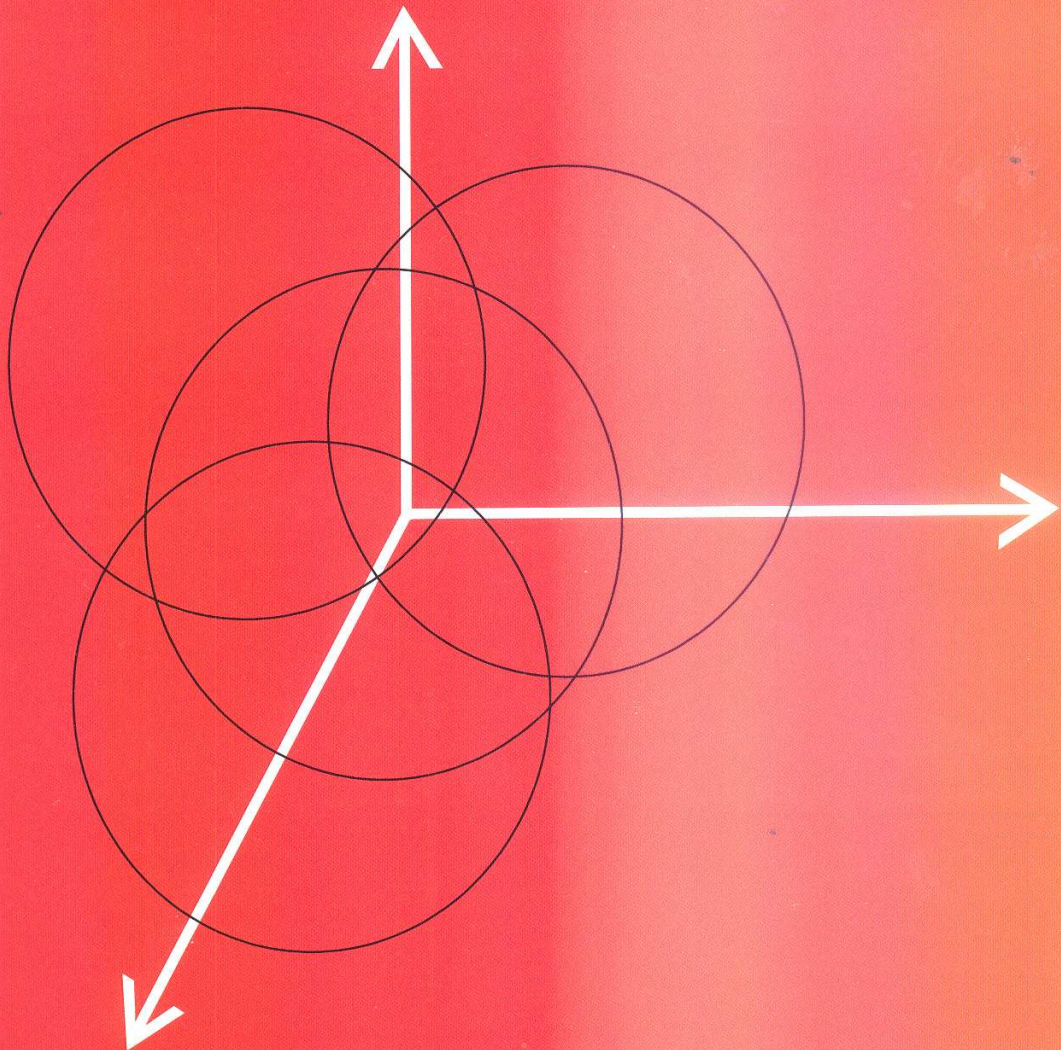


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Number 13 (October)

Number 14 (November 1) Special Issue on the 2005 ASMDA International Symposium on Applied Stochastic Models and Data Analysis

Guest Editors: Stéphane Lallich and Dominique Pastor

Number 15 (November 15)

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**Volume 36, Number 14
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**Special Issue on the
2005 ASMDA International Symposium on
Applied Stochastic Models and Data Analysis**

**Guest Editors
Stéphane Lallich and
Dominique Pastor**



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Preface

Since 1981, the aim of ASMDA International Symposium on Applied Stochastic Models and Data Analysis has been to serve as an interface between Stochastic Modelling and Data Analysis and their real life applications. The 2005 Symposium, which took place in Brest, France, from May 17-20 2005, was organized by the Ecole Nationale Supérieure des Télécommunications (ENST Bretagne). This symposium attracted a large number of papers that addressed a wide range of topics ranging from pure theoretical aspects of statistics to more practical ones.

Following the 2005 ASMDA Symposium and with the help of the Symposium Program Committee, we invited authors whose contributions were of significant interest with respect to the aim and scope of *Communications in Statistics* to submit an extended version for a special issue of *Communications in Statistics*. Eighteen papers were received; each was reviewed by two reviewers; in the end, twelve papers were selected.

The main topics addressed by these papers are Mathematical statistics, Markov processes, reliability and survival analysis, discriminant analysis and learning. The application areas range from theoretical ones in test theory, Markov processes, multidimensional regression and supervised training, to practical ones in scoring, image classification and biotechnology. These topics and their applications reflect the great variety and diversity of the ASMDA conference.

We are very grateful to those who have contributed to this special issue of *Communications in Statistics*:

- Prof. N. Balakrishnan, Editor-in-Chief of *Communications in Statistics*, who agreed to publish this special issue;
- Mrs. Debbie Iscoe, Editorial Assistant of *Communications in Statistics*, whose help and support were crucial throughout the editing process of this special issue, and Prof. Janet Ormrod, at ENST Bretagne, whose contribution was invaluable in improving the English of this Preface, of some of the articles and our correspondence with *Communications in Statistics* and the authors;
- Jean Pierre Barthélemy, Nikolaos Limnios, Gilbert Saporta, Chairmen of ASMDA 2005, Jacques Janssen and Philippe Lenca, Chairmen of the Program Committee, and Patrice Bertrand, Chairman of the Organization Committee, as well as the members of the International ASMDA Permanent Committee.

We are also very grateful to the reviewers. Owing to the high quality standards of *Communications in Statistics*, their contributions were of utmost importance.

These reviewers are: Enrique Alvarez, Guglielmo d'Amico, Anestis Antoniadis, Thierry Chonavel, Ion Grama, Gérard Grégoire, Jacques Janssen, Nikolaos Limnios, Abdallah Mkhadri, Annie Morin, Nicolas Nicoloyannis, Igor Nikiforov, Paulo Oliveira, Brahim Ouhbi, Noel Veraverbeke and Bernard Ycart.

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