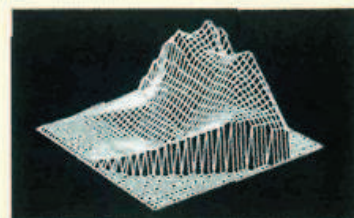
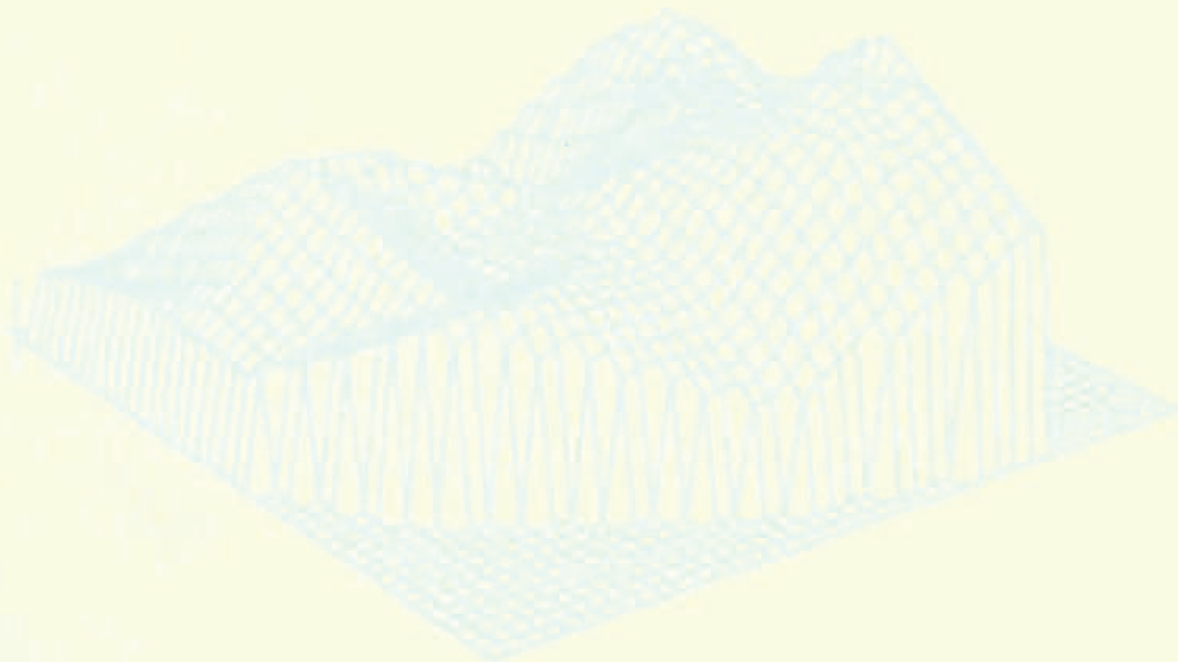


Proceedings of Statistics 2001 Canada  
The 4<sup>th</sup> Conference in Applied Statistics



# RECENT ADVANCES IN STATISTICAL METHODS



edited by **Yogendra P. Chaubey**

Imperial College Press

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STATISTICAL METHODS

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## PREFACE

The present volume consists of a selection of 31 papers which were presented at the conference *Statistics 2001 Canada: Fourth Canadian Conference in Applied Statistics* held at Concordia University, Montreal, Quebec, Canada during July 6-8, 2001. The Conference attracted approximately 250 participants from all over the globe and featured 144 speakers in seven plenary sessions and 42 invited and contributed papers sessions.

This conference was held as a sequel to the ones previously held at Concordia University in 1971, 1981 and 1991 as the first, second and third Canadian conferences in applied Statistics, all under the chairship of Professor T.D. Dwivedi. The 1971 conference was initiated with local Statistics groups in Montreal and Ottawa, and led to the creation of the Statistical Society of Canada. The next two conferences were held under the joint sponsorship of the two departments: Mathematics & Statistics and DS & MIS. The Conference brought eminent academics and practitioners in the discipline of Statistics from all over the world, a majority mainly from Canada and USA. The tradition of these conferences has become a permanent feature in the minds of the Statistics community on the Canadian scene - to hold such conferences every 10 years in order to assess the existing techniques and new directions in Applied Statistics.

The success of the Conference was summarized by one of the Plenary Speakers, in an email to me: "This is just a note to express my pleasure in attending the highly successful conference you have arranged. You indeed did a splendid job." Here, "you" must be understood in a plural sense. The task of this magnitude required help from many people, and the organizers are thankful to all those who helped. The success of the Conference is a pride for the team on the Organizing Committee, Scientific Committee and Student Volunteers.

The papers included in this volume have gone through serious refereeing process. The editorial contribution provided by the members of the Editorial Board and many referees is highly appreciated. Furthermore, I am very thankful to all the authors for submitting their papers and continued cooperation. I would also like to thank Mr. Anthony Doyle of World Scientific Publishing (UK) Ltd. for enthusiastically supporting this project.

I sincerely hope that this volume will prove to be an important research resource for the scientific community.

Yogendra P. Chaubey

Concordia University  
Montreal, May 2002

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