The M5 Forecasting Conference: 6 – 7 December 2021
Tribeca Rooftop, New York, USA

Day 1 – Monday 6th December 2021

8:30am - 9:30am   Breakfast

9:30am - 10:00am  Welcome / Opening Remarks
- Prof. Maria Michailidis, Director of the Makridakis Open Forecasting Center (MOFC), University of Nicosia
- Mr. Antonis Polemitis, CEO of the University of Nicosia
- Prof. Ani Gaba, The ORPAR chaired Professor of Risk Management Academic Director, Centre for Decision Making and Risk Analysis, INSEAD
- Prof. Spyros Makridakis, Founder of the Makridakis Open Forecasting Center, MOFC & Director of the Institute For the Future, University of Nicosia

10:00am - 10:30am  Keynote Address
Forecasting and the COVID-19 Pandemic
- Nassim Nicholas Taleb, New York University

10:30am - 11:00am  The Role of Judgment in Forecasting
- Dan Goldstein, Microsoft

11:00am - 11:30am  Coffee Break and Networking

11:30am - 12:00pm  A Collaborative and Market-based View of the Future of Forecasting
- Pierre Pinson, Technical University of Denmark & Editor-in Chief IJF
12:00pm - 12:30pm  My New Forecasting Projects at Facebook  
  • Slawek Smyl, Facebook

12:30pm - 2:00pm  Buffet Lunch and Networking

2:00pm - 3:40pm  The Uncertainty Challenge  
  Chairperson Anil Gaba, INSEAD

  2:00pm - 2:50pm  
  Assessment of Uncertainty for Decision-Making  
  • Anil Gaba, INSEAD  
  • Robert Winkler, Duke University

  2:50pm - 3:40pm  
  The Most Precise Uncertainty M5 Methods  
  Summary of findings  
  • Evangelos Spiliotis, National Technical University of Athens (NTUA)

  The Role of Uncertainty in Supply Chain: Lessons from the M5 Competition  
  • Joannes Vermorel, Lokad

3:40pm - 4:00pm  Coffee Break and Networking

4:00pm - 5:45pm  Theory and Practice of Forecasting: Future Challenges  
  Chairperson Antonis Polemitis, University of Nicosia

  4:00pm - 4:30pm  
  The Machine Learning (ML) is Better – When?  
  • Keith Ord, Georgetown University

  4:30pm - 5:00pm  
  Judgmental Forecasts and Judgmental Adjustments to Statistical/ML Forecasts  
  • Paul Goodwin, Lancaster University

  5:00pm - 5:45pm  
  Panel Discussion: Expanding the Use of Systematic Forecasting in Organizations and Improving its Value: The UFO Challenge  
  • George Athanasopoulos, Monash University and President of IIF  
  • Ellen Bonnell, Candella Corp.  
  • Yael Grushka-Cockayne, University of Virginia  
  • Jim Hoover, University of Florida

5:45pm - 6:50pm  Free time

7:00pm - 9:00pm  Gala Dinner & Award of the M5 Competition Prizes
Day 2 - Tuesday 7th December 2021

8:00am - 9:00am  Breakfast

9:00am - 9:10am  Opening Remarks
•  Prof. Maria Michailidis, Director of the Makridakis Open Forecasting Center (MOFC), University of Nicosia

9:10am - 9:40am  Will Artificial Intelligence Take Your Job?
•  Addison Howard, Kaggle

9:40am - 10:10am  Keynote Address
The Changing Role of Forecasting in the Age of Cloud Computing
•  Chris Fry, Google

10:10am - 10:40am  Coffee Break and Networking

10:40am - 11:30am  The Most Accurate M5 Accuracy Methods
Summary of findings
•  Fotios Petropoulos, University of Bath
•  YeonJun In, Kyung Hee University, South Korea (KHU), Winner of the Accuracy challenge, M5 Competition
•  Sihyeon Seong & Yunho Jeon, MOFL Inc., South Korea, Third winner of the Accuracy challenge, M5 Competition

11:30am - 3:00pm  The Value and Applicability of the M5 Competition
Chairperson Jonathon Karelse, NorthFind Management

11:30am - 12:00pm  Applicability of the M5 to Forecasting at Walmart
•  Brian Seaman, Walmart

12:00pm - 12:30pm  Forecasts that Users Trust: Lessons Learned from a Large Scale Demand Forecasting Project
•  Mahdi Yousefi, Target

12:30pm - 2:00pm  Buffet Lunch and Networking
2:00pm - 2:30pm
Deep Probabilistic Forecasting
  - Tim Januschowski, Amazon

2:30pm - 3:00pm
M5 Competition: How Organizations can Benefit from its Findings
  - Mike Gilliland, SAS

3:00pm - 3:30pm
The Past and Future of Forecasting Competitions and the Forthcoming M6 Competition
  - Prof. Spyros Makridakis, Founder of the Makridakis Open Forecasting Center, MOFC & Director of the Institute For the Future, University of Nicosia