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Korean International Statistical Society

Volume 4, Issue 1

- 2013 was International Year of Statistics.
- KISS joined as one of the hosting societies for Joint Statistical Meetings (JSM) from 2013.
- KISS and KSS continued close collaboration.
- KISS started a mentoring program.

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President's Corner



Dear KISSers,
 Happy 2014! I hope that all KISS members have a joyful and fruitful year! Year 2013 was another exciting year. First, all statistics community around world celebrated Statistics Year of 2013 all year long. There were numerous activities hosted jointly by many statistical societies. It was our pleasure that KISS could participate in several of them. KISS will keep the momentum to outreach and collaborate with other societies.

activities in 2014. KISS will continue to seek for opportunities to collaborate with other societies. Third, the collaborations Korean Statistical Society (KSS) have been quite active. There were more than 50 KSS members who also joined KISS in 2013. In addition, many KISS members chose to join KSS via joint membership of KISS/KSS. Both societies continue to join forces to publish a peer-reviewed journal, Communications for Statistical Applica-

Second, KISS became one of nine societies who host Joint Statistical Meetings in 2013. Montreal seemed to be a perfect place for KISS becoming a host as KISS was first formed at 2010 JSM in Vancouver. Both happened to be in Canada. As KISS became a host, it has brought several benefits to all KISS members. Members of KISS can register for JSM at a discounted rate. In addition, members could submit their session proposals or abstracts under KISS sponsorship and a KISS representative in JSM program committee handles them. In 2013 JSM, KISS organized an invited poster session and a contributed session. For 2014 JSM, KISS has organized two invited sessions and will organize many other sessions. Please consider submitting your session proposals and ab-

stracts under KISS sponsorship for future JSMs. Please also note that the best time to start thinking about invited session proposals for 2015 JSM will be during 2014 JSM. JSM is one of the largest statistical meetings that enables KISS to interact with other societies. KISS was invited to the Committee of Presidents of Statistical Societies (COPSS) friends meeting as one of special partners of JSM. COPSS consists of ASA, IMS, ENAR, WNAR, and SSC and COPSS friends add ICSA, IISA, ISBA and KISS. Each society shared its activities during the past year, plans for upcoming year and shared its experiences for running an organization. KISS and ICSA representatives mentioned their joint applied statistics symposium in Portland (June 15-18, 2014) as one of main

tions and Methods (CSAM), from 1/2013. I appreciate those who have volunteered for the editorial board. Fourth, KISS has started a mentoring program for early career members. Although there will be many challenges, I hope that this program will provide opportunities for interactions between senior and junior members. Given the initial interests from members, I am quite confident that this will become very successful. I sincerely thank all members

for their love and strong supports for KISS. The future of KISS will depend on members' participation and support. Please send your ideas and suggestions, and even better lead KISS to accomplish them. I hope that we continue to build upon our successes and work together to make KISS a better society that can serve us all in 2014 and beyond.

Until next time and cheers!
 Dongseok Choi

2013 KISS Annual Meeting at JSM

The 2013 KISS annual meeting was held at the Joint Statistical Meetings on the August 5th in Montreal. About 52 participants attended the meeting.

1. Special opening remarks: Professor Xiao-Li Meng (Harvard University)
2. Introduction of all the participants.
3. The Executive Director Mi-Ok Kim reported the last year's KISS activities on behalf of all officers (see below for more details)
4. President's Invited Talk: New ASA Fellows Drs.

- Young-Jo Lee and Sin-Ho Jung
- 5. Next year meetings:
 - JSM 2014 (Register and submit abstracts under KISS)
 - ⇒ KISS JSM 2014 program chair: Mi-Ok Kim
 - ⇒ Send session proposals
 - ⇒ Consider organizing topic contributed sessions and invited poster sessions
 - ICSA-KISS Joint Applied Statistics Symposium in Portland (6/15-18, 2014)

- ⇒ Student paper awards
- KSS spring/fall meeting, invited sessions
- 6. *Communication for Statistical Applications and Methods* (<http://www.statkiss.org/Journal.php>)
- ⇒ Fast review
- ⇒ Bi-monthly publication (at the end of 1, 3, 5, 7, 9, 11)
- ⇒ No fees (nominal fees for conversion to LaTeX)
- 7. Dinner: 44 participants



KISS Officers' Reports

- Executive Director: Oregon title registration renewal (\$50), Oregon CT-12 report (\$10), IRS tax report, KISS banner, 2013 Year of Statistics: Add Hangul logo and Hangul to "Statistics" poster.
 - Communication Director: Mailing lists and the KISS website (<http://statkiss.org/>) have been updated, especially a new
- 23), at Yonsei University, (4 invited sessions), JSM 2014 program committee: Mi-Ok Kim, JSM 2015: Mikyoung Jun, JSM 2016: Ji-hyun Lee
- ICSA-KISS Joint Applied Statistics Symposium: Marriott Riverfront Downtown, Portland, Oregon Executive Committee Program Committee, Local Committee, Student awards subcommittee, Short course committee, Please submit contributed

webpage for *Communications for Statistical Applications and Methods* (CSAM), the official journal of KSS and KISS, has been added. Online membership registration system has been working well. A newsletter was published in January, 2013.

- Treasurer (Dr. Jong-Min Kim): Report membership paid and Financial reports: KISS Financial report as of

	12/26/2013
2012 Carry Forward:	\$2,756.76
2013 Income:	\$5,746.53
2013 Expense:	\$ 681.73
2013 Balance:	\$7,821.55

- Program Chair: Invited sessions for KSS spring meeting (2 sessions), JSM 2013 program committee: Jae-Kwang Kim -1 invited poster session (organized by Mimi Kim) and 1 contributed session, IASC satellite meeting (8/22-

session proposals and participate in student awards. Contact: icsa.kiss@gmail.com



Awardees at JSM 2013

- Founders Award: Xiao-Li Meng (Harvard U)
- ASA Fellow, 2013: Young-Jo Lee (Seoul National U), Sin-Ho Jung (Duke U)
- Risk Analysis Section, Student/Young Researcher Paper Competition, runner-up, Beom Seuk Hwang (NIH/NICHD)
- Biometric Section; Byar Award: Kyu Ha Lee (Harvard U)
- Biometric Section, Student Paper Competition/Travel award: Noorie Hyun (U of North Carolina at Chapel Hill)
- Nonparametric Section, Student Paper Award: Yeonwoo Roh (U of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign)
- Health Policy Statistics Section, Student Paper Award; Hwanhee Hong (U of Minnesota)
- Statistical Learning and Data Mining, Student Paper Award: Min Jin Ha (U of North Carolina at Chapel Hill)
- IMS Travel Awards: Yeonwoo Roh (U of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign), Seung Jun Shin (North Carolina State U), Sungyoung Shin (U of North Carolina at Chapel Hill)



Letter from ASA: Society Collaborations Key to the Success of Our Profession, Ronald L. Wasserstein, Executive Director

The importance of collaborations among the statistical societies is hard to overstate. The major challenges we face as a profession require resources that are well beyond those of any individual society. The International Year of Statistics illustrates this very well. No one society could have got this going, but five societies collaborated to get it started, and now hundreds of societies have put in together to make Statistics2013 a success.

A long term, ongoing example of collaboration is the Joint Statistical Meetings. Five societies (ASA, IMS, SSC, ENAR, and WNAR) collaborated to form these meetings, by far the largest annual gathering of statisticians in the world. In recent years, we've increased the size of the "J" in JSM with the addition of the International Society for Bayesian Analysis, International Chinese Statistical Association, International Indian Statistical Association, and the

Korean International Statistical Society as partners. We anticipate more societies to join as well.

Collaborations work when there is mutual benefit for each of the partners. The collaboration of KISS in the JSM is a great illustration of this. As a young society, KISS benefits from the exposure resulting from being listed as a partner for JSM partner. At the same time, JSM itself and the other

partners benefit as the membership of KISS become active participants, giving talks, getting involved in activities, and so on.

Once societies begin to think regularly about intersociety collaborations, great things can happen. We look forward to seeing what new collaborations may arise between KISS and the ASA, and among KISS and the other international statistical associations.

Upcoming Meetings

- ENAR 2014, March 15-18, 2014, Baltimore, MA, USA, <http://www.enar.org/meetings.cfm>
- KSS 2014 Spring (5/23-24, Statistics Korea)/Fall Meetings (TBD), Korea, <http://www.kss.or.kr/> (Note: there will be a KSS invitation session.)
- 2014 Joint Applied Statistics Symposium of ICSA and KISS, June 15-18, 2014, Portland, OR, <http://statkiss.org/icsakiss2014/>
Keynote Speaker: Robert Gentleman (Genetech) & Sharon-Lise Normand (Harvard U.)
Banquet Speaker: Sastry Pantula (Oregon State U.)
- WNAR 2014, June 15-18, 2014, Honolulu, HI, USA, <http://www.wnar.org/>
- Joint Statistical Meetings 2014, August 2-7, 2014, Boston, MA, USA, <http://www.amstat.org/meetings/jsm/2014/index.cfm>
- KISS will sponsor two invited sessions at JSM 2014.: "Functional Data Analysis: Beyond the Standard Paradigm", Monday, 8/4/2014, from 8:30 - 10:20 AM. Organizer: Cheolwoo Park Speakers: Yoonkyung Lee, Todd Ogden, Juhyun Park Discussant: Sebastian Kurtek "New Frontiers of Longitudinal Data Analysis", Wednesday, 8/6/2014, from 8:30 - 10:20 AM. Organizer: Mi-Ok Kim Speakers: Sungduk Kim, Hyunkeun Cho, Lan Xue, Yehua Li

Dr. Eun Sul Lee was retired from the University of Texas School of Public Health and is currently Adjunct Professor at Oregon Health & Science University. He coauthored two books (Analyzing of Complex Survey Data and Biostatistics: A Guide to Design, Analysis and Discovery) . Dr. Lee is a lifetime member of KISS.

Senior column: Cholera Epidemic and Statistics, Eun Sul Lee

In March 1977, I had an opportunity to teach a week-long course on Demographic Analysis at Applied Statistics Training Institute of National Center for Health Statistics, held in Durham, North Carolina. On one evening I spotted a used bookstore while walking back to my hotel after early dinner. I could not resist from stepping in the store, hoping to find another interesting rare book. A few years earlier, I was lucky to buy a copy of John Graunt's monograph, *Natural and Political Observations made upon the Bills of Mortality* (originally published in 1662; edited with an introduction by Walter Willcox, published by the Johns Hopkins University Press in

ing or dead; 95 were taken in rigid, of whom only 42 died; 35 were verging on collapse, of whom 2 died; 4 were in partial collapse, of whom none died; 20 were in the first stage, of whom none died."

Despite a minor discrepancy (numbers of deaths add up to 62, instead of 61), the data clearly indicate that the emergency care organized by missionaries was effective. Those who sought treatment in early stage of the disease were all spared. Though impressive

tion of population is more likely). There are reasons to believe that the extramural population was larger than the intramural. The missionaries set up the Shelter outside the wall, probably considering easy access to the Shelter for more vulnerable people living outside of the wall. Also, something I learned from the above-mentioned Graunt's monograph may be relevant here. Graunt estimated the population of London in the mid 17th century as 384,000 based on births and deaths. And he con-

1939) in a small used bookstore in Austin, Texas.

After browsing through several shelves, I discovered a hardcover book with red and blue "Taekeuk" mark (the center part of Korean flag) on its spine, titled *FIFTEEN YEARS AMONG THE TOP-KNOTS: LIFE IN KOREA*. It was a memoir written by Lillias Horton Underwood, MD, the wife of Rev. Horace G. Underwood, a well known Presbyterian missionary to Korea, published by American Track Society in 1904. I read it with great interest, learning social and political turmoil prevailed in the pre-colonial Korea. To my surprise I found some serious statistics in this book. Dr. L.

and laudable, their efforts probably made a little impact to the entire city. More serious statistics can be discerned from her additional comments: "A tolerably fair count of the deaths inside the walls each day was possible, since all the dead are carried through two or three gates. The numbers rose gradually to something over 300 a day and then gradually declined, the plague lasting not quite six weeks. The extramural population is probably as large as the intramural, including the popu-

lating this estimate by surveying two hundred twenty 100-square yards (blocks) within the wall and assuming one-fourth of population resided within the wall (taking the ratio of deaths occurring within the wall). Thus, pushing the mortality estimate for city of Seoul to 15,000 (5% of population) or even to 18,000 (6%) may not be unreasonable guess.

It is problematic to extrapolate these mortality statistics to the rest of the country, since reliable population figures are not

H. Underwood, educated in Chicago, went to Korea as a medical missionary in 1888. During her stay in Korea, she first learned Korean language, looked after sick people, married to Rev. Underwood, and served as a personal physician to Queen.

In describing her participation in organizing and managing the emergency Shelter in Seoul, Korea, during the 1895 cholera epidemic in later days of August and the first of September (Chapter IX), she inserted the following medical statistics:

"We received altogether 173 patients, of whom 61 died; of those received, 18 arrived dy-

lating within the two miles radius outside the walls. All taken together there are between 300,000 and 400,000 people."

She deserved to be called the first field epidemiologist in Korea who understood the "rapid assessment methodology." Based on a simple triangular distribution with a peak of 300 over 40 days, it can be estimated that roughly 6,000 people died inside the walls and at least 1,200 for the entire city, representing 4% of the Seoul's population (the lower estima-

available and it is not certain how widely the epidemic spread to the land. However, it is likely that many people in Seoul fled to countryside during the epidemic, transmitting the disease to the rest of the country. The Korean population estimate in 1900 is popularly quoted as 12 millions, but it is a wild guess. The first reliable population figure is 17,264,119 in the 1920 Japanese census. Projecting this figure backward and checking other available guesstimates from the literature, it may be

safe to say that the Korean population at the time of the epidemic was between 8 and 10 millions. Applying the mortality rate in Seoul, I would simply venture to say that hundreds of thousands perished during the 1895 cholera epidemic in Korea.

This assessment of casualties from the cholera epidemic for the city of Seoul seems credible and realistic when I read her accounts of the living conditions, the prevailing misinformation about the disease, and connected events prior to the epidemic. First of all, the unsanitary living environments and unhealthy behavior of the inhabitants clearly suggest that

When the plague checked in, an old barracks building was roughly prepared to receive patients. Patients were on the floor and “back-breaking business it was to nurse them.”

This epidemic occurred 40 years after John Snow’s celebrated investigation to solve the medical riddle of cholera during the 1854 epidemic in London (See *The Ghost Map* by Steven Johnson, Penguin Group Inc., 2006). The number of deaths in

lack of infrastructure to support the dense population, coupled with dysfunctional government, allowed the plague to take its natural course to the fullest extent. The heroic efforts organized by the missionaries were too meager to counter the terrible plague. Probably, most of people distrusted foreign missionaries and did not seek help from the Shelter even though their capability was limited. Moreover, statistics did not exist in Korea at that point in

the city lacked public health infrastructure and it became the perfect breeding ground for a terrifying plague. The people called cholera “the rat disease,” believing that cramps are rats gnawing and crawling inside the legs, far from proper understanding of infectious diseases. Eight years before, in 1887, the plague swept through the land, and thousands died. The government tried to prepare for the coming epidemic but miserably failed to carry out the plan as she so eloquently described: “It is due to the government to say that they seemed thoroughly awakened to the situation and were doing all in their power, but were handicapped by de-

this epidemic was 616. Snow benefited from William Farr’s *Weekly Returns* (mortality statistics) in mapping the cases which led to the source of the plague. Often mortality statistics from cholera epidemics were mysteriously exaggerated. For example, the numbers of death from cholera epidemics in Chicago in the mid-19th century were far less than what was often quoted by popular press (See *The Chicago River: A Natural and Unnatural History*

Korean history and even Dr. L. H. Underwood’s statistics failed to inform the public and did not seem to inspire proper action subsequently. Unfortunately, her statistics and her insight into the situation are buried in

plorable corruption of many officials. Twenty thousand yen (\$10,000) were granted to fix up a temporary emergency cholera hospital, enforce sanitary laws and prevent the advance of the plague, but this money was, to use common Korean phrase, “eaten” by greedy underlings on all hands. In the preparation of the hospital, more than twice the number of carpenters needed were employed, and these men passed their time making little articles for private sale, or in standing about doing nothing. A number of petty officiates [to enforce sanitary laws] were hired but did little, and improve on their commission by doing nothing but receive their pay.”

by Libby Hill, Lake Claremont Press, 2000). An outbreak of cholera in 1849 killed 678, 2.9% of Chicago’s population and an 1854 outbreak killed only 1,424 people. The enormity of the 1895 cholera epidemic in Korea had not been well known even in Korea.

In many respects, the cholera epidemic of 1895 in Korea appears to be far more tragic than most documented epidemics elsewhere in the past. The

her memoir but deserve to be cultivated to draw lessons for statistics and epidemiology students.



Member's Profile: Dong-Yun Kim, National Institutes of Health



I am a mathematical statistician at the Office of Biostatistics Research (OBR) within National Heart, Lung, and Blood Institute (NIH/NHLBI), and I have a faculty appointment at the Department of Psychiatry and Behavioral Medicine, Virginia Tech Carilion School of Medicine. I received a Ph.D. in statistics from the University of Michigan (Ann Arbor) in 2003 and my advisor was Professor Michael Woodroofe. Before I joined the group, I worked as faculty in several state universities.

vides statistical assistance to other federal Institutes and agencies (e.g., FDA) in review and implementation of their clinical trials.

The OBR has been in the forefront of research in new methods for statistical genetics, survival analysis, longitudinal data analysis and efficient study designs for clinical trials, including monitoring for efficacy and safety. The members of the Office

My main research areas are sequential analysis and change point inference under staggered entry, and tests for mixture models. I have developed statistical methods in these areas and applied the results to medical studies, statistical genetics and bioinformatics, and climate/environmental sciences. Research interests and collaboration with medical professionals led me to the current position.

The Office of Biostatistics Research (OBR) participates in the planning, design, im-

plementation, monitoring and analyses of studies funded by NHLBI, and provides objective, statistically sound, and medically relevant solutions to problems that are presented. The OBR works as a member of the program or project office team for the funded projects in preparation of an initiative, study design, and during the course of the study through its completion. Also the members of the Office collaborate in studies sponsored by the Division of Intramural Research within NIH. The OBR often pro-

are very active in pursuing research and professional activities including serving on editorial boards of journals and committees of professional societies and workshops. The Director of OBR, Dr. Nancy Geller, is a former President of the American Statistical Association.

To promote the learning environment, the OBR sponsors seminars about clinical studies. Also the OBR has been

successfully running the Summer Institutes for Training in Biostatistics (SIBS) by providing funding to universities around the country to teach an intensive six-week course every summer. The program is designed to motivate undergraduate students to enter the field of biostatistics. If you have questions, you can reach me at kim-d10@nhlbi.nih.gov.

Members' News

- Dr. Leena Choi (Vanderbilt University) was promoted to associate professor with tenure.
- Dr. Dongseok Choi (Oregon Health and Science University) was promoted to tenured full professor.
- Drs Sungkyu Jung and Seoyoung Park (University of Pittsburgh) had a baby boy Ian in April, 2013.
- Dr. Hyokyung Hong moved to the Department of Statistics and Probability in Michigan State University in August 2013 as an assistant professor.
- Dr. Cheolwoo Park (University of Georgia) has become Director of

Admissions in the Department of Statistics.



KISS Career Mentoring Program for Young Professionals, Mimi Kim

A new KISS career mentoring program was introduced and launched successfully this past November. The idea was first suggested to the board meeting in 2012 by one of the board members, Dr. Mimi Kim at the Albert Einstein College of Medicine, as well as other members. The mentoring program was discussed again in depth in the boarding meeting last year and a survey was subsequently administered in September, 2013, to assess KISS members' interests in such a program. Many enthusiastic responses were received such as the following:

"Thank you for putting this together. As an early career junior faculty, this is great."

"I am glad to hear that KISS's effort to support Korean junior researchers. I am very much interested in this initiative and would like to find out more specific goals and information about how it works. Thanks."

"I think this would be a great opportunity for young professionals!"

The program currently has 9 pairs of mentee-mentors who are matched according to area of professional interest and,

where possible, geographic proximity. The role of the mentor is to provide advice about career development and to share knowledge and experience with the mentee that may be helpful for his/her professional advancement. The mentor may also provide opportunities to expand the mentee's professional network and can also serve as a resource for information about the field. The focus of the relationship is on career guidance and advice.

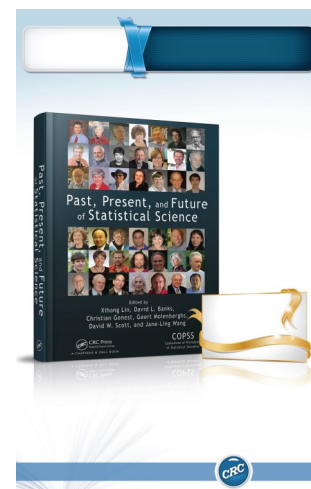
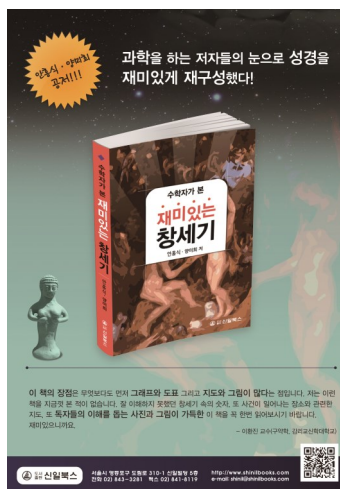
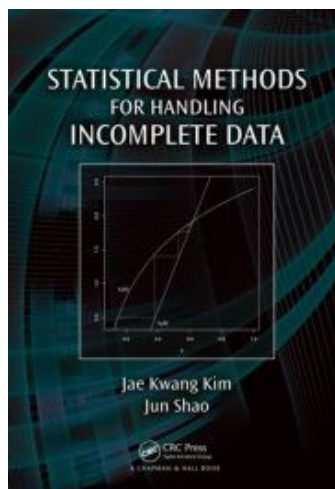
As a new program, there may be some challenges. KISS will periodically gather feedback from participants to improve

the program and ensure that it is effective and successful. KISS continues to welcome additional mentees and mentors to join the program. If you are interested in participating as either a mentor or mentee, please send an email to info@statkiss.org.



Books by KISS members

- Dr. Sin-ho Jung: Randomized Phase II Cancer Clinical Trials, Chapman & Hall/CRC Biostatistics Series
- Jae Kwang Kim and Jun Shao: Statistical Methods for Handling Incomplete Data, Chapman & Hall/CRC Texts in Statistical Science
- Hongshik Ahn and Meehee Yang: 수학자가 본 재미있는 창세기, 신일북스
- KISS has co-sponsored the COPSS 50th anniversary book.





Call for Papers: Communications for Statistical Applications and Methods

Communications for Statistical Applications and Methods is an official journal of the Korean Statistical Society and Korean International Statistical Society beginning in 2013. Abbreviated title is 'CSAM'. It contains original articles dedicated to application research in various fields of statistics and probability, or contributing to applied statistics through innovative data analysis and interpretation. However, articles dealing with statistical education are also welcomed. The journal welcomes articles from all countries.

The journal has been twice retitled from *Communications of the Korean Statistical Society* or formerly, *Korean Communications in Statistics*, which was one of the official journals of the Korean Statistical Society since 1994.

The journal accepts articles written in English and is published bi-monthly in January, March, May, July, September, and November. All of the manuscripts are peer-reviewed. CSAM welcomes only original research articles for the form of publication.

To submit your paper, please

visit <http://submit.csam.or.kr/submission/Login.html>
Please register and login for submission.

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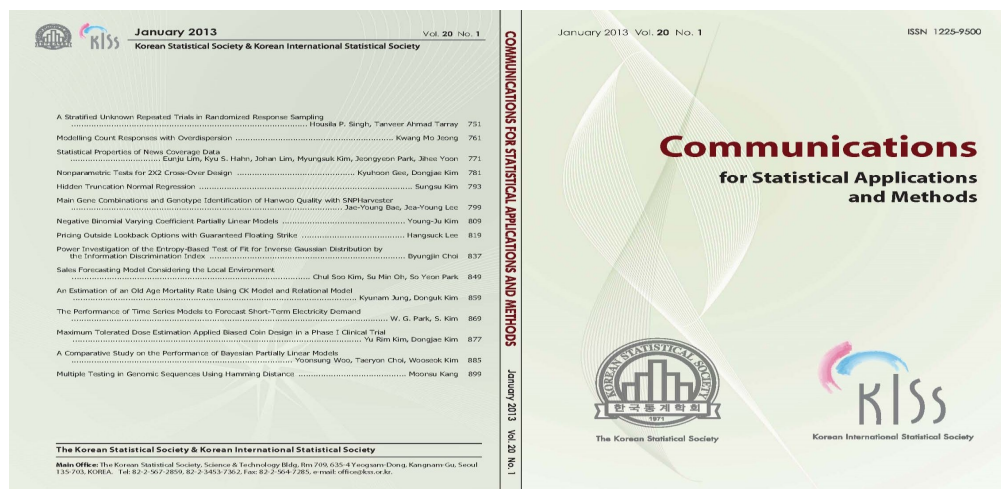
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If you would like to write an article or have comments for KISS newsletters, please email to info@statkiss.org.

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Become a KISSer!

KISS has launched the website at <http://statkiss.org>. It contains the information about KISS, News and events, job opportunities, upcoming and past meetings, membership online registration, guest board, and photo gallery.

Here is a brief membership online registration Instruction:

1. Please review different membership types from under Membership in the KISS website:

<http://statkiss.org/Membership.php>

2. Please fill out the membership form under Membership/Form:

<http://statkiss.org/Form.php>

'*' represents required fields

3. If you click "Submit", the screen shows the following message: "Thanks for submitting the form. If you would like to pay your membership fee by credit card online, please click here."

4. If you are not a student and would like to pay the membership fee online, please click "please click here". Then it will lead you to

Membership/Payment:

<http://statkiss.org/Payment.php>

5. Please select one membership type and click "Submit", then you will be forwarded to PayPal website.

6. You can pay as a guest (if you do not have an account with PayPal and do not want to create a new one), or you can login with your PayPal account to pay.

We believe that you may get an error when you try to pay with a credit card as a guest, but the credit card was registered for a PayPal user: e.g.. Your spouse is a PayPal member and registered a credit card, and you tried to pay with the same card as a guest.



Korean International Statistical Society