

# Newsletter • December 2018

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## From the chair

In keeping with tradition, here is our annual Newsletter to inform you about the main activities of the Statistical Modelling Society (SMS), the related meeting, the International Workshop on Statistical Modelling (IWSM), and the Statistical Modelling journal, (SMij).

As you probably know, elections for the renewal of SMS Executive Committee took place in November. First of all, I would like to thank all candidates for their willingness to help to run the society, and secondly, to congratulate the elected ones: Helga Wagner (Austria), Marco Grzegorzcyk (Netherlands), Elisabeth Waldmann (Germany), Carlo Giovanni Camarda (France), Jeff Simonoff (USA), and Maria-Xose Rodriguez-Alvarez (Spain). There is still much to do and I wish the incoming committee well in their work to expand the society activities, improve our publicity and marketing, and increase the membership.

After eight years, Ardo van den Hout has decided to stop serving as a treasurer. I would like to thank Ardo for his precious work in previous years. I would also like to take this opportunity to thank Sabine Schnabel for continuing to serve as secretary.

In last July, about 120 people interested in statistical modelling met at our International Workshop on Statistical Modelling at the University of Bristol, UK. As usual, the workshop gave lots of opportunities to gather new ideas and discuss recent developments in statistical modelling. On behalf of SMS, I would like to thank the organizer, Simon Wood and his colleagues for organizing and hosting the 33th IWSM. If you missed it, then you can find some information on page 3 of this newsletter. As announced in Bristol, the next IWSM will take place in Guimarães (Portugal) hosted by the University of Minho. It is the first time we “land” in Portugal, so we really look forward to being there! Abstract submission is open, and full details are available at <http://www.iwsm2019.org/>. At this incoming workshop, we will continue our tradition of an exciting student competition:

two student travel grants from SMS will be available and for the 7th year the best student paper/poster/oral presentation will be awarded. These prizes are sponsored by the Toyota Motor Corporation and Leonard N. Stern School of Business, New York University. Once again, I would like to thank Jeff Simonoff for giving this opportunity. Student contributions and possible competitions represent one of the key features of IWSM, and therefore I warmly ask you to encourage students to attend the meeting and participate in these competitions.

The SMS will sponsor the CoDaWork2019 workshop. As a consequence of sponsorship, SMS members interested in attending it will benefit from a reduced registration fee. Full information is available at <https://webs.camins.upc.edu/codawork2019/>

As you might have noticed, the SMS/IWSM/SMij have new logos, and our website [www.statmod.org](http://www.statmod.org) has been updated accordingly. Nothing really new, just a slight restyling.

Finally, many thanks to all contributors to this newsletter and in particular to Gillian Heller who compiled all the individual contributions into this file. I wish you a successful time until the next workshop in July 2019. I really hope to see you in Guimarães!



Vito Muggeo

# IWSM 2018 – Bristol, UK



The 33rd International Workshop on Statistical Modelling (IWSM2018) was organized by the statistics groups of the Universities of Bristol and Bath and took place from 15-20 July 2018 at the University of Bristol. The workshop was preceded by a one day short course on Casual Inference, given by Vanessa Didelez (Leibniz Institute for Prevention Research and Epidemiology). 130 participants attended the workshop (plus the local organisers), with 45 student participants in a programme of 52 contributed talks, 44 posters and five keynote talks:

- John Aston (Cambridge, UK)  
Statistics for Covariance Functions
- Iain Currie (Heriot-Watt University, UK)  
GLAM: From Graz to Bristol
- Leo Held (University of Zurich, Switzerland)  
Challenging Statistical Significance: A Case for Reverse-Bayes
- Catherine Matias (CNRS (French National Centre for Scientific Research), France)  
A semiparametric extension of the stochastic block model for longitudinal networks
- Hein Putter (Leiden University Medical Centre, Netherlands)  
Multi-state models: Beware the Markov assumption!

There were excursions to historic Bath, a brewery, and the SS Great Britain (Isambard Kingdom Brunel's revolutionary steam ship). The conference dinner was held in the Bristol Museum.

The student prizes were awarded as follows. Best poster: Alexander Bauer; best paper: Jennifer Pohle; best presentation (joint winners) Michael Lebacher and Claire Barnes. As for past IWSM workshops, the student awards were generously sponsored by Toyota Motor Corporation N Stern School of Business (New York University). The SMS travel grants were won by Ejike Ugba (Claustal University of Technology) and Davood Roshan Sangachin (National University of Ireland).

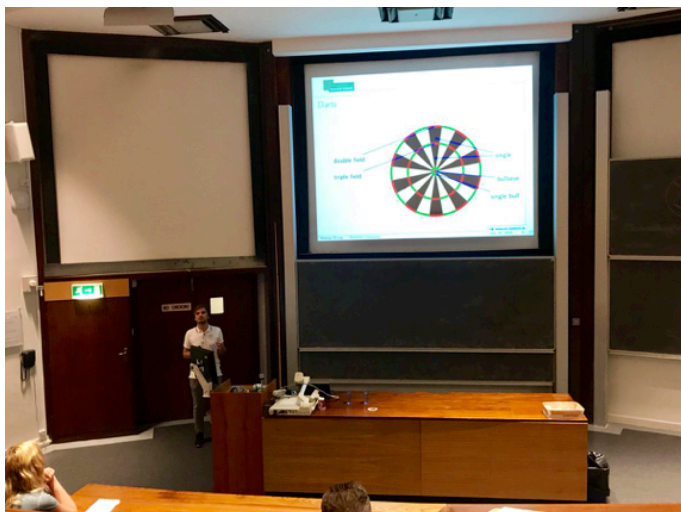
The local organisers (chaired by Simon Wood) would like to thank all the participants for producing such a varied and stimulating Scientific Programme and their enthusiastic participation in the social programme (and for being so positive about the plan b venue after the plan a venue burned down).



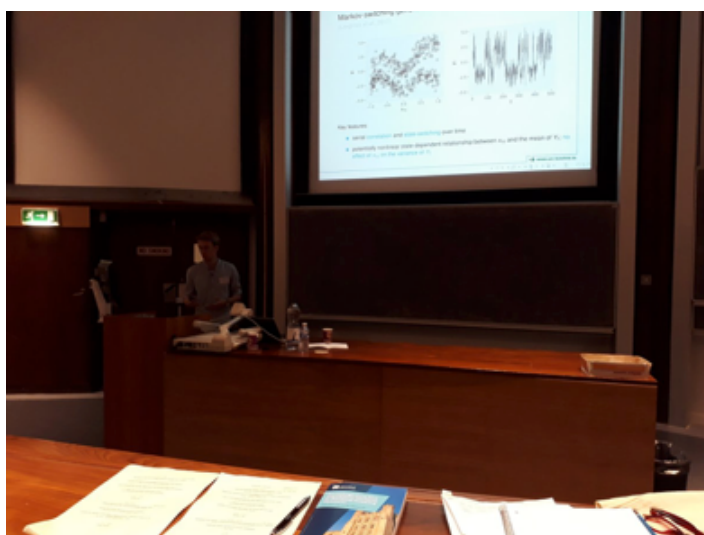
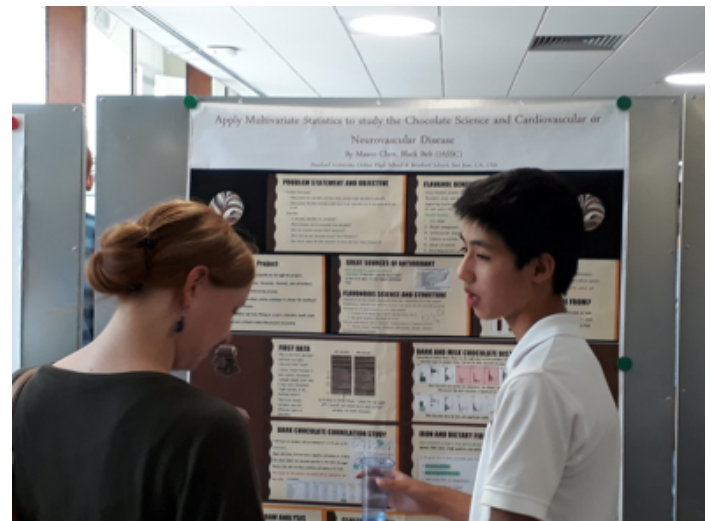
Conference dinner in the Bristol Museum



Simon Wood



Marius Oetting discussing the Hot Hand in Professional Darts



Ardo van den Hout, Sabine Schnabel and Vito Muggeo





The 34th International Workshop on Statistical Modelling

will be held in Guimarães, Portugal

7 - 12 July 2019

The conference will take place at the Vila Flor Cultural Centre, in the city Centre of Guimarães, Portugal. Besides being the town hosting the University of Minho, Guimarães is one of the most beautiful towns in the Minho region. It is a magnificent city of medieval origin and committed to be awarded the label of European Green City for 2020.

The local organizing committee is chaired by Luís Meira-Machado.

Confirmed keynote speakers are:

Adrian Bowman	- University of Glasgow, UK
Julio Singer	- University of São Paulo, Brazil
Maria Antónia Turkman	- University of Lisbon, Portugal
Peter Diggle	- Lancaster University, UK
Philippe Lambert	- University of Liege, Belgium

The short course will be given by James Carpenter (London School of Hygiene & Tropical Medicine) on 7th July.

As always, there will be awards for best student presentation, paper and poster. Registration and abstract submission are open and the abstract submission deadline is 10<sup>th</sup> February 2019.

More information is available at <http://www.iwsm2019.org/>



Luís Meira-Machado

# News from the Journal

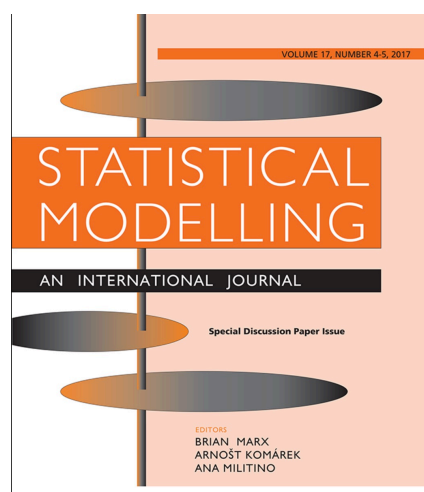
The editors are again pleased to report that *Statistical Modelling* continues to move in the right direction, now approaching our 19th volume. For the very first time, the journal now ranks within the top third (tercile) among Statistics and Probability journals (40th out of 123). More, our one-year impact factor is up by nearly 30% at 1.43, while our five-year impact factor, although slightly down, remains stable at 1.33. Online First continues to bring accepted papers online roughly within 6 weeks after acceptance (while allowing color figures). We strive to make *Statistical Modelling* the primary research resource for statistical modelers, as well as an attractive outlet for statistical modelers to submit their own quality manuscripts (within the journal's aims and scope found at [www.statmod.org/smij](http://www.statmod.org/smij)). In return, the editors make every effort to provide authors with a timely and professional review.

At least in part, the journal's slight upswing is due to its recent special issues on a variety of niche areas, including functional regression modelling and statistical contributions to bioinformatics. *Statistical Modelling* has continued this tradition into 2018 with two more special double issues. Specifically, issues 18(3-4) brought us Bridging the Gap between Methodology and Applications: Tutorials on Semiparametric Regression, with guest editors Thomas Kneib, Andreas Groll, and Andreas Mayr; it is worthy of note that this is the first ever tutorial papers to have appeared in *Statistical Modelling*. Issues 18(5-6) will bring yet another special double issue—this time on Sports Modelling, with guest editors: Andreas Groll, Paolo Zuccolotto, Marica Manisera and Gunther Schaubberger. On a longer horizon, we have plans for yet another special issue on Demographic Modelling with guest editors Jutta

Gampe and Carlo Giovanni Camarda. And *Statistical Modelling* is always open to new ideas for future special issues related to discussions, workshops, or tutorials; so do let us know if you have any ideas for us.

Like nearly every year, this one has also brought a few significant changes to our editorial board. After a few months with the journal, Ana Militino stepped down as editor, and with this change brought in our newest editor Vicente Núñez-Antón from The University of the Basque Country UPV/EHU, Spain. Vicente has really stepped up to this opportunity with much enthusiasm and already has made a significant impact to the of the journal. Also recently, Rolando de la Cruz (Chile), Konstantinos Fokianos (Cyprus), Josu Arteche (Spain) and Sophie Vanbelle (The Netherlands) have joined in (the first two during late 2017). Gilles Teyssiere has left our board during 2018. We are pleased to have the opportunity to work with Rolando, Kostas, Josu, and Sophie in future, who certainly add relevant expertise to our board. We thank Gilles for his hard work and wish him the best.

The editors also wish to congratulate Jennifer Pohle of Bielefeld University, Germany on her first place student competition award for her paper *Coupled Markov-switching regression: inference and a case study using electronic health record data* (with co-authors). Jennifer presented her work at the International Workshop on Statistical Modelling in Bristol, England during July 2018. Among her awards, the journal offered a fast-tracked review process, subject to refereeing. Congratulations, Jennifer.



Please remember that this is your journal, so along with reading it, the editors encourage you to help with its visibility across the globe. Further, we value your constructive input and outreach to encourage appropriate submissions and special issues. As an additional service to authors, note that SAGE also offers an open access option (for a fee) through its Sage Choice program. See [www.statmod.org](http://www.statmod.org) for online data, code, and e-appendices associated with most of our published articles (now with a newly completed search functionality), as well as a variety of general information regarding the Statistical Modelling Society.



Brian Marx



Arnošt Komárek



Vicente Núñez-Antón

## The Statistical Modelling Society – Committees & Elections

The activities and decisions of the Statistical Modelling Society are coordinated and decisions for the Society are managed by the Executive Committee (EC) which is elected every 2 years. Additionally, the Society has Working Groups (WG) that help with particular activities of the Society. The term of office for the incoming EC starts on January 1, 2019 and will end on December 31, 2020. The next election for EC members will be in November 2020. If you are a (fairly) “regular” member of the Society and you like the IWSM atmosphere, consider proposing yourself as a member for the next elections in 2020!

The incoming **Executive Committee** (until Dec 31, 2020) consists of

Vito Muggeo (Italy)	Chair (email: <a href="mailto:chair@statmod.org">chair@statmod.org</a> )
Arnošt Komárek (Czech Republic)	Past Chair
Sabine Schnabel (The Netherlands)	Secretary (email: <a href="mailto:secretary@statmod.org">secretary@statmod.org</a> )
(to be elected by Executive Committee)	Treasurer (email: <a href="mailto:treasurer@statmod.org">treasurer@statmod.org</a> )
Carlo Giovanni Camarda (France)	Elected member
Marco Grzegorzczak (Netherlands)	Elected member
Elisabeth Waldmann (Germany)	Elected member
Jeff Simonoff (USA)	Elected member
Helga Wagner (Austria)	Elected member
Maria-Xose Rodriguez-Alvarez (Spain)	Elected member
Brian Marx (USA)	Representative WG on the Journal
Luis Meira Machado (Portugal)	Representative WG for the Workshop
Jochen Einbeck (UK)	Representative WG for Communication

If you want to contact all EC members please email: [committee@statmod.org](mailto:committee@statmod.org).

Members of the [Working Groups](#) currently are:

[Journal](#): Brian Marx (USA), Arnošt Komárek (Czech Republic), Vicente Núñez-Antón (Spain)

[Workshop](#): Simon Wood (UK), Luis Meira Machado (Portugal), Maria-Xose Rodriguez-Alvarez (Spain)

[Communication](#): Jochen Einbeck (UK), Gillian Heller (Australia; newsletter), Kenan Matawie (Australia; representative for Australia/NZ/East Asia), Enrico Colosimo (Brazil; representative for South America)

## Funding Opportunities

### Short Courses and Workshops

Members of the Statistical Modelling Society who are interested in organising a Focused Workshop or a Short Course and plan to seek support by the Society should send an inquiry to [secretary@statmod.org](mailto:secretary@statmod.org). Guidelines for applications are available on the website at [www.statmod.org/society\\_courses.htm](http://www.statmod.org/society_courses.htm).

### Student Travel Grants

The Statistical Modelling Society provides up to two travel grants to support students who have no other means of financial support to attend the IWSM. These travel grants include

- the student registration fee for the IWSM, including a one-year subscription to the journal Statistical Modelling,
- participation in the IWSM social events (excursion and conference dinner),
- reimbursement of travel and accommodation costs (based upon presenting receipts) up to 800 €.

Selection is based on a submitted abstract for an oral presentation at the IWSM and the final decision takes also into account the student country of origin. Full details are available on the IWSM 2019 webpage.