



International Federation of Classification Societies Newsletter

President: Buck McMorris

Number 35

May 2008

Editor: André Hardy

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

Associação Portuguesa de Classificação e Análise de Dados, British Classification Society, Central American and Caribbean Society of Classification and Data Analysis, Classification Society of North America, Gesellschaft für Klassifikation, Irish Pattern Recognition and Classification Society, Japanese Classification Society, Korean Classification Society, Société Francophone de Classification, Società Italiana di Statistica, Statistical Society of Slovenia, Vereniging voor Ordinate en Classificatie and Section of Classification and Data Analysis of the Polish Statistical Society.

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" and the journal "Advances in Data Analysis and Classification (ADAC)".

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Words from the IFCS President May 2008

I'd like to start off my first contribution as President by thanking Past-President David Hand for his good work on behalf of IFCS. I look forward to his continued participation on the Executive Committee. I also welcome President-Elect Geoff McLachlan, who will take over from me in January of 2010, and am happy to say that Iven Van Mechelen and Vincenzo Esposito Vinzi have been re-elected as Treasurer and Scientific Secretary respectively. David, Geoff, Iven, and Vincenzo join André Hardy (Publication Officer) and me on the IFCS Executive Committee (EC).

During the coming year the EC will, among other things, be thinking about how IFCS can expand its reach further into various scientific communities, and into countries not yet

IFCS Homepage:

<http://www.classification-society.org/>

Designed and maintained by David Dubin.

The website contains among others: the IFCS Constitution and By-Laws, the IFCS newsletters, and pointers to the websites of the member societies.

represented in our membership. I would like to challenge our members to help us by sharing ideas about possible initiatives. Please contact me or another member of the EC with your thoughts so we can include your input as we try to formulate an operational plan.

Plans are well underway for a great IFCS meeting in Dresden, March 13-18, 2009 and more information follows in this Newsletter. Note that we are moving back to the odd years for our IFCS conferences.

I look forward to hearing from you directly about any concerns or thoughts about how we can improve as an International Federation.

Buck McMorris
IFCS President
mcmorris@iit.edu

News from the IFCS Scientific Secretary – May 2008

Dear Colleagues and Friends of the Classification,

Early this year, the IFCS Election committee, chaired by Patrick Groenen, has taken care of organizing the election process for (re-)electing three IFCS officers: the President-Elect (for the years 2008-2009 who will be IFCS President in 2010 and 2011 and Past-President in 2012 and 2013); the IFCS Secretary for the years 2008-2010 (three years); the IFCS Treasurer for the years 2008-2010 (three years). The Election Committee asked the Council Members and Presidents of the IFCS Member Societies for nominations for the three positions. After completing a list of candidates, the Election Committee has run the election. The voting forms were sent by e-mail on February 7, 2008 with a three weeks deadline, in accordance with the IFCS election rules. The election round has ended with the following results:

- Geoff McLachlan is elected to be the new IFCS President-Elect;
- Vincenzo Esposito Vinzi is re-elected as IFCS Secretary;
- Iven Van Mechelen is re-elected as IFCS Treasurer.

Following these results, the IFCS Executive Committee is now made of:

F.R. (Buck) McMorris - President till 31/12/09
mcmorris@iit.edu - then Past President till 31/12/11

David Hand - Past President till 31/12/09
d.j.hand@imperial.ac.uk

Geoff McLachlan - President-Elect 31/12/09
g.mclachlan@uq.edu.au - then President till 31/12/11 then Past President till 31/12/13

Vincenzo Esposito Vinzi - Scientific Secretary till 31/12/10 - vinzi@essec.fr

Iven Van Mechelen Treasurer till 31/12/10
Iven.VanMechelen@psy.kuleuven.be

André Hardy Publication Officer till 31/12/08
Andre.Hardy@fundp.ac.be

Finally, please have a look at the IFCS website (www.classification-society.org) for the latest news on member societies, the journals officially supported by the IFCS (Journal of Classification – JoC, and Advances in Data Analysis and Classification - ADAC) and up-to-date information on the IFCS Council composition with contact details of member societies.

Vincenzo Esposito Vinzi
IFCS Scientific Secretary

11th Conference of the International Federation of Classification Societies (IFCS 2009)

IFCS@GfKI: Classification as a Tool for Research

March 13 – 18, 2009, University of Technology,
Dresden, Germany

The 11th Biennial Conference of the International Federation of Classification Societies (IFCS) will take place at the University of Technology of Dresden, Germany, March 13-18, 2009, in

combination with the 33rd annual conference of the German Classification Society - Gesellschaft für Klassifikation (GfKI).

The conference will focus on classification and data analysis as tools for research in various applications. The scientific program will include sessions with invited talks and contributed presentations from a broad range of topics. Special emphasis will be laid on interdisciplinary research and the interaction between theory and practice. Researchers and practitioners are kindly invited to submit papers for presentation. The broad range of relevant topics includes the following list of intended sections (organizers in brackets):

Theory and Methods:

Analysis of Large and Complex Data (Vichi)
Clustering and Classification (Bock, Fichet)
Data Analysis Software (Ligges)
Data Cleaning and Pre-Processing (Weihs)
Exploratory Data Analysis (Cerioli)
Information Extraction and Retrieval (Schmidt-Thieme)
Knowledge Discovery in Data Bases (Ultsch)
Mixture Analysis (Montanari, Seidel)
Pattern Recognition and Machine Learning (Buhmann, Ritter, Burkhardt)
Visualization (Groenen)

Applications of Clustering, Classification, and Data Analysis:

Archaeology and Historical Geography (Herzog, Kerig, Posluschny)
Banking and Finance (Jajuga)
Biostatistics and Bioinformatics (Benner, Boulesteix)
Criminology and Fraud Detection (Adams, Pociecha)
Image and Signal Processing (Buhmann)
Marketing and Management Science (Baier)
Medical and Health Sciences (Lausen, Lee)
Production Engineering (Mehnen)
Psychology and Education (Krolak-Schwerdt)
Social Sciences (Ferligoj, Okada)
Spatial Planning (Behnisch)
Subject Indexing and Library Science (Hermes, Lorenz)
Statistical Musicology (Weihs)
Text Mining (Nuernberger)
Web Mining (Gaul)

Invited and Special Interest Sessions:

Business Informatics (Esswein, Strahringer)
Business Intelligence (Hilbert)
Classification approaches for symbolic data (Verde)
Clustering in networks (Batagelj)
Clustering in reduced space (Ceulemans, Timmerman)
Correspondence Analysis and Related Methods (Groenen, Greenacre, Blasius)
Data stream mining (Hebrail)
Graph-theoretical methods for clustering (Bock)
Model-based Clustering Methods (Hennig)
Modelling genome wide data in clinical research (Lausen)
Multicriteria Optimization (Trautmann)
Statistical Methods for Non-Standard Data (Billard)
Two-way clustering and applications (Bock, Vichi)

Invited speakers and their topics will be:

Sanjoy Dasgupta (USA): Performance guarantees for hierarchical clustering
Alain Guenoche (F): String distances for complete genome phylogeny
Josef Kittler (GB): Data quality dependent decision making in pattern classification
Anssi Klapuri (FIN): Signal processing for music transcription
Ulrike von Luxburg (D): Theoretic Analysis of Clustering Stability: Positive and Negative Results
Boris Mirkin (GB): Tree-mapping evolutionary events and clustering
Lars Schmidt-Thieme (D): Object Identification
William Shannon (USA): Functional data analysis for analyzing actigraphy patterns in sleep medicine
Naftali Tishby (IL): Predictive clustering and the optimal perception-action cycle
Alfred Ultsch (D): Benchmarking Methods for the Identification of Differentially Expressed Genes
Vincenzo Vinzi (I): PLS Path Modeling and PLS Regression: a Joint PLS approach to Formative Constructs in Structural Equation Models

Previous IFCS conferences were held in Germany (Aachen, 1987), USA (Charlottesville, 1989), UK (Edinburgh, 1991), France (Paris, 1993), Japan (Kobe, 1996), Italy (Rome, 1998), Belgium

(Namur, 2000), Poland (Cracow, 2002), USA (Chicago, 2004), and Slovenia (Ljubljana, 2006).

The IFCS is a non-profit and non-political scientific organization which promotes the dissemination of technical and scientific information concerning data analysis, classification, related methods, and their applications. Thus far there are 13 IFCS Member Societies:

- Associação Portuguesa de Classificação e Análise de Dados (CLAD),
- British Classification Society (BCS),
- Central American and Caribbean Society of Classification and Data Analysis (SoCCCAD),
- Classification Society of North America (CSNA),
- Gesellschaft für Klassifikation (GfKI),
- Irish Pattern Recognition and Classification Society (IPRCS),
- Japanese Classification Society (JCS),
- Korean Classification Society (KCS),
- Société Francophone de Classification (SFC),
- Società Italiana di Statistica (SIS),
- Sekcja Klasyfikacji i Analizy Danych PTS (SKAD),
- Statistical Society of Slovenia (SdS),
- Vereniging voor Ordinatie en Classificatie (VOC).

Papers of the conference will be published in a post-conference proceedings volume in the series 'Studies in Classification, Data Analysis and Knowledge Organization' with Springer-Verlag after having passed a refereeing process. Among the papers submitted to the proceedings, GfKI will grant two awards: an overall best paper award as well as a special best paper award for young researchers. Long or advanced versions of papers can be submitted to the journals 'Advances in Data Analysis and Classification (ADAC)' and 'Journal of Classification' that both will publish a Special Issue for IFCS 2009.

The conference starts on Saturday, March 14, 2009, several tutorials will be held one day earlier on March 13, 2009. Conference language is English (German only in special GfKI sessions). Participants intending to present a talk are invited to submit an abstract via the conference web site. All abstracts will undergo a reviewing process.

Accepted abstracts will be distributed to the conference participants at the conference. Detailed information about the submission and refereeing procedure as well as formatting instructions (for abstracts as well as for proceedings papers) can be found on the conference website <http://www.ifcs2009.de>.

IFCS@GfKI 2009 is hosted by the University of Technology of Dresden, one of the largest and most renowned universities in the Eastern states of Germany. Local organizers are Werner Esswein, Andreas Hilbert, and Hermann Locarek-Junge, Faculty of Economics and Management. Dresden is the capital of the Free State of Saxony and offers a wide variety of attractions. No book about the history of architecture can ignore the Dresden Zwinger, the Frauenkirche Church, Semper Opera House, and Royal Palace. Magnificent promenades on the bank of the Elbe, interesting museums and institutions, industrial monuments, charming details - Dresden has a lot for you to discover.

Important Dates:

- November 03, 2008: deadline for abstracts
- December 17, 2009: notification of acceptance of abstracts
- January 19, 2009: end of early-bird registration
- March 13-18, 2009: conference
- April 6, 2009: deadline for papers for post-conference proceedings
- June 29, 2009: notification of acceptance of papers
- July 20, 2009: camera-ready version of papers

SPC (Chair): Claus Weihs, Faculty of Statistics, Dortmund University of Technology, D-44221 Dortmund, claus.weihs@tu-dortmund.de
LOC: Werner Esswein, Andreas Hilbert, Hermann Locarek-Junge, Faculty of Economics and Management, Dresden University of Technology, D-01062 Dresden, mail@ifcs2009.de

News from GfKI

Working group AG-DANK (GfKI)

The traditional Fall Meeting of the working group AG-DANK 2008 will be held at the Weierstrass Institute for Applied Analysis and Stochastics (WIAS) at Berlin. We follow an invitation of Achim Mucha. The focus will lie on "Stability of Clustering," "Spatial Statistics," and "Visualization." A call for participation will be issued soon. Persons interested in the meeting are asked to contact ritter@fim.uni-passau.de

G. Ritter

Short News from CLAD

JOCLAD2008

The XV Annual Meeting of the *Associação Portuguesa de Classificação e Análise de Dados CLAD* was held very successfully on March 27-29 2008 at the High School of Enterprise Sciences in the Polytechnic Institute of Setúbal. JOCLAD2008 Proceedings as well as other information concerning the meeting and satellite courses may be found in <http://www.esce.ips.pt/projectos/joclad08/>.

JOCLAD2009 - Call for Participation

The XVI Annual Meeting of the *Associação Portuguesa de Classificação e Análise de Dados CLAD*, JOCLAD 2009, will be held on April 16-18, 2009 at the University of Algarve. More details will be available soon.

Helena Bacelar-Nicolau
hbacelar@fpce.ul.pt

News from SFC and SIS



THE FIRST JOINT MEETING OF THE SOCIÉTÉ FRANCOPHONE DE CLASSIFICATION AND THE CLASSIFICATION AND DATA ANALYSIS GROUP OF THE ITALIAN STATISTICAL SOCIETY

June, 11-13, 2008
Royal Palace, Caserta - Italy

WEB: <http://www.sfc-cladag.unina2.it>

The symposium seeks to bring together researchers working on classification, clustering, multivariate analysis, data base, machine-learning, decision rules, decision trees, association rules, filtering, data mining, visualization techniques, etc.

Main topics are:

- Association Rules
- Business Intelligence
- Categorical Data Analysis
- Classification and Discrimination
- Clustering and distance analysis
- Computational Bayesian Methods
- Data Mining
- Data Streams and Massive data
- Design of Experiments
- Dimensionality Reduction
- Classification in Econometrics and Finance
- Functional Data Analysis
- Genomics and Microarray Data Analysis
- Graphics and Data Visualization
- Imprecise Data and Fuzzy Methods
- Machine Learning
- Matrix Computations and Statistics
- Metadata and Data Representation
- Multivariate Data Analysis
- Neural Networks and Genetic Algorithms

- Nonparametric Statistics and Smoothing
- Optimization Algorithms
- Partial Least Squares
- Pattern Recognition
- Resampling Methods
- Risk Analysis and Scoring
- Robustness
- Sensometrics
- Spatial Statistics
- Structural Equations Models
- Support Vector Machine
- Symbolic Data Analysis
- Textual Data Analysis and Information Retrieval
- Time Series Analysis
- Multiway data analysis

The scientific committee is chaired by Bernard Fichet of the Université d'Aix-Marseille II and Domenico Piccolo of the University of Naples Federico II and it is made up of European specialists in classification and data analysis.

CONFERENCE PROCEEDINGS

A volume of the extended abstracts will be handed out at the beginning of the workshop.

The post-conference proceedings will be published on a volume of the Springer Series "Studies in Classification, Data Analysis, and Knowledge Organization" (papers in English) or on an issue of "Revue des Nouvelles Technologies de l'information", editor "Cépaduès" (papers in French). The proceedings will contain refereed versions of selected papers presented during the meeting. Papers review will be accomplished in the respect of the publisher's high qualitative standard.

ACCOMODATION

The conference will be held in Caserta, just 30 kilometers from Naples. The location is the Royal Palace that is a royal residence, constructed for the Bourbon [kings of Naples](#).

From the Royal Palace it is easily possible to reach the center of Caserta.

Several hotels conveniently located within a short distance from the conference site (JOLLY HOTELS, HOTEL EUROPA, H2C) have agreed to provide rooms to participants at a special rate.

The registration of participants can be performed by using the online procedure on the conference web site according to the following fees:

Registration fees	Before May 1st, 2008	After May 1st, 2008
Students	180€	210€
Members of SFC-SIS and other societies of IFCS	250€	280€
Others	320€	350€
Social dinner	60€	60€

Registration fee includes the receptions, the proceedings book, the morning and afternoon coffee breaks, the lunches, and a visit to Royal Palace in Caserta.

CONTACTS

E-MAIL's: Rosanna.Verde@unina2.it

News from SFC

SFC 2009

The 16th Francophone Classification Society (SFC) meeting will be held at the University Joseph Fourier (<http://www.ujf-grenoble.fr/>) at Grenoble (France), on September 9-11, 2009. SFC 2009 will be hosted by the TIMC-IMAG laboratory (<http://www-timc.imag.fr/>) of the Joseph Fourier University. The scientific program will include sessions with invited talks and contributed presentations from a broad range of topics. Special emphasis will be laid on interdisciplinary research, and the interaction between theory and practice. The local organizers of the conference are Ahlame Douzal, Gilles Bisson, Anne Guérin, Eric Gaussier, Cécile Amblard and Jérôme Gensel. The first call for the conference will be published in September 2008 (see <http://sfc.enst-bretagne.fr/>).

Ahlame Douzal on behalf of the organizers

News from the JCS

(I) The JCS Symposium - Application of the Bayesian models to the Classification - The JCS Symposium was held at the RENAISSANCE CENTER of Tama University on December 22, 2007.

(II) The 24th Annual Research Meeting of the Japanese Classification Society

The 24th Annual Research Meeting of the Japanese Classification Society was held at the RENAISSANCE CENTER of Tama University on March 21-22, 2008.

Yoshiro Yamamoto

News from CSNA, the Classification Society of North America

Stanley L. Sclove, Secretary

NEW OFFICERS

In the election of December, 2007,

Bill Shannon of Washington University School of Medicine was elected President-Elect, and Rebecca Nugent of Carnegie-Mellon University and Doug Steinley of the University of Missouri were elected as Directors.

As of 1-January, Fionn Murtagh became President, and Mel Janowitz became Past-President.

JOURNAL OF CLASSIFICATION

JoC is twenty-five years old! Issue No. 1 of Volume 25 (2008) is going to press within a couple of weeks and will be mailed to subscribers in a month or so. The editor is Willem Heiser of Leiden University. The journal is mailed with the bibliographic CD, Classification Literature Automated Search Service, now

containing several out-of-print books on classification and clustering.

This bibliographic service is edited by Michael Kurtz of the Smithsonian Astrophysical Observatory, Cambridge, Massachusetts.

ANNUAL MEETING

The CSNA 2008 annual meeting will be held on June 5 - 7 at Washington University Medical School, St. Louis, Missouri, organized by Bill Shannon.

Further information on the meeting is available at <http://www.classification-society.org/csna/csna08.html>.

Stan Sclove, Secretary / Treasurer,
Classification Society

Classification Society Distinguished Dissertations Award supported by Chapman and Hall/CRC

This award was established by CSNA. The first submission deadline was in February 2008, covering dissertations awarded in the period 2005-2007. The evaluation panel consisted of: Fionn Murtagh (chair), Willem Heiser, Samantha Prins, and Douglas Steinley. The award consists of books totalling USD 500 from Chapman and Hall/CRC; the same amount to support attendance at the CSNA Annual Meeting; and an Award presentation at the Annual Meeting.

Nominations were as follows:

- Jorge Santos, "Data Classification with Neural Networks and Entropic Criteria", (ISEP - Instituto Superior de Engenharia do Porto, Porto, Jan. 2007).
- Jorge Caiado, "Distance-based methods for classification and clustering of time series" (ESCE/Polytechnic Institute of Setubal, Setubal, Portugal, 2006)
- Jonathan Schler, "Authorship Analysis in the Absence of a closed Candidate Set"

(Bar-Ilan University, Ramat-Gan, Israel, Jan. 2007)

- Hans-Friedrich Koehn, "The Structural Representation of Three-Way Proximity Data" (University of Illinois, Urbana-Champaign, 2007)
- Cem Iyigun, "Probabilistic Distance Clustering" (Rutgers University, Nov. 2007)
- Balazs Feil, "Fuzzy Clustering in Process Data Mining", (University of Veszprem (Pannonia), Hungary, Sept. 2006), published as monograph "Cluster Analysis for Data Mining and System Identification", by Birkhaeuser, 2007
- Teemu Roos, "Statistical and Information-Theoretic Methods for Data Analysis" (University of Helsinki, June 2007)
- Nema Dean, "Variable Selection and Other Extensions of the Mixture Model Clustering Framework" (University of Washington, Seattle, 2006)
- Marielle Linting, "Nonparametric Inference in Nonlinear Principal Components Analysis: Exploration and Beyond" (Leiden University, October 16, 2007)
- Anita Van der Kooij, "Prediction Accuracy and Stability of Regression with Optimal Scaling Transformations" (Leiden University, June 27, 2007).

As can be seen the universities in which these PhDs were awarded were in the following countries: Portugal (2), the Netherlands (2), Israel, US (3), Hungary and Finland.

All dissertations were refereed. Based on these reports the evaluation committee recommended the following:

Winner - Anita Van der Kooij, "Prediction Accuracy and Stability of Regression with Optimal Scaling Transformations" (Leiden University, June 27, 2007)

Runner-up - Jonathan Schler, "Authorship Analysis in the Absence of a closed Candidate Set" (Bar-Ilan University, Ramat-Gan, Israel, Jan. 2007)

Commendations of the evaluation panel to

Jorge Santos, "Data Classification with Neural Networks and Entropic Criteria", (ISEP - Instituto Superior de Engenharia do Porto, Porto, Jan. 2007)

and

Balazs Feil, "Fuzzy Clustering in Process Data Mining", (University of Veszprem (Pannonia)), Hungary, Sept. 2006), published as monograph "Cluster Analysis for Data Mining and System Identification", by Birkhaeuser, 2007

All submissions were of very high quality. All short-listed dissertations are listed on the web at:
<http://thames.cs.rhul.ac.uk/~fionn/classification-society/dissaward-shortlist08.html>

Fionn Murtagh

IFCS Activity at the Isaac Newton Institute

David L. Banks

From January through June of 2008, the Isaac Newton Institute (INI) is running a research program on Statistical Theory and Methods for Complex, High-Dimensional Data. This topic has considerable pertinence to the research of many of the IFCS members, and quite a few of us have are actively involved in the INI program. (The INI is located in Cambridge, UK; it is a center of mathematical research, and is particularly famous as the site of Andrew Wiles' proof of 95% of Fermat's Last Theorem.)

In particular, I would like the IFCS membership to know about Fionn Murtagh's exceptional presentation at the opening meeting regarding some of his work on ultrametrics and their relevance for high-dimensional data. Sugnet Lubbe (perhaps better known to most of us as Sugnet Gardiner, one of John Gower's

collaborators and a regular attendee from South Africa at the IFCS conferences) was also a participant in that kickoff meeting. David Hand, our past president, gave a keynote talk on May 19 at the INI's "Industry Day," when the statistical research community met with corporate executives to explain the relevance of our profession to their concerns. Jennifer Clarke (nee Pittman, the former CSNA publication officer) spent four months at the INI doing research, and Christian Hennig was also in residence for a shorter period. Leanna House, who helped organize the IFCS 2004 meeting in Chicago, visited to speak on high-dimensional proteomics data. David Banks helped around the edges, mostly by bringing coffee to people who looked tired. And no doubt other IFCS members will be involved in the program as it draws to a finish at the end of June.

News from the VOC

The spring meeting of the VOC on April 18, 2008 at Netherlands Forensic Institute, The Hague, was interesting with about 50 attendants. The topic of the meeting was 'Statistical methods in criminology and law enforcement'. In the morning three presentations were held. Colin Aitkin opened the session with a presentation about evidence evaluation using the likelihood ratio. The presentation held by Catrien Bijleveld dealt with a number of examples of methodological applications in criminological research. Annabel Bolck discussed the research on classification and evaluation of XTC tablets. In the afternoon another three presentations were held. Peter van der Heijden discussed how to estimate the prevalence of rule transgression using data collected by randomized response. The presentation of Maarten Cruyff dealt with population size estimation using zero-truncated Poisson model in delinquent populations. Gert Jacobusse closed the day by introducing the Knowledge and expertise centre for intelligent data analysis (Kecida) which is currently formed at the Netherlands Forensic Institute. The VOC will be organizing a session at the conference of the GFKL, the Germans Classification Society, which will be held in Hamburg from July 16-18, 2008.

All up-to-date information on the activities of the VOC is available via

www.voc.ac <<http://www.voc.ac/>>.

Hugo Duivenvoorden

ADAC - Advances in Data Analysis and Classification

In April 2008 the first issue of volume 2 (2008) the journal ADAC was published. It contains the five scientific articles:

Jean-Baptiste Angelelli, Anaïs Baudot, Christine Brun, Alain Guénoche: Two local dissimilarity measures for weighted graphs with application to protein interaction networks

Patrick Groenen: SVM-Maj: a majorization approach to linear support vector machines with different hinge errors

David J. Weston, David J. Hand, Niall M. Adams, Christopher Whitrow, Piotr Juszczak: Plastic card fraud detection using peer group analysis

Lara Fontanella, Luigi Ippoliti, Richard John Martin, Sabrina Trivisonno: Interpolation of spatial and spatio-temporal Gaussian fields using the inverse correlation function

Pietro Amenta: General constrained inertia analysis

The contents of former issues of ADAC can be obtained from the journal's website www.springer.com/11634 where general information and author instructions are provided as well (see also the website www.stochastik.rwth-aachen.de). The deadline for submitting papers for the Special Issue on 'Optimisation and Nonconvex Programming in Data Mining' ended in March 2008. -- ADAC is supported by IFCS and several IFCS Member societies. Members of all IFCS Member Societies can order the journal for a reduced price if they order it via the Treasurer of their Classification Society.

Hans-Hermann Bock

IOPS Summer school

The IOPS Graduate School of Psychometrics and Sociometrics is organizing a summer school in 2008. IOPS Summer School for Psychometrics and Sociometrics, Wassenaar, The Netherlands, 7-18 July 2008

Link: <http://www.iops.nl/summerschool/>

Susañña Verdel
IOPS Graduate School
Faculty of Social and Behavioral Sciences

Interims meeting of the ISA (International Sociological Association) Research Committee 33 (RC33) on “Logic and Methodology in Sociology”, September 1-5, 2008, in Naples, Italy

Call for Papers

In addition to great pizza, pasta, and wine, we are happy to announce that we will have approximately 100 sessions covering all topics in quantitative and qualitative methods of empirical social research, including applied statistics. RC33 is interdisciplinary; as it hold for the last conferences in Cologne 2000 and in Amsterdam 2004, participants are expected to come from all areas in the social sciences, from economics, statistics, medicine and natural sciences – and from all over in the world. Keynote speakers in Naples will be Ludovic Lebart (Paris) and Willem Saris (Amsterdam), at the first and last day of conference we will have six half-day tutorials that are free of charge for conference participants. Here are the rules for paper givers; they are the same as for the previous RC33 meetings:

1. Every paper must contain a methodological problem (any area is fine, qualitative and/or

quantitative); applications are very welcome, however, they are not sufficient.

2. Speakers can only have one talk per session. This is also true for joint papers: it will not be possible for A and B to present one paper while B and A present another one during the same session. This would just extend the time allocated to a paper.
3. It is also not possible to present the same or a similar paper in two sessions. The organization committee will cross-check the sessions and inform the session organizers in doubtful cases.
4. We will have sessions of 80 minutes with four papers, and sessions of 120 minutes with six papers. It is up to the session organizer to allocate the time for discussion.
5. Please send your abstract either directly to the session organizer (see the list on the web site) or to Simona Balbi (Simona.Balbi@unina.it) who has the chair. Please do not send your abstract twice, for example, to two of the session organizers or to one of the session organizers and to Simona Balbi.
6. If you send your abstract to Simona Balbi and if the abstract sounds good, the organizing committee will offer the paper to one of the session organizers. The same holds with abstracts you send to the session organizers whose session is already full or where your paper does not fit in well. In these cases the session organizers will forward your abstract to the organization committee and we will forward it to a session where we think it fits into.
7. Although the session organizers are responsible for their sessions, the final acceptance of a paper is after registration for the conference.
8. It will be not possible to present more than two papers for anybody; however, one paper is strictly preferred. If you are the co-author of a second or third paper, please take care that your co-author(s) register for the conference.

9. Please send your abstract as soon as possible to have a good chance that your preferred session has place available.
10. The abstract should be not longer than 250 words and it should contain your name, your Email address, your institutional affiliation and up to three keywords.

Deadline for abstracts: February 17, 2008. The session organizers or the organisation committee will inform you about the acceptance at latest by the end of March.

Location of Conference: Università “Federico II” di Napoli, one of the most ancient University in Europe (in 1224 the Holy Roman Emperor and King of Sicily Frederick II founded in Naples the first publicly funded University), although the conference will take place in the modern campus known as Monte Sant’Angelo.

Date of conference: September 1-5, 2008. Monday afternoon and Friday morning be devoted to tutorials.

Further information and updates:
<http://www.rc332008.unina.it/>

The fees

RC33-Members	160 €
+ 5 €(administration costs)	
RC33-Non members	190 €
+ 5 €(administration costs)	
Students	100 €
+ 5 €(administration costs)	
Participants from countries in transition	100 €
+ 5 €(administration costs)	
Non Academic	200 €
+ 5 €(administration costs)	
Later registrants (after May, 10 th)	+ 40 €

The fee includes all conference materials, reception first evening, all soft drinks, coffee and tea during the breaks; the fee for non-members also includes a two-year membership for RC33

(for more details on RC33, see:
<http://www.rc33.org/>).

On behalf of the board of RC33 and the conference organization committee

Simona Balbi
 Enrica Amaturò
 Jörg Blasius
 Cor van Dijkum
 N. Carlo Lauro
 Anne Ryen
 Rosanna Verde

9th EGC conference – Knowledge Extraction and Management Strasbourg – 27-30 January 2009

<http://lsiit.u-strasbg.fr/egc09>

Call for papers, demonstrations, tutorials and workshops

EGC 2009 is the meeting point for French speaking researchers, industrials and users from Databases, Machine Learning, Knowledge Representation, Knowledge Management, Statistics and Data Analysis communities. Today, large masses of structured or semi-structured data are available in the information systems of private companies and on the web. These data are potentially rich of unheard resources, which could be exploited. To take advantage of them, we need methods and tools able to collect, represent, store and index data in order to integrate and classify them and then to extract relevant knowledge and finally to see the results of this extraction. To meet this expectation, many research projects are being developed in the fields of Knowledge Discovery in Data Bases and Knowledge Management.

The goal these days is to bring together, on the one hand researchers from related disciplines (Machine Learning, Statistics and Data Analysis,

Information Systems and Databases, Knowledge engineering, etc.), and on the other hand engineers who are deploying extraction methods and Knowledge Management techniques, in order to contribute to the formation of a scientific community in the French speaking area world around this double issue of extraction and management of knowledge.

The EGC colloquium is composed of a scientific conference, where industrial and demo sessions are organized, a series of scientific workshops and tutorials. The event aims to stimulate this community providing a place for debates and cross fertilization between academics, researchers and industrials. The objective is to determine the needs and the future challenges of this new booming discipline.

Jean-Gabriel Ganascia, ACASA group leader
LIP6 - University Pierre et Marie Curie (Paris VI)

New books

Symbolic Data Analysis and the SODAS Software, Wiley, 2008.

Symbolic data analysis is a relatively new field that provides a range of methods for analyzing complex datasets. Standard statistical methods do not have the power or flexibility to make sense of very large datasets, and symbolic data analysis techniques have been developed in order to extract knowledge from such data. Symbolic data methods differ from that of data mining, for example, because rather than identifying points of interest in the data, symbolic data methods allow the user to build models of the data and make predictions about future events.

This book includes a full explanation of the new SODAS2 software developed as a result of this project. The software and methods described highlight the crossover between statistics and computer science, with a particular emphasis on data mining.

CONTENT:

Introduction.

1. The state of the art in symbolic data analysis: overview and future

PART I - DATABASES VERSUS SYMBOLIC OBJECTS.

2. Improved generation of symbolic objects from relational databases
3. Exporting symbolic objects to databases
4. A statistical metadata model for symbolic objects
5. Editing symbolic data
6. The normal symbolic form
7. Visualization

PART II.- UNSUPERVISED METHODS.

8. Dissimilarity and matching
9. Unsupervised divisive classification
10. Hierarchical and pyramidal clustering
11. Clustering methods in symbolic data analysis
12. Visualizing symbolic data by Kohonen maps
13. Validation of clustering structure: determination of the number of clusters
14. Stability measures for assessing a partition and its clusters: application to symbolic data sets
15. Principal component analysis of symbolic data described by intervals
16. Generalized canonical analysis

PART III - .SUPERVISED METHODS.

17. Bayesian decision trees
18. Factor discriminant analysis
19. Symbolic linear regression methodology
20. Multi-layer perceptions and symbolic data

PART IV - APPLICATION AND THE SODAS SOFTWARE.

21. Application to the Finnish, Spanish and Portuguese data of the European Social Survey
22. Peoples life values and trust components in Europe: symbolic data analysis for 20-22 countries
23. Symbolic analysis of the Time Use Survey in the Basque country
24. SODAS2 software: overview and methodology

Monique Noirhomme-Fraiture
University of Namur, Namur, Belgium

Statistical Implicative Analysis

Theory and Applications Series: Studies in Computational Intelligence Vol. 127 .Gras, R.; Suzuki, E.; Guillet, F.; Spagnolo, F. (Eds.) 2008

Statistical implicative analysis is a data analysis method created by Régis Gras almost thirty years ago which has a significant impact on a variety of areas ranging from pedagogical and psychological research to data mining. Statistical implicative analysis (SIA) provides a framework for evaluating the strength of implications; such implications are formed through common knowledge acquisition techniques in any learning process, human or artificial. This new concept has developed into a unifying methodology, and has generated a powerful convergence of thought between mathematicians, statisticians, psychologists, specialists in pedagogy and last, but not least, computer scientists specialized in data mining.

This volume collects significant research contributions of several rather distinct disciplines that benefit from SIA. Contributions range from psychological and pedagogical research, bioinformatics, knowledge management, and data mining.

Read more detailed information (including table of contents and sample chapter):
<http://www.springer.com/engineering/book/978-3-540-78982-6>

or

<http://springerlink.com/content/119788/>

Contributions for the coming issue of the IFCS newsletter can be sent to:

andre.hardy@fundp.ac.be

Text files are by preference in ascii or word, with pc format. For graphical materials, by preference GIF is used.

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