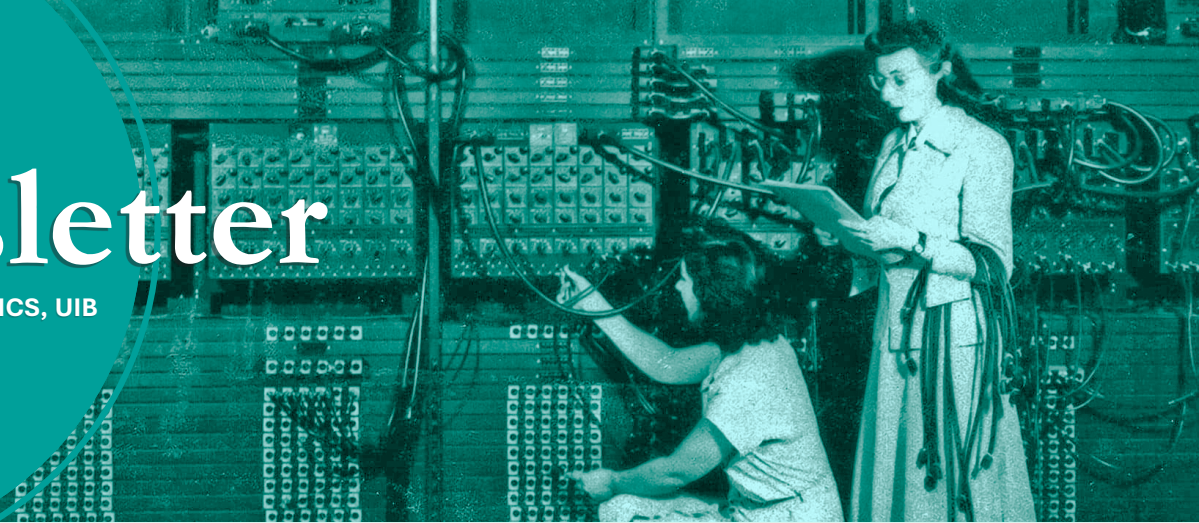


Newsletter

DEPARTMENT OF INFORMATICS, UIB

No.15/2023, 29.09.2023



Editor-in-chief: Inge Jonassen. Editor: Randi Heggernes Eilertsen.
Contributions or comments to the newsletter are very welcome.
Old newsletters can be found [here](#).

Dear Colleagues,

Some of you may think that I am going on too much about external funding, but there are several good reasons for this. The most important of which is that it allows the individual researcher to pursue his or her ideas by having one or several PhD research fellows or post-docs working on his / her projects. This contributes to the research production of our department and strengthens the basis for us to deliver research-based education and innovation at a high level. Another important reason is that external funding (obtained through competitive calls) is a sign of high quality and relevance. When we present ourselves, our research group, or the department, the volume of external funding, and the type of funding we have won, will often be used to judge the quality and relevance of our research activities. Projects with additional research staff also naturally increases the number of published research articles, another parameter used to assess our research activities.

These days, we are finalizing the Strategy for our department and embarking on the EVALMIT assessment, both of which focus quite a bit on research and external funding. This will also be a prominent part of our agenda going forward, and I would like to encourage all research groups and each individual researcher to use some time and energy to make plans for seeking external funding to strengthen our research activities.

If you find it challenging to identify or understand the calls, our research support section, headed by Stefanie Meyers, is eager to

help. If you want to discuss strategic questions or priorities, please come and see me. We will do our best to support good initiatives and help you succeed. We will work with each researcher to provide support in the way that is most productive for him / her when preparing applications. As you know the FRIPRO program supporting basic excellent research no longer has deadlines and from October will do “ongoing applications reception”. We should still submit a good number of applications each year. And have a good portion of them funded.

It should also be noted that external funding is of importance for the economy of the department. Currently, the economic situation of the department is good, but we depend on continued success in attracting external funding to maintain a healthy economy. This allows us to, for example, invite to annual Christmas dinners (please reserve December 15th in your calendar – more details will follow!)

I would like to thank all those who responded to the survey linked with the GenderAct project. We did obtain a response rate above 60% - and lucky winners got their gift cards for Sumo. And most importantly, we got a good basis for further work towards gender balance and equality in our department.

I wish you all a nice weekend!

Inge





The Dean's Blog - Gunn Mangerud

[The Dean's blog](#) aims to inform us of ongoing work and processes at The Faculty of Mathematics and Natural Sciences. Her latest posts:

- [Ikke krise, men alvorlig for realfagsrekrutteringen](#)
- [Vivat Academia](#)

Current Issues

Data Science Competition

03.11.2023 - 17.00–05.11.2023 - 23.59

We are happy to announce the upcoming Data Science Competition 2023, on November 3 - 5, sponsored by the research centers CEDAS & NORBIS as well as the Department of Informatics!

In each category (bachelor, master and PhD student), the best submissions will be awarded prizes including movie tickets, clothes and UiB-merch, and receive a certificate from the evaluation committee. Top submissions will get the opportunity to discuss their results with the researchers who study this dataset. There will also be free pizza and snacks available on Friday, November 3rd. If interested, sign up using the registration link on the event page. [Registration deadline Oct 25 at 23:59](#). Feel free to advertise this to your students. Thank you!

[Read more about the Data Science Competition here.](#)



Teacher's retreat

Save the date: 21th of March

To all teachers at the faculty

For the third time, the Faculty welcomes you to the MN teacher's retreat. The seminar will be held on 21 March on campus at UiB Læringsarena.

More information on the program and theme will be published later.

Yoga

Yoga is back!

You can join a relaxing yoga session every Wednesday from 14:30 to 15:30. If you don't have your own mat, you can borrow one there.





Guest students

Do you want to receive any guest students or trainees next semester? The deadline for application is the **10th of October**.

Guest students:

Must be active international students on master-level living abroad. There must be an academic affiliation or reason to come, such as research collaboration. Goal of competence development and need for contact with specialists within the field.

Important: From fall 2023 international students from countries outside the EU/EEA must pay tuition fees. This applies to all students who will take exams/credits at UiB (including guest students).

Erasmus trainee:

Period of stay must be between 2 months and 12 months. Under 2 months will not be registered/granted student rights.

More information here: [Erasmus+ Traineeships | Education | UiB](#)

Seminar:

Innovative Human-Computer Interaction (HCI): Eight Ways to Advance Interactive Technology

At the University of Bergen, the HCI research group invites you to a seminar addressing innovative HCI, with presentations from research and industry leaders invited from Norway, Sweden, Germany, Switzerland, and Japan.

Dates: Mon 2 and Tue 3 Oct 2023

Venue: University of Bergen, downtown campus (Nygårdsgaten 5 and Christies gate 12)

Format: In-Person (no streaming), Drop-In (no registration needed), coffee/tea will be served in the breaks

Organisers: Morten Fjeld with Frode Guribye, Miroslav Bachinski, Kazuyuki Fujita, and Thomas Ågotnes

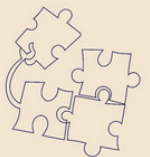
[See full programme on uib.no.](#)

Tema 2023:

**Vi trenger å høre til
#lagplass**

Bli med på lagett

Uke 39-42



VERDENS DAGEN
FOR PSYKISK HELSE

Den internasjonale FN-dagen, Verdensdagen for psykisk helse, markeres med stand på Realfagbygget og Høyteknologisenteret onsdag 4. oktober klokken 08:00- 09:00. Dette som en del av UiB sin markering som beskrevet i [På Høyden](#).

For tredje gang siden UiB startet med sine markeringer av «Verdensdagen for psykisk helse» stiller HR sammen med HVO og vara-HVO på stands. Det vil bli servert boller og kaffe samt materiell som en påminnelse om det å høre til. Temaet i år er [«Vi trenger å høre til #lagplass»](#). Temaet setter søkelyset på hvor viktig det er med mangfold og inkluderende arbeidslivstiltak på arbeidsplasser, post-korona og i usikre og mer økonomisk krevende tider.

Department Discord

We have a department discord channel, in which you can find notices about events, alerts about leftover cake, and generally great banter.

[Join our discord here.](#)



Reminder: Guest routine

Inviting and hosting guest researchers is a natural and welcomed part of our academic work. It is still crucial to act according to our routines and procedures when planning to invite a guest.

If you are inviting a guest researcher to our department, you must follow the guest routine found [here](#).

Statistics seminar

**A seminar with Hirokazu Yanagihara (Hiroshima University)
@ UiB, Wednesday 04.10 at 10:15 in AUD4, RFB**

On consistency of AIC and BIC for selecting variables in multivariate regression model under high-dimensional asymptotic theory

This talk focuses on the consistency of variable selection methods using the information criterion in multivariate linear regression. Consistency is a desirable asymptotic property for variable selection methods where the probability of selecting the true variable set is 1 as the sample size approaches to infinity. In the field of statistical science, it is well known and common belief that Akaike's Information Criterion (AIC) is not consistent and Bayesian Information Criterion (BIC) is consistent. The consistency was evaluated under the classical asymptotic theory, which only allows the sample size to approach infinity. However, in these days when the importance of high-dimensional data analysis is emphasized, it is necessary to evaluate the consistency not on the basis of such a classical asymptotic theory, but on a new asymptotic theory in which the dimensionality of the response variable also approaches infinity along with the sample size, called "high-dimensional asymptotic theory". In this talk we will show that when the consistency between AIC and BIC is reevaluated using higher dimensional asymptotic theory, the opposite of the common belief "AIC is not consistent and BIC is consistent" can occur. Furthermore, we clarify the conditions for consistency in both classical and higher dimensional asymptotic theories, and propose a new information criterion that is always consistent. Through numerical experiments, we verify that the new information criterion has a high selection probability of the true variable set, even when the sample size and the number of dimensions are appropriately large.



“UiB Ferd supports early stage researchers in their career development”

UiB Ferd Career Centre supports doctoral candidates, postdoctoral fellows, researchers and associate professors. We offer a range of services designed to help you develop your career within or beyond the university.

[You can sign up for the UiB Ferd newsletter here.](#)

Upcoming UiB Ferd events include:

06.10.23: [Research Data Management in the active phase of research](#) (Course) **Registration deadline: 05.10.2023 at 12:00**

16.10.23: [Academic English - Intermediate level](#) (Course - language) **Registration deadline: 05.10.2023 at 23:55**

17.10.23: [Introductory course to LaTeX](#) (Course) **Registration deadline: 16.10.2023 at 12:00**

17.10.23: [UiB research politics and strategy](#) (Course) **Registration deadline: 12.10.2023 at 16:00**

17.10.23: [MED & PSY Faculties - Academic English](#) (Course - language) **Registration deadline: 05.10.2023 at 23:55**

20.10.23: [Make your research visible using researcher profiles](#) (Course) **Registration deadline: 18.10.2023 at 10:00**

International Newsletter

UiB has a newsletter made especially for internationals, where you can find useful tips and news about upcoming events.

If you have moved to Bergen from a different country, we highly recommend subscribing to the newsletter [here](#).

You can also follow the International Centre calendar to find events that are of particular interest to international staff and students.



Vacant positions

- [PhD Research Fellow in Causality and Reinforcement Learning](#)
- [Researcher in Informatics: Algorithmic foundations of DataScience](#)
- [Seniorrådgjevar innan prosjektadministrasjon knytt til UiB sin satsing på kunstig intelligens \(AI\)](#)

[See all open positions at UiB](#)

Upcoming Funding Opportunities

Please contact research coordinator [Stefanie Meyer](#) if you plan to apply. All applications need to be approved by the department leadership before submission. By following the link, you can find out more about our [research support services](#).



UH-nett Vest: You can [apply for funds](#) supporting project and network development, as well as outreach and communication activities.

Application deadline: 15 October 2023



TMS Starting Grants 2024 - Nomination of applicants at the Department of Informatics:

The [TMS Starting Grant programme](#) is a highly competitive and prestigious funding mechanism designed to help UiB in recruiting and/or retaining talented young researchers. The application process has several stages, starting with the nomination of applicants by the department (and faculty). We ask all research groups to send their suggestions for applicants to the head of department, who will select up to two candidates that will get the opportunity to apply for a TMS Starting Grant the following year (2024).

More detailed information has been sent to all scientific staff and Postdocs at the department via email.

Deadline: 1 December 2023. Please send the required documentation via email to the head of department, cc head of research section.



Forskningsrådet

FRIPRO: The Research Council of Norway has published the upcoming FRIPRO (groundbreaking research) calls on their website.

- [Researcher Project for Experienced Scientists \(FRIPRO\)](#)
- [Researcher Project for Early Career Scientists \(FRIPRO\)](#)
- [Three-year Researcher Project with International Mobility \(FRIPRO\)](#)

Application deadline: open-ended (to be opened on 18 October)



New DKNVS Prize for Young Researchers:

You can now nominate talented young researchers under the age of 35 (in March 2024) for the DKNVS prize. [Nomination](#) by 15 October 2023.



ERC 2024: The upcoming submission deadlines for ERC proposals are:

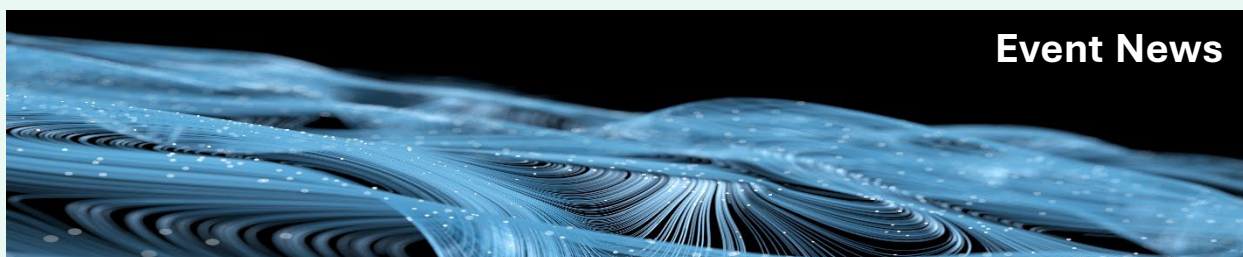
- [StG-2024](#): 24 Oct 2023
- [SyG-2024](#): 8 Nov 2023
- [CoG-2024](#): 12 Dec 2023
- [AdG-2024](#): 29 Aug 2024



Research Council News

New *Suggest candidates for the new portfolio boards*

Last week, the head of department sent an email to the department's research staff containing information about the process and internal deadlines for proposing candidates for the new portfolio boards at the Research Council of Norway. Please let the head of department know by the end of week 39 if you have any suggestions. For additional information, please have a look at the [RCN website](#). The new portfolio boards are scheduled to start their work on 1 January 2024.



Event News

Intelligente Bergen 2023

“[Konferansen Intelligente Bergen](#) har som mål å samle næringsliv, offentlig sektor og studentar for å styrke og framme vår regions posisjon som nasjonalt leiande innan forskning og bruk av kunstig intelligens.” **Event:** 3 November 2023, Bergen. The conference is now fully booked, but you can still register for the waiting list.

NORBIS activities

Upcoming activities

SAVE THE DATE!

Workshop: Comparing genomes: Genome assembly and annotation, and hypothesis testing in comparative genomics.

Time: 1-5 April, 2024

Location: University of Oslo or University of Bergen

Workshop responsible: José Cerca (UiO), Ole Tørrensen (UiO), Inge Jonassen (UiB)

Workshop description

In this workshop, we will cover the technical principles of genome assembly, annotation, and genome comparison. We will explore the techniques related to genome sequencing, the software and strategies used for genome assembly and annotation. Following that, we will delve into comparative genomics, focusing on fundamental concepts such as genomic structural features (transposable elements, genes, centromeres), orthologs, and functional characterization of genes. Through this, participants will gain the necessary skills to test hypotheses in the field of comparative genomics.

For more information, visit our workshop website: <https://norbis.w.uib.no/activities/workshops/>

We have more courses that will be opened for registration soon so save the date!

- **Metabolic pathway analysis** - January/February 2024 at University of Tromsø, two weeks by Ines Heiland.

Travel funding from NORBIS

Are you NORBIS member and in need funding to go to an international course or conference? NORBIS are happy to announce that we have a limited fund available for travel for our members for these activities. If you like to know more, please visit our website: <https://norbis.w.uib.no/travel-funding-f...-and-conferences/>

Funding for arranging courses and workshops

Do you have a course you like to organize under the NORBIS umbrella but in need of funding? Our call for courses is open now: <https://norbis.w.uib.no/activities/proposals/>

For more information, please see our webpage: <https://norbis.w.uib.no>

