INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE ON CHARACTERIZATIONS OF PROBABILITY DISTRIBUTIONS AND THEIR APPLICATIONS TO THEORETICAL STATISTICS AND APPLIED FIELDS

An international conference on characterizations of probability distributions and their applications to theoretical statistics and applied fields is tentatively planned for the summer of 1973 in Europe or in the United States at the Pennsylvania State University. The exact time and place will be fixed later.

The purpose of the conference is to bring together research workers investigating problems that have motivation in scientific concepts and formulations or that have application or potential use for statistical theory and applied fields. It is tentatively planned that the conference will consist of two parts.

Part I will consist of ten consolidated review sessions to be held in the mornings. Each topic selected for a consolidated review session will have two lectures followed by discussion. Colleagues who have had considerable experience and expertise in subject areas of characterizations will be invited to present unified, self-contained and critical reviews with suggestions for future directions.

Part II of the conference will be devoted to new contributions to the field of characterizations and applications. Afternoon sessions are planned for this purpose. Any new contribution will be welcomed.

Plans are being made for publication of the proceedings in a suitable form. For improved interaction and quality, every potential presentation will have the benefit of advice and review from a couple of referees and/or preplanned discussants.

An organizing committee has been formed and is likely to be expanded. The following colleagues have expressed interest and willingness to serve on the organizing committee: W. L. Harkness (U.S.A.), I. Kotlarski (U.S.A.), E. Lukacs (U.S.A.), P. A. P. Moran (Australia), J. E. Mosimann (U.S.A.), G. P. Patil (U.S.A., Chairman), C. R. Rao (India), and Henry Teicher (U.S.A.).

Comments and suggestions are invited on any matter pertaining to the proposed conference. One or two copies of relevant literature in the form of reprints, reports, lecture notes, dissertations, books, etc., would also be welcome for display during the conference. Correspondence may be addressed to: Professor G. P. Patil, Characterizations Project, 330 McAllister Building, The Pennsylvania State University, University Park, Pennsylvania 16802, U.S.A.

Advances in Applied Probability

The Editorial Board would like to encourage the submission to the *Advances* of Review Papers summarising and coordinating recent results in any of the fields of Applied Probability. The papers should be approximately 40–50 printed pages in length.

In addition to these Review Papers, *Advances* is also designed to be a medium of publication for (1) long research papers in Applied Probability, which may include expository material, (2) expository papers on branches of mathematics of interest to probabilists, (3) papers outlining areas in the biological, physical, social and technological sciences in which probability models can be usefully developed, and finally, (4) papers in Applied Probability presented at conferences which do not publish their proceedings.

In short, the main function of *Advances* is to define areas of recent progress and potential development in Applied Probability. As with the *Journal of Applied Probability*, *Advances* undertakes to publish papers accepted by the Editors within 15 months of their submission.

The Editorial Board consists of E. Sparre Andersen, D. Blackwell, B. Gnedenko, J. Hájek, E. J. Hannan, D. G. Kendall, J. F. C. Kingman, K. Krickeberg, R. M. Loynes, P. A. P. Moran, J. Neveu, K. R. Parthasarathy, R. Pyke, C. A. B. Smith and L. Takács. The Editor-in-Chief is J. Gani, and the Editorial Office of the *Advances* is in the Department of Probability and Statistics, The University, Sheffield, S3 7RH, England.

Volume 4 No. 2 of *Advances* contains the following papers:

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Authors will receive only first proofs for correction; charges will be made for excessive alteration to these.

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CONTENTS

Volume 9

Number 3

September 1972

		Research Papers
RICHARD J. KRYSCIO	471	The transition probabilities of the extended simple stochastic epidemic model and the Haskey model
W. A. O'N. WAUGH	486	Taboo extinction, sojourn times, and asymptotic growth for the Markovian birth and death process
BARRON BRAINERD	507	On the relation between types and tokens in literary text
ANDREW D.BARBOUR	519	The principle of the diffusion of arbitrary constants
JAN GRANDELL	542	On the estimation of intensities in a stochastic process generated by a stochastic intensity sequence
HANS FÖLLMER	557	Optimal stopping of constrained Brownian motion
D. J. EMERY	572	Limiting behaviour of the distributions of the maxima of partial sums of certain random walks
D. N. SHANBHAG	580	Some characterizations based on the Bhatta- charya matrix
R. SCHASSBERGER	588	On the work load process in a general pre- emptive resume priority queue
S. K. SRINIVASAN, R. SUBRAMANIAN AND R. VASUDEVAN	604	Correlation functions in queueing theory
BRUCE W. TURNBULL	617	
KATSUHISA OHNO AND	630	Traffic light queues with dependent arrivals as
HISASHI MINE	612	a generalization to queueing theory
JACQUELINE LORIS-TEGHEM	642	On the waiting time distribution in a general- ized queueing system with uniformly bounded sojourn times
WARD WHITT	650	Embedded renewal processes in the GI/G/s queue
		Short Communications
R. K. WATSON	659	On an epidemic in a stratified population
TOTAL E PENDIOL DO		1 .1 spinomio in a primino population

		Short Communications
R. K. W	ATSON 659	On an epidemic in a stratified population
JOHN F. REY	NOLDS 667	A theorem on Markov branching processes
DAVID C. FLASPOHLER	R AND 671	Additional quasi-stationary distributions for
PAUL T. H	OLMES	semi-Markov processes
SHELDON M	I. ROSS 677	On the maximum of a stationary independent increment process
LEON PODKA	MINER 681	On the distribution of the number of cyclically occurring random events
P. GHOS	H AND 684	A note on the characterization of a U-shaped
D. N. SHAI	NBHAG	probability density function