

International Conference *Mathematical Methods* *in Economics* (MME 2019)

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Mathematical Methods in Economics (MME) conferences have a very long history and tradition. They are one of the most important scientific events organized in the Czech Republic in the field of operational research, econometrics, mathematical economics, and related research areas. In 2019, the 37th *International Conference on Mathematical Methods in Economics* was organized in the city of České Budějovice on 11–13 September.³ Except for the local organizer, which was the Faculty of Economics, University of South Bohemia in České Budějovice, leading organizers of MME conferences are the *Czech Society for Operations Research* (CSOR) and the *Czech Econometric Society*.

The total number of participants of this year's MME conference was more than 127 from the Czech Republic, China, Austria, Poland, and Slovakia. The programme started with an opening ceremony, where the head of the Organising Committee, Michal Houda, introduced the main programme and all facilities. After that, the first plenary session started with the interesting lecture *From AI and Data Science back to Operations Research and Financial Modelling* presented by the Vice President of the Austrian Operations Research Society, professor Ronald Hochreiter (Vienna University of Economics and Business). After the plenary session, the programme of the conference was divided into five parallel sessions. The total number of presentations was more than 80. All accepted papers are published in the Proceedings of the MME 2019. They have been submitted, as in the previous years, for indexing in the Web of Science database.

It has been a long tradition that a competition of PhD students for the best paper takes place during MME conferences. The competition is organized and honoured by the CSOR. All submitted papers were peer-reviewed and the papers with positive referee reports were further evaluated by the Programme Committee. Six best selected papers have been presented at the conference in a special session and the evaluation committee decided about the winners. Six papers, which were the best ones, were awarded after a conference dinner on the Klet' mountain. Petra Tomanová (University of Economics, Prague, Czech Republic) with her paper *Price Clustering Phenomenon* was the winner of the competition. Tomáš Rusý (Charles University, Prague, Czech Republic) with his paper *Interest Rate Modelling: Maximum Likelihood Estimation of One-Factor Short-Rate Models* ranked second. Petra Zýková (University of Economics, Prague, Czech Republic) ranked third with her paper *Dynamic Efficiency Analysis of German NUTS 2*. The remaining three award-winning contributions have been delivered by Anlan Wang (Technical University

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³ More at: <https://mme2019.ef.jcu.cz>.

of Ostrava, Czech Republic), Michal Škoda (Czech University of Life Sciences Prague), and Xiaoshan Feng (Technical University of Ostrava, Czech Republic). Another plenary session closed the conference by Gustav Feichtinger (Vienna University of Technology) and his lecture *The Mathematics of Ageing*.

Organization of the conference was at a very high level. All sessions took place in the Faculty of Economics. The welcome evening took place on the ground floor of the university canteen with an accompanying music (traditional South Bohemian sounds). An essential part of all conferences is a social programme that always offers many opportunities to discuss various problems in an informal environment. The organizers have prepared a trip to the Klet mountain including a pleasant guided tour of the Klet Observatory and a conference dinner at the Klet restaurant. Conference participants could hike to the top of the Klet mountain or use the cableway.

The annual meeting of the CSOR decided that the 38th MME conference will be organized in the city of Brno by the Faculty of Business and Economics, Mendel University of Brno, on 9–11 September 2020.