



REPORT ABOUT THE EURO MINI-CONFERENCE GRAZ-2013 October 17th-19th, 2013 – Graz, Austria

Theme of the Conference: “Collaborative Decision Systems in Economics and in Complex Societal and Environmental Applications”

The EURO Mini Conference Graz-2013 was jointly organised by the following EURO Working Groups:



EWG E-CUBE: EURO Working Group on Experimental Economics

EWG-DSS: EURO Working Group on Decision Support Systems

EWG MCSP EURO Working Group on Methodology of Societal Complexity

EWG ORAFM EURO Working Group on OR in Agriculture and Forest Management

Organisation Committee

Local Arrangements & Organization:

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Conference Homepage & Updates:

SimTech Simulation Technology, www.SimTechnology.com

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Conference & Programme Committee:

The EURO Mini-Conference Graz-2013 counted with a PC composed of the Coordination board members and long-term members of the four EURO Working Groups cited above. (Check the Mini-Conference Homepage for the complete list of the PC Members. Link is given below).

<http://eurominiconferencegraz2013.wordpress.com/>.

The Proceedings of the Conference can be downloaded via the link below:

<http://eurominiconferencegraz2013.files.wordpress.com/2013/09/emc-graz-2013-proceedings.pdf>

Notes from the EmC Graz-2013 Organising Committee:

The EURO Mini-Conference on “Collaborative Decision Systems in Economics and in Complex Societal and Environmental Applications” was jointly organized by the EURO Working Groups on Decision Support Systems ([EWG-DSS](#)); Experimental Economics ([EWG E-CUBE](#)), the EURO Working Group on Methodology for Complex Societal Problems ([MCSP](#)) and the EURO Working Group on OR in Agriculture and Forest Management ([ORAFM](#)), in cooperation with the [Institute of Statistics and Operations Research](#) of the [Karl-Franzens Universität Graz](#) in Austria, during the period of October 17th to 19th, 2013.

The purpose of this EURO Mini Conference was to bring together researchers in the areas of Decision Support Systems, Operations Research, Methodology of Societal Complexity and their respective areas of applications. Due to its interdisciplinary flavour, this conference brought together researchers of the areas of Decision Sciences, Operations Research, Economics, Societal Complexity, Environmental Management and their respective fields of applications. Collaborative Decision Systems in the areas of Economics, Societal and Environmental Applications.

The EURO Mini Conference Graz-2013 counted with 4 Streams, namely: Stream of Decision Support Systems (chaired by the EWG-DSS); Stream of Experimental Economics (chaired by the EWG E-CUBE); Stream of Complex Societal Problems (chaired by the EWG-MCSP); and Stream of OR in Agriculture and Forest Management (chaired by the EWG-ORAFM).

For the organization of this Mini-Conference we had the honour to count with the support of the Coordinator of the EWG E-CUBE: Ulrike Leopold-Wildburger, Professor of the Institute of Statistics and Operations Research of the University of Graz, to bring this event to scene. Prof. Ulrike Leopold-Wildburger enabled us to organize this Mini-Conference in Graz, the second-largest city in Austria and the best preserved medieval city in Central Europe. Graz charmingly combines a longstanding historical tradition with the young flair of an university town. As members of the EURO Working Groups and of the Organizing Committee of this Conference, we are extremely grateful to all the local arrangements and support received from her and from her University team.

The EURO Mini Conference Graz-2013 has attracted the participation and the interest of many decision science professionals. It received a total of 44 research contributions, from which a selection is presented in 4 Streams. Additionally, it counts with 7 special talks, one sponsor invited talk and 3 web-seminars from sponsors and EC project funding platforms. The special talks were presented by [Jakob Krarup](#), Professor Emeritus of the Department of Computer Science of the University of Copenhagen, about the topic " On the Origins of OR and its Institutions"; [Rudolf Vetschera](#), Professor at the University of Vienna, Austria, Department of Business Administration / Organization and Planning, about: " The multiple dimensions of negotiations: A unified approach"; [Rita A. Ribeiro](#), Professor

at CA3, UNINOVA, Portugal, about the topic " Dynamic Multi-criteria Decision Making (MCDM): A framework"; [Cor van Dijkum](#), Professor at Utrecht University, Department of Methodology and Statistics / Faculty of Social Sciences & Sokrates Consultancy and Engineering, The Netherlands, about: " Complexity is more than complicated. Investigating, simulating and handling complexity: a challenge for system dynamics"; [Marion Sabine Rauner](#), Professor at the University of Vienna, School of Business, Economics, and Statistics, Department of Business Administration, Austria, about: "Prevention of Occupational Injuries at the General Accident Insurance Institution (AUVA): Design and Application of Decision Support Systems for Predicting Subsequent Costs from 2001 to 2011"; [Ljusik Ola Eriksson](#), Professor at the Department of Forest Resource Management & Forest Planning of the Swedish University of Agricultural Sciences, Sweden, about: "Replicating forest owner behavior in Decision Support Systems: 2 examples of programming formulations"; and [Hermann Maurer](#), Professor of Informatics, Graz University of Technology, Austria, with the talk about "Long range predictions are still more difficult than is usually assumed". We would like to acknowledge the interest and cooperation of all the authors and invited speakers who submitted their research work for presentation in this conference.

Taking into consideration the high quality of the special talks and the whole program of this event, it can be observed that the conference developed a research agenda that identified key challenges to be explored as new approaches and tools for future collaborative decision making, including the use of web resources, dynamic spatial-temporal decision making, and technical and social aspects of web-based decision processes, mainly in the areas of Economics and Complex Societal and Environmental Applications.

Another highlight of the conference's organization was the reviewing support received by the Program Committee Members, who themselves are mid or long-term members of the four EURO Working Groups involved in the organization. The reviewing process was planned to be performed in a concise and fast way, so that authors could count with the referees' evaluation not only to help them to finalize their full papers to be submitted to the Journal Special Issues promoted by this event, but also to improve their presentations. We have managed to achieve our reviewing goals without delays, thanks to our engaged team of reviewers. We are very grateful to all of them, for their constructive feedback and prompt cooperation. *Thanks!*

Thanks to our sponsors and to the efforts of Jason Papathanasiou from the EWG-DSS, who was responsible to contact them, the following licenses of Simulation and DSS-related software packages were sorted among the participants as prizes for best papers, during the EURO Mini Conference Graz-2013: ♦ 1 License of Analytica, sponsored by Lumina (<http://www.lumina.com/>); ♦ 1 Full academic license of Decision Explorer, sponsored by Banxia (<http://www.banxia.com/>); ♦ 1 License of Arena, sponsored by Rockwell Automation (<http://www.arenasimulation.com/>); and ♦ 3 Licenses of Simio Enterprise Edition, sponsored by Simio (<http://www.simio.com>). We are extremely thankful to those sponsors, for their trust in our research community, and we hope that the prize winners will be able to develop further high quality work using the tools they have received.

Last, but not least, we wish to express here our deep gratitude to EURO for their trust on the DSS, E-CUBE, MCSP and ORAFM Working Groups to organize this Mini-Conference and for their financial support directed to it. Special thanks go to Ulrike Leopold-Wildburger, and Fátima Dargam, for their great job in locally organizing this event in Graz. We are extremely grateful to all the local arrangements, local sponsors, and help received from them and their teams. We also wish to thank Stefan Pickl (from E-CUBE) and all the coordination members of the EURO Working Groups involved in this joint conference organization for their support. *Many Thanks!*

The EmC Graz-2013 Organising Committee.

<http://eurominiconferenc graz2013.wordpress.com/organizing-committee/>

EmC Graz-2013 Financial Report:

1. Subsidies from EURO: The local organisers of the EURO Mini-Conference in Graz have received the amount of €3,500.00 (three thousand and five hundred Euro) from EURO, in order to partially cover the costs of the conference budget.

The amount of €3,500.00 was used to pay the following expenses of the conference:

#	EmC Graz-2013 Expenses Description	Payments
1	Support for the Invited Speaker – Prof. Rudolf Vetschera	€ 400.00
2	Support for the Invited Speaker – Prof. Hermann Maurer	€ 300.00
3	Support for the Invited Speaker – Prof. Marion Rauner	€ 200.00
4	Support for assistants to help during the conference	€ 300.00
5	Oct. 17 th and 18 th Conference Lunches for the Participants	€ 689.10
6	Oct. 19 th Conference Lunch for the Participants	€ 385.50
7	Conference Social Event – Eggenberg Castle Candle-light Tour	€ 1175.00
8	Conference Badges for the Participants	€ 52.00
	TOTAL:	€ 3501.60

Copies of the receipts of the payments detailed above can be found in the **Appendix A** of this report. If the original receipts are needed, we are glad to send them to EURO upon request.

2. Registration Fees: The EmC Graz-2013 counted with the amount of € 6000,00 coming from paying participants' registrations fees (25 Regular-paying Participants - €200,00 and 10 Students-paying Participants - €100,00). There were, however, many more participants taking part at the Conference. Many students were sponsored to take part and a number of researchers were invited to take part, without paying the registration fees. A copy of the List of Participants is attached to this report in **Appendix B**. Local students of the University of Graz were also allowed to attend the conference (without taking part in the evening and social events). Their names, however, do not appear in the list of participants.

With the money received from the registration of the paying participants, the conference organisers were able to pay for the remaining expenses needed to make the conference happen. Those expenses included: 5 coffee breaks parallel in two locations; support for the international Invited Speakers (travel & accommodation); transportation of the participants to the social event location; evening receptions; conference participants-bags; conference material; Conference proceedings; support to students; as well as administrative, office and mailing services.

All the income received by the organizers for the EmC Graz-2013 was used to pay the expenses of the conference. As previously planned, the EURO Mini-Conference Graz-2013 did not generate any profit to any of the involved EURO working groups.

The Conference Organising Committee is very grateful to EURO for all the support received.

Sincerely,

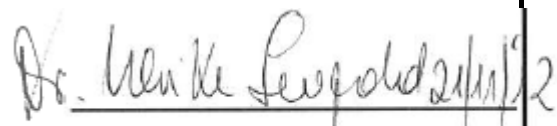
The EmC Graz-2013 Organising Committee.

<http://eurominiconferencegraz2013.wordpress.com/organizing-committee/>

Chair of the EURO Mini-Conference Graz-2013:

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Date: 07.11.2013



Signature and date.