

FOREWORD

This number contains the invited lectures and three short courses* given at the V CLAPEM, Congresso Latino Americano de Probabilidade e Estatística which was held at the Instituto de Matemática e Estatística da Universidade de São Paulo from June 28 to July 3 1993. This meeting brought together pure and applied statisticians and probabilists working in fields related to time series, robustness, Bayesian statistics, non parametric estimation, statistic models of epidemiology, pivotal inference, interacting particle systems and other special Markov processes, metastability of stochastic and deterministic systems, phase transition, large deviations, quasi stationary distributions, reaction diffusion processes and cellular automata.

The Scientific Committee of V CLAPEM was composed by G. Cordeiro (Recife), C. Dorea (Brasília), P. Ferrari, (São Paulo) (chairman), A. Galves (São Paulo), R. Klein (Rio de Janeiro), M. Marques (Campinas), P. Morettin (São Paulo), G. Silveira (Rio de Janeiro), M. E. Vares (Rio de Janeiro), from Brasil and R. Fraiman (Uruguay), S. Martinez (Chile), E. Molina (Venezuela), L. Gorostiza (Mexico), V. Yohai (Argentina), representing the other Latin American Countries. Nelson Tanaka was the local organizer and Claudia Bicalho the Secretary of the Congress. The poster was designed by Sara Müller. Lourdes Vaz da Silva Netto prepared this volume. We thank all of them for their help during the preparation of the meeting.

We would like to thank our sponsors and supporters whose interest and help was essential for the success of the meeting. The Congress was jointly sponsored by the Bernoulli Society, the International Mathematical Union, the Inter-American Statistical Institute and the Brazilian Statistical Association. The Congress was supported by CNPq (Conselho Nacional de Desenvolvimento Científico e Tecnológico), FAPESP (Fundação de Amparo à Pesquisa do Estado de São Paulo) and FINEP (Financiadora de Estudos e Projetos), International Center for Theoretical Physics (Trieste), Organização dos Estados Americanos, British Council, Bureau Regional de Coopération Française and local foundations of the participant countries.

Pablo A. Ferrari
Organizer

* The course of A. Galves will appear as invited paper in the special issue of REBRAPE (Revista Brasileira de Probabilidade e Estatística) dedicated to CLAPEM