



Clinic on Dynamical Approaches to Infectious Disease Data

December 4-10, 2016

Jacksonville and Yulee, FL

Program Information

Overview

This intensive, 1-week clinic will provide an introduction to dynamical models used in the study of infectious disease dynamics. Instruction will focus on how the complex dynamics of pathogen transmission influence study design and data collection for addressing problems in infectious disease research. The Clinic will consist of a series of interactive lectures and tutorials that will guide participants through the uses of dynamical modeling in epidemiology. Various modeling paradigms will be discussed, with a particular focus on the development of compartmental models, and participants will be given guidance regarding the appropriate use of models to address their own research questions. ***Working closely with their peers and with Clinic faculty, each participant will develop a research plan that describes a roadmap for integration of dynamic modeling with data collection and/or analysis in a study system of their choosing.*** The research plan can be used as a framework for grant or dissertation proposals when participants return to their home institutions.

Note that we place heavy emphasis on evaluation of the program and feedback from participants. The schedule will include two group feedback sessions run by our program evaluator, Dr. Gavin Hitchcock. Dr. Hitchcock will attend the entire program and compile feedback from these sessions and individual interviews to help us improve the Clinic for future years.

Clinic goals

Our goals are for participants to leave with:

- An understanding of dynamic principles and their role in the epidemiology of infectious diseases
- A familiarity with diverse modeling frameworks
- Experience creating a model world to address a research question
- Guided experience with construction of simple models
- A conceptual framework for fitting models to data
- A set of identified resources for continued learning

The Clinic on Dynamical Approaches to Infectious Disease Data (DAIDD) is part of the International Clinics on Infectious Disease Dynamics and Data (ICI3D) Program and is supported by the US National Science Foundation (NSF) and the South African Center for Epidemiological Modelling and Analysis (SACEMA).



Ground rules

- Dress is informal.
- All DAIDD participants are expected to engage fully in the clinic program. This includes attending all DAIDD sessions.
- Please be aware that participants come from a wide variety of backgrounds and cultures. This diversity adds greatly to the DAIDD experience, and all participants should strive to create a welcoming, respectful learning environment.
- Laptop use will not be allowed in the lecture hall during lectures or discussions.

Preparation

Before the Clinic, you should:

- Create a DropBox account (register for an account at <https://www.dropbox.com/>), if you don't already have one
- Fill out the attached emergency contact form
- Email the following to admin@ici3d.org by **9am Eastern on November 30**
 - your DropBox username
 - emergency contact form
 - a recent photograph (headshot) to be used to create a directory of participants
 - 3-5 keywords that describe your research interests (e.g. pathogen or host species, location, research topics, methods, etc...) to be included in the participant directory
- Complete all items described here <http://www.ici3d.org/DAIDD2016/preparation/> **before you arrive to the Clinic:**
 - Prepare a short oral presentation summarizing your research (2 minutes **max**, 1 slide in PDF format)
 - Put your slide and a more detailed description of your research on the DAIDD 2016 participant DropBox folder (instructions to follow)
 - Read pre-assigned reading and complete accompanying quiz
 - Install the required software on the laptop computer you will bring to the Clinic,
 - Work through the R Studio tutorial to familiarize yourself with this software, and
 - If you are unfamiliar with or rusty on your understanding of the Binomial Distribution, work through the introductory tutorial provided

Materials you will need to prepare for the Clinic will be made available through a DropBox repository accessible to all ICI3D program participants and faculty. You will receive access to the repository after you send us your DropBox username.



Schedule

The Clinic will begin the afternoon of Sunday, December 4. There will be a mid-session evaluation on Wednesday evening. The Clinic will officially end by 2pm on Saturday, December 10.

A full schedule for DAIDD 2016 will be available by December 1. In the meantime, the schedule for last year's clinic is available through the DAIDD website:

<http://www.ici3d.org/daidd/schedule/>



Logistics

Accommodations have been arranged for all participants. On Sunday and Friday nights, you will be staying at:

The DoubleTree Jacksonville Airport
2101 Dixie Clipper Drive, Jacksonville, Florida, 32218, USA
Website: <http://doubletree3.hilton.com/en/hotels/florida/doubletree-by-hilton-hotel-jacksonville-airport-JAXARDT/index.html>
Phone: +1-904-741-1997

The DoubleTree has an **airport shuttle** that can provide round-trip service to and from JAX. Shuttles will be arranged in advance, and participants arriving at a similar time will share a shuttle (so you may have a small amount of time to kill at the airport). The shuttle pick-up times will be posted in the DAIDD 2016 repository. If your flight is delayed so that you will not make your shuttle time, please call the hotel to inform them and arrange a new shuttle time.

On Monday morning, we will travel together to the primary venue for this year's clinic, where we will stay until 4pm on Friday:

White Oak Conservation's Conference Center
581705 White Oak Road, Yulee, Florida, 32097, USA
Website: <http://www.whiteoakwildlife.org/wop/conferences/>
Phone: +1-904-225-3200

For most non-local participants, **expenses** associated with travel to and from Jacksonville, plus room and board during the Clinic, will be covered by the ICI3D Program. Some expenses may be reimbursed following the workshop. Questions about logistics and reimbursement should be sent to Sara Ervin (ICI3D Program Assistant) at admin@ici3d.org.

The **climate** in north Florida is mild, but some participants may find the evenings cool. Average temperatures for mid-December range from the low-to-mid 40's (overnight low; ~ 7 °C) to the upper 60's (daytime high; ~19 °C).

White Oak Conservation has plenty of activities available free of charge in your free time (kayaking, fishing, bowling, running/biking trails, pool, hot tub). Please bring appropriate clothing if you desire to participate in any of these. We will also be given a wildlife tour on their premises.