

Ian Noel Durbach
30 Chapmans View North
Cecil Rd
Hout Bay 7806
Cape Town, South Africa
Tel: +27216505058
Email: ian.durbach@uct.ac.za

Age: 29
Date of birth: 23 May 1979
Nationality: South African
Languages: English, Afrikaans, French

PROFILE

Currently employed as a lecturer in the Department of Statistical Sciences at the University of Cape Town, with an MBusSc in operational research. My main research interests lie in decision making processes under risk or uncertainty.

RESEARCH

Published papers -

Durbach IN, *On the estimation of a satisficing model of choice using stochastic multicriteria acceptability analysis*, Omega 37 (2009) 497–509

Durbach IN and Stewart TJ, *Using expected values to simplify decision making under uncertainty*, Omega 37 (2009) 312–330

Durbach IN and Barr GDI, *Illustrating dependence between random variables using slot machines*, Teaching Statistics 30(3) (2008) 89–92

Barr GDI and Durbach IN *Consumer preference for risk and return: the slot machine case*. International Gambling Studies 8(3) (2008) 265–280

Durbach IN and Thiart J, *On a common perception of a random sequence in cricket*, South African Statistics Journal 41 (2007) 157–183

Durbach I, *A simulation-based test of stochastic multicriteria acceptability analysis using achievement functions*, European Journal of Operational Research 170 (2006) 923–934

Durbach I and Stewart TJ, *Integrating scenario planning and goal programming*, Journal of Multi-criteria Decision Analysis 12 (2003) 261–271

Published conference proceedings -

Durbach IN and Hofmeyr JH, *Interactions between market barriers and communication networks in marketing systems*, Proceedings of the sixth international joint conference on autonomous agents and multiagent systems, ACM Press, New York (2007) 375–382

Durbach IN and Hofmeyr JH, *An agent-based model of the effect of referrals on systems of satisficing decision makers*, Proceedings of 11th Annual International Conference on Industrial Engineering Theory, Applications & Practice, Nagoya, Japan, (2006) 1326-1331

Accepted papers and conference proceedings -

Durbach IN, *The use of the SMAA acceptability index in descriptive decision analysis*. To appear in: European Journal of Operational Research doi:10.1016/j.ejor.2008.05.021

Durbach IN, Naidoo D and Mouton J, *Co-authorship networks in South African chemistry and mathematics*. To appear in South African Journal of Science

My research investigates prescriptive and descriptive processes underlying risky or uncertain choice i.e. helping or describing decision makers choosing between options whose outcomes are uncertain. Within this broad theme, I try to (a) develop and test simplified or heuristic approaches to the problem that are adaptive by nature, (b) locate choices in a social environment and investigate the interactions between individual behaviour and connectivity to others, using theories of networks. I am currently working on a doctoral thesis entitled ‘adaptive strategies for risky multiattribute decision-making’.

EDUCATION

Postgraduate: Master of Business Science in Operational Research (awarded with distinction), University of Cape Town, June 2003. Dissertation title: *‘The treatment of uncertainty in multicriteria decision making’*.

Undergraduate: Bachelor of Business Science in the field of Quantitative Management (awarded with 1st class honours, and distinctions in statistics and applied mathematics), University of Cape Town, December 2000.

Academic Awards

- Washkansky Memorial scholarship for postgraduate study (2001)
- Old Mutual/South African Statistics Association prize for the best thesis by a 4th-year statistics student at a South African university (thesis title: *‘Prediction of mineral wealth in Africa using kriging’*) (2000)

WORK EXPERIENCE

Lecturer (University of Cape Town, Feb 2005 – present)

Employed as a full-time contract lecturer in Feb 2005 in the Department of Statistical Sciences. This position was made permanent from Jan 2006. I convene and lecture two third-year level statistics courses (STA3022F, STA3030F) and lecture a decision modelling course in the honours program.

Senior research and development analyst (Customer Equity Company, Nov 2003 – Feb 2005)

Development of research topics in the field of market research, and leading a small team in the investigation of these areas, in addition to statistical analysis mostly in the field of applied multivariate statistics.

TECHNICAL SKILLS

Programming ability: MATLAB, Visual Basic for Applications (VBA), R

Other relevant skills: Extensive knowledge of Microsoft Excel
Knowledge of various general-purpose statistical packages (Statistica, Stata, SPSS, R)

REFERENCES

Professor Theodor Stewart Dept. of Statistical Sciences, University of Cape Town
+27216503224 theodor.stewart@uct.ac.za

Dr Jan Hofmeyr CEO, Customer Equity Company
+27217901811 jn.hofmeyr@iafrica.com

Professor Graham Barr Dept. of Statistical Sciences, University of Cape Town
+27216503217 gdi@iafrica.com