



# SATELLITE MEETING ISI-COMMITTEE ON RISK ANALYSIS AND

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# XI WORKSHOP ON STATISTICS, MATHEMATICS AND COMPUTATION

- BOOK OF ABSTRACTS -

LISBON, JULY 10th  
PORTALEGRE, JULY 11th-12th  
2017



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# BOOK OF ABSTRACTS

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Universidade Aberta de Lisboa  
July 10, 2017  
Lisboa - PORTUGAL

Instituto Politécnico de Portalegre  
July 11–12, 2017  
Portalegre - PORTUGAL



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## Preface

Dear participants, colleagues and friends,

WELCOME to the Satellite Meeting of the ISI-CRA, Committee on Risk Analysis of the International Statistical Institute organized jointly with the 11th Workshop on Statistics, Mathematics and Computation. We are delighted to promote another meeting under the topics of Risk Analysis and to jointly celebrate more than one decade of strong interaction between researchers from Portugal and abroad, leading to a successful commitment and enthusiasm on promoting research in the broad areas of Statistics, Mathematics and Computation.

It is a great pleasure to receive all our guests and contributors at the Universidade Aberta (UAb) main building, the Ceia Palace in Lisbon, in order to attend the beginning of our meetings on the 10th July, the ISI-CRA Satellite meeting in Honor of Professor David Banks and the 11th Workshop on Statistics Mathematics and Computation this year devoted to Professor Maria Antónia Turkman.

Keynote Speaker, Professor David Banks was, among many other positions, the coordinating editor of the Journal of the American Statistical Association, the President of the Committee on Risk Analysis and the President of ISBIS - International Society for Business and Industrial Statistics. His contributions were crucial on the development and expansion of Statistics by promoting it and encouraging new generations. Keynote Speaker, Professor Maria Antónia Turkman besides being an outstanding researcher in the area of Statistics, during several years she played a key role leading the Center of Statistics and Applications of the University of Lisbon and contributing for the respective international recognition. We are really grateful for her work, friendship and mentoring!

The activities and lectures will continue on 11-12 July, taking place in Portalegre, at the Instituto Politécnico de Portalegre (IPP), that kindly offered to accommodate the joint meeting. We express our gratitude to the Institute Coordinators for kindly accepted to embrace this Challenge. This joint meeting is a platform to exchange knowledge through international contacts involving Statisticians, Mathematicians, Computation professionals and Students, from several Universities, Organizations and other Institutions around the World. Our main objective is to assemble researchers and practitioners involved in the main areas of Statistics, Mathematics and Com-

putation, with special focus on Risk Analysis issues, by encouraging mutual exchange and interactions among a broad range of Science areas.

The format of the meeting involves Keynote Lectures, Plenary Talks, Organized Sessions and Poster Sessions. Special attention is given to applications and to new theoretical results having potential of solving real life problems. Discussion will be open in several areas, mainly with regard to challenges in Life Sciences, Medicine, Health Sciences, Cancer Research, Education, Management, Insurance and Industry.

Participants will have several journal opportunities for papers submission. Selected papers will appear in editions of *Biometrical Letters*, *Journal Risks* and in a Springer volume of the Series "Contributions to Statistics".

We are really grateful to all the participants for their valuable contribution, to Invited Speakers, Session Organizers and Authors who submitted abstracts, for the enthusiastic way how they assume their participation. We also acknowledge all the sponsors and contributors who made this meeting a reality.

Furthermore, we acknowledge our Honour Committee: Rector of UAb, President of IPP, Coordinator of the Center of Statistics and Applications of University of Lisbon, President of International Statistical Institute and President of the Committee on Risk Analysis of International Statistical Institute and for their precious support.

Many people and organizations contributed to the planning and execution of this joint meeting, and we are deeply grateful to all for that. However it is not an easy task to enumerate all the people who should be thanked. Nevertheless, there are a few groups and organizations that we would like to single out for special thanks. We are most grateful to UAb and to the IPP for hosting the meeting and to all the members of the Organizing Committee and of the Scientific Committee for their crucial help and suggestions. We wish to deeply thank to Cristina Dias, Luís M. Grilo and the Local Organizing Committee who were responsible for the meetings logistics at IPP and for organizing the social programme. Last but not least, special thanks are addressed to Amílcar Oliveira, Luís M. Grilo and Fernando Carapau for the invaluable contribution on organizing the Webpage, the final programme and

the Book of Abstracts details in an incredible short time. We believe that this joint meeting will be rewarding to all of us.

We wish you a very productive, successful, and enjoyable joint meeting, as well as a very nice stay in Lisbon and in Portalegre. Please, try also to find time to enjoy the delights of Portugal!!!

**The Executive Committee (EC) - Chairs**

Teresa Oliveira (Portugal)	Lidia Filus (USA)
Christos Kitsos (Greece)	Ivette Gomes (Portugal)

From Presidente of IPP

Welcome to the Instituto Politécnico de Portalegre!

It is an honor for the academic community of the Instituto Politécnico de Portalegre (IPP) to collaborate and host the ISI-CRA Satellite Meeting (in honor of Professor David Banks) and the 11th Workshop on Statistics, Mathematics and Computation (WSMC11). An initiative that is the result of a wide and diverse partnership and that has been consolidated in scientific terms. At the moment when Portugal brings together the entire academy to consolidate the importance of science for the development of societies, the promotion of tolerance and combating inequalities, I am particularly pleased that the IPP hosts this initiative, in partnership with other Institutions. I take this opportunity to express a word of appreciation to all partners for their contribution and availability. Congratulations to the Organizing Committee and I wish a good stay to all the participants. Enjoy the city and the region and make an appointment to return. We are waiting for you!

Joaquim Mourato  
Presidente of IPP





## Programme



# Satellite Meeting ISI-CRA and WSMC11

July 10<sup>th</sup> 2017 (Monday) [PALÁCIO CEIA, UNIVERSIDADE ABERTA, LISBOA]

09:00 – 09:30 Registration Desk

09:30 – 10:00 Open Ceremony Satellite Meeting ISI CRA (SALA DE ATOS)

10:00 – 10:30 Keynote Speaker, David Banks (SALA DE ATOS)

Title: *The Past, Present, and Future of Statistics*

10:30 – 11:00 Coffee break

11:00 – 11:30 Plenary Session, Carlos Braumann (SALA DE ATOS)

Title: *General sustainable fishing models in randomly varying environments and profit optimization*

11:30 – 12:00 Plenary Session, Carlos A. Coelho (SALA DE ATOS)

Title: *Trimmed likelihood ratio statistics – an unexpected improvement in power*

12:00 – 14:00 Lunch

14:00 – 14:30 Keynote Speaker, Maria Antónia Turkman (SALA DE ATOS)

Title: *Multivariate APC model in the analysis of stomach cancer incidence in Southern Portugal*

14:30 – 15:00 Coffee break

15:00 – 15:30 Plenary Session, Rahim Moudmavand (SALA DE ATOS)

Title: *Modelling Financial Data Using Modified Laplace Distribution*

15:30 – 16:00 Plenary Session, M. Ivette Gomes (SALA DE ATOS)

Title: *Generalized means and peaks over random thresholds value-at-risk estimation*

16:00 – Closure of activities and departure to Portalegre

**July 11<sup>th</sup> 2017 (Tuesday) [INSTITUTO POLITÉCNICO DE PORTALEGRE, PORTALEGRE]**

09:00 – Registration Desk

09:30 – 10:00 Open Ceremony WSMC11 (Room: AUDITÓRIO)

10:00 – 10:30 Plenary Session, Rahim Mahmoudvand (Room: AUDITÓRIO)

Title: ***Determining Retention Limits in Reinsurance Using Bayesian Approach***

10:30 – 11:00 Coffee break

11:00 – 12:30 Parallel Sessions (Room: 2.01 and 2.06)

Organized Session S1; Room 2.01 Chair: Dora Gomes Title: <b><i>Statistical Challenges and its applications</i></b>	Organized Session S2; Room 2.06 Chair: Filomena Teodoro Title: <b><i>Computational Mathematics and Statistics in Sciences and Engineering I</i></b>
<i>Comparison of the finite sample performance of several estimating methods for the Pareto distribution</i> , Ayana Mateus  <i>On a Stochastic Model for a Cooperative Banking Scheme for Microcredit</i> , Pedro Mota  <i>The Link between Exchange Rates and Commodity Prices is Not Always the Same: Lessons from Mozambique</i> , Alberto Mulenga  <i>Extreme value analysis: challenges and Applications</i> , Manuela Neves	<i>Multicriteria Collection of Solid Urban Waste</i> , Ana Jorge  <i>How to test different block diagonal structures in several covariance matrices</i> , Filipe Marques  <i>An asymptotic approach of the likelihood-based exact inference for singly imputed synthetic data under the multiple linear regression model</i> , Ricardo Moura  <i>Longitudinal modelling approach for MIBEL energy prices forecasting</i> , Ana Borges

12:30 – 14:00 Lunch (IPP)

14:00 – 14:30 Plenary Session, Filomena Teodoro (Room: 2.01)

Title: ***Modeling caregivers literacy about pediatric arterial hypertension***

14:30 – 16:00 Parallel Sessions (Room: 2.01 and 2.06)

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<i>Determinants for hedge foreign exchange risk in portuguese and spanish companies</i> , Eliana Costa e Silva  <i>Influence on scrap percentage of aluminium extrusion parameters</i> , M. Fátima Almeida  <i>The impact of innovation Objectives on Product Innovation: CIS 2010</i> , Aldina Correia  <i>Linear time series models for electricity pricing: the portuguese and spanish market</i> , Maria de Fátima Pilar	<i>Mixed models with random sample sizes</i> , Célia Nunes  <i>Global Confidence Regions for Mixed Models assuming Orthogonal Block Structure and Normality</i> , Sandra Ferreira  <i>Parametric models with random sample sizes</i> , Anacleto Mário

16:00 – 16:30 Coffee break + Poster Session

16:45 – Departure to village of Marvão by Bus

17:45 – Expected arrival in village of Marvão

17:45 – 19:30 Visit to the medieval village of Marvão (Castle)

19:30 – 22:00 Conference Dinner (Marvão)

22:00 – Return to Portalegre with arrival scheduled at 23:00

**July 12<sup>th</sup>, 2017 (Wednesday) [INSTITUTO POLITÉCNICO DE PORTALEGRE, PORTALEGRE]**

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<b><i>Reverse Logistics within Pharmaceutical Supply Chains</i></b> , Maria Varadinov	<b><i>Using the Rasch probabilistic outcome for assessing students' performance in an Information Security course</i></b> , Anacleto Correia
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11:00 – 11:30 Coffee break

11:30 – 12:00 Plenary Session, Amitava Mukherjee (Room: 2.01)

Title: ***A Copula and Bootstrapped Test based scheme for simultaneous monitoring of bivariate processes with applications to manufacturing and Service Industries***

12:00 – 12:15 Closing Ceremony

12:30 – 14:00 Lunch (IPP)

14:00 – 17:30 Visit to the tapestry museum in city of Portalegre and a walking city tour



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## **Keynote Speakers**



## The Past, Present and Future of Statistics

David Banks<sup>1</sup>

<sup>1</sup>Duke University, USA

### **Abstract**

Recently, I helped to edit a book with the same title as this talk. The book drew articles from 50 eminent statisticians who had won COPSS Awards for breakthrough work in statistical science. Some contributors wrote about their research, some about their career paths, and some about the history and future of our field. This address will try to synthesize the main ideas and themes, and point out the probable future, and its challenges, for the profession of statistics.

## Multivariate APC model in the analysis of stomach cancer incidence in Southern Portugal

Papoila A.L.<sup>1</sup>, Riebler A.<sup>2</sup>, Maria Antónia Turkman<sup>3</sup>, São João R.<sup>4</sup>,  
Ribeiro C.<sup>5</sup>, Geraldes C.<sup>6</sup> and Miranda A.<sup>7</sup>

<sup>1</sup>Faculdade de Ciências Médicas, Universidade Nova de Lisboa, Portugal e CEAUL

<sup>2</sup>Norwegian University of Science and Technology, Trondheim, Norway

<sup>3</sup>Centro de Estatística e Aplicações, Universidade de Lisboa (CEAUL), Portugal

<sup>4</sup>Escola de Gestão e Tecnologia, Instituto Politécnico de Santarém, Portugal e CEAUL

<sup>5</sup>Instituto Superior de Engenharia, Universidade do Algarve, Faro, Portugal e CEAUL

<sup>6</sup>Faculdade de Ciências Médicas, Universidade Nova de Lisboa, Portugal e CEAUL

<sup>7</sup>Inst. Port. de Oncologia de Lisboa de Francisco Gentil EPE, ROR-Sul, Portugal

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### Abstract

Stomach cancer occupies the fourth place among the different types of cancer that affect the population at world level and the second place in which pertains to mortality. It is known that its incidence varies with the location geographic area, with age and gender. Several studies have indicated the decline of the incidence of this type of cancer, possibly due to identification of helicobacter pylori infection as the main risk factor and its subsequent treatment (São João, 2015). In the south of Portugal it is among the first three types of cancer responsible for cancer mortality. There are several useful statistical methodologies in the study of trends in disease incidence rates. Particularly useful are models that simultaneously take into account three related components, namely age at diagnosis time (age), date of diagnosis (period), and birth date (cohort). These models are called Age-Period-Cohort (APC) models. The objective of this talk is to apply the Bayesian methodology to investigate, according to gender, relative temporal trends in the incidence of stomach cancer in the South of Portugal between 1998 and 2006, through the use of spatially multivariate APC models. Geographical variation is assessed by introducing a term of interaction between space and time. The data for this study were kindly provided by the Lisbon IPO. This talk is based on the work by Papoila et al. (2014), published in the Biometrical Journal. R-INLA (Rue et al., 2009) was thoroughly used in the analysis of the data and the script authored by Andreia Riebler is available in R INLA webpage (<http://www.r-inla.org/examples/case-studies/papoila-et-al-2013>).

**Keywords:** Bayesian Inference, Age Period Cohort Models, Spatial Temporal Models, Stomach Cancer.

### Acknowledgements



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## **Invited Speakers**



## Trimmed likelihood ratio statistics - an unexpected improvement in power

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### Abstract

The author shows how by using "trimmed" versions of some likelihood ratio test statistics we may obtain what may be at first sight quite unexpected gains in power, when compared with the power obtained when using the 'complete' likelihood ratio statistics. We call here "trimmed" likelihood ratio statistics, the statistics obtained from the common likelihood ratio statistics by deleting terms that appear more than once. Such "repeated" terms appear most commonly in likelihood ratio statistics used to test the equality of mean vectors when the covariance matrices are assumed to have some common structure like a compound symmetric or symmetric circulant structure, either scalar or by blocks [1–4].

**Keywords:** Exact distributions, likelihood inference, likelihood ratio test, Multivariate Analysis, near-exact distributions.

### Acknowledgements

This research was financially supported by FCT–Fundação para a Ciência e Tecnologia (Portuguese Foundation for Science and Technology), project UID-MAT-00297-2013, through Centro de Matemática e Aplicações (CMA-FCT-UNL).

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## Determining Retention Limits in Reinsurance Using Bayesian Approach

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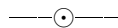
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### Abstract

A popular method for finding retention limit in reinsurance treaties, is to find retention  $M$  that optimizes a risk measure. But the risk measure is a function of the parameters of the loss distribution. These parameters can be considered in Bayesian framework imply variable  $M$ . This paper consider the possibility of using Bayesian approach for finding retention limits in reinsurance treaties.

**Keywords:** Reinsurance, Retention Limits, Bayesian Approach, Value at Risk.



Setting out the optimal reinsurance contract is one of the significant challenges of both reinsured and reinsurance company. Let  $X$  denote loss amount and  $X_I$  and  $X_R$  show reinsured and reinsurer contributions, respectively; means that we have decomposed  $X$  as below:

$$X = X_I + X_R. \quad (1)$$

Main problem in reinsurance is the way of determining  $X_I$ . One solution is to consider

$$X_I = \min\{X, M\} = \begin{cases} X & , X \leq M, \\ M & , X > M. \end{cases} \quad (2)$$

Where  $M$  is called retention. Then, the problem will become to the way that we can use to determine retention. In order to do it, we should define a risk measure like value at risk (VaR) and determine the retention so that the VaR of the loss or the primary insurer's exposure becomes minimized. Up to this day, many studies have been published about this problem, see Payandeh Najafabadi and Panahi Bazaz (2016) and references therein. However, we have just seen in Payandeh Najafabadi and Panahi Bazaz (2016) that  $M$  can be obtained by Bayesian approach.

Main results

Denote by  $T = X_I + \delta(M)$ , the total cost of reinsured, where  $\delta(M) = (1 + \rho)E(X - X_I)$  is the reinsurance premium, Cai and Tan (2007) showed that:

$$M = S_X^{-1} \left( \frac{1}{1 + \rho} \right) \quad (3)$$

minimise VaR of  $T$ , where  $S_X(x)$  is the survival function of  $X$ . The above solution is based on classical approach. Let us provide two main questions:

1. Could we consider  $M$  as a statistical parameter? Recall that parameter has specific meanings within various disciplines, including mathematics, computing and computer programming, engineering, statistics, etc. According to Everett and Skrondal (2010) a statistical parameter or population parameter is a quantity that indexes a family of probability distributions. It can be regarded as a numerical characteristic of a population or a statistical model.
2. Assume  $M$  can be considered as a statistical parameter. Then, the next question is that whether we are able to treat  $M$  as a random variable with a distribution to use Bayesian approach.

These concerns show that the study by Payandeh Najafabadi and Panahi Bazaz (2016) needs to be considered more carefully when we should use VaR. In my opinion,  $M$  can be considered in a Bayesian framework just because it is a function of the loss distribution parameters. In this case, using quadratic loss function, optimal  $M$  must minimise:

$$E \left\{ [M - S_X^{-1}(1/(1 + \rho))]^2 | x_1, \dots, x_n \right\}, \quad (4)$$

imply that:

$$\hat{M}_{Bayes} = E \left\{ S_X^{-1} \left( \frac{1}{1 + \rho} \right) | x_1, \dots, x_n \right\} \quad (5)$$

As an example, let loss amounts  $X_1, \dots, X_n$  given risk parameter  $\theta$ , are exponentially distributed with mean  $\theta$ . Then,

$$\hat{M}_{Bayes} = \log(1 + \rho)E(\theta | x_1, \dots, x_n). \quad (6)$$

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## General sustainable fishing models in randomly varying environments and profit optimization

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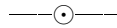
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### Abstract

In a randomly varying environment, we model the growth of a fish population by a very general stochastic differential equation (SDE) model, where an also very general sustainable harvesting policy is applied. We show existence and uniqueness of the solution and determine the conditions for non-extinction of the population and existence of a stationary density, i.e. for the existence of a sustainable stochastic equilibrium. Results are then applied to optimization issues for particular harvesting policies.

**Keywords:** General fishing models, profit optimization, random environments, stationary density, stochastic differential equations.



In a randomly varying environment, we model the growth of the harvested population by a very general stochastic differential equation (SDE) model, where an also very general sustainable fishing policy is applied:

$$dX(t) = g(X(t))X(t)dt - qE(X(t))X(t)dt + \sigma(X(t))X(t)dW(t)$$

with  $X(0) = x_0 > 0$ , where  $W(t)$  is a standard Wiener process.

Use of very general models has the advantage of obtaining results and desirable properties of sustainable harvesting policies that are model robust. Results on this general model have already been presented in [1], [2]; they are here reviewed and extended, as well as applied to optimization issues.

Stratonovich calculus is used for a more convenient interpretation, but attention is called to the fact that results are equivalent if one uses Itô calculus (see [2]). We consider the natural growth of the harvested population to be of a very general density-dependent form, with a geometric average *per capita* natural growth rate  $g(x)$  being a  $C^1$  strictly decreasing function and with



$\sigma(x)\varepsilon(t)$  (where  $\sigma(x)$  is a positive  $C^2$  noise intensity and  $\varepsilon(t) = dW(t)/dt$  is a standard white noise) describing the effect of environmental random fluctuations on that rate. The catchability coefficient is  $q > 0$  and  $E(x)$  is a non-negative  $C^1$  function representing a very general sustainable harvesting effort when population size is  $x$ .

We show existence and uniqueness of the solution and determine the conditions for non-extinction of the population and existence of a stationary density, i.e. for the existence of a sustainable stochastic equilibrium. Results are then applied to optimization issues for constant effort fishing policies.

### Acknowledgements

The authors belong to the Centro de Investigação em Matemática e Aplicações, Universidade de Évora, a research centre supported by FCT (Fundação para a Ciência e a Tecnologia, Portugal, ref. UID-MAT-04674-2013). The second author holds a PhD grant from FCT (ref. SFRH-BD-85096-2012).

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## Modeling caregivers literacy about pediatric arterial hypertension

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### Abstract

Pediatric high blood pressure (PHBP) is an important public health issue with multiple problems on the health of children and adults [1]. It is an important issue that health professionals and family members have awareness of PHBH existence, the negative consequences associated with it, the risk factors and its prevention. Its expected knowledge about this pathology increases with the level of education of the family members [4]. To investigate the caregivers knowledge degree about PHBP and to check if the assessment of pediatric blood pressure in health regular consultations is an usual practice, firstly [3], an experimental questionnaire introduced in [2] was built with the aim of easy and quick answers under the aim of a preliminary study about PHBP caregivers acquaintance. The statistical analysis and modeling of such questionnaire by Generalized Linear Model (GLM), took into account the presence of dichotomous data, discrete models which are usually estimated by logistic or probit regression. This approach can be found in [6,7] where each statistical significant question was modeled separately. Continuing such approach and exploring the idea of simplicity and reduced dimensionality, a factor analysis was applied and a multivariate analysis of variance was performed considering the obtained factors by exploratory factor analysis (EFA) as dependent variables [8]. An extension of such questionnaire was built and applied to a distinct population and it was filled online [5]. Some statistical models were estimated using several approaches, namely multivariate analysis (factorial analysis), also adequate methods to analyze the kind of data in study [9,10]. An approach by GLM is still ongoing. The results are promising but their analysis still need to be completed.

**Keywords:** Pediatric hypertension, caregiver, knowledge, factor analysis, analysis of variance, GLM.

### Acknowledgements

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## Generalized means and peaks over random thresholds value-at-risk estimation

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### Abstract

In many areas of application, it is a common practice to estimate the *value at risk* at a level  $q$  ( $\text{VaR}_q$ ), a value, high enough, so that the chance of an exceedance of that value is equal to  $q$ , small, often smaller than  $1/n$ , with  $n$  the size of available sample,  $\mathbf{X}_n = (X_1, \dots, X_n)$ . Let us denote by  $X_{1:n} \leq \dots \leq X_{n:n}$  the associated ascending order statistics. Further assume that there exist sequences  $\{a_n > 0\}_{n \geq 1}$  and  $\{b_n \in R\}_{n \geq 1}$  such that the maximum, linearly normalized, i.e.  $(X_{n:n} - b_n)/a_n$ , converges in distribution to a non-degenerate random variable. Then (Gnedenko, 1943), the limit *cumulative distribution function* (CDF) is necessarily of the type of the general *extreme value* (EV) CDF, given by

$$G_\xi(x) = \begin{cases} \exp(-(1 + \xi x)^{-1/\xi}), & 1 + \xi x > 0, \text{ if } \xi \neq 0, \\ \exp(-\exp(-x)), & x \in R, \text{ if } \xi = 0. \end{cases}$$

The CDF  $F$  is said to belong to the max-domain of attraction of  $G_\xi$ , and we write  $F \in \mathcal{D}_M(G_\xi)$ . The parameter  $\xi$  is the *extreme value index* (EVI), the primary parameter of extreme events. We consider *heavy-tailed* models, i.e. *Pareto-type* underlying CDFs, with a positive EVI, working in  $\mathcal{D}_M^+ := \mathcal{D}_M(\text{EV}_{\xi > 0})$ . These heavy-tailed models are quite common in many areas of application, like biostatistics, finance, insurance, statistical quality control and telecommunications, among others. For heavy-tailed models, the classical EVI-estimators are the Hill (H) estimators (Hill, 1975),

$$H(k) \equiv H(k; \mathbf{X}_n) := \frac{1}{k} \sum_{i=1}^k \ln X_{n-i+1:n} - \ln X_{n-k:n}, \quad 1 \leq k < n.$$

The classical semi-parametric VaR-estimators were introduced in Weissman (1978), being given by

$$\widehat{\text{VaR}}_q(k) := X_{n-k:n} (k/(nq))^{\text{H}(k)},$$

but  $H(k)$  can be replaced in the previous formula by any consistent EVI-estimator. We now suggest ways to improve the performance of the existent VaR-estimators. The estimation of high quantiles depends strongly on the EVI-estimation, and recently, new classes of reliable EVI-estimators based on adequate generalized means (GM), and dependent on a tuning real parameter  $q$  have appeared in the literature (see Caeiro *et al.*, 2016, Penalva *et al.*, 2016, Paulauskas and Vaičiulis, 2017, and references therein), and will be used for the estimation of  $\text{VaR}_q$ ,  $q < 1/n$ . Due to the fact that the GM VaR-estimators do not enjoy the adequate behaviour, in the sense that they do not suffer the appropriate linear shift in the presence of linear transformations of the data, as does any theoretical quantile and

the PORT-Weissman-Hill VaR-estimators introduced in Araújo-Santos *et al.* (2006), with PORT stating for *peaks over random thresholds*, we further discuss the so-called PORT GM VaR-estimators, more general than the class in Figueiredo *et al.* (2017).

**Keywords:** Generalized means; heavy-tailed parents; semi-parametric estimation, value-at-risk.

#### Acknowledgements

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# GModelling Financial Data Using Modified Laplace Distribution

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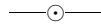
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## Abstract

This paper, present a modified version of the classical Laplace distribution. This distribution applied for modelling two real datasets: exchange rate and insurance loss ratio. The results suggest that further improvement to classical Laplace distribution fitting is possible and the new model provides an attractive alternative to the classical Laplace distribution

**Keywords:** General fishing models, profit optimization, random environments, stationary density, stochastic differential equations.



## 1 Introduction

The Laplace distribution belongs to the oldest distributions in probability theory. Its instances continue to enjoy applications in a variety of disciplines which range from image and speech recognition through ocean engineering to finance. Up to this day, many studies have been published with extensions and applications of the Laplace distribution. Extensions to a skewed model as well as to a multivariate setting can be found in the literature, see Kotz et al. (2001) and Mahmoudvand et al. (2015) and references therein. Nevertheless, the current forms of the Laplace distribution (both classical and generalised forms) have a sharp peak in the middle, which potentially restricts their usefulness. In the light of this issue, we present a new probability distribution in this paper that can be derived from the symmetric Laplace distribution and can be used for modelling and analysing real data, when a flat shape in the middle of the distribution can be observed. The modified classical Laplace distribution is a probability distribution on  $(-\infty, +\infty)$  and its probability density function is given by

$$f(x; \theta, \sigma) = \frac{1}{3\sigma} \exp \left\{ -\frac{1}{2\sigma} [|x - \theta| + |x - \sigma - \theta| - \sigma] \right\}; \quad x \in \mathbb{R}. \quad (7)$$

where  $\theta \in \mathbb{R}$  and  $\sigma > 0$ . Here, we use the notation  $\mathcal{CL}(\theta, \sigma)$  for the classical Laplace distribution and  $\mathcal{MCL}(\theta, \sigma)$  for the new modified version, respectively.

## 2 Empirical Results

**Exchange rate data** We consider the annual exchange rates between the United States Dollar (USD) and the Czech Republic Koruna (CZK, 1990-2014), United Kingdom Pound (GBP, 1975-2014), Swedish Krona (SEK, 1960-2014) and Danish Krone (DKK, 1960-2014). The data were obtained from the OECD (2014), available from the website <http://stats.oecd.org>. We examine the fits of  $\mathcal{MCL}(\theta, \sigma)$  and  $\mathcal{CL}(\theta, \sigma)$  for the logarithm of these data. K-S test statistics and associated p-values are reported in Table 1.

**Loss ratio data** We consider the logarithm of the loss ratio for private cars in motor insurance, based on about 200000 policies and 28721 associated claims in the period Mar 2010 to Mar 2013. The results of the K-S test and associated p-values are reported in Table 2.

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**Table 1.** Kolmogorov-Smirnov results of fitting  $MCL(\theta, \sigma)$  and  $CL(\theta, \sigma)$  to the exchange rates data.

Quantity (r)2-3(r)4-5(r)6-7(r)8-9	CZK		DKK		SEK		GBP	
	MCL	CL	MCL	CL	MCL	CL	MCL	CL
K-S	0.1399	0.1937	0.1045	0.1437	0.1638	0.2220	0.1074	0.1649
p-value	<b>0.6612</b>	0.2687	<b>0.5852</b>	0.2059	<b>0.1044</b>	0.0089	<b>0.7057</b>	0.2029

**Table 2.** Kolmogorov-Smirnov results of fitting  $MCL(\theta, \sigma)$  and  $CL(\theta, \sigma)$  to the loss ratio data.

Sex (r)4-5(r)6-7	Year	length	$MCL$		$CL$	
			K-S	p-value	K-S	p-value
Male	2010-2011	6714	0.0258	0.0003	0.0424	7.1e-11
	2011-2012	8629	0.0861	2.1e-16	0.0379	3.2e-11
	2012-2013	6382	0.0316	5.8e-06	0.0436	4.8e-11
Female	2010-2011	2208	0.0250	0.1274	0.0429	0.0006
	2011-2012	3143	0.0303	0.0062	0.0505	2.3e-07
	2012-2013	1645	0.0336	0.0482	0.0456	0.0022



# A copula and bootstrapped test based scheme for simultaneous monitoring of bivariate processes with applications to manufacturing and service industries

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## Abstract

Simultaneous monitoring of the bivariate processes, such as, event frequency and magnitude, time between the two successive contract labour strikes and the duration of the strike; call centre response times and its service quality; machine downtime and the consequential financial loss or time between the two major earthquakes and the magnitude in Richter scale etc., is an important research topic in various areas ranging from production, operations and manufacturing to event environmental science. Most of the traditional approaches for simultaneous monitoring of event frequency and magnitude either assume that the event frequency and magnitude are two independent variables or consider a bivariate parametric model, such as bivariate gamma or bivariate normal. In reality, it is often difficult to justify such assumptions. Therefore, in the present work, we introduce a nonparametric bootstrapped p-value based Shewhart type procedure taking into account the dependence between two events or an event and its consequences. We assume that the underlying process distribution is unknown but random samples from retrospective phase are obtained as preliminary information. The concept of ranks and empirical copula are utilized in constructing the proposed nonparametric monitoring procedure. Our proposed procedure can also be applied in monitoring shifts in any general bi-variate processes. A special advantage of the proposed scheme is its follow-up procedure through which practitioners may identify the variable where the shift is more significant. Design and implementation procedure of the proposed scheme are described in details. We illustrate our proposed scheme with a real example and show the various construction steps. Some properties of the proposed procedure are studied through Monte-Carlo simulation.

**Keywords:** Bivariate Process, Call Centre, Cramér–von Mises Criterion, Empirical Copula, Monte-Carlo, Nonparametric, Phase-II, Ranks, Service Quality, Shewhart Chart.



## **Organized Sessions**



## Organized Session 1

### Statistical Challenges and its applications

Organizer: Dora Gomes (Portugal)



# Comparison of the finite sample performance of several estimating methods for the Pareto distribution

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## Abstract

The Pareto distribution was first introduced as a model for large incomes [4] and nowadays has been extensively used for modelling events in fields such as bibliometrics, demography, insurance, or finance, among others. Although there are several variants of this distribution, in this work we shall consider the classic Pareto distribution also known as Pareto type I. Estimation of the Pareto distribution has already been extensively addressed in the literature. The objective of this work is to compare the finite sample performance of several Pareto estimation methods, namely the Moment, Maximum Likelihood, probability weighted moments and log probability weighted moments method. The comparison will be made through a Monte-Carlo simulation study. We also present asymptotic results for the log probability weighted moment estimators.

**Keywords:** Monte Carlo simulation, Pareto distribution, Probability weighted moments.

## Acknowledgements

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## On a Stochastic Model for a Cooperative Banking Scheme for Microcredit

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### Abstract

We propose and study a simple model for microcredit using two sums, of identically distributed random variables, the number of terms being Poisson distributed; the first sum accounts for the payments made to the *collective vault* by the participant and the second sum, subtracted to the first, accounts for the loans received by the participant. The process under study is the sum of the individual processes of a finite number of participants in the *collective vault*. Under a global independence hypothesis we show, by mean of moment generating functions, that if, for all the participants and at any time, on average, the sum of the loans is strictly smaller than the sum of the payments to the *collective vault* then the probability of the *collective vault* failing can be made arbitrarily small provided the loans only start to be accepted after a sufficiently large delay. We present numerical illustrations of *collective vaults* for exponential and chi-squared distributed random terms. For the practical management of such a *collective vault* it may be advisable to have loan granting rules that destroy independence of the random terms. We present a simulation study that shows the effect of such a breaking dependence loan granting rule on maintaining the stability of the *collective vault*.

**Keywords:** Collective vault; Microcredit and Ruin.

### Acknowledgements

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## The Link between Exchange Rates and Commodity Prices is Not Always the Same: Lessons from Mozambique

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### Abstract

We estimate multivariate autoregressive conditional heteroskedasticity models (M-GARCH) seeking to identify the patterns of comovement among exchange rates and commodity prices, particularly in different situations as to marked behavior in terms of currency appreciation/depreciation. We derive lessons from Mozambique, particularly tailored to the aimed setup and further adding up a previewed Dutch disease situation. Taking data for Mozambican New Metical (MZN) against South African Rand (ZAR) and also against Great Britain Pound (GBP), plus the quote of price of Coal for Africa (CZA), we employ diagonal and possibly varying correlation models of the M-GARCH family. Specifically, we run these three-variate models to a full sample from 2010-2014 and to four sub-samples –2010, time of depreciation; 2011, time of appreciation; 2012, stability period; 2013-2014, stability with some appreciation. Results suggest that the link across markets, namely exchange rates and commodity prices, is not always the same, it depends on the type of "systematic" behavior of the exchange rate.

**Keywords:** Exchange rates, commodities, M-GARCH, transmission across markets.

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## Extreme value analysis: challenges and applications

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### Abstract

Some of the initial applications of extreme value theory (EVT) were dedicated to describe and predict the behaviour of extreme values in fields such as hydrology, meteorology and insurance. Implementation of EVT faces many challenges, including the scarcity of extreme data, the decision whether the distribution of the data is “fat-tailed”, the choice of the threshold or beginning of the tail, and the choice of adequate methods for the estimation of the parameters. Other difficulties were related with the existence of “good” software for dealing with all those challenges. The main objective of this talk is to discuss the difficulties in using EVT through some applications in traditional fields and also in more recent ones. The main steps for performing an extreme value analysis, the use of some packages and functions in the R environment and different parameter estimation methods are presented.

**Keywords:** Extremal index, extreme value analysis, extreme value index, parameter estimation, R environment.



Extreme value theory (EVT) is concerned with the stochastic behaviour of extreme values. Originally developed to address problems in hydrology such as that one of deciding the height to build a dam in order to guard against a 100-year flood, the applications quickly spread out to many other fields such as meteorology (precipitation), insurance and risk management, telecommunications, environmental risk assessment, where catastrophic consequences for human lives can appear. One of the fields where it seems that EVT have been a limited role in the past, but nowadays is showing an increasing interest, is the ecological domain, see [4] and [1].

Let  $X_1, X_2, \dots, X_n$  be independent and identically distributed (i.i.d.) random variables with common unknown distribution function  $F$ . First results in the asymptotic theory of sample extremes distribution date back to the beginning of the XX century, but were [2] and [3] who gave conditions for the existence of sequences  $\{a_n\} \in R^+$  and  $\{b_n\} \in R$  such that the partial maxima,  $M_n \equiv \max(X_1, X_2, \dots, X_n)$ , suitably normalized, had a non-degenerate limiting distribution  $G$ , called Extreme Value distribution and is usually denoted by EV. This function is given by

$$EV_{\xi}(x) = \begin{cases} \exp[-(1 + \xi x)^{-1/\xi}], & 1 + \xi x > 0, \text{ if } \xi \neq 0; \\ \exp[-\exp(-x)], & x \in R, \text{ if } \xi = 0, \end{cases}$$

where the shape parameter  $\xi$  is called *the extreme value index*, a primary parameter in EVT, measuring the heaviness of the right-tail,  $\bar{F} := 1 - F$ . Besides this parameter, another one deserves a special attention; it is related to the clustering of high values, a situation very common in applications and that occurs with stationary sequences. This parameter, called *the extremal index*,  $\theta$ , needs to be adequately estimated, not only by itself but because it influences other important parameters in EVT.

The application of EVT involves a number of challenges. The early stage of data analysis is very important in determining whether the series has the fat tail needed to apply the EVT results. The parameter estimates of the limit distributions EV depend also on the number of extreme observations used. The choice of a threshold should be large enough to satisfy the conditions to permit its application, while at the same time leaving sufficient observations for the estimation. Those steps will be illustrated in applications, in the sequel of [5] work.

### Acknowledgements

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## Organized Session 2

### Computational Mathematics and Statistics in Sciences and Engineering I

Organizer: M. Filomena Teodoro



## Multicriteria collection of solid urban waste

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### Abstract

The Traveling Salesman Problem (TSP) can be defined, in a simple way, as the determination of a set of paths (arcs) for a salesman go through beginning and ending at a starting point. The collection of municipal solid waste is a rather expensive task undertaken by municipalities, which involves choosing a particular circuit so that a vehicle, leaves a station, collects a set of containers and returns to it. This problem corresponds to the solution of the classical traveling salesman problem in which we consider a graph  $G = (V, A)$ , where  $V$  is the set of  $n$  nodes (containers) and  $A$  is the set of arcs (path) and matrices of Distances  $D = d_{ij}$ , time  $T = t_{ij}$  and carbon monoxide  $E = e_{ij}$  associated with each arc  $(i, j) \in A$ . There are several proposed formulations of integer linear programming for solving this problem. In this presentation, the authors present a multicriteria formulation choosing circuits for the collection vehicles, based on the distance traveled, the time spent performing the task and on environmental criteria such as emissions of gas greenhouse. The various circuits of collection point obtained by optimizing of the several criteria will be presented and analyzed.

**Keywords:** Traveling salesman problem, multicriteria optimization, collection of municipal solid waste.

### Acknowledgements

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## How to test different block diagonal structures in several covariance matrices

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### Abstract

The adequate calibration of different statistical models, such as growth curve or mixed models, requires an adequate choice of the covariance matrix structure. The complexity of some new models makes it important to be able to choose and to test elaborate patterns for covariance matrices. However, the testing procedures commonly used in this decision process is not easy due to the complicated structure of the exact distributions of the test statistics involved. Therefore, the required tests are often not performed or rather are performed using approximations for the distributions of the test statistics which, in most of the cases, are unable to guarantee the necessary accuracy of the results. In this work we will show how it is possible to create a procedure to test different block diagonal structures in several covariance matrices by splitting the null hypothesis into a set of conditionally independent hypotheses and how does this procedure makes it easy the development of very precise near-exact approximations. The numerical studies carried out demonstrate the adequacy and accuracy of these approximations.

**Keywords:** Covariance structure, hypothesis testing, likelihood ratio tests, near-exact distributions.

### Acknowledgements

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# An asymptotic approach of the likelihood-based exact inference for singly imputed synthetic data under the multiple linear

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## Abstract

In this paper the author develops an asymptotic approach for the existing likelihood-based exact inference methods for singly imputed synthetic data generated via Posterior Predictive Sampling (PPS) and Plug-in Sampling, when the original data follows a multiple linear regression model. The use of existing inference methods from the literature implies that one has to obtain the distribution resorting to the use of empirical distributions which can be time-consuming. Thus, by proving that the statistic used in those methods is in fact asymptotically proportional to a chi-square distributed statistic, it is then possible, for large sample datasets, to only resort to a chi-square distribution where the degrees of freedom is only dependent on the number of covariates which will not consume any time at all. Simulation studies compare the results obtained from the asymptotic methods with those for the exact test procedures under the PPS and Plug-in Sampling methods.

**Keywords:** Statistical disclosure control, asymptotic distribution, multiple linear regression, synthetic data, multiple imputation.

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## Longitudinal modelling approach for MIBEL energy prices forecasting

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### Abstract

The present work proposes to contribute to Electricity Price Forecasting (EPF) with a longitudinal statistical approach. By adjusting a mixed-effects longitudinal model (LM) to the hourly prices (HP) of Iberian Electricity Market (MIBEL) from March 10th 2014 to June 26th 2016, in a total of 20205 observations.

**Keywords:** Electricity Price Forecasting, Longitudinal Model, MIBEL.

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EPF literature has mainly concerned on models that use information at daily level (aggregated data). However, we focus our interest on forecasting intra-day prices using hourly data (disaggregated data) in a multivariate approach rather than in the usually used univariate approach. Hence, we consider a LM that is able to incorporate the complex dependence structure of a multivariate price series. Longitudinal mixed-effects models are extremely popular in social, biological sciences and econometrics (panel data) and their popularity is explained by the flexibility they offer in modeling the within-group correlation often present in grouped data [2]. A day-ahead market consists in a system where agents submit their bids and offers for the delivery of electricity for each hour of the next day before a certain market closing time [3]. The present work studies the electricity prices of the MIBEL. The data is given as a strip of prices, all simultaneously observed once at a given time of each day. Longitudinal data models are regression models in which repeated observations of subjects are available. The daily market electricity prices can be given as a strip of prices (one for each hour of the day), all simultaneously observed once at a given time of each day. Therefore, the daily market prices can be interpreted as longitudinal, or panel data. Considering, in this particular analysis, the hours of the day as subjects, and the electricity prices for those hours for each day throughout the year, we are dealing with a balanced longitudinal data, i.e, repeated measurements for each subject (hour), taking at the same moment (day). This work is an extension of [1] analysis, where a vector autoregressive model with exogenous variables (VARX) was proposed. In order to compare the VARX approach with the longitudinal here proposed, we also analysed same the HP from March 10th 2014 to June 26th 2016, in a total of 20205 observations. Since LMs rely on the assumption, among others, of independent subjects (in this particular case, hours), we initially tested for correlation among the time series of electricity prices for the 24 hours of the day, by graphical interpretation of the correlogram (a correlation matrix) and by performing a factorial analysis. Similarly to [2], where different time period

slots were identified as important explanatory variables, three independent groups of hours were selected: i) the 1st until the 7th hour; ii) the 8th until the 18th hour; iii) the 19th until the 24 hour. We then adjusted a mixed-effects LM to the data, considering the three groups as subjects and, as reference time, the time since the first day of the year. Working on the logarithmic scale of price, as in [1]. We forecast electricity daily prices, for each group, estimating the best linear unbiased predictors, adding together the population predictions (based only on the fixed-effects estimates) and the estimated contributions of the random effects to the predictions at each group level. The results show that the LM approach considering a mixed-effects model, with the season of the year and the type of day (weekday versus weekend day) as fixed effects and the hour group as random effect, yield a model that explains the intra-day and intra-hour dynamics of the HP.

### Acknowledgements

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## Organized Session 3

### Computational Mathematics and Statistics in Sciences and Engineering II

Organizer: M. Filomena Teodoro



## Determinants for hedge foreign exchange risk in portuguese and spanish companies

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### Abstract

The exportation of services and products to the foreign market has become crucial for guarantying long-term survival of companies. This reality enhances the impact and relevance of exchange rate fluctuations on the value of the company and consequently on the way companies control this impact. The study of the exchange risk hedging practices of Portuguese and Spanish listed companies in 2013 and the determination of the factors that lead to companies making the decision to hedge Foreign Exchange (FX) risk, are the aims of this work. Data concerning Portuguese and Spain companies for the year 2013 were collect, for accessing the determinants for Portuguese and Spanish companies to decide hedge FX risk. The data consisted in 134 observations (i.e. companies), 37 Portuguese and 98 Spanish, for the year 2013. The variables size, leverage, liquidity and access external capital for each of the 134 companies are used as possible factors. Approximately 58% of the companies have taken FX risk in 2013, in opposing to the remaining 42% that have not. In order to infer the factors make the companies decide to hedge its transactions, univariate tests and multivariate logit regression are used. The variable binary hedge FX is consider as response variable while the independent variables are the quantitative variables size, leverage, liquidity and access external capital of the analysed listed companies. The tests suggest that there are statistical evidence that companies' size and leverage positively contribute to the companies' decision to hedge FX risk. These results are in accordance with e.g. [2], [3], [6] and [4]. In terms of companies' liquidity, the tests were inconclusive, while for access external capital has a significantly negative impact on hedge FX risk [2], [1]. Furthermore, size of the company presents a positive significant impact on the probability of the company hedge FX risk, while leverage presents also a positive impact although it is not statistically significant. Liquidity and access external capital yield a negative impact on FX risk, although not statistically significant.

**Keywords:** Logit Regression, multivariate statistics, foreign exchange risk.

### Acknowledgements

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## Influence on scrap percentage of aluminium extrusion parameters

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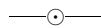
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### Abstract

In the industrial sector, optimization is one of the main factors of success. To use production and business data to improve profits, minimize costs, is an usual and vital procedure in industries. For that it was necessary to know the objective function variations and parameters which influences their behaviour. Aluminium extrusion industries are not exception, with big percentages of scrap, and the question of minimize it. In this study the influence of aluminium extrusion parameters in the variations on the scrap percentage produced, a crucial question in this industry, is approached. Due to all these advantages, this metal has great potential, capturing the interest of industry and researchers, [5,7]. In a previous work [2], the minimization of the de percentage of scrap in the extrusion process was addressed. In that work two steps are archived: the first was to monitoring the variables which are considered fundamental in literature to control the scrap produced, using the computer system; then we analysed the data using statistical techniques to identify critical variables in the process. The length and temperature of the billet, the extrusion speed, the extrusion ratio and the profiles temperature are the variables process to have into account, in this study, because they are the actual available parameters in the industry considered. After that, an having into account the bibliography research, other parameters are expected to affect the process, and the firm acquired a parameter monitoring software, wherewith other parameters were measured and can be considered in the study. In the present study we consider all the parameters monitoring in an industrial extrusion press, and we study their effect in the scrap percentage.

**Keywords:** Extrusion, Aluminium, Scrap Optimization.



In literature we can identified some extrusion parameters influencing scrap percentage, some of them summarize in [2]. For example, the authors in [4] identified that the level of scrap produced is related to the length of the billet, [3] refers the temperature of the billet, [8] indicates the extrusion speed, [1] indicate that Extrusion Ratio directly influences the output temperature of the profile and with regard to [6] the product quality is affected by the exit profile temperature.

In this work we intend to monitoring the aluminium extrusion parameters in order to minimize de metal waste. Having the indication, in our first work [2], about some variables influencing these process, and some additional information, now collected by the company with the monitoring software, wherewith other parameters were measured, we can consider

it in the study. The sample/production to be studied is about one profile (identified by the reference 9005), seven lots, between 27th March and 1st April of the current year, with two similar matrices including two exit orifices and the bars length is 20(mm). Among the measured values, we chose only those that are extrusion parameters, starting by analysing the correlations between them. There was thus a multicollinearity between them, so it was necessary to remove some of them from the study. We analyse the data, including 32 extrusion variables/parameters, using statistical techniques to identify critical variables in the process.

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## The impact of innovation Objectives on Product Innovation: CIS 2010

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### Abstract

In the business sector, innovation is one of the main factors of success. Innovation is considered to be an important decision for the company, since it involves the allocation of vital and costly resources, so it is essential that the objectives of innovation are clearly defined. In this paper, the subject of Product Innovation (PI) was approached in order to understand the impact of innovation objectives on companies that intend to focus on PI (goods and services). In order to achieve this objective, this analysis was based on the data set of the Community Innovation Survey (CIS 2010), covering the period from 2008 to 2010, which is made available through GPEARI / MCTES<sup>1</sup> – Office of Planning, Strategy, Evaluation and International Relations / Ministry of Science, Technology and Higher Education. According with the information in the CIS 2010 questionnaire "*An innovation is the introduction of a new or significantly improved product, process, organizational method, or marketing method by your enterprise. The innovation must be new to your enterprise, although it could have been originally developed by other enterprises*". The minimum requirement for innovation is then that the product, process, marketing method or organizational method, is new (or substantially improved) for the company (OECD & Eurostat, 2005). This study focuses on PI (goods / services), which is defined as the process of bringing new products and / or new technologies to market (Lukas & Ferrell, 2000).

**Keywords:** CIS 2010, innovation, product innovation, innovation objectives.



The data collection was done mainly from an online electronic platform. The response rate was 97% of the companies surveyed. The data collection period of the questionnaire ran from July 12, 2011 to April 11, 2012, to Portuguese companies belonging to CAE-Rev.3. Following the guidelines and recommendations of Eurostat, INE built a sample of 9245 companies. At the end of the data collection period, 6,160 responses were considered valid (DGEEC & DSECTSI, 2015). For this analysis, on PI, two new variables were created. The variables "IMPD01" and "INOVA" are the result of the sum between the

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variables "INPDGV" and "INPDSV", and are distinguished by their scale. In addition to these variables, variables that intervened directly with the objectives of innovation (CIS, 2010) were chosen. In this study the tools of multivariate statistical analysis, in particular MANOVA and Discriminant Analysis are applied, with the help of SPSS Software. The database consists of 158 variables, of which 146 are qualitative and 12 are quantitative. With the discriminant analysis, it was possible to verify that the objectives of the firm influence the introduction of new goods and/or new services, that is, are determinant to the firm belong to one of the two groups: 0 = The firm did not introduce any good and service; 1 = The firm introduced goods and/or services. With regard to MANOVA, the three innovation objectives with the greatest contribution to discriminant analysis were considered. It has been found that the fact that the company introduces new or significantly improved goods and / or services has a significant effect on extending the range of products, entering new markets or increasing market share and improving product quality. Thus, the results indicate that the objectives of innovation influence PI. In addition, depending on the goals of the company is possible to distinguish if the company is more likely to be innovative or not. It has also been found that PI has a significant effect on Innovation Objectives.

#### Acknowledgements

CIICESI – Center for Research and Innovation in Business Sciences and Information Systems

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# Linear time series models for electricity pricing: the portuguese and spanish market

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## Abstract

In the last decade, the electricity industry has experienced significant changes towards deregulation and competition with the aim of improving economic efficiency [5]. The complexity of electricity markets calls for rich and flexible modeling techniques that help to understand market dynamics and to derive advice for the design of appropriate regulatory frameworks [6]. The Spanish and Portuguese electricity sector began to be organized in terms of an integrated system and an independent system in 1995, and the Iberian electricity market started on 1 January 1998. Both producers and consumers use day-ahead price forecasts to derive their respective bidding strategies to the electricity market. Therefore, accurate price estimates are crucial for producers to maximize their profits and for consumers to maximize their utilities [1]. The present empirical study analyzes temporal data concerning the electricity market from the OMIP database - The Iberian Energy Derivatives Exchange, which contains a set of electricity prices observations made sequentially over time. OMIP is the stock exchange of Iberian and non-Iberian products (including MIBEL), which manages the market jointly with OMIClear, a company incorporated and totally owned by OMIP, which assures the functions of Clearing and Counterparty Clearing House Central to market operations [3]. From the data available at the OMIP database the present work focus on hourly electricity prices and on “SPEL Base” index (i.e. the arithmetic average of the marginal prices hours of the day), for the period from January 1, 2016 to May 31, 2017. The hourly prices were aggregated in day period and night period, defined as the average of the electricity prices from 8am to 8pm - day period - and the average of the electricity prices of the remaining hours (See Figure 1). The day of the week (Sunday, Monday, ...) and the month (January, February, ...) were also variables considered. The ARIMA methodology was followed for modeling of the “SPEL Base” index, while the intra-day and intra-period dynamics was modeled using a vector autoregressive (VAR) model approach. Finally, the exogenous variables day of the week and month were included in an attempt to improve the model fitting. For the consider period (January 2016 to May 2017) the best model was the VAR(9), while in previous work [2] for the period from March 2014

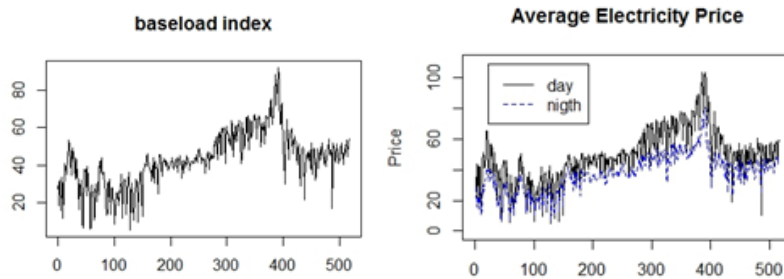
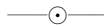


Figure 1: Electricity prices from January 1, 2016 to May 31, 2017.

to May 2016, a VARX(7,0) was encountered. There is a clear need for further analysis.

**Keywords:** electricity pricing, multivariate time series, OMIP database, vector autoregressive models.



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## Organized Session 4

### **Inference in Linear Models**

**Organizer: Dário Ferreira**





## Mixed models with random sample sizes

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### Abstract

When applying analysis of variance the sample sizes may not be previously known, so it is more correct consider them as realizations of random variables. A motivation example is the collecting of observations during a fixed time span in a study comparing, for example, several pathologies of patients arriving at a hospital. The aim of this work is to extend the theory of analysis of variance to those situations considering mixed effects models. We will assume that the occurrences of observations correspond to counting processes so the sample dimensions are considered as Poisson distributed. The applicability of the proposed approach is illustrated through an application on real medical data from patients affected by cancer.

**Keywords:** *F*-tests, mixed models, random sample sizes, cancer registries.

### Acknowledgements

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## Global Confidence Regions for Mixed Models assuming Orthogonal Block Structure and Normality

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### Abstract

The aim of this work is to show how to derive global regions for future observations, assuming the normality of them. To illustrate the theory we present an application which shows that the performances of the confidence regions obtained by the proposed approach are good.

**Keywords:** Orthogonal Block Structure, Uniformly Minimum Variance Unbiased Estimator, Variance components.

### Acknowledgements

This work was partially supported by national funds of Foundation for Science and Technology under *UID – MAT – 00212 – 2013* and *UID – MAT – 00297 – 2013*.

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## Parametric models with random sample sizes

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### Abstract

In many relevant situations, such as in economic research, sample sizes may not be previously known. The aim of this paper is to extend analysis of variance (ANOVA) to those situations. Sample sizes are assumed as realizations of independent random variable with Poisson, Binomial and Negative Binomial distributions. The applicability of the proposed approach is illustrated considering a database on unemployment in four European countries. The interest of this approach lies in avoiding false rejections obtained when using the classical ANOVA.

**Keywords:** Random sample sizes,  $F$ - Tests, Poisson distribution, Binomial distribution, Negative Binomial distribution, database on unemployment.

### Acknowledgements

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## Organized Session 5

### **Computational Data Analysis and Statistical Inference**

**Organizer: Luís M. Grilo (Portugal)**



## Analysis of the influence of the period of activity and the size of the portfolios in their risk and diversification levels

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### Abstract

The risk and the portfolio diversification levels of equity mutual funds from different countries are analysed. It is studied the possible relationship between the age and the size of portfolios with their risk levels and concentration/diversification of portfolios. Belgium funds seem to be those that exhibit more concentrated portfolios, whereas Italian funds exhibit the most diversified portfolios. It is also identified a negative relation between the level of portfolio concentration and the total risk claimed by managers, that is to say that funds with higher portfolio concentration will be those that present a smaller risk. On the one hand, it is identified some evidence that funds with the lowest period of activity tend to take more risk and to exhibit less concentrated portfolios. On the other hand, there is no evidence of a relationship between the size of the portfolios with the levels of risk and the portfolio diversification.

**Keywords:** Mutual funds, Period of activity, Size, Risk, Portfolio diversification.

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## Symmetric Stochastic Matrices with a Dominant Eigenvalue

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### Abstract

In this paper we will consider structured families of Symmetric stochastic matrices, which are associated to the treatments in a base design. The action of the factors in the base design on the structured vectors of the models in the family is studied. In Structured families with orthogonal base designs, the designs are associated to orthogonal partitions of  $R^m$ . Thus, as we shall see, we can apply the ANOVA and associated techniques in the analysis. Assuming that the family models have degree  $r > 0$ , it is possible to study the action of the factors of the base design on the first  $r$  structure vectors. Often the first eigenvalue is strongly dominant for most of the models, with  $r = 1$  in such situations we have to analyse the action of the factors on the first structure vector.

**Keywords:** ANOVA, Structured families, Dominant eigenvalue.

### Acknowledgements

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## On the enrichment of random factors models

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### Abstract

To test the main effects and interactions in random effects models we consider an orthogonal partition in subspaces associated to the subset of factors. Availing ourselves of the much larger dimension of one of the subspaces in the orthogonal partition, we enrich the model by imbedding linear regressions.

**Keywords:** Factor crossing, linear regressions, orthogonal partition.

### Acknowledgements

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## Reverse Logistics within Pharmaceutical Supply Chains

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### Abstract

The main goal of this proposed research is the reverse logistics (RL) process, which has been the subject of several studies over the years, but RL for the pharmaceutical supply chains (SC) in Portugal still is in a very early stage. RL is addressing the perspective of companies and other organizations that become active on end-of-use products, by accepting, discarding or recovering them (Dekker et al., 2004), due to economic, legal and social reasons. A survey using descriptive and empiric research methods is outlined, to consult on the implementation of RL practices in Portuguese pharmaceutical companies, and on the current mechanisms influencing RL activities, such as economic, social and legislative factors. Case studies and online questionnaires allow a comparative analysis of the Portuguese results with the existing results and studies conducted in other countries. The results prospects will indicate the relevance given by pharmaceutical companies to economic, social and legal reasons for the implementation of RL processes. Namely, the existence and the extension of environmental concerns, the economic motives, the customer needs, the satisfaction practices on the service level, or other specific items within the pharmaceutical SC.

**Keywords:** Reverse Logistics; Pharmaceutical Supply Chains; End-Of-Use Products; Methodologies.

### Acknowledgements

We thank Escola Superior de Tecnologia e Gestão and Instituto Politécnico de Portalegre. We also thank CERENA-IST and the support of FCT-Fundação para a Ciência e a Tecnologia through the project UID-ECI-04028-2013; and Centro de Matemática e Aplicações, Universidade Nova de Lisboa (CMA) through the FCT project UID-MAT-00297-2013.

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## Pharmaceutical Supply Chains: Training Early-Career Investigators in “Medicines Shortages”

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### Abstract

A Training School (TS) addressing Pharmaceutical Supply Chains (PharmSC) took place at Escola Superior de Tecnologia e Gestão (ESTG), Portalegre, Portugal, 03-07 of July-2017, on behalf of the COST Action European Medicines Shortages Research Network - addressing supply problems to patients, “Medicines Shortages” (CA15105), and organized by Instituto Politécnico de Portalegre (IPP), Centro de Recursos Naturais e Ambiente (CERENA/IST), and IBM Portugal. In a way to better introduce the COST Action “Medicines Shortages” and its main attributes (goals, methodology, work-plan, and tools), the TS program considered a Seminar open to the general public in the very first day. The Seminar participants also gained a complete overview of the TS, since the main topics for the technical sessions in the other days are also presented. The Seminar panels were addressing: i) “Medicines Shortages” and the impact on outcomes; ii) The needs and barriers within the Supply Chain (SC) actors; and iii) Pharmaceutical SC studies, methodologies and tools. The main topics for the technical sessions in the other days are also presented in the opening Seminar, and more details are available at [www.tinyurl.com/PharmSC](http://www.tinyurl.com/PharmSC). These technical-sessions are “hands-on” training sessions with computational tools and case studies on Multi Criteria Decision Making (MCDM) for Pharmaceutical SC, on qualitative methodologies, so as on Suppliers Selection. Specific computational issues related with Decision Support Systems (DSS) are also treated, including IBM advanced tools for SC optimization (IBM ILOG/CPLEX) and IBM Watson/Bluemix for data science experiments. More advanced topics are presented in this second edition of the TS, namely, by discussing clinico-pharmacological needs and measuring the impact of disruptions and shortages on outcomes, so as outlining the prospects and further developments in the “Medicines Shortages” research lines.

**Keywords:** COST Action; Medicines Shortages; Pharmaceutical Supply Chains; Case Studies; Methodologies.

### Acknowledgements

This communication is based upon work from COST Action CA 15105, European Medicines Shortages Research Network - addressing supply problems to patients (Medicines Shortages), supported by COST (European Cooperation in Science and Technology). Authors also thank: Escola Superior de Tecnologia e Gestão and Instituto Politécnico de Portalegre; CERENA-IST and the support of FCT-Fundação para a Ciência e a Tecnologia through the project UID-ECI-04028-2013; and Centro de Matemática e Aplicações, Universidade Nova de Lisboa (CMA) through the FCT project UID-MAT-00297-2013.

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## Organized Session 6

### Statistical Modelling and Data Analysis

Organizer: Amílcar Oliveira and Teresa Oliveira (Portugal)





## Canadian boreal forest fire disturbance and climate change

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### Abstract

Wildfire is an important disturbance (e.g. Bergeron et al. 2004, Lefort et al. 2004) and it is likely that it will remain so, since climate change is predicted to strengthen fire activity throughout Canada (Flannigan et al. 2009, Wotton et al. 2010). We can sustain that the human being is today the great transforming agent of the earth's surface, however there has been a concern in making a purely physical analysis of the human influence impact on climate change. In Europe, glaciology is a area of greater concern, however in Russia and Canada, areas such geocriology gain more importance once it's dedicated to the study of permafrost. Since European settlement, Canada began to some extent promoting it's wildland fire management and with this statistical model aims to facilitate more reliable predictions of future fire regime characteristics under projected climate change, contributing to the development of a unique spatial – temporal database that would be of great value both to researchers and to fire management agencies. Previous studies have shown that expected daily fire arrivals can be modelled reasonably well using a Poisson distribution if we considered relatively small and homogeneous areas (Mandallaz and Ye 1997, Wotton et al. 2003, 2010). We can consider a point-process with conditional intensity function as a natural modeling structure, given the stochastic nature of the ignitions. The first stochastic model for predicting the occurrence of fires appears to have been developed by Bruce (1960), who utilized a negative binomial model that related counts to a fire danger rating index. Subsequently, Cunningham and Martell (1973) developed a Poisson model for counts of fires whose nonspatial conditional intensity function depended on fuel moisture, as measured by the Canadian Fine Fuel Moisture Code (FFMC) (Van Wagner, 1987). Given large differences in frequency and size, fires in Canada can be divided in two broad categories: lightning and human-caused (Stocks et al. 2003). In my fire model I run two simulations one for each category, in this way I have considered one for fire frequency and another one for fire size, to do so I have considered a total of four fire statistics simulations using data from the Canadian National Fire DataBase (CNFDB). According to Cumming (2001a) I expect that the distribution of logarithms of the fire sizes follow a truncated negative exponential. In my model I have considered the average number of fires between 1969 and 2000, by CAUSE type (Human or Lightning), the results seems suggest that CAUSE type is a good candidate for predicting the number of fires, because the mean value of the outcome appears to vary by CAUSE. The variances within each level of CAUSE are lower than the means within each level. These are the conditional means and variances. These differences suggest that over-dispersion is present and that a Negative Binomial model is more appropriate to estimate and update these inter-annual variation.

**Keywords:** Boreal forest, climate change, fire disturbance, negative Binomial, wildland fire management.

#### **Acknowledgements**

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## Comparison of the Count Regression Models in Evaluation of the Effects of Periodontal Risk Factors on the Number of Teeth

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### Abstract

The number of remaining teeth in the mouth is of great importance in oral rehabilitation and depends on several factors. A number of conditions as gender, time of exposure to pathogenic factors (age), smoking habits and diabetes mellitus, are major factors that favor periodontal disease of which outcome is tooth loss [1]. The diagnosis of periodontal condition should be an explanatory factor of tooth loss, even considering that other oral and medical conditions are also associated with tooth loss. The aim of this study was to assess the performance of Poisson, quasi-Poisson and negative binomial models in modeling the number of teeth present (TP) or missing (MT) and find the best fit [2]. We conducted a retrospective study with data from the clinical records and orthopantomographies of patients of School of Dental Medicine of Porto, after the required authorisation of the ethic committee. The periodontal disease was diagnosed and classified in mild, moderate, and severe according with the percentage of bone level around teeth roots observed in the orthopantomography. The data concerning gender, age, smoking, diabetic status and overall periodontal diagnosis were recorded in a .csv type spreadsheet and processed with software R [3]. Poisson, quasi-Poisson and negative binomial models were fitted to the data and compared by dispersion, deviance and Akaike Information Criteria (AIC) values. The results suggest that the best fit was the negative binomial modeling the number of MT (36 - TP) presenting dispersion, AIC and residual deviance of 1.02, 588.4 and 94.91 respectively. The results of this study indicate that besides to explore different models fitting the change of approach in quantifying the endpoint of oral diseases through a change of variable revealed useful in obtain better fits.

**Keywords:** Count data models, Models comparison, Periodontitis, Tooth loss.

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## Skewness and Kurtosis of the Extended Skew-Normal Distribution

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### Abstract

In the last years, a very interesting topic has arisen and became the research focus not only for many mathematicians and statisticians, as well as for all those interested in modelling issues: The Skew normal distributions' family that represents a generalization of normal distribution. The skew-normal probability distribution [1] was introduced by Azzalini in 1985 which including the normal distribution as a special case. The skew-normal is a generalization of the normal distribution where the more important characteristic is the presence of different level of skewness. Later on, the extended skew-normal distribution is defined as a generalization of skew-normal distribution [2]. These distributions are potentially useful for the data that presenting high values of skewness and kurtosis. Applications of this type of distributions are very common in model of economic data, especially when asymmetric models are underlying the data. Definition of this type of distribution is based in four parameters: location ( $\xi$ ), scale ( $\omega$ ), shape ( $\alpha$ ) and truncation ( $\tau$ ). In [3] some properties of the density function are presented and the name of truncation for the new parameter  $\tau$  is explained. The effect of the new parameter  $\tau$  has consequences on the skewness and the kurtosis of the distribution of the random variable. The effect of the  $\tau$  is not independent of the parameter  $\alpha$ . For the smaller value of  $\alpha$  variations on  $\tau$  it produces less effect on the shape of the distribution. Basically, the two parameters determine values of skewness and kurtosis of the distribution. For R software [4] the package *sn*, developed by Azzalini, provides facilities to define and manipulate probability distributions of the skew-normal family and some related ones. The first version of the package was written in 1997, and in 2014 the version 1.0-0 was uploaded to CRAN. In this paper, we have used the implemented functions available in the version 1.4-0 of the package. In this paper, we analyse the evolution of skewness and kurtosis of extended skew-normal distribution as a function of two parameters (shape and truncation). We focus in the value of kurtosis and skewness and the existence of a range of values where tiny modification of the parameters produces large oscillations in the values. Calculations of the mean, variance, skewness and kurtosis are made from the cumulant generating function. The analysis shows while mean and variance present correct values and trend, skewness and kurtosis present an instability development for greater values of truncation. Moreover, some values of kurtosis could be erroneous. Packages implemented in software R confirm the existence of a range where value of kurtosis presents a random evolution.

**Keywords:** Computational Cumulants, Extended Skew-Normal Distribution, Kurtosis, Skewness.

### Acknowledgements

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# Using the Rasch probabilistic outcome for assessing students performance in an Information Security course

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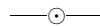
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## Abstract

Assessing students' knowledge is important in order to validate how effective a lecturer was conveying a course's subjects, as well as the ability of students to apprehend the lectured content. Improvements in learning have been sought, in recent years, through new pedagogical approaches using for instance Massive Open Online Courses (MOOC), with students approaching learning through interaction with multimedia contents and monitoring, in a regular basis, their own progress with quizzes at the end of each pedagogical unity. This study was applied to students attending an undergraduate course on Information Security. The students' knowledge of the lectured subjects in the course were measured through the Rasch probabilistic model. The study addressed firstly, the learning outcome patterns of students in the information security subjects based on an Entrance-Exit survey. This is followed by investigating students' perceived learning ability based on course's learning outcomes and students' actual learning ability based on their final examination scores.

**Keywords:** Learning ability, Rasch measurement model, Information Security, MOOC, elearning.



The Rasch analysis [1,2] applied to this study revealed that students perceived themselves as lacking the ability to understand about 75% of the information security concepts at the beginning of the course but eventually they revealed a good understanding of the topics at the end of the course [3,4]. Collected data of students' performance at the final examination [5], showed evidences that their ability in understanding the topics varies at different probability values given the initial knowledge of students and the level of difficulty of the questions. The majority of students found abstract topics and situations related with practical experience in organizations to be the most difficult to understand. Since the course was delivered using the Moodle platform, the study was supplemented by data collected from the log system of the eLearning platform. By correlating the students' level of performance in the course with the time they spent accessing contents made available by e-learning, a high degree of positive correlation was found

## Acknowledgements

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## Performance of fishing policies for populations with weak Allee effects in a random environment

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### Abstract

We use stochastic differential equations to model the growth of a population subjected to fishing and under weak Allee effects. Two optimal harvesting policies are presented, one with variable effort, which is inapplicable (for practical reasons) in a random environment, and the other with constant effort, which is easily applicable. The performance of the two policies will be measured by the profit obtained over a finite time horizon. We will show that there is a slight reduction in profit when choosing the optimal policy with constant effort instead of the optimal policy with variable effort.

**Keywords:** Allee effects, constant effort, harvesting policies, profit optimization, stochastic differential equations.



In a random environment, we describe the growth of a population subjected to harvesting through stochastic differential equations (as in [1] and [3]).

We assume that the population is under the influence of weak Allee effects, that is, at very low values of population size, we observe lower *per capita* growth rates instead of the higher rates one would expect considering the higher availability of resources per individual (see, for example, [4]). The presence of weak Allee effects when population size is low may be due to the difficulty in finding mating partners or in constructing a strong enough group defense against predators.

We consider the population natural growth to follow a logistic-like model with Allee effects and that the rate of harvesting is proportional to the existing population and to the effort exerted in the capture.

The main goal of this work is to compare the performance of two fishing policies: one with variable effort, here named optimal policy, and the other with constant effort, denoted by sustainable optimal policy. The first allows the fishing effort to vary rapidly and abruptly depending on population size which, in a random environment, also varies constantly. This type of policy is inapplicable from the practical point of view. In addition, this policy requires the estimation of population size at each time instant (see [5]), which is usually an expensive, inaccurate, and time-consuming task. The second policy considers the application of a constant effort over time and predicts the sustainability of the population as well as the existence of a stationary density for its size (see [2]). This policy has the advantage of being applicable, easily implemented and does not require knowledge of population size at any given time. The performance of the two policies will be assessed by the profit obtained over a finite time horizon. Using realistic data based on a fish population, we will show that there is only a slight reduction in profit when choosing



the optimal sustainable policy with constant effort instead of the optimal and inapplicable policy with variable effort.

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**Contributed Poster**



## Student Performance in Mathematics - PISA 2015

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### Abstract

Multilevel regression models are regression models which usually apply in situations where data are hierarchically structured. For that reason, these models are very important in the analysis of studies related with education because the population of these type of study are found structured in a hierarchical way (students nested into classes, classes nested into schools). In this work, a multilevel analysis is applied to data collected under the Programme for International Student Assessment (PISA) 2015 in Mathematics literacy in Portugal. With this application, we pretend to analyse the impact of student and school factors on mathematics achievement of Portuguese students in PISA 2015 and to understand which part of the student's achievement is due to regional disparities.

**Keywords:** Finite Mixtures of Linear Mixed Models; Model selection; Simulation study.

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# A Simulation Study For Determining the Number of Components in Finite Mixtures of Linear Mixed Models

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## Abstract

Finite mixture models are a well-known method for modelling data that arise from a heterogeneous population. In regression analysis, it has been a popular practice for modelling unobserved population heterogeneity through finite mixture regression models. Within the family of mixture regression models, finite mixtures of linear mixed models have also been applied in different areas of application. They conveniently allow to account for correlations between observations from the same individual and to model unobserved heterogeneity between individuals at the same time. Choosing the number of components for mixture models has long been considered as an important but difficult research problem. There is wide variety of literature available on the performance of model selection statistics for determining the number of components in mixture models. In this study the performance of various model selection methods was investigated in the context of Finite Mixtures of Linear Mixed Models.

**Keywords:** Finite Mixtures of Linear Mixed Models; Model selection; Simulation study.

## Acknowledgements

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## Prediction of Structural Components in Environmental Time Series

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### Abstract

A structural time series model is one which is set up in terms of dynamic components which have a direct interpretation. In this study, in the context of a water quality monitoring problem, it is proposed an approach for the structural time series analysis based on the state space models associated to the Kalman Filter. The main goal is to analyze and evaluate the temporal evolution of the environmental time series, and to identify trends or possible changes in water quality within a dynamic monitoring procedure, by identifying unexpected changes that are important for the process of management and evaluation of water quality.

**Keywords:** Dynamic structural components, structural time series, state-space models, Kalman filter.

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## Statistical Modeling in the Management of Wastewater Treatment Plants

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### Abstract

The progressive deterioration of water resources and the large amount of polluted water generated in modern societies gives Wastewater Treatment (WWT) processes a fundamental importance in water prevention and control. Inside a biological Wastewater Treatment Plant (WWTP), the activated sludge process is the most commonly used technology to remove organic pollutants from wastewater (by means of a bacterial biomass suspension). This is the most cost-effective technology, it is very flexible and it can be adapted to different kinds of wastewater. Therefore, it is very important to understand and to model the management processes involved that can lead to benefits for the overall WWTP, in particular in cost-effectiveness. In this work the discussion focuses on the dynamic monitoring procedure based on the statistical modeling approach, in order to quantify and to characterize significant statistical patterns of interaction between wastewater flows (that are tributary to the WWTPs), hydro-meteorological variables (such as rainfall), and physicochemical variables. A statistical exploratory analysis and linear models were performed in order to obtain an accurate prediction and forecast of the relevant predictors (wastewater effluent variables) in the flows' behaviour and which have the greatest impact on cost reduction. The statistical modeling procedure was applied to a set of nine Wastewater Treatment Plants located in the Northwest region of Portugal (five in rural regions and four in urban regions), and data set consists of monthly measurements during a period of two years from January 2015 to December 2016. By accommodating the well-know seasonal regimes of dry and wet seasons, the statistical results will provide a better representation of the plant's real situation in order to design a efficient management process.

**Keywords:** Wastewater flows, physicochemical variables, seasonality, costs, correlations, linear models.

### Acknowledgements

A. Manuela Gonçalves was supported by the Research Centre of Mathematics of the University of Minho with the Portuguese Funds from the FCT-Fundação para a Ciência e a Tecnologia, through the Project PEstOE-MAT-UI0013-2017.



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## Modeling health perception based on psychosocial risks. A data driven approach

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### Abstract

The percentage of workers exposed to psychosocial stressors has been increasing through the ages in every activity sector, with negative consequences for workers, organizations and national economies. An adapted version of the Copenhagen Psychosocial Questionnaire was used to assess the psychosocial risks and their impact on workers' health and wellbeing of a Portuguese company. The answers to the 41 questions of this questionnaire were expressed in a Likert-type scale of five categories and generated a data set of around 5000 observations by 41 variables. The data have a character entirely observational. It must be pointed out that authors did not have access to any kind of biographic information such as age, job position or sex of respondents. Having in mind the characterization and model building of workers perceptions about its occupational health, implicit in their answers, several multivariate methodologies were employed to describe and synthesize the data. Specifically, from cluster analysis, a set of 6 variables clusters emerged. Those clusters were studied for possible psychological and social meaning, statistical homogeneity and unidimensional behavior, being the conclusion that it makes sense to see those clusters as the manifestations of latent variables with clear psychosocial meaning. Based on the results of this empirical approach, a path model was formulated, expressing a priori perceptions and beliefs about causal relations among those latent variables, consistent with literature and authors experience. That model was estimated using the Partial Least Squares (PLS) technique, coupled with bootstrap, implemented by R packages. Although PLS Path Modeling (PLS-PM) is, basically, a descriptive technique, the use of bootstrap methodology allows limited but credible forms of inference leading to the conclusion that the main causal hypothesis expressed with the model were supported by data. The results obtained, despite the limitations alluded to, are considered very interpretable, useful and encouraging, given the available alternatives.

**Keywords:** Causality, Bootstrap, Partial Least Squares, Path Modeling, R environment.

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## Cognitive Appraisal as a Mediator in the Relationship Between Work-Family Conflicts and Burnout

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### Abstract

This study tested the mediating role of cognitive appraisal in the relationship between work-family conflicts and burnout. This mediation was tested using a cross-sectional study based on self-reported measures. The total sample consisted of 438 portuguese teachers who teach from kindergarten through high school and completed an evaluation protocol with measures of work-family conflicts, cognitive appraisal, and burnout. To test the mediating role of cognitive appraisal in the relationship between work-family conflicts and burnout, we used Structural Equation Modeling (SEM). The results confirmed cognitive appraisal partially mediated the relationship between work-family conflicts and burnout. The findings indicated that cognitive appraisal is an important underlying mechanism in explaining adaptation at work.

**Keywords:** Burnout; cognitive appraisal; teachers; work-family conflicts.

### Acknowledgements

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## Satisfaction Index in Engineering Courses in Portugal: Institutions' ratio versus Students point of view ratio

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### Abstract

In this paper, we continue previous studies on students' allocation satisfaction in the Portuguese public higher education system in the academic engineering programs by comparing two ratios, one provided by the Portuguese Education Ministry - the Institutions' point of view, and the other proposed by the authors - the Students' point of view. The data set used covers the results of the national contest from 2007 to 2016, provided by the Portuguese Ministry of Education. Non-parametric tests were performed to assess whether there are significant differences between the considered ratios. The results seem to confirm that there are some differences between the two ratios, which may mean that the proposed ratio should be considered for a better understanding of the satisfaction of the allocation of students in engineering courses in Portugal.

**Keywords:** Students satisfaction index, applicants satisfaction index, higher education, non-parametric tests.

### Acknowledgements

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## Data mining and statistical analysis of educational data

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### Abstract

We present some data mining techniques applied to Educational Data. From the Moodle data repository of the University of Évora, we apply supervised learning techniques with the aim of predicting the students success from their interaction with Moodle. At the end, we show very interesting conclusions when unsupervised learning techniques are applied.

**Keywords:** Big data, classification, data mining, decision trees, learning management systems.



The advancement of the technologies related to the internet has enabled E-Learning to gain popularity as a way of transmitting knowledge. Institutions such as Universities and Companies have been using E-Learning to disseminate educational content to remote locations, reaching out to students and employees who are physically distant. The Moodle platform is an example of a Learning System Management (LMS). LMSs provide on-line platforms where teachers and trainers can publish content organized into activities, conduct assessments, and other activities so that the students involved can learn and be assessed. In addition, LMS generates and stores large amounts of data, named Educational Data, from not only user activities but also the LMS itself.

In this work we will present some data mining techniques applied to Educational Data. In fact, from the Moodle data repository of the University of Évora, we will apply supervised learning techniques with the aim of predicting the students success from their interaction with Moodle. We will also see interesting conclusions when unsupervised learning techniques are applied.

## Preliminary statistical analysis of barotraumatism occurrence and hyperbaric oxygen therapy

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### Abstract

Hyperbaric oxygen therapy (HBOT) is a therapeutic modality consisting of the intermittent administration of 100% oxygen within a chamber under pressure conditions above sea level pressure (1 ATA), allowing an increase of perfusion of  $O_2$  in the tissues. Consequently, there exists a reduction in edema and tissue hypoxia, aiding the treatment of ischemia and infection[1,2]. Between several complications, middle ear barotrauma (BTOM) is the most frequent but its incidence, risk factors and severity are not yet well known. This work was started in [3] being studied the clinical characteristics of 1732 patients who underwent treatment at the Portuguese Navy's Center for Underwater and Hyperbaric Medicine (HMCS) between 2012 and 2016, in order to better characterize this problem with regard to incidence, severity and recurrence, as well as to identify possible risk factors such as age, sex, clinical indication for HBOT, personal history of allergic rhinitis, and symptomatology of nasal obstruction at the time of the occurrence. There was an incidence of 8.3% with BTOM between patients. Most of occurrences were unilateral 62%, the remaining 21% cases were bilateral. BTOM occurred in the first 3 sessions in 36% of cases and 44% in up to 5 sessions. The recurrence rate was 28%. There were constructed statistical models so one could get the the statistical significant relations between gender, personal clinical history and BTOM. Were identified some risk factors. An approach by general least squares (GLM) is still ongoing. The results are promising but their analysis still need to be completed.

**Keywords:** Hyperbaric oxygen therapy, barotraumatism, middle ear, risk factors, analysis of variance, GLM.

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## Structured families of symmetric stochastic matrices

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### Abstract

In this work we study structured families of models, whose matrices correspond to the treatments of a base design. We also consider families of models divided into subfamilies that correspond to these treatments. We are mainly interested in basic models with orthogonal structure. We present this structure and show how to apply these models in the study of structured families.

**Keywords:** Structured families, Subfamilies, Orthogonal structure.

### Acknowledgements

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## 1D third-grade fluid model

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### Abstract

A specific modified constitutive equation for a third-grade fluid is proposed so that the model be suitable for applications where shear-thinning or shear-thickening may occur. For that, we use the Cosserat theory approach reducing the exact three-dimensional equations to a system depending only on time and on a single spatial variable. This one-dimensional system is obtained by integrating the linear momentum equation over the cross-section of the tube, taking a velocity field approximation provided by the Cosserat theory. From this reduced system, we obtain the unsteady equations for the wall shear stress and mean pressure gradient depending on the volume flow rate, Womersley number, viscoelastic coefficient and flow index over a finite section of the tube geometry with constant circular cross-section.

**Keywords:** One-dimensional model, generalized third-grade model, shear-thickening fluid, shear-thinning fluid, Cosserat theory.

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## Sea Ice Index - looking at the trend

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### Abstract

This study analyses the trends of the Sea Ice Extent Index in the Northern (NH) and Southern (SH) Hemispheres, through its time series of records available by NSIDC: National Snow and Ice Data Center (USA). Sea Ice Index is a source for consistently processed ice extent and concentration images and data values since 1979. The research on this theme is current and diverse, as it is part of the problem of Climate Change. Research on trend analysis produced several parametric and nonparametric approaches to accommodate the specificities of hydrological, environmental and other climate data. In recent years, versions of the tests that use resampling techniques have shown to be versatile and outperform the classical tests in some situations, namely in different structures of serial correlation or there is both deterministic and stochastic seasonality. The analysis of an existing trend in NH and SH time series is performed and compared on the base of two trend tests, the t-test (OLS linear regression) and the Mann-Kendall test (nonparametric), applied in its original form and combined with a resampling technique. Data are monthly Sea Ice Index from November 1979 to March 2017. In a first stage the seasonal component is estimated through a variant of the STL - Seasonal Decomposition of Time Series by Loess, which contemplates non-constant seasonality; then seasonality is removed from the original series before the trend test. The comparison between methods is performed. The order of autocorrelation structure in each time series is estimated by the best fitting model obtained through the AIC information criterion.

**Keywords:** Trend analysis, sieve bootstrapp, seasonal-trend decomposition, Sea Ice Index, Mann-Kendall, t-test.

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# Iberian energy prices forecasting using a time series approach

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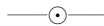
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## Abstract

This work is a consequence of the challenge proposed at the 119th European Study Group with Industry in June 2016, by the company EDP, Energia de Portugal, and the work presented in [2]. Here we introduce a preliminary approach using Time Series Methodology. In short term forecasting electricity price context, the techniques more commonly applied are autoregressive and moving average models ARMA, which can be combined with the stationary form of ARIMA models. ARX, ARMAX, ARIMAX and SARIMAX are the extension of these models when exogenous factors [3] are considered (e.g. generation capacity, load profiles and meteorological conditions). In previous works [2, 1] were obtained interesting results, where different time period slots were identified as important explanatory variables. Using this information, we included this variables in the new ARIMAX models here presented. These exogenous factors allowed to improve the forecasting measure quality, even though we are still in a preliminary stage of analysis. In order to compare the results with previously ones obtained, the hourly prices data were considered from March 10th 2014 to May 29th 2016.

**Keywords:** Electricity price forecasting, ARIMA, ARIMAX.



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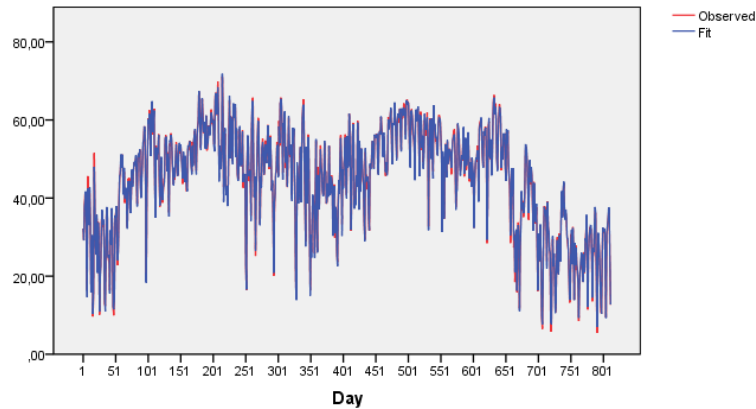


Figure 1: Preliminary results: electricity price estimates. Estimated period: March 10<sup>th</sup> 2014 to May 29<sup>th</sup> 2016.

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