The Math Colloquium
Department of Mathematics
San José State University

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Marian Farah
UC Santa Cruz

Statistics, Satellites, and Other Adventures
MARCH 9, 2011, MH320

Abstract: Bayesian statistics, named after Thomas Bayes, is a method of statistical inference that uses aspects of the scientific method to express uncertainty about a quantity of interest. In this talk, two projects that use Bayesian statistical modeling are discussed. The first project deals with a simulation that models the interaction of sunlight with vegetation on the surface of the Earth as observed by a satellite sensor. The second project is concerned with the vulnerability of spaceborne microchips to soft errors due to high energy particles (from solar wind or cosmic rays) striking a sensitive node in the device.

Background: One course in statistics or probability. In particular, students should have seen probability distributions (e.g., normal distributions).

About the speaker: Marian Farah is a Ph.D. candidate in the Statistics group at the Applied Mathematics and Statistics Department, at UC Santa Cruz. Prior to starting her Ph.D. studies at UCSC, she completed a BS in Applied Mathematics at SJSU and a MS in Statistics at CSU East Bay.

SNACKS IN MH331B AT 2:30 PM
TALK STARTS AT 3 PM

For more information, see our full schedule at:

http://www.math.sjsu.edu/~hsu/colloq/