

SPRING 2017 - STAT 853 G100

**APPLICATIONS OF STATISTICAL COMPUTING (4)**

Class Number: 4176 Delivery Method: In Person

**COURSE TIMES + LOCATION:**

Mo, We 10:30 AM – 12:20 PM

AQ 5004, Burnaby

**INSTRUCTOR:**

Jinko Graham

jgraham@sfu.ca

1 778 782-3155

Office: SC-K10553

**PREREQUISITES:**

STAT 830 or equivalent or permission of instructor.

## Description

**CALENDAR DESCRIPTION:**

An introduction to computational methods in applied statistics. Topics can include: the bootstrap, Markov Chain Monte Carlo, EM algorithm, as well as optimization and matrix decompositions. Statistical applications will include frequentist and Bayesian model estimation, as well as inference for complex models. The theoretical motivation and application of computational methods will be addressed.

**COURSE DETAILS:****Course Outline:**

We will cover topics from among the following:

- Foundations: review of Bayesian inference, finite precision arithmetic, pseudorandom number generation, computational efficiency in matrix operations.
- Low-rank approximation of data.
- Optimization: gradient and gradient-free methods/
- Monte Carlo estimation: importance sampling, Markov chain Monte Carlo, sequential Monte Carlo methods.
- Other: EM algorithm, variational Bayes approximations to posterior distributions.

## Grading

Assignments	40%
Participation/Attendance	20%
Project	40%

**NOTES:**

***All grading is subject to change***

## Materials

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### RECOMMENDED READING:

**Numerical Analysis for Statisticians, 2nd ed.** Author: Kenneth Lange. Publisher: Springer

ISBN: 9781441959447

**Monte Carlo Statistical Methods, 2nd ed.** Authors: Christian Robert and George Casella. Publisher: Springer

ISBN: 9780387212395

**Introducing Monte Carlo Methods with R.** Authors: Christian Robert and George Casella. Publisher: Springer

ISBN: 978-1-4419-1575-7

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### GRADUATE STUDIES NOTES:

Important dates and deadlines for graduate students are found here: [http://www.sfu.ca/dean-gradstudies/current/important\\_dates/guidelines.html](http://www.sfu.ca/dean-gradstudies/current/important_dates/guidelines.html). The deadline to drop a course with a 100% refund is the end of week 2. The deadline to drop with no notation on your transcript is the end of week 3.

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### REGISTRAR NOTES:

SFU's Academic Integrity web site <http://students.sfu.ca/academicintegrity.html> is filled with information on what is meant by academic dishonesty, where you can find resources to help with your studies and the consequences of cheating. Check out the site for more information and videos that help explain the issues in plain English.

Each student is responsible for his or her conduct as it affects the University community. Academic dishonesty, in whatever form, is ultimately destructive of the values of the University. Furthermore, it is unfair and discouraging to the majority of students who pursue their studies honestly. Scholarly integrity is required of all members of the University. <http://www.sfu.ca/policies/gazette/student/s10-01.html>

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