

## REVIEW OF THE JOURNAL

### *'Applied Stochastic Models and Data Analysis'*

The Journal under review would hopefully serve a long-felt need and is likely to cater to the needs of a large number of research workers in the areas of stochastic model-building, analysis and validation. The question arises as to why a Journal of this type is essential. The literature on stochastic models occurring in a variety of disciplines, e.g. physical, biological, engineering and social sciences, is growing at a very rapid pace. The articles in these areas are usually published in numerous separate Journals relevant to one or two disciplines only which results in a wide scatter in the distribution of publications. Consequently research workers engaged in the development of stochastic techniques and their applications remain ignorant of the bulk of publications of their interest. Quite often this results in duplication of efforts. Although some Journals deal with applied probability aspects, they emphasize only the theoretical analysis of stochastic models to the neglect of the important aspects of empirical validation and data analysis. Accordingly any venture aiming at the synthesis of all these aspects is very timely.

The present Journal aims at publishing articles covering a very extensive range from 'soft' sciences like Sociology, Psychology and Education to 'hard' ones like Physics, Chemistry, Automatics and Filtering in the main section of 'Applied stochastic models' and from Archaeology and Anthropology to Expert Systems in the main section of 'Data Analysis'. Such a wide coverage may not act as a deterrent to many research workers as they might find hardly any paper of their direct interest. It would perhaps be more desirable not to make the topics of these main sections mutually exclusive so as not to defeat the objective of an integrated framework. In spite of these minor drawbacks, this Journal would be a useful addition to the existing family of scientific Journals.

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