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Ninth Annual Report of the Centre for Computational Geostatistics

SEPTEMBER 2007

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Introduction

Welcome to the ninth CCG report! It has been a great year and we are sure you will find something of interest. Significant theory, algorithms, code and applications have been created and demonstrated. Our cumulative summary statistics:

Report		Members	Papers	Length (pages)
1	1999	6	15	257
2	2000	7	21	415
3	2001	10	23	356
4	2002	8	28	481
5	2003	13	42	727
6	2004	17	41	548
7	2005	20	40	560
8	2006	29	55	800
9	2007	33	59	596
Total:			324	4740

The list of members and current active students/staff can be found on pages vii to x. Our target for this report was no more than 600 pages. We mercilessly cut the length of most papers. In many cases, there is a full thesis supporting the results. Those theses, electronic copies of all papers, the latest software catalogue, presentations and other resources are available on the CCG server. Talk to your CCG contact or ask one of us for your company login information.

These metrics are updated every CCG report. They have been listed, presented as a GSLIBformat data file, and plotted with the oil and copper price. We all know that such measures do not tell the whole story. There are other measures including degrees granted (10 last year), students admitted (6 this fall), research revenue (better check with Amanda), leveraging with governmental sources (over 6 major scholarships leveraged with CCG membership fees), citations (according to Google Scholar TM we have more citations than virtually all other research groups), and so on. In the end, all of these metrics are trumped by notions of *quality, reputation* and *impact* of research. These more consequential soft notions are not directly measureable.

Convincing others of success in these soft areas seems to be done with anecdotes. Stories are told of the success of one student, a practitioner affected by an inspiring short course, a new algorithm integrated in commercial software that impacts an important decision, or a theoretical breakthrough that permits improved prediction. We have our success stories and anecdotes. Many students have graduated from CCG and have moved on to academia and industry; many making important contributions. Virtually all geomodeling software has implemented a CCG algorithm; these algorithms have, undoubtedly, contributed to important development decisions. The theoretical contributions of CCG are many and varied; some have improved estimates and uncertainty. We may collect some of these success stories for our next Newsletter.

The preparation of our annual report marks our research year end. It is a time to reflect on the health of the research group; hence our interest in metrics of success. CCG is in the prime of its life – old enough to be over growing pains and adolescent mistakes; young enough to have energy and enthusiasm for the future. Working with a steady supply of young and eager students helps keep us in shape (although we could work out more).

The students of CCG have delivered a great annual report. A number of students have finished degrees. **Jason** completed his Ph.D. on the decision of stationarity including the nature of

geological boundaries and trend modeling. Weishan also completed his Ph.D. on the topic of large-scale modeling and scale-consistent high resolution modeling. John completed his M.Sc. on various aspects of optimization for underground mine planning. Jeff's M.Sc. related to the generation of training images for a variety of geological settings. Deepak completed his M.Sc. on a comparative study of resource estimation techniques. Zhou completed his M.Sc. on multiscale facies modeling. Xingquan (Kevin) documented a number of enhancements to process-mimicking geological modeling in his M.Sc. Hadi completed an M.Sc. on the optimal choice of tolerance parameters for variogram calculation. Finally, Mehran completed an M.Sc. related to the calculation of tensors for permeability and directions of continuity.

Regarding current students, **Olena** has made interesting developments in cokriging, estimation in a finite domain and other areas. **Hadi** and **Mehran** just finished their Master degrees and have launched into Doctorate degree programs this month. **Jeff** has devised interesting techniques for modeling with anisotropy. **Sahyun** has made many contributions toward data integration. **Steve** has made many contributions related to generating simulated realizations with multiple point statistics. **David** has made a number of practical contributions related to variogram inference and non-stationary variograms,. **John** has contributed his mathematical and programming skills to many research areas. **Brandon** spent the summer with us again and made valuable contributions.

Regarding the permanent staff, **Amanda** continues to provide vital administrative support. **Chad** remains at CCG as a Research Engineer providing important assistance. A number of alumni remain actively involved including **Julián** and **Michael**.

We are at an all-time high in terms of member companies – thirty three! We would like to welcome Golder, Husky, NovaGold and Inco to CCG. A list of all members is shown on the following two pages. The research at CCG is driven by our members. We strive to keep each member organization engaged in CCG activities. The level of interaction, however, is quite variable over time and between member companies. We strongly encourage member companies to seek out opportunities to be involved in our research. Site visits to Edmonton and dissemination of CCG deliverables throughout your company are important.

This coming year of research will be our tenth. We are thinking of widespread changes. We will be speaking with our member companies and the University administration.

Hogh Ogewangthay.

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•	Clayton V. Deutsch	Professor and Director of CCG	
•	Oy Leuangthong	Professor and Director of CCG	
•	Chad Neufeld	Research Engineer	
٠	Julian Ortiz C.	Adjunct Professor	
•	Amanda Potts	Research Administrative Assistant	
1.	Olena Babak	Ph.D. student	
2.	Jeff Boisvert	Ph.D. student	
3.	Miguel Cuba	new M.Sc. student	
4.	Hadi Derakhshan	Ph.D. student	
5.	Mehran M. Hassanpour	Ph.D. student	
6.	Sahyun Hong	Ph.D. student	
7.	Mike Job	new M.Sc. student	
8.	Behrang Kushavand	new M. Sc. student	
9.	Yupeng Li	new Ph.D. student	
10.	Steve Lyster	Ph.D. student	
11.	David Machuca	Ph.D. student	
12.	John Manchuk	Ph.D. student	
13.	Mike Munroe	M.Sc. Student	
14.	Eric Niven	new Ph.D. Student	
15.	Tong Wang new M.Sc. Student		
16.	Brandon Wilde	Research Intern	

Many others have contributed to this report: (1) contacts from member companies, (2) CCG alumni, and (3) affiliated students from different research groups.