

STRATOS Leiden FU meeting Conference call – agenda
2025-01-27 (Monday), 3.00 – 5.00 pm UK time

Below is the Zoom link information for the STRATOS call on Monday Jan 27.

Important, TG and panel chairs: please forward this link to your group members.

TC on Monday 3.00 - 5.00 pm UK time / 7-9am Pacific Time

Topic: STRATOS Teleconference

Time: Jan 27, 2025 07:00 AM Pacific Time (US and Canada)

Join Zoom Meeting: <https://washington.zoom.us/j/92543717627>

Meeting ID: 925 4371 7627

WE WILL START IN TIME!!

1. Leiden meeting

1.1. Feedback (3 min, Els)

- We had (very) positive feedback on a stimulating meeting where progress was made, also thanks to well-suited infrastructure. Participants got new ideas through ample and varied interactions, formal and informal exchange of ideas and information at the meeting. Many new topics were launched and intended papers outlined.
- The presentations as well as the opportunity to work together within and between topic groups and on themes were much appreciated.
- The posters and a poster sessions worked out very well; also the lunch meeting in pairs of junior-senior researchers. Some younger participants would have liked a more structured program for them.
- There was a suggestion by Cecile and Maja to collaborate on grant applications (see 9.2).
- There were some requests for more 'free' time and a social activity (besides the conference diner) at a next meeting.
- We were happy to learn that some guests in Leiden will apply for guest member status of STRATOS

1.2. Main topics of STRATOS (brief reminder, 2 min, Nan)

Leiden - 4 central future-oriented themes on which further research is needed:

1. Combining Machine Learning with Statistical Methods
2. Estimands and time-to-event analysis
3. Simulation studies: how to generate synthetic datasets?
4. Developing an open-source case study dataset

Six foci for next three years – see Biometrical Bulletin 4/2023

1. Simulation studies
2. Open Science
3. Initial data analysis
4. Machine learning (ML) enhanced statistical methods
5. Estimands in observational data analysis
6. More guidance for reseerachers with limited knowledge and experience

1.3. Material on internal website (2 min, Willi)

So far, we have requested slides in updated form from theme chairs, topic group chairs and other presenters at the Lorentz meeting. Ideally, the updates indicate what has been planned during and since the Lorentz meeting in terms of follow-up.

Saskia sent a nice and comprehensive summary for the presentations and plans of the estimand theme at the Lorentz meeting. It is attached as a good example.

We presented a brief scientific report for the Lorentz center.

We started to update the **Internal Page** (not all of you may remember **USER: Stratos PASSWORD: Stratos2023**) with material received.

More material available? Please send it to Willi.

2. Four main topics (max. 10 (5+5) minutes for each topic)

A short summary of discussions in Leiden and plans for the next months will be given. Some of the slides and more material is available on the internal website. Please contact topic leaders if interested to join.

More general issues and information

3. Meetings (5 min)

3.1. BIRS meeting (2026, in Banff).

Due to a large number of competitive proposals submitted this year, we are sorry that your proposal was not selected for the 2026 Program.

We need to think about other places ...

Preferred time: any week from 26 April up to the week beginning Sun 21st June.

Please contact Willi if you have ideas.

3.2. DAGStat (March 24-28; 16 German Societies). Invited session

3.3. Half-day MS at ISCB in Basel, August 24-28, 2025

60 minutes about the phases project from the simulation panel. Which other group/project is interested to present?

3.4. Invited session at JSM (August 2 -7). Organized by Pam

3.5. IBS in Seoul July 2026

We should send a STRATOS proposal for an invited session. Who wants to lead the application?

4. Biometric Bulletin (10 min)

Paper about the Estimand topic in Leiden (attached). Will appear soon (4/2024).

A new BB article is **needed soon**. About another main topic in Leiden? Estimand paper as example?

5. STRATOS membership (5 min)

5.1. Inactive members: Clarified in TG2. Other TGs and panels should discuss STRATOS membership with colleagues inactive for more than 2 years.

5.2. The group Clinical Affiliates. – 6 or 7 proposals. Invitations will be send soon.

- Please send further proposals to Willi. They should including some sentences about the reason for the proposal.

Willi, James and the proposer will start inviting some clinical colleagues with a stronger interest in STRATOS related work. There is a broad range of reasons for invitations; level 1 material is an obvious theme.

5.3. Membership on the website correct?

6. Specific TG or panel issues?

6.1. Glossary – TGs need to send 20+ terms with definitions (5 min)

Each TG **should send terms by the end of March**. One proposal is to use all keywords from the TG papers. Proposals can also come from other books, articles, etc. We will refer to the original source but copyright needs to be clarified.

FIRST collect many items – we are still in the collection phase; harmonization comes next.

Short presentation by Martin Boeker. Slides with link on the internal website.

6.2. Deletion and changes of panels (10 min)

Bibliography and **Literature Review** are deleted.

Changes in the panels on **Knowledge Translation** and **Data Sets**. Short presentation from Carsten Schmidt.

Minor changes in the **Publication Panel** document. Short presentation by Pam Shaw.

6.3. Machine learning enhanced statistical methods? (5 min)

Severe interest. Should we start a new panel or subpanel? Not without knowing two colleagues who are willing to chair it. It is thought this ML topic can be integrated in existing TGs rather than be a separate TG.

Proposal from SG: we keep the option open for ML as a TG, but do not start it as long as it is not having chairs. It is very closely linked to 'high dimensional data' -> can we see it as a subtopic of TG9 for now?

7. Website (3 min)

7.1. Main

Improve it? Who will join Willi to work on it?

Material from the Leiden talks, including proposed new topics and cooperation, will be put on the **internal** website (USER: Stratos PASSWORD: Stratos2023). Some material already available.

7.2. TG websites

Update of websites:

For most topic groups on the general STRATOS website, a link refers to a TG -specific website with further information.

- We encourage *all* TGs to update their website (at least yearly). Please add relevant papers
- TG8 & TG9 have no (reference to an) own website yet: can they build one?
- For TG7 the link is currently broken (with host off due to illness)

The SG recommend that TG websites are hosted on sites that do not depend on a single person (e.g. google domains or university website specific to one member). Instead, it is possible to create a shared GitHub repository with a website. For example, <https://stratosida.github.io> for TG3. This can also serve as repository for materials produced by the TG3. Mark Baillie may have advice how to set it up.

8. STRATOS papers

8.1. New STRATOS overview paper (10 min)

We have an overview paper from 2014 and need to work on a related paper summarizing the situation in 2024. Writing committee: Willi, Michal, Pam, Sabine and James.

Version 1 of the outline is attached (still missing!!)

Each TG and some panels should write a bit less than one page. As examples of TG articles James/Kate and Pam wrote TG1 and TG4 summaries. Furthermore, short summaries from joint projects, if not included in one of the TG papers. All chairs should be active in their TG/panel and will become co-authors. Further members with substantial contributions will also become co-authors.

The paper will be submitted on behalf of the STRATOS initiative and we expect about 30 co-authors.

Plan: submission in late spring 2025

8.2. p-values (5 min)

Led by Abrahamowicz, Carpenter and Kipnis. Many helpful comments received. They need to be summarized and an updated version will be send to involved members.

8.3. Level 1 overview of statistical series in medical journals (3 min)

Using the material from the TG2 overview about series in medical journals, Willi has started a project to give an overview of all papers published (800+) in these series. Willi and Gary lead this project. A brief overview was given at the meeting in Leiden (slides on the internal website). Further members have joined and the main part of the project will start in the next weeks. **By Jan 31** you can send an email to Willi if strongly interested to join the project.

It will be a paper on behalf of the STRATOS initiative and more than 20 members will contribute to this paper. Participants will receive more details in some weeks.

Plan: submission early summer 2025.

9. Videos - Michael Wallace started a video channel

9.1. For level 1 (5 min)

thestratosinitiative@gmail.com is now set up and a skeleton channel (mainly a proof of concept): <https://www.youtube.com/@TheSTRATOSInitiative> Michael gave two short presentations in Leiden. See internal website

WHO is interested to join Michael?

➔ SG supports the idea of a representative for video in each TG.

9.2. Start a series of STRATOS presentations about published papers? (5 min)

Every paper should be presented in a short talk of about 20 to 25 minutes. For longer papers, it may be preferable to split into two talks.

10. Other topics

10.1. SAPI (2 min)

Marianne and others started the **SAPI** project - develop a checklist for a statistical analysis plan (SAP) for observational studies that accounts for initial data analysis and records deviations from initial plans in one document. Many members joined the two rounds of a survey. Consensus meetings have taken place. Currently, the checklist is in a pilot phase and a paper made good progress.

10.2. Grant applications (10 min)

There was a suggestion by Cecile and Maja to collaborate on grant applications. Very good idea. What can be done? Who is willing to lead an application?

11. AOB