

PREFACE

This volume contains papers and tutorial notes presented in the Econometric Forecasting and High-Frequency Data Analysis Program jointly organized by the Institute for Mathematical Sciences, National University of Singapore, and the School of Economics, Singapore Management University, in April–May 2004, for which, together with Tilak Abeysinghe, we were Program Co-Chairs. The chapters collected in this volume summarize some recent findings and new results in two key areas in econometrics: econometric forecasting and the analysis of high-frequency financial data.

The paper by Klein and Ozmurcur proposes new methods for forecasting macroeconomic variables by combining data with different frequencies. Wallis emphasizes the importance of communicating information about forecast uncertainty, and considers various statistical techniques for assessing the reliability of forecasts. Franses focuses on techniques for forecasting seasonal time series data, including some advanced techniques on modeling seasonal and periodic unit roots. Viewing daily data as aggregates of compound sums of tick-by-tick data, Gouriéroux discusses the class of compound autoregressive (Car) processes. Deistler considers the important problem of modeling multivariate time series, including the issues of estimation and model selection.

We are indebted to our Program Committee members for their valuable inputs into the Program, to Louis Chen, Director of IMS, for his unfailing support, and to Lai Fun Kwong of World Scientific, for her endless patience. This volume brings us some fond memory of the Program, the highlight of which was a one-and-a-half day symposium. The symposium culminated in a public forum on “Econometrics Today”, which was chaired by Roberto S. Mariano and attended by over 120 participants. The panel, which consists of Lawrence Klein, Robert Engle and Kenneth Wallis, freely shared its candid views about the current state of econometric methodology and its impact on economic research.

October 2007

Roberto S. Mariano
Singapore Management University, Singapore
& University of Pennsylvania, USA

Yiu-Kuen Tse
Singapore Management University, Singapore