

6th International Conference on Partial Least Squares and Related Methods in Beijing (PLS'09 - China)

4-7 September 2009

The 6th International Conference on Partial Least Squares and Related Methods (PLS'09) was successfully held on Sept. 4-Sept.7, 2009 in China at the Beihang University, the Beijing University of Aeronautics & Astronautics. Among the over 350 submitted papers, 80 were selected either as contributed papers or as posters. The Proceedings were published by the Electronic Industrial Press of China. Among the selected papers, about half of them were from Chinese authors. The remaining ones came from 20 different countries, including USA, UK, Japan, Korea, France, Italy, Germany, Australia, Canada, Spain, etc. 110 delegates registered for the conference.

The PLS methods (Partial Least Squares or Projection to Latent Structures) were first introduced as PLS Path Modeling in late Sixties by Herman Wold and then as PLS Regression in 1983 by his son Svante Wold, Harald Martens and their colleagues. Since then, many developments and several applications have been proposed, mainly in the field of chemometrics, social sciences, sensory data analysis, marketing, anthropology, bioinformatics, cosmetics, petrol and agro-alimentary industry as well as in industries where production is run through continuous processes. Nowadays, these methods of statistical data analysis are widely used, in particular when there are lots of variables, few statistical units, missing data and eventually a multi-block data structure. The 6th International Conference on Partial Least Squares and Related Methods was an exceptional conference where the most outstanding experts in PLS methods, from all over the world, met.

PLS' 09 followed the path started in Jouy-en-Josas (PLS'99, France), then in Anacapri (PLS'01, Italy), Lisbon (PLS'03, Portugal), Barcelona (PLS'05, Spain) and Ås (PLS'07, Norway). PLS'09 was organized with the support of the ESSEC Business School of Paris and the HEC School of Management, with the financial support from National Natural Science Foundation of China, and with the scientific sponsorship of two sections of the International Statistical Institute (ISI), namely the International Society for Business and Industrial Statistics (ISBIS) and the International Association for Statistical Computing (IASC), as well as of the International Federation of Classification Societies (IFCS).

Vincenzo Esposito Vinzi