

International Federation of Classification Societies Newsletter

Number 16

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President: Chikio Hayashi

Editor: Paul DeBoeck

From the President

IFCS -98



ROMA

The IFCS-98 in Rome was a great success. The meeting had many participants and many interesting papers were read. On behalf of the IFCS, I would like to congratulate the SIS on the academic fruitfulness and the impressive social events.

The IFCS also extends its gratitude to the Local Organizing Committee,

(Professor A. Rizzi, Professor F. De Antoni, Professor M. Vichi, and other members), the National Organizing Committee, the International Scientific Program Committee, and all other organizations and individuals who helped in organizing this international conference.

The proceedings of IFCS-98, *_Data Science, Classification and Related Methods_*, edited by Rizzi, Bock, and Vichi, was published by the Springer-Verlag press and distributed on the first day of the Conference. I think that this was very splendid, and enabled us all to enjoy a fuller intellectual understanding of the presentations. I express my hearty thanks to the Editors.

first announcement



7th Conference of the International Federation of Classification Societies, July 11-14, 2000, Namur, Belgium

(see last page)

The new program, the IFCS Travel Award Program (TAP), will be available for the upcoming IFCS-00 conference in Namur. The guidelines will soon be published under the approval of the Council. I hope that the TAP will enable the IFCS to receive the benefits of having young and enthusiastic members participate in our meetings, despite the high costs of international travel. Our scientific and social environment is changing rapidly, and new demands are regularly placed upon our methodology, as society discovers hitherto unforeseen problems that require statistical solutions. I look forward eagerly to the IFCS-00 meeting in Namur, where I hope to learn about the new ideas that will arise from innovative unifications of theory and application.

Finally I would like to express my hearty thanks for Professor K. Yajima, the last publication officer, who did so much publicity work within and outside the society to help enable the success of IFCS-98.

IFCS President
CHIKIO HAYASHI

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Report on the 6th IFCS Conference

IFCS -98



ROMA

The 6th Scientific Meeting of the International Federation of Classification Societies took place from July 21 to 24, 1998 in Rome, Italy.

Previous conferences were organized in Aachen, Germany, 1987; Charlottesville, USA, 1989; Edinburgh, UK, 1991; Paris, France, 1993; Kobe, Japan, 1996.

The Conference represents the biennial international scientific event for the dissemination of technical and scientific information concerning classification and data analysis in the broad sense and in as wide a range of applications as possible. The Conference was held in Consiglio Nazionale delle Ricerche (Italian National Council of the Research) located near the "La Sapienza" University of Rome, and close to the center of the town. More than 300 researchers attended the Conference from 26 countries.

The organization of this important appointment started two years ago before the previous international meeting in Kobe.

The first step of the organizers was the constitution of the Committees: the International Scientific Program Committee chaired by A. Rizzi (Italy), with members:

P. Arabie (USA), H. Bacelar-Nicolau (Portugal), J. P. Barth, lemy (France), V. Batagelj (Slovenia), P. G. Bryant (USA), H. H. Bock (Germany), J. D. Carroll (USA), R. Coppi (Italy), W. Gaul (Germany), A. D. Gordon (UK), J. Gower (UK), C. Hayashi (Japan), W. J. Heiser (The Netherlands), K. Jajuga (Poland), C. Lauro (Italy), L. Lebart (France), J. G. Lee (Korea), J. J. Meulman (The Netherlands), N. Ohsumi (Japan), J. P. Rasson (Belgium).

The National Organizing Committee with:

E. Aureli, F. Battaglia, A. Bellacicco, S. Bolasco, G. Bove, L. Biggeri, G. Burgio, C. Cecchi, M. Coli, A. Crescimanni, L. D'Ambra, E. D'Arcangelo, F. De Antoni, A. Di Ciaccio, L. Fabbris, M. Fraire, G. Galmacci, G. Gesano, G. M. Giorgi, G. Girone, L. La Tona, G. Latorre, G. Leti, M. Lo Cascio, G. Lovison, G. Lunetta, G. Marliani, A. Mineo, P. Monari, M. Montinaro, A. Mussino, M. G. Ottaviani, F. Pesarin, M. Romanazzi, G. Salinetti, R. Siciliano, B. Simeone, M. Vichi, S. Zani, A. Zuliani.

Finally, the Local Organizing Committee with:

A. Rizzi (Chairperson), F. De Antoni (Co-chairperson), M. Vichi (Co-chairperson) and G. Jona Lasinio, F. Mola, R. Rocci, D. Vicari, E. Vinci.

To give an idea of the work that was realized for this Conference by the Local Organizing Committee one could consider the following data.

The number of persons contacting the Conference by e-mail, www site, mail, etc., were more than 2000. More than 500 letters, 300 faxes, and 1000 e-mail messages were sent or received.

A novelty of IFCS-98 was the publication of the proceedings before the Conference. The aim was to give a significant contribute to the quick transfer of new advances in data science and classification which for the organizers and the editors of the volume was the main scope of this Conference.

For the arrangement of the proceedings more than 200 researchers were contacted to referee papers. Among these 114 accepted. The referee process took more than 5 months. The volume of the proceedings entitled "Advances in Data Science and Classification" published by Springer-Verlag, Heidelberg, in the series Studies in Classification, Data Analysis, and Knowledge Organization, contains 39 invited and 52 contributed refereed papers. The papers are presented in six chapters as follows: methodologies in classification; other approaches for classification: discriminant, neural network, regression tree; factorial methods; symbolic and textual data analysis; multivariate and multidimensional data analysis; case studies. For most topics considered, this book provides a systematic state-of-the-art account written by some of the top researchers in the world. The editors hope this volume will serve as a helpful introduction to the area of classification and data analysis.

The program of IFCS-98 emphasizes on the following topics:

- Classification Theory T1. Fuzzy Methods - T2. Hierarchical Classification - T3. Non Hierarchical Classification - T4. Pattern Recognition - T5. Optimization approach in Classification. - T6. Classification of multiway data - T7. Probabilistic Methods for Clustering - T8. Consensus and Comparison Theories in Classification - T9. Spatial Clustering - T10. Validity of clustering. T11. Neural Networks and Classification - T12. Genetic Algorithms - Classification with Constraints - T.13 Genetic Algorithm
- Multivariate Data Analysis D1. Categorical Data Analysis - D2. Correspondence Analysis - D3. Biplots - D4. Factor Analysis - D5. Discrimination and Classification - D6. Visual Treatment in Data Analysis - D7. Symbolic Data Analysis - D8. Non Linear Data Analysis.
- Multiway Data Analysis M1. Analysis of Multiway Data - M2. Multilevel Analysis.
- Proximity Structure Analysis P1. Multidimensional Scaling - P2. Similarities and Dissimilarities - P3. Unfolding and Other Special Scaling Methods

- Software Developments for Classification S1. Algorithms for Hierarchical Classification - S2. Algorithms for non Hierarchical Classification - S3. Computer Data Visualization. S4. Statistical Algorithms for Multivariate Analysis
- Applied Classification and Data Analysis in Social, Economic, Medical, and other Sciences A1. Classification of Textual Data - A2. Data Diagnostics using Classification Tree - A3. Data Analysis in Economics - A4. Data Analysis in Quality Control - A5. Data Analysis in Environmental Science - A6. Classification Approaches in Medical Science - A7. Cognitive Sciences and Classification - A8. Classification in Biology and Ecology - A9. Data Analysis in Demography.

In the Conference 194 papers were presented organized into 9 invited lectures, 14 invited sessions and 20 contributed papers sessions.

The social program comprised a welcome party on Tuesday 21 evening at Relais le Jardin a Villa Miani. On Wednesday 22 evening there was an excursion to visit the Palazzo Senatorio (Campidoglio) and the roman ruins of Fori Imperiali. On Thursday 23 evening the traditional banquet was held on the restaurant Peristilio in the center of the town.

The organizers of this Conference wish first to extend their sincere thanks to the participants for their contributions and for their enthusiastic participation which made this Conference into an International Meeting for exchanging ideas and information about new developments in classification data analysis and related methods and in a wide range of applications. We appreciate the cooperation of the 114 colleagues who reviewed papers for this volume and thank them for their time spent in this professional capacity. We are also grateful to the organizers of invited sessions and colleagues who chaired sessions during the conference.

The future IFCS-2000 conference is being planned. The 7th IFCS Conference is scheduled for the year 2000 in Namur (Belgium) with program chairs: Henk Kiers and Jean Paul Rosson.

Maurizio Vichi
Co-chairman IFCS-98

Great Success

The sixth meeting of the IFCS has just been held in Rome, Italy, from July 21 to July 24. The theme was Data Science, Classification, and Related Methods. There were 310 official participants, and insofar as I could tell, everyone had a great time, both personally and professionally.

The conference was a great success, and the organizers deserve full recognition for their efforts. Alfredo Rizzi, Maurizio Vichi, and Francesca De Antoni worked hard to develop a program that combined first-rate scientific presentations with evening activities that displayed the artistic and historical backdrop to the conference. Their efforts underscored the privilege enjoyed by those who participate in international scientific research.

Chikio Hayashi, the IFCS President, opened the technical aspect of the conference with an invited lecture on the history and current significance of Simpson's Paradox. Other invited lecturers included Edwin Diday, Hans Bock, Pierre Hansen, Wolfgang Gaul, Hamparsum Bozdogan, Yadolah Dodge, and Fionn Murtagh. Regrettably, Doug Carroll, the IFCS Vice-President, was forced to cancel his invited talk on medical grounds, but he sent word that he is recovering quickly and will be back on the conference circuit soon.

As is to be expected in our group, the technical talks were diverse, ranging across phylogeny, fuzzy inference, lattice theory, multiway data analysis, text retrieval, multidimensional scaling, and many other topics. A full list of the program may be obtained over the Internet by links from the new IFCS website at :

<http://edfu.lis.uiuc.edu/~class/ifcs/>

But this breadth is the strength of the IFCS: we all benefit from the chance to open our windows wider by hearing what our colleagues in the member societies are doing. From this perspective it was particularly gratifying to see that the newest member, the Korean Classification Society, sent so many representatives who participated so actively in the program.

In a closing note, I am pleased to report that the draft announcement for the IFCS-2000 meeting in Namur was circulated during the Rome meeting. Although it is hard to imagine that it can surpass IFCS-98, it is already clear that Jean-Paul Rasson and Henk Kiers are working with that goal in mind.

David Banks
Secretary IFCS

The following young researchers have received a travel award for the IFCS conference in Rome:

Antonio Pedro de Pinho (CLAD)
David Dubin (CSNA)
Daniel Baier (GfKI)
Osamu Yoshimura (JCS)
Vincent Bertholet (SFC)
Mariusz Grabowski (SKAD)
Halima Bensmail and Iwin Leenen (VOC)

Congratulations to these young researchers.

Journal of Classification

Table of Contents of Journal of Classification, first issue for 1998, Vol. 18.

K. Lau, P. L. Leung, and K. Tse A Nonlinear Programming Approach to Metric Unidimensional Scaling

M. W. Trosset
A New Formulation of the Nonmetric Strain Problem in Multidimensional Scaling

P. Hansen, B. Jaumard, and N. Mladenovic
Minimum Sum of Squares Clustering in a Low Dimensional Space

T. Tarpey
Self-Consistent Patterns for Symmetric Multivariate Distributions

W. J. Krzanowski
Subspace Projection for Multivariate Selection Problems

B. Van Cutsem and B. Ycart
Indexed Dendrograms on Random Dissimilarities

M. Ancukiewicz
An Unsupervised and Nonparametric Classification Procedure Based on Mixtures with Known Weights

Book Reviews

Members of Societies other than CSNA can receive the Journal of Classification at the Affiliate rate of \$[dollar sign] 50 US if the Treasurer of their Society is willing to forward a group order to CSNA's Business Manager. Back issues from 1993 - present are available at \$[dollar sign] 25.00 each. Annual membership in CSNA (which includes a subscription to the Journal, access to the annual bibliographic survey, and CSNA's newsletter) presently costs \$[dollar sign] 65 US. For details on the last two options, contact CSNA's Business Manager: Professor Stanley L. Sclove, Info & Decision Sci, MC 294, University of Illinois, Chicago, IL 60680-2451 USA. Note that residency in North America is not required for membership in CSNA and that dues can be paid with a VISA card.

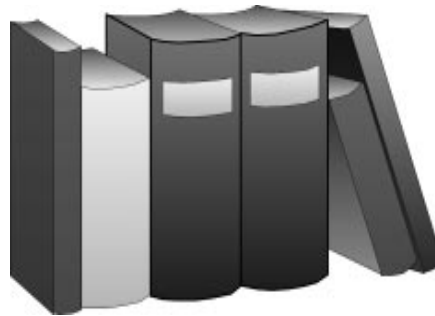
For details on subscriptions, please contact either the Business Manager of the Classification Society of North America:

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New Book

"Image and Data Analysis: the Multiscale Approach", Jean-Luc Starck, Fionn Murtagh and Albert Bijaoui, Cambridge University Press, 1998. (CUP's Web area for ordering is:

<http://www.cup.cam.ac.uk> or
<http://www.cup.org>

(do search on author names or title terms to find full description)

Also online exhibition of wavelet and other multiscale transform methods for filtering, deconvolution, object modelling, compression, registration, visualization, object and feature detection, point pattern clustering, data analysis in high-dimensional spaces, and much more, with applications in astronomy, remote sensing, medicine, engineering, biology, finance etc. at :

<http://hawk.infm.ulst.ac.uk:1998/multires>

Council Meeting in Rome

A regular meeting of the Council of the International Federation of Classification Societies was held on Friday, July 24, at the Dipartimento di Statistica, Probabilità e Statistiche Applicate of the Università "La Sapienza" in Rome.

Chikio Hayashi, President of the IFCS, chaired the meeting. The other officers present were the Secretary, David Banks, the Treasurer, Atsuhiko Hayashi, and the Publication Officer, Paul DeBoeck. The Council members present were Gavin Ross (BCS); Fernando da Costa Nicolau and Helena Bacelar-Nicolau (CLAD); Stephen Hirtle and F. R. McMorris (CSNA); Wolfgang Gaul and (for Otto Opitz) Dan Baier (GfKI); Noboru Ohsumi and Yoshiharu Sato (JCS); Myung-Hoe Huh and Yong Goo Lee (KCS); Israel Lerman and J.-P. Rasson (SFC); Alfredo Rizzi and Maurizio Vichi (SIS); Krzysztof Jajuga and Andrzej Sokolowski (SKAD); Patrick Groenen and Henk Kiers (VOC); Vladimir Batagelj (the Group-at-Large); Hans Bock, Ludovic Lebart, and (for Fionn Murtagh) David Dubin (of the Four Additional Members). Also present was Jacqueline Meulman, serving as special advisor to the President, and Larry Hubert, representing Doug Carroll.

Those who were absent were Vice-President Douglas Carroll, Frank Critchley (BCS), and David Hand (of the Four Additional Members).

1. Minutes of the 1996 Meeting.

The minutes of the last meeting of the IFCS Council, in Kobe, were approved as distributed.

2. Report of the President 1998.

Chikio Hayashi summarized the activities of the IFCS during 1997 and 1998.

3. Report of the Treasurer.

Atsuhiko Hayashi presented the financial reports for 1996 and 1997, as well as an oral update on the current state of finances. He indicated that the IFCS is solvent and healthy, and (just before the Rome meeting) had about \$15,718 in the general fund, and \$16,300 in the awards fund. These numbers will change a bit after the Rome meeting, to reflect disbursements to award winners, new dues payments, and donations.

4. Report of the Publication Officer

The transition from Keiji Yajima to Paul De Boeck as PO has been realized early this year (with thanks to Keiji Yajima for his help). A news flash (brief newsletter) was distributed in April 1998. Two issues of the newsletter are planned for later this year: one in September (mainly on the conference) and another in December.

David Dubin agreed to refurbish and maintain the IFCS website. Thanks to him there is a new IFCS website: <http://edfu.lis.uiuc.edu/~class/ifcs>. The newsletters are available on this website as PDF files that can be downloaded with AcrobatReader. Suggestions concerning the newsletter and website are welcomed.

5. Report of the Secretary of the Group-at-Large.

Note: Vladimir Batagelj's term expired in January of this year, and the Council needs to elect a replacement. See item 8.

There are eight members of the Group-at-Large, which is a slight increase from the previous meeting. Vladimir urged the new Secretary of the Group-at-Large to consider recruitment strategies.

The dues for the Group-at-Large were paid to the Treasurer at the conclusion of the Council meeting.

6. Report of the Finance Committee.

The Finance Committee, consisting of Noboru Ohsumi (chair), Krzysztof Jajuga, Helena Bacelar-Nicolau, Wolfgang Gaul, and Ludovic Lebart, reported that they had examined the Treasurer's accounts through 1/1/98 and found them to be accurate and proper. Their decision was unanimous. Their written opinion, signed by all members, was given to the Secretary to archive.

7. Report of the Fund Raising Committee.

The Fund Raising Committee, consisting of Hans Bock (chair), J.-P. Barthelemy, John Gower, Bill Day, Alfredo Rizzi, and Yoshiharu Sato, reported the success of their efforts to award travel funds to young researchers to defray the costs of attending the Rome conference. The awardees were Antonio Pedro de Pinho (CLAD), David Dubin (CSNA), Daniel Baier (GfKI), Osamu Yoshimura (JCS), Vincent Bertholet (SFC), Mariusz Grabowski (SKAD), and Halima Bensmail and Iwin Leenen (VOC).

The Fund Raising Committee expressed its appreciation to Chikio Hayashi for his personal efforts in securing the money that enabled these travel awards.

Also, the Fund Raising Committee has proposed a set of rules to govern future travel awards under this program. This proposal will be reviewed by the Executive Committee as soon as possible to be in time for the Namur conference.

8. Report of the Committee on Long-Range Planning and Conferences.

The Committee on Long-Range Planning and Conferences, consisting of David Banks (chair), Doug Carroll, David Hand, Fionn Murtagh, and Jean-Paul Rasson, reported that they have received two tentative proposals for meeting sites in 2002—Dublin and Washington DC.

During the Council meeting, both SKAD and CLAD expressed interest in possibly hosting IFCS-02, and David Banks promised to follow up with both, and provide copies of the "Guidelines on the Planning, Format, and Financial Aspects of IFCS Conferences."

Also, it was noted that before 1/1/99, the Council must elect a new Vice-President, two new members of the Group of Four Additional Members, and a Secretary for the Group-at-Large. All nominations should be sent to David Banks, the IFCS Secretary. It is hoped that nominations can be received before October 1, in order to allow the timely completion of elections.

9. Report on IFCS-98.

Alfredo Rizzi reported that there were 310 participants at IFCS-98. The scientific success of the conference was clear to us all, and it appears to have been financially successful also. The Council took a formal vote of thanks to recognize the efforts and successes of Professors Rizzi, Vichi, De Antoni, and other Local Organizing Committee members.

10. Report on IFCS-00.

Henk Kiers and Jean-Paul Rasson reported that preliminary plans and arrangements for the Namur meeting had been made, and that an early announcement had been circulated to participants at the Rome IFCS meeting. The scientific program committee is in place, and has proposed a series of "Millennial Talks" that will be a distinctive feature of the meeting.

They also indicated that they had incurred costs of \$6000 to date, and requested that the IFCS loan that amount, to be repaid after the IFCS-2000 conference from the registration fees. This was discussed by the Council, and no opposition was expressed. The Executive Committee will deliberate further on this request, then vote.

11. Travel Expense Awards for Young Researchers.

By vote of the Council during 1997, this award replaces the Young Researcher Award. The first winners are named in item 7. Rules to govern this award are being developed.

12. Status of the Yugoslav Classification Society.

The Secretary reported that they are officially not part of the IFCS, and their name should be removed from the letterhead.

13. Creation of web documents for the IFCS.

Given that a new IFCS website has been established by David Dubin at Paul DeBoeck's request, there was discussion of what material might be put upon it. Suggestions included a copy of the IFCS Constitution and By-Laws, a list of the officers and representatives, a short history of the IFCS, pointers to member classification

societies, and so forth. Many ideas were put forward, and none was rejected; Paul DeBoeck has the task of authorizing such additions.

14. New member societies.

In recent years, the IFCS has been approached by researchers from Russia and Hungary regarding the possibility of forming a society and joining the IFCS. This year, Professor Javier Trejos has inquired about such a step for Central American classification scientists. The Council discussion on these possibilities indicated that we should be completely helpful in assisting any who contact us. The Secretary was directed to respond to Professor Trejos' inquiry and provide membership guidelines. Also, it was noted that India, China, and Australia have large concentrations of researchers whose interests match ours.

15. Review of "Guidelines on the Planning, Format, and Financial Aspects of IFCS Conferences"

David Banks urged the organizers of IFCS-98 and IFCS-00 to note any changes to the Guidelines that might assist future organizers.

Any proposed changes should be given to the Committee on Long-Range Planning and Conferences.

16. Votes of thanks.

Chikio Hayashi proposed a vote of thanks to Doug Carroll, Fionn Murtagh, and David Hand, whose terms on the Council expire on 1/1/99. This was unanimously approved.



News from the Member Societies

News from the KCS

The KCS was founded in 1993, and the current number of members is 167. The members are from various fields such as statistics, computer science, sociology, media and broadcasting, agriculture, dentistry, medicine, philosophy, management, and economics.

We have some news relevant to the activities of KCS. They are as follows:

(1) The KCS holds its regular meeting twice a year, the first in June/July and the second in December. The first meeting of this year was held at the Korea University on July 3, 1998. The topics presented in the meeting included :

1. A study on the forecasting of presidential election.
2. Breast cancer risk factors according to combined estrogen and progesteron receptor status.
3. Discrimination of relevant information by using logical patterns
4. Measurement of a juvenile delinquent.
5. Bankruptcy prediction in data mining
6. Pattern recognition of Korean language.
7. Data-mining and SAS enterprise miner.

Some main topics in the meeting were delivered through nationwide educational cable television network.

At this annual meeting a new board has been elected.
president:
prof. Dr. Sukhoon Lee(1998-2000), Dept. of Statistics, Chungnam University, Tel 042-821-5438, Fax 042-822-0206, e-mail shlee@stathp.chungnam.ac.kr

Secretary:
prof. Dr. Tae-Rim Lee (1997-1999), Dept.of Applied Statistics, Korea National Open University, e-mail: trlee@av9500.knou.ac.kr

(2) The KCS has published its second volume of the official journal entitled "The Journal of Data Science and Classification", in July 1998. Six papers were published in this second volume.

Report on the 1998 Annual Meeting of the CSNA

The 1998 annual meetings of the Classification Society of North America (CSNA) and the Psychometric Society (PS) were held jointly at the University of Illinois in Urbana, Illinois from Wednesday, June 17th until Sunday, June 21st, 1998, at the Levis Faculty Center on the University of Illinois campus. The meeting was supported by the Department of Statistics and the Department of Psychology, University of Illinois. Approximately 170 persons attended.

Two short courses were held on Wednesday, June 17th, with regular sessions beginning on the morning of Thursday, June 18th. There was a reception (June 17th), business meetings of both societies, and a banquet (June 19th). CSNA and PS meetings are traditionally informal and very interdisciplinary. Abstracts of papers are distributed, but no formal proceedings are produced. Speakers are encouraged to discuss work in progress, of either applied or methodological nature.

Invited addresses were given by Adrian Raftery, Erich Lehmann, and James Bezdek. Presidential addresses were given by Ivo Molenaar and Stephen Hirtle. The addresses were:

Adrian Raftery - How Many Clusters? Which Clustering Method?

A Unified Answer Via Model-Based Cluster Analysis

Erich Lehmann - Large Sample Theory: A Survey

James Bezdek - Rule Extraction by Clustering

Stephen Hirtle - Classification for Human-Computer Interaction

Ivo Molenaar - Data, Model, Conclusion, Doing It Again

The two day-long short courses on Wednesday, June 17th were "An Introduction to Classification and Clustering", taught by Stephen Hirtle, Pierre Legendre, and Glenn Milligan, and an "Introduction to Tests and Measurement", taught by Terry Ackerman. The latter was sponsored by the Interuniversity Consortium for Political and Social Research. Registration fees were required for the short courses.

Special sessions were held on the following topics:

Applications in Classification (David Dubin, Organizer)
Distance Analysis of Multivariate Data (Jacqueline Meulman, Organizer)

Modeling of Ranking Data (John Marden, Organizer)

New PhD Roundtable Discussion (Carolyn Anderson, Organizer)

Recent Advances in Probabilistic Choice Modeling (Michael Regenwetter, Organizer)

State/Trait Models (Michael Eid, Organizer)

The following contributed paper sessions were held:

Applications, Applied Statistical Methods, Bayesian Statistical Methods, Categorical Data Analysis, Classical Test Theory, Classification, Cluster Analysis, Correspondence Analysis/Homogeneity Analysis/Dual Scaling, Covariance Structure and Factor Analysis, Exploratory Data Analysis, Graphical Models, Item Response Theory, Linear Models, Longitudinal Data Analysis, Multidimensional Scaling, Multivariate Statistical Methods, Networks and Graph Theory

There was also be a special session for graduate student presentations.

The program committee was Ulf Bockenholt, David Budescu, David Dubin, Stephen Hirtle, Jacqueline Meulman, with co-chairs Ivo Molenaar, Carolyn Anderson, and Stanley Wasserman.

News from the CLAD

(1) JOCLAD-97 and JOCLAD-98

JOCLAD-97: The 5th annual meeting of the CLAD, JOCLAD-97, was held on December 4-6, 1997 at the city of Porto. The National Institute of Research and Technology, the National Institute of Statistics (INE), the French Embassy and the Luso-American Foundation were among the institutions who have sponsored the meeting. Official languages were Portuguese, French and English, as usual.

Invited speakers / conferences were:

H. H. Bock / "Application of Clustering-type Methods in Classical Statistics"; F.C. Nicolau / "Classification of Objects which are Defined by Probability Distribution Laws"; Antonie Stam / "Nontraditional Approaches to Statistical Classification: Lp-Norm Methods"; Peter Bryant / "The Minimum Description Length Principle: a Bridge Between Formal Inference and Data Analysis"; P. Gomes / "New Contributions to the Classification of Variables"; W. Gaul, President of the GfKl - Gesellschaft für Klassifikation / "Advances in Cluster Analysis and Applications to Economics"; J.P. Rasson, President of the SFC - Societe Francophone de Classification (Univ. Namur, Belgium) / "A New Geometrical Hypothesis for Classification"; Danniell Muller / "How to deal with Structural Changes in Time Series"; Mirta Gordon / "La Classification de Données. Prediction Theorique dans la Limite des Grands Nombres - Approche par la Physique Statistique"; R. Sabatier / "Intervalles Optimaux de Position des Noeuds en Regression Spline Simple et Multiple"; Yves Escoufier / "Quantification des Effets Spatiaux Lineaires et non Lineaires dans l'Explication d'un Tableau de Données Concernant la Qualité des Eaux Souterraines". A round table on "Teaching and Training of Statistics and Data Analysis", was organized by H. Bacelar-Nicolau on behalf of the LEAD / FPCEUL.

The JOCLAD-98 will be held on December 10-12, in Lisbon. Interested people may contact the CLAD Secretariat (LEAD, Faculdade de Psicologia e C. Educaçao, Universidade de Lisboa, Alameda da Universidade, 1600 Lisboa, Portugal.

Tel: 351.1.7934554; Fax: 351.1.7933408;
e-mail: clad.lead@telepac.pt).

(2) Some Short Courses and Seminars were organised by LEAD / CLAD, included in the LEAD cooperation programmes 1997/98: "Introduction à la classification: quelques distances. Distances entre ensembles. Méthodes de partitionnement, Nuées dynamiques. Classification ascendante hiérarchique", by Georges Le Calve, from the Univ. of Rennes, France, on November 7; "Experimental Matrix Games", by Hans Christoph Micko, from the Technische University of Braunschweig, Germany, on November 19; "Choix des Distances en Classification", by Gilles Celeux, from the University of Grenoble, France, on December 17. The first and third courses were included in the Portuguese-French Network of Laboratories on "Analyse des Données Multivariées" (sponsored by the JNICT and the French Embassy); the second course was included in the ERASMUS/SOCRATES Cooperation Programme on

Mathematical Psychology; the Seminar on "Item Response Theory / Rasch Models", by Gerard Fisher, from the Institute of Psychology, University of Vienna, Austria, was held on May 25-30, 1998 (included in the ERASMUS/SOCRATES Programme on Mathematical Psychology).

A Seminar on "Textual Data Analysis - Software SPADT", by Ludovic Lebart, from the ENST/Telecom - Paris, France, and a Short Course on "Introductory Multivariate Data Analysis", by Gilbert Saporta, from the CNAM, Paris, will be held by the end of November 1998, and just before the next JOCLAD-98, respectively (both included in the Portuguese-French Network of Laboratories on "Analyse des Données Multivariées").

(3) The CLAD Board for the period of 1998-1999 was elected in the last General Assembly on March and is as follows: H. Bacelar-Nicolau, President; Paulo Gomes, Vice-President; Otilia Dias, Treasurer; Jorge Sa and Jose Paredes, Secretary.

(4) ASMDA-99: CLAD is sponsoring the next IX International Conference on "Applied Stochastic Models and Data Analysis", ASMDA-99. The International ASMDA Society will be founded during this meeting. The organisers are H. Bacelar-Nicolau (hbacelar@fc.ul.pt), Fernando Costa Nicolau (fan@laminaria.si.fct.unl.pt) and Jacques Janssen (janssen@ulb.ac.be).

(5) The issue Number 5 of CLAD Bulletin was published on March 1998. The issue Number 6 will be published on September 1998.

Helena Bacelar-Nicolau
President of CLAD
hbacelar@fc.ul.pt

News from the SFC

The sixth annual SFC meeting will take place in Montpellier (France), September 21-23, 1998. It is organized by the ENSA-M (Ecole Nationale Supérieure Agronomique de Montpellier) and the LIRMM (Laboratoire d'Informatique, de Robotique et de Microélectronique de Montpellier). The programme chair is Prof. O. Gascuel. The chairman of the organizing committee is Prof. G. Caraux.

The Simon Regnier prize will be awarded during the meeting.

The general assembly of the SFC will be held during the meeting.

For more informations, please contact:

SFC UFR Math. et Informatique, 2, Place P. Viala,
F - 34060 Montpellier France. phone: +33 4 99 61 24 28;
fax: +33 4 67 52 14 27; e-mail: sfc@ensam.inra.fr;
homepage: <http://gargantua.ensam.inra.fr/sfc.html>

Andre Hardy, SFC Secretary
e-mail: Andre.Hardy@fundp.ac.be

Conference announcements



A Conference of the Quantitative Methods
in Business and Industry Society

IX International Symposium on APPLIED STOCHASTIC MODELS AND DATA ANALYSIS

1st Announcement

June 14 - 17, 1999
Lisbon, Portugal

Background

The preceding International ASMDA Symposium were organized in Brussels (1981, 1983, 1985), in Nancy (1988), in Granada (1991), in Chania (1993), in Dublin (1995) and in Anacapri (1997).

Following the success of these meetings, it was decided in Naples to organize the IX International Symposium on Applied Stochastic Models and Data Analysis in Lisbon, Portugal, from June 14th to 17th, 1999.

The Symposium 1999

The Symposium 1999 will focus on new trends in theory, applications and software of Applied Stochastic Models and Data Analysis. Provisional topics are: Human Resources; Environment; Management and Administration; Production; Inventory and Logistics; Marketing; Finance; Insurance; Planning and Control; Quality, Reliability and Safety; Information Systems and Official Statistics; Sample Surveys; Research and Development; and Travel and Tourism.

Particular attention will be paid to the application of new technologies in Business and Industry such as Data Mining, Data Warehousing, Symbolic Learning, Neural Networks, Genetic and Fuzzy Algorithms, Computer Graphics, Knowledge-Based Systems, and Decision Support Systems.

The Symposium includes three types of presentations:

Invited papers on the main topics of the Symposium selected by the Advisory Board and the Scientific Programme Committee.

Contributed papers as shorted "classical" communications.

Papers forming specialized sessions on real-life problems in Business and Industry, as proposed by the Scientific Programme Committee members.

There will be a software exhibition.

Chairpersons

J. Janssen (Université Libre de Bruxelles, Brussels, Belgium)

H. Bacelar-Nicolau (Universidade de Lisboa, Lisbon, Portugal)

F. Costa Nicolau (Universidade Nova de Lisboa, M. Caparica, Portugal)

For Registration and General Inquiries

ASMDA-99 Secretariat:

Faculdade de Psicologia e de Ciências da Educação
(LEAD)

Alameda da Universidade

1600 Lisboa

PORTUGAL

fax: +351 1 7933408

e-mail: asmda99@fc.ul.pt or

clad.lead@mail.telepac.pt

web page: www.di.fct.unl.pt/asmda99

Registration

Persons wishing to attend the conference should complete the enclosed *Registration Form* and send it, together with payment, to the Secretariat.

Registration Fee

	Before Jan 31	After Jan 31
Participants	55 000 (PTE)	65 000 (PTE)
Universitaries, CLAD/ABE/GfKI/SFC members	40 000 (PTE)	50 000 (PTE)
PhD students*	25 000 (PTE)	30 000 (PTE)
Accompanying persons	15 000 (PTE)	20 000 (PTE)

* PhD students must attach a university certificate, stating their position, to the registration form.

The Registration fee for participants includes: Welcome reception, Attendance at the Symposium, Conference proceedings, Coffee breaks, 3 Lunches and Excursion.

The accompanying persons fee covers: Welcome reception and Excursion.

Fall Meeting of the Working Group "Data Analysis and Numerical Analysis" (AG-DANK) of the GfKI

Information can be found on internet:

www.wiwi.uni-regensburg.de/hruscha/AD-DANK98,

or one can contact Bernhard Baumgardner (University Regensburg) by e-mail:

bernhard@baumgartner@wiwi-regensburg.de

(fax: +49-941-943-4752)

Selected topics are: neural networks, hidden markov models, validation and interpretation in classification.

Call for Papers

1999 ANNUAL MEETING OF THE CLASSIFICATION SOCIETY OF NORTH AMERICA

June 10-13, 1999 University of Pittsburgh.

The 1999 annual meeting of the Classification Society of North America (CSNA) will be held from Thursday June 10 through Sunday June 13 on the campus of the University of Pittsburgh, in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, USA.

The meeting is supported by the School of Information Sciences at the University of Pittsburgh. The University of Pittsburgh is located on an urban campus in the vicinity of the Carnegie Museum of Art and Natural History, Carnegie Mellon University, and the 450 acre Schenley Park with a botanical conservatory, trails, woods, tennis courts and other outdoor amenities. The Pittsburgh International Airport provides non-stop flights from most US cities and from several locations in Canada and Europe.

Two short courses are planned for Thursday June 10th, with regular sessions beginning on the morning of Friday June 11th. There will be a reception, business meeting, and a banquet during the meeting. CSNA meetings are traditionally informal and very interdisciplinary. Abstracts of papers are distributed, but no formal proceedings are produced. Speakers are encouraged to discuss work in progress, of either applied or methodological nature.

Invited and contributed sessions tentatively planned include: Applied Statistical Methods, Consensus Theory, Data Mining, Decision Trees, Distance Models, Graphical Representation and Visualization, Hierarchical Classification, Image Analysis and Pattern Recognition, Latent Class Models, Mixture Models, Multidimensional Scaling, Multivariate Statistical Methods, Neural Networks and Classification, Probabilistic Approaches to Classification, Social Networks, Symbolic Data Analysis, Textual Analysis and Applications of Classification in Biology, Business, Cognition, Ecology, Finance, Medicine, and the Social Sciences. Proposals for symposia, special sessions, topics, panel discussions, or other contributions are encouraged. Further details of the conference can be found at the CSNA website: <http://www.pitt.edu/~csna/>.

Abstracts of contributed papers, including the names, affiliations, and e-mail addresses of the authors, should be sent via e-mail to csna@pitt.edu in HTML (preferred), ASCII, Word or Latex format or mailed (with diskette) to the Program Chair: Dr. Stephen C. Hirtle, School of Information Sciences, 135 N. Bellefield Ave., University of Pittsburgh, Pittsburgh, PA 15260 USA; Telephone: +1 412-624-9402; Fax: +1 412-624-2788. Please indicate which contributed paper session you are contributing to, and please keep abstracts under 200 words in length. Abstracts are due March 31, 1999.

Second Announcement and Call for Papers

Gesellschaft für Klassifikation e.V. 23rd Annual Conference

University of Bielefeld - March 10-12, 1999

Classification and Information Processing at the Turn of the Millennium.

The scientific program will include plenary lectures and lectures in special sections. Interdisciplinary aspects and interrelations with respect to theory and application will gain essential priority.

Emphasis will be placed on Actual Lines of Development for Classification and Data Analysis in a Network World.

Topics of interest and relevant fields of application are:

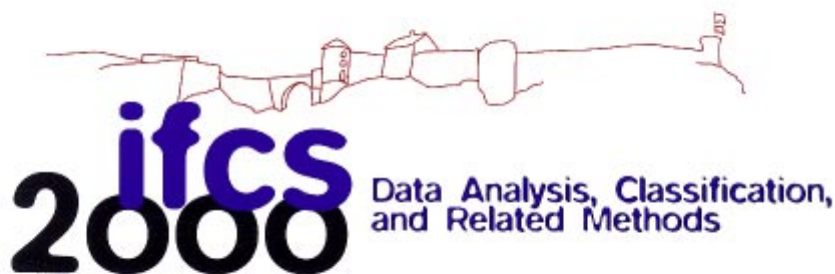
- Mathematical and statistical methods for data analysis
- Econometrics and empirical economical research
- Representation and visualization
- Computer-aided methods of statistics
- Exploratory data analysis
- Knowledge discovery in data bases
- Knowledge-based methods and classification
- Pattern recognition and machine learning
- Information systems and data bases
- Multimedia and WWW
- Navigation and personalization in the internet
- Concept analysis and conceptual classification
- Marketing, market research, and retailing
- Empirical economic and social research
- Social sciences and psychology
- Finance, capital markets, and risk management
- Technology and industry
- Public health and epidemiology
- Genome analysis and systematics
- Biology and medicine
- Linguistics and information processing
- Subject indexing, librarianship, and archive

Conference languages are English and German. A Proceedings volume will be published in English by Springer-Verlag. Participants who intend to present a talk are requested to submit an abstract by November 15th, 1998.

Correspondence to Prof. Dr. R. Decker (the local organizer):

Lehrstuhl für Betriebswirtschaftslehre und Marketing,
Universität Bielefeld,
Fakultät für Wirtschaftswissenschaften,
Postfach 10 01 31, D-33501 Bielefeld
phone: +49-521/106-3936, fax: +49-521/106-8050,
e-mail: gfk199@wiwi.uni-bielefeld.de

first announcement



7th Conference of the **International Federation of Classification Societies**, July 11-14, 2000, Namur, Belgium

Have you already got it in your diary ?

The 7th Conference of the IFCS will be held in Namur, Belgium, at the University Notre-Dame de la Paix, July 11-14, 2000. IFCS-2000 is a joint organization of the SFC and VOC.

Chair Scientific Program Committee: Henk Kiers (VOC), Co-chair: Jean-Paul Rasson (SFC)

Chair Local Organizing Committee: Jean-Paul Rasson (SFC)

If you've not yet the first announcement, you'll receive it very soon.

For more informations, please contact:

IFCS-2000 Data Analysis, Classification and Related Methods

A. Hardy, Secretary Local Organizing Committee, Department of Mathematics

Namur University Notre-Dame de la Paix, Rempart de la Vierge, 8, B-5000 Namur, Belgium

phone: +32 81 72 49 05

fax: +32 81 72 49 14

e-mail: Andre.Hardy@fundp.ac.be

The International Federation of Classification Societies, founded in 1985, is composed of:

Associação Portuguesa de Classificação e Análise de Dados, British Classification Society, Classification Society of North America, Gesellschaft für Klassifikation, Japanese Classification Society, Korean Classification Society, Société Francophone de Classification, Società Italiana di Statistica, , Vereniging voor Ordinatie en Classificatie, and Section of Classification and Data Analysis of the Polish Statistical Society. (Other societies are currently joining.)

The IFCS is a non-profit, non-political scientific organization, the aims of which are to further classification research. Among other activities, the IFCS organises a biennial conference, and supports the Journal of Classification.

IFCS Newsletters on Internet:

<http://edfu.lis.uiuc.edu/~class/ifcs/newsletter.html>

The newsletters are available as PDF files, to be read with AcrobatReader. Click on AcrobatReader to download the program.

New IFCS Homepage:

<http://edfu.lis.uiuc.edu/~class/ifcs/>

Designed and maintained by David Dubin.

News for the coming issue of the IFCS Newsletter (to appear at the end of the year) can be sent to:

Paul.Deboeck@psy.kuleuven.ac.be

Text files are by preference in ascii, wordperfect, or word, with pc format (mac is difficult, although not impossible). For graphical materials, by preference BMP, GIF, or PCX are used.

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