

Newsletter January 2010

A few words from the chair

A new year has just started and it hopefully will bring many enjoyable moments including, not least, new ideas, interesting statistical problems and stimulating professional meetings.

For the Statistical Modelling Society the celebration of the 25th International Workshop on Statistical Modelling in Glasgow from July 5 – 9, 2010, will certainly be one of the highlights of this year. Besides an interesting scientific program special celebrations of the anniversary will make this conference a memorable experience. So I hope that you will plan to attend! More details on the IWSM 2010 can be found on the following page in this Newsletter.

Last year the IWSM left the European continent for the third time. Statistical modellers met at Cornell University in Ithaca, NY, where Jim Booth and his colleagues organized an excellent workshop. The participants enjoyed an inspiring week at the 'Big Red C', not least because of the IWSM soccer match at the excursion (many hope for a return match in Glasgow). If you missed the event then you can find a short report on page 5 of this Newsletter.

Over the last months many people have been busy to give the appearance of our society a 'face-lift'. You may have noticed the new look already from the logo, but most importantly we gave our webpage a brush-up. So if you visit

www.statmod.org

you will see a new layout. Additional features, such as convenient online-payment of membership fees by a secure PayPal account, will be available very soon. Also, as a member of the Statistical Modelling Society, you will have access to the proceedings and material of many of the short courses of the recent years.

Another important SMS activity is our journal *Statistical Modelling*. With nine volumes completed by the end of 2009 it has established itself as a recognized outlet for research in statistical modelling. We hope that you consider submitting your work to our society's journal and thereby foster its success. A summary of the recent publications in *Statistical Modelling* is given in this newsletter.

The business of the Statistical Modelling Society is run by a few enthusiastic individuals who are entrusted with this responsibility by the membership in elections, which are held every other year. The current team of executives is now in office for one year already, and for me it has been a pleasure to collaborate with my colleagues in this job. Information on our current team of executives is given on page 4 of this bulletin. Also, in autumn 2010 the next elections are due. If you think that you may want to contribute to the well-being of our society by running as candidate do not hesitate to contact us. We always appreciate support.

I wish you all a healthy, interesting and productive 2010, and I hope to see you in Glasgow in July!



Jutta Gampe



This year we will celebrate the 25th International Workshop on Statistical Modelling!

The **IWSM 2010** will be hosted by the

*Department of Statistics at the
University of Glasgow*
5 – 9 July 2010.

A short course on 4 July 2010 on **Functional Data Analysis** given by Giles Hooker (Cornell University) will precede the workshop.

As in previous years the workshop will bring together a wide variety of international researchers (from career-young to internationally renowned) to encourage discussion and interchange between junior and senior scientists.

This is the first time that the IWSM will be hosted in Scotland, and Glasgow is an exciting and vibrant city that will offer a stimulating environment to celebrate the IWSM's 25th Anniversary!

Invited speakers are Murray Aitkin (University of Melbourne), Ian Dryden (University of South Carolina and University of Nottingham), Patrick Heagerty (University of Washington), Havard Rue (Norwegian University of Science and Technology), and E. Marian Scott (University of Glasgow).

Like in previous years the *Best Student Paper* and the *Best Student Presentation* will be awarded!

The deadline for submission of abstracts is **5 February 2010.**

Registration will be open by the end of January 2010.

For more details see:

www.stats.gla.ac.uk/IWSM2010

Membership

Membership of the Statistical Modelling Society covers the calendar year. There are two ways to become a member of the society:

- Either you fill out the registration form at **www.statmod.org**
- Or you register as a full participant in the International Workshop on Statistical Modelling.

Regular Members will receive one copy of all issues of the volume of *Statistical Modelling: An International Journal*, which is published during the respective calendar year. Electronic access to this volume is also provided.

The Statistical Modelling Society also offers Student Memberships.

The Statistical Modelling Society – Executives

The activities of the Statistical Modelling Society are coordinated and decisions for the Society are made by the Executive Committee (EC). Additionally, the Society has Working Groups (WG) that help with particular activities of the Society.

The **Executive Committee** currently consists of

Jutta Gampe (Germany)	Chair (chair@statmod.org)
Brian Marx (USA)	Past Chair
Herwig Friedl (Austria)	Secretary (secretary@statmod.org)
Peter van der Heijden (The Netherlands)	Treasurer (treasurer@statmod.org)
Jim Booth (USA)	
Iain Currie (UK)	
Pedro Puig (Spain)	
Lola Ugarte (Spain)	
Ardo van den Hout (The Netherlands)	
John Newell (Ireland)	Representative WG for Communications
Jeff Simonoff (USA)	Representative WG on the Journal
Claire Ferguson (UK)	Representative WG for the Workshop

The term of offices for the current EC started on January 1, 2009 and will end on December 31, 2010.

If you want to contact all EC members please email to committee@statmod.org.

Members of the **Working Groups** currently are:

Communications: John Newell (Ireland), Jutta Gampe (Germany), Lola Ugarte (Spain), Herwig Friedl and Gilg Seeber (Austria)

Journal: Jeff Simonoff (USA), Brian Marx (USA), Herwig Friedl (Austria), John Hinde (Ireland)

Workshop: Claire Ferguson (UK), Paul Eilers and Wim Jansen (The Netherlands), Jim Booth (USA)

Statistical Modelling – Journal News

With Number 4 of Volume 9 published in December 2009 the journal of the Statistical Modelling Society is thriving. All regular members of the society have full online access to the journal and receive printed issues. By the end of 2008 *Statistical Modelling* was included in more than 1,500 institutional subscriptions. Median review time is between two and three months. For more details see our homepage www.statmod.org.

The most recent issue of Statistical Modelling (contents see below) was a Special Issue on Interval-Censored Data, guest editor was Guadalupe Gómez.

If you have ideas for topics of special issues, or if you want to get in contact with our journal editors do not hesitate to write! Just send an email to journal@statmod.org

Brian Marx
Herwig Friedl
Jeffrey Simonoff

Articles (Volume 9, Number 4, December 2009):

Guadalupe Gómez, M Luz Calle, Ramon Oller, and Klaus Langohr

Tutorial on methods for interval-censored data and their implementation in R

Arnost Komárek and Emmanuel Lesaffre

The regression analysis of correlated interval-censored data: illustration using accelerated failure time models with flexible distributional assumptions

Zhigang Zhang

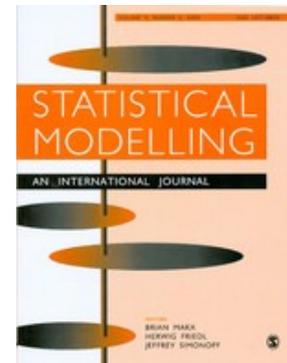
Linear transformation models for interval-censored data: prediction of survival probability and model checking

Pierre Joly, Cécile Durand, Catherine Helmer, and Daniel Commenges

Estimating life expectancy of demented and institutionalized subjects from interval-censored observations of a multi-state model

Lu Zheng and Marvin Zelen

Urn sampling, interval censoring and proportional hazard models: tests and relationships



IWSM 2009 - Cornell University

The 24th International Workshop on Statistical Modelling was held at Cornell University in Ithaca, New York, July 20-24, 2009. Ithaca is located in the heart of the beautiful Finger Lakes region in central New York State.

The Workshop was preceded by a one-day short course on "Bayesian Methods for Model Comparison" given by Murray Aitkin (The University of Melbourne). The Workshop proper was attended by over 100 people from more than 20 countries on six continents.



The reception at Willard-Straight Hall



Waterfall close to Ithaca

Five special invited speakers gave overview talks on the successes and challenges in statistical modeling in the current era.

Brian Caffo (Johns-Hopkins University) surveyed statistical methods for non-invasive measurement in the human brain; Rebecca Doerge (Purdue University) spoke about statistical modeling of expression QTL data; Göran Kauermann (Bielefeld University) gave an overview of the flourishing partnership between penalized spline estimation and mixed models; Emmanuel Lesaffre (Erasmus University Rotterdam) described the wide-ranging statistical modeling challenges in oral health research; and David Ruppert (Cornell University) surveyed examples of statistical models used in financial engineering.

Over the four and half day period there were a total of 42 oral presentations given in morning and afternoon plenary sessions. The Workshop also included an evening poster session as well as an afternoon excursion to Robert H. Treman State Park a few miles south of the city of Ithaca, where a strenuous walk up and down the Enfield Glen gorge was followed by dinner catered by Syracuse's famous Dinosaur Barbecue restaurant and a friendly game of soccer.



The truly hot barbecue



The ISWM24 soccer match

As per tradition the Workshop provided a venue for young researchers to present their work. This year eleven of the oral presentations were given by graduate students. Ralph Rippe (Leiden University) was awarded the prize for best student paper, Elizabeth Schifano (Cornell University) won the award for best student oral presentation; and James Ciera (University of Padova) and Theodoros Economou (University of Exeter) were co-winners of the award for best student poster presentation.

Jim Booth

Latest News

Many of you may remember the delightful musical performance by Michael Greenacre and Gurdeep Stephens at the 22nd IWSM in Barcelona in 2007! For those of you who want to refresh their memory, and also for those of you who missed the event, the songs are now available on YouTube. Please find below Michael's and Gurdeep's message.

Dear friends & colleagues,

For your new year enjoyment we send you the link to the Statistical Modelling Songs, performed to inaugurate the 22nd International Statistical Modelling Workshop in Barcelona:

www.youtube.com/StatisticalSongs

We hope you enjoy watching and listening to them!

Michael Greenacre & Gurdeep Stephens

www.econ.upf.edu/~michael & www.gurdeep.net

And always bear in mind:

"It don't mean a thing (if you don't do modelling) ... "

To keep up-to-date with the Statistical Modelling Society visit

www.statmod.org

and don't forget to renew your membership!