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FOCUS ON STATISTICS RESEARCH

Pull and Push Factors of Migration: A Case Study in the Urban Area of Monywa Township, Myanmar

By [Kyaing Kyaing Thet](#)

Migration is a global phenomenon caused not only by economic factors, but also by social, political, cultural, environmental, health, education and transportation factors. It commonly takes place because of the push factor of fewer opportunities in the socio-economic situation and also because of pull factors that exist in more developed areas.

Monywa is the thriving capital city of North-West command and is located on the India, Myanmar and China trade route. Monywa Township also is the most-developed township in Sagaing Region. Therefore, many people immigrate to Monywa Township from the rural areas of the area.

In this study, push and pull factors of migration are studied and inferences are made based on sample migrants. Two-stage stratified cluster sampling method is used to collect the required information. Factor analysis is used to detect the important push and pull factors of migration.

Among 389 sample households, 44.5% were migrants, meaning they are not native residents of Monywa Township. Concerned with push and pull factors of migration, 18 statements were asked to determine whether these were important or not important for each subject. Based on this information, the important factors were detected using factor analysis.

A better living condition is the first and most significant factor with maximum percentage of variance that motivates the people to migrate to Monywa Township. The second most-important factor is better public service with second largest percentage of variance, which is also a push factor because the reasons for migration are that the level of service in their previous location was poor. Subjects also were dissatisfied with the public transportation system of their previous location and a lack of safety in previous places. Third significant factor is better environment, which includes moving because of dislike of cultural/recreational facilities and the behavior of a neighbor. [Click here to view Thet's entire research report.](#)

Thet is a lecturer in the Department of Statistics at the Institute of Economics in Monywa, Myanmar.

THE WORLD OF STATISTICS NEEDS YOUR HELP

Now that the [new website for The World of Statistics](#) is up and running, we need your help.

You can help move The World of Statistics website up in the list of Internet search results by linking to the new website address—www.worldofstatistics.org—from your organization's website and replacing the old Statistics2013 logo with the new logo for The World of Statistics and linking it to the new website. [You can download the new logo here.](#)

[See how Middle East Technical University in Ankara, Turkey is displaying The World of Statistics logo on its website.](#) Kudos to Assistant Professor Zeynep Kalaylioglu, Ph.D., for sharing the link with us and, more importantly, for posting the logo.

Some other things your organization can do to help the cause include:

1. Update existing links to www.statistics2013.org on your website so that these point to www.worldofstatistics.org
2. Change all references to Statistics2013 on your website to The World of Statistics and link to the new website (www.worldofstatistics.org)
3. Change your Facebook page information, links and logos so that these reference The World of Statistics. Also, share information about and publicize The World of Statistics on your organization's social media accounts, including Facebook and Twitter
4. Post a version of The World of Statistics logo in your language on your organization's website. [We currently have nine language versions available for download.](#) To request a language-customized logo, email the following information in a PDF document to Jeff Myers at jeffrey@amstat.org:
 - a. The interpretation in your language of: "The World of Statistics"
 - b. The interpretation in your language of: "Participating Organization"
5. If you have a linked Statistics2013 banner on your organization's website, please remove it and replace it with a new banner for The World of Statistics and link the new banner to www.worldofstatistics.org. [You can download these new banners here.](#)
6. The World of Statistics Twitter account is @astatworld. Start following us today. Be sure to retweet our tweets and also mention The World of Statistics—hashtag #TWOS—in your tweets.
7. If your website has content about Statistics2013, please delete it and replace it with [copy about The World of Statistics](#).
8. As you did with Statistics2013, include mentions of The World of Statistics in all your organization's online communications.

Working together, we'll move up The World of Statistics in all search engine results.

SHARE YOUR NEWS & EVENTS THROUGH THE WORLD OF STATISTICS

Tell your colleagues in the worldwide statistical community and the public about your organization's events through the popular The World of Statistics 2014 Activities Calendar. [Using this brief webform](#), it's easy to submit information about your event so it is added to the activities calendar for all to see.

After your event is over, you can send us a story about it for this newsletter. We have developed [this easy-to-use webform](#) you can use to submit your event stories and other news about your organization's activities to promote and advance the statistical science profession. These event stories and news items will be featured in an upcoming issue of this newsletter.

Send us your calendar and news items now!

THE WORLD OF STATISTICS 2014 ACTIVITIES CALENDAR THROUGH MID-APRIL

Following are The World of Statistics participating organization-sponsored events and activities around the world for the remainder of this month and the first half of April. To see the complete list of activities for 2014, [click here](#).

March 2014:

- **March 26, 2014** — [12th Annual Connecticut Chapter Mini-Conference](#), Connecticut Chapter of the American Statistical Association, Ridgefield, Connecticut, USA
- **March 27, 2014** — [International Workshop: New Challenges for Statistical Software—The Use of R in Official Statistics](#); National Institute of Statistics of Romania; Bucharest, Romania
- **March 28-30, 2014** — [Five College DataFest](#); The Five College Statistics Program, RStudio, Revolution Analytics, IBM, Boston Chapter of the American Statistical Association, Smith College Department of Mathematics and Statistics, Amherst College Department of Mathematics and Statistics, Mount Holyoke Department of Mathematics and Statistics, University of Massachusetts, Amherst Department of Mathematics and Statistics, Athena Health, Consortium for the Advancement of Undergraduate Statistics Education; Amherst, Massachusetts, USA
- **March 31-April 2, 2014** — [LDHD: SAMSI-CRM Workshop on Geometric Aspects of High-Dimensional Inference](#); Statistical and Applied Mathematical Sciences Institute (SAMSI); Research Triangle Park, North Carolina, USA

APRIL 2014:

- **April 2, 2014** — [Inaugural Congress of the Russian Association of Statisticians](#), Russian Association of Statisticians, Moscow, Russia
- **April 2-3, 2014** — [XV April International Academic Conference on Economic and Social Development: Statistical Section](#), National Research University—Higher School of Economics (HSE), Moscow, Russia
- **April 3, 2014** — [Jornada d'Estadística i Big Data](#) (Day of Big Data and Statistics), Catalan Statistics Society, Barcelona, Spain
- **April 4, 2014** — [Data mining, statistics and R by Johannes Ledolter and Robert McCulloch](#), Milwaukee Chapter of the American Statistical Association, Milwaukee, Wisconsin, USA
- **April 4, 2014** — [Louisiana Chapter of the American Statistical Association Spring 2014 Meeting](#), Louisiana Chapter of the American Statistical Association, Baton Rouge, Louisiana, USA
- **April 7-8, 2014** — [Workshop on Using Big Data for Forecasting and Statistics](#), European Central Bank, Frankfurt am Main, Germany
- **April 7-9, 2014** — [DIA/FDA Statistics Forum 2014](#), Drug Information Association and U.S. Food and Drug Administration, North Bethesda, Maryland, USA
- **April 8, 2014** — [7th Annual Conference on Statistical Issues in Clinical Trials: Current Issues Regarding the Use of Biomarkers and Surrogate Endpoints in Clinical Trials](#); University of Pennsylvania Center for Clinical Epidemiology and Biostatistics and Department of Biostatistics and Epidemiology; Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, USA
- **April 8-22, 2014** — **ONLINE WORKSHOP: [Graphics in R base and ggplot2](#)**, The Analysis Factor, Wellington, New Zealand
- **April 9-10, 2014** — [Smart Trials 2014: Tackling New Challenges in Clinical Development: Adaptive Designs & Other Ideas](#); AptivSolutions, Cmed Clinical Services, Appletree CI Group, ICON, experiMind Technologies; London, United Kingdom
- **April 9-11, 2014** — [2014 Spring Opportunities for Women](#), Statistical and Applied Mathematical Sciences Institute (SAMSI), Knoxville, Tennessee, USA

- **April 14-16, 2014** — [Meeting on the Management of Statistical Information Systems](#); United Nations Economic Commission for Europe, Eurostat, Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD); Dublin, Ireland

[Click here to submit your organization's activities to The World of Statistics 2014 Activities Calendar.](#)

PARTICIPATING ORGANIZATION NEWS & EVENTS

Following is the latest news and information from statistical organizations participating in The World of Statistics:

Turkey—Yildirim Beyazit University in Ankara has created the Statistical Consulting Practice and Research Center. A part of the Department of Biostatistics, the center will provide statistical consulting services to doctors for their research projects—from planning research, selecting the appropriate sample, collecting data, analyzing data and interpreting results. The center also aims to join other projects to improve the statistical aspects of the research. [Click here for more information.](#)

India—The Department of Statistics in collaboration with the Department of Mathematics at the Institute of Science in Nagpur celebrated the International Year of Statistics with a two-day National Conference on Statistics and Mathematics Application (COSMA) January 3-4 in Nagpur. Dr. K.S. Bhanu, professor of statistics at the Institute of Science, was the conference's convener. Approximately 250 delegates—comprising of statisticians and mathematicians belonging to the theoretical and applied fields from all over the country and abroad—participated. The delegates were academicians, practicing statisticians, researchers and students pursuing a master's in statistics or mathematics. The inaugural function was followed by an inspiring and thought-provoking keynote address by Dr. T.E. Raghunathan, chair and professor of biostatistics at the University of Michigan's (USA) School of Public Health. Raghunathan spoke about "Mathematics to Mathematical Statistics to Statistics to Biostatistics: A Personal Journey." [Click here to read the complete event report.](#)



Dr. Raghunathan talks at COSMA in Nagpur, India.

International—The [Consortium for the Advancement of Undergraduate Statistics Education](#) (CAUSE) announces its fifth annual undergraduate project competition in statistics. The competition has two submission tracks:

1. **Class projects** (introductory, intermediate level classes)
2. **Undergraduate research projects** (summer, academic year)

CAUSE requests that statistics instructors encourage their top students to submit projects for this competition. Instructors could consider offering extra credit or another incentive to students for submitting their projects. Students and faculty sponsors must provide information about the type of class or research project to ensure students are competing on a level playing field.

Prize money will be awarded to winners along with the recognition of winning this competition. The deadline for submissions is May 15 for both categories. [Click here for full competition details and rules.](#)

If you have questions, comments or feedback, please direct those to [Cindy Nederhoff](#), the competition administrator, or competition organizing committee Chair [Dr. Nathan Tintle](#).

Romania—The Data Mining Learning Group is an interdisciplinary group comprised of faculty of economic cybernetics, statistics and informatics at the Bucharest University of Economic Studies. Its main objective is to give students who are passionate about analyzing and working with data the opportunity to learn and apply data-mining techniques to real-world data while encouraging a collaborative-study environment. The group was founded September 2013 by two students with the support of the faculty's statistics and econometrics department. It is the first student-led research group in the field of data mining and knowledge discovery in Romania and proposes to make the community aware of the potential of analyzing Big Data. The group has five active members—Aylin Agiali, Manuela Apostol, Alexandru Coser, Mihaela Cazacu and Andreea Tarnicop—and its activity is coordinated by Adrian Costea, Ph.D., who is the head of the Statistical Reporting Business Surveys Unit of the National Bank of Romania. The members of the group are students eager to develop their knowledge in applied statistics and statistical computation. They frequently challenge themselves and participate with their research papers at the university's Annual Student's Scientific Session. One of the purposes of the group is to give participating students the chance to combine theoretical knowledge with practical experience and let them tackle real-world problems by working on specific data-mining projects.



International—The 2014 International Chinese Statistical Association (ICSA) and Korean International Statistical Society (KISS) Joint Applied Statistics Symposium will be held June 15-18 in Portland, Oregon,

United States. [Event details, including keynote speakers, key dates and registration, are available on the symposium website.](#) Send questions to icsa.kiss@gmail.com.

Turkey—Istanbul Quantitative Lectures (ISTQL) announces its 2014 primary program. With feedback from previous participants from all over the world, ISTQL 2014 is offering one-week intense program (a total of 35 hours). Two courses are on the schedule this year:

- “Structural Equation Modeling” (SEM) by Professor Rex B. Kline from Concordia University, Quebec, Canada. Professor Kline is well known for his books on structural equation modeling; the books have been translated and published in many languages. With LISREL, the course will cover both the conceptual and the practical aspects of implementing SEM and confirmatory factor analysis.
- “Data Mining with R” by Associate Professor Luis Torgo of the University of Porto in Portugal. Professor Torgo works on data mining and has published several papers and books on the subject. Professor Torgo is well known by his books about Data Mining with R, which also have been translated and published in many languages. The course will focus on Data Mining using R and RStudio software and also will include a practical session for implementation.

Please note these two courses have parallel sessions.

[Details of and the application form for ISTQL 2014 organization is available on its website.](#) ISTQL 2014 is open to both students with the required background and academicians who would like to widen their horizons. For students interested in the courses, each course is worth 15 ECTS credit and in addition to a certificate, if students take and pass the exam they will be presented a transcript showing the credits that they have earned.

United States—“Frontiers in Biostatistics,” a symposium sponsored by the University of Kansas Medical Center, Kansas-Western Missouri Chapter of the American Statistical Association, and Cerner Corporation, will be held April 24-25 in Overland Park, Kansas. The symposium keynote address, titled “Innovation in Trial Design: Who Let the Bayesians In?,” will be delivered by Scott Berry, Ph.D., president and senior statistical scientist at Berry Consultants, LLC. There will be a pre-symposium short course on April 24. Titled “Modern Regression Methods for Predictive Business Analytics using SAS and JMP,” the course will be presented by Dr. Simon Sheather, Ph.D., professor and department chair of the Department Statistics at Texas A&M University. Symposium registration includes lunch on both days (with vegetarian options) and a mixer networking event. The separate pre-symposium short course registration fee includes morning snacks and course material. [Registration and more information can be found on the event website.](#) For answers to your questions, please contact Harlen Hays at (816) 446-1592 or Harlen.Hays@Cerner.com.

United States—The Milwaukee Chapter of the American Statistical Association (ASA) presents its 2014 annual meeting, “Data Mining, Statistics and R by Johannes Ledolter and Robert McCulloch.” Sponsored by Google, the event will be held April 4 at the University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee. During the event, Johannes Ledolter, Ph.D., C. Maxwell Stanley Professor of International Operations Management in the Tippie College of Business at the University of Iowa, will present a talk titled, “Data mining and business

analytics with big and small data—it is not always size that matters.” Also, Robert E. McCulloch, Ph.D., Katherine Dusak Miller Professor of Econometrics and Statistics in the Booth School of Business at the University of Chicago, will present his talk titled, “Data Mining with Bayesian Trees.” [Click here for more information.](#)

International—*Statistics and Its Interface* (SII) invites submissions for a special issue focused on “Statistical and Computational Theory and Methodology for Big Data.” The integration of computer technology into science and daily life has enabled the collection of Big Data, such as high-throughput biological assay data, large-scale genomic sequencing data, climate data, website transaction logs, and credit card records. Big Data are bringing a revolution in science and technology. It also presents challenges to the current statistical and computational theory and methodology. Thus, we strongly encourage substantive applications and computational developments for analyzing big data in all areas of sciences. High-quality review articles in this emerging new research area also are welcome. Your papers, once accepted, will be published together in a future issue of SII. Some accepted papers may be chosen as invited discussion papers in this special issue. [All submissions must be made online through the website.](#) In the box titled “Comments to the Editors,” please indicate that your submission is for the special issue on Big Data. All submissions will undergo the normal review process. The editors for this special issue will manage the peer review carefully and in a timely manner. With your support and collaboration, the editors are confident this special issue will succeed in communicating state-of-art research from the frontiers of this vital and rapidly developing area. We look forward to your papers.

United States—The Brown University School of Public Health will host the 2014 Atlantic Causal Inference Conference May 15-16 in Providence, Rhode Island. The Atlantic Causal Inference Conference is a gathering of statisticians, biostatisticians, epidemiologists, economists, social science and policy researchers to discuss methodologic issues with drawing causal inferences from experimental and non-experimental data.

What began as a regional conference has grown in geographic reach, now attracting researchers from across the United States and abroad. The inaugural meeting was held in 2005 with a small group of researchers at Columbia University and has since grown into an annual event with more than 100 attendees. Recent meetings have been hosted by the University of Michigan, New York University, Johns Hopkins University, University of Pennsylvania and Harvard University (see schedule from last year's conference [here](#)).

The day before the conference—May 14—[Tyler VanderWeele](#) of Harvard University will offer a short course on Causal Mediation Analysis. [Click here to learn more about the event and to register.](#)

France—The 8th International Conference on Partial Least Squares and Related Methods (PLS '14) will be held May 26-28 in Paris. This event follows the long tradition of previous PLS events held around the world since its founding in 1999 in Jouy-en-Josas, France. The event is jointly organized by CNAM and ESSEC Business School and is sponsored by the International Society for Business and Industrial Statistics (ISBIS), International Association for Statistical Computing (IASC), International Federation of Classification Societies (IFCS), Société Française de Statistique (SFdS), and Società Italiana di Statistica

(SIS). This eighth edition of PLS will focus on original methodological contribution in both PLS regression, PLS path modeling and their related methods with application in areas and disciplines related to management, social sciences, chemometrics, sensory analysis, industry and life sciences including genomics. Other previous host cities for the PLS conference were Anacapri, Italy, 2001; Lisbon, Portugal, 2003; Barcelona, Spain, 2005, Ås, Norway, 2007; Beijing, China 2009; and Houston, Texas, USA, 2012.

[Click here for more information about the event and to register.](#)

United States—The Department of Statistics at Brigham Young University will host its 39th annual Summer Institute of Applied Statistics June 18-29 in Provo, Utah. The course will be led by Dr. Liang Zhang, a staff applied researcher at LinkedIn who earned his doctorate at Duke University. Dr. Liang has worked in and published many papers on applying statistical approaches to real-world Internet applications with massive data. He also has years of experience of using Map-Reduce and Hadoop for his own statistical research.

Massive data gets generated, stored and analyzed every day in various fields like bioinformatics, climatology, Internet, telecommunications, and many more. Hadoop, as a distributed file-storage and computing system, has become the most popular distributed system in the world. Statistical methods for analyzing such large scale data sets have become a challenging research area.

The objective of this Summer Institute of Applied Statistics is to provide a detailed introduction of the open-source Hadoop system that uses Map-Reduce framework, and more importantly, to illustrate the use of Map-Reduce and Hadoop for real statistical applications, starting from basics like computing mean and variances, to more complicated scenarios such as fitting a large-scale logistic regression on hundreds of gigabytes of data. Throughout the Institute, Liang will use the web recommendation system as a real-life example to illustrate the key ideas and methods.

By participating in the Summer Institute of Applied Statistics, the audience will learn Hadoop and Map-Reduce as a tool for statistical analysis and contribute to the research of statistical methods for Big Data. No prior knowledge of Hadoop or Map-Reduce is required. [Click here to learn more about the event and to register.](#)

New Zealand—The Analysis Factor in Wellington will present an online webinar titled, “Graphics in R base and ggplot2 Workshop: From Basics to Brilliance,” from April 8-22.

Instructor David Lillis has taught R to many researchers and statisticians. His company, Sigma Statistics and Research Limited, provides both online instruction and live workshops on R and coding services in R. Lillis holds a doctorate in applied statistics and is a frequent contributor to The Analysis Factor, including its blog series *R is Not So Hard*.

One of R’s big advantages is its amazing graphics capabilities. But R can be a bit intimidating. The downside of being able to create graphs exactly how you want them is you have to know how to get R to do exactly what you want.

In this six-hour online workshop, you will learn just that. Lillis will start with drawing very basic

univariate and bivariate graphs using R's defaults and the graphics that come with Base R: scatter plots, bar charts, histograms, dot charts, pie charts and other types of graph. Then he'll go beyond defaults—how to customize even these basic graphs in many cool ways.

The course could end there and you'd already have an amazing graphics toolbox. But of course, to really capture R's potential, you need to go beyond basics. So Lillis will next explore, in detail, a very powerful package: ggplot2.

He will cover all topics at a relaxed pace, and you will have many opportunities to ask questions. The example data sets are taken from education and the physical and biological sciences, but the ideas and syntax are applicable for creating graphs for every discipline, including business, biomedical sciences, psychology and social sciences.

After taking this workshop, you will be able to create beautiful graphs for your research or analysis.

[Click here for more information about this online workshop, its learning outcomes and to enroll.](#)

Latin America—The XIII Latin American Congress of Probability and Mathematical Statistics (CLAPEM, by its acronym in Spanish) will be held in Cartagena, Colombia from September 22-26. This year's program will cover a large variety of thematic sessions, three short courses, contributed sessions and posters contributions.

CLAPEM is the main event in probability and statistics in the Latin American region, having been held every two to three years for almost 30 years. It is organized under the auspices of the Bernoulli Society for Mathematical Statistics and Probability and the Latin-American Society on Probability and Mathematical Statistics (SLAPEM).

The series of CLAPEMs has greatly contributed to the development of probability and statistics in Latin America by promoting regional cooperation, increasing the scholarly level of the research work in the region and facilitating the collaboration between Latin American researchers and colleagues from the rest of the world.

The congress is being organized by several universities in Colombia: [Universidad Nacional de Colombia](#), [Universidad de los Andes](#), [Universidad de Cartagena](#), [Universidad Industrial de Santander](#), [Universidad Central](#), [Universidad Antonio Nariño](#), [Universidad Sergio Arboleda](#), [Universidad Eafit](#), [Universidad de Antioquia](#), [Universidad Pedagógica y Tecnológica de Colombia](#), and [Fundación Universitaria Los Libertadores](#).

[Click here for more information about the congress and to register.](#)

United Kingdom—The Royal Statistical Society (RSS) has announced the 2014 honorees for its Guy Medals and Chambers Medal. A list of honorees and respective citations follow. The awards will be presented September 2 at an awards ceremony at the RSS' annual conference in Sheffield.



Guy Medal in Gold

The Guy Medal in Gold is awarded to Professor Bradley Efron in recognition of his hugely influential contributions to both theoretical and applied statistics. He has made seminal contributions to many areas of statistics, including empirical Bayes analysis, the analysis of survival data, applications of differential geometry to statistical theory, and analysis of multiple testing problems in inference for gene expression data. He is best known for his introduction of the bootstrap method of statistical inference. His work is characterised by its depth, simplicity of presentation, geometric insights and by a desire to understand statistical procedures from both frequentist and Bayesian perspectives.

Guy Medal in Silver

The Guy Medal in Silver is awarded to Jianqing Fan for his seminal papers 'Sure independence screening for ultra-high dimensional feature space' and 'Large covariance estimation by thresholding principal orthogonal complements', read to the Society in 2008 and 2013 respectively, his path-breaking research in high-dimensional statistical learning and inferences, important contributions to non-parametric and semi-parametric statistics and his service to the international statistical community.

Guy Medal in Bronze

The Guy Medal in Bronze is awarded to Professor Ming Yuan for his theoretical and methodological contributions to high-dimensional statistical inference, machine learning, and nonparametric and semiparametric estimation problems. These include his paper on the group Lasso ('Model selection and estimation in regression with grouped variables', with Y Lin, *J. R. Statist. Soc B* (2006), 68, 49-67) and two further papers in series B of the Society's journal in 2007.

Chambers Medal

The Chambers Medal is awarded to Jenny Lannon for her instrumental role in the formation and establishment of the Young Statisticians' Section, and her leadership as its founding chair. Since its creation in 2009, the section has greatly enhanced the RSS by encouraging and enabling more statisticians in the early years of their careers to become engaged with the Society.

United States—This year, the American Statistical Association's (ASA) Section on Quality and Productivity will combine its research conference with the ASA Section on Physical and Engineering Sciences' spring research conference to create a Joint Research Conference (JRC). The theme of the joint

event will be “Statistics and Quality in a Data Rich World.” The 2014 JRC will be held June 24-26 in Seattle, Washington. Its goal is to stimulate interdisciplinary research among statisticians, scientists and engineers in quality and productivity, industrial needs and the physical and engineering sciences. Statistical issues and research approaches drawn from collaborative research will be highlighted. The conference will honor Douglas Hawkins from the University of Minnesota. Conference registration includes a tour of and reception at the Future of Flight Aviation Center and a tour of Boeing's Commercial Jet Assembly Plant, the world's largest building, located in nearby Everett. For a small additional registration fee, a short course on “Bayesian Statistical Process Control” presented by Panagiotis Tsiamirtzis will be offered the day before conference. To submit a contributed paper to 2014 JRC, please provide the title, name of author(s), and a brief abstract to Robert Gramacy at rbgramacy@chicagobooth.edu. The deadline for submitting a paper is April 15. [Click here to access conference program, registration and hotel information.](#) For further information, contact Gramacy at rbgramacy@chicagobooth.edu or Christina Mastrangelo at mastr@u.washington.edu.

International—The European Regional Section of the International Association for Statistical Computing ([ERS-IASC](#)) Summer School on Compositional Data Analysis (CoDA) will be held July 7-11 at the [University of Girona](#) in Catalonia, Spain. The course will provide an introduction to the theoretical and practical aspects of the statistical analysis of compositional data as well as an informal discussion forum on more advanced modeling topics.

The summer school will consist of lectures, exercises and an open seminar. Exercises are done with the freeware [CoDaPack](#) and the package *robCompositions* and *compositions* from the open-source statistical environment R. The open seminar is a case-based discussion. Some datasets and their particular problems will be presented. These will be discussed and analysed interactively. Assistants are encouraged to bring their own data sets and ask questions they would like to be answered during the course. Some of these proposals will be selected for a detailed open discussion.



Statisticians and applied scientists of any field, in particular engineering geologists, geologists, economics, scientists, environmental engineers, and bio and environmental scientists, working in academic or industrial institutions, are strongly encouraged to take the course. It is recommended that attendants have undergone some first-semester courses on statistics, algebra and calculus. Basic knowledge about multivariate statistics may also be handy.

The summer school on CoDA is organized by the Research Group on Statistical MEthods in resTRICted spaceS, whose acronym is [METRICS](#). The core of the group belongs to the Computer Science, Applied Mathematics and Statistics Department of the University of Girona and includes members from the

Technical University of Catalonia (UPC), and Biomathematics & Statistics Scotland (BIOSS).

The course is accredited by the International Association for Mathematical Geosciences (IAMG) and is supported by [ERS-IASC](#). Special discounts for students and IASC members are applied.

[Click here for more information about the summer school, a list of covered topics and to register.](#)

United States—The DIA/FDA Statistics Forum 2014, sponsored by the Drug Information Association (DIA) and the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA), will be held April 7-9 in North Bethesda, Maryland. Now in its eighth year, the forum fosters open discussion of timely topics of mutual theoretical and practical interest to statisticians and clinical trialists who develop new drugs and biologics. This unique workshop continues the dialogue on issues including FDA guidance development and regulatory science initiatives. At this event, you will have the opportunity to focus on statistical opportunities and challenges associated with data standards and innovative approaches to the design, monitoring, analysis and reporting of clinical trials and assessments of safety and effectiveness in the pre- and post-market settings. Featured topics will be:

- Late-breaking Guidance
- Subgroup Analyses
- Risk-benefit Assessment
- Meta-analysis
- Much More

[Click here for more information about this event, including the agenda, learning objectives and target audience.](#)

NATIONAL STATISTICAL ORGANIZATION: NEWS & EVENTS

Following is the latest news and information from national statistical organizations participating in The World of Statistics:

Mongolia—Last July, the Chairman’s Board of the National Statistical Office of Mongolia (NSO) decided to grant open access to certain national censuses and micro-data from sample surveys. The decision was made to support the International Year of Statistics’ call for providing users’ demand-oriented statistical products and services. Furthermore, a considerable increase of demand for micro-data for policy formulation and decision-making and in-depth analyses of complex social, economical and environmental development issues of the country played a crucial role in this decision. The micro-data of select national censuses and sample surveys, such as the household socio-economic survey, labour force survey, supply and use table survey, and input and output table survey will be anonymised to comply with relevant legal regulations. After preserving the confidentiality of the micro-data, [these surveys will be posted on the NSO’s website](#).

Also, the Mongolia NSO has created an integrated database of statistics that contains about 400 statistical indicators of approximately 40 statistical domains from the period 1913 to 2013. It is

accessible at www.1212.mn. The data at the provincial, regional and national levels can be shown in table and graphic formats and on the map. The Mongolian and English versions of the website are available to users.

Last, the NSO has launched its next generation iPad and iPhone application called MonStat. Using the application downloaded from the Apple Store, the users of statistics can download various printed statistical products from NSO, such as the Statistical Yearbook, Monthly Bulletin of Statistics, Quarterly National Statistics Magazine and the Report and Monographs of the 2010 Population and Housing Census. The MonStat application will be further updated with results of censuses, surveys and other statistical information produced by NSO.

Poland—The Central Statistical Office of Poland (GUS) is conducting or has conducted the following activities to promote its official statistic and to enhance the public image:

1. Last October, GUS hosted the scientific conference titled “Statistics-Knowledge-Development,” which was focused on the achievements of global and Polish statistics.
2. Next month, GUS is going to co-host the premiere of a film about Professor Jan Piekalkiewicz, the outstanding Polish statistician active in the 1920s and ’30s and the author of more than 60 scientific papers. In 1923, Piekalkiewicz was a member of the League of Nations for transport statistics and four years later he was a member of the International Statistical Institute. He was also a member of the Econometric Society of the United States and an honorary member of the Mexican Geographical and Statistical Society. He also worked for the Council of the Society of Polish Economists and Statisticians. His main achievement was drawing attention to underestimating in urban, regional and local government statistics as well as financial and banking statistics.
3. In the near future, GUS will conduct training on the new system of national accounts—ESA2010—for media, employees of governmental institutions and other stakeholders.
4. Each survey GUS will undertake will be promoted by informing the randomly selected respondents about the importance of the survey for them and their families and society.
5. During GUS’ monthly press conferences not only statistical information but also the methodology is disseminated in order to avoid errors in the interpretation of the results.
6. Both GUS and its regional offices host children and young people from primary and secondary schools. These visits help familiarize these students with statistics. Polish statisticians give lessons about acquiring, processing and disseminating data as well as about the important role of statistics in the country’s social and economic life.
7. GUS arranges internships for students during their breaks from school.
8. Additional activities to promote GUS’ comprehensive statistical program are being currently conducted.

United Arab Emirates —Statistics Centre-Abu Dhabi (SCAD) has signed a Declaration of Intent (DoI) with the Federal Statistical Office of Germany (Destatis) to manage and enhance all forms of mutual support and cooperation between the two national statistical organizations in the field of official statistics. The

declaration was signed by Butti Ahmed Mohammed Bin Butti Al Qubaisi, director-general of SCAD, and Roderich Egeler, president of Destatis. [Click here for more information.](#)

Also, SCAD announced recently it has launched a new online foreign trade statistics application that enables users to set in seconds the specifications of statistical reports they need on the agency's website: www.scad.ae. A wide spectrum of users will benefit from the service of the new electronic application including government departments, public and private entities, the business sector, researchers and the media. [Click here for more information.](#)

Last, SCAD has published *Abu Dhabi Explorer Through Statistics*, a quick reference guide that uses statistical figures to highlight the various aspects of social and economic development in the emirate over the course of the past few years. [Click here to view the reference guide.](#)

JOIN THE WORLD OF STATISTICS

If your organization or an organization you know of isn't yet a part of The World of Statistics, encourage them to join. Joining is easy—just ask a representative of the group go to www.worldofstatistics.org and click on the “Join” icon on the top right-hand side of the homepage to become an official participating organization in The World of Statistics. Participation is valuable but is absolutely free!

The World of Statistics movement has grown to a total of 2,365 organizations from a whopping 129 countries. You can view the current participant and country lists by going to [The World of Statistics website](#).

CONTRIBUTE CONTENT TO THE WORLD OF STATISTICS WEBSITE

We also invite you and your organization to provide content for [The World of Statistics website](#). Several participating organizations and individuals already have sent us content contributions. You can join them! Areas for which contributions are needed include:

1. **[The World of Statistics Blog](#)**—For this homepage blog, which was popular on the Statistics2013 website, entries can be up to a maximum 500 words in length. You can write about nearly any topic related to statistics, including your organization, its activities oriented toward the goals of The World of Statistics, or your thoughts about a statistical issue. Since the website is public, please write in layman's language and do not use statistical prose. To submit a blog entry (as a Word document), accompanying graphics and the author's photo, email Jeff at jeffrey@amstat.org.
2. **[At Work With Statisticians](#)**—On the Statistics2013 site this section was titled “Statistician Job of the Week”. While we've rename this section, which also appears on the homepage, it still will focus on the many different types of jobs of statisticians. Again, no statistical prose and limit the article to a maximum of 300 words. Email your article and a photo of the statistician to Jeff at jeffrey@amstat.org.

3. [Statistics in Action](#)—Share information about how statistics are applied to solve problems around the world and other interesting takes on statistics. Remember, no statistical prose and limit the article to a maximum of 300 words. Email your article to Jeff at jeffrey@amstat.org.
4. [Around the World in Statistics](#)—Share information about how your organization is promoting statistics to the public. In the past, stories featured great infographics, programs, projects and a host of similar activities sponsored by statistical organizations. Limit the article to a maximum of 400 words and email it to Jeff at jeffrey@amstat.org.
5. [Career Resources](#)—Get a broader audience for your organization’s career resources—web-based and video—by spotlighting information about them on The World of Statistics website. We’ll post this information on the [International Career Resources](#) and [Statistics Career Videos](#) pages. Submit the information via email to jeffrey@amstat.org.
6. [Teacher Resources](#)—You can help teachers improve their instruction by sharing the statistics education tools and resources your organization has created. Send that information to Jeff at jeffrey@amstat.org.
7. [The World of Statistics 2014 Activities Calendar](#)—Send us information about your organization’s upcoming meetings, events and activities. We’ll post this information to the activities calendar so the public and other participating organizations can learn about the event. [Please use this easy webform](#) to submit your information.
8. [The World of Statistics Announcements](#)—You can submit short announcements about your organization’s work, activities, events and news for posting to the website’s Announcements page. These announcements can be up to 150 words in length. Email entries to Jeff at jeffrey@amstat.org.

SHARE YOUR JOB ON THE WORLD OF STATISTICS WEBSITE

Do you know an outstanding statistician deserving of recognition for his or her work—yourself, perhaps? If so, nominate yourself or your colleague for the [At Work With Statistician](#) page on The World of Statistics website. To do so, simply send a 250-to-300-word article about your colleague or yourself along with a photograph. In the article, explain the person’s/your job and his or her/your contributions to the mission of his or her/your organization. We’ll feature the profile on The World of Statistics website homepage. Send your submission to Jeff Myers at Jeffrey@amstat.org.

EVENT SUBMISSION FORMS ON WEBSITE

Two web-based forms make it easy for you to promote your organization’s events on [The World of Statistics 2014 Activities Calendar](#) and have an article featured in this newsletter about the event or other organization news.

The first form—called the “Event Submission Form for the 2014 Activities Calendar”—provides you a quick and simple way to submit information about your organization’s planned events. All you do is input the requested information and press the “Submit” button. We’ll then take your event information and post it to The World of Statistics 2014 Activities Calendar. [You can access this form here.](#)

The second form—titled the “News & Post-Event Information & Photo Submission Form” —enables you to send us information about your organization’s completed event and news as well as up to two photos for this newsletter. On this form, you are prompted for information about your event and you also can input a brief summary (up to 1,750 characters). After you submit your organization’s news or event information, we’ll run the photo and story in this newsletter so others can learn about your organization and its work to promote statistics. [Click here to access this form.](#)

GET THE WORLD OF STATISTICS LOGO & WEB BANNERS

It’s time to update your organization’s website by posting The World of Statistics logo. [Click here to download this new logo.](#)

Also, a series of new web banners are available for posting to your website. [You can access these banners by clicking here.](#)

GET A LANGUAGE-SPECIFIC LOGO

We now have The World of Statistics logos available in the following 10 languages available for [download from the website:](#)

- Bulgarian
- Czech
- Dhivehi
- English
- French
- German
- Portuguese
- Slovenian
- Spanish
- Turkish

To have a version of The World of Statistics logo created in your language, please e-mail to Jeffrey@amstat.org a high-resolution PDF document with the following:

- The interpretation of the phrase “The World of Statistics” in the appropriate font in this format: The World of Statistics=“The interpreted phrase”
- The interpretation of the phrase “Participating Organization” in the appropriate font in this format: Participating Organization=“The interpreted phrase”

The high-resolution PDF document you provide will ensure the accuracy of your logo.

Once your language-specific logo is created, [it will be posted to The World of Statistics website here](#) and we will send you an email to let you know the logo is available for download.

FOLLOW US ON TWITTER & FACEBOOK

Get the latest news and updates about The World of Statistics by following us on Twitter at [@astatworld](#). Also, when you use Twitter to spread the word about The World of Statistics, be sure to use the hashtag “#TWOS”. You also can follow developments in The World of Statistics [on our Facebook page](#). Become our friend today!