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Editors

Interdisciplinary Bayesian Statistics

EBEB 2014

Springer

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ISSN 2194-1009 ISSN 2194-1017 (electronic)
Springer Proceedings in Mathematics & Statistics
ISBN 978-3-319-12453-7 ISBN 978-3-319-12454-4 (eBook)
DOI 10.1007/978-3-319-12454-4
Springer Cham Heidelberg New York Dordrecht London

Library of Congress Control Number: 2014956382

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Printed on acid-free paper

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Foreword

It is a great pleasure to preface EBEB 2014, the proceedings of the 12th Brazilian Meeting on Bayesian Statistics, which was attended by the ever-growing community of Brazilian researchers in Bayesian Statistics and by colleagues and collaborators from around the world.

From March 10th to 14th at a beautiful resort in Atibaia, EBEB hosted fine presentations in lecture (33) and poster (39) formats of researchers from institutions in Belgium, Canada, Chile, Finland, India, Italy, Peru, Saudi Arabia, Switzerland, UK, USA, and Brazil. The tradition of meeting participants serving as referees for the selection of papers submitted to be included in this book was maintained. This was not an easy task, as the quality of submission was very high. The EBEB 2014 organizers made sure that graduate students had financial support for active engagement in the meeting activities; presenting their research and interacting with researchers from other institutions. This support is always a sound investment for the development of Bayesian Statistics.

High-quality publications of proceedings, as of EBEB 2012 by AIP (The American Institute of Physics) and of EBEB 2014 by Springer, motivate researchers and enrich the EBEBs. Editing such proceedings is a tradition inspired by the Valencia and MaxEnt series, arguably two of the most influential and long-standing meetings in Bayesian Statistics. This requires a lot of time, great effort, and also knowledge and experience.

Another tradition of the Brazilian Bayesian community is to invite illustrious professors who discuss our research and suggest new directions to explore. First and foremost among those were Dev Basu and Dennis Lindley, as I will comment in the sequel. We look forward to maintaining that tradition at the next EBEBs. We also see as a positive sign of maturity, the increasing number of international researchers that spontaneously attend EBEB, as one expects from prestigious international meetings in well-developed areas of scientific research. This trend is a direct consequence of the existence of high-quality proceedings, and vice-versa, exactly as it is in MaxEnt and used to be in Valencia.

The increasing presence at EBEB of several emergent centers of research in Brazil spreads our Bayesian activities outside the Rio and São Paulo axis. Some of these emerging centers are strongly inserted and well connected internationally, but are

also becoming increasingly capable of self-steering, exhibiting the high degree of autonomy that is so characteristic of genuine scientific research.

My good friend and colleague Josemar Rodrigues received a most deserved accolade at this EBEB. Josa's drive for research produces many papers by himself, his students, and colleagues. Having become a good friend of Professor Basu, Josa was also deeply influenced by him in his move from a good frequentist to a superb Bayesian.

In a way, Dev is a Founding Father of Brazilian Bayesianism. His visit to USP in the eighties left seeds which became important Bayesian trees. This process was also caused by the visit of Dennis, who sadly passed away in 2013. The Brazilian Bayesian community owes gratitude to the two gurus and dedicates this volume to their memory.

Fabio Spizzichino and Claudio Macci's paper in this book is a Brazilian contribution to the celebrations of the 250th anniversary of the publication of (ultimately the reason for us to gather at Atibaia) "An Essay towards Solving a Problem in the Doctrine of Chances" by Our Reverend Thomas Bayes.

São Paulo Sergio Wechsler
January 2015

Preface

This volume of the "Springer Proceedings in Mathematics & Statistics" contains selected articles from EBEB 2014. The home page of the event is available at http://www.ime.usp.br/∼isbra/ebeb/ebeb2014.

- The main promoters of EBEB 2014 were
  - ISBrA—Brazilian chapter of the International Society for Bayesian Analysis (ISBA)
  - INCTMat—National Institute of Mathematical Science and Technology
  - Interinstitutional Graduate Program in Statistics of UFSCar/ICMC-USP
  - Graduate Program in Statistics of IME-USP
  - IME-USP—Institute of Mathematics and Statistics of University of São Paulo
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The organizers thank the first president of ISBrA, Professor Sergio Wechsler, for the Foreword and the reviewers for their careful work in selecting the papers. This book is a consequence of the great and hard work of all people involved in the organization of EBEB: colleagues, administrators and the convention center/hotel employers.

We also thank the support of the following promoters:

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