2011 Annual Meeting of the Alaska Chapter of the American Statistical Association

Titles, Abstracts, and Presenter Information

For Talks on Wednesday, August 31

The 2011 Annual Meeting of the Alaska Chapter of the American Statistical Association will occur Monday-Wednesday, August 29-31, in the Egan Room at the Centennial Hall Convention Center.
The times for presentations and breaks noted below are subject to change.

Title	Presenter	Abstract
Statistical Consulting in a State Resource Agency: Experiences gleaned from a 30+ year Career	Allen Bingham ADF&G Division of Sport Fish 333 Raspberry Rd. Anchorage, AK 99518-1599 allen.bingham@alaska.gov	The Division of Sport Fish initiated an operational planning process for all research conducted within the division starting in 1987. The presenter will discuss the experiences gleaned from the development of the process; early-middle-late years of implementing the process since that time; and adapting the process in the face of changing needs. Contrasts will be made to the author's experiences working as a consulting biometrician both with and without the operational planning framework over his 30+ year career. Experiences working as both a consulting biometrician and as supervisor of the biometrics unit within the operational planning framework will be contrasted. Both the human nature aspects (working together collaboratively) and issues related to sound statistical practice will also be covered. Tips, 'tricks', pitfalls to avoid, and other words of (hopeful) wisdom will be shared.
What is wrong with the model selection?	Xinxian Zhang ADF&G Division of Commercial Fisheries 333 Raspberry Rd. Anchorage, AK 99518-1599 xinxian.zhang@alaska.gov	ADF&G use sonar to monitor salmon return in the Kenai River. Due to timing of arrivals and limitation of budgets, ADF&G may not start the sonar at the beginning of return; end it before the end of return. I used the three probability functions to estimate the daily arrivals missed by the sonar at the start and end of the run. I applied a model selection criterion, AIC, to select the best model. However the best model by AIC is the worst one to model the tails.
Modeling the Presence and Absence of Fish in a Stream Network	Margaret Short Department of Mathematical Sciences University of Alaska Fairbanks PO BOX 756660 Fairbanks, AK 99775-6660 mshort18@alaska.edu	We propose a spatial model for the presence and absence of fish in a stream network. This model extends a moving average approach developed by Jay Ver Hoef and Erin Peterson to binary data. Distances are measured along the stream network rather than straight-line. Our model incorporates covariates. We use a Bayesian approach, implemented via Markov chain Monte Carlo. We illustrate using a Nushagak data set. This represents joint work with the Alaska Department of Fish and Game.
It All Starts with the Data: Recent Directions in SAS/STAT Software	Bob Rodriquez American Statistical Association and SAS Institute bob.rodriguez@sas.com	This presentation will begin with a behind-the-scenes look at how research statistician developers at SAS interact with customers and the statistical community to decide on new functionality in SAS/STAT. The presentation will then provide a high-level tour of new directions and features in the two most recent releases of SAS/STAT (9.2 and 9.22). These releases deliver new procedures and enhancements for Bayesian analysis, generalized linear models for overdispersion, generalized linear mixed models, exact Poisson regression, structural equations modeling, design and analysis of survey data, variable selection techniques, and postfitting inference. The presentation will highlight new features for a few of these areas, and it will describe two developments of general interest. The first is major new functionality for statistical graphics. The second is a programming environment for data analysis, which extends the SAS matrix language by adding the ability to call SAS procedures, create dynamic graphics, and call R programs.