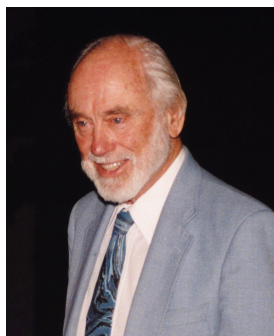


# 17th International Workshop on Matrices and Statistics (IWMS) in Celebration of T.W. Anderson's 90th Birthday: Tomar, Portugal, 23–26 July 2008

Francisco Carvalho, Simo Puntanen & George P. H. Styan

The 17th International Workshop on Matrices and Statistics (IWMS'08) <http://www.iwms08.ipt.pt/> was held in Tomar, Portugal, 23–26 July 2008. This Workshop was dedicated to Professor Theodore Wilbur Anderson, who celebrated his 90th birthday on 5 June 2008. Ten years ago, the 7th International Workshop on Matrices and Statistics was held in Fort Lauderdale, Florida, USA, 11–14 December 1998, in celebration of T. W. Anderson's 80th Birthday.



T. W. Anderson was born on June 5, 1918, in Minneapolis, Minnesota. He received a B.S. in mathematics from Northwestern University in 1939, and a Ph.D. in 1945 in mathematics from Princeton University, where his supervisor was Samuel S. Wilks. He was with the Cowles Commission at the University of Chicago, and then in 1946 he became a faculty member at Columbia University. Since 1967 he has been in his present position as a Professor of Statistics and Economics at Stanford University. T. W. Anderson has received many honors: a Guggenheim Fellow, Editor of the *The Annals of Mathematical Statistics*, President of the Institute of Mathematical Statistics, Vice-President of the American Statistical Association, an honorary degree from Sweden and one from Northwestern University. He is a Fellow of the American Academy of Arts and Sciences and a member of the National Academy of Sciences.

The International Organizing Committee (IOC) for IWMS'08 comprised George P. H. Styan (Montréal, Canada) – Honorary Chair, Simo Puntanen (Tampere, Finland) – Chair, Augustyn Markiewicz (Poznań, Poland) – Vice-Chair, S. Ejaz Ahmed (Windsor, Canada), Jeffrey J. Hunter (Auckland, New Zealand), Götz Trenkler (Dortmund, Germany), Dietrich von Rosen (Uppsala, Sweden), and Hans Joachim Werner (Bonn, Germany). The members of the Local Organizing Committee (LOC) were João T. Mexia (Lisbon, Portugal) – Chair, Carlos A. Coelho (Lisbon, Portugal) – Vice-Chair, Katarzyna Filipiak (Poznań, Poland), Ricardo Covas (Tomar, Portugal), Miguel Fonseca (Lisbon, Portugal), and Francisco Carvalho (Tomar, Portugal).

The organizing institutes were the New University of Lisbon and the Polytechnical Institute of Tomar, with sponsors the Faculty of Sciences and Technology (New University of Lisbon), Center of Mathematics and Applications (New University of Lisbon), National Institute of Statistics – INE, SPSS, Delta, Hotel Dos Templários (Tomar), Luso-American Foundation, the International Linear Algebra Society, Science and Technology Foundation, UNICER, and UNILEVER.

The 190-page *Book of Abstracts* for IWMS'08 was edited by

Katarzyna Filipiak and Francisco Carvalho, and includes not only the abstracts of the talks and the full program, but also the following articles:

- “A short history of the International Workshop on Matrices and Statistics (IWMS)”, by Simo Puntanen & George P. H. Styan, <http://mtl.uta.fi/iwms/>
- “Ted W. Anderson, The Multivariate Man” by Yadolah Dodge, *Student*, 3 (1999), 133–140,
- “A Conversation with T. W. Anderson” by Morris H. DeGroot, *Statistical Science*, 1 (1986), 97–105.

Invited talks were given by S. Ejaz Ahmed (Canada), T. W. Anderson (USA), Ravindra B. Bapat (India) – the ILAS Speaker, Adi Ben-Israel (USA), Carlos A. Braumann (Portugal), Tadeusz Caliński (Poland), Charles R. Johnson (USA), Lynn Roy LaMotte (USA), Augustyn Markiewicz (Poland), Stanisław Mejza (Poland), Michael D. Perlman (USA), Dinis Pestana (Portugal), Dietrich von Rosen (Sweden), Muni S. Srivastava (Canada), George P. H. Styan (Canada), Götz Trenkler (Germany), Júlia Volaufová (USA), Douglas P. Wiens (Canada), and Roman Zmysłony (Poland). The Polish research journal *Discusiones Mathematicae* will promote a special issue for selected papers presented at IWMS'08.



We were delighted that the local organizers had arranged, through the Portuguese Post Office (CTT), a special postage stamp showing George in his top hat from the Tampere honorary doctorate promotion in 2000. In the background is the polygon rotunda (charola) of the Convent of Christ (Castelo Templário and Convento da Ordem de Cristo de Tomar). The Convent of Christ is one of Portugal's most important historical and artistic monuments and has been in the World Heritage list of UNESCO since 1983. It is a combination of a castle and a convent, used by the Templar Knights. Another Portuguese stamp which depicts part of the Convent of Christ was issued in 1973 (*Scott* #1129) and shows the famous Window of the Chapter House (Janela do Capítulo) with typical Manueline motifs.

The 18th International Workshop on Matrices and Statistics will be held in Smolenice Castle, Slovakia, 23–27 June 2009. Local Chair: Viktor Witkovský, IOC Chair: Júlia Volaufová. <http://www.um.sav.sk/en/iwms2009.html>