

## Preface

This Festschrift is dedicated to Götz Trenkler on the occasion of his 65th birthday.

As can be seen from the long list of contributions, Götz has had and still has an enormous range of interests, and colleagues to share these interests with. He is a leading expert in linear models with a particular focus on matrix algebra in its relation to statistics. He has published in almost all major statistics and matrix theory journals. His research activities also include other areas (like nonparametrics, statistics and sports, combination of forecasts and magic squares, just to mention a few).

Götz Trenkler was born in Dresden in 1943. After his school years in East Germany and West-Berlin, he obtained a Diploma in Mathematics from Free University of Berlin (1970), where he also discovered his interest in Mathematical Statistics. In 1973, he completed his Ph.D. with a thesis titled: *On a distance-generating function of probability measures*. He then moved on to the University of Hannover to become Lecturer and to write a habilitation-thesis (submitted 1979) on alternatives to the Ordinary Least Squares estimator in the Linear Regression Model, a topic that would become his predominant field of research in the years to come.

In 1983 Götz Trenkler was appointed Full Professor of Statistics and Econometrics at the Department of Statistics at the University of Dortmund, where he continues to teach and do research until today. He served as dean of the department from 1987 to 1990 and declined an offer from Dresden University of Technology in 1993. He has been visiting Professor at the University of California at Berkeley, USA, and the University of Tampere, Finland, and is a regular contributor to international conferences on matrix methods in statistics. Currently, he is the Coordinating Editor of *Statistical Papers*, Associate Editor of several other international journals and recently the twice-in-a-row recipient of the best-teacher-award of the department.

Among Götz Trenkler's extracurricular activities are tennis, chess and the compilation of a unique collection of *Aphorisms in Statistics*, samples of which can be found at the beginning of the chapters of this book. He certainly would do the scientific community a great service by having them published at some time.

The editors are grateful to all contributors, many of whom are not only scientific colleagues but also his personal friends.

We express our appreciation for editorial and L<sup>A</sup>T<sub>E</sub>X-assistance to Sabine Hegewald, and in particular to Matthias Deutscher, who managed to edit successfully almost 30 manuscripts that were characterized by a great variety of individual preferences in style and layout, and to Alice Blanck and Werner A. Müller from Springer Publishing for their support.

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