



TEXAS A&M UNIVERSITY

Statistics

The Statistics Former Student  
Network (SFSN) presents

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Exponent



## Mathemagic! A defense of statistics in the age of data science

### Abstract

Mathematical modeling of real-world phenomena is both ubiquitous in modern times and a tradition with millennia of history. This talk provides a (very) brief overview of mathematical history, beginning with the philosophy of Pythagoras through the mathematical crises of the 19th century that ultimately led to the modern division between “pure” and “applied” mathematics. Through this historical lens, we consider why mathematical modeling of uncertainty is challenging and the unique role of statisticians in addressing these challenges.

### Biography

Kristin Lennox is a consultant at Exponent with more than ten years of experience applying statistics, machine learning, and operations research techniques to scientific and engineering problems. Dr. Lennox received her Ph.D. in statistics from Texas A&M University in 2010. She then joined Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory, where she cofounded and served as the first director of their internal statistical consulting service. After leaving the laboratory she spent several years in the software industry with a focus on AI in industrial settings, and she currently serves as a consultant regarding statistics and AI implementation for applications in many areas, including environmental science, automotive and consumer product risk, and software. Dr. Lennox is passionate about statistics and AI education and has created a series of videos for technical and lay audiences on these topics.

**Tuesday, November 05, 2024 | 11:00 AM - 12:00 PM CST**

**Online webinar only. No meeting room.**

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