

MSCS



Mess

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Department of Mathematics, Statistics and Computer Science
St. Olaf College, Northfield, MN 55057

May 1, 2009
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This Week's Colloquium

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| Title: | The Basics Of Survival Analysis |
| Presenter: | Jeff Helterbrand, '88 |
| Date: | Tuesday, May 5 th |
| Time: | 1:30 pm |
| Location: | SC 188 |

About the talk: Survival analysis is a collection of statistical methods for studying time-to-event data - time to death, time to disease progression, time to disease recurrence, etc. These methods exist to handle censored data - when it's time to perform an analysis, but not everyone has had their "event" yet. It's commonly used in clinical research, but often misinterpreted elsewhere (sometimes purposely). This talk will describe basic components of survival analysis, including Kaplan-Meier curves and Cox proportional hazards models, and provide examples based on the speaker's experience in the biotech industry.

About the speaker: Jeff Helterbrand is a graduate of St. Olaf (class of 1988) and currently the Senior Director of Biostatistics and Epidemiology at Genentech, Inc.

Problem of the Week

A convex decagon and all of its diagonals are drawn. How many *interior* points of intersection of the diagonals are there, if it is assumed that no three diagonals share a common *interior* point?

Solutions to last week's problem are posted at SC 222. Send your solution to this week's problem to Prof. Gower (SC 222, gower@stolaf.edu) by Friday, May 8, 2009.

Last Mess of the Year

This is the last regular Mess of the year—but be on the lookout for the “Senior Salute” edition of the Mess around Reading Day.

Seniors, if you have not submitted a bio and your plans for next year, email Mess editor Christina Koch (kochc@stolaf.edu) as soon as possible.

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If you would like to submit an article or math event to be published in the Math Mess, e-mail kochc@stolaf.edu.