

# Washington Statistical Society

CHAPTER • AMERICAN STATISTICAL ASSOCIATION

W.S.S. Newsletter—December 1980

## Calendar

### W.S.S.-Sponsored:

**Topic:** Estimating Response Variance from Latent Markov Models: An Application to Self-Reported Disability Status  
**Speaker:** Mr. Barry Bye, Social Security Administration  
**Discussants:** Dr. Evan Schechter, Social Security Administration; and Professor John Hennessey, Loyola College  
**Chair:** Dr. F.J. Scheuren, Internal Revenue Service  
**Date & Time:** Tuesday, December 9, 1980; 12:30 - 2:00 p.m.  
**Location:** Natural History Building, Smithsonian Institution, 10th & Constitution Avenue, N.W. Classrooms B&C  
**Sponsor:** Methodology Section  
**Abstract:** Measurement error in individual responses is of concern when addressing the issue of measuring the extent of change over time in longitudinal data. This paper describes two methods for estimating response variance from panel data without the benefit of a reinter-view program specifically targeted to this problem. These methods are applied to data on self-perceived disability collected by the Social Security Administration.

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**Topic:** Optimal Designs for Comparing Treatments with a Control in Incomplete Blocks  
**Speaker:** Professor Robert Bechhofer, Cornell University  
**Chair:** Seymour Selig, Office of Naval Research  
**Date & Time:** Friday, December 12, 1980; 12:30 - 2:00 p.m.  
**Location:** Arts & Industries Building, Smithsonian Institution (Red Barn next to Castle), 900 Jefferson Drive, S.W., Room 1310B  
**Sponsor:** Physical Science and Engineering  
**Abstract:** A theory of optimal incomplete block designs for comparing several treatments with a control will be developed. This class of designs is appropriate for comparing simultaneously  $p \geq 2$  test treatments with a control treatment (the so-called multiple comparisons with a control problem) when the observations are taken in incomplete blocks of common size  $k < p+1$ . For this problem, we propose a new general class of incomplete block designs (termed BTIB designs) which are *balanced* with respect to *test* treatments. The structure of such designs will be described. Using a new concept of admissibility of designs, it will be shown how "inferior" designs can be eliminated from consideration, and attention limited to a small class of BTIB designs which can be constructed from so-called generator designs in the minimal complete class of such designs. Some open problems concerning construction of BTIB designs will be posed.

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### Seminars—Other Sponsors

**Topic:** Statistics from Individual Income Tax Returns  
**Speakers:** Phil Clark, Pat Piet, and Peter Sailer  
**Date & Time:** Wednesday, December 10, 1980; 1:00 - 2:00 p.m.  
**Location:** 1201 E Street, N.W., Room 806B, Washington, DC  
**Sponsor:** Internal Revenue Service, Statistics Division

### Seminars—Other Sponsors (Continued)

**Abstract:** These members of the Statistics Division will discuss in detail the content of this comprehensive statistics report, the next in the series of *Complete Reports, Statistics of Income—1978, Individual Income Tax Returns*. Subjects covered will be sources of income, major types of itemized deductions, tax credits, and income taxes. Also covered will be recent tax law changes affecting individual tax credits. Interested persons are invited to attend whether or not they are WSS or ASA members. Questions concerning this seminar should be directed to Ray Plowden or Peter Sailer on 376-0155. The published report will be available from the Superintendent of Documents, Government Printing Office, in Dec. 1980.

### ANNOUNCEMENT

**Current Topics in Biostatistics and Epidemiology: A Memorial Symposium in Honor of Jerome Cornfield**, will be held at the National Institutes of Health in Bethesda, Maryland on March 9, 1981. Speakers will review the wide variety of contributions made by the late Professor Cornfield to biomedical research and will discuss current topics in biostatistics and epidemiology related to Professor Cornfield's areas of interest and involvement. The preceding evening, March 8, a banquet will be held at which personal reminiscences of Professor Cornfield will be shared.

There is no registration fee for the Symposium, but preregistration is required. Registration will be restricted to a total of 550. There will be a fee for the banquet. For registration forms and further information, please write or call:

Conference and Seminar Branch  
Fogarty International Center  
Room 612, Building 38A  
National Institutes of Health  
Bethesda, Maryland 20205  
(301) 496-4627

### EMPLOYMENT COLUMN

Deadline for inserting notices  
is the 10th of the month preceding  
the publication date

Send notices and requests to:  
Evelyn R. Kay—902 Presidential Bldg.  
National Center for Education Statistics  
400 Maryland Avenue, S.W.  
Washington, D.C. 20202 (301) 436-6791

### Job Openings

**Mathematical Statistician**  
**GS-1529-5/7/9/11/12**

The Internal Revenue Service is seeking a person with an interest and aptitude in statistical consulting. This person will initially work with other professional statisticians in providing consulting expertise to all organizations of the service, where small and large-scale studies provide fascinating challenges at several levels of mathematical statistical development.

**Job Openings (Continued)**

**Mathematical Statistician**  
**GS-1529-7/9/11/12**

Position available for statistician to assist in development of sample designs and estimating methodology associated with Statistics of Income publications. Interest or experience in sampling and familiarity with computer capabilities highly desirable.

If interested in the above positions, please send SF 171 to Internal Revenue Service, Statistics Division, 1111 Constitution Avenue, N.W., Washington, D.C. 20224; Attention Pete Howerton, Room 407, (202) 376-0159.

**Survey Statistician**  
**GS-12**

The Special Projects Division of the Energy Information Administration, Department of Energy, is seeking a GS-12 Survey Statistician (\$26,000) with an economics background to assist in the design, maintenance, and analysis of nationwide energy data collection programs. Work is involved with all aspects of survey and statistical design with special emphasis on survey design. Background in applied micro-economics desirable. Send an Application for Federal Employment (SF-171) and, if available, your most current completed performance appraisal to: Special Projects Division, Room 4319, Federal Building, 12th & Pennsylvania Avenue, N.W., Washington, D.C. 20461. A copy of the complete DOE announcement can be obtained from the above address. Telephone number is (202) 633-9841.

**Mathematical Statistician**  
**GS-1529-13 (part-time)**

Office of the Secretary of the Treasury, Office of Budget and Program Analysis. Maximum thirty-two (32) hours per week. Position closes 12 December 1980. No status required. For further information, call: Iris Lipkowitz at 566-2056, or John Garmat at 566-2431.

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