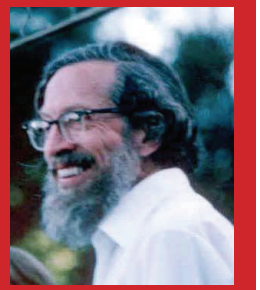
The Speakers

- Andrew Barbour
  University of Zurich
- Peter Bickel
  University of California, Berkeley
- Larry Brown
  University of Pennsylvania
- Persi Diaconis
  Stanford University
- Morris L. Eaton
  University of Minnesota, Minneapolis
- Bradley Efron
  Stanford University
- Carl Morris
  Harvard University
- David Siegmund
  Stanford University



The **Symposium in Probability and Statistics in honor of Charles Stein on his 90th Birthday**
Is jointly organized by
Department of Statistics, Stanford University
and Institute for Mathematical Sciences,
National University of Singapore

ORGANIZING COMMITTEE

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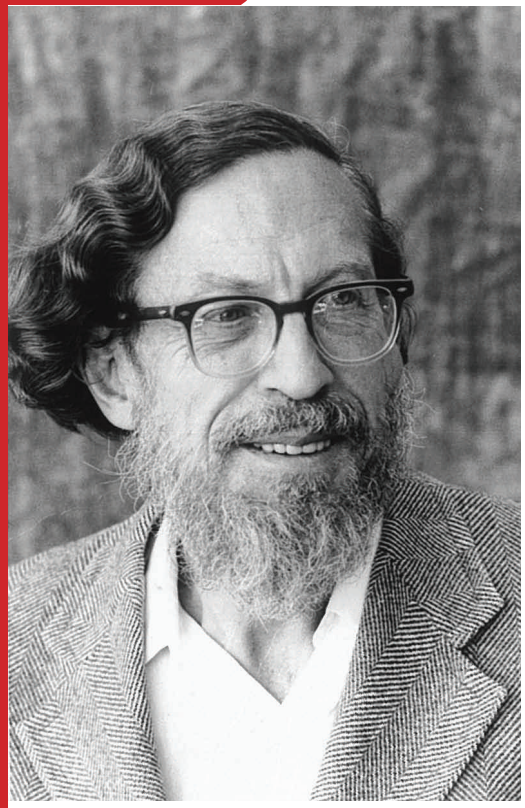
March 22, 2010

Symposium in Probability and Statistics

in honor of Charles Stein on his 90th Birthday

Main Quad, Building 370
450 Serra Mall, Room 370
Stanford University

Happy Birthday, Charles



Among the great mathematical statisticians of the 20th century, some left their marks by developing new theories and techniques, and others by discovering surprising results that shattered long-held beliefs. Charles Stein is unique in his ability to do both. He is truly a giant among giants.

Wing Wong

The Schedule

1:30 – 1:45 **Wing Wong** and **Louis Chen**
Welcome and Opening Remarks

1:45 – 2:10 **Larry Brown**
"Stein's Research On Fixed Sample Optimality, Apart from Multivariate Normal Minimax Shrinkage"

2:15 – 2:40 **Morris Eaton**
"On Some Contributions of Charles Stein to Applications of Invariance in Statistics"

2:45 – 3:05 **Carl Morris**
"Shrinkage Estimation"

3:10 – 3:30 **Brad Efron**
"Stein's Unbiased Risk Estimate"

3:30 – 4:00 — *Coffee Break* —

4:00 – 4:25 **Peter Bickel**
"Charles Stein: Semiparametric Models and Nonparametric Methods"

4:30 – 4:55 **David Siegmund**
"Charles Stein and Fixed Precision Sequential Estimation"

5:00 – 5:20 **Andrew Barbour**
"Stein's (Magic) Method"

5:25 – 5:45 **Persi Diaconis**
"Few But Ripe: 35 Years of Following Charles Stein"

Charles Stein is a quiet man but when he talks, we listen. When Markov chains started to become popular (about 1980), he seemed interested as well. I asked him why and he answered as if it was obvious: "Of course, a reversible Markov chain is the same thing as an exchangeable pair." I knew that exchangeable pairs were a mainstay of what is now called Stein's Method. His statement changed my research direction.

Twenty-five years later, he added another sentence: "I always thought it would be a good idea to go through Feller's Volume One using the method of exchangeable pairs." Susan Holmes and I had been going through Feller with Bayesian eyes (I doubt Charles approves). That extra statement should keep me going for another twenty-five years.

Persi Diaconis

Gustav Elving once told me: "After I met Doob I wondered why anyone else did probability, and after I met Charles I wondered why anyone else did mathematical statistics."

Brad Efron

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stat-news@lists.stanford.edu