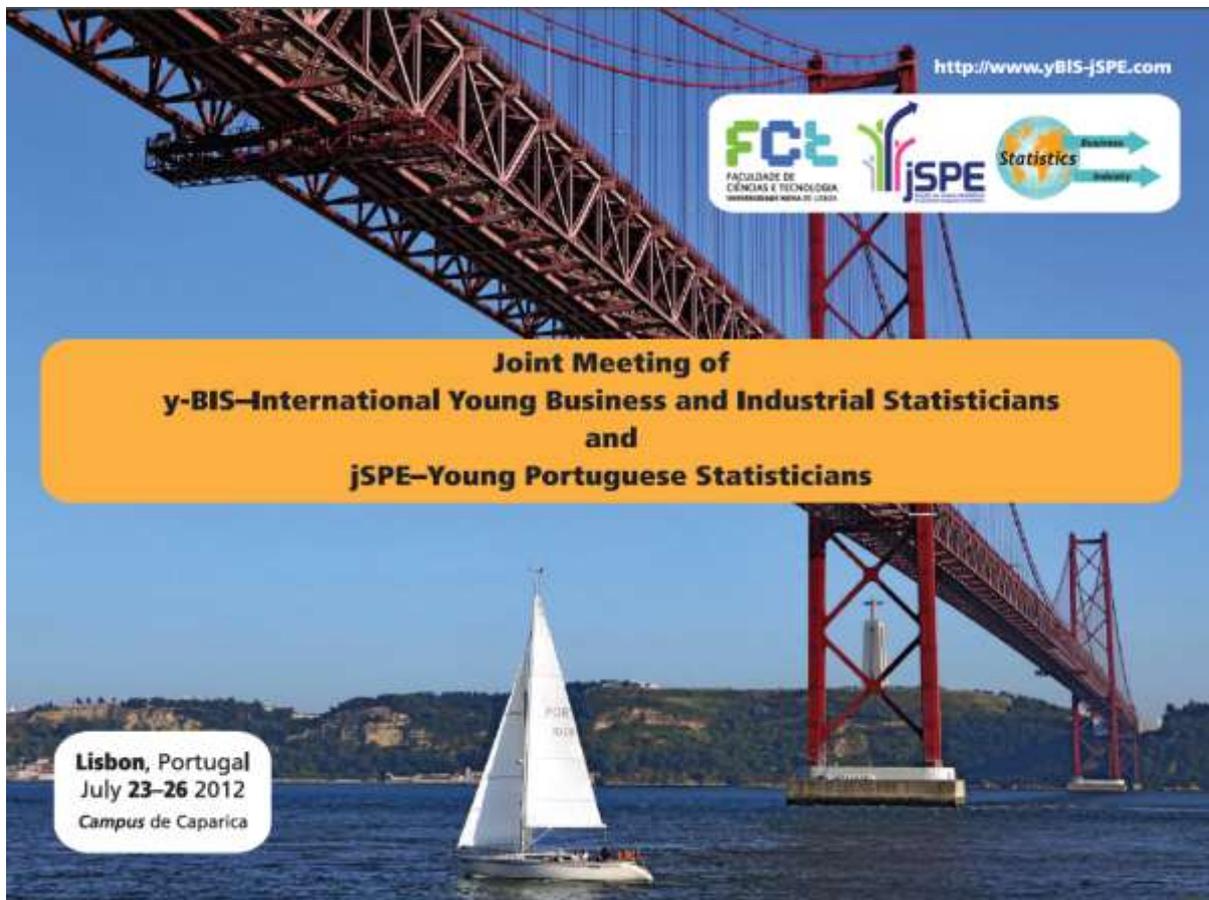


**Final Report on the
First Meeting of
y-BIS – Young Business and Industrial Statisticians of the
International Society for Business and Industrial Statisticians and
jSPE – Young Statisticians of the Portuguese Statistical Society,
Caparica, Lisbon, Portugal, 23–26/July/2012**



The first meeting of the y-BIS was held in Caparica, Lisbon, Portugal, between the 23rd and the 26th of July, 2012. This conference was co-organized by the jSPE, the section of young statisticians of the Portuguese Statistical Society and its official name was: **Joint Meeting of y-BIS and jSPE**. More information about y-BIS can be found in <https://sites.google.com/site/ybisisbis>. Detailed information about jSPE can be found in www.jSPE.eu.

This conference was organized under the auspices of the International Society for Business and Industrial Statistics and of the Portuguese Statistical Society. The purpose of the Joint Meeting of y-BIS and jSPE was to bring together young statisticians and professionals working in academia and in industry. The conference was intended to offer opportunities to meet each other, and to share scientific and professional experiences. This meeting covered many of the research areas in Statistics, and many areas of application.

This was the first time that a conference was organized by y-BIS and the attendance was quite impressive. There were more than 130 participants, with Portugal being the most represented country with a share of about 60% of the participants. However, the number of represented countries amounted to 22! More than 105 papers were presented.

The organizers would like to thank all the members of the International Scientific Program Committee and the Invited Paper Session organizers, who have done a great job in advertising the Joint Meeting of y-BIS and jSPE. Our website (<http://www.ybis-jspe.com/>) was viewed by more than 2850 unique visitors from 93(!) different countries up to the first day of the conference.

The scientific program was organized in keynote talks, invited sessions, contributed sessions and contributed posters. There were seven keynote talks, 19 invited sessions, 10 contributed sessions and one poster session.

We would like to thank the keynote speakers for sharing their experience and knowledge with us: Ronald Wasserstein (USA), Tapabrata Maiti (USA), Richard De Veaux (USA), João Cadete de Matos (Portugal), Agus Sudjianto (UK) and Fabrizio Ruggeri (Italy). It was also a pleasure for us that some National and International Statistical Associations and Institutions organized Invited Paper Sessions in our conference, namely: International Association for Statistical Computing (IASC), European Network for Business and Industrial Statistics (ENBIS), Portuguese Central Bank (Banco de Portugal), Statistics Portugal (Instituto Nacional de Estatística), Knowledge Discovery and Bioinformatics (INESC-ID), International Association for Statistical Education (IASE), NEEUM, Minho University, and Portuguese Association of Classification and Data Analysis (CLAD).

We also would like to thank all the sponsors which helped making this meeting successful. We want to express our gratitude to the Faculty of Sciences and Technology, Nova University of Lisbon, for all the administrative, design and logistic help. All the sponsors are acknowledged in our website: <http://www.ybis-jspe.com/>.

The financial support from the World Bank, kindly provided by the International Statistical Institute through the International Society for Business and Industrial Statistics, covered some of the expenses of five participants from developing countries: Alexander Levinskiy (Russia), Richard Awichi (Uganda), Ayfer Ezgi Yilmaz (Turkey), Ozan Kocadagli (Turkey) and Tchilabalo Abozou Kpazou (South Africa/Togo). We would like to thank the World Bank and the International Society for Business and Industrial Statistics on their behalf.

It is expected that many of the presented papers will be published, after reviewing, in two Special Issues of the following international scientific journals: Communications in Statistics—Simulation and Computation (Guest Editors: Paulo Canas Rodrigues and Eric Laber) and RevStat—Statistical Journal (Guest Editors: Filipe Marques, Marco Reis and Carlos Coelho). All submitted papers must meet the publication standards of the journal and will be subject to normal, but faster, refereeing procedure.

In the opening ceremony the most important statistical bodies in Portugal were represented: Ministry of Education and Science of the Portuguese Government, Portuguese Statistical Institute—Statistics Portugal, and the Portuguese Statistical Society. The opening ceremony was followed by the keynote speech of Ronald Wasserstein, entitled “*Statistics: the best of times, the worst of times*”.



Opening Ceremony. From left to right: Paulo Canas Rodrigues (Chair of the International Scientific Program of the Joint Meeting of y-BIS and jSPE), Manuela Neves (Member of the Board of Directors of the Portuguese Statistical Society), Fernando Santana (Dear of the Faculty of Sciences and Technology, Nova University of Lisbon), Nuno Crato (Minister of Education and Science of the Portuguese Government), Helena Cordeiro (Member of the Board of Directors of the Portuguese Statistical Institute—Statistics Portugal) and Luisa Mascarenhas (Coordinator of the Research Center for Mathematics and Applications, Nova University of Lisbon).



Ronald Wasserstein (Executive Director of the American Statistical Association) during his keynote speech.

A satisfaction survey was designed to know how happy the participants were about many of the items along the conference, and how it could be improved for the next editions. We had 21 respondents in total.

The overall satisfaction with the scientific program was scored 8.5 in a scale from 0 to 10 on the satisfaction survey. 66.7% of the respondents met professional contacts during the Joint Meeting of y-BIS and jSPE, and the satisfaction level with the opportunities of networking reached an average of 8.43 in 10.



Conference room and coffee break place.

Averaging the “quality” and “topics covered”, the satisfaction with the keynote sessions scored 8.6 in 10, the invited sessions scored 8.45 in 10 and the contributed sessions 8.33 in 10.

The social program included three events which allowed participants to meet each other and to get a taste of the Portuguese culture, weather, gastronomy, and hospitality: welcome reception, conference tour and conference dinner.

The first social event was the welcome reception, on Monday afternoon. It was held at the beach of São João and included drinks and dinner (scored an average of 9.94 in 10).



Welcome drink at Praia de São João, Costa de Caparica.

For the conference excursion there were three options: jeep tour to Sintra, boat trip “looking for dolphins” in the Arrábida coast, and snorkelling at Baía da Armação near Sesimbra. This activity scored an average of 9.52 in 10.



Conference tour: boat trip “Looking for Dolphins”.



Conference tour: snorkelling and jeep tour to Sintra.

The conference dinner was on Wednesday, the 25th, and was held in a restaurant with a great view over Lisbon. It included a concert by Almaplana, a group of three musicians (violin, acoustic guitar, voice and violoncello) who play Portuguese traditional music. The 21 respondents scored this social event to 9.75 in 10!



Group photo before the conference dinner, with the Ponte 25 de Abril and Lisbon in the background.



Conference dinner.

Two awards were given to the best posters: *High-dimensional regression: a simulation study* (by Shirin Shahriari) and *Nonparametric estimation of the tail-dependence coefficient* (by Marta Ferreira). Besides the certificate each awardee got a monetary prize of 250 Euro.

The answer to the general level of satisfaction with the Joint Meeting of y-BIS and jSPE scored an average of 8.95 in 10. I would also like to present my deepest gratitude to the other members of the Local Organizing Committee: Filipe Marques (Co-Chair), Luís Ramos, Frederico Caeiro and Vanda Lourenço, and the secretary Vanda Martins, for a terrific job who resulted in a score of 9.75 in 10 in the satisfaction survey for “Contact with the organizers” and 9.57 in 10 for “Organization staff support”.

Several participants asked information about the next meeting of y-BIS, which has not been defined yet. All the respondents to the survey would recommend attendance of the next meeting of y-BIS and about 57% plan to attend it, while the remaining are not sure about their participation.

Reactions following the event, such as “*Thank you very much for everything. I had a wonderful and impressive stay in Lisbon and have made a lot of friends. We had very nice chats about everything and exchanges of idea in many statistical problems*”, make us—the local organizing committee—forget about all the hard work with the preparation of the conference and give us—y-BIS—the feeling that we are going towards the right direction.

We thank all the participants for providing an excellent scientific program and a lot of fun in the social events. We wish you all the best and are looking forward to meet all of you again soon.

On the behalf of the Local Organizing Committee and the International Scientific Program Committee of the Joint Meeting of y-BIS and jSPE,

Paulo Canas Rodrigues