NEWSLETTER DECEMBER 2023

From the chair

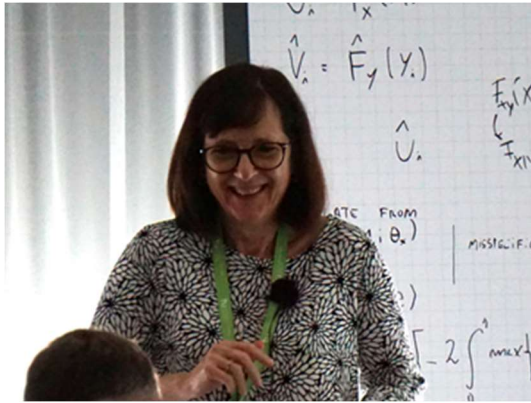Dear member of the statistical modelling society,

this newsletter gives you information on the Statistical Modelling Society (SMS) and its main activities, the journal Statistical Modelling (SMij) and the yearly International Workshop on Statistical Modelling (IWSM).

The elections at the end of last year led to some changes in the executive committee (EC) of the SMS: *Kevin Burke* and *Massimo Ventrucci* have been newly elected into the EC, the duties of the secretary were smoothly transferred from *Sabine Schnabel* to *Elisabeth Bergherr* and I took over as the chair from *Vito Muggeo.* We welcome two new members in the working group communication, *Darshana Jayakumari and Hannah Klinkhammer* who will manage social media activities for the SMS.

I would like to thank the members of the current EC and working groups and the outgoing EC members *Giancarlo Carmada*, *Jeff Simonoff* and the former secretary *Sabine Schnabel* for their commitment and their activities for the SMS. Very great thanks to *Vito Muggeo*, who - due to the Covid pandemics - served as chair of the society for an extended term of 6 years.

This year's workshop, the 37th IWSM was held in Dortmund with about 170 participants. The participants enjoyed both the scientific program with interesting invited and contributed talks and poster presentations as well as the social events. On behalf of the EC and all participants I would like to thank *Andreas Groll, Elisabeth Bergmann* and *Andreas Mayr* and all the members of the local organizing committee for the organization of this great workshop.

As usual, at the conference dinner the best student paper/poster/oral presentations were awarded. These prizes are sponsored by the Toyota Motor Corporation and Leonard N.Stern School of Business, New York University. Many thanks to *Jeff Simonoff* for this opportunity.

Statistical Modelling Honorary Member
Gillian Heller

At the conference dinner we awarded the title of *Statistical Modelling Honorary Member* to *Gillian Heller* for her outstanding contribution, development and spread of statistical modelling ideas. You can find more information and nice pictures of the workshop in this Newsletter.

Of course, there are also plans for the next workshops. The 38th IWSM 2024 will be in Durham (UK), hosted by *Jochen Einbeck* and 2025 *Kevin Burke* will host the 39th IWSM in Limerick (IRE). Jochen and his team provide information on the venue, invited speakers and deadlines in this Newsletter. Do not miss the deadline for submission of your contribution to the workshop!

Finally, I wish you a merry Christmas and all the best for 2024.

I am looking forward to meet you in Durham!

Helga Wagner

In Memoriam

It is with a heavy heart that we regret to announce that Antoine de Falguerolles (Université Paul Sabatier, Toulouse, France), a long-time member of our Statistical Modelling Society, passed away after a serious illness on July 15, 2023 at the age of 76.

Antoine was a very central person especially in the initial years of the IWSM and even organized the 5th IWSM in Toulouse in 1990. His last two participations in the workshop were in Prague in 2012, where he spoke on "Cauchy, Prague and multiple regression", and then one last time as Plenary Speaker in Göttingen in 2014. For that talk, Antoine chose the resonant title "La statistique à Goettingue: a tentative tribute by an IWSM participant from Toulouse". He was always a welcome participant who also took a lot of time for discussions with some typical (one could say "vintage") Antoine remarks based on his erudite humor.

He himself listed his research interests as "History of Science, Analysis, Probability Theory, Statistics". It was the historical aspects of statistical research that particularly interested him. Another issue area that was particularly important to him was "Multivariate Data Analysis, Descriptive/Graphical Statistics and Exploratory Statistics". Asked about his specific interest, he at one point replied "I like to make links between Statistical Modelling and Correspondence Analysis, PCA and these things". Stephen Stigler has commented, "He was a gentleman and a scholar, two groups in short supply these days".The Society lost a great colleague and a very good friend!

Herwig Friedl (Graz, Austria) and Michael Greenacre (Barcelona, Spain)

News from the Journal

Let us start by hoping that this reaches everyone well and safe. The great news is that we were able to have our workshop this year (Dortmund, Germany, July 17-21), and we were able to see each other again and recover the spirit of the workshop. We have been informed that we had about 180 people attending the meeting, which is great news and a clear sign that we have returned to normality. In Dortmund, we also had again the traditional journal lunch with 13 current and former Editors as well as Associate Editors discussing the current state of the journal. Thanks to those attending the meeting and the organizers for making this happen again and, hopefully, we can see each other again in person next year (Durham, United Kingdom, July 14-19, 2024). We would like to remind you that from years past, the registration at the *International Workshop on Statistical Modelling* included both the annual subscription to our journal, *Statistical Modelling*, as well as your Statistical Modelling Society membership. If you were unable to attend the workshop, the editors invite you to act individually, under these extraordinary circumstances, to renew your membership for the current year, which will also provide you with the journal. You can subscribe at the society's website: http://www.statmod.org/join.htm, where you can also find a variety of modelling information. We want to ensure uninterrupted delivery of our journal to your home!

The editors would like to share some recent news related to Statistical Modelling. There are some news on the Associate Editors' end because Bernhard Klingenberg has requested to leave the board. We wish him the best and thank him for his very valuable service over the years. We also have three new Associate Editors starting this year, Christian Weiß (Helmut Schmidt University, Germany), Maria Iannario (University of Naples Federico II, Italy) and Garritt Page (Brigham Young University, USA) so, a warm welcome to all of them. We hope to have with us for a long time! In addition, we are glad to mention that, in the upcoming years, after the transition period is over, the supplementary material will be stored at the SAGE journal's website. We would like to thank Jochen Einbeck for all the help he has personally provided during all these years to make sure that this material is appropriately saved at the SMS's website.

Following this year's journal lunch in Dortmund, we have decided to further encourage Ph.D. students to submit their work. As we are aware of the importance of timely publication for articles that are part of a cumulative Ph.D. thesis, we invite corresponding authors to highlight when the first author is a Ph.D. student. The Editorial Board will then give these articles priority in order to reach a timely decision and will try to provide a fast peer review process in a supportive environment. This is in line with the aims and the spirit of the Statistical Modelling Society.

Additionally, the editors are glad to report that we are now finishing the journal's second decade in print and approaching its 24th volume! This year our metrics have not done very well, mainly because of the change in the way the impact factor is computed, including the online papers that are not published yet. In this sense, our 5-year Impact Factor is at 1.70 and our Impact Factor at 1.0 for 2022, which places us in the 30% percentile (88th of 125) among Statistics and Probability journals.

Online First is running smoothly and generally brings accepted papers online within 6-8 weeks after acceptance (while allowing color figures). Like past years, our goal and mantra is to make Statistical Modelling the primary research resource, as well as an attractive outlet for statistical modelers to submit their own quality manuscripts (within the journal's aims and scope found at https://journals.sagepub.com/aims-scope/SMJ). In return, the editors ensure to do their best toward a timely and professional review for authors.

In the spirit of years past, we have a special issue to report on, the one in honor of our former editor Brian Marx, which has already appeared in the last two issues for 2023 (i.e., issues 5 and 6 in volume 23). We would like to thank again the guess editors, Paul Eilers and Thomas Kneib, who kindly accepted our invitation for this task without any hesitation. As always, Statistical Modelling is open to new ideas for future special issues related to discussions, workshops, or tutorials; so do let us know if you have any ideas for us.

Keep in mind that this is your journal, so along with reading it, the editors encourage you to promote its world-wide image and visibility. Further, we value any of your constructive input. As an additional service to authors, note that SAGE also offers an open access option (for a fee) through its *Sage Choice* program. See www.statmod.org for online data, code, and e-appendices associated with most of our published articles (with a newly completed search functionality), as well as a variety of general information regarding the Statistical Modelling Society. A genuine thank you goes out

again to Jochen Einbeck for his outstanding volunteer effort with the web volunteer effort with the web, as well as Sangeeta Gupta who is managing most of the production at SAGE.

Finally, the editors would like to thank all Associate Editors, reviewers and authors for their ongoing support and commitment to the journal during this year.

We look forward to yet another great year of modelling.

Vicente Núñez-Antón
Andreas Mayr
Francesco Bartolucci

Vicente
Núñez-Antón

Andreas
Mayr

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Bartolucci

The 37th International Workshop on Statistical Modelling was hosted in Dortmund, Germany! We started with a short course on Piece-wise Exponential (Additive) Models (PEMs / PAMs) by Andreas Bender and Fabian Scheipl on Sunday, July 16. The scientific program started on Monday, July 17, and contained 54 contributed talks and more than 60 posters. It was a tough choice among all the great submitted contributions, we'd hence like to express our gratitude towards the scientific committee again, for their help with this difficult task. We also had five brilliant invited talks, from different areas in statistics: Brian Reich, Maria Iannario, Alexander Gerharz, Gillian Heller and Simon Wood agreed to give keynotes at the workshop. Overall, we were glad to welcome more than 170 participants in Dortmund for the IWSM 2023. As it is both the tradition and the spirit of the workshop, we had a strong focus on student contributions and in this context also very supportive discussions in a friendly environment.

The venue was this year not a university building located at the campus, but a conference hotel in the city centre. In our view this helped to create a particularly nice

atmosphere, as many participants also chose this hotel for accommodation. Many of us were hence every day together from breakfast in the morning until the last beer in the evening at the hotel bar. As always, the social program was nearly as important as the scientific part: we started with a well-attended informal gathering on Sunday evening in a local brewery, followed on Monday with the official welcome reception at the BVB Stadium.

Three different excursions on Wednesday lead us to typical locations in the area: one group went to the stadium again and took the tour, one took a walk through and on an industrial blast furnace and the third group went to the famous Zeche Zollverein in Essen, which is a UNESCO World Heritage site.

On Thursday, we had the traditional conference dinner at the restaurant "Schönes Leben", where we spent a very nice evening with a delicious meal and Dortmund beer (and good wine for those who don't like beer). The student award winners (Talk: Andrew McInerney, Paper: Chris Kolb, Poster: Angela Carollo) received their well-deserved awards, and our keynote speaker, Gillian Heller, was awarded honorary member of the society.

All in all, we beyond thankful that we were able to welcome the society, both established members, but also the young crowd, to Dortmund, and spend such a nice week with all of you. Thanks again for all the great contributions, the help with the organisation, and for making it a great week, that we all enjoyed!

Andreas Groll, Elisabeth Bergherr and Andreas Mayr
Dortmund, Göttingen and Bonn

IWSM 2024
The 38th International Workshop
on Statistical Modelling
Durham (UK)
 July 14-29, 2024

https://maths.dur.ac.uk/iwsm2024/

In 2024, the IWSM will travel further north, into the charming North-Eastern English city of Durham. Durham is best known for its cathedral (an UNESCO World Heritage Site), and – of course – the university, which is the third-oldest university in England, and home to 20000 students.

The 38th IWSM will be hosted by Durham University, and will take place on its Science Campus at the foot of Mountjoy which is within walking reach of the historic sites in the city centre. The conference will feature a rich academic and social programme, including keynote talks by the following confirmed invited speakers:

- Robin Henderson, Newcastle University, UK
- Maria Kateri, RWTH Aachen, Germany
- Dimitris Rizopoulos, Erasmus University Rotterdam, The Netherlands
- Fiona Steele, London School of Economics, UK
- Ernst Wit, Università della Svizzera italiana in Lugano, Switzerland

The conference will be preceded (on the 14th of July) by a short course by Emanuele Giorgi with title "An introduction to model-based geostatistics for global public health".

Excursions will lead us (either) to the seaside, including a beach walk and a light dinner in a cliff cave, or (alternatively) onto a historically flavoured walk visiting a Roman fort and Auckland castle.
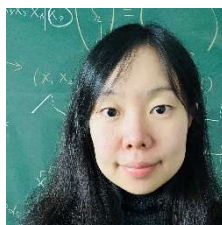
The conference dinner will take place on the premises of the Historic House, Chapel and Gardens at Ushaw (see image left), a few miles out of town.

Durham can be reached by Rail from London (2.5 hours direct connection from Kings Cross), which is in turn well connected via the Eurostar to Paris, Brussels, Amsterdam, Cologne, and elsewhere. There are good flight connections between Newcastle International Airport and many locations all across Europe. The overnight ferry link from Amsterdam to the Port of Tyne, from which there are public transport connections to Newcastle and then into Durham, may also be considered.

We are looking forward to welcoming you in Durham in July 2024!

Jochen Einbeck, Reza Drikvandi, Hyeyoung Maeng, Konstantinos Perrakis

on behalf of the Organizing Committee of IWSM 2024.