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In Memoriam

Herb Scarf
November 19, 2015

Herbert Scarf, President of the Econometric Society in 1983 and a Fellow since 1962, passed away at his home in Sag Harbor, NY on November 15, 2015. He was a member of the National Academy of Sciences, a fellow of the American Academy of Arts and Sciences, a member of the American Philosophical Society, and a distinguished fellow of the American Economic Association.

Scarf made foundational contributions to game theory and to general equilibrium theory; but much of his best-known work concerned the application of theory. His work on inventory management proved the optimality of (S,s) rules; and he made pioneering advances on economies with increasing returns or with indivisibilities.

Scarf's long-lasting influence on economics exemplifies the value of work that interfaces theory and computation. The simplicial algorithm he developed in 1967 to solve for fixed points led him to write his classic 1973 book on *The Computation of Economic Equilibria*. It has renewed interest and stimulated work on the Computable General Equilibrium models that underlie much policy analysis in economics and beyond.

Obituaries can be found in the New York Times and on the web page of the Department of Economics at Yale University. Timothy Kehoe, John Shoven and John Whalley are preparing more complete obituaries, which will be posted on the Society's web site.



Eddie Dekel
First Vice-President, 2015