

MAS2317/3317: Introduction to Bayesian Statistics

Dr. Lee Fawcett

Semester 2, 2013—2014

Contact details

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Timetable and Administrative arrangements

- **Lectures** are in Herschel LT1 on Mondays at 1pm and Tuesdays at 3pm.
- **Problems classes** are in ODD teaching weeks starting in teaching week 3. These also take place in Bedson LT1, on Thursdays at 4pm.
- **Drop-in sessions** are at the same time and place in EVEN weeks starting in teaching week 4.
- **Computer practicals:** Thursdays at 5pm (Herschel full PC cluster). These happen in some EVEN weeks, and you will be notified of these well in advance.

Timetable and Administrative arrangements

So to summarise:

Activity	Day	Time	Room	Frequency
Lecture	Mon	1–2	Herschel: LT1	Every week
	Tues	3–4	Herschel: LT1	Every week
PC/ DI	Thurs	4–5	Bedson: LT1	PC odd weeks DI even weeks
Practical	Thurs	5–6	Herschel: PC cluster	Some even weeks

Assessment is by:

- End of semester exam in May/June (**80%**)
- In course assessment, including written solution to problems and computer practical work (**10%**)
- Mid-semester test (**10%**)
- No CBAs!

There will be four assignments, each one having a mixture of written and practical questions.

Solutions to the starred questions should be submitted by the dates given in your notes.

We will work through the unstarred questions in problems classes and practicals.

- Notes (with gaps) will be handed out in lectures – you should fill in the gaps during lectures.
- A summarised version of the notes will be used in lectures as slides.
 - Listen and learn
 - Write down
 - Announcements
- These notes and slides will be posted on the **course website** and/or BlackBoard after each topic is finished, along with any other course material – such as problems sheets, model solutions to assignment questions, supplementary handouts etc.

- The course website can be found via the “Additional teaching information” link on the School’s webpage, or directly via:

<http://www.mas.ncl.ac.uk/~nlf8>

- Please check your University email account regularly, as course announcements will often be made via email.
- I have scheduled an office hour for this course (Fridays 2pm) where I will always be available to see students who need extra help/support with the course material.

Preface to lecture notes:

The Bayesian paradigm

Statistics: an alternative approach

- Up until now, you have been taught Probability and Statistics according to a particular way of thinking
- The **Bayesian paradigm** offers another way of seeing things
- Your ideas about Probability and Statistics are deeply entrenched...perhaps so much so that at first, *Bayesian Statistics* might take you a while to grasp!
- Not because it's hard! Just because you have become so conditioned to think in a particular way!
- I want to broaden your horizons a bit!

Air France 447



Heure Time	Provenance From	Vol Flight	Terminal
1100	Los Angeles Minneapolis	AF 065	DL 8553 2E Landed
1115	Rio Janeiro Intl	AF 447	2E Delayed
1120	Bogota	AF 423	2E Arrived 11:34
1125	Detroit Wayne Co	AF 377	DL 8573 2E Arrived 11:29
1130	Damascus	AF 511	2E Arrived 11:31
1130	Washington Dulles	AF 027	DL 8331 2E Arrived 11:39
1135	Montreal	AF 349	2E Arrived 11:41
1135	Sao Paulo Guarul	AF 459	2E Transferred 2C
1140	Istanbul	AF 2391	NW 4367 2E Arrived 11:54
1140	Tunis	AF 1685	DL 8595 2E Arrived 11:28
1150	Birmingham	AF 5133	MK 9331 2E Arrived 11:42
1150	London-City	AF 5059	MK 9391 2E Arrived 11:29
1210	Dublin	AF 5001	UX 3574 2E Arrived 12:05

