

Final Report R54: Meta-Modelling for Value of Information Calculations Workshop

Nicky Welton, Pelham Barton, Chris Jackson, Malcolm Price.

1st April 2014- 30 September 2014

Summary/list of the original objectives

- (i) education/dissemination of methods and
- (ii) discussion of possible future projects and potential collaborations, including software development.

What was actually achieved:

- (i) The one day workshop to explore meta-modelling techniques to improve value of information computation time, was held on 19th September 2014. Presentations were given by Nicky Welton (Bristol), Jason Madan (Warwick), Malcolm Price (Birmingham), Mark Strong (Sheffield), Fasihul Alum (South Wales), Gianluca Baio (UCL), and Chris Jackson (Cambridge).

The workshop was attended by 31 delegates (plus the 7 speakers). There have been a lot of recent developments on meta-modelling techniques, and this workshop enabled these methods to be presented together with demonstrations of software that has recently been made available, using a common example.

The feedback from the workshop delegates was very positive, and the discussions at the end of the day indicated that the software developments in particular had made the methods more accessible for use in real applications.

- (ii) Mark Strong presented his software for Value of Information (<http://savi.shef.ac.uk/SAVI/>), Gianluca Baio presented his R package BCEA for cost-effectiveness analysis (including EVPPI) in R, and Chris Jackson compared several of the different methods presented using a common example.

There has been subsequent email discussion between the speakers about organising a smaller follow-on meeting to discuss possible collaborations and grant applications. We didn't really have time on the day of the workshop for such a discussion, and I think it is necessary to have a period of time for reflection before more detailed discussions.

Next steps over coming 12 months:

- There will be a half-day meeting on Bayesian methods in cost-effectiveness analysis at the Royal Statistical Society 27th March 2015 (speakers: Gianluca Baia, Chris Jackson, Richard Nixon, Nicky Welton)
- We intend to arrange a follow-up meeting of a smaller group to discuss future collaboration