Preface

*Model Validation and Uncertainty Quantification* represents one of the eight volumes of technical papers presented at the 32nd IMAC, A Conference and Exposition on Structural Dynamics, 2014, organized by the Society for Experimental Mechanics, and held in Orlando, Florida, February 3–6, 2014. The full proceedings also include volumes on Dynamics of Coupled Structures; Nonlinear Dynamics; Dynamics of Civil Structures; Structural Health Monitoring; Special Topics in Structural Dynamics; Topics in Modal Analysis I; and Topics in Modal Analysis II.

Each collection presents early findings from experimental and computational investigations on an important area within structural dynamics. Model Validation and Uncertainty Quantification (MVUQ) is one of these areas.

Modeling and simulation are routinely implemented to predict the behavior of complex dynamical systems. These tools powerfully unite theoretical foundations, numerical models, and experimental data which include associated uncertainties and errors. The field of MVUQ research entails the development of methods, with associated metrics, for the rigorous test of model prediction accuracy and robustness considering all relevant sources of uncertainties and errors through systematic comparisons against experimental observations.

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