

Sixth International Conference on Sensitivity Analysis of Model Output

Editorial

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Abstract

The present issue contains the abstracts of the works presented at the Sixth International Conference on Sensitivity Analysis of Model output, held in Milan, at Bocconi University from July 19th to July 22nd 2010. The conference has been co-organized by the ELEUSI research center of Bocconi University and by the Joint Research Center of the European Commission.

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1. Introduction

The International Conferences on Sensitivity Analysis of Model Output (SAMO) are held every three years, and the sixth of the series (SAMO 2010) was held at Bocconi University. SAMO is the main outlet for presenting work on both methodology and applications of sensitivity analysis.

In this edition, 98 papers coming from all continents were presented, covering different topics and perspectives.

This issue, therefore, reflects the state-of-the art and the current debate about techniques used internationally to perform sensitivity and uncertainty analysis of model output. All types of techniques are covered, ranging from local sensitivity analysis, to screening methods, to variance based methods, to moment independent techniques. Applications range from seismic risk assessment, to safety of structures, from architecture building to nanotechnologies, not to mention the environmental models (and many others; the list would exceed the space available for this editorial).

Two features emerge clearly: the importance of sensitivity analysis for model quality assurance and for increasing analysts' awareness about model response.

Sensitivity analysis is an expanding field, increasingly considered by international actors and guidelines as a necessary minimum requirement for the quality of models, especially when these are used for policy assessment.