

# STOR-i Conference: 11-12 January 2018

## Speaker Biographies

### Day 1

#### **Professor Enrique Munoz de Cote, Head of Multi-Agent Systems, [prowler.io](http://prowler.io)**

Enrique is an associate professor of computer science and head of the multiagent systems group at [prowler.io](http://prowler.io). He has published over 50 academic papers in top-tier journals and conferences in AI, including a book in multi agent learning. His studies involve understanding asymmetric interactions between (bounded) rational decision makers by combining notions for machine learning, AI and game theory.

#### **Professor Po-Ling Loh, Department of Electrical and Computer Engineering, University of Wisconsin-Madison**

Po-Ling Loh is an assistant professor in the ECE department at the UW-Madison, with a secondary appointment in the statistics, computer science, and industrial and systems engineering departments. From 2014-2016, Po-Ling was an assistant professor in the statistics department at the Wharton School at the University of Pennsylvania. Po-Ling received an MS in computer science and a PhD in statistics from Berkeley in 2013 and 2014, and a BS in math with a minor in English from Caltech in 2009. She was the recipient of the 2014 Erich L. Lehmann Citation from the Berkeley statistics department for an outstanding PhD dissertation in theoretical statistics, and a best paper award at the NIPS conference in 2012.

#### **Kathryn Turnbull, STOR-i PhD student**

Kathryn is currently a second year PhD student at the STOR-i Centre for Doctoral Training. Her research interests include statistical network analysis and Bayesian inference schemes. She is supervised by Christopher Nemeth, Matthew Nunes and Tyler McCormick and her current work explores the application of sequential Monte Carlo to time varying network data.

#### **Matt Ludkin, STOR-i Alumni, Lancaster University**

Matt Ludkin is a recent STOR-i alumni. His interests are Statistical Modelling of Networks, Bayesian Statistics and Monte Carlo Methods. Matt has recently started a post-doc in the department of Mathematics and Statistics at Lancaster University in non-reversible MCMC.

#### **Dr Kerem Akartunali, Department of Management Science, University of Strathclyde**

Kerem Akartunali is a Senior Lecturer (Associate Professor) in the Department of Management Science at Strathclyde Business School (Glasgow, UK), and also holds a Visiting Professor position at Institute of Mathematics and Computer Science (ICMC-USP) of University of São Paulo (Brazil). After completing his PhD in 2007 at the University of Wisconsin-Madison (USA) on lot-sizing, he worked as a postdoctoral research fellow in the Department of Mathematics and Statistics at the University of Melbourne (Australia) on airline planning and scheduling problems. Kerem's research expertise lies primarily in integer programming and its applications, in particular in lot-sizing, transportation scheduling/planning, radiation treatment planning optimization and nurse rostering. Kerem's research has been funded by various bodies/organizations including EPSRC, Scottish Funding Council, Capita and US Air Force Office of Scientific Research. He is an active member of INFORMS, Mathematical Optimization Society, and The OR Society. He worked with many organizations, including First Milk, NHS, Scottish Power, Scottish Southern Energy and Technip, in a variety of projects ranging from short-term consultancy to long-term research partnerships.

#### **Professor Mike Atkinson, Operations Research Department, Naval Postgraduate School**

Michael P. Atkinson is an Associate Professor in the Operations Research Department at the Naval Postgraduate School (NPS) in Monterey, CA. He arrived at NPS in 2009 after obtaining a PhD in Computational and Mathematical Engineering from Stanford University. Professor Atkinson focuses on applying stochastic models to study defence-related problems. He has worked on projects related to infectious diseases, search and detection, intelligence collection, and logistics.

**Dr Jeremy Bradley, Royal Mail Group, Industry Speaker**

Jeremy has a background in Maths and Computer Science with a first degree in Maths from Cambridge University and an MSc in Computer Science from University of Bristol. He obtained his PhD from the University of Bristol (Stochastic process modelling) in 1999 and went on to post-docs at the University of Durham and Imperial College London. He became a lecturer in 2004 at Imperial College and was part of the Performance Modelling research group under Professor Peter Harrison. By 2015 he had become a Reader in Scalable Performance Analysis at Imperial. In 2015, he decided to move to industry and attempt to deploy scientific principles in a commercial setting. To that end he has been Lead Data Scientist at Tesco Stores PLC and Royal Mail PLC, the latter since 2017. His role currently involves finding and designing new projects where science can be applied to good effect, and also helping the data science team connect with excellent academics to give them good foundational support for their work. He leads academic liaison at Royal Mail and has worked with Dr Rebecca Killick and STOR-i for 2 years.

**Day 2**

**Dr Rob Shone, Research Associate, Lancaster University**

Rob Shone joined Lancaster University as a researcher in stochastic modelling in December 2016. He is a member of CENTRAL (Centre for Transport and Logistics) and is working on the OR-MASTER project, which aims to design innovative mathematical methods for allocating scarce airport resources. Previously, he completed his PhD at Cardiff University in 2014. His research interests include queueing theory, stochastic dynamic programming and reinforcement learning.

**Professor Darren Wilkinson, School of Mathematics & Statistics, Newcastle University**

Darren Wilkinson is Professor of Stochastic Modelling within the School of Mathematics, Statistics and Physics at Newcastle University. He was educated at the University of Durham, where he did a degree in Mathematics followed by a PhD in Bayesian Statistics. After a year as a research associate at Durham, he took up a Lectureship at Newcastle in 1996, was promoted to Senior Lecturer in 2003, and then to Professor in 2007. He began working on problems in statistical bioinformatics and computational systems biology shortly after moving to Newcastle. The first edition of his textbook on Stochastic Modelling for Systems Biology was published in 2006, and a second edition was published in 2011. From 2008-2011 he held a BBSRC Research Development Fellowship to study stochasticity and heterogeneity in model biological systems. He continues to be motivated by challenging inferential problems arising from life science research, and is active in the biological sciences research community, currently serving on BBSRC's Strategy Advisory Panel for Enabling New Ways of Working. In addition to being an investigator on several large Research Council grants, he currently co-directs Newcastle's EPSRC Centre for Doctoral Training in Cloud Computing for Big Data, building on his existing interests in modelling large and complex data sets in molecular biology and genomics.

**Dr Anthony Ledford, MAN Investments, Industry Speaker**

Anthony Ledford is Man AHL ('AHL')'s Chief Scientist and Academic Liaison. Anthony is based in the Man Research Laboratory (Oxford) and has overall responsibility for AHL's strategic research undertaken there. Prior to joining AHL in 2001, he lectured in Statistics at the University of Surrey. Anthony read Mathematics at Cambridge University, holds a PhD from Lancaster University in the development and application of multivariate extreme value methods and is a former winner of the Royal Statistical Society's Research Prize.

**Ciara Pike-Burke, STOR-i PhD Student**

Ciara Pike-Burke is a third year PhD student at STOR-i. Her PhD is in collaboration with Sparx, a research based educational technology company who use technology, data and real world classroom observation to investigate the way young people learn. Ciara's research is focused on developing algorithms for selecting questions to present to students in education software. More generally, her research interests lie in the theory and applications of online learning and sequential decision problems.