

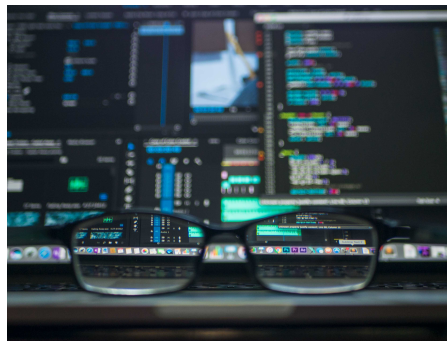


THE UNIVERSITY *of* EDINBURGH  
Centre for Statistics

## CENTRE FOR STATISTICS ANNUAL CONFERENCE 2024

June 18, 2024

Nucleus Building, Elm Lecture Theatre  
University of Edinburgh, King's Buildings, EH9 3FD



Hosted by the **Centre for Statistics**

<https://centreforstatistics.maths.ed.ac.uk>

Organized by Sara Wade ([sara.wade@ed.ac.uk](mailto:sara.wade@ed.ac.uk)), Timothy Cannings ([timothy.cannings@ed.ac.uk](mailto:timothy.cannings@ed.ac.uk)),  
Grégoire Clarte ([gclarte@ed.ac.uk](mailto:gclarte@ed.ac.uk)), and Torben Sell ([torben.sell@ed.ac.uk](mailto:torben.sell@ed.ac.uk)).

The **Centre for Statistics** unites data-driven researchers from across the University of Edinburgh and Associated Institutions. We organise several **cross-disciplinary research days** throughout the academic year, provide free statistical advice at our regular **drop-in clinic**, and host an annual distinguished lecture series in honour of **Prof David Finney**. The centre also founded the **Statistical Consultancy Unit**, which acts as an interface between external clients and the expertise within the CFS.

Our **Annual Conference** showcases the interdisciplinary data-driven research being carried out in and around Edinburgh. The one-day event features a number of **invited speakers** from academia and industry, a **poster session** and plenty of time for **networking**. The conference is preceded by our **Early Career Researchers Day**, which provides PhD students and other ECRs the opportunity to get together and discuss their research in a less formal setting.

**Programme:**

- 09:00-09:25: Registration with coffee/tea.
- 09:25-09:30: Housekeeping and Welcome (Timothy Cannings, Director of Centre for Statistics).
- Session 1: Chaired by Andrej Svetlošák (School of Mathematics)
  - 09:30-10:05: Roger Halliday (Research Data Scotland) *Unlocking data for research in the public good*
  - 10:05-10:40: Elliot Crowley (School of Engineering) *Finding the right neural network for the job*
- 10:40-11:10: Coffee.
- Session 2: Chaired by Glenna Nightingale (School of Health in Social Science)
  - 11:10-11:45: Cecilia Balocchi (School of Mathematics) *Improving uncertainty quantification in Bayesian cluster analysis*
  - 11:45-12:20: Edward Wallace (School of Biological Sciences) *Quantifying the messages that make cells tick: adventures in understanding regulation of messenger RNA in fungi*
- 12:20-14:20: Posters and Lunch.
- Session 3: Chaired by Takuo Matsubara (School of Mathematics)
  - 14:20-14:55: Xuebin Zhao (School of Geosciences) *Variational Prior Replacement in Bayesian Inference and Inversion*
  - 14:55-15:30: Roxanne Connelly (School of Social and Political Science) *Do You Like School? Social Class, Gender, Ethnicity and Pupils' Educational Enjoyment*
  - 15:30-16:05: Mirella Lapata (School of Informatics) *Prompting is \*not\* all you need! Or why Structure and Representations still matter in NLP*
- 16:05-16:10: Closing (Timothy Cannings, Director of Centre for Statistics).
- 16:10-17:00: Reception and Photo.

Invited talks are 25 min + 10 min Q&A and changeover. The full programme including titles and abstracts of talks and posters can be found on the CfSC 2024 website:

[https:](https://centreforstatistics.maths.ed.ac.uk/cfs/events/upcoming-events/cfs-annual-conference-2024)

[//centreforstatistics.maths.ed.ac.uk/cfs/events/upcoming-events/cfs-annual-conference-2024](https://centreforstatistics.maths.ed.ac.uk/cfs/events/upcoming-events/cfs-annual-conference-2024)

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