# THIRTY-FIRST GREGYNOG STATISTICAL CONFERENCE PROGRAMME

All talks will take place in Seminar Room 1 (Floor 2, far end)

Friday		
21 April	13.00	Lunch
	14.15	Professor Paul Newbold (Nottingham University)
		Unit Autoregressive Roots and Structural Breaks I
	15.45	Tea
	16.15	Professor Henry Wynn (City University)
		Some Computational Geometry in Statistics
	19.00	Dinner
Saturday		
22 April	08.30	Breakfast
	09.30	Dr Peter Ceuppens (Toxicol Labs)
		Statistical Modelling in Pharmaceutical Data
		Coffee
	11.30	Professor Paul Newbold
		Unit Roots II
	13.00	Lunch
		Afternoon free (walks, etc.)
	16.00	Tea
	19.00	Dinner
	20.00	Professor Barry Quinn (Goldsmith's College, London)
		Statistical Problems in the Analysis of Underwater Sound
Sunday		
23 April	08.30	Breakfast
	09.30	Professor Frank Critchley (Birmingham University)
		A Look at Influence Analysis
	11.00	Coffee
	11.30	Professor Richard Lockhart (Simon Fraser Univ. and Oxford)
		Goodness of Fit and the Box Cox Transformation
		Lunch
	14.00	Professor Paul Newbold

Unit Roots III

15.30 Tea

#### **ABSTRACTS**

# Professor Richard Lockhart (Simon Fraser University, visiting Oxford)

Goodness of Fit and the Box Cox Transformation

There has been considerable controversy over the 1964 suggestion of Box and Cox that estimation of the transformation parameter in their model can be ignored when making inferences for the regression parameters in the model. The suggestion was attacked by Bickel and Doksum who made asymptotic calculations to show that the variance of estimates could be greatly inflated over the usual linear model formulae. In reply data dependent parameter definitions have been proposed by Hinkley and Runger and others to justify the original suggestion. In this talk we discuss asymptotic calculations made under different conditions from those of Bickel and Doksum which lead to somewhat different large sample expansions. We pinpoint the major source of variance inflation and show that this source vanishes if standardized regression coefficients are considered. Our asymptotics give guidance as to the extent of variance inflation likely. Finally, the asymptotics permit tests of the hypothesis of normal errors in the transformation model which have an advantage not enjoyed by the Bickel and Doksum calculations, namely the approximations depend continuously on the estimated parameter values.

## **Professor Henry Wynn (City University)**

Some Computational Geometry in Statistics

If one constructs a Venn diagram in the plane with four circles, at most fourteen elementary regions can be constructed. For spheres in d-dimensions the maximum number of spheres that can be placed so that all elementary regions are non-empty is d+1. This shows an elementary connection between complexity issues in geometry and elementary statistics or probability. Such geometric considerations also control the "depth" required in classical inclusion/exclusion identities, and are related to so-called independence number.

The above body of ideas is closely related to issues of Vapnik Chernovenkis dimension which is a key idea in the study of empirical processes and more recently in computational learning and neural nets.

The talk will attempt to tie these ideas together and to give them the label of "computational geometry in statistics". Skeleton notes will be provided.

### **GREGYNOG STATISTICS CONFERENCE 1995 - PARTICIPANTS SPEAKERS**

**Dr Peter Ceuppens (Toxicol Laboratories)** Professor Frank Critchley (Birmingham University)

Professor Richard Lockhart (Simon Fraser University visiting Oxford)

+ wife + 2 children

Professor Paul Newbold (Nottingham University) Professor Barry Quinn (Goldsmith's College, London) Professor Henry Wynn (City University)

**STAFF** 

**STUDENTS** 

**ABERYSTWYTH** 

Mr D A Jones Dr J A Lane

Miss S G Lutkins

Dr R J Owen

Professor D V Lindley Dr H HLlowellyn (Fri)

**BANGOR** 

Dr J Y Kassab

Mr C J Whitaker

Miss H Chandler

Dr E J Raeburn

Mr M Aslam

Mr A Radhi Mr M Helan Mr A El-Bouzedi

**BIRMINGHAM** Dr P V Bertrand Mr R L Holder Dr R A Atkinson

Professor A J Lawrance

Mr A J Girling

Professor H. Daniels **NOTTINGHAM-TRENT** 

Professor N Davies

Dr D Q Wang 7 Dr G Lu

Mr G Heslop Mr I Rahmatullah

**SWANSEA** 

Dr J du Preez Dr .J Pemberton Dr M Kelbert Dr A D Mayer

Dr A Watkins Professor A Hawkes

Mr A Merlushkin Mr J Radeliffe Mr S James

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Mr A Fario Mr Hevdari

Mr R Puch-Solis

Mr A Karkum-Gargoum Mr L Rodriguez-Carvajal