

Japanese Region (JR)

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The 2019 Japanese Joint Statistical Meeting

The Japanese Joint Statistical Meeting was held on 8-12 September at Shiga University, Shiga, Japan. It was hosted by Japanese Federation of Statistical Science Association, which consists of six sponsoring organizations, including the Biometric Society of Japan (BSJ). As an invited session, the BSJ organized the Biometric Symposium entitled "Clinical trial designs and statistical analysis methods utilizing disease registry data." In recent years, on the basis of the Clinical Innovation Network concept proposed by the Ministry of Health, Labor and Welfare, studies have been started on the concept of reliability assurance of disease registry data, study design, and statistical analysis methods mainly by the National Medical Research Centers. Prof. Hirakawa (The University of Tokyo) and Dr. Ando (Pharmaceuticals and Medical Devices Agency) organized and chaired the session jointly. The society invited four speakers. Dr. Shibata (National Cancer Center Japan) presented recent trends in disease registries and considerations to reliability assurance of data, Prof. Hayashi (Gunma University) presented clinical trial design using disease registries, Dr. Nomura (National Cancer Center Japan) presented statistical analysis using disease registries, and Dr. Tachimori (National Center of Neurology and Psychiatry) presented actual situations and statistical issues of using registry data for intractable neurological and muscular diseases.

The society organized another invited session of the winners of the Young Biostatisticians Award to present their own research. This award is annually conferred by the BSJ for researchers, who are less than 40 years old and publishes their research of high standard in recent issues of Biometrics, JABES, or Japanese Journal of Biometrics (JBS, the official journal of the BSJ). Dr. Igeta (Hyogo College of Medicine) presented his recent work on power and sample size calculation incorporating misspecifications of the variance function in comparative clinical trials with over-dispersed count data published in Biometrics, and Dr. Okui (Kyushu University Hospital) presents his recent work on a new association analysis method for gut microbial compositional data using ensemble learning published in JBS.

The Biometric Seminar

The Biometric Seminar Adaptive Design International Symposium is being organized by the BSJ jointly with the Institute of Statistical Mathematics and Japan Pharmaceutical Manufacturers Association (JPMA) and will be held on 14-15 November 2019 at Vision Center Tokyo Yaesu Minami-guchi, Tokyo, Japan. The theme to be discussed is entitled "Adaptive design and its application." Lectures cover a wide range of topics including an introduction to adaptive designs, methods used mainly in the oncology area, group sequential design, sample size re-estimation, regulatory documents, and actual examples. An overview of the Food and Drug Administration's (FDA's) draft guidance will be given by Dr. Scott (FDA) and industry perspective and experience will be given by Dr. Dragalin (Johnson & Johnson).

Ikuko Funatogawa

Meetings:

14-15 November 2019

The Biometric Seminar

Vision Center Tokyo Yaesu Minami-guchi, Tokyo, Japan

Spanish Region (REsp)

<http://www.biometricsociety.net/>

The 4th Student Conference of the Spanish Region of the International Biometric Society (REsp) was successfully held in Albacete on September 5 and 6, 2019. The Albacete campus of the University of Castilla-La Mancha (UCLM) hosted this event with more than 50 participants.

The scientific program of the conference included a total of 8 oral sessions (two more than the previous edition of this conference celebrated in Bilbao in January 2018) and one poster session. The talks covered a wide range of topics such as medical studies, ecology, agriculture, survival analysis, optimum experimental design, multivariate analysis, prediction models, and spatial statistics.

In addition, the program also included a course titled "Introduction to spatial mapping with R", given by Virgilio Gómez Rubio from the University of Castilla-La Mancha, and a round table on "The Role of Women in Statistics" where Marta Bofill Roig (Universitat Politècnica de Catalunya), Irantzu Barrio (University of Basque Country), Anabel Forte (Universitat de Valencia) and María Durbán (Universidad Carlos III de Madrid) discussed different questions regarding this topic.

The Local Committee proposed an activity where the participants took part in an orientation game that would take them through the most emblematic places of the city of Albacete, such as the Passage of Lodares, the Altozano square, or the Fair which is opened only 10 days every year. Moreover, the program includes a social dinner in a glamorous restaurant called La Posada Real.

The Organizing Committee, exclusively composed of students of the Spanish Region, is very grateful to the REsp, University of Castilla-La Mancha (UCLM), Department of Mathematics of the UCLM, Higher Technical School of Industrial Engineers of the UCLM, Higher School of Computer Engineering of the UCLM, regional and national governments, Biostatnet, Servei d'Estadística Aplicada (Universitat Autònoma de Barcelona), and Syntax for Science for the support received. Moreover, the Organizing Committee wants to congratulate all participants on this conference, it was a great success.

For more information, visit <http://www.biometricsociety.net/iv-jseb/> and the hashtag #IVJJSEB on Twitter.