# Preface

James Bernard Ramsey received his B.A. in Mathematics and Economics from the University of British Columbia in 1963, and his M.A. and Ph.D. in Economics from the University of Wisconsin, Madison in 1968 with the thesis "Tests for Specification Errors in Classical Linear Least Squares Regression Analysis". After being Assistant and Associate Professor at the Department of Economics of Michigan State University, he became Professor and Chair of Economics and Social Statistics at the University of Birmingham, England, from 1971 to 1973. He went back to the US as Full Professor at Michigan State University until 1976 and finally moved to New York University as Professor of Economics and Chair of the Economics Department between 1978 and 1987, where he remained for 37 years until his retirement in 2013. Fellow of the American Statistical Association, Visiting Fellow at the School of Mathematics (Institute for Advanced Study) at Princeton in 1992–1993, and ex-president of the Society for Nonlinear Dynamics and Econometrics, James Ramsey was also a jury member of the Econometric Game 2009. He has published 7 books and more than 60 articles on nonlinear dynamics, stochastic processes, time series, and wavelet analysis with special emphasis on the analysis of economic and financial data.

This book intends to honor James B. Ramsey and his contribution to economics on occasion of his recent retirement from academic activities at the NYU Department of Economics. This festschrift, as it is called in the German tradition, intends to honor an exceptional scholar whose fundamental contributions have influenced a wide range of disciplines, from statistics to econometrics and economics, and whose lifelong ideas have inspired more than a generation of researchers and students.

He is widely acclaimed for his pioneering work in the early part of his career on the general specifications test for the linear regression model, Ramsey's RESET test, which is part of any econometric software now. He is also well known for his contributions to the theory and empirics of chaotic and nonlinear dynamical systems. A significant part of his work has also been devoted to the development of genuine new ways of processing data, as for instance the application of functional data analysis or the use of wavelets in terms of nonparametric analysis.

Each year the Society for Nonlinear Dynamics and Econometrics, at its Annual Conference, awards two James Ramsey prizes for top graduate papers in econometrics. This year there will also be a set of special sessions dedicated to his research. One of these sessions will be devoted to wavelet analysis, an area where James work has had a great outstanding impact in the last twenty years. James Ramsey and his coauthors have provided early applications of wavelets in economics and finance by making use of discrete wavelet transform (DWT) in decomposing economic and financial data. These works paved the way to the application of wavelet analysis for empirical economics. The articles in this book are comprised of contributions by colleagues, former students, and researchers covering a wide range of wavelet applications in economics and finance and are linked to or inspired by the work of James Ramsey.

We have been working with James continuously over the last 10 years and have always been impressed by his competence, motivation, and enthusiasm. Our collaboration with James was extraordinarily productive and an inspiration to all of us. Working together we developed a true friendship strengthened by virtue of the pleasant meetings held periodically at James office on the 7th floor of the NYU Department of Economics, which became an important space for discussing ongoing as well as new and exciting research projects. As one of his students has recently written, rating James' Statistics class: "He is too smart to be teaching!" Sometimes our impression was that he could also have been too smart for us as coauthor. This book is a way to thank him for the privilege we have had to met and work with him.

Ancona, Italy
New York, NY
March 2014

Marco Gallegati
Willi Semmler

Springer

http://www.springer.com/978-3-319-07060-5

Wavelet Applications in Economics and Finance
Gallegati, M.; Semmler, W. (Eds.)
2014, XVI, 261 p. 61 illus., 31 illus. in color., Hardcover
ISBN: 978-3-319-07060-5