

Anniversary Conference Took Place in Antwerp (Belgium) Where We Celebrated 10 Years of ENBIS Activity

The 10th annual conference of ENBIS was a very enjoyable event. We had a wonderful anniversary party in the delightful surroundings of the Antwerp Zoological Gardens in the centre of town.

We had Jean-Luc Doumont as a guest speaker who gave us an excellent presentation including the three laws of communication.

As statistical practitioners we all need to make formal presentations at some time or other and these are the tips we were given: Firstly, take control of the meeting at which you present; this includes checking that all the technology works, that everyone is sitting comfortably etc. Secondly, increase the signal to noise ratio by whatever means you have at your disposal and thirdly, increase effective redundancy, in other words reinforce your main points and repeat yourself as many times as necessary to ensure that your message gets across.

The conference was characterized by ENBIS's new determination to raise the profile of poster presentations. We had short presentations by each poster presenter and then ample time to cross-examine them at their poster. This proved a very effective way of networking and initiating discussion and exciting new ideas.

Call for Papers for the 2011 ENBIS Special Issue of QREI

The 2011 ENBIS special issue of QREI is edited by Ron Kenett (ron@kpa.co.il) and will be published in time for the ENBIS-11 conference in Coimbra. See page 3 of this newsletter for more details.

ENBIS-10 Photo Gallery



Dave Stewardson, the 2010 George Box Medallist, with Tony and Shirley.



Participants in the »Legacy« session – Søren would have enjoyed it very much.



Jeannine Luyten, the good spirit of ENBIS-10 and the first ever recipient of the Best Secretary Award.

The 2010 ENBIS Challenge

The submission deadline for the 2010 ENBIS Challenge has been extended to December 24th 2010. Please look for the details on our website: www.enbis.org.

ENBIS-11 Call for Papers

ENBIS-11 will take place in Coimbra (Portugal) from September 4th to 8th, 2011.

Participants are invited to submit an abstract (maximum 250 words) before **April 30, 2011**. To submit your abstract go to www.enbis.org.

Notifications of the acceptance of submissions will be sent out **no later than May 31, 2011**. The final submission date for all accepted contributions is **August 1st, 2011**.

For further questions do not hesitate to contact enbis11@enbis.org.

Kind regards,

Rainer Göb, on behalf of the Programme Committee of ENBIS-11

Call for Corporate Members

ENBIS values its corporate members very highly. As a business and industrial network, ENBIS is well placed to offer the communication and exchange of ideas vital to successful corporations. ENBIS offers discussion forums related to its diverse special interest groups as well as opportunities for networking at the annual and mid-year conferences and at various other associated events. Corporate membership currently costs 500 EUR per year and there are many benefits in terms of visibility and prominence.

Teaching Statistics to Become Blackbelts

A one-day workshop organised by the Quality Improvement Section of the Royal Statistical Society

Wednesday, 12th January 2011

Venue: RSS, 12, Errol Street, London EC1

The workshop will provide answers to the following questions:

- What is a blackbelt?
- What does the organisation expect from blackbelts?
- What skills do blackbelts need?
- Which statistical techniques are most used by blackbelts?
- A program for blackbelt training.
- How best to teach statistics to blackbelts, with short lectures, interactive simulations, data analysis exercises and presentation of conclusions, with a focus on graphics rather than mathematics?

The workshop leader Roland Caulcutt has trained hundreds of blackbelts and greenbelts in several large organisations. He has written several books on the application of statistics in business and industry. Reviewers of these books comment on the author's exceptional ability to communicate with non-statisticians.

Who should attend this workshop?

Anyone involved in the training of blackbelts, including consultants, blackbelts, master blackbelts, and statisticians. Attendees will take away new ideas on teaching and learning, proven procedures, data analysis exercises and business simulations.

For more information and to register please email to info@rss.org.uk or look on <http://www.rss.org.uk/courses>.

Upcoming Events

There are many ENBIS and ENBIS-sponsored events between annual conferences; here some announcements.

Winter School in Palermo, November 15–19th, 2010

For the healthcare system not only efficiency and effectiveness are essential management conditions, but also quality, risk analysis and management and safety are of utmost importance. This knowledge needs attention and commitment within healthcare organizations, and development and support of specific skills.

The School is a course of advanced studies organized by the University of Palermo and the ISIDA School of Business in cooperation with Italian Universities (Politecnico di Milano) and Swedish Universities (Chalmers University of Technology, Linköping University).

The official language is English. Participants should therefore have good knowledge of the language both spoken and written.

Info: www.unipa.it/wstqm.

AMCTM 2011

The Conference on Advanced Mathematical and Computational Tools in Metrology and Testing will be held in June 20-22, 2011 in Goteborg (Sweden). You can download the Announcement from www.imeko-tc21.org (click on the left link »NEWS«) or from www.amctm.org (click on the bottom link »AMCTM2011«) or from www.sp.se/AMCTM2011.

A list of the IMEKO TC21 Special Interest Groups (SIG) and updated information about TC21 can be found on www.imeko-tc21.org (click on the left link »Information about TC21«).

The 2011 Global Conference on Research Methods and Analytics

It will be held on August 23-24 of 2011 in Los Angeles.

Los Angeles, CA – The Global Education Consortium on Research Methods and Business Analytics (GEC RMBA) announced the dates for its Global Conference to be on August 23-24 of 2011.

The 2011 Global Conference on Research Methods and Analytics (GRMA 2011) is the annual global analytics convention as organized by the Global Education Consortium on Research Methods and Business Analytics, the Research Methods and Analytics network with over 4300 members, and the Research Methods Institute. It will draw delegates from all over the world, as the consortium has already pre-registered attendees from Asia, Africa and Europe. This conference aims to bridge education and business, and to bridge innovation and industry needs, with its focus on analytics innovation, and especially on social media analytics innovation. More info about the conference is available at <http://www.rmba.org/events.php>.

The GEC RMBA is a non-profit global education consortium open to all individuals and organizations providing education and related services in research methods and analytics. The consortium's mission is to bridge education and business worldwide for the development of innovative research methods and analytics. It now has participation from more than 300 universities from more than 40 countries, and also manages a network of over 4300 analytics professionals.

Currently, GEC RMBA offers assessment and certification services on research methods and analytics, besides organizing a global conference and publishing a journal on research methods and analytics.

Quality and Reliability Engineering International

The ENBIS 10th Anniversary Special Issue

*State of the Art Developments in Business and Industrial Statistics:
Combining Applications with Theory*

Guest Editor

Ron S. Kenett

KPA Ltd., Israel and University of Turin, Italy

e-mail: ron@kpa.co.il

Call for Papers

Quality and Reliability Engineering International (QREI) invites members of the European Network for Business and Industrial Statistics (ENBIS) to submit papers for the ENBIS 10th Anniversary special issue. The theme of the special issues is *State of the Art Developments in Business and Industrial Statistics: Combining Applications with Theory*.

The special issue will feature papers presented at the 10th Anniversary Annual ENBIS conference but it is also open to ENBIS members for other contributions on the development and practical aspects of quality, reliability, engineering, and management. Submissions will be refereed and the editor reserves the right regarding final acceptance (or not) decision of papers.

Paper Submission

Authors should follow the instructions as available at the journal's homepage (interscience.wiley.com/journal/qualityandreliability) under "For Authors" and should submit their article via the link for online submission provided on this webpage (<http://mc.manuscriptcentral.com/qre>). Authors will need to create a new Account if not yet registered as an author. Authors are requested to select the correct Article Type listed in the online selection at the opening screen for submitting new articles. It is essential that the submitted papers are clearly marked "Special Issue Article" at submission or they may not be included in the special issue.

Expected Schedule

Prospective authors are invited to contact the guest editor ahead of time for communicating their intend to submit a paper and for being informed of any change .

- Manuscript submission deadline: January 15th, 2011
- Refereeing will begin immediately after a paper is submitted and all attempts will be made to complete the reviews until March 15th, 2011
- Revisions and re-submission deadline: April 15th, 2011
- Final paper acceptance (or not) decision: May 1th, 2011
- Estimated publication date: Autumn 2011

Joint ENBIS-DEINDE 2011 Spring Conference

Organized by the European Network for Business and Industrial Statistics & DEsign of INDustrial Experiments it will take place in Torino (Italy), 16-18 March 2011.

We are pleased to announce the Joint ENBIS-DEINDE 2011 Spring Conference, to be held in Torino (Italy) on 16-18 March 2011. The workshop intends to bring together both leading experts and researchers, creating a forum to cover recent progress and to stimulate exchanges among researchers and practitioners. It will also encourage informal contacts and discussions among participants, to share ideas, experiences and knowledge.



A non-exhaustive list of subjects includes:

- Design of Experiments (DOE): Models and Analysis.
- Optimal and Robust Design.
- Computer Experiments.
- Multiresponse and Multiobjective Optimization.
- Design for Measurement Quality.
- Process Modeling and Control.
- Metrology and Uncertainty Measurement.
- QFD and VoC - Linking Cost and added value to DoE.
- Statistics in Practice (Pharmaceutical Industry, Food Sciences, Tourism, Automotive, ...).
- Case studies.

For further details please visit http://calvino.polito.it/enbis_deinde_2011/ or send an email to enbis-deinde2011@calvino.polito.it.

The IEEE ICDM »TomTom Traffic Prediction for Intelligent GPS Navigation« Contest is Finished

Over the last century, the number of cars engaged in vehicular traffic in major cities has increased rapidly, causing many difficulties for citizens: traffic jams, long and unpredictable commuter delays, pollution etc. Excessive traffic has become a development-related problem that affects everyone who lives in a city with a population of 50,000 or more, anywhere in the world. The complexity of the processes that shape the traffic flow is so high that only data mining algorithms, from the domains of structure mining, graph mining, data streams, large-scale and temporal data mining, may produce efficient solutions to these problems. The aim of the competition was to devise the best possible algorithms that would tackle the problems of traffic flow prediction, for the purpose of intelligent driver navigation and improved city planning. Over half a thousand participants tried to solve the problem and took part in the competition's three challenges:

1. Participants tried to predict traffic congestion basing the calculations on a series of measurements from 10 selected street network segments. The goal was to make short-term predictions of future figures using historical ones for computations. The author of the winning solution, **Alexander Groznetsky** from the Ukraine, designed an algorithm having an error rate of just 23% which is a result almost two times better than in case of the basic algorithm used in this task.
2. Modeling of the process of traffic jams forming during the morning traffic peak, when there are roadworks in progress, would be very useful for commuters. Researchers submitted 1298 solutions, trying to predict the process basing on the data containing the coordinates of road network segments closed due to roadworks, accompanied by an indication of the segments where the first jams occurred. The winning algorithm, created by a Warsaw University student **Łukasz Romaszko**, predicts the sequence of road segments where next jams will occur in the upcoming time. The winning algorithm describes the process more than 30% better than the existing one.
3. **Benjamin Hamner** a graduate of Duke University, was the most successful of all the participants who tried to reconstruct and predict traffic basing on real-time information from individual drivers. Input data consisted of a stream of notifications from 1% of vehicles, sending in their current GPS locations in the city road network, sent every 10 seconds. The algorithm receives a stream and predicts traffic congestion on selected road segments for the next 30 minutes with an accuracy improved by 60% in comparison to the baseline. The method used for the creation of the algorithm and the solution itself creates a new opportunity for improvement in GPS navigation systems. The algorithm works in exactly the same way as those used in GPS car navigation system, such as TomTom Traffic. The algorithm proves very useful in selecting the optimal route to the destination.

Among nearly 5000 submitted solutions, very good results were achieved by the team from IBM T.J. Watson Research Center, USA which won the second place in the last two tasks. The winners will be awarded 5000\$ prizes and are all to have an opportunity to present their work at the **IEEE International Conference on Data Mining** in Sydney, Australia. The competition was sponsored by TomTom, the world's leading provider of portable GPS and car navigation systems, and held under the patronage of the Mayor of Warsaw. The competition is viewed as a valuable initiative which may help solve traffic problems not only in the Polish capital city, but also in other large agglomerations. For more details visit: <http://tunedit.org/challenge/IEEE-ICDM-2010>.

What TunedIT is

TunedIT (<http://tunedit.org>) is an international scientific platform for researchers and programmers in the fields of Data Mining, Computational Intelligence and Statistical Modeling. TunedIT runs periodically online contests – Challenges – that address selected real-world problems of data analysis. Competitions are open to the whole scientific community and attract participants from all over the world, from tens of different countries and hundreds of universities.

Innovation in Clinical Design, Analysis and Reporting

Pharma IQ's inaugural **Innovation in Clinical Design, Analysis and Reporting** conference will help to open up this area to debate and facilitate discussion between like-minded professionals within the field. The event will take place in London (UK), 7-8th of December 2010. ENBIS members have a 15% discount (please quote the priority code »ENBIS« when registering). For more information please visit: www.clinicalreporting.co.uk/ENBIS, e-mail to enquire@iqpc.co.uk or call +44 (0)20 7368 9300.

ENBIS Academic Publications Panel

The mission of the ENBIS academic publications panel of experts is to help ENBIS members who want to publish in academic journals with feedback and directions. The assistance the panel provides is related to content and form. If the English needs to be improved, the panelist will indicate it, but he/she is not expected to do the editing.

The process for getting feedback from the panel is as follows:

1. Formulate a result you want to publish in writing as an abstract or draft paper
2. Send the file to the panel managing director
3. The panel managing director will send the file to one of the experts on the panel
4. The panel member will respond to the managing director who will forward the response to the author. The response can be anonymised or not depending on the wish of the panel member.

Access to the panel is restricted to ENBIS members only. Ron Kenett is the current panel managing director. All requests should be sent directly to him via email: ron@kpa.co.il.

Please indicate »ENBIS Academic Publications Panel« as the subject of your email

The current list of panel members includes: David Steinberg, Rainer Goeb, Ron Kenett, Fabrizio Ruggeri, Philippe Castagliola, Peter Goos, Shirley Coleman, and Martina Vandebroek.

Call for ENBIS Awards Nominations

The 2009-2011 ENBIS Awards Committee is pleased to announce that the call for nominations for 2011 Awards is now open. ENBIS is looking for qualified candidates to receive one of the following three awards:

- **The George Box Medal.** This award is named after George Box and awarded annually to an extraordinary statistician who, with his life work, contributed remarkably to the development and application of statistical methods in the European business and industry.
- **The Best Manager Award.** The purpose of the Best Manager Award is to recognize managers who made a significant contribution to the success of their companies by advancing the spread and practice of statistics.
- **The Young Statistician Award.** The purpose of the Young Statistician Award is to recognize the work of young people in introducing innovative statistical methods and promoting the use of statistics in daily practice.

Please email your nominations to Xavier Tort-Martorell (xavier.tort@upc.edu) **no later than January 31st, 2011**. All three award recipients will address the conference participants at the ENBIS 11 conference in Coimbra.

ENBIS News Publishing Info

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Editor: Shirley Coleman. **Associate Editor:** Irena Ograjenšek.

All ENBIS members are invited to send their contributions and news items by e-mail, preferably as an MS Word document to shirley.coleman@newcastle.ac.uk for the next issue of *ENBIS News* which is scheduled for December 2010.