

Editorial

This Special Issue collects the papers from selected contributions presented at the International Conference “Econophysics Colloquium”, held in Canberra (Australia) between the 14 and the 18 of November 2005.

Our main aim in organizing this forum was to present and facilitate the diffusion of Econophysics in Australia. Indeed this has been the first conference in this research field in Australia. At the conference, researchers from different communities (physicists, economists, financial practitioners, mathematicians and engineers) have gathered together in order to review recent results, exchange ideas, present new methods and confront different viewpoints on common problems linking economics and physical sciences.

Conference topics included: Agent-based models: Theory and Simulations; Econophysics; Information, Bounded Rationality and Learning in Economics; Markets as Complex Adaptive Systems—Evolutionary Economics; Multiscale Analysis and Modelling; Non-linear Dynamics and Econometrics; Physics of Risk; Science of Networks; Statistical and Probabilistic Methods in Economics and Finance.

The Econophysics Colloquium has been very successful attracting more than 100 scientists from 18 different countries. The success of this meeting and the accomplishment of the objectives are shown by the important list of participants and the quality of the presentations (<http://www.rspysse.anu.edu.au/econophysics/>). The format of the conference included invited talks from top international leaders coming both from academia and from the financial sector. The conference has enjoyed the contribution of 57 oral presentations and 14 posters.

Half-day was dedicated to the second edition of the “*Bonzenfreies Colloquium*” (<http://www.mfn.unipmn.it/~colloqui/>) where Ph.D. students, post-docs, and researchers below the age of 35 had the opportunity to present their research. Two public lectures have also been organized at the National Museum of Australia, Canberra, Australia on 16 November 2005, namely (1) Lessons learned from studying high-frequency data in finance by Dr. Michel M. Dacorogna (Converium Ltd, Zürich, Switzerland) and (2) Econophysics: Can Physicists Help Understand Economic Fluctuations? by Prof. H. Eugene Stanley (Boston University, USA).







The Conference has been officially opened on November 14 by Prof. Lawrence Cram, ANU Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Research), followed by Prof. Jim Williams, Director of the Research School of Physical Sciences and Engineering and by Prof. Robert L. Dewar, Convenor of ARC Complex Open Systems Research Network (COSNet).

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We also wish to thank all the staff of the Research School of Physical Sciences (ANU). A particular thank to Martin Conway, Julie Dalco, Christine Denny, Shaun Howard, James Irwin, Gerd Schroeder, Jenny Smith, Tim Wetherell.

Finally, we would like to express our sincere gratitude to the referees for their time and effort to reviewing the papers we sent to them.

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