

News

2013 Conferences and Meetings

Graybill Conference in Colorado, USA

Ray Chambers is presenting a keynote address at the 2013 Graybill Conference on Modern Survey Statistics at Colorado State University, Fort Collins, Colorado June 9 - 12. His talk "Using Social Network Information in Survey Estimation" describes joint research with Thomas Suesse of NIASRA on integrating auxiliary network information into model-based survey estimation based on linear models. The talk focuses on comparing the relative efficiencies of autocorrelation, network disturbance and contextual network versions of these models, given that network information for the non-sampled part of the survey population will be typically incomplete in any practical application.



Graybill Conference 2013. Prof Chambers is front left holding his hat.

2013 IEEE International Conference on Multimedia and Expo in San Jose, USA

Payam Mokhtarian is co-author of a paper "Scene-adaptive Configuration of Two Cameras using the Correspondence Field Function", to be presented at the conference San Jose, 15-19 July, 2013. Also the paper has been strongly accepted in top 10 per cent accepted papers and the journal version will be published in the IEEE transaction on Multimedia. His paper describes a new novel approach to find the optimum camera configuration for a given objective. This paper is based on joint research with Farzad Safaei of the ICT research institute, University of Wollongong.

2013 IEEE International Conference on Intelligent Rail Transportation in Beijing, China

Payam Mokhtarian will present the paper "Bayesian Nonparametric Reliability Analysis for a Railway System at Component Level" at the conference in China, 30 August to 1 September, 2013. The objective of his talk is to find out the effectiveness of nonparametric Bayesian methods in the estimation of the component reliability and the necessary conditions of the available data to achieve such effectiveness. This paper is based on joint research with Mark Ho of rail logistic sector of SMART infrastructure facilities, University of Wollongong

Joint Statistical Meeting in Montreal, Canada

Ray Chambers is the invited discussant for the Invited Overview Lecture by Rod Little on "Inference from Complex Sample Surveys: Past Controversies, Current Orthodoxies, Future Paradigms" at the Joint Statistical Meetings, Montreal, 3-8 August, 2013.

2013 ISI conference in Hong Kong

James Chipperfield, Margo Barr, and David Steel will present an invited paper "Split Questionnaire Designs: are they an efficient design choice?" at the 59th World Statistics Congress in Hong Kong. Split Questionnaire Designs (SQD) involves sample design that allows for different patterns, or sets, of question modules to be collected from different sample units. This paper discusses how an SQD can be an efficient design option in practice to give more flexibility in meeting the range of objectives of a survey and focuses on the NSW Population Health Survey.

Ray Chambers will also present an invited paper "An Outlier Robust Block Bootstrap for Small Area Estimation". His talk is based on joint research with Payam Mokhtarian of NIASRA, and describes promising new results on the application of an outlier robust version of the random effect block bootstrap of Chambers and Chandra (2013) for small area estimation. These results indicate that the block bootstrap method can be used to easily implement mixed model inference for small area means based on the Robust EBLUP of Sinha and Rao (2009) and the Bias-Corrected Robust EBLUP of Chambers et al (2013). He is also the invited discussant for the special topic session "The potential of Internet, big data and organic data for official statistics".

And Gunky Kim will present a contributed paper "Maximum Likelihood Logistic Regression with Auxiliary Information for Probabilistically Linked Data". Based on joint research with Ray Chambers, this paper discusses a way to avoid the small sample bias by using the missing information principle in maximum likelihood estimation for the probabilistically linked data.

2013 International Conference on Survey Research Methodology in Taipei, Taiwan

Walter Davis will present a paper at the 2013 International Conference on Survey Research Methodology in Taipei, Taiwan. The paper – "Sample Design for a Randomised Controlled Trial nested within a Population Survey" – discusses NIASRA's work on the preliminary sample design for the Illawarra Health and Medical Research Institute's Population Health Flagship Program. The goal of the Flagship Program is to reduce diabetes risk in the Illawarra (Aus) region. The proposed survey combines a population health survey with a randomised controlled trial of a weight management intervention protocol which offers challenges for sample design. The paper details a sample design to address these challenges.

2013 Scientific Advisory Committee in Bangkok, Thailand

Ray Chambers is co-chair of the Scientific Advisory Committee of the First Asian ISI Satellite Meeting on Small Area Estimation (SAE2013), Bangkok, 1-4 September 2013, and Chair of the Invited Panel on Evaluation of Small Area Methodology in Government Programs that will be the keynote event at the conference.

At the conference, Payam Mokhtarian will present a paper titled "An Outlier Robust Small Area Predictor for Count and Binary Data". His talk describes an approach in outlier robust small area estimation for count and binary data. This approach is an application of robust block bootstrap technique for generalised linear mixed models based on fitting a

generalized maximum quasi-likelihood, which appears to be useful in down-weighting influential data points when estimating the model parameters and small area quantities.

In conjunction with Payam, Sumonkanti Das will also present a paper titled "Selection of small area estimation method for Poverty Mapping: A Conceptual Framework" in a special topic session. The talk presents and compares the range of small area estimation methods developed during the last decade to provide guidance in their potential and appropriateness in different practical situations. This focuses on conceptual framework for poverty mapping study.

60th anniversary SASA Conference in Limpopo, South Africa

Ray Chambers will present a plenary address "An Exploration of Causal Modelling - Evaluating the Impact of Ground-Based Cloud Ionisation on Rainfall Enhancement" at the conference in Limpopo, 4-8 November 2013. This talk will present an overview of his continuing research with NIASRA Fellow Steve Beare of Anlytecon and Scott Peak of Australian Rain Corporation on analysis of field trial data for the Atlant cloud ionisation system.

Last reviewed: 28 February, 2019

Northfields Ave Wollongong, NSW 2522 Australia

Phone: **1300 367 869**

International: **+61 2 4221 3218**

Switchboard: **+61 2 4221 3555**

Connect with us



On the lands that we study, we walk, and we live, we acknowledge and respect the traditional custodians and cultural knowledge holders of these lands.

Copyright © 2020 University of Wollongong
CRICOS Provider No: 00102E | [Privacy & cookie usage](#) | [Copyright & Disclaimer](#)