

IEEE Information Theory Society Newsletter



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Editor: Lance C. Pérez

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President's Column

Hideki Imai



Hideki Imai

It is my great pleasure and honor to serve as the President of the IEEE Information Theory Society.

Owing to the efforts of the former presidents and board members, the financial status of our society is out of trouble, with a "break-even" budget for the first time in several years following the IEEE's recent financial problems. However, the recent decrease in the number of society members could not be stopped.

This is common to all IEEE societies, but the rate of decrease is rather high for our society. My primary goal as President is to improve this situation. For this purpose many measures can be taken. In the following I put forward two of them.

One measure is the extension of coverage of our society. We should carefully choose an area so that both our society and the area profit. One candidate area is cryptology, which is indeed included in the scope of our society, but is not very active. The most important paper for modern cryptology, "New directions in cryptology" by W. Diffie and M. Hellman, was published in the IEEE Transactions on Information Theory in 1976. Nevertheless, there are only a few researchers and engineers for cryptographic techniques in our society. Cryptography is the basis of information security technology, which is now widely recognized as one of the most important elements of information technology. The applications of cryptography are rapidly expanding and the number of researchers and engineers in this area is rapidly increasing.

In order to find close connections between Shannon Theory and cryptology, it is enough to consider Shannon's paper, "Communication theory of secrecy systems" published in the Bell System Technical Journal in 1949. If practical quantum computers were realizable, then almost all conventional public-key cryptosystems would collapse and cryptographic

techniques of information theoretic security would be indispensable to support information infrastructures. Thus the significance of Shannon's 1949 paper is currently much more appreciated. I believe that this suggests that our society plays a central role in the future of cryptology. At present the largest and most active international academic society in the area of cryptography is the International Association of Cryptologic Research (IACR). We should promote cooperation between our society and IACR.

The second measure is the globalization of the Society. The IEEE Information Theory Society is already an international society. However, it has not penetrated into Asia as much as it has into Europe. In Japan, the Society of Information Theory and its Applications (SITA), established in 1977, hosts an annual domestic symposium on information theory with about 300 participants and a biannual international symposium mainly in the Asia-Pacific region. The IT Society should further cooperate with SITA and other local academic societies regarding information theory in various Asian countries. To this end, initial measures for collaboration between SITA and our society were discussed at last year's IEEE International Symposium on Information Theory in Yokohama, Japan. We should also reactivate existing chapters of the IEEE Information Theory Society and create new ones in "blank" regions. The IEEE Information Theory Chapter created in Bangalore, India, last year following the 2001 IEEE Information Theory Workshop in Bangalore is an excellent example of such actions to expand the reach of our society.

I welcome any suggestions concerning further development of IT Society membership. You can reach me at imai@iis.u-tokyo.ac.jp.

The IT Society is managed by the Board of Governors (BoG). This year's BoG meetings will be held on March 17 in Princeton, USA (during CISS 2004, <http://www.ciss.us/>), on June 27 in Chicago, USA (during ISIT 2004, <http://www.isit2004.org/>) and on October 11 in Parma, Italy (during ISITA 2004, <http://www.sita.gr.jp/ISITA2004/>). These meetings are open to all Society members. Everyone is encouraged to participate.

From the Editor

This issue of the *IEEE Information Theory Society Newsletter* features a column by Venugopal V. Veeravalli, Program Director in the Division of Computing and Communication Foundations (CCF) of the United State's National Science Foundation. Portions of NSF have recently undergone major reorganization and Venu's column is insightful and of interest to IT Society members around the world.

Please help make the Newsletter as interesting and informative as possible by offering suggestions and contributing news. The deadlines for the 2004 issues of the Newsletter are as follows:

<u>Issue</u>	<u>Deadline</u>
June 2004	April 15, 2004
September 2004	July 15, 2004
December 2004	October 15, 2004

Electronic submission, especially in ascii and Word formats, is encouraged.

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The Historian's Column

A. Ephremides



This time, with your indulgence, I will engage in a historical review of very narrow (and personal) scope. Having spent thirty three years at the University of Maryland's Electrical Engineering Department (now Electrical and Computer Engineering Department), and having witnessed and (hopefully) influenced the evolution of its attention to the field of Information Theory, I think it might be interesting to the readers to get a close-up view of how things develop within a single department of a typical U.S. university over such a period of time.

In 1971, the Electrical Engineering Department at the University of Maryland in College Park had about twenty some faculty members, two of whom were in the field of Communications. They were Bob Harger and Steve Tretter. Bob is now retired (and ex-chairman of the department) and Steve is still around. At that time, the Department had a strong-willed and controversial chairman, Nick DeClariss, who thought it would be good to hire one more person in that field. That person turned out to be me.

You have to understand that the world was very different then. All engineers were thought of as pariahs at most universities. They were considered to be organs of the military-industrial complex that was responsible for the "illegal" and "immoral" war in Vietnam. Also, not all universities were unambiguously committed to research (as they seem to be today). Having come from Princeton University with a strong research-oriented "indoctrination", I was stunned to hear a faculty member (an Assistant Professor, no less) at a departmental meeting argue that the wisdom of investing in research was questionable since research had no guarantee of success!

My first lecture in the first course on Communication Systems that I taught went (I thought) very well. I reviewed the basics of probability theory and felt very good about it. I made an emergency landing, however, when I was approached by a bewildered student after the lecture who informed me that I had covered the first seventy pages of the textbook!

Obtaining a grant from NSF at the time meant a budget of about \$25,000 per year, total. My starting salary was \$13,000 for the academic year (stunning, eh?). And I was able to have and support a total of one graduate student. A research paper had to be typed by a departmental typist on a conventional, manual typewriter, proofread, (the mistakes whitened out), and submitted by U.S. mail to the journal. From completion of the hand-written manuscript until reception by the journal, a minimum of ten days, and an average of two to three weeks was required.

Time went by slowly. The seminar series I instigated brought to our department such luminaries as Bob Gallager, Don Snyder, Jim Massey, Norm Abramson, Bob Kennedy, and others. A new course on martingales in detection theory that I introduced had an enrollment of three students. It was being held from five to six fifteen PM in the evening and I had a lot of fun with it. I even cancelled one class (that I made up on a weekend) to be able to make it to New York City to attend a performance of Berlioz's "Les Troyens".

How things have changed since then! We now have over seventy faculty members, about twelve to thirteen of whom are in the field of Communications. Among them there are Information Theorists like Prakash Narayan, Sasha Barg, Sennur Ulukus... and Steve Tretter. Our advanced topics classes routinely have enrollments that exceed a dozen or two and our required courses boast up to seventy students. A small NSF grant shoots for a budget of \$100,000 per year and our current salaries are...(sorry I can't divulge that). Although an NSF award was sufficient reason for promotion in the early seventies, today one almost needs to establish a major research center to even be considered. If a faculty member (even tenured) were to utter the speculative thoughts of questioning the usefulness of research, he/she would be doomed.

We now have a new, modern, and comfortable building, lots of staff (none of whom type our manuscripts, with the exception of Patsy Keehn, God bless her), difficulties in finding parking, a myriad of electronic gadgets (printers, laptops, scanners, projectors, desktops, and what have you), classes that bulge at the seams, and aspirations (partly realized) of being one of the top departments in the world.

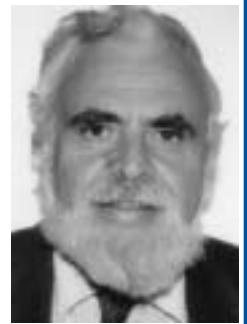
At some faculty meetings I see people I do not recognize. We now receive accolades and awards all the time. We are told we are the jewel of the University's (and the State of Maryland's) crown. Our Dean of Engineering is an Informational Theorist, too, Nariman Farvardin. Some of our successful alumni have founded companies that had spectacular success and have lavished us with generous gifts of appreciation.

And I couldn't even think of canceling my class to go to a Metropolitan Opera performance anymore!

What a difference thirty three years make!

GOLOMB'S PUZZLE COLUMN™

AN INVERSE PROBLEM



Soloman W. Golomb

Suppose there is a set S of n distinct positive real numbers which you are asked to determine, given only the set T consisting of the $\binom{n}{k}$ sums of all the k -element subsets of S . (You are not told which sum corresponds to which subset.) For many values of n and k the reconstruction of the elements of S is unique. It is also possible to have two different solutions for S , given T , or even to have a continuum of values for the elements of S , given T , for certain pairs n and k . In the first four problems, find all possible sets S consistent with the given set T .

1. $n = 4, k = 2, T = \{24, 28, 30, 32, 34, 38\}$.
2. $n = 5, k = 2, T = \{21, 26, 28, 29, 31, 34, 36, 37, 42, 44\}$.
3. $n = 6, k = 2, T = \{32, 35, 37, 39, 41, 43, 44, 45, 48, 49, 51, 52, 54, 58, 62\}$.

4. $n = 6, k = 3, T = \{49, 54, 56, 57, 58, 60, 61, 65, 66, 67, 68, 69, 70, 74, 75, 77, 78, 79, 81, 86\}$.

The next four problems are more general.

5. Show that the problem of reconstructing S from T for given n and k is precisely equivalent (procedurally) to the corresponding problem for n and $k' = n - k$.
6. For $k = 2$ and each $n \geq 2$, how many solutions are there for S ? (There are different answers for different values of n .)
7. How many solutions are there for S if $n = k > 1$?
8. For what pairs n and k are there exactly two reconstructions for S ?

CALL FOR NOMINATIONS: IT SOCIETY DISTINGUISHED SERVICE AWARD

The IT Society Award honors individuals who have shown outstanding leadership in, and provided long-standing exceptional service to, the Information Theory Community.

Nominations:

Nominations for the Distinguished Service Award can be made by anyone and are made by sending a letter of nomination to the president of the IT Society by April 15. The individual or individuals making the nomination have the primary responsibility for justifying why the nominee should receive this award.

How to nominate:

Letters of nomination should

- Identify the nominee's areas of leadership and exceptional service, detailing the activities for which the nominee is believed to deserve this award;

- Include the nominee's current vita;

- Include two letters of endorsement.

Current officers and members of the IT Society Board of Governors are ineligible.

The prize shall be an ISIT or ITW participation fee waiver, a specially engraved plaque and a certificate, and shall be presented at the ISIT meeting held during the summer following selection of the winner or at an appropriate IEEE IT Society activity selected by the recipient.

Nomination Deadline:

April 15, 2004

Please send your letter of nomination by e-mail to imai@iis.u-tokyo.ac.jp

Guest Column: NSF Program Director



Venugopal V. Veeravalli

Greetings! In early October 2003, I took on the Program Director position for communications research at the U.S. National Science Foundation. I decided recently to begin writing this column to document my experiences, keep members of the community informed as to happenings at NSF that might affect their research and funding, and to engage members in dialogue about issues that affect us all. I also am hopeful that raising awareness of what this position entails might encourage others to take up the torch after me.

I expect that this column will mostly be of interest to the US research community, but I would also appreciate any comments/feedback from our international readership.

First, I'd like to offer some background on how I came to take on this position. When Julia Abrahams announced her intention to resign as Program Director of communications research at NSF during ISIT 2003, I approached her hoping to get some information about what the position entails. After talking with her, I expressed some interest in the position, and a few weeks later the Division Director, Kamal Abdali, invited me to NSF and began to recruit me for the position.

After discussing the prospect with others in the community, I initially declined the position. Some of my reasons were that I felt that the absence from the University of Illinois might be unfair to my graduate students, and would interrupt my research efforts. I was also concerned about the potential negative effects to my own efforts to find research funding. In addition, several senior members of the community expressed that the position may be inappropriate for someone in my stage of career, reasoning that it is perhaps too administrative in function.

Dr. Abdali persisted in recruiting me, however, and I reconsidered my misgivings. As I thought, I became increasingly convinced that it is vital that the person who takes on the position be someone with the interests of the community at heart. During the interview process, I also learned about the CISE (Computer and Information Science and Engineering) directorate reorganization. I felt that it was particularly important in this time of flux, to have someone with a strong understanding of the IT research community to represent our interests at NSF.

Now, five months into my assignment, I remain convinced that I have made the right decision. However, I am concerned about the future of the position. I believe that any negative perceptions associated with the Program Director position are undeserved and misplaced – and perhaps dangerously so.

I have just finished a term as Associate Editor with the IT Transactions, a job that is typically given the nod as an important community service, despite the heavy administrative burden of the position. While editorial positions are of course very impor-

tant, I cannot help but believe that the contributions of an NSF program director are just as important, if not more so. Consider that while the Editor-in-Chief of the IT Transactions helps to maintain the infrastructure for the academic review process – certainly an important function – a Program Director at NSF actually can work to affect the amount and direction of future government funding, as well as setting the agenda for future research in an area!

I have found, meanwhile, that the administrative burden associated with this position is not much greater than that of doing an associate editorship job well, and leaves ample time for keeping up-to-date on research and working towards defining the research frontier for communications. Furthermore, NSF traditionally allows rotators from universities to spend up to one day a week to maintain their research programs at their home institution, and I have found this time to be adequate for advising my students at the University of Illinois. I have been making week-long trips to Illinois roughly once a month since I joined NSF. There are some restrictions on my applying for federal research funding while I am at NSF; however, I believe that these will be more than compensated for by my increased understanding of the funding process, and exposure to new research areas.

Now, let me describe some of the particulars of my work. When I joined NSF in early October, I found thirty-five Career proposals waiting to be processed. I quickly set up my first panel to assess these proposals, and was pleased at the prompt and mostly positive responses I received. The panel ran smoothly, and I even found time to have a discussion with the panel about what they perceived as the future directions of research in communications. I am still in the process of making awards on these proposals. Due to congressional continuing resolutions, the budget outlook was somewhat unclear until recently, and thus I have had to hold off on making decisions on some of the proposals.

I know many of you have concerns about the reorganization of the CISE Directorate. As a brief introduction to the reorganization, CISE is grouping closely related programs into clusters. Clusters will support traditional disciplinary research, while providing a better setting to review and support research that is interdisciplinary or that can influence related areas. The old Communications Program is now part of the Formal and Mathematical Foundations (FMF) cluster within the Division of Computing and Communication Foundations (CCF) of CISE. For more information about the reorganization, see the CISE website at <http://cise.nsf.gov>. John Cozzens, the program director for the former Signal Processing Systems program, and I worked together on rewriting our program descriptions so as to fit them into the reorganization structure.

By the time you read this, I will be handling proposals submitted to the ITR solicitation, with a February 24 deadline, and the FMF Cluster, with a March 4 deadline. I expect that March and April will be very busy as I organize panels and make decisions about these awards.

On a slightly different note, a few weeks ago, I was sent to Program Directors' "boot camp". I had already made a few blun-

ders, and asked why this training wasn't offered earlier. I was informed that we were allowed time to err so that we would see the need for instruction. The strategy worked - I found much of the training to be directly relevant to my everyday needs. I have to admit, though, that on the bus ride to the conference grounds, I wasn't exactly looking forward to the long training sessions, wondering whether I should keep a supply of toothpicks in my pocket to prop my eyes open. I'm happy to say that the instruction was made very enjoyable. I commend the organizers, who primarily used instructive case studies and entertaining group activities to involve all of us personally. I was also very happy that, though I almost won the geek award, I was overthrown in the final round by George Strawn, the Chief Information Officer at NSF, because I had never worn a pocket protector.

In conclusion, I want to emphasize that I really cannot do my job well without help from you - ask not what NSF can do for you but what you can do for NSF. I would like to hear from you - please send suggestions for changes in the funding process, feedback on the reorganization, and your ideas on the future of communica-

tions research, including future applications areas. It is also very important that you keep me informed about success stories surrounding your NSF-funded research, so that we can keep the folks on The Hill aware that we are doing important work.

Also, if you happen to be in the DC area, I also encourage you stop by NSF, and if possible to meet with the Division Director of CCF, Kamal Abdali and the Assistant Director of CISE, Peter Freeman. I would also encourage you to be open to participation in advisory boards and external committees at NSF.

My intention is to spend only one year at NSF and return to the University of Illinois on August 15, 2004. I am trying my best to maintain a detailed set of notes to help my successor. I am hoping that this column would also help to maintain some continuity from one program director to the next. If you have any interest in taking over the position in 2004-05, please let me know.

That is all I have to report for now. Stay in touch. My email address is vveerava@nsf.gov.

New Books

Raymond Yeung

Mathematics of Information and Coding,

by Te Sun Han and Kingo Kobayashi. American Mathematical Society, 2002, 286 pp., \$99, ISBN 0-8218-0534-7.

Contents:

What is Information Theory? Basics of Information Theory; Sources and Coding; Arithmetic Codes; Universal Coding of Integers; Universal Coding of Texts; Universal Coding of Compound Sources; Data Analysis and MDL Principle.

Wireless Communications and Networking,

by Jon W. Mark and Weihua Zhuang. Prentice Hall, 2003, 356 pp., \$98, ISBN 0-13-040905-7.

Contents:

Overview of Wireless Communications and Networking; Characterization of the Wireless Channel; Bandpass Transmission Techniques for Mobile Radio; Receiver Techniques for Fading Dispersive Channels; Fundamentals of Cellular Communications; Multiple Access Techniques; Mobility Management in Wireless Networks; Wireless/Wireline Interworking.

Convex Analysis and Optimization,

by Dimitri P. Bertsekas, with Angelia Nedic and Asuman E. Ozdaglar. Athena Scientific, 2003, 560 pp., \$79, ISBN 1-886529-45-0.

Contents:

Basic Convexity Concepts; Convexity and Optimization; Polyhedral Convexity; Subgradients and Constrained Optimization; Lagrange Multipliers; Lagrangian Duality; Conjugate Duality; Dual Computational Methods.

Information Theory, Inference, and Learning Algorithms,

by David MacKay. Cambridge University Press, 2003, 640 pp.,

\$50, ISBN 0521642981.

Contents:

Data Compression; Noisy-Channel Coding; Further Topics in Information Theory; Probabilities and Inference; Neural Networks; Sparse Graph Codes.

Components of Variance,

by David R. Cox and P. J. Solomon. CRC Press, 2003, 184 pp., \$69.95, ISBN 1-58488-354-5.

Contents:

KeyModels and Concepts; One-Way Balanced Case; More General Balanced Arrangements; Unbalanced Situations; Non-Normal Problems; Model Extensions and Criticism; Appendix: Fitting Separate Logistics Regressions to the ANZICS Data.

Fundamentals of Error Correcting Codes,

by W. Cary Huffman and Vera Pless. Cambridge University Press, 2003, 664 pp., \$80, ISBN 0-521-78280-5.

Contents:

Basic Concepts of Linear Codes; Bounds on Size of Codes; Finite Fields; Cyclic Codes; BCH and Reed-Soloman Codes; Duadic Codes; Weight Distributions; Designs; Self-Dual Codes; Some Favourite Self-Dual Codes; Covering Radius and Cosets; Codes over Z_4 ; Codes from Algebraic Geometry; Convolutional Codes; Soft Decision and Iterative Decoding.

Introduction to Space-Time Wireless Communications,

by Arogyaswami Paulraj, Rohit Nabar, and Dhananjay Gore. Cambridge University Press, 2003, 308 pp., £45, ISBN 0-521-82615-2.

Contents:

Introduction; Space-Time Propagation; Space-Time Channel and Signal Models; Capacity of Space-Time Channels; Spatial

Diversity; Space-Time Coding without Channel Knowledge at the Transmitter; Space-Time Receivers; Exploiting Channel Knowledge at the Receiver; Space-Time OFDM and Spread Spectrum Modulation; MIMO-Multiuser; Space-Time Co-Channel Interference Mitigation; Performance Limits and Trade-offs in MIMO Channels.

Multidimensional Discrete Unitary Transforms: Representation, Partitioning, and Algorithms,

by Artyom M. Grigoryan and Sos S. Aghaian. Marcel Dekker, 2003, 544 pp., \$185, ISBN 1-8247-4596-5.

Contents:

Basic Concepts and Notations; Tensor Representation of Multidimensional Signals; Discrete Transform Tensor Representations; Discrete Transform Paired Representations; Multipaired Unitary Transforms; Analysis and Effective Computing Procedures; Fast 1-D Transforms; Fast 2-D Transforms; Paired Algorithms; Applications of Paired Transformations; Fourier Transform, Geometrical Interpretation, and Convolution; Image Enhancement by Paired Transforms; Image Reconstruction from Projections by Paired Transforms.

Cryptography: Theory and Practice, Second Edition,

by Douglas R. Stinson. Chapman & Hall/CRC, 2002, 360 pp., \$79.95 ISBN 1-5848-8206-9.

Contents:

Classical Cryptography; Shannon's Theory; Block Ciphers and the Advanced Encryption Standard; Cryptographical Hash

Functions; The RSA Cryptosystem and Factoring Integers; Public-Key Cryptography Based on the Discrete Logarithm Problem; Signature Schemes.

Reasoning about Uncertainty,

by Joseph Y. Halpern. MIT Press, 2003, 456 pp., \$55, ISBN 0-262-08320-5.

Turing (A Novel about Computation),

by Christos H. Papadimitriou, MIT Press, 2003, 284 pp., \$24.95, ISBN 0-262-16218-0.

The Mathematical Theory of Information,

by Jan Kahre. Kluwer, 2002, 520 pp., \$145. ISBN 1-4020-7064-0.

Third Generation Wireless Systems, Volume 1: Post-Shannon Signal Architectures,

by George W. Calhoun. Artech House, 2003, 514 pp., £59, ISBN 1-58053-043-5.

Speech Processing,

by Li Deng and Douglas O'Shaughnesy. Marcel Dekker, 2003, 752 pp., \$175, ISBN 1-8247-4040-8.

Nonlinear Signal and Image Processing,

by Kenneth Barner and Gonzalo R. Arce. CRC Press, 2003, 392 pp., \$99.95, ISBN 0-8493-1427-5.

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OVERLAPPING SUBSETS SOLUTIONS

Solomon W. Golomb

1. a. By statistical independence, the expected number of overlaps is $M = \binom{a}{N} \binom{b}{N} N = \frac{ab}{N}$.

b. $pr(k) = \frac{\binom{a}{k} \binom{N-a}{b-k}}{\binom{N}{b}} = \frac{\binom{b}{k} \binom{N-b}{a-k}}{\binom{N}{a}} = \frac{a!b!(N-a)!(N-b)!}{k!(a-k)!(b-k)!N!(N-a-b+k)!}$.

c. $\frac{pr(k+1)}{pr(k)} = \frac{(a-k)(b-k)}{(k+1)(N-a-b+k+1)}$.

2. a. $M = 9$.

b.

k	$\frac{pr(k+1)}{pr(k)}$	k	$\frac{pr(k+1)}{pr(k)}$	k	$\frac{pr(k+1)}{pr(k)}$
0	11.2344	4	2.0403	8	1.0284
1	5.4855	5	1.6586	9	0.8999
2	3.5703	6	1.3865	10	0.7959
3	2.6136	7	1.1829	11	0.7105

c. The *mode* is 9 (same as the *mean*, in this case), since $pr(k)$ is *increasing* up to $k + 1 = 9$, but *decreasing* thereafter.

3. a. $pr(k) = \frac{\binom{90}{k} \binom{810}{90-k}}{\binom{900}{90}} = \frac{(90!)^2 (810!)^2}{k!((90-k)!)^2 900!(720+k)!}$

At $k = 9$,

$$pr(9) \approx \frac{(2\pi)^2 \cdot 90 \cdot 810 \cdot (\frac{90}{e})^{180} \cdot (\frac{810}{e})^{1620}}{(2\pi)^{\frac{5}{2}} \sqrt{9 \cdot 81^2 \cdot 900 \cdot 729} (\frac{9}{e})^9 (\frac{81}{e})^{162} (\frac{900}{e})^{900} (\frac{729}{e})^{729}}$$

b. Except for a factor of $\sqrt{2\pi}$ in the denominator, all the irrational numbers disappear. (The powers of e cancel completely between numerator and denominator. Fortuitously, 9, 81, 729, and 900 are all perfect squares; and everything surviving involves only powers of 3 and of 10.) When all the smoke clears, all that remains is $pr(9) \approx \frac{10}{27\sqrt{2\pi}}$.

c. Numerically, $pr(9) \approx \frac{10}{27\sqrt{2\pi}} = 0.1477564$.

4. a. $Pr(9) = e^{-9} \cdot \frac{9^9}{9!} = 0.13175564$.

b. The largest source of error in 3.c. was using Stirling's formula to approximate 9! in the denominator of 3.a., which gives $9! \approx 359,536.873$. This is only about 99% of the true value ($9! = 362,880$). This "correction" would only reduce the estimate in 3.c. to $pr(9) \approx 0.146$; so 3.c. is almost certainly a better estimate than 4.a.

c. Since $\frac{Pr(k+1)}{Pr(k)} = \frac{\lambda}{k+1}$ for the Poisson distribution, if we take $\lambda = 9$ and $7 \leq k \leq 11$, we find

k	$\frac{9}{(k+1)}$
7	1.125
8	1.000
9	0.900
10	0.818
11	0.750

which are fairly close to the values in 2.b. (The values will not be as close for k farther from λ .)

5. $Pr(25) = 5.712 \times 10^{-6}$ when $\lambda = 9$. (The true value of $pr(25)$ is about 2.2×10^{-7} , and is actually much smaller than the Poisson approximation.) The student's intuition was correct.



CALL FOR PAPERS

2005 IEEE International Symposium on Information Theory

Adelaide Convention Centre, Adelaide, Australia
September 4 – 9, 2005



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Thushara Abhayapala
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The 2005 IEEE International Symposium on Information Theory will be held at the Adelaide Convention Centre in Adelaide, Australia from Sunday, September 4 through Friday September 9, 2005.

Previously unpublished contributions to the following areas will be solicited:

Coded modulation	Information theory and statistics
Coding theory and practice	Multiuser detection
Communication complexity	Multiuser information theory
Communication systems	Pattern recognition and learning
Cryptology and data security	Quantum information processing
Data compression	Shannon theory
Data networks	Signal processing
Detection and estimation	Source coding

Papers will be reviewed on the basis of an extended abstract (not exceeding six pages) of sufficient detail to permit reasonable evaluation. The deadline for submission is **January 30, 2005**, with notification of decisions by May 15, 2005. The deadline will be strictly enforced. In view of the large number of submissions expected, multiple submissions by the same author will receive especially stringent scrutiny. All accepted papers will be allowed twenty minutes for presentation, and one-page abstracts will be printed in the conference proceedings. Authors are strongly encouraged to submit electronic versions of their extended abstracts in the form of Portable Document Format (PDF) files.

Detailed information on paper submission, technical program, accommodation, travel, and excursions will be posted on the Symposium web site

<http://www.isit2005.org>

Inquiries on general matters related to the Symposium should be directed to

Prof. Alex Grant
Institute for
Telecommunications Research
University of South Australia
SA 5095 Australia
alex.grant@unisa.edu.au

Prof. Rodney A. Kennedy
Research School of Information
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Australian National University
ACT 0200 Australia
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London
UK

SPWC 2004

June 2-4
2004

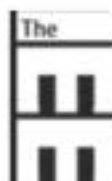
Workshop Organiser

M. R. Shikh-Bahaei
CDSPR, King's College London

Organising Committee

Hamid Aghvami
CTR, King's College London

Jonathon Chambers
Cardiff University, UK



The second workshop on **Signal Processing for Wireless Communications**, co-sponsored by IEEE and IEE, will be held in King's College London, from Wednesday, June 2, to Friday, June 4, 2004.

The workshop features keynote speeches by professors:

Claude Berrou, ENST Bretagne, France
Ezio Biglieri, Politecnico di Torino, Italy
A. Paulraj, Stanford university, USA
Vincent Poor, Princeton University, USA
Vahid Tarokh, Harvard University, USA
Sergio Verdu, Princeton University, USA
Bruce Suter, Air Force Research Laboratory, USA
Bahram Honary, Lancaster University, UK
Lajos Hanzo, Southampton University, UK
Ryuji Kohno, Yokohama National University, Japan

CALL FOR PAPERS

Papers will be selected on the basis of an extended summary (around 1000 words). The deadline for submission is March 20, 2004. Notification of acceptance will be made by April 23, 2004.

Venue: King's College London, Franklin Wilkins Building, London, UK

The event will also feature the following short courses:

- Multiuser Detection by Prof. Vincent Poor
- Space-Time Coding in Wireless Communications by Prof. Vahid Tarokh

For more information on call for paper and registration please go to:

www.spwc2004.org

Extended summary deadline	20 March 2004
Notification of acceptance	23 April 2004
Full camera-ready paper (.ps or .pdf)	21 May 2004

CALL FOR PAPERS

Ninth International Workshop on Algebraic and Combinatorial Coding Theory ACCT'2004

ORGANIZED BY

- ★ Institute of Mathematics and Informatics, Bulgarian Academy of Sciences
- ★ Institute for Information Transmission Problems, Russian Academy of Sciences
- ★ St. Petersburg State University of Airspace Instrumentation

TIME: Saturday, June 19 - Friday, June 25, 2004.

PLACE: Kranevo, BULGARIA. Kranevo is located in the northeastern part of Bulgaria, 30 km north from Varna. It offers excellent accommodation and conference facilities. There are good bus connections with the Varna airport (30 km).

- TOPICS:**
- Linear codes
 - Burst-correcting codes
 - Self-dual codes
 - Algebraic-geometric codes
 - Decoding
 - Combinatorial codes
 - Covering problems
 - Spherical codes and designs
 - Cryptography
 - Computer systems in coding theory
 - Related topics

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REGISTRATION FEE: EURO 450 prior to March 31, 2004, EURO 500 after March 31, 2004, EURO 300 for spouses (includes hotel, full board, social events, workshop proceedings).

SUBMISSIONS: Authors are invited to submit camera ready papers in Latex (at most six pages) by e-mail to acct@moi.math.bas.bg.

DEADLINE FOR SUBMISSIONS: April 15, 2004.

WEB PAGE: <http://www.moi.math.bas.bg/acct>

Conference Calendar

DATE	CONFERENCE	LOCATION	CONTACT/INFORMATION	DUE DATE
June 27 - July 2, 2004	2004 IEEE International Symposium on Information Theory (ISIT)	Chicago Downtown Marriot Chicago, Illinois, USA	chair@isit2004.org http://www.isit2004.org	Dec. 1, 2003
June 20-24, 2004	2004 International Conference on Communications (ICC)	Paris, France	http://www.icc2004.org	Sept. 1, 2003
July 19-24, 2004	2004 Stochastic Networks Conference	Centre de Recherches Mathematiques Universite de Montreal Montreal, Canada	http://www.stanford.edu/group/stochnetconf/	
September 15-16, 2004	InOWo '04 - 9th International OFDM Workshop	Dresden, Germany	http://ofdm.tu-harburg.de Prof. Herman Rohling, TU Hamburg-Harburg, Eissendorfer Str. 40, D-21073 Hamburg, Germany, ofdm@tu-harburg.de	April 30, 2004
October 6-8, 2004	2004 Asia-Europe Workshop on Information Theory (AEW4)	Viareggio, Italy	http://www.exp-math.uni-essen.de/~vinck/aew4/aew4.html	May 1, 2004
October 10-12, 2004	2004 International Symposium on Information Theory and its Applications (ISITA 2004)	Parma, Italy	isita2004@sita.gr.jp http://www.sita.gr.jp/ISITA2004/new.htm	March 26, 2004
November 29- December 3, 2004	GLOBECOM 2004	Hyatt Regency Dallas at Reunion Hotel Dallas, Texas, USA	http://www.globecom2004.org	March 1, 2004
TBA (Fall 2004)	2004 IEEE Information Theory Workshop (ITW)	San Antonio, Texas, USA	TBA	TBA
TBA (before ISIT 2005)	2005 Information Theory Workshop (ITW)	New Zealand	TBA	TBA
September 4-9, 2005	2005 IEEE International Symposium on Information Theory (ISIT)	Adelaide Convention Center Adelaide, AUSTRALIA	See CFP in this issue. http://www.isit2005.org Dr. Alex Grant Institute for Telecommunications Research University of South Australia SA 5095 Australia Prof. Rodney A. Kennedy Research School of Information Sciences and Engineering Australian National University ACT 0200 Australia rodney.kennedy@anu.edu.au	January 30, 2005
TBA	2006 IEEE International Symposium on Information Theory (ISIT)	Seattle, Washington, USA	TBA	TBA

IEEE Information Theory Society Newsletter

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