

BOOK OF ABSTRACTS

Universidade Aberta Lisbon - PORTUGAL June 3–5, 2019

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Title

13th Conference on Statistics, Mathematics and Computation – Book of Abstracts

Editor

Universidade Aberta Rua da Escola Politécnica, 147 1269-001 Lisboa

Authors

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Preface

Dear participants and friends,

WELCOME to the 13th International Conference on Statistics, Mathematics and Computation!

We celebrate this meeting in Honour of Professor João Tiago Mexia, for his brilliant career and outstanding contribution to the field of Statistics in Portugal and abroad, and to whom we are deeply grateful for all the support, kindness and precious collaboration in our meetings!

We are delighted to have this celebration, fostering strong interaction between national and international researchers, leading to a successful commitment and enthusiasm on promoting research in and between the broad areas of Statistics, Mathematics and Computation.

It is a great pleasure to receive all our guests and contributors from 3 to 5th June in the Aberta University, and we emphasize our huge gratitude to the Magnificent Rector, for kindly accepting to embrace this challenge of hosting once more this International Conference!

The WSMC was successfully organized in several places along the 13 editions and we believe that our meetings have been creating very nice opportunities for showcasing the growth and development of the focused main areas, in a time underlined by so many new technologies and huge emerging challenges. The scientific exchanges of ideas between participants is always helpful for generating positive impact on propelling the advancement of science and technology and some of these results have already been successfully published in high standard Journals, special issues and Springer Series Books.

Also now, in this 13th edition, the participants have the opportunity to submit their work to high referenced Journals and Book volumes. Selected papers, after peer review, will appear in the Chilean Journal of Statistics (ChJS), Journal of Applied Statistics (JAS), Biometrical Letters, Biometrics & Biostatistics International Journal (BBIJ) and in Springer volumes of the Series Contributions to Statistics. Details will be soon announced in our webpage.

We are highly grateful to all the participants, Invited Speakers, members of Scientific Committee, Session Organizers and Authors who submitted ab-

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stracts, for their valuable contribution and for the enthusiastic way how their participation is assumed!

We greatly acknowledge all the sponsors and contributors who made this meeting a reality and we reinforce the importance of our social programme. This year it includes the nice opportunity to visit the National Museum of Natural History and Science and the Botanical Garden, allowed all the week, from 3 to 9 of June - during and after WSMC13. We are really grateful to the Director of the Department of Museums Management Support and HCT, Dr Vitor Lucas and to his team, for kindly offering this outstanding opportunity to all the participants of WSMC13.

A deeply thanks is addressed to all the members of the Organizing Committee, emphasizing the invaluable collaboration of Dr. Virginia Zaidam, the crucial help of the Gabinete de Comunicação e de Relações Internacionais-UAB team, and the very hard work of Amílcar, Sandra and Dário on the organization and supervision of many of the programme and schedule details, preparing the website and the abstracts book in an incredible record time!

Finally, as I guess most of you already noticed, Lisbon is very much enjoyable for offering a rich and varied history, a buzzing nightlife and for being blessed with a glorious year-round climate, where the sky joins the ocean and the city is kissed by the river Tagus. Please take some of your time to enjoy and take profit of it! Don't forget to taste the famous "Pastéis de Belém" and to listen to Fado music!

We wish you all a very productive and successfull meeting, as well as a pleasant and memorable stay in Lisbon, the stunning capital of Portugal!

By the Executive Committee,

Teresa A. Oliveira

Teresa Diverto

Lisbon, 3-5th June 2019

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	· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·
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	June 4^{th} , 2019 (Tuesday)
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	Keynote Session: João Tiago Mexia (Room: Auditório)
	Title: Estimation for Additive Models: LSE and GLSE
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Portuguese Si	ME's internationalization and financial performance, Aldina Correia
0	r entrepreneurship of municipalities, Eliana Costa e Silva
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A generalized jacknife estimator of a negative extreme value index, Frederico Caeiro					
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- P2 A note on models with commutative orthogonal block structure, Carla Santos
- P3 A Time series analysis of road traffic accidents in Luanda, Patrícia A. Filipe
- P4 Three-dimensional velocity field for blood flow using the power-law viscosity function, Fernando Carapau
- P5 Extinction times for the logistic model with and without Allee effects, Clara Carlos (jointly with Carlos A. Braumann and Nuno M. brites)
- P6 Robust Portfolio Selection, Mickael Borges
- P7 Data modeling from an experiment with barley malt and some results, Iwona Mejza (jointly with Katarzyna Ambroży-Deręgowska)

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- P8 Time Series Analysis for Maximum Wind Speed Forecasting, Arminda Manuela Gonçalves (jointly with Cláudia Costa and Marco Costa)
- P9 Statistics Analysis in the Management of a Local Public Company, Arminda Manuela Gonçalves
- P10 Degree one models for symmetric Stochastic matrices, Cristina Dias (jointly with Carla Santos and João Tiago Mexia)
- P11 Numerical Approach of Mixed Functional Differential Equations: Some Applications, M. Filomena Teodoro
- P12 Multinomial Distribution and Discriminant Analysis: An application to discrete variables, Isaac Akoto (jointly with Dário Ferreira, Gracinda Guerreiro, Sandra Ferreira and João T. Mexia)
- P13 Cumulant Generating Functions: a simulation study, Patrícia Antunes (jointly with Sandra Ferreira, Célia Nunes, Dário Ferreira and João T. Mexia)
- P14 The Potential of Logistic Regression, Sandra Nunes (jointly with Dina Salvador and Sandra Monteiro)

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Keynote Speaker

Estimation for Additive Models: LSE and GLSE

João T. Mexia¹

¹ Center of Mathematics and its Applications, Faculty of Science and Technology, New University of Lisbon, Monte da Caparica, Portugal

Abstract

The model

$$\mathbf{Y} = \mathbf{X}_0 \beta_0 + \sum_{l=1}^w \mathbf{X}_l \mathbf{U}_l,$$

where β_0 is fixed and the $\mathbf{U}_1,...,\mathbf{U}_w$ with null mean vectors and variance covariance matrices $\sigma_l^2 \mathbf{I}_{c_l}, l = 1,...,w$, has covariance matrix $\sum_{l=1}^w \sigma_l^2 \mathbf{M}_l$, with

 $\mathbf{M}_l = \mathbf{X}_l \mathbf{X}_l^{\top}, l = 1, ..., w$. Thus this model is additive.

For these models are obtained LSE estimators for the first four order cumulants of the components of the vectors $\mathbf{U}_1, ..., \mathbf{U}_w$ and for the coefficients vectors β_0 . Moreover GLSE are obtained for β_0 and the variance components $\sigma_l^2, l = 1, ..., w$, which will be the second cumulants of the components of $\mathbf{U}_1, ..., \mathbf{U}_w$.

Keywords: additive models, cumulants, GLSE, LSE, moments.



Acknowledgements

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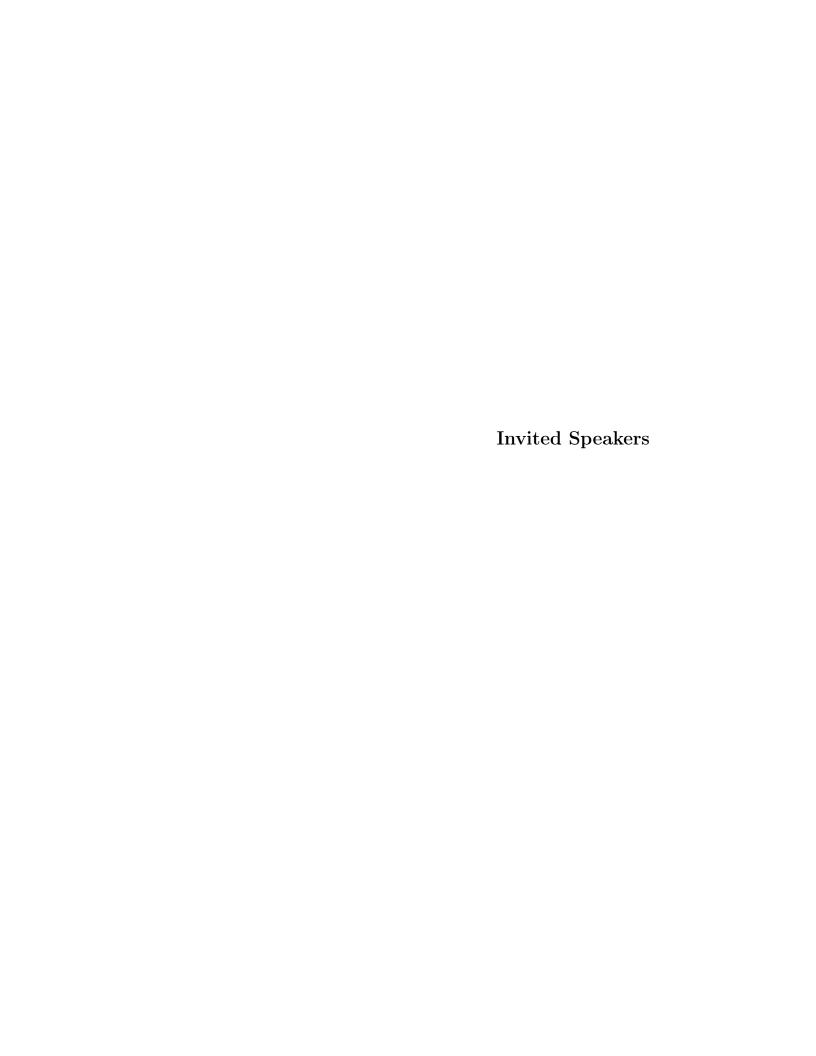
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Testing the "complete symmetrical equivalence" of two sets of variables

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Abstract

Let $\underline{X} = [\underline{X}_1', \underline{X}_2']' \sim N_{2p}(\underline{\mu}, \Sigma)$, where both subvectors \underline{X}_1 and \underline{X}_2 are p-dimensional, and

$$\underline{\mu} = \begin{bmatrix} \underline{\mu}_1 \\ \underline{\mu}_2 \end{bmatrix}$$
 with $\underline{\mu}_1 = E(\underline{X}_1)$ and $\underline{\mu}_2 = E(\underline{X}_2)$.

We will say that \underline{X}_1 and \underline{X}_2 are "completely symmetrically equivalent" if

$$\Sigma = \begin{bmatrix} \Sigma_1 & \Sigma_2 \\ \Sigma_2 & \Sigma_1 \end{bmatrix} \quad \text{and} \quad \underline{\mu}_1 = \underline{\mu}_2, \tag{1}$$

where Σ_1 and Σ_2 are non-specified, but with Σ_1 , $\Sigma_1 + \Sigma_2$ and $\Sigma_1 - \Sigma_2$ being positive-definite matrices. We will be interested in testing the null hypothesis in (1), which we will call the "complete symmetrical equivalence" hypothesis.

The authors derive the likelihood ratio test statistic for the present test and show how it is possible to include the distribution of this statistic under the framework of Theorem 3.2 in [1] and as such have its exact probability density and distribution functions given by Corollary 4.2 in the same reference, in a finite closed form, through those of an EGIG (Exponentiated Generalized Integer Gamma) distribution, with all parameters precisely defined, as simple functions of p and of the sample size. An example of the implementation of the test, using real data, is presented.

Keywords: exact distribution, finite closed form, Meijer G function, likelihood ratio test, product of Beta random variables.

____(•)____

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Defining a Stochastic Controller based on a Fuzzy Controller to adjust the mutation probabilities of a genetic algorithm

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Abstract

In the theory of fuzzy sets, fuzzy controllers are tools that were developed and have been used since then in a wide amount of practical applications. Controllers are devices that use an output signal of a system to make adjustment in the input signal so as to keep the system stable. Fuzzy controllers use membership functions, a base of rule and an inference method that together determine the way the controller works. The membership functions describe the opinion of the experts in the subject. The domain of these membership functions are divided into sets where the experts agree and into those sets where they do not agree. In this paper we introduce a hybrid inference system, which uses the Mandani system in the set where the experts agree and uses a beta distribution to model the response of the controller in the set where the experts do not agree. We compare the performance of both controllers, the pure fuzzy controller and the hybrid one, called stochastic controller, when they are used to adjust the mutation probability of a genetic algorithm which is run to find the optimum point of some test functions. Many recent papers have found that maintaining high diversity in the population of a Genetic Algorithms improve convergence rate to global optimum. In this paper we consider two different functions in order to keep a population with high diversity while the space of possible solutions is searched through. The values of the functions used to calculate the diversity of the current population are used as the input variable of a fuzzy/stochastic controller which adjusts the mutation probability of an elitist non-homogeneous genetic algorithm. We also present numeric simulations to illustrate that the performance of the stochastic controller is statistically as good as that of the best fuzzy controller in all examples performed.

Keywords: stochastic controller, fuzzy controller, genetic algorithms.

Samples with random dimensions in fixed effects ANOVA

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Abstract

Analysis of variance (ANOVA) is one of the most commonly used statistical methods in practical applications. It is often used in several research areas, namely in medical research, social sciences or agriculture, to name just a few. Despite its wide use, it has been applied assuming that sample dimensions are known. The aim of this talk is to present an extension of the theory of fixed effects ANOVA to situations where the samples dimensions are not known in advance. An illustrative example of this, is the collection of observations during a fixed time period in a study comparing, for example, several pathologies of patients arriving at a hospital. In these cases it is more appropriate to consider the sample sizes, $n_1, ..., n_m$, as realizations of independent random variables, $N_1, ..., N_m$. This approach must be based on an adequate choice of the distributions of $N_1, ..., N_m$. We assume the Poisson distribution when the occurrence of observations corresponds to a counting process. The Binomial distribution is the proper choice if we have observations failures and there exist an upper bound for the sample sizes. We conclude this talk by presenting an application on real medical data, considering cancer registries, and we carry out a simulation study to evaluate the proposed method.

Keywords: Fixed effects models, random sample sizes, Poisson distribution, Binomial distribution, cancer registries.

Acknowledgements

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On the Quadratic Logit Model

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Abstract

The target of this paper is to investigate the Logit model approximated by a second order linear model, i.e

$$LogOdds = p_2(x)$$

with

$$Odds = p/(1-p), \quad p_2(x) = a + bx + cx^2$$

The model is discussed for the point of view of:

- 1. Design o Experiments, i.e. can we construct an optimal experimental design?
- 2. The appropriate investigation for the max or min of p(x) i.e can we obtain a 95% Confidence interval for it?
- 3. Computation difficulties involved on the existence of MLE i.e does MLE always exist?



Universal Representation of Bivariate Survival Functions

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Abstract

We present a copula alternative method for construction of any bivariate survival function given marginals. The joint survival functions are given in a product form which is universal so each bivariate model can be expressed in this form. The methods of construction are discussed.

Keywords: bivariate survival function representation, copula, dependence function (joiner).



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An application of SEM in Social and Health Sciences using different estimation methods

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Abstract

Structural equation modeling (SEM) has become very used in the fields of social and health sciences, namely because it allows to test entire theories and concepts. SEM's have the ability to assess latent variables/constructs at the observation level (measurement or outer model) and test relationships between constructs on the theoretical level (structural or inner model) [2]. In this study, related to the workers' health and wellbeing, the data was collected by a validated Psychosocial Questionnaire, with ordinal variables expressed in a 5 point Likert-type scale (this scale was perceived as symmetric and equidistant and as considered approximated to an interval level measurement). A theoretical SEM was proposed and a model was estimated using two different estimators [1]: the MLE - Maximum Likelihood Estimation (Covariance Based - SEM) and PLS - Partial Least Squares (Variance Based - SEM), that does not impose any distributional assumptions. In SEM the covariance-and-variance based (CB-and-VB) estimators share the same roots, but CB-SEM methods are preferred if the model contains constructs modeled as common factors and VB SEM estimators are favoured if the underlying model consists of constructs modeled as composites [3, 4]. The latest consistent PLS (PLSc) version, which corrects for bias to consistently estimate SEM's with common factors, was applied and the results show strong similarities with MLE as expected, since PLSc was designed to mimic MLE for studies that focus on analyzing and testing the model structure.

Keywords: Maximum Likelihood Estimation, Partial Least Squares, common factors, survey.



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Tail dependence coefficient semi-parametric estimation through a generalized mean

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Abstract

A reliable risk assessment of the amount of tail dependence is important in the most diverse fields, like climatology, environment, finance and insurance, among others. A crucial issue that appears when there is more than one variable is that of dealing with dependence. The study of multivariate extremes can indeed be splited essentially in two parts, the marginal distributions and the dependence structure. The margins are nowadays easy to deal with through univariate extreme value theory (EVT). The crucial parameter in univariate EVT is the EV index (EVI), which measures the heaviness of the right-tail function (RTF) of the model underlying the data. To deal with dependence, also often univariate EV techniques can be used, after an adequate transformation of the available mutivariate data sample. This happens for instance with the estimation of the tail dependence coefficient (TDC). Indeed, and thinking on a bivariate framework, (X,Y), after the standardization of the margins to a simple unit Fréchet distribution, which can be performed for instance by their empirical cumulative distribution function combined with the inverse probability integral transform, the TDC appears as the reciprocal of the regularly varying exponent of a Pareto-type RTF for the differences between the margins. Let us assume that $(X_i, Y_i), 1 \le i \le n$, are independent copies of the random vector (X,Y). In a large variety of cases, setting $Z_i = \min(X_i, Y_i)$, we have

$$\mathbb{P}(Z_i > z) = \mathbb{P}(X_i > z, Y_i > z) = z^{-1/\eta} \mathcal{L}(z),$$

with $\mathcal{L}(\cdot)$ a slowly varying function at infinity, i.e. an ultimately positive function satisfying $\mathcal{L}(tx)/\mathcal{L}(t) \to 1$, for all x > 0, as $t \uparrow +\infty$. Thus the TDC, η , can be viewed as the EVI of the minimum of the two components, and hence all the types of EVI-estimators, including *bias-corrected* (BC) EVI-estimators, can be used. BC EVI-estimators were introduced in pioneering

papers by Gomes (1995, 1999), Feuerverger and Hall (1999), Beirlant et al. (1999) and Gomes et al. (2000), and can be recently found in Caeiro et al. (2016), among others. For a recent overview of the topic, see Gomes and Guillou (2015). Such procedures have been considered for the bivariate case in Beirlant and Vandewalle (2002), using an exponential regression model, and in Beirlant et al. (2011) under an adequate condition on the slowly varying function \mathcal{L} . Goegebeuer and Guillou (2013) reconsidered the bias-issue when estimating the TDC, η , on the basis of a weighted functional estimator for η . These BC TDC-estimators have explicit expressions, making them computationally inexpensive. The nice behaviour of the recently introduced generalized means (GMs) EVI-estimators (see Brilhante et al., 2013, among others), also computationally inexpensive, leads us now to suggest the use of the also explicit GMs or even BCGMs, for a reliable estimation of the TDC.

Keywords: semi-parametric estimation, statistics of extremes; tales of the tails.



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Effects of Different Higher Moments on Type One Error Rate in ANOVA.

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Abstract

F-test in analysis of variance is based on three assumptions: normal distributed random variables, independent samples and homogeneity of variances. Deviations from normal distribution are regarded to have almost no effects on type one error rate (Box (1954b), Keppel and Wickens (2004)). Dependencies can be eliminated by means of an appropriate model. Heterogeneity however is regarded to be a serious problem (Keppel et al. (1992); Keppel and Wickens (2004); Moder (2007); Rasch et al. (2009)). To handle this problem various solutions have been proposed. They are either approximative or based on permutations of the samples. Here a method is presented which allows an exact test with inhomogeneous variances (Moder (2010)).

Moments of degree 3 or 4 are usually not really considered in terms of their impact on the performance of the F-test in ANOVA. If these moments are significant, non-parametric tests (such as the Kruskal-Wallis test) are often used.

Various tests (F-test Analysis of Variance, Welch-Test for more than 2 samples, variance weighted ANOVA, Kruskal-Wallis-test, Permutation test using F- statistic or Kruskal-Wallis statistic, and a special kind of Hotelling's T 2 test (Moder, 2007)) were investigated by hand of a simulation study to investigate the influence of higher moments on Type I error rate.

Keywords: higher moments , type I error rate, exact test, approximative test, simulation study

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On single-factor experiments with repeated measures

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Abstract

In many industrial, medical (clinical trials), ecological and agricultural experiments, treatments are applied to each experimental unit sequentially in time or space. There is a possibility that a systematic effect, or trend, influences the observations, in addition to the experimental unit, treatment and carry-over effects. This type of effect should be taken into account both when the experiment is planned and when the results are analyzed. An experiment that takes such issues into account is called a repeated measures experiment. The important feature is that multiple measurements are made on the same experimental unit. A special case of this is the cross-over design, wherein the treatments themselves are switched on the same experimental unit during the course of the experiment. Experiments with repeated measures will be presented here from the point of view of the agricultural sciences. In the agricultural sciences, repeated measures experiments are very often applied when observing, for example, plants subjected to protection treatments and their yields over time (tomatoes, cucumbers, cereals, etc.).

Two fundamental types of repeated measures are common. Repeated measures in time is a situation in which experimental units receive a treatment, and then are simply followed with repeated measures on the response variable at several times. In contrast, experiments may involve administering all treatment levels (in a sequence) to each experimental unit. This type of repeated measures study is a cross-over design. Cross-over designs require the use of a wash-out period between treatment applications to prevent (or minimize) carry-over effects. Carry-over effects occur when the application of one treatment affects the response of the next treatment applied in the cross-over design. The coding for analysis of cross-over designs is very similar to the case of repeated measures in time, with the addition of a 'sequence'

variable added initially to the model to test for the presence of carry-over effects.

There are many approaches to analysis and further inference in connection with repeated measures experiments (cf. e.g. Monlezun et al., 1984, Krzyśko et al., 2014, Pereira et. al., 2012). The approaches are associated with certain assumptions concerning the dispersion structure of a trait with repeated measures. The evolution of the methodology for repeated measures has been driven by the need to consider the nature of potentially correlated residuals. The current state of the art for repeated measures can be found in the rich literature on the subject.

In many cases inherently different experiments share a common analysis, as is the case with some types of split-plot and repeated measures experiments. A split-plot in time approach looks at each subject (experimental unit) as a main plot (receiving a treatment), this then being split into subplots (time periods). The split-plot in time assumes that the correlations among time periods are the same for all treatments and time periods (compound symmetry). It will be assumed that the variance-covariance matrix follows a pattern of compound symmetry. This means that the errors between time points within subjects are correlated-and note that these correlations are presumed to be the same for each set of times, regardless of how distant in time the repeated measures are made. This assumption is not a good one, and often there are other dispersion structures that are more appropriate when using repeated measures. However, the split-plot approach has some advantages. It allows one to plan an experiment in which not all measurements are performed (incomplete experiments due to missing measurements). This is very important in a situation where some measurements cannot be made. Considerations are limited only to planned incompleteness. For such incompleteness we give methods of planning and analyzing the repeated measures experiments.

Keywords: repeated measures, split-plot design, dispersion structure, ANOVA.



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High Performance Computing + High Performance Data Analytics - Advancing science with the OBLIVION supercomputer@U.Évora - ENGAGE SKA¹²

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Abstract

In order to address the large data analytics and computational demands of the Square Kilometer Array (SKA; the largest ongoing astronomical project in the world) the University of Évora is acquiring (under the ENGAGE SKA Research Infrastructure¹) the fastest supercomputer in Portugal with an expected peak performance of 300 TFLOPS in an investment over $1\,\mathrm{M} \in$. Although the machine's primary use is for Astrophysics, a large fraction of the computing time will be available for the scientific community to carry out production runs and deal with massive amounts of data (hundreds of terabytes or even petabytes; the "real" Big Data).

There are a few major goals defined for this machine: (1) carry out computationally demanding scientific simulations, (2) handle massive volumes of data using high performance computing (HPC), (3) training and transfer of knowledge on HPC and high performance data analytics (HPDA), and (4) establish a HPDA program associated to different data collections and their access by different communities (e.g., astrophysics, atomic and particle physics, engineering, mathematics and statistics, health and medicine, and tourism, just to name a few).

Some of these goals are fostered by the ERASMUS+ "High Performance Computing + High Performance Data Analytics" (HPC+HPDA) Consortium³ established to advance the use and training on HPC & HPDA among HEIs in Portugal inline with the European Digital Programme.

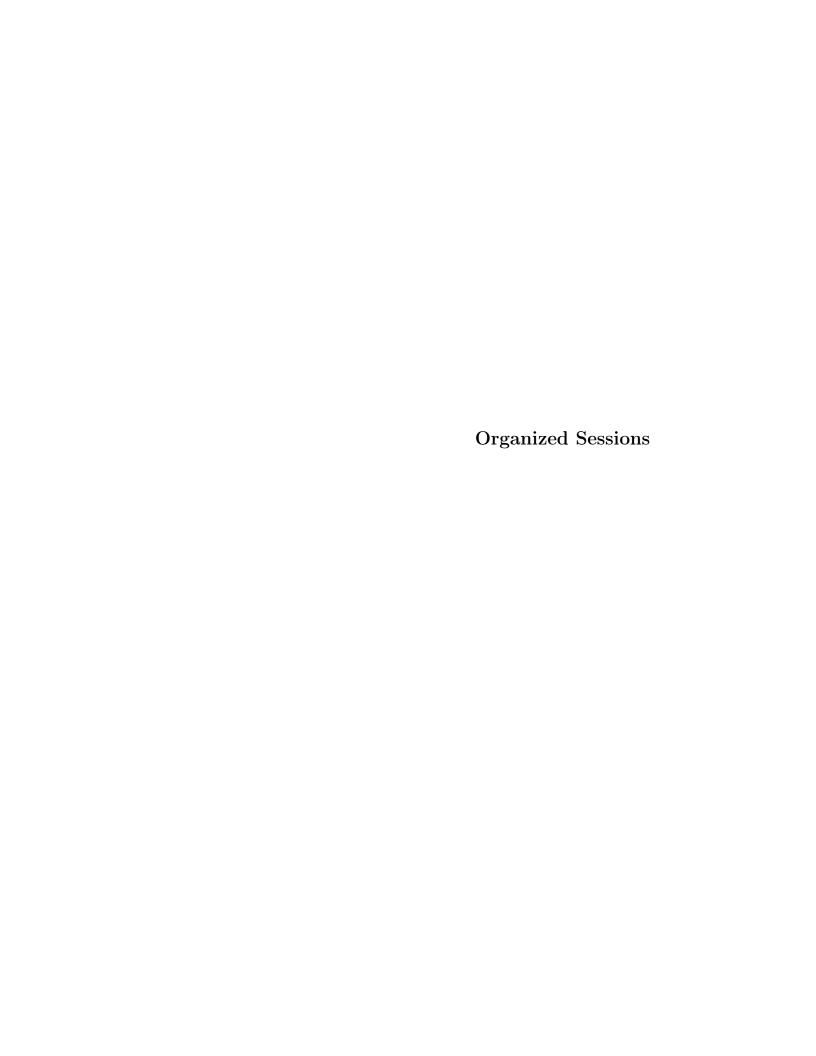
¹ ENGAGE SKA Research Infrastructure (Ref. POCI-01-0145-FEDER-022217), funded by the FCT and COMPETE2020.

² The supercomputer is part of the Iberian Network of Advanced Computing - Portugal (RICA-PT) funded by the FCT/FCCN.

³ The HPC+HPDA Consortium is presently composed by the Universities of Évora (PI), Coimbra, and Algarve, and the New University of Lisbon.

In this talk I'll present the supercomputer and the expected scalability against other machines in Europe, the goals referred above, the scientific case, as well as the HPC+HPDA consortium.

Keywords: High performance computing – High performance data analytics – Data collections – Supercomputers – Scientific computing



Organized Session 1

Statistical Methods and Applications

Organizer: Ayana Mateus (Portugal)

Organized Session 1 29

Inference for the Growth Curve Model with Dual Orthogonal Covariance Structure

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Abstract

The growth curve model is a well documented multivariate model in literature, with a well established methodology of maximum likelihood estimation. We propose a growth curve model family with an orthogonal covariance structure for lines and columns, proceeding with the derivation of maximum likelihood statistics. Many familiar models fall within this model family, as it will be shown.

Keywords:growth curve model, orthogonal covariance structure, maximum likelihood.



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Multivariate collective risk models Inference and special case

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Abstract

In this paper we propose an extension of the theory of univariate collective models to the multivariate case. These models play an important part in Risk Theory thus in Actuarial Mathematics. Up to now mainly the univariate models have been considered but, there are more and more situations requiring a multivariate approach. For instance when considering forest fires, besides their number, the burnt areas are of great interest. Inference based on these models was centered on totals, claims totals being the leading example, we now consider also means, mean claims for instance. The approach presented is based on asymptotic distributions which are very useful, since many modelling problems have large samples. Examples of such situations range from insurances portfolios, to the sets of clients of banks, to Forest Fires, etc. With this purpose, we will consider a special case of the general model where the set of policies is replaced by the set of forests and the claims by forest fires, in order to do inference on two variables of interest for the study of forest fires: the number of fires and the burnt areas. An illustrative application to forest fires in Portugal is presented.

Keywords: Collective models, asymptotic distributions, confidence intervals, risk theory.



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Unbalanced Full Factorial and Fractional Factorial Designs Associated with a Commutative Jordan Algebra

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Abstract

The purpose of this work is to show that is possible to extend the study of the full factorial designs and the fractional factorial designs, of fixed effects, to the unbalanced case, that is, when the number of observations taken within each treatment may be different. It is possible combining the linear model associated with a commutative Jordan algebra (CJA) and the L-Model theory. The structure of the factorial design used in this work is based on linear spaces on Galois fields as well as on the relationship between a linear model and a CJA.

Keywords: Design of experiments; Linear models; Unbalanced designs.



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Revisiting the calibration procedure in the extremal index estimation

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Dedicated to Professor J. Tiago Mexia as a token of friendship and with a thank you

Abstract

In extreme value theory we deal essentially with the estimation of parameters of extreme or rare events. Classical methods were first derived when the underlying process is assumed to be a sequence of independent and identically distributed random variables. However, when observations are taken along the time and/or the space the independence is an unrealistic assumption. A relevant parameter that arises in this situation is the extremal index, θ , characterizing the degree of local dependence in the extremes of a stationary series. Most of the semi-parametric estimators of this parameter show a strong dependence on the threshold, u_n , with an increasing bias and a decreasing variance as the threshold decreases. The calibration methodology, considered as a way of controlling the bias of an estimator was revisited. Some models were considered in a simulation study presented in a previous work, see Prata Gomes, Mexia and Neves (2013) and here this technique will be revisited and some new results are discussed such as the construction of confidence intervals for θ .

Keywords: calibration technique, estimation, extreme value theory, extremal index.



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A generalized jacknife estimator of a negative extreme value index

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Abstract

Let X_1, X_2, \ldots, X_n be independent random variables with a common distribution function F in the max-domain of attraction of a non-degenerate distribution function G. Then G is the extreme value distribution with a shape parameter ξ (Gnedenko, 1943). Let us assume that the shape parameter ξ , also know as the extreme value index, is negative ($\xi < 0$). Under a semi parametric framework, inference is usually based on the upper k+1order statistics of the sample of size n. Classical estimators of the extreme value index such as the moment estimator (Dekkers et al., 1989) or Pickand's (1975) estimator have high variance for small values of k and a high bias for large values of k. This leads to the usual bias-variance trade-off problem when we choose the threshold k. In this paper, following the lines of Caeiro and Gomes (2003) and Gomes et al. (2013), we use the generalized jackknife methodology to obtain a new asymptotically unbiased estimator of a negative extreme value index. Under a second order condition on the tail function 1-F we derive the non degenerate asymptotic behaviour of the new estimator. Using Monte-Carlo simulation techniques, we validate the asymptotic results for finite samples.

Keywords: extreme value index, generalized jackknife methodology, moment estimator, semi-parametric estimation.



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Organized Session 2

Computational Mathematics, Statistics and Information Management - Part I

Organizer: M. Filomena Teodoro (Portugal)

Analysis of SMEs Financial Distress Probability: the case of Tâmega and Sousa Region

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Abstract

This study intends to deepen the knowledge of risk factors financial distress of companies, in a region of Portugal that presents different specificities in terms of its business dynamics, characterized by a large number of small and medium enterprises (SMEs): the region of Tâmeqa and Sousa. Since the timely identification of imminent failure of firms is desirable to ensure the stability of financial markets and overall economic prosperity [3]. For that purpose, we analyze historical data on 1190 firms from the manufacturing sector, taken from SABI database, between 2008-18 adopting the Cox proportional Hazard model [1] within survival analysis methodology. Survival analysis allows us to study a distribution of time that elapses between the entrance and the occurrence of an event of interest, which in this study is the financial distress. Based on [4] we consider that a company is in financial distress when its EBITDA (Earnings Before Interest, Taxes, Depreciation and Amortization) is less than financial expenses for two consecutive years, and general liquidity (current assets over current liabilities) is less than one for two consecutive years. We analyze time between firm creation and financial distress. From literature review, and specifically based on the works of [3], [5], [6] and [8] we test for firm age, size and ownership concentration effects as intrinsic firm characteristics. Additionally, we study if firm survival is influenced by macroeconomic stress conditions [7] by testing the effect of Euribor (6M) and Gross National Product, both measured in the year preceding firm financial stress. We control for spatial effect (region), a categorical variable controlling 11 counties, since we expect that different geographic regions idiosyncratic has influence on SMEs' survival. For model robustness check we fitted the flexible parametric Royston and Parmer model [9] to the data to verify if results altered considerably. For model prediction accuracy diagnose, the Harrell C statistic was calculated. Results show that age, size, ownership concentration have a significant effect on firm probability of financial distress and, as expected, it negatively influenced by macroeconomic stress conditions.

Keywords: Financial Distress, SMEs, Survival Analysis, Cox model



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Organized Session 2 41

Portuguese SME's internationalization and financial performance

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Abstract

The main objective of this work is to study the impact that internationalization can have on the financial performance of a company.

A database collected on the SABI (Iberian Balance Sheet Analysis System) database, which includes Small and Medium Enterprises – SMEs (based on the definition of the European Commission, in recommendation number 2003/361/CE, SMEs are companies with a maximum of 250 employees and a turnover of not more than EUR 50 million), which carry out exports and which had information in relation to the absolute year 2016 in SABI. Thus, the data includes information about 255 SMEs (without missing) and a total of 12 variables (4 qualitative and 8 quantitative).

In order to perform the study, several methodologies were used, namely, an initial descriptive analysis in order to classify the sample, as well as applied a factor analysis (exploratory and confirmatory) and a multiple linear regression.

With this study it was verified that the financial performance of the companies has influence in the internationalization of the company, being the model presented highly significant.

The most significant limitation of this work is that the adjusted coefficient of determination is relatively small. However, this is explained by the literature that the lack of a formal concept of internationalization and financial performance leads to the creation of more subjective models, which can lead to contradictory results.

It should also be noted that by using only exports to represent internationalization, only a small part of the multidimensional phenomenon of internationalization is considered.

We conclude that, for future research, it would be pertinent to conduct questionnaires to the respective companies in order to obtain qualitative information, that together with the quantitative would allow a more correct image of reality. In addition, it would also be interesting to carry out a longitudinal study, since this would allow an effective verification of the relationship and the evolution between financial performance and internationalization.

Keywords: internationalization, financial performance, SABI, multivariate analysis, factor analysis, linear regression.

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Conditions for entrepreneurship of municipalities

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Abstract

The main objective of this work is to study the conditions of municipalities which favor companies' creation. In particular it is studied if $T\hat{a}mega\ e$ Sousa Region has differentiate characteristics for entrepreneurship.

A database concerning several characteristics of the Portuguese municipalities, collected from PORDATA - Base de Dados de Portugal Contemporâneo[4], is considered. The database includes municipalities information, such us, population size and age, non-financial companies, unemployment, among others.

In order to perform the study, several methodologies were used. First, an initial descriptive analysis is performed in order to classify the sample. Furthermore a discriminant analysis is applied with the goal of studying the main characteristics of the $T\^{a}mega~e~Sousa$ Region, which distinguishes their municipalities from the others. This is followed by the estimation of a multiple linear regression, aiming at identifying which variables have a larger impact in the companies' creation.

With this study it was to verify that few variables have discriminant power to distinguish the $T\hat{a}mega~e~Sousa$ municipalities from the municipalities of other Portuguese NUT III regions. Furthermore, the variables with the highest influence in the companies' creation are also identified, with the presented model highly significant.

Keywords: entrepreneurship, multivariate analysis, discriminant analysis, linear regression.

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Modeling KAP about Zika Virus

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Abstract

The objective of this study is to describe the knowledge, attitudes and preventive practices regarding the infection by the Zika virus (ZIKV). We have focused our study on the embarked population. A questionnaire was built and applied to different groups under study: the navigators who will navigate in endemic areas of Zika virus and those that already have traveled to endemic areas of ZikV. A descriptive analysis of such questionnaire can be found in [1]. In [3,2] was done an exploratory factorial analysis, several factors associated with knowledge were identified. Here, we present the continuation of such work, completing the FA relatively to attitudes and practice. The knowledge, attitudes and Practice (KAP) about ZIKV need to be improved

Keywords: KAP, questionnaire, statistical approach, factorial analysis, Zika virus.

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The Zika cases and the associated disorders with infection have increased significantly in last years. In 2016, the World Health Organization (WHO) declared Zika as a public health emergency of international importance [15,16].

Later, in the same year, declined this status, but promoted precaution and observation measures so can be observed and be taken some actions to control the dissemination of the ZIKA virus due the migration flows between distinct continents, take into account the asymptomatic cases, the persistence of virus.

To evaluate the KAP of emboarded individuals was built a questionnaire based on the validated questionnaire proposed by Rosalino C. et al in [5] and the resource kit of the WHO [7].

The statistical approach is planned to be done in several stages: a detailed descriptive analysis was already done and can be found in [1]. Using more elaborated techniques, we can found in [3,2] an exploratory factorial analysis restricted to Knowledgement issues. To continue the analysis we preview to apply some general linear models to the factors found in [3,2] and extend the analysis to the Practice and Attitude questions. The preliminary results are consistent: there is an important need to improve the literacy bout Zika infection.

Acknowledgements

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Organized Session 3

Computational Mathematics, Statistics and Information Management - Part II

Organizer: M. Filomena Teodoro (Portugal)

Organized Session 3 49

Impact of using excellence management models in the customer Satisfaction of Brazilian electricity distributors -10 years of studies

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Abstract

The article evaluates the impact of the use of the model of excellence in Brazilian management (MEG) by electricity distribution companies and their impact on customer satisfaction (IASC). It was evaluated 10 years of use of the model in groups of companies with different levels of implantation of the model (users, indifferent, engaged and winning) using statistical methods. As results it is verified the existence of differences between the groups revealing the correct decision by the use of the model seen by this view. The results can be used by similar organizations or other industries

Its importance is reinforced by the coverage of studies that reaches 96% of the sector, for a decade (2007 to 2016), by the use of publicly unavailable sources. The organizations were classified according to the use of the MEG (Excellence in Management Model) and evaluated, through statistical tests, differences between the indicators in these groups, allowing to conclude about the mass adoption of the MEG and impacts on the non-financial indicators more relevant in this sector.

Keywords: Excelence Models, Customer Sattisfaction, Energy distribution, MEG, IASC.



Daily Load Profile of Portuguese Electricity Demand using Kohonen Self-Organizing Maps

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Abstract

The massive penetration of distributed renewable energy resources (RER) and an expected more proactive behavior of consumers by taking part in demand response initiatives are, amid others, key drivers that significantly increase the complexity in which the power systems will be operated and planned. To cope with these challenges, system operators need to develop methodologies to assess both current and expected system behaviors. In that regard, load prediction is of paramount importance for the overall assessment of the network. This is affected by several factors from different origins such as weather conditions, seasonal periods, social-economic trends and operational actions by the system operators.

From Portuguese historical data, a Kohonen's Self-Organizing Map (SOM) is used to classify the days of the year according to their load curve profile. The SOM Kohonen's algorithm is an unsupervised neural network clustering technique often used for pattern classification tasks that preserves the topology of data. Through the visualization of the data by projecting it into a bidimensional grid it is possible to identify the 'natural' clusters. The main objective of the classification is to separate the load demand by clusters for forecasting purposes. The classification/clustering via SOM will be the first phase of a so called Artificial Neural Networks (ANN) hybrid model, where two or more ANN models are combined in order to draw more accurate predictions. The historical data used is the Portuguese continental load demand from 2009 to 2017 registered in periods of 15 min, comprising a total of 96

load registries per day. It is important to point out that when carrying with the data preprocessing the authors create cyclical normalized variables, similar to a combination of sine and cosine normalization technique, to define the days and months of a year. It is then presented the profile of the daily load curves per cluster.

Keywords: Self-Organizing Maps, Electric Demand, Short-term Load Forecasting, Artificial Neural Networks, Time Series Clustering.

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Reassessment of Periodontal Inflammation and High Density Lipoproteins Relationship through GAMLSS models

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Abstract

To explain the variability of probing pocket depth (PPD), GAMLSS models were fitted to data of 158 individuals. The results suggest a U-shaped relationship between HDL levels and PPD, together with a significant impact of age, diabetes and HDL on PPD.

Keywords: Periodontitis, HDL, Statistical models, GAMLSS.



1 Introduction

Periodontitis is a chronic inflammatory destructive process in the supporting tissues of the teeth associated with gram negative bacteria present in a biofilm on the surface of the teeth, and is one of the main causes of tooth loss in adulthood. Thus promoting a low level endotoxemia (Andrukhov et al., 2013), that appear to sustain dyslipidemia associated to low-grade inflammation is essential, yet whether periodontitis causes an increase in levels of plasma lipids or whether hyperlipidemia is a risk factor for periodontal infection. The (PPD) is a clinical parameter for periodontal destruction/inflammation.

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Generalized additive models for location, scale and shape (GAMLSS), are a semi-parametric extension of the classical GAM (Hastie and Tibshirani 1990) approach introduced by Rigby and Stasinopoulos (2001, 2005) and Stasinopoulos and Rigby (2007). Besides modelling the conditional mean (location) of the response variable distribution also, model the variance (scale) and the shape parameters (skewness and kurtosis) which may depend on explanatory variables. The aim of this work is to assess non-linear relationships between mean PPD and HDL, age and BMI.

2 Material and methods

Data on lipid profile, anthropometry and sociodemographic from 158 diabetic individual and age and gender matched non-diabetic controls were analysed.

The dependency of mean PPD on HDL levels, age, body mass index (BMI) and diabetic status was modelled using a truncated exGAUS distribution between 0 and 6 addressed by GAMLSS models (Rigby and Stasinopoulos, 2005) in R software Core Team, 2018).

3 Background

Under the GAMLSS framework, we assume a random variable Y have probability distribution function of p parameters of Y, being μ, σ, ν and τ parameters for location, scale, skewness, and kurtosis, respectively. A given distribution can be defined by 2, 3 or 4 parameters, which guarantees enough flexibility to fit parameters by a monotonic link function. The exGAUS distribution is a three parameters distribution (μ, σ and ν) that describes the sum of two independent normal and exponential random variables.

4 Results

The best models fitted for the three parameters $(\mu, \sigma \text{ and } \nu)$ of the TexGAUS[0, 6] distribution: location (μ) modelled by smooth functions (P-splines) of HDL, Age and the interaction term of HDL and Diabetes, scale (σ) modelled by a smooth function of Age and shape (ν) by Age.

5 Conclusions and Discussion

Our results suggest a U-shaped relationship between PPD and HDL, similar to that founded by Madsen et al (2017) between HDL and risk of infectious disease. The multivariable analysis suggest significant effect of age, diabetic status and HDL, but BMI, on periodontitis.

The gamlss modelation framework revealed versatile enough to undercover non linear relationships between PPD and the independent variables using TexGAUS[0, 6].

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Organized Session 4

Advances in Applications of Inference Methodologies

Organizer: Miguel Fonseca (Portugal)

Organized Session 4 57

Modelling the dominant height growth of eucalyptus plantations in Portugal

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Abstract

Eucalyptus globulus Labill. is one of the most important economic forest species in Portugal, occupying an area of 875,000ha of a total forest area of 3, 346,000ha. It is a fast-growing species that is mainly used commercially by the pulp industry. The objective of the research reported here was to model the dominant height growth of eucalyptus plantations in Portugal, where the dominant height is the mean height of 100 thickest trees per hectare. Modeling dominant growth in height involves two problems: estimating the site index, which is defined as the dominant height at some fixed base age, given height at some other age, and estimating height at some desired age, given height at base age, whose objective is obtaining a height prediction equation, having a prior knowledge about the site index. These two problems may be modeled either by individual functions, one for each problem or we may use one only function that estimates height at any desired age, given height at any other known age. When using individual functions, height is assumed to be measured without error when on the right-hand side of the equation (regressor variable), but with error when used on the left-hand side (dependent variable). This latest assumption causes a bias in the estimation of the parameters of the curves. As a result neither the height prediction equation nor the site index prediction equation will have a shape that represents the true functional relationship between height and age across different values of site index. When a unique equation is used, the purpose is to simultaneously optimize the regression of height at base age on height at a given age and of height at a given age on height at base age and avoid parameter estimation bias. This can be achieved by using all possible sets of differences of observations, built from the available measurements, where we use all possible differences in both directions.

Keywords: Dominant height, Forest planning, Generalized Least Squares, Nonlinear model.



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Multiple Additive Models

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Abstract

We consider d individual additive models. These models constitute a multiple model, which will be additive and correspond to d treatments of a base design. Using a classic result on cumulant generation function we show how to obtain least square estimators for cumulants and generalized least squares estimators for estimable vectors in the individual models. We will use the structure of this models to ensure that the vectors of homologue components are approximately homoscedastic which enables us to apply ANOVA.

Keywords: Additive Models, ANOVA, Cumulants, Moments.



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Mixed models with independent terms

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Abstract

This talk presents an estimation method for the random effect parameters and the variance components in linear mixed models. In particular, least squares estimators and the corresponding confidence regions, based on the estimation of quantiles, are considered. The difference in this method is that it is only assumed that the random effects parameters have null mean vectors and distributions with known dispersion parameters and second order moments. A numerical example is provided to illustrate the proposed method.

Keywords: Dispersion parameters, Inference, Linear mixed models.



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From a napkin to a most expected book

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Abstract

I've met Professor Mexia for the first time in 1996. I still remember the first words he gave to the FCT Math rookies, who had just arrived from high school: "Welcome... I have just been working on the most interesting problem concerning Actuarial Sciences..." And he went on describing and giving hints to solve the problem. That's Professor Mexia! Always sharing and teaching to others what, for him, is the most exciting subject... science.

Happy birthday with some stories and photos!

Keywords: statistical inference, actuarial sciences, mathematical statistics.



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Organized Session 5

Times Series Modelling and Applications

Organizers: Rosário Ramos (Portugal)

Modeling monthly temperature data in European Cities

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Abstract

According to the United Nations Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC), by 2012, the average global surface temperature was 0.85° C higher than in 1880.

In order to mitigate climate change, we must reduce or prevent the greenhouse gases emissions that result from human activities, since is very likely that warming is due to the observed increase in atmospheric greenhouse gas concentrations. In addition, the analysis of the evolution of climate variables, since we have records, can contribute to the establishment of appropriate goals and their better monitoring.

Since the warming phenomenon must be monitoring in a smaller scale, a better understanding of the evolution of temperature series in Europe can contribute to a more efficient monitoring and identification of climate change patterns.

In this work, we presented time series of monthly average temperatures in several European locations which were statistical analyzed and modeled with appropriated statistical models. Data set comprises sixteen long-term time series of monthly mean temperatures, in °C, from January 1900 until February 2017, available at the Climate Data Online.

Based in a linear regression modeling, all estimates of the linear trends are positive; the smallest slope is equal to 0.66°C per century in Dublin, Ireland, and the largest is equal to 1.90°C in Vilnius, Lithuania. This means that there is a climate change process in all European cities, although with different rates of warming.

Additionally, it is proposed a linear state space model to model monthly temperature times series with a deterministic seasonal component plus a stochastic slope. In many applications in Engineering, Economics or environmental problems the parameters of a state-space model are estimated by maximum likelihood with Gaussian distribution via the Newton-Raphson method or, more often, by the EM algorithm. Since the normality of errors are not a suitable assumption in several time series, parameters of the state space form are estimated by distribution-free estimators based on the generalized method of moments. This last option was adopted in this work.

Results show that all significant smoother prediction $\hat{\tau}_{t|n}$ levels have positive values with higher incidence in recent decades. These results are consistent with previous works that identified the period after 1980's with an unprecedented warming in the Central Europe.

Keywords: climate change, monthly data, temperature data, time series analysis, state space modeling.



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Change-point detection to model recent trends in European cities temperature time series

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Abstract

The Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) report of 2018, [2], refers that Human-induced warming reached approximately 1°C above pre-industrial levels in 2017, increasing at 0.2°C per decade (high confidence). The effects of global warming are already visible all over the world. The increase of droughts, floods, severe storms, and other weather catastrophes is putting vulnerable human and biological populations at risk. However, global warming is not reflected in the same way around the world and this phenomenon must be monitored in a more small scale, for instance at a Europe cities level. Is in this context that the statistical analysis of local temperature time series, such as cities, has a special interest in order to monitor temperature rise. Suitable statistical time series models must be developed in order to accommodate particular characteristics of this type of correlated data.

The application of state-space models to monthly long-term time series of air temperatures in Lisbon, Porto and Coimbra, Portugal, [3], allowed to conclude that there are different monthly warming rates, beeing the greatest annual mean rise found in Porto with 2.17°C whereas in Lisbon and Coimbra were, respectively, 0.62°C and 0.55°C per century.

Costa and Monteiro, [4], applied state space models associated to the Kalman filter and a clustering procedure of smoother trend levels in order to investigate patterns on the temperature rise in Europe, to long temperature time series. The temperature rise rates in Europe seem to have increased in the last decades when compared with longer periods, such as a century, so it is important to find the change-point and use the information from there to get accurate temperature rise rates.

In this work we will analyze monthly average of air temperatures time series in several European locations. Data set comprises sixteen long-term time series of monthly mean temperatures, in o C, from January 1900 to March 2019 (available at the Climate Data Online CDO).

Keywords: Air temperature, Climate change, State-space models, Change-point detection.

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Trend analysis of climate variables: the example of the Sea Ice Index

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Abstract

Research on trend analysis is substantial and has originated a variety of methods with the objective of testing for trend in time series. Versions of the tests that use resampling techniques have shown to be versatile and its use is now generalized due to the computational progress

In this study we analyse the time series of a climate variable, namely the Sea Ice Extent Index in the Northern (NH) and Southern (SH) Hemispheres, through its 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 subject is part of the problem of Climate Change. The analysis of NH and SH time series is performed and compared on the base of two trend tests, the t-test and the Mann-Kendall test, applied in its original form and combined with a resampling technique. Data are monthly Sea Ice Index from November 1979 to March 2017. In this mixed approach, the seasonal component is estimated through STL - Seasonal Decomposition of Time Series by Loess, with nonconstant seasonality. The comparison between methods is then performed, using resampling to estimate the test statistic and its significance. The order of autocorrelation is estimated by the best fitting model obtained through the AIC information criterion.

Keywords: trend analysis, sieve bootstrapp, STL decomposition, Sea Ice Index



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Organized Session 6

Statistical Models and Applications

Organizers: Teresa Oliveira (Portugal)

Individual growth mixed models with stochastic differential equations

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Abstract

Common growth curves for the weight X(t) of an animal at age t can be described as the solution of a differential equation of the form $dY(t) = \beta(\alpha - Y(t))dt$, where Y(t) = h(X(t)) and h is an appropriate strictly increasing C^1 function, $\alpha = h(A)$ (A = maturity weight of the animal), and $\beta > 0$ is a rate of approach to maturity. Adjustment to data was usually done through non-linear regression, an inappropriate methodology that ignores the growth dynamics and the influence of environmental fluctuations on it. We use instead stochastic differential equations (SDEs) models $dY(t) = \beta(\alpha - Y(t))dt + \sigma dW(t)$, where W(t) is a standard Wiener process and σ is an intensity parameter of the fluctuations.

We have previously (see [1], [2], [3]) studied estimation, prediction and optimization issues using cattle weight data from females of Mertolengo cattle breed.

In the present work, we have adjusted and applied the methodologies to the weight data of males of Mertolengo cattle breed and Alentejana cattle breed. Since model parameters may vary from animal to animal and that variability can be partially explained by their genetic differences, we introduce the extension of the study to SDE mixed models. These mixed models incorporate the individual genetic values that are available at the databases of the producer associations.

Keywords: application to cattle data, genetic values, individual growth models, mixed models, stochastic differential equations.



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Organized Session 6 75

The Extended Skew-Normal Distribution and the Product of two Normal Variables.

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Abstract

The product of two normal variables is an open problem from the early years in the XXth century. First approaches of the problem were focused into the product of two standard normal variables (with and without correlation), Bessel type functions were used as functions to approximate the product (Craig, 1936), although presents some problems, especially for the value zero. Other approaches consider the Pearson Type function (Aroian, 1947) or other statistical distributions. Finally, other authors (Ware and Lad, 2003, Glenn et al, 2004, Cui et al. 2016) use the improvement of the computational methods in order to approximate numerical solutions for the integrals of the distribution. But until now, have no successful solution to estimate the product of two normally distributed variables. Nonetheless, the moment-generating function of the product of two normally distributed variables is useful in order to calculate the statistics of the distribution of the product, especially, skewness and kurtosis. We have observed that values of skewness and kurtosis of the product don't coincide with traditional values of the normal distribution: skewness null, and kurtosis three (zero, when we consider the excess of kurtosis).

The Skew-normal distribution is a generalization of the normal distribution in order to consider the existence of skewness, it was developed by Azzalini in 1985 (Azzalini, 2014). The objective is to modeling data with the presence of a certain level of asymmetries. Further developments, in more recent, produce new generalizations like the Extended Skew-normal

distribution (Azzalini, 2014). This new distribution is determined by four parameters: location, scale, shape, and truncation. These distributions are potentially useful for the data presenting high values of skewness and kurtosis. Applications of this type of distributions are very common in the model of economic data, especially when asymmetric models are underlying the data. Although, we have four parameters, only two: shape and truncation determinate the value of skewness and kurtosis of the Extended Skew-Normal distribution.

We focus our work into the study of the relationship between the product of two normally distributed variables and the Extended Skew-Normal (ESN) distribution in order to use a normal approach to the product but considering the existence of levels of skewness and kurtosis, no traditionally commons values for them in Normal Distribution. Our approach has two stages: the first stage, we determinate the values of shape and truncation parameters of the ESN corresponding the values of skewness and kurtosis of the product; at the second stage we determinate the values of the other two parameters: location and scale, using the mean and variance of the product. Although, we have obtained a good approach for the mean and the variance; unfortunately, the approximation of skewness and kurtosis is not so good in every case.

We have analyzed the influence of the parameters of the two normal distributions involve in the product. We have concluded that the presence of one the normal variables with a value for the inverse of the coefficient of variation greater than one corresponds to a better approach than we have two normal variables with values of the inverse of the coefficient of variation less than one. Generally, this situation produces a product with a small skewness and a high kurtosis, and then, ESN Distribution fits no good.

Keywords: Extended Skew-Normal, Inverse of the Coefficient of Variation, Kurtosis, Product Two Normal Variables, Skewness, .



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Structural Equation Modelling - some applications with R tools

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Abstract

Structural Equation Modelling (SEM) is a collection of multivariate statistical techniques, which, in most cases, are used to formulate, adjust, and test a wide variety of models. The main objective of methodology is to evaluate the degree in which a proposed theoretical model is supported by data, making it a potential driving force for knowledge.

The theoretical developments in SEM and in its applications led to the expansion of software capable of dealing with problems of increasing complexity and with large volumes of data. Some of the most popular software to deal with SEM are commercials software like Mplus, AMOS or LISREL. Software R is an alternative to these software because it has a great diversity of tools to deal with SEM, that can compete with most of the commercial software.

A common problem in SEM concerns the frequent existence of missing data, a problem that is transversal to all types of data analysis. Omitting data can reduce the statistical power of a study and produce biased estimates, leading to invalid conclusions. SEM is not immune to these problems either.

In this work, we will present some packages of R that illustrate the potential of this software to deal with various aspects of the implementation of SEM, with special emphasis on resources available to handle with missing data, specifically for SEM analysis. For this purpose, we will present an application to data of PISA 2012, concerning the literacy in Mathematics of Portuguese young people.

Keywords: Structural Equation Modelling, Missing data, SEM package of R, PISA 2012.



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Development of a collaborative game to assess statistical literacy: an adventure in medieval times

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Abstract

In the field of mathematics in basic education, the teaching of statistics occupies an important place in knowledge construction that allows the exercise of citizenship through a critical reading of the world. It is understood that children, from the earliest years at school, can develop statistical thinking and thus, be literate in statistics. This thinking is present in the Brazilian curricular guidelines. In this context, it is essential to develop actions that contribute effectively in all aspects of the teaching learning process, from construction to evaluation of results. In this paper, we present some partial results of research that develops resources to assess statistical literacy of students in the early years of elementary school. We proposed a collaborative game in RPG form that helps teachers to identify if the child understood what is expected of the contents of statistics according to the Brazilian curricular guidelines. The game developed involves an adventure in the medieval era in which the children advance together through various stages to find an orchid and save the king's life. Through the game, we intend to verify the children's knowledge about bar graphs.

Keywords: Statistics Education, Elementary School, Collaborative Games.



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Organized Session 6 (Poster Session)

Applications of Statistics Mathematics and Computation

Organizers: Nuno Brites (Portugal)

Harvesting policies in random environment: logistic growth and profit optimization

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Abstract

We model fish population growth subjected to harvesting taking into account the effect of the environmental random fluctuations on the growth dynamics. For that we use stochastic differential equations (SDE). In particular, we consider a logistic model plus random environmental perturbations for the natural growth and subtract a harvesting yield term based either on a variable or on a constant fishing effort.

There is previous work on the optimal design of the harvesting policy with the purpose of maximizing the expected accumulated profit (discounted by a depreciation rate) over a finite time horizon. We consider a profit structure which includes revenues to be proportional to the yield and costs to be quadratic on the effort per unit time. The harvesting efforts of the optimal policies vary with the randomly varying population size and such policies can, under certain conditions, even be of bang-bang type. These policies, borrowed from the financial world where data is abundant, are not applicable to harvesting since they require constant evaluation of the population size and they have frequent random changes in harvesting effort incompatible with the logistics of fishing.

Our approach, based on sustainable and applicable fishing policies with constant effort, leads to sustainability of the population and to a stationary distribution (see [1]) of the population size and do not require evaluation of population size. We determine the constant harvesting effort policy that optimizes the expected sustainable profit per unit time and check what we lose profitwise when using this policy instead of the optimal inapplicable policy with variable effort. Applying Monte Carlo simulations and using population parameters based on real data, we show that our approach is almost as profitable as the first (see, for instance, [2], [3], [4], [5] and [6]).

Organized Session 6

Keywords: stochastic differential equations, fisheries management, profit optimization, logistic growth.



Acknowledgements

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A note on models with commutative orthogonal block structure

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Abstract

In this work we focus on a special class of linear mixed models, named models with orthogonal block structure, in which the variance-covariance matrix is a linear combination of known pairwise orthogonal orthogonal projection matrices that sum to the identity matrix [5][6]. Models with orthogonal block structure allow optimal estimation for variance components of blocks and contrasts of treatments, however, aiming to obtain least square estimators that are the best linear unbiased estimators whatever the variance components, we must impose that the orthogonal projection matrix on the space spanned by the mean vector commutes with the matrices of the principal basis [2]. Resorting to B-matrices [9], we address an alternative to the commutativity condition introduced in [2].

Keywords: B-matrices, Commutativity, Jordan Algebra, Linear mixed models.



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A Time series analysis of road traffic accidents in Luanda

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Abstract

In this work, time series models are applied to explain and forecast the rate of traffic accidents, deaths and injureds in Luanda, Angola. Monthly Luanda data from 2002 to 2015 are used to fit models and to make predictions. The data was collected from Direcção Nacional de Viação e Trânsito (DNVT) and Gabinete de Estudos, Informação e Análise (GEIA) databases. Road accidents in Angola are currently one of the major causes of death in the country. Particularly Luanda, the capital, is the province that shows the highest rate in terms of accidents, deaths and injureds [4]. However, in recent years there has been a decrease in the accidents rate, with average growth rates of -6.73%, 0.19% and -2.54% for accidents, deaths and injureds respectively.

In early work [1] we have presented some results on modelling and predicting the rates of road accidents, deaths and injureds in Angola through classic seasonal ARIMA models (SARIMA), exploring and comparing two different approaches. One in which all observations are treated the same way, and the other that identifies outliers, taking into account its magnitude, and adjust SARIMA models excluding the significant outliers [2]. A Seasonal-Trend decomposition based on a locally-weighted regression smoothing (Loess) approach [3] was also applied. Since, Luanda is the capital and the most problematic area, here we intend to develop a more detailed analysis for this province adapting and applying similar methodology as used before. The best models were identified and used to fit and predict road accidents, deaths and

injureds in Luanda. The SARIMA models that take into account the extreme values revealed to fit and predict better than the pure SARIMA models time series of traffic accident data.

Keywords: Road accidents, Outliers, Time series, Seasonal ARIMA models, Decomposition.



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Three-dimensional velocity field for blood flow using the power-law viscosity function

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Abstract

The three-dimensional model associated with blood flow where viscosity depends on shear-rate, such power-law type dependence, is a complex model to study in terms of computational optimization, which in many relevant situations becomes infeasible. In order to simplify the three-dimensional model and as an alternative to classic 1D models, we will use the Cosserat theory related with fluid dynamics to approximate the velocity field and thus obtain a one-dimensional system consisting of an ordinary differential equation depending only on time and on a single spatial variable, the flow axis. From this reduce system, we obtain the unsteady equation for the mean pressure gradient depending on the volume flow rate, Womersley number and the flow index over a finite section of the tube geometry. Attention is focused on some numerical simulations for constant and non-constant mean pressure gradient using a Runge-Kutta method and on the analysis of perturbed flows. In particular, given a specific data we can get information about the volume flow rate and consequently we can illustrate the three-dimensional velocity field on the constant circular cross-section of the tube. Moreover, we compare the three-dimensional exact solution for steady volume flow rate with the corresponding one-dimensional solution obtained by the Cosserat theory.

Keywords: shear-thinning fluid; Cosserat theory; one-dimensional model; volume flow rate; mean pressure gradient.

Extinction times for the logistic model with and without Allee effects

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Abstract

We propose a general model of population growth that incorporates the effect of random environmental fluctuations on the *per capita* growth rate, in the form of a stochastic differential equation. We study this stochastic model with and without Allee effects (see [1]). In the case where there are Allee effects, we consider two types, weak Allee effects (see [4]) and strong Allee effects (see [2]).

For these general models, in [5] we have proved the existence and uniqueness of solution in all these cases. In the cases of no Allee effects or weak Allee effects, we have also proved the existence of a stationary density and a zero probability of "mathematical extinction". In the case of strong Allee effects, we have proved that the probability of "mathematical extinction" is equal to one. However, we have shown that "realistic extinction" occurs with probability one for all cases.

Based on the results obtained in [3] for the first passage times and, in particular, for the extinction times, we obtain explicit expressions for the mean and standard deviation of the extinction times of this general model.

We consider next a particular case of the general model, which is the stochastic version of a very popular logistic-like deterministic model with Allee effects. However, we use a parametrization slightly different from the usual one, in order to facilitate comparisons with the logistic model by having a parameter A that "measures" the strength of the Allee effects and converging to the logistic model (model without Allee effects) when $A \to -\infty$.

For these particular logistic-like stochastic differential equation models, we show figures illustrating the behaviour of the mean and the standard deviation of extinction times for various combinations of parameters. This allows us to see the influence of Allee effects on the population extinction times by comparing extinction times under the model without Allee effects (the stochastic logistic model) and under the models with weak Allee effects and with strong Allee effects.

Keywords: Population growth, random environments, extinction times, stochastic differential equations, Allee effects.



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Robust Portfolio Selection

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Abstract

The Robust Portfolio Selection Problem has been wildly studied, with contributions from various fields of mathematics and finance. In this paper, we revisit the classic Markowitz model [2], where we aim to find the portfolio with the lowest risk for a given level of expected return.

This problem can be modeled as a constrained optimization problem where a risk objective function has to be minimize considering the existence of a minimum expected return constraint. In the Markowitz model, the risk is defined as the variance of the portfolio return and the expected return as the mean of the probability distributions of the returns of the assets.

We implement the mean-variance framework of Markowitz [2], choosing the optimal portfolio weights in a two-step procedure. First, the mean and covariance matrix of the asset returns are estimated based on the observed datafor the first T periods. Under the assumption that observed return is i.i.d. normal, we calculate the standard estimates for the mean vector and the covariance matrix. Second, these sample estimates are then treated as if they were the true parameters, and then used to compute the optimal portfolio weights for period T+1.

This procedure was applied to data originated from the stock market value of the shares of 23 Portuguese companies, gathered in 517 consecutive days. By varying the expected return, we were able to obtain the Markovitz efficient frontier.

Keywords: Robust Portfolio, Constrained Optimization, Markovitz Model.

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Data modeling from an experiment with barley malt and some results

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Abstract

The aim of this study is to present different ways of modeling and analyzing data related to malting. The malting industry is located between agriculture and the brewing industry, and is of great importance in the production of beer. The literature on the topic is very rich, and concerns primarily the practical, agricultural and brewing aspects. An important element of the preparation of malt-in pilsner, for example-is the grain of, among others, malting barley, coming from a field experiment lasting many years. The method of obtaining grain samples as experimental material is of fundamental importance in statistical analysis. The next stage is the malting of the obtained grains, carried out under laboratory conditions, for example in a brewery, using various methods of steeping, germination and drying (a three-step process). Germination time is counted from the end of the steeping cycle, and lasted 3-6 days in the described example. This paper is concerned chiefly with the theoretical aspects. Various models of observations are considered, in which 1) the split-block structure of the two-factor field experiment (cultivars and nitrogen fertilization) is taken into account, and 2) there is no knowledge about this structure. The models presented relate to observations from both field and brewery experiments, and include: 1) fixed effects of the factors (cultivars, nitrogen fertilization, germination time); 2) fixed or random effects of years ([2], [3]). The considerations are illustrated by a three-year experiment from the Agricultural Research Station in Paw?owice in Poland. The presented results relate to selected traits, such as extractivity and productivity, which are among the most important parameters determining the malt value, and thus the quality of the beer that is the final product [1].

Organized Session 6

Keywords: fixed effects model, mixed model, brewing barley, extractivity, malting productivity.

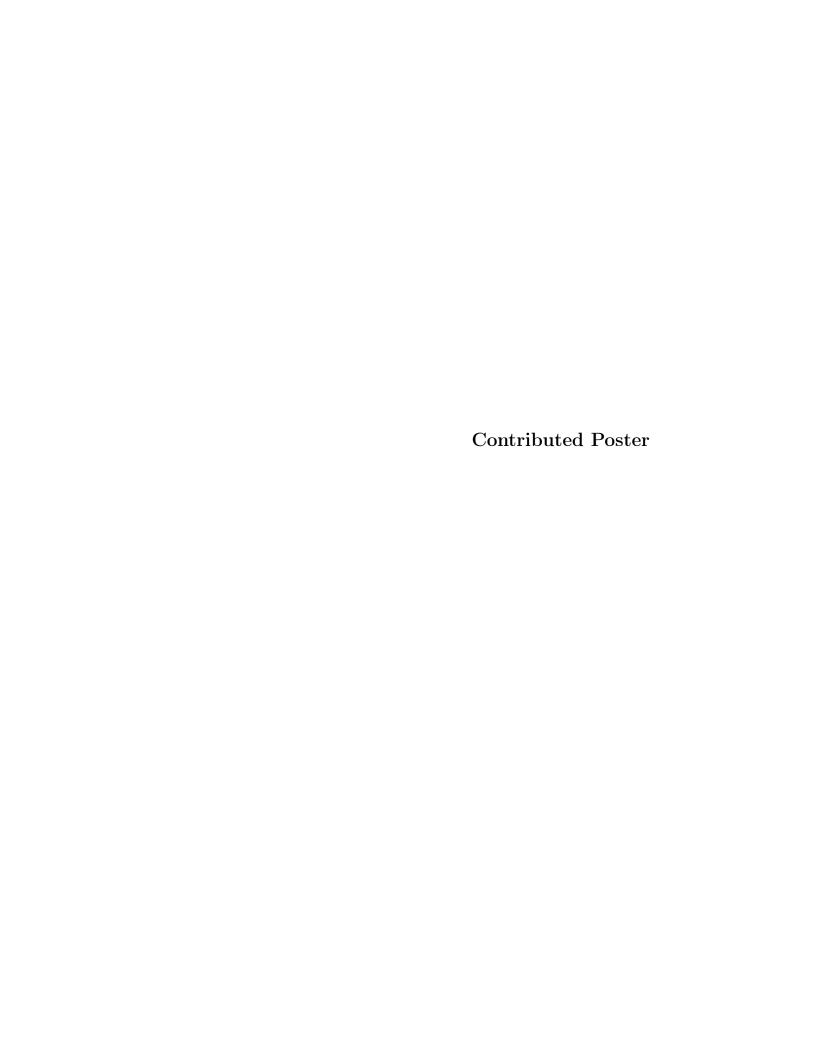
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Time Series Analysis for Maximum Wind Speed Forecasting

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Abstract

Time series analyses of meteorological data have an increasing interest in many fields. Series are especially interesting for a better understanding of atmospheric phenomena in order to model them, to determine the climate of a geographical area, or to forecast possibilities of extreme weather occurrences. Predicting and forecasting weather has always been a difficult field of research analysis with a very slow progress rate over the years. Weather data consider the noises and outliers; therefore, investigation in this area may not be accurate. Wind is one of the weather variables which are very difficult to predict.

This work presents an environmental study of maximum wind speed at a particular site (a farm located in Vila Real County, in northern Portugal), in the field of agriculture irrigation and proposes models to forecast daily maximum wind speed data. This research investigates the forecasting performances of two forecasting methods: Box-Jenkins SARIMA models, and TBATS (Trigonometric Seasonal, Box-Cox Transformation, ARMA errors, Trend and Seasonal Components) models. These methods are chosen because of their ability to model trend and seasonal fluctuations present in environmental data, in particular when dealing bearing time series with complex seasonal patterns (multiple seasonal patterns).

Our data source are the records registered in the period from January 23rd, 2015 to August 11th, 2018, on a daily basis. The main goal is to forecast this environmental variable at a location (in this case, at the farm) where

there are historical observations but current measurements are not available (including various steps for forecasting (i.e., 10 days)).

Keywords: maximum wind speed, time series, SARIMA, TBATS, forecasting.

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Statistics Analysis in the Management of a Local Public Company

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Abstract

Cars occupy space when they circulate, but most of the time they are parked, occupying private and public space, frequently in an abusive and disorderly way. Most of the times, the demands for parking space occur on locations where it is in shortage, as is the case of the central area of the municipality of Guimarães (located in the northwest of Portugal). Public space is indeed a finite valuable asset, and it should be shared by all citizens in a balanced and orderly manner, considering its different urban functions. Parking lots and their respective management are, for a number of reasons, the most complex component of the policies relating to urban mobility, for it involves different types of users with very distinct needs and interests, often in conflict. It is crucial to try to find ideal solutions for the needs identified by the users and by those who choose other means of mobility.

VITRUS is a local public company that operates at different levels. This study focused on parking lot services with the goal of evaluating the quality of these services. A first study was developed and statistical methodologies were applied in order to evaluate the level of satisfaction of the parking lots users, since the demand for covered parking infrastructures which allow a prolonged usage without time limits presents a significant evolution. A poll was conducted, centered on an universe comprised of monthly users and rotative users of the five parking lots under study. A sampling process was established, and the sample was stratified by parking lot and by user type (monthly or rotative users). The satisfaction level and the quality level were studied by means of a questionnaire created for that specific purpose, consisting of twenty one questions. The data was subjected to statistical

treatment, particularly by applying statistical methodologies from the field of Statistical Inference (hypothesis tests). The results show positive results for the company, although some points can be improved for the full success of the service.

In a second study, the evolution of the revenue obtained from the Limited Duration Parking Zones (LDPZs) was analyzed by means of an exploratory analysis and by time series analysis of the data and of the revenue collected weekly from the parking meters in the period from January 2015 to February 2017. These methodologies served as support for the company's management and decision-making regarding LDPZs, a service that VITRUS manages with the aim of improving urban mobility.

Keywords: management, sampling, statistical inference, time series analysis.



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Degree one models for symmetric stochastic matrices

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Abstract

The rank of the fixed effects part of a model is its degree. Hence, degree one models are those that are described by $M = \lambda \alpha \alpha^t + \bar{E}$, form where \bar{E} is the model's random component, λ and α are the eigenvalue and corresponding eigenvector, respectively. The matrices of this family models are based on a specific base design model. These models were successfully used in various applications, namely in the first phase of the STATIS methodology, the inter-structure. As the Hilbert-Schmidt matrices are cross product matrices they can be used in our applications and if needed the model degree can be increased providing the degree one models do not adjust. Simulations were carried out to validate the procedure adopted to estimate α . To carry out inference we will assume that vec(E) as normal distribution with null mean and variance-covariance matrix given by $\sigma^2 I_{n^2}$.

Keywords: STATIS methodology, Hilbert-Schmidt matrices, Simulations, inference.



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Numerical Approach of Mixed Functional Differential Equations: Some Applications

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Abstract

In a high number of knowledge areas, many mathematical models show up functional differential equations with delayed and advanced arguments, the mixed type functional differential equations (MTFDEs). MTFDEs appear in biology, quantum physics, economy, control, acoustics, aerospace engineering, etc Some recent numerical methods to approximate the solution of a linear MTFDE were introduced in [1] and improved in [2] [3]. More recently, these methods were adapted and used to solve numerically a nonlinear MTFDE [4]. This paper provides a technique to solve a functional nonlinear mixed differential equation that allows to solve numerically some equations from physiology. Here we consider examples from nervous conduction and from vocal phonation. The performance of the numerical method is verified and the accuracy of the results is adequate.

Keywords: Mixed-type functional differential equations, numerical approximation, physiology.



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Multinomial Distribution and Discriminant Analysis: An application to discrete variables

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Abstract

When dealing with continuous predictor variables, feature selection is a very common theme in the literature. However, this is no longer the case when we are dealing with methods proposed for Discriminant Analysis with discrete predictor variables.

In this work, we use results in Multinomial Distribution in connection with Discriminant Analysis applying them to a case with four categorical variables. The aim is to identify any tendency, considering two priori defined classes. An application is presented.

Keywords: Classification, Decision theory, Discriminant analysis.



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Cumulant Generating Functions: a simulation study

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Abstract

Moments and cumulants have been intensively studied over the years. In this talk we will give an overview of some results related to higher-order moments and cumulants. Then, using cumulant generating functions we will derive estimators for cumulants in mixed models. A simulation study is also provided to illustrate our developments.

Keywords: Additive Models, Cumulants, Mixed Models, Moments.



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The Potential of Logistic Regression

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Abstract

Logistic Regression, as well as all regressions, are used to predict a data value based on prior observations of a data set. Logistic Regression allows estimating the relation between several variables when the dependent variable is categorical. At the base of this technique is the logistic function that began to be used to describe the growth of a population, originally due to Pierre-François Verhulst in 1838, see [1].

The Logistic Regression is currently widely used in the most diverse areas of knowledge, see [7], [8] and [3]. This regression can be binomial, ordinal or multinomial, depending on the number of categories that the dependent variable assumes. In this study only the Binary Logistic Regression is considered.

In this work we intent to show the importance of this technique in rapidly expanding areas such as Big Data.

According Wang et all (2016) "Big Data are data on a massive scale in terms of volume, intensity, and complexity that exceed the capacity of standard analytic tools" (p.399).

The role of statisticians in Big Data studies has been under-recognized. In our opinion it is important to change it. With this work we intent to contribute to this change, showing the important role that Logistic Regression already has in Big Data analysis. We believe that the research in Big Data present opportunities as well as challenges to statisticians.

Keywords: Logistic Regression, Logistic Regression Model, Binary Data, Big Data.

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