Sylvia Esterby, University of British Columbia Okanagan and David Brillinger, University of California Berkeley

Location: University of British Columbia Okanagan, Kelowna BC

Dates: June 8-13, 2008

Sponsors: PIMS and Irving K. Barber School of Arts and Sciences, Mathematics Statistics and Physics, and IT Services of University of British Columbia Okanagan

Scientific Committee: Teresa Alpuim, Portugal; Daniela Cocchi, Italy; Charmaine Dean, Canada; Michael Dowd, Canada; Abdel El-Shaarawi, Canada; Montserrat Fuentes, USA; Lelys Geunni, Venezuela; Anders Grimvall, Sweden; Peter Guttorp, USA; Bronwyn Harch, Australia; Ivana Horova, Czech Republic; Marian Scott, UK; Eric Smith, USA; Don Stevens, USA; Kristina Voigt, Germany; Jim Zidek, Canada.

Local Organizing Committee: Sylvia Esterby, Zuzana Hrdlickova, Paramjit Gill, Jason Loepky, Loveday Conquest

The theme of the conference, Quantitative Methods for Environmental Sustainability, was covered very broadly in the forty-four oral sessions, the poster sessions, and the short course. The conference drew 173 participants from 17 countries. Awards for the Best Student Paper and the Best Poster and two Abdel El-Shaarawi Young Researcher Awards were presented.

Short Course

The Sunday short course, Modelling Environmental Extremes, was given by David Walshaw and Lee Fawcett, University of Newcastle UK. The 29 registrants included regional graduate students as well as national and international participants. The morning sessions covered classical and threshold models, dependence and non-stationarity and included a hands-on R session in the computer lab to analyse some data on weather extremes. In the afternoon, multivariate extremes, point processes and Bayesian inferences were covered, with another lab session for these topics.

Conference Program

Special Lectures: The Hunter Lecture, Change Point Analysis of Extreme Values, was given by Jef Teugels, Katholieke Universiteit Leuven. The President's Invited Lecture, The Role of Statisticians in International Science Policy, was delivered by Peter Guttorp University of Washington.

Reflecting the importance of extremes in climate change, the topic of extremes was addressed from both the methodological aspect and the relevance to particular environmental problems. In addition to the Short Course and Hunter Lecture, other sessions addressed extremes of climate, extremes in modelling turbulent dispersion, return values, and extremes of temperature, precipitation, atmospheric processes and wind speeds.

Six invited sessions on spatial-temporal modelling covered methodology and applications to environmental health, air quality and epidemiology, precipitation, river networks and weather forecasts. Four invited sessions on sampling included a broad range of designs and populations in the areas of wildlife, fisheries and forests. Topics particularly relevant to British Columbia were the sessions on the pine beetle, forests and fire spread. Other methodological topics included papers on trend and change-point analysis, monitoring design and analysis, analysis of count data, point processes, risk analysis, computer models and positive matrix factorization. Additional areas of application were included in papers on ozone, health effects, water and air quality, marine ecology, and emission projections, receptor models and source apportionment.

TIES conferences have a tradition of including panel sessions and of covering topics such as interdisciplinary communication and the impact of the field of Environmetrics. These sessions were as follows: Communication of Risk and Uncertainty, organized by Peter Guttorp; the panel discussion, Current Research Challenges in Environmetrics organized by Jim Zidek; and the panel discussion, Training for a Career in Environmetrics, organized by Laurie Ainsworth, Carolyn Huston and Doug Woolford, currently either post doctoral fellow or graduate student at SFU.

A mini-symposium organized by Nathaniel Newlands of Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada, Ecosystem Models: Windows into an Uncertain Future ran as one of the concurrent session streams on Thursday. The talks had an agricultural focus and showcased research projects by scientists of Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada and their collaborators from across Canada, including scientists from the nearby Pacific Agri-Food Research Centre in Summerland.

Publications: A fully peer reviewed proceedings will be published as a special issue of Environmetrics.

Program and Presentation slides: The full program and slides, from interested presenters, are available on the conference website.
<http://web.ubc.ca/okanagan/math/events/TIES2008.html>

Conference Attendees: The participants list is given below.

Prof.	Gopal	Achari	University of Calgary	Civil Engineering	Canada
Dr.	Laurie	Ainsworth	Simon Fraser University	Statistics and Actuarial Sciences	Canada
Mr.	Bedii	Altug	University of Washington	College of Arts and Sciences	United States
Prof.	Jean-Francois	Angers	Universite de Montreal	Departement de mathematiques et de statistique	Canada
Ms.	Kara	Anlauf	Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife		United States
Prof.	Jaromir	Antoch	Charles University of Prague	Statistics	Czech Republic
Dr.	Brian	Aukema	Canadian Forest Service & UNBC		Canada
Prof.	Sudipto	Banerjee	University of Minnesota	Biostatistics	United States
Mr.	David	Bolin	Lund University	Mathematical Statistics, Centre for Mathematical Sciences	Sweden
Dr.	Willard	Braun	Western Ontario	Statistics and Actuarial Science	Canada
Prof.	David	Brillinger	University of California	Statistics	United States
Mrs.	Agne	Burauskaite-Harju	Linköping University	Division of Statistics, Department of Computer and Information Science	Sweden
Prof.	Catherine	Calder	The Ohio State University	Department of Statistics	United States
Mr.	Elton	Chan	Government of Canada	Environment Canada	Canada
Dr.	Xin	Chen	Concordia University College	Biology and Environmental Science	Canada
Ms.	Yalin	Chen	McMaster University	Department of Mathematics and Statistics	Canada
Ms.	Xin	Chen	University of Victoria	Mathematics and Statistics	Canada
Dr.	Monica	Chiogna	University of Padova	Statistical Sciences	Italy
Prof.	Grace	Chiu	U of Waterloo	Statistics & Actuarial Science	Canada
Prof.	William	Christensen	Brigham Young University	Department of Statistics	United States
Dr.	lieven	clement	Ghent University	Department of Applied Mathematics, Biometrics and Process Control	Belguim
Prof.	Daniela	Cocchi	University of Bologna	Department of Statistics	Italy
Prof.	Loveday	Conquest	University Of Washington	Aquatic & Fishery Sciences	United States
Dr.	Jeffrey	Dambacher	CSIRO	Mathematical and Information Sciences	Australia
Dr.	Reinder	De Jong	Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada		Canada
Dr.	Charmaine	Dean	Simon Fraser University		Canada
Dr.	Lauren	Dong	Statistics Canada		Canada
Ms.	Yiping	Dou	University of British Columbia	Statistics	Canada
Dr.	Michael	Dowd	Dalhousie University	Dept of Mathematics and Statistics	Canada
Prof.	Abdel H.	El-Shaarawi	National Water Research Institute		Canada
Ms.	Bianca	Eskelson	Oregon State University	Forest Resources	United States
Prof.	Sylvia	Esterby	University of British Columbia Okanagan	Mathematics, Statistics and Physics, Irving K. Barber School of Arts and Sciences	Canada
Dr.	Yanan	Fan	University of New South Wales	Statistics	Australia
Prof.	Alessandro	Fasso	University of Bergamo	Dept. IT and Mathematical Methods	Italy
Prof.	Lorenzo	Fattorini	Università degli Studi di Siena	Dipartimento di Metodi Quantitativi	Italy
Dr.	Lee	Fawcett	Newcastle University	School of Mathematics and Statistics	United Kingdom

Ms.	XIN	FENG	Simon Fraser University	Department of Statistics and Actuarial Science	Canada
Dr.	Julie	Firman	Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife		United States
Dr.	Marie	Forbelska	Masaryk University	Department of Mathematics and Statistics of the Faculty of Science	Czech Republic
Dr.	Sara	Franceschi	Università degli Studi di Siena	Dipartimento di Metodi Quantitativi	Italy
Ms.	Grace	Frank	Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada		Canada
Prof.	Montserrat	Fuentes	North Carolina State University	Statistics Department	United States
Dr.	Francis	Fujioka	USDA Forest Service	Pacific Southwest Research Station	United States
Dr.	Carlo	Gaetan	University Ca' Foscari - Venice	Statistics	Italy
Mr.	william	gaeuman	oregon state university	statistics	United States
Mr.	Pierre	Gagnon	Environment Canada	Aquatic Ecosystem Protection Research	Canada
Prof.	Meng	Gao	Lanzou University	Math	China
Dr.	Ali	Gargoum	United Arab Emirates University	Dept. of Statistics, UAE University	United Arab Emirates
Dr.	Yulia	Gel	University of Waterloo	Statistics and Actuarial Science	Canada
Mr.	Xiaoyuan	Geng	Canadian Soil Information System	Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada	Canada
Prof.	Marc	Genton	University of Geneva	Econometrics	Switzerland
Dr.	Paramjit	Gill	UBC Okanagan	Math-Stat-Physics	Canada
Dr.	Eric	Gilleland	NCAR	Research Applications Laboratory	United States
Prof.	Tilmann	Gneiting	University of Washington	Department of Statistics	United States
Prof.	Edit	Gombay	University of Alberta	Mathematical and Statistical Sciences	Canada
Dr.	Brian	Gray	US Geological Survey	Upper Midwest Environmental Sciences Center	United States
Prof.	Nels	Grevstad	Metropolitan State College of Denver	Mathematical and Computer Sciences	United States
Prof.	Peter	Guttorp	University of Washington	Statistics	United States
Mr.	Eric	Guttorp	University of Washington	College of Arts and Sciences	United States
Dr.	Temesgen	Hailemariam	Oregon State University	Forest Resources	United States
Dr.	Bronwyn	Harch	CSIRO	Mathematical and Information Sciences	Australia
Prof.	Fangliang	He	University of Alberta	Renewable Resources	Canada
Mr.	Josh	Hemann	Visual Numerics, Inc		United States
Dr.	Brent	Henderson	CSIRO	CSIRO Mathematical & Information Sciences	Australia
Mr.	Dave	Higdon	Los Alamos National Laboratory	Statistical Sciences	United States
Prof.	Ulla	Holst	Lund University	Centre for Mathematical Sciences	Sweden
Ms.	Joanna	Horabik	Polish Academy of Sciences	Systems Research Institute	Poland
Prof.	Ivana	Horova	Masaryk University	Department of Mathematics and Statistics	Czech Republic
Mr.	Reza	Hosseini	UBC	Statistics	Canada
Dr.	Zuzana	Hrdlickova	University of British Columbia Okanagan	Mathematics, Statistics and Physics	Canada
Mr.	Bo	Hu	Beijing Normal University	Irving K. Barber School of Arts and Sciences	China
Ms.	Manuela	Huso	Oregon State University	School of environment	United States
Ms.	Carolyn	Huston	Simon Fraser University	Forest Science	Canada
Dr.	Rosaria	Ignaccolo	Università degli Studi di Torino	Statistics and Actuarial Science	Italy
				Dipartimento di Statistica e Matematica Applicata	

Prof.	Venkata	Jandhyala	Washington State University Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada	Department of Statistics	United States
Dr.	Henry	Janzen			Canada
Dr.	Jolanta	Jarnicka	Polish Academy of Sciences	Systems Research Institute	Poland
Prof.	Daniela	Jaruskova	Czech Technical University	of mathematics	Czech Republic
Prof.	giovanna	jona lasinio	university of rome "la sapienza"	statistics (DSPSA)	Italy
Ms.	Ruth	Joy	University of British Columbia	Marine Mammal Research Unit	Canada
Mrs.	Elizabeth	Juarez	Simon Fraser University	Statistics and Actuarial Science	Canada
Dr.	Hyune-Ju	Kim	Syracuse University	Mathematics	United States
Ms.	Cheryl	Kluck	University of Calgary	Department of Civil Engineering	Canada
Mr.	Mikko	Korpela	Helsinki University of Technology		Finland
Dr.	Theodoro	Koulis	Centre Hospitalier de l'Université de Montréal (CHUM)	Research Center/Centre de Recherche	Canada
Dr.	Jan	Kysely	Institute of Atmospheric Physics AS CR		Czech Republic
Dr.	Duncan	Lee	University of Glasgow	Department of Statistics Mathematical and Statistical Sciences	United Kingdom
Prof.	Subhash	Lele	University of Alberta		Canada
Dr.	Tao	Li	Alberta Research Council		Canada
Ms.	Hong	Li	University of Victoria	Mathematics and Statistics	Canada
Dr.	Bo	Li	National Center for Atmospheric Research	Institute for Mathematics Applied to Geosciences	United States
Prof.	Ernst	Linder	University of New Hampshire	Mathematics & Statistics	United States
Prof.	Georg	Lindgren	Lund University	Mathematical Statistics Matematical Statistics	Sweden
Dr.	Finn	Lindgren	Lund University	Centre for Mathematical Sciences	Sweden
Mr.	Johan	Lindström	Lund University	Centre for Mathematical Sciences	Sweden
Ms.	XIAO	LING	UNIVERSITY OF VICTORIA	MATHEMATIC AND STATISTICS	Canada
Dr.	zhong	liu	University of British Columbia	Statistics	Canada
Dr.	Jason	Loeppky	UBC Okanagan	Statistics	Canada
Prof.	Thomas	Lumley	University of Washington	Biostatistics Department of Mathematics and Statistics	United States
Dr.	Renjun	Ma	University of New Brunswick		Canada
Dr.	Lisa	Madsen	Oregon State University	Statistics	United States
Dr.	Steen	Magnussen	Canadian Forest Service	Natural Resources Canada	Canada
Dr.	Antonello	Maruotti	Università di Roma Tre		Italy
Prof.	Armand	MAUL	University of Metz, France	Department of Statistics	France
Mr.	Rob	McAlpine	Ontario Ministry of Natural Resources	Aviation and Forest Fire Management	Canada
Dr.	Brian	McConkey	Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada		Canada
Prof.	Ian	McLeod	University of Western Ontario	Statistical and Actuarial Sciences	Canada
Dr.	Ilaria	Meliconi	John Wiley & Sons		United Kingdom
Dr.	Curtis	Miller	University of Florida	Statistics	United States
Dr.	Joanna	Mills Flemming	Dalhousie University	Mathematics and Statistics	Canada
Dr.	Scott	Mitchell	Carleton University	Department of Geography and Environmental Studies	Canada
Dr.	Nils	Mole	University of Sheffield	Department of Applied Mathematics	United Kingdom
Mr.	Mitch	Murphy	Carleton University	School of Mathematics and Statistics	Canada

Dr.	Amy	Nail	North Carolina State University	Statistics	United States
Dr.	Farouk	Nathoo	University of Victoria	Mathematics and Statistics	Canada
Dr.	Denise	Neilsen	Canada Agriculture and Agri-Food		Canada
Dr.	Nathaniel	Newlands	Canada Agriculture and Agri-Food	Environmental Health, Research Branch	Canada
Dr.	Donald	Noakes	Thompson Rivers University	Mathematics and Statistics	Canada
Mr.	David	O'Donnell	The University of Glasgow	Department of Statistics	United Kingdom
Dr.	Sam	Otukol	Ministry of Forests	Forest Analysis & Inventory Branch	Canada
Dr.	Simone	Padoan	Ecole Polytechnique Federale de Lausanne	Environmental Fluid Mechanics and Hydrology Department of Mathematical Sciences	Switzerland United Kingdom
Mr.	Christos	Papamichael	University of Bath		
Mrs.	sylvie	PAREY	EDF/R&D	MFEE	France Czech Republic
Dr.	Jan	Picek	Technical University of Liberec	Department of Applied Mathematics	Republic
Ms.	Darcy	Pickard	ESSA Technologies	Statistics/Ecology	Canada
Prof.	Alessio	Pollice	Università di Bari	Dipartimento di Scienze Statistiche	Italy
Mr.	Karim M. do	Rahim	Queen's University	Department of Math and Statistics Centro de Matemática e Aplicações Fundamentais	Canada Portugal
Dr.	Rosário	Ramos	Universidade Aberta and CMAF		
Mr.	Kiel	Rasp	University of Washington	College of Arts and Sciences Environment Accounts and Statistics Division	United States Canada
Dr.	Soheil	Rastan	Statistics Canada		
Prof.	Shane	Reese	Brigham Young University	Department of Statistics Department of Mathematics, Faculty of Civil Engineering	United States Czech Republic
Dr.	Monika	Rencova	Czech Technical University	Division of Realty & Natural Resources, National Wildlife Refuge System	
Dr.	Joel	Reynolds	U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service		United States
Dr.	Shane	Rollans	Thompson Rivers University	Mathematics and Statistics	Canada
Prof.	Paul	Sampson	University of Washington	Department of Statistics	United States
Dr.	ALEXANDRA	SCHMIDT	UFRJ	INSTITUTO DE MATEMÁTICA	Brazil
Prof.	carl	schwarz	Simon Fraser University	Statistics and Actuarial Science	Canada United Kingdom
Dr.	Gavin	Shaddick	University of Bath	Mathematical Sciences Mathematical and Information Sciences	Australia
Dr.	Quanxi	Shao	CSIRO		
Mr.	Guochun	Shen	Zhejiang University	Biology Division of Statistics, Department of Computer and Information Science	China Sweden
Mr.	Sackmone	Sirisack	Linköping University		
Mr.	bruce	smith	Dalhousie University	mathematics and statistics	Canada
Mr.	Ward	Smith	Canada Agriculture and Agri-Food	Research Branch	Canada
Mr.	Scott	Smith	Canada Agriculture and Agri-Food		Canada
Dr.	Cliff	Spiegelman	Texas University	Department of Statistics	United States
Prof.	Don	Stevens	Oregon State University	Statistics	United States
Mr.	ryan	stone	University of Victoria	Statistics	Canada
Prof.	paul	sullivan	University of Western Ontario	applied mathematics	Canada
Dr.	Jef	Teugels	Katholieke Universiteit Leuven	Department of Mathematics Department of Applied Mathematics, Biometrics and Process Control	Belguim
Prof.	olivier	thas	Ghent University		Belguim

Ms.	Hoang	Thi Thu Huong	Université Paris Sud 11	Mathematics	France
Prof.	Steve	Thompson	Simon Fraser University	Statistics	Canada
Dr.	Thordis L.	Thorarinsdottir	University of Washington	Department of Statistics	United States
Mr.	Cordy	Tymstra	Alberta Sustainable Resource Development	Forestry Division	Canada
Mr.	Anton	van Heusden	Environment Canada	Greenhouse Gas Division	Canada
Ms.	Lucie	Vincent	Environment Canada	Climate Research Division	Canada
Dr.	Kristina	Voigt	Helmholtz Zentrum Muenchen	Institute for Biomathematics and Biometrics	Germany
Mr.	Jari	Walden	Finnish Meteorological Institute	Air Quality	Finland
Mr.	Per	Wallenius	Integrated Land Management Bureau	GeoBC Spatial Analysis Branch	Canada
Dr.	David	Walshaw	Newcastle University	Mathematics and Statistics	United Kingdom
Dr.	HONG	WANG	Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada		Canada
Prof.	Liqun	Wang	University of Manitoba	Department of Statistics	Canada
Mr.	Stephen	Welsh	University of British Columbia Okanagan	Mathematics, Statistics and Physics	Canada
Dr.	Douglas	Woolford	Simon Fraser University	Statistics and Actuarial Science	Canada
Dr.	Mike	Wotton	Canadian Forest Service	Natural Resources Canada	Canada
Mr.	Haojie	YAN	University of Bath, UK	Mathematical Science Department	United Kingdom
Mr.	Kejiang	Zhang	University of Calgary	Civil Engineering Department	Canada
Prof.	Ying	Zhang	Acadia University	Math & Stats	Canada
Prof.	Hao	Zhang	Purdue University	Department of Statistics and Department of Forestry and Natural Resources	United States
Prof.	Tonglin	Zhang	Purdue University	Statistics	United States
Dr.	Yanbing	Zheng	University of Kentucky	Statistics	United States
Dr.	Rong	Zhu	McMaster University	Department of Mathematics and Statistics	Canada
Prof.	JAMES	ZIDEK	University of British Columbia	STATISTICS	Canada