

STAT 547C - TOPICS IN PROBABILITY 2011/12 - Term 1

Instructor:

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See the following webpage for the latest course information:

<http://www.stat.ubc.ca/~bouchard/courses/stat547-fa2011/index.html>

Outline:

A graduate level course in probability with an emphasis on how the theory is applied in statistics. The main topics covered include:

- Measure-theoretic foundations with examples in statistics (sufficient statistic in terms of sigma-algebras, exponential families as collections of Radon-Nikodym derivatives, etc.).
- Convergence theorems: Kolmogorov's LLN, Glivenko-Cantelli Theorem, Lindeberg's CLT, Poisson convergence. Normal and stable limit laws. Applications to Monte Carlo simulation and asymptotic statistics.
- Moment generating and characteristic functions, inversion formula.
- Conditioning, Markov Chains and Martingales: asymptotic behavior and important inequalities. Examples from Bayesian statistics and statistical computing.

Prerequisites:

STAT 460 / 560 or equivalent. Ideally, one upper division undergraduate course in probability, and one in analysis. If you are unsure, contact me by email with your (unofficial) graduate and undergraduate transcripts attached.

Textbook:

G.R. Grimmett and D.R. Stirzaker, Probability and Random Processes, 3rd edition, Oxford, (2001). There is a solutions manual to this text: G.R. Grimmett and D.R. Stirzaker, One Thousand Exercises in Probability, Oxford, (2001).

Other References:

- R. Durrett, Probability: Theory and Examples, 4th edition, Cambridge U. Press (2010). Available online for free:

http://www.math.duke.edu/~rtd/PTE/PTE4_Jan2010.pdf

- P. Billingsley, Probability and Measure, 3rd edition, John Wiley & Sons, New York (1995).