

1046-60-1157      **John P. Nolan\*** (jpnolan@american.edu), Math/Stat Dept., Gray Hall, 4400 Mass. Ave, NW,  
Washington, DC 20016-8050. *Lévy stable laws*.

This talk will be an overview of stable distributions. Stable laws are a class of distributions that have heavy tails and possible skewness. These laws generalize Gaussian laws in two (related) ways: sums of independent copies of stable are stable, and limits of normed sums of general independent terms converge to stable laws (Generalized Central Limit Theorem).

We will outline the univariate theory, describe computational methods for working with stable laws, and discuss statistical issues. Examples in a variety of applications will be given: network modelling, finance, and signal processing. A brief introduction to multivariate stable laws will also be given. (Received September 14, 2008)