

News from the IASC Executive Committee (October - December 2020)

Title: *Summary of news from the IASC Executive Committee*

Summary: *The IASC Executive Committee would like to thank its sponsors and donors in 2020*

The entire IASC Executive Committee (EC) would like to thank the first sponsor of the Journal of Statistics, Data Science, and Visualisation (JDSSV) who generously offered to cover the running expenses for JDSSV for the next few years (see a more detailed news entry elsewhere in this issue). At this time, the sponsor prefers to remain anonymous.

IASC also received donations in the amount of 295 Euro for its *IASC Young Researcher Fund* and 25 Euro for its *IASC Support Fund* from a total of six different donors in 2020. The IASC EC will discuss in early 2021 how to use these donations for deserving candidates in 2021. We would like to thank these six donors as well.

Both options for donations will also be available again in 2021. If your own financial situation allows you to make some additional donations to these two IASC funds when you renew your IASC membership for 2021, we would really appreciate it.



Call for papers: Journal of Data Science, Statistics, and Visualisation

Title: *Call for papers: Journal of Data Science, Statistics, and Visualisation*

Summary: *We welcome submissions for the Journal of Data Science, Statistics, and Visualisation.*

We welcome submissions for the **Journal of Data Science, Statistics, and Visualisation**. JDSSV has been launched this year as an international refereed journal which creates a forum to present recent progress and ideas in the different disciplines of data science, statistics, and visualisation. Contributions to data science, statistics, and visualisation are welcome and, in particular, papers which link and integrate these subject areas. The first issues of the journal will appear in 2021.

Articles should be oriented towards a wide scientific audience, and can cover topics such as machine learning and statistical learning, the visualisation and verbalisation of data, visual analytics, big data infrastructures and analytics, interactive learning, and advanced computing. Scientific contributions should be of a high standard.

The journal explicitly welcomes contributions that include software with the aim of reproducibility of the results and application of the proposed methodology to other data by the reader. It is expected that data used in a paper are provided.

Initial submissions only require a pdf version of the manuscript with accompanying software code and necessary supplementary material. Manuscripts can be submitted online at <https://jdssv.org>.

Supported by

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- International Statistical Institute (ISI)

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Journal of Statistics, Data Science, and Visualisation receives sponsoring

Title: *Journal of Statistics, Data Science, and Visualisation receives sponsoring*

Summary: *Financial support guarantees that JDSSV is completely open access without any costs for the readers nor the authors*

The Journal of Data Science, Statistics, and Visualisation (JDSSV) [<https://jdssv.org/index.php/jdssv>] is pleased to announce that it has found a financial sponsor to cover its publication costs.

This financial support has also made it possible to appoint a managing editor who will take care of the production process. The managing editor will check and finetune all accepted papers so that they meet the style requirements and will also check software code for reproducibility of the published results.

Thanks to this financial support, IASC can guarantee that JDSSV is a completely open access journal without any costs for the readers nor the authors.



IASC- LARS SCHOOL ON COMPUTATIONAL STATISTICS AND DATA SCIENCE

Report of the First IASC-LARS Webinar on Computational Statistics and Data Science

Title: *Successful IASC-LARS Webinar on Computational Statistics and Data Science*
Summary: *The Latin American Regional Section of the IASC held a first and successful Webinar on Statistical Inference in Markov Processes. The course was attended by 71 students and 24 countries.*

The Latin American Regional Section of the IASC, the IASC-LARS School on Computational Statistics and Data Science, the IASC and the ISI held a first and successful IASC-LARS Webinar on Computational Statistics and Data Science. The webinar course “Statistical Inference in Markov Processes” was team-taught by Professors Verónica González-López and Jesús E. García from University of Campinas, Brazil, from November 23-26, 2020. Thank you very much Verónica, Jesús, and collaborators Márcio Lanfredi-Viola and Mariela Fernández, for a remarkable course, highly informative, and with many useful concepts and interesting applications.

This is the first webinar given by the Latin American Regional Section of the IASC. The course was attended by 71 students, 50 of whom attended 2 or more days. Participants came from 24 countries¹, from Latin America –Argentina, Brazil, Chile, and Uruguay— and also from countries as far as away as Algeria, Austria, Bangladesh, Benin, Ethiopia, Germany, Ghana, Iceland, India, Indonesia, Italy, Kenya, Malaysia, Mali, Nigeria, Pakistan, Philippines, South Africa, Sri Lanka, and USA. This is the wonderful magic of communications these days. Most of the students were undergraduate, master and PhD students (64%), also attending academics and researchers (26%), and professionals coming from government institutions and private industry. Although we consider that is a small number, 29% of the students were female, we hope to increase this number in the future.

¹ Data corresponds to 57 registration forms.



From Left to right. First row: Juergen Symanzik, Verónica González-López, Katie Junasova, Luis Firinguetti. Second row: Alba Martínez-Ruiz, Jesús García, Márcio Lanfredi, and David Muñoz.

This is a contribution of Latin American Scientific Community to other countries and communities. The International Organizing Committee, Luis Firinguetti-Limone IASC Webinar Coordinator & Webinar Host (Chile), David Muñoz-Negrón IASC-LARS Chairperson (Mexico), Alba Martínez-Ruiz IASC-LARS Scientific Secretary (Chile) are very grateful for the support given by Katie Junasova, ISI Junior Webmaster and GoToWebinar master, the International Association for Statistical Computing, the International Statistical Institute, the World Bank and the Statistical Capacity Building Program. The webinar is available at <https://www.isi-web.org/webinars>.

The IASC-LARS School aims (1) to spread the knowledge base and advances in Statistical Computing in Latin American and the world, (2) to provide an overview of the state-of-the-art of the ongoing research in computational statistics, (3) to provide an overall perspective of the application of computational statistics in data science problems, (4) to present applications where computational statistics have been crucial to solve problems in real-life applications, and (5) to increase the number of researchers and practitioners in computational statistics and data science.

Forthcoming Event: New Virtual Format for LACSC 2021 5th Latin American Conference on Statistical Computing



Title: *New Virtual Format for LACSC 2021 5th Latin American Conference on Statistical Computing*

Summary: *The 5th Latin American Conference on Statistical Computing LACSC 2021 will be held fully online from April 19 to 21, 2021. **Deadline to submit papers January 11, 2021.***

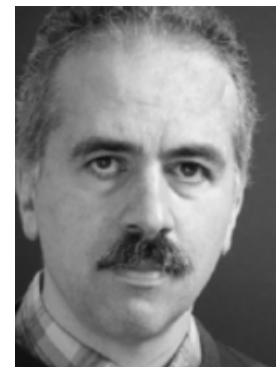
The **5th Latin American Conference on Statistical Computing LACSC 2021** will be held fully online via Whova April 19 to April 21, 2021. This international conference is jointly organized by the Department of Statistics and the Department of Industrial & Operations Engineering of the Instituto Autónomo de México (ITAM), the Latin American Regional Section of the International Association for Statistical Computing (LARS-IASC) and the International Statistical Institute (ISI). The theme of this year is “**Statistical Computing for Intelligent Decision Making**” and the **Keynote Speakers**,



Wendy L. Martínez, Bureau of Labor Statistics, USA



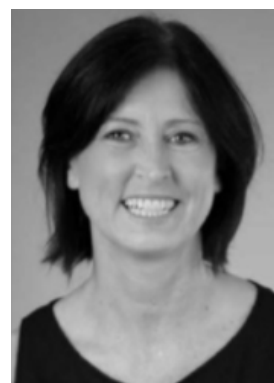
Daniel Russo, Columbia University, USA



Enrique Sucar, Inst. de Astrofísica, Óptica y Electrónica, México



Renato Assunção, Universidade Federal de Minas Gerais, Brazil



Antonietta Mira, Università della Svizzera Italiana, Switzerland

LACSC 2021 invites to submit papers, contributed paper sessions, and invited paper sessions before **January 11, 2021**. The call of papers and all the information is available at <http://lacsc2021.itam.mx>

The aim of LACSC is to foster the progress of the theory, methods and practice of statistical computing in Latin America, and to become the main meeting point of the statistical computing scientific community in LA. This year, the call of papers of the conference gives an account of the interest of academics, scientists and professionals in methodological aspects of statistical computing and relevant applications for the Latin American community.

For IASC-LARS students, the IASC will provide (a) **10 (or more) scholarships** – 100% waiver in registration fee for people living in developing countries, (b) **5 (or more) scholarship** – 50% waiver in registration fee for people living in developing countries. Please, find the list of low income countries at <https://data.worldbank.org/income-level/low-income> and the list of lower middle income countries at <https://data.worldbank.org/income-level/lower-middle-income>). To apply for these scholarships, the candidates must,

- Be a member of the International Association for Statistical Computing (IASC). More information on how to become a member can be found here: <http://iasc-isi.org/become-a-member/>
- At the time of the application and of the events be living and working/studying in a developing country.

All participants are expected to adhere to the ISI Community Principles and Conduct Policy (<https://www.isi-web.org/index.php/about-isi/policies/community-conduct>).

Before to attend the conference, please visit the webpage <https://whova.com/resources/how-to-guide/user-tutorial/>. For more information, you can also visit the YouTube channel <https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCWO0ToUqApkJ0W6-PszihpQ>.

Forthcoming Event: New Virtual Format for 3rd LARS-IASC School on Computational Statistics and Data Science

Title: *New Virtual Format for the 3rd IASC-LARS School on Computational Statistics and Data Science*

Summary: *The Third IASC-LARS School on Computational Statistics and Data Science will be held fully online from April 17 to 18, 2021.*



The **Third LARS-IASC School on Computational Statistics and Data Science will be held fully online via Whova from April 17 to April 18, 2021.** This is a satellite event of the 5th Latin American Conference on Statistical Computing, LACSC 2021, jointly organized by the Instituto Autónomo de México (ITAM), the Latin American Regional Section of the International Association for Statistical Computing (LARS-IASC) and the International Statistical Institute (ISI). This year the school theme is **Stochastic Simulation and Reinforcement Learning** (<http://lacsc2021.itam.mx>) and the instructors,



- Enrique Sucar, Instituto Nacional de Astrofísica, Óptica y Electrónica, México
 - “Probabilistic Graphical Models: Principles and Applications”



- David Muñoz-Negrón, Instituto Tecnológico de México (ITAM)
 - “Stochastic Simulation: Output Analysis and Applications”



- Eduardo F. Morales, Inst. Nacional de Astrofísica, Óptica y Electrónica, México
 - “Reinforcement Learning”

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- At the time of the application and of the events be living and working/studying in a developing country.