Curriculum Vitae

Emeritus Professor Anthony O'Hagan

Personal

Born 8th March, 1948. Married 1967. Four children

Education

1966–1969 University College, London, studying for BSc.

1967, 1968 Egon Pearson and Karl Pearson Prizes for statistics

1969 BSc Statistics with First Class Honours

1969 Science Faculty Medal

1971–1973 University College, London, researching for PhD, title "Bayes Estimation of Structural Parameters in the Simultaneous Equations Model"

1974 PhD Statistics

Employment

1969–1971 Central Electricity Generating Board, London. Research Officer.

1973–1975 University of Dundee. Lecturer in Statistics, Department of Mathematics.

1975–1987 University of Warwick. Lecturer in Statistics, Department of Statistics.

1987–1990 University of Warwick. Senior Lecturer, Department of Statistics.

1990–1998 University of Nottingham. Professor of Statistics, Department of Mathematics.

1999–2008 University of Sheffield. Professor of Statistics, Department of Probability and Statistics.

I retired in February, 2008, although I had a part-time position at Sheffield until September, 2012.

1. Publications

Books

O'HAGAN, A. (1988). Probability: Methods and Measurement. Chapman and Hall, London. 290pp. ISBN 0-412-29530-X (hardback), 0-412-29540-7 (paperback).

O'HAGAN, A. (1994). Kendall's Advanced Theory of Statistics Volume 2B, Bayesian Inference. Edward Arnold, London. 330pp. ISBN 0-340-52922-9.

BARNETT, V. and O'HAGAN, A. (1997). Setting Environmental Standards: The Statistical Approach to Handling Uncertainty and Variation. Chapman and Hall, London. 111pp. ISBN 0412-82620-8.

O'HAGAN, A. and LUCE, B. R. (2003). A Primer on Bayesian Statistics in Health Economics and Outcomes Research. MEDTAP International Inc.; Bethesda, Maryland. 73pp. ISBN 0-9743641-0-X.

O'HAGAN, A. AND FORSTER, J. J. (2004). Kendall's Advanced Theory of Statistics Volume 2B, Bayesian Inference. Second edition. Edward Arnold, London. 480pp. ISBN 0-340-80752-0.

O'HAGAN, A., BUCK, C. E., DANESHKHAH, A., EISER, J. R., GARTHWAITE, P. H., JENKINSON, D. J., OAKLEY, J. E. and RAKOW, T. (2006). Uncertain Judgements: Eliciting Expert Probabilities. John Wiley and Sons, Chichester. 328pp. ISBN 0-470-02999-4.

O'HAGAN, A. and WEST, M. (eds.) (2010). The Oxford Handbook of Applied Bayesian Analysis. Oxford University Press, Oxford. 889pp. ISBN 978-0-19-954890-3 (hardback), 978-0-19-870317-4 (paperback, 2013).

Research Papers

[1] O'HAGAN, A. (1973). Bayes estimation of a convex quadratic. Biometrika 60, 565–571.

[2] O'HAGAN, A. and LEONARD, T. (1976). Bayes estimation subject to uncertainty about parameter constraints. *Biometrika* 63, 201–203.

[3] O'HAGAN, A. (1976). On posterior joint and marginal modes. Biometrika 63, 329–333.

[4] O'HAGAN, A. (1977). A general structure for inference about variances and covariances. In *Recent Developments in Statistics* (J. R. Barra et al. editors), 545–549. North-Holland.

[5] HAITOVSKY, Y. and O'HAGAN, A. (1977). A Bayesian simultaneous equation theory applied to an underidentified econometric model. In *Modelling for Government and Business* (C. A. Van Bochove et al. editors), 33–52. Martinus Nijhoff, Leiden.

[6] O'HAGAN, A. (1978). Curve fitting and optimal design for prediction (with discussion). Journal of the Royal Statistical Society B 40, 1–42.

[7] O'HAGAN, A. (1979). On outlier rejection phenomena in Bayes inference. Journal of the Royal Statistical Society B 41, 358–367.

[8] O'HAGAN, A. (1981). A moment of indecision. Biometrika 68, 329–330.

[9] BURRIDGE, J. and O'HAGAN, A. (1983). Job times and office performance. The Statistician 32, 264–272.

[10] O'HAGAN, A. (1984). Motivating principal components, and a stronger optimality result. The Statistician 33, 313–315.

[11] O'HAGAN, A. (1985). Shoulders in hierarchical models. In Bayesian Statistics 2 (J. M. Bernardo et al. editors), 697–710. Elsevier (North-Holland).

[12] WOLVERSON, R. L., BLACKLOCK, A. R. E., GEDDES, J. R. and O'HAGAN, A. (1986). Factors influencing post-operative hospital stay after transurethral resection of the prostate gland. *British Journal of Urology* 58, 161–163.

[13] O'HAGAN, A. (1987). Bayes linear estimators for randomized response models. *Journal* of the American Statistical Association 82, 580–585.

[14] O'HAGAN, A. (1987). Exploring a high-dimensional posterior density. *Computational Statistics Quarterly* 3, 85–96.

[15] O'HAGAN, A. (1987). Monte Carlo is fundamentally unsound. The Statistician 36, 247–249.

[16] O'HAGAN, A. and BERGER, J. O. (1988). Ranges of posterior probabilities for quasiunimodal priors with specified quantiles. *Journal of the American Statistical Association* 83, 503–508.

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[20] O'HAGAN, A. (1990). Variance of an arithmetic expression – an example of symbolic computation and recursion. Vector 6, no. 3, 80–87.

[21] WOODWARD, E. G., MOODALEY, L. C. and O'HAGAN, A. (1990). Predictors for likelihood of corneal transplantation in keratoconus. *Eye* 4, 493–496.

[22] O'HAGAN, A., WOODWARD, E. G. and MOODALEY, L. C. (1990). Practical Bayesian analysis of a simple logistic regression: predicting corneal transplants. *Statistics in Medicine* 9, 1091–1101.

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Note:

- Papers [6], [31] and [50] were Royal Statistical Society Research Section "read papers". Such papers are deemed to be of high quality and interest. These papers have gathered a total of more than 7300 citations (Google Scholar, accessed April, 2025).
- Overall, Google Scholar (accessed April 2025) records more than 30,000 citations of my work (including items not listed above, such as contributions to discussions and unpublished works). It gives my h-index as 66 (meaning that 66 of my publications have been cited at least 66 times) and my i10-index as 141 (meaning that 141 of my works have been cited at least 10 times),
- Paper [65] was named as the best paper of 2003 by the journal, *Pharmaceutical Statistics*.
- Paper [76] was selected as the highlight of ten years of the journal, *Pharmaceutical Statistics*, for their 10th anniversary celebration
- Paper [114] was selected for special promotion as a 'Highlight of 2014' article by *Metrologia*.
- Paper [115] was selected by the editors of *Inverse Problems* as one of their 'Highlights of 2014' collection.
- Paper [120] was named as a highly cited paper of 2020 by *Biometrics*.

Reports

EUROPEAN FOOD SAFETY AUTHORITY (2014). Guidance on Expert Knowledge Elicitation in Food and Feed Safety Risk Assessment. *EFSA Journal* 2014;**12**(6):3734, 278 pp. doi:10.2903/j.efsa.2014.3734

Other publications

Many published discussions, several reviews, some pedagogical publications.

2. Other Academic Activities

Research Grants and Contracts over £1000

- 1. From the Science and Engineering Research Council, a grant of £18,000 for a fourmonth international research symposium on Applied Bayesian Statistics at Warwick from May to September 1986. Further support, totalling over £10,000 was donated by British industry.
- 2. From the University Grants Committee, a grant of £28,000 under the Computers In Teaching Initiative. The project, entitled 'APL in Statistics', was to investigate over a period of three years the use of the APL language in teaching Statistics.
- 3. From the National Audit Office, two contracts of value £20,000 (1994–95) and £16,000 (1997) for research into Bayesian sampling methods and inference in auditing. The specific problems addressed in this research concerned inference when the incidence of errors in the sampled accounts is very low, combined with sampling from populations with complex structures. Papers [48] and [57] arose from this work.
- 4. From the Engineering and Physical Sciences Research Council, jointly with F. G. Ball, a grant of £71,700 for a two-year research programme (1995–97) into the application of Gibbs sampling to obtain inference from ion channel data. Paper [42] arose from this work.
- 5. From the Engineering and Physical Sciences Research Council, a grant of £105,685 for a three-year research programme (1995–98) into Bayesian uncertainty analysis and computer model inadequacy, with support from the National Radiological Protection Board. Papers [41], [44] and [50] arose from this work.
- 6. From the Engineering and Physical Sciences Research Council, a grant of £2,750 for two visits by Professor J. B. Kadane to Nottingham in 1996, to carry out joint research in finitely-additive probability modelling.
- From a consortium of water companies, a contract of value £25,500 for a research student to work with me (1996–99) on Bayesian methods for systems of expert assessments. Paper [70] arose from this work.
- 8. From the National Radiological Protection Board (£26,000), the Environment Agency (£15,000) and WRc plc (£500), funding to continue the research begun under grant number 5 above (1998–2000). Paper [54] arose from this work.

- 9. From the Natural Environment Research Council, a grant entitled "Risk based approaches to the derivation and expression of environmental quality standards" (1999–2002). I was co-investigator with Dr Mark Crane (Royal Holloway); my component was £21,726. Paper [80] arose from this work.
- 10. From the Engineering and Physical Sciences Research Council, a grant of £13,600 for a research workshop on "Statistical analysis of computer code outputs" (April 2000).
- 11. From the Engineering and Physical Sciences Research Council, a Realising Our Potential Award entitled "Bayesian elicitation of expert opinion" (2000-2002), value £86,940. Papers [70] and [91] arose from this grant.
- 12. From the Engineering and Physical Sciences Research Council, under its initiative "Water Infrastructure and Treatment Engineering", a grant of £170,080, entitled "Relationship between condition and serviceability of water distribution systems" (2001– 2004). This project also had support from seven water companies, including substantial financial contributions. Paper [90] arose from this grant.
- 13. From the Natural Environment Research Council, a grant for a Centre of Excellence in earth observation science, entitled "Centre for Terrestrial Carbon Dynamics" (2002–2007). This is a collaboration with other departments in Sheffield (led by the Sheffield Centre for Earth Observation Science) and other institutions. The total budget was £2,251,331, of which about £200,000 is associated with statistics research led by myself and Professor Clive Anderson. Papers [81], [82], [95] and [113] arose from this work.
- 14. From the Tyndall Centre, a grant entitled "Uncertainties in the Integrated Assessment Process" (2002–2005). This is led by Peter Challoner at the Southampton Oceanography Centre. The total grant of £205,586 includes £1,200 for me to attend meetings as an adviser.
- 15. From the Natural Environment Research Council, under its Rapid Climate Change initiative, a grant entitled "The probability of rapid climate change" (2003–2006). This is also led by Peter Challoner at the Southampton Oceanography Centre. The total grant of over £200,000 included £1,060 for me to attend meetings as an adviser.
- 16. From the National Health Service's Research Methodology Programme, a grant entitled "Elicitation of individuals' knowledge in probabilistic form" (2003–2006), value £150,000. The 2006 book on expert elicitation arose from this work.
- 17. From the National Health Service's Research Methodology Programme, a grant entitled "Assessing and comparing mean costs of health care in health economic evaluations based on clinical trials" (2005–2007). The project was led by Simon Thompson at the MRC Biostatistics Unit in Cambridge, and about £10,000 of the total grant of £99,851 was for my part of the project. Paper [106] arose from this work.
- From Research Councils UK, a grant entitled "Managing Uncertainty in Complex Models" (2006–2010). I was the leader of this project, which included also four other universities. The total budget was £2,167,671. Many publications arose from this project, including [98], [99] and [102] above.
- 19. From the Engineering and Physical Sciences Research Council, in their programme to increase interaction between mathematics, engineering and information sciences, a grant entitled "Bridging the Gaps" (2007–2009). I was a co-investigator representing mathematics. The total value was £350,842.

20. From Research Councils UK, a grant entitled "MUCM2" (2010–2012), providing an additional £956,550 to research new directions following grant number 18 above.

Centre for Bayesian Statistics in Health Economics

Until my retirement, I was Director of the Centre for Bayesian Statistics in Health Economics (CHEBS). This is a joint venture at Sheffield University between the Department of Probability and Statistics and the School of Health and Related Research, founded as a direct result of my research into applications of Bayesian methods in the area of health economics. CHEBS received funding of over £200,000 from the pharmaceutical industry, and grants numbers 16 and 17 above were formally associated with CHEBS.

Research students

Since retirement I no longer supervise research students. Previous PhD students wholly (or in some cases jointly) supervised by me: Houshang Mashhoudy, Richard Haylock, Marc Kennedy, Caterina Conigliani (winner of Italian thesis prize), Jeremy Oakley (winner of the international Savage thesis prize), John Kornak, Michail Papathomas, Alexandra Schmidt, Delil Gómez Portugal Aguilar, Silvia Bozza, Andrea Tancredi, Ailton Andrade (finalist for the Savage thesis prize), John Paul Gosling, Kevin McNally, Fernando Moala, Leo Bastos, Rita Zapata Vazquez, John Stevens, Peter Gregory.

Conferences and seminars

Invited papers for numerous international conferences, including the 3rd, 4th and 6th Valencia international meetings on Bayesian statistics (1987, 1991, 1998). Seminars given at numerous universities. I have been the senior organiser for two conferences on Practical Bayesian Statistics, the second being the Royal Statistical Society's 1997 conference.

Societies

Royal Statistical Society. Fellow since 1970

1977, 1994, 1997 and 2000 Read papers (numbers [6], [31], [39] and [49] above) to Ordinary Meetings.

1980–1983 and 1997–2000 Committee of Research Section.

2000–2003 Council.

2004–2013 Editorial Board of *Significance* magazine.

International Society for Bayesian Analysis. Elected Fellow 2016

Programme Council, 2000–2002 (Chair, 2001).

Board of Directors, 2000–2003.

National and international service

Science and Engineering Research Council. Member of Statistics Panel, 1992–1994.

Engineering and Physical Sciences Research Council. Member of Mathematics College, 1995–2000. Chair of Mathematics Programme Evaluation Panel, 1998. Member of Peer Review College, 2000–2008.

Medical Research Council. Member of College of Experts, 2005–2008.

National Health Service Research Methodology panel, 2002–2007.

European Science Foundation Scientific Network and Scientific Programme on Highly Structured Stochastic Systems. Joint proposer and committee member, 1993–1996 (Network) and 1997–2001 (Programme).

British Association for the Advancement of Science. President of Mathematics Section, 2001–2002.

3. Teaching

In addition to undergraduate teaching while employed at various universities, I have also been active in giving specialist short courses.

In the summer of 2000 I gave a two-week intensive course on Bayesian statistics to MSc and PhD level students in Helsinki. This was at the invitation of StatNet, an organisation in Finland whose role is to provide special courses at a national level, so students came from all over Finland.

In the summer of 2003 I gave a short course on Bayesian Statistics to British PhD students, as part of a joint initiative of the Royal Statistical Society, the Engineering and Physical Sciences Research Council and the Economic and Social Research Council, aimed at strengthening the mathematical foundations of tomorrow's statistical researchers through a series of courses on the theoretical underpinnings of statistics. This course was repeated in 2005 and 2007.

In 2008, Sheffield University colleague Jeremy Oakley and I developed the SHELF (Sheffield Elicitation Framework) package for elicitation of expert knowledge. SHELF comprises guidance, templates and some software and is intended to help people with limited experience as facilitators to conduct expert elicitation effectively. I have given short courses on elicitation, drawing on SHELF, to a variety of organisations. Version 4, a major upgrade, was released in June, 2019. SHELF is in routine use in two major international pharmaceutical companies.

Since my retirement, I have continued to give short courses as requested by various organisations. Topics include elicitation, Bayesian statistics and uncertainty quantification. I am also the developer of the First Bayes software package to assist in the teaching and learning of elementary Bayesian statistics. It runs on PCs, as a fully Windows based application, and is available free from my website. Over the years it has been downloaded thousands of times and used in numerous university courses worldwide.

4. Consulting

I have been involved as a consultant in a variety of practical applications of Bayesian statistics. The first of these was for water companies, where I assisted in estimating capital investment needs for asset management from 1987, before the privatisation of the English and Welsh water authorities, to about 2000. I have acted as consultant to companies representing half the British water industry. In 1994, the methodology that I developed was implemented in software funded by a consortium of water companies, and a new version was launched in 1998. The approach has also been applied to Railtrack (the UK railways infrastructure company), the Hong Kong Water Supplies Department, Metrail (an Australian railway) and the London Underground. I was a consultant in all these applications. Papers [25], [26], [29], [30], [33], [36], part of [39] and [48] arise from this work, which has had a strong research element. Research grant number 12 resulted from this extensive involvement with the water industry. The work with London Underground won the 2010 IET Innovation Award by the Institution of Engineering and Technology, in the Asset Management category.

In 1994 I conducted a project to elicit expert judgements on the hydrogeology of some rocks in the neighbourhood of Sellafield, as part of the assessment by Her Majesty's Inspectorate of Pollution of proposals for deep disposal of nuclear waste. This work formed the other part of the paper [39] which was read to an ordinary meeting of the Royal Statistical Society. My ongoing research in expert knowledge elicitation has been recognised by the SHELF package that I co-developed with Jeremy Oakley being adopted by organisations in a variety of sectors. In particular, GSK (formerly GlaxoSmithKline) routinely use the methods we developed as a core part of their decision-making on drug development.

Professor Vic Barnett (University of Nottingham) and I prepared a report in 1997, at the request of the Royal Commission on Environmental Pollution, on the use of statistics in the setting of environmental pollution standards. The Commission organised a two-day international seminar to discuss the issues raised in our report. The report was discussed also at a meeting of the Royal Statistical Society's Study Group on Environmental Statistics, and has been published by Chapman and Hall. Research grant number 9 is a direct result of this work.

One of my most active areas of consultancy has been health economics, where I have worked both with the pharmaceutical industry and with the UK regulatory body NICE (the National Institute for Health and Clincal Excellence). I have worked extensively with AstraZeneca Pharmaceuticals to apply Bayesian methods in health economics, and papers [47], [51], [52], [53], [55], [59], [60], [61], [65] and [69] arise from this work. Paper [63] arises from consultancy with another pharmaceutical company, Johnson and Johnson, and paper [64] from my contribution to a contract for NICE which led subsequently to paper [97]. Paper [65] was named as the best paper of 2003 by the journal, *Pharmaceutical Statistics*.

Since my retirement I continue to be active in a wide range of application areas with various clients.

5. University Administration

At Warwick University, I was chairman of the Statistics Department for four years, and served for several years on the Science Faculty Board and the Computing Policy Committee.

At Nottingham University I was head of the Statistics Section, and was also head of the Mathematics Department in 1993–96. I served on Senate, the Board of Science and the Cripps Computing Centre Committee.

At Sheffield University, I was head of the Department of Probability and Statistics (2000-01), and Director of the Centre for Bayesian Statistics in Health Economics (2001–2008).