

THE CAMBRIDGE STATISTICS DISCUSSION GROUP

Monday 3rd March 2025 7:15 for 7:45

The Lightfoot Room
Divinity School
St John's College
St John's Street, Cambridge CB2 1TP

Alan Turing and the Enigma Machine

James Grime
Institute of Continuing Education

Abstract: Alan Turing was one of our great 20th century mathematicians, and a pioneer of computer science. However, he may best be remembered as one of the leading code breakers of Bletchley Park during World War II. It was Turing's brilliant insights and mathematical mind that helped to break Enigma, the apparently unbreakable code used by the German military. We present a history of both Alan Turing and the Enigma, leading up to this fascinating battle of man against machine – including a full demonstration of an original WWII Enigma Machine!

Speaker: Dr James Grime is a mathematician and public speaker. James now runs The Enigma Project and travels the world giving public talks on the history and mathematics of codes and code breaking. James is also a presenter of the YouTube channel numberphile.

Directions: The Divinity School is the old building opposite St John's College on St John's Street. Go down the alley situated on the opposite side of St John's Street to St John's Great Gate. The Lightfoot Room is entered via the first door on your left. The nearest car park is at Park Street. Arrivals after 7-45pm may gain admittance by contacting the secretary on 07761769436.

Provisional Next Meetings:

10th April – Roger Sewell on 'Predicting recurrence of prostate cancer: a Bayesian approach'.

7th October - Florian Markowitz (Cancer Research UK Cambridge Institute) on

'All models are wrong and yours are useless: making clinical prediction models impactful for patients'.

3rd November – Sam Gilbert (Bennett Institute of Public Policy) on 'Benefits of data openness in a digital world'.

Late November – Riikka Hofmann (Faculty of Education) on '100 years of educational trials – no significant difference?'

Supper: Some members eat regularly in Wetherspoons (St Andrew's Street) before each meeting at **5-15pm**. Feel free to join them.

Subscriptions: of 1 pound are now due for attending the 2024-2025 session.

Secretary: Peter Watson, MRC Cognition and Brain Sciences Unit, 15 Chaucer Road, Cambridge CB2 7EF; telephone 01223 769479; E-mail peter.watson@mrc-cbu.cam.ac.uk.

Slides and .mp3 files of old talks: <http://www.mrc-cbu.cam.ac.uk/people/peter.watson/csdg.html>