



Preface: 2nd Innovation and Analytics Conference & Exhibition, (IACE 2015)

Citation: [AIP Conference Proceedings 1691](#), 010001 (2015); doi: 10.1063/1.4937015

View online: <http://dx.doi.org/10.1063/1.4937015>

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Preface: 2nd Innovation and Analytics Conference & Exhibition, (IACE 2015) 29 September – 1 October 2015, Alor Setar, Kedah, Malaysia.

The 2nd Innovation and Analytics Conference & Exhibition (IACE 2015) was held at the TH Hotel in Alor Setar, Kedah during 29 September – 1 October 2015 by the School of Quantitative (SQS), Universiti Utara Malaysia (UUM). The 110 participants, of whom 51 were postgraduate students and 12 were from the industry, had many valuable discussions and exchanges which contributed to the success of the conference.

The 95 papers and two posters that were presented in two days covered various areas encompassing Mathematics, Statistics, and Decision Technology. These three main areas are very close to the core of the research and education conducted in SQS, and the theme of IACE 2015, which is “Nurturing Analytical Minds for Innovative Solutions.” The use of the word innovative, which simply means new ideas that can make something more efficient and effective, shows the importance of creating not just any new knowledge, but knowledge that can serve the society in a meaningful way. We believe that IACE 2015 has managed to achieve this goal, as evidenced from the papers presented during the conference and lectures given by the keynote and invited speakers.

During the conference inauguration, a keynote lecture titled “The Existence of Inflection Points for Generalized Log-Aesthetic Curves Satisfying G1 Data” was given by Dr. Gobithaasan. In his illustrative lecture, he highlighted the use of spline curve in improving the process of architectural design, for example in designing a car, a ship and a building. In between plenary sessions, three invited speakers gave lectures that were closely related to their current research. Mr. Mohd Hazim from PLC International Sdn. Bhd., who is currently doing his PhD in UUM, gave a new perspective on curbing obesity in his lecture titled “Hydrotherapy: An Innovative Treatment for Obese Malaysians”, Dr. Nor Idayu Mahat gave a lecture titled “Comparisons of Parametric and Non-Parametric Classification Rules for E-Nose and E-Tongue” in which she discussed the performance of parametric and non-parametric classification ruled in sensor technology, and Dr. Zakiyah Zain gave a lecture titled “Simplifying Multivariate Survival Analysis Using Global Score Test Methodology.”

IACE 2015 would not have been a success if not for the strong support from several groups of people. We would like to extend our gratitude towards the keynote and invited speakers, presenters, participants, reviewers, SQS administration and academic staff, and also SQS postgraduate students for their continuous support to IACE 2015. Also, thank you to Sunway University and Blue Archipelago for their interests in co-organizing this conference. Lastly, we would like to acknowledge the American Institute of Physics (AIP) for their willingness and consent to publish a number of selected and presented articles in the AIP Conference Proceedings series.

It is our hope that this conference can serve as a regular platform for postgraduate students, academicians and industry people to meet and exchange new and exciting ideas. Thus we look forward to the 3rd Innovation and Analytics Conference and Exhibition in 2017.

Editors

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