

William Gemmell Cochran : His Origins and Contributions to Experimental Design

**D.M. Titterington
Department of Statistics,
University of Glasgow**

A brief account will be given of Cochran's origins in the west of Scotland and his education at the Universities of Glasgow and Cambridge. The rest of the talk will describe a sample of his contributions to the design of experiments, inspired mainly by his time at Rothamsted experimental Station, under the influence of Fisher and Yates. The work is characterised by careful and inventive methodological ideas and very clear awareness of the practical issues involved in agricultural experiments.

Brief Bio

Professor Michael Titterington has worked in Glasgow since finishing his Ph.D. in Cambridge in 1972 and has been a professor there since 1982. He has held visiting appointments at Princeton, SUNY at Albany, the University of Wisconsin and the Australian National University. His research interests have included discriminant analysis, incomplete data problems including mixture distributions, optimal design, Bayesian methods and topics at the interface with machine learning. He has held a number of editorial appointments including joint editorship of JRSSB and editorship of Biometrika. He has been elected Fellow of the Institute of Mathematical Statistics, Member of the International Statistical Institute and Fellow of the Royal Society of Edinburgh. In 2006 he was awarded the Royal Statistical Society's Guy Medal in Silver.