

Mathematical Methods in Economics (MME 2018) International Conference

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Mathematical Methods in Economics (MME) conferences have a very long history and tradition.³ They belong to most important scientific events organized in the Czech Republic in the field of operational research, econometrics, mathematical economics, and related research areas. In 2018, the 36th international conference *Mathematical Methods in Economics 2018* was held in the city of Jindřichův Hradec on September 12–14. Except for the local organizer, which was the Faculty of Management, University of Economics, Prague, main organizers of MME conferences were the *Czech Society for Operations Research* (CSOR) and the *Czech Econometric Society*.

The total number of participants of this year's MME 2018 conference was more than 140 people coming from the Czech Republic, Spain, Finland, Poland, and Slovakia. The scientific programme started with a plenary session opened by the chair of the CSOR, Professor Miroslav Plevný. Then, the Dean of the Faculty of Management, Professor Vladislav Bína, welcomed all the participants in the campus of the Faculty of Management, and Lucie Váňová, head of Organising Committee, presented the main program and all facilities.

After these introductory talks, one regular invited plenary lecture was delivered. The lecture titled *Dreaming of Fair Democracy – Limitations of Collective Decision Making* was given by Professor Milan Vlach (Charles University, Prague, Czech Republic). After the plenary session, the programme of the conference was divided into 5 parallel sessions. The total number of presentations was more than 110. All accepted papers are published in the Proceedings of the MME 2018. They are submitted, as in the previous years, for indexing in the Web of Science.

It has been a long tradition that during MME conferences a competition of PhD students for the best paper takes place. This competition is organized and honoured by the CSOR. All papers submitted were peer-reviewed and the papers with positive referee reports were further evaluated by the Programme Committee. Eight best selected papers were presented at the conference in two special sessions and, finally, the evaluation committee decided about the winners. The best six papers have been awarded at conference dinner in the hall of Faculty of Management. The winner of the competition was Tomáš Rusý (Charles University, Prague, Czech Republic) with the paper *Optimal Loan Performance Management via Stochastic Programming*. The second place got Petra Tomanová (University of Economics, Prague, Czech Republic) with her paper *A semiparametric Approach to Modelling Time-Varying Quantiles*.

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³ More at: <https://mme2018.fjm.vse.cz>.

Ondřej Badura (Technical University of Ostrava, Czech Republic) placed third with his paper *Client Interest Rates and Household Behaviour: the Case of Czech Republic*. The remaining three honoured contributions were delivered by Tomasz Stachurski (University of Economics in Katowice, Poland), Petra Zýková (University of Economics, Prague, Czech Republic), and Jakub Houdek and Ondřej Sokol (University of Economics, Prague, Czech Republic).

Organization of the conference was excellent. All sessions including a conference banquet took place in a campus of the Faculty of Management that offers all necessary up-to-date facilities for this kind of events. Welcome evening took place in the nearby Museum of Photography and Modern Visual Media. An important part of all conferences is a social programme always offering many opportunities to discuss various problems in an informal environment. The organizers have prepared 4 options for a half-day tour: City tour in Jindřichův Hradec, a guided tour of the castle Červená Lhota, guided tour with beer tasting in Regent Brewery and Lookout tower U Jakuba. After the tour, the conference was officially finished by the conference banquet at which the winners of the PhD competition were awarded.

The annual meeting of the CSOR decided that the 37th MME conference will be organized in the city of České Budějovice by the Faculty of Economics, University of South Bohemia on September 11–13, 2019.