news & updates

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We need your input! If you haven't had a chance to share your thoughts on journal access, take a moment to complete this survey. Thank you!

If you would like to contribute to the next issue of The Oracle, send your content to me.

Fernando Cyrino, IIF Director and Oracle Editor

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Forecasting in the News
Forecasting When Accuracy Is No Longer the Goal 16 Sept, Towards Data Science (blog)
Billions Spent on Roads and Transit Projects Are Often Based on Optimistic Forecasts 21 Sept, WSJ
The M5 competition: Background, organization, and implementation 21 Sept, ScienceDirect
On the predictability of COVID-19 28 Sept, IIF blog

IIF Events

ISF 2022

 Bookmark our website as we will be updating with all the latest news on speakers, abstracts and social events!

 Important dates: Invited session proposals due March 4 || Abstract submissions due March 25

 Have questions? Interested in sponsoring? Email us ISF@forecasters.org

Podcast, Webinars and Workshops

 The MacroFor Seminar Series — series of (virtual) seminars highlighting researchers in the field of macroeconomic forecasting. Learn more about MacroFor and past seminars.

 Forecasting Impact, the IIF podcast — Listen to the latest interviews with Pierre Pinson, IIF Editor, Bahman Rostami-Tabar, Cardiff University and Michael Gilliland, Foresight Associate Editor, IIF Director and SAS Product Marketing Manager
Rob Hyndman announced as Distinguished Scientist
Australian Academy of Sciences

Fellows of the Australian Academy of Science are among the nation’s most distinguished scientists, elected by their peers for ground-breaking research and contributions that have had clear impact. The 2021 Fellows will be formally admitted to the Academy on 3 November, with each new Fellow presenting their work and achievements in talks aimed at a general audience on the following day.

Member Profile: Mahdi Abolghasemi

Mahdi is a lecturer in Data Science at Monash University, Australia. He has held visiting positions at Cardiff University and The University of Sydney and authored more than 20 articles and presented in more than 30 national and international conferences. He is a reviewer for several journals in forecasting, operations research and machine learning.

How did you become a forecaster?
I studied Industrial Engineering as an undergraduate. During my studies, I became interested in statistical thinking and its implications in the real world. I continued this path during my masters, and did research on Bayesian Networks and Foresight ... I found an interesting PhD project in forecasting in Australia, applied for the position and received a full scholarship at The University of Newcastle. So I came to Australia! After finishing my PhD, I moved to Monash University ...

Read the full profile

IIF Instagram contest

Post a story or in-feed photo of yourself doing something forecasting related! It can be your work setup, your home town, your research, etc. Tag @iiforecasters and 2 colleagues, and you'll be entered into a drawing for a free, 1-year IIF membership.

Community News

Big Ideas in Supply Chain Summit
Virtual Summit, October 5-6

The Fall edition of the hugely popular Big Ideas in Supply Chain Summit is fast approaching, with an all-star agenda on October 5-6!
Join an international audience of fellow supply chain practitioners virtually to:
- Learn about the latest in advanced planning and other innovations
- Hear about real-world use case in supply chain transformation with Schneider Electric
- Explore current challenges and trends with thought leader Kevin O’Marah
- Gain insights into one of today’s hottest topics – sustainability – with thought leaders from Cisco, Cranfield University, Microsoft, OPTEL Group and Kinaxis

Want more? Sign up for one of five roundtables taking place Oct. 6, to delve deeper into some of today’s most relevant topics. Register now, it’s free to attend!

Makridakis Open Forecasting Center (MOFC) update
M Applied Forecasting Course | 18 October, 2021
The next intake of Prof. Spyros Makridakis’ Applied Forecasting course offers participants the opportunity to harness 40 years of Professor Makridakis’ knowledge and experience, and to learn and master forecasting in just six weeks. The course's main benefits are its emphasis on hands-on learning by encouraging participants to bring and use actual data, including their own, to both predict and estimate the uncertainty of their forecasts (with its implication to risk) and its LIVE interaction with the instructors.

M5 Conference | 6-7 December, 2021
The findings of the M5 Competition, one of the largest forecasting competitions of all time, will be presented and analyzed over the course of the two-day M5 Conference in New York. The M5 Conference programme will include distinguished speakers from the major software/technology companies (Google, Microsoft, Amazon, Facebook, and SAS), as well as known academics from top-level universities.

M6 Competition | February 2022 - February 2023
The M6 Competition is similar to the previous five Makridakis competitions in its focus on forecasting accuracy and uncertainty. However, this iteration of the competition focuses on investment returns and their link to the forecasting performance. The objective of the competition is to learn about the factors affecting financial returns and to explain key deviations from the Efficient Market Hypotheses (EMH) and why they occur. The M6 is projected to be the largest M Competition yet, offering $300K in prizes.

Contact us for information on any of the above activities mofc@unic.ac.cy

Member tips:
Tips on accessing the Foresight archives
(a) https://foresight.forecasters.org/bookstore/ use code: comp*21
(b) IIF website password: fs2021

Not sure when your membership expires? Need to update your address? send us an email forecasters.forecasters.org