



# International Federation of Classification Societies Newsletter

Number 15

Dec 1997

President: Douglas Carroll

Editor: Keiji Yajima

**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, Association des Sociétés Yougoslaves de Statistique, 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.

## From the President

This is my last Presidential statement in the IFCS Newsletter, since, as of the first of January, I will retire as President to assume once again the office of Vice President during the year 1998, while Chikio Hayashi will then assume the office of President for the years 1998 and 1999. Let me take this opportunity both to welcome Chikio to this job, and to publicly offer him whatever support I can in carrying out his duties in the coming year, and thereafter, and to thank all those who have helped me in so many ways in carrying out my own responsibilities in this office. 1996, my first Presidential year, was also the year of our first meeting in Asia— IFCS-96 in Kobe, under the superb sponsorship of JCS— whereas 1997 has been something of a transitional year. Chief among those I'd like to thank are Allan Gordon, my predecessor as IFCS President, and Vice President in 1996, whose experience in the job was brought to bear in many ways in his advice to me. Jacqueline Meulman, who as Secretary-Treasurer was a crucial member of the Executive Committee both in 1995, when I served as Vice President, and then when I became President in 1996, provided indispensable counsel and help in the planning and

execution of the Kobe meeting was. Last, but far from least, of course, I want to thank Keiji Yajima, who was both very helpful as a member of the Executive Committee— particularly on matters related to the Kobe meeting, and as our Publication Officer and Editor of the Newsletter— jobs from which he will also retire as of the end of this year, and for which the Federation owes him a tremendous vote of gratitude! As announced elsewhere in this Newsletter, Paul de Boeck of VOC will serve as Keiji's successor as of the first of the year. I personally want to take this opportunity to congratulate Paul, and to welcome him to this important office. We are very fortunate to have so worthy a successor to Keiji as Paul de Boeck.

Let me not forget all the people associated with JCS who were so very central in putting together a superbly well-organized meeting in Kobe— chief among these, in addition to Chikio Hayashi, the Conference President, were Noburo Ohsumi, Yutaka Tanaka, Yasumasa Baba, Tadashi Imaizumi, Shoichi Ueda, Atsuhiko Hayashi, and Keiji himself, who was particularly instrumental in providing help and advice to me about a number of different aspects of the meeting.

In 1997, which, since we had no meeting or other major activity, was a relatively quiet year for IFCS, I want to thank, in addition to Chikio Hayashi, who joined the Executive Committee as Vice President, David Banks, who became our Secretary, and Atsuhiko Hayashi, who is now our Treasurer. Jacqueline has continued to be very helpful to me, to Chikio, and to both David and Atsuhiko,

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in her role as Special Presidential Advisor, especially in implementing the complicated feat of splitting the Secretary-Treasurer role into its two separate functions, and has enabled us to make this relatively difficult transition as smoothly as could be hoped. The other people I have to thank for helping me, and IFCS, in very many different ways, are, as the American cliché goes, “too numerous to be mentioned” in the limited space available in this Newsletter. In some sense, this includes all members and officers of all our member Societies. I hope we can all continue to cooperate as well as or better than we have over the years I have been an officer, and, especially, that we will all work even harder to encourage research, particularly by younger researchers, in areas related to Classification, and to expand both the number of Societies within IFCS, and most importantly the quality of the research, scholarship, and general impact of members of these Member Societies of IFCS, and the total impact of IFCS as an organization and community of scholars on scientific practice, and on human society as a whole. Personally, I look forward to seeing the day when there will be a Member Society of IFCS available to and relevant to the needs of any scientist or other scholar interested in classification theory and methods anywhere in the world. I also hope to see the day that IFCS will sponsor a journal or other publication (perhaps the *Journal of Classification*) which will be the FIRST place anyone doing significant research in classification methodology will think of publishing, and also the first place one who needs to use, or simply is interested in, classification, or related data analytic models and methods, will think of looking to find appropriate theory, applications, and methodology.

We have two very important meetings coming up at which I hope to see very many of you, IFCS-98 to be held in Rome under the sponsorship of SIS and the direction of its President, Alfredo Rizzi, about which relevant announcements can be found elsewhere in this Newsletter. The other one, whose venue and sponsorship has just been definitely established, is IFCS-2000, tentative details of which are described below. The Conference Committee (consisting of David Banks and Chikio Hayashi) recommended a proposal for the IFCS-2000 meeting to be held in Namur, Belgium, submitted by Jean-Paul Rasson, President of SFC, and Henk Kiers, President of VOC, which was then submitted by the Executive Committee to the IFCS Council and endorsed by a vote that was essentially unanimous (only a couple of people abstained because of perceived conflicts of interest). The highlights of the current tentative plans for this meeting are as follows:

The “Société Francophone de Classification” (SFC) and the “Vereniging voor Ordinatie en Classificatie” (VOC) will organize and host the Meeting of the IFCS in the year 2000. This conference will be called “IFCS-2000: Data Analysis, Classification and Related Methods”. Tentative dates for the conference are July 11 till July 14, 2000, and it will be held in Namur, Belgium (the country which participates in both

these Societies).

Namur, one of the two Federal Capitals of Belgium, is a middle-sized city (100,000 inhabitants) located 60 kilometers south of Brussels, and can be reached easily by frequent train connections from Brussels and Brussels Airport. Its proximity to Brussels, as well as its location at the border of the natural forests of the Ardennes, yields it considerable appeal as a tourist destination, for those interested in combining a vacation with attendance at the meeting. The city offers excellent opportunities for the organization of a relatively large conference such as IFCS. As far as hotel accommodations are concerned, the University offers 160 bedrooms (all wheelchair accessible), and there is a fair choice of hotels, both in the city, and along the “Vallee de la Meuse”, just outside the city. Jean-Paul Rasson, who is a Professor at Namur’s University, is in a very good position to maintain the necessary local contacts and will be Chair of the Local Organization Committee, which will be responsible both for organization and for financial aspects of IFCS-2000. Among others, he has organized a fairly large meeting of the SFC in Namur. As far as conference rooms are concerned, the city is planning to build a new conference centre which should be ready for IFCS 2000, but even without this conference centre, there are plenty of possibilities to host the conference in University buildings, which are located downtown.

Henk Kiers will chair the Program Committee which will be responsible for the scientific organization of the meeting, while Jean-Paul Rasson will be Co-Chair of this committee, so as to fully exploit the involvement of these two cosponsoring Societies in order to guarantee the quality of the scientific program. It is planned to follow the successful model of the Kobe conference (with a considerable number of invited sessions as well as invited keynote speakers), and, most likely to follow the precedent now being established for IFCS-98 in Rome, of having Proceedings written beforehand. The latter plan will be based in large part, of course, on how successful this idea proves to be in the case of the 1998 Rome meeting. Fortunately, there is much lead time for planning final details of IFCS-2000, so that we will be in a position to carefully borrow the most successful features of all previous meetings of IFCS. Be sure to begin making your own plans now for this meeting in the first year of the new millennium (if you accept the position that it DOES begin in 2000, rather than 2001 as, say, Steven Jay Gould contends), as well, of course, for IFCS-98 in July, 1998, in Rome.

*Douglas Carroll, President*  
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## IFCS - 2000, July 11-14, 2000 NAMUR, BELGIUM

Jean-Paul Rasson and Henk Kiers, Presidents of the SFC and VOC, respectively, will jointly sponsor the IFCS-2000 meeting in Namur, Belgium, on July 11-14, 2000. The local host will be the University of Namur. The IFCS extends its thanks to them for agreeing to undertake this task.

Further details on the meeting will be forthcoming as the project progresses.

### IFCS New Publication Officer

The IFCS Secretary is pleased to report that Paul de Boeck, of VOC, has been elected as the new Publication Officer and Newsletter Editor, to serve the term from January 1, 1998 to January 1, 2002. Although all votes are not yet in at the time this announcement is being written, the balloting thus far has been unanimous, and a majority of Council members have responded. On behalf of the IFCS, I am delighted that we shall now have someone of Paul's talents and ability to follow up on the excellent work done by Keiji Yajima.

*David Banks, FCS Secretary*

*Email: banks@nist.gov*

### IFCS - 98

The sixth Conference of IFCS, to be held in Rome, July 21-24, 1998. About 220 short papers have been sent to the Local Organizing Committee. Furthermore, about 20 Invited Sessions have been organized and 10 invited lectures. We recall some important information:

#### IFCS - 98 Registration Information

Member: Lit.350,000(Before May 15, 1998) :Lit.450,000(On or after May 15, 1998)

Accompanying Person: Lit.75,000(Before May 15, 1998) :Lit.100,000(On or after May 15, 1998)

The Registration Fee for participants includes admission to the Sessions, Exhibition, Welcome Reception, as well as distribution of printed materials including the Book of Abstracts proceedings. Lunches are not included.


*Maurizio Vichi and Alfredo Rizzi*

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*http://www.unich.it/dmqte/dmqte.html*


**IFCS - 98**  
JULY 21/24 - 1998

INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE  
UNIVERSITA' "LA SAPIENZA" DI ROMA



**DATA SCIENCE,  
CLASSIFICATION AND  
RELATED METHODS**

SIXTH CONFERENCE  
OF THE INTERNATIONAL FEDERATION  
OF CLASSIFICATION SOCIETIES



IFCS-98 Secretariat: Dipartimento di Statistica, Probabilità e Statistiche applicate  
P.zza Aldo Moro, 5 - 00185 Roma - Tel. + 39-6-4958308 - Fax + 39-6-4959241

### SIS - Società Italiana di Statistica

The annual meeting of the Classification Group of SIS was held in Pescara, July 3-4, 1997. About 70 papers have been presented during this meeting, divided in 17 sessions, with discussion. A book of short papers (extended abstract of four pages) has been published and may be requested to Maurizio Vichi, (Vichi@dmqte.unich.it). The proceedings of the meeting will be published by Springer-Verlag in 1998.

*Alfredo Rizzi, SIS President*

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### CSNA - Classification Society of North America

CSNA's 1997 meeting was held in June at American University, Washington, D. C. The conference chair was Dr. Olga Cordero Brăna, of American University; the program chair was Dr. David Banks, of the National Institute of Standards and Technology. It included CSNA's "usual" short course on "Classification and Clustering" and a new

short course on "Multivariate Nonparametric Regression," and some 40 papers divided into sessions on:

Nonparametric Discriminant Analysis  
Block Clustering  
Public Health Statistics  
Problems with Trees  
Phylogenetic Inferences  
Methods in Medicine  
DNA Fingerprinting  
New Problems in Biomedicine  
Environmental Applications  
Mathematical Strategies  
Issues in System Security  
Clustering Methods  
Clustering Problems in Marketing  
Applications in Imaging  
Strategies for Neural Nets

and others. Next year's meeting will be held in Champaign/Urbana, Illinois, at the University of Illinois. Stanley Wasserman is the organizer of the meeting, which will be held jointly with the Psychometric Society. For further information, consult the CSNA web site.

In other CSNA news, William Shannon, of Washington University, Saint Louis, Missouri, will become editor of CSNA's newsletter on January 1, 1998.

*Peter Bryant, CSNA President*  
*Email : Peter.Bryant@cudenver.edu*

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### **SKAD - Section on Classification and Data Analysis of Polish Statistical Association**

Section on Classification and Data Analysis of PTS (SKAD) held its annual conference in Lodz, on October 8-9, 1997. During the conference the following papers were presented:

1. Czeslaw Domanski - Anniversary of Polish Statistical Association.
2. Danuta Strahl - Classification of regions of Poland with respect to the European Union regional policy criteria.
3. Eugeniusz Gatnar, Janusz Wywiał - Application of classification methods to support the works on administrative division of the country.
4. Juliusz Siedlecki, Grzegorz Tarczynski - Classification of objects by artificial neural networks.
5. Pawel Lula - Application of artificial intelligence methods in the regionalization.
6. Czeslaw Domanski, Piotr Wyderka - An attempt to apply neural network in expert systems.

7. Andrzej Bak - Selected problems of research on conjoint analysis algorithms properties.
8. Artur Zaborski - Measures of similarity of objects in multidimensional scaling.
9. Grzegorz Kowalewski, Jozef Dziechciarz, Anna Blaczowska - Nominant variables in the evaluation of market segments.
10. Stanislaw Heilpern - Aggregation operators, theory and possible applications.
11. Waldemar Tarczynski - On the method of fundamental analysis of company listed on Warsaw Stock Exchange.
12. Jacek Batog, Arkadiusz Kandyba - The influence of economic development of the region on the structure, dynamics and quality of bank loan portfolio.
13. Anna Blaczowska - Attractiveness of tourist regions with respect to the ecological conditions.
14. Feliks Wysocki - Spatial taxonomic analysis of unemployment structure in Poland in 1996.
15. Michal Wozniak, Kinga Szymanowicz - Diagnostic properties of variables in multivariate analysis.
16. Urszula Siedlecka, Juliusz Siedlecki - Changes in the structure of economic development of provinces in the period of economic transformation.
17. Jan Zawadzki - Application of selected multivariate analysis methods in forecasting and modelling.

During the conference the regular meeting of the members took place. The Board of the section gave the summary of their work in last year. The elections of the representative of SKAD in IFCS Council for period January 1, 1998 - December 31, 2001 took place. As the representative Krzysztof Jajuga was elected.

*Krzysztof Jajuga, President of SKAD*  
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### **CLAD - Associação Portuguesa de Classificação e Análise de Dados**

(1) JOCLAD-97: The 5th annual meeting of the CLAD, JOCLAD-97, will be held next December 4-6, 1997 at the city of Porto, going for the first time out of Lisbon, its birthplace. Thus the area of Classification and Related Methods is growing more and more and spreading quite well over the country.

Main topics are: Classification, Discriminant Analysis, Factorial Analysis, Symbolic Analysis, Probabilistic Models in Classification, Textual Analysis, Regression, Time Series, Surveys, Pattern Recognition, Teaching of Statistics and Data Analysis.

The goal is standing always on the increasement of cooperation between theory and practice with development of inter-

disciplinary and users' teaching aspects, like as in the preceding JOCLAD Meetings. Applications specially cover: Social and Human Sciences, Official Statistics, Marketing, Economics, Finance, Risk Management, Engineering, Biometrics, Medicine, Environmental Sciences. Official languages are Portuguese, French and English, as usual.

(2) Three Short Courses will take place at the LEAD/CLAD, from November to December 1997:

Introduction to Classification:

"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 19-20 November;

Selection of Distances in Classification:

"Choix des Distances en Classification", by Gilles Celeux, from the University of Grenoble, France, on December 17.

Another Short Course on Textual Data Analysis

- Software SPADT, by Ludovic Lebart, from ENST/Telecom - Paris, France, will be held at the end of February 1998.

(3) CLAD will sponsor the next International Conference on "Applied Stochastic Models and Data Analysis", ASMDA-99, to be held in Lisbon, June 14-17 1999. Organisers are: Jacques Janssen (janssen@ulb.ac.be), H. Bacelar-Nicolau (hbacelar@correio.cc.fc.ul.pt) Fernando C. Nicolau (fan@laminaria.si.fct.unl.pt). The ASMDA-99 e-mail direct address is: asmda99@fc.ul.pt.

(4) The issue Number 4 of CLAD Bulletin was published November 1997.

(5) As we have mentioned in the issue No. 14 of the IFCS Newsletter, the CLAD was represented as invited "Sister Society" in the 51th Meeting of the International Statistical Institute which was held at Istanbul, Turkey, 18-27 August 1997.

H. Bacelar-Nicolau was the organiser of the invited paper meeting no. 76 on August 25 entitled "Classification of variables vs classification of subjects" on behalf of the Associação Portuguesa de Classificação e Análise de Dados. Invited authors were Allan D. Gordon, from the Univ. St. Andrews, Scotland (External validation in cluster analysis), Gilbert Saporta from the CNAM, Paris, France (Problèmes posés par la comparaison de classifications dans des enquêtes différentes), Ludovic Lebart from the CNRS, ENST, Paris, France (Classification of variables and subjects: the case of textual data) and H. Bacelar-Nicolau, F. C. Nicolau (Classification of variables vs classification of subjects in binary data with a probabilistic approach). Invited discussants were

Hans H. Bock from the Univ. Aachen, Germany and Fernando C. Nicolau from the Univ. Nova de Lisboa.

*Helena Bacelar-Nicolau, President of CLAD*

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(6) There was another invited paper meeting of ISI in Istanbul, no.79 entitled "Classification and Clustering" on August 20. The organizer was Hans-Herman Bock on behalf of International Federation of Classification Societies. Invited authors were Yoshiharu Sato, Mika Sato, *Additive clustering model for similarity Data*, Wolfgang Gaul, *Advances in cluster analysis and applications to economics*, Pierre Hansen, Brigitte Jaumard, *Computational strategies and optimization algorithms in cluster analysis*, Paul De Boeck, *Feature-based classification models with adominace rule*, Hans-Herman Bock, *Probabilistic approaches for cluster analysis*. Invited discussant was Allan Gordon.

*Keiji Yajima, Newsletter Editor*

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## KCS - Korean Classification Society

The KCS holds conference twice every year (main conference in June/July, seminar meeting in December).

1. The 1996 second seminar meeting was held on December 6, 1996 at Seoul National University. Speakers, were :

- Jae-Chang Lee, Myoungshic Jhun, Yoonsik Bang: Possibility of Application and classification based on the national census.
- Chul-Hwan Ko: Example of the classification of the cluster of the ocean creatures.
- Jung-Yeon Hwang, Jong-Hoo Choi: A comparison of the

nonlinear growth curve based on the model preference criteria.

2. The 1997 annual conference was held on June 27, 1997 at Korea National Open University.

- Duck-Ku Kim: 1997 Presidential election and the election poll

- Min-Jung Kwak: Exact and asymptotic tests for multiply-matched case-control studies

- Kwang-Yong Kim: Hybrid approach to make sense of neural nets and logistic regression.

- So-Young kim, Jae-Chang Lee: Survey method for the sensitive topics based on the item count methods.

3. The KCS has decided to publish the official KCS Journal annually. The title of Journal is

*The Journal of Data Science and Classification*

Editor : Myun-Hoe Huh.

The first volume was published on June 1997.

4. The board of KCS consists of the following people.

President: Moon-Sup Song (1996-1998)

Seoul National University

Secretary: Tie-Rim Lee(1997-1999)

Korea National Open University

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*Yong Goo Lee , Secretary of KCS*

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## **SFC - Société Francophone de Classification**

1. For its twentieth year, the French-speaking Classification Society (Société Francophone de Classification) has organised its fifth meeting in Lyon, France on Sept. 17-19, 1997. The organisation committee was composed of members of the ERIC laboratory of the University Lyon 2 (Djamel Zighed, Marc Sebban, Sabine Rabaseda and Fabien Feschet). It was a great success and there were about one hundred participants coming from twelve different countries and sixty-two papers were presented. Moreover, five foreign classification societies were also represented by Helena Bacelar-Nicolau (Portugal), Hans Bock (Germany), Hens Kiers (The Netherlands), Noboru Oshumi (Japan) and Gavin Ross (Great Britain). The number of participants becomes more and more important each year and from the scientific point of view the quality of the papers was high. The topics concerned recent works in classification and in connected fields:

- Statistical and mathematical methods for classification and data analysis

- Trees and graphs

- Proximity measures

- Symbolic and numeric methods

- Determination of the number of classes

- Validation in classification

- Genetic algorithms and neural networks

- Machine Learning

- Applications to pattern recognition, biology, medicine, image and signal analysis, human and sociological sciences, ...

The Simon Régnier prize was awarded during the meeting to J. Diatta (Laboratory of Biomathematics, University of Aix-Marseille II, Marseille). The title of his paper was "On a model of mathematical classification". The general assembly of the SFC was held during the meeting. A new constitution for the SFC was discussed and approved.

2. The next meeting of the SFC will take place in Montpellier France on september 21-23, 1998.

3. The issue number 9 of the *SFC Bulletin* was published in October 1997.

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## **Some Elements on the History of the SFC Société Francophone de Classification**

The "Société Francophone de Classification(SFC)" was born in 1977. Edwin Diday, Israël-César Lerman and Simon Régnier were the promoters of this creation.

Indeed, in this period, it was a classification society including two branches. The first was an american one and the second, called theoretically the european branch, was in fact a completely english society. Facing difficulties for creating a french society in the context of the latter "european branch", it was decided to set up the "Société Francophone de Classification".

This creation offered expression and promotion possibilities to important, rich and original works in the Classification domain, performed in the french context.

The first president of the "Société Francophone de Classification" was the late Simon Régnier(1977-1979). Following him succeeded Israël-César Lerman(1980-1981), Michel Jambu(1982-1984), Christophe Perruchet(1985-1986), the late Guy Der Megreditchian(1987-1989), Pierre Cazes(1990-1991), Edwin Diday(1992-1993), Jean-Pierre Barthélémy(1994-1995) and Jean-Paul Rasson(since 1996). In memory and to honor the scientific contribution of the first SFC president, the "Simon Régnier" prize had been created in december 1984. This prize, established in the framework of

the francophone society, is devoted to reward and to encourage a young researcher for his work in classification, from both scientific and social aspects. It has been decerned till now four times: Gildas Brossier(1986), Robert Sabatier(1987), Javier Trejos(1996) and Jean Diatta(1997).

From the origin of its creation, our young society obtained international consideration. Thus, we were proud to receive a congratulation and encouragement message from J.A. Hartigan, president at that time of the north american society. In these conditions the SFC, represented by Michel Jambu and Christophe Perruchet, was among the six societies which had signed the certificate birth of the "INTERNATIONAL FEDERATION OF CLASSIFICATION SOCIETIES (IFCS)", the July. 4. 1984, in Cambridge(England).

During the period 1977-1984, the annual meetings of the SFC(Journées de la Société Francophone de Classification) were directly associated with the annual meetings of Statistics called *Journées Francophones de Statistique de l'ASU*(Association pour la Statistique et ses Utilisations)" Israël-César Lerman was responsible of the scientific organization of the Classification part. After this period, the autonomy of organization of the SFC meeting had been decreasing more and more, in the context of the "Journées de Statistique de l'ASU" .

Then at the beginning of 1992 Edwin Diday and Jean-Pierre Barthélémy relaunched the project of SFC annual meetings, completely separated from the "Jornées de Statistique de l'ASU".

Indeed, there is double justification for this: scientific and social. From scientific point of view one can argue that Statistics is not the only discipline which intervenes in the Classification field. Other fundamental disciplines also intervenes interactively in building classification methodologies. One may cite Informatics in its different aspects(algorithms, logic and software), Combinatorics and Discrete Mathematics, Operations Researchs, etc... The justification at the social level was also strong since several classification societies had an autonomous organization of their respective annual meetings; and this independance can be source of development.

Thus, the new version of the annual meetings of the SFC has been initialized by Jean-Pierre Barthélémy and his team in Brest on September 1992. About 40 people attended this meeting.

In 1993 France welcome the 4th Conference of the IFCS(Paris, 31 August-4 September). And, the SFC meeting was omitted this year.

The next meetings were held in Tours(1994), in Namur(1995), in Vannes(1996) and in Lyon(1997).

The SFC annual meetings are now becoming more and more successful. More than one hundred people attended both the SFC Vannes meeting and the SFC Lyon meeting.

Finally, let us to mention that the SFC was a constant support

for the "Data Analysis and Informatics" meetings, which occurred every two years and for a long period since 1977. These meetings organized by the INRIA(Institut national de recherche en informatique et automatique), have played an important part in the communication of the research in Classification.

*Israël - César Lerman, SFC, IFCS Council member*  
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## VOC - Dutch/Flemish Classification Society

The VOC had its spring meeting at Cito in Arnhem, on April 25,1997. Over 40 people were present. The theme of the program was Bayesian statistics.

The following lectures were presented:

- Theo Eggen: Psychometrics in practice
- Andrew Gelman: Statistical analysis with discrete data and discrete-parameter models
- Herbert Hoytink: Constrained latent class analysis using the Gibbs sampler and posterior predictive p-values
- Herbert Hoytink: A variable-by-variable approach of the Gibbs sampler for multiple imputation
- Stephen Fienberg: Disclosure limitation and traditional statistical methodology

It was an interesting day with many lively discussions.

At the end of the meeting the financial and organizational affairs of the VOC were discussed. It is a healthy and active society. The new board consists of the following people:

- Paul de Boeck (Finances)
- Fred van Eeuwijk
- Paul Eilers (Secretary)
- Patrick Groenen
- Henk Kiers (Chair)
- Ivo van der Lans (Newsletter)
- Onno van Tongeren

The fall meeting will be held at the Leiden University on November 21,1997.

*Paul Eilers, VOC Secretary*  
Email : [eil@dcmr.nl](mailto:eil@dcmr.nl)

## JCS - Japanese Classification Society

The annual scientific meeting of the JCS will be held in December 26, 1997 at the Institute of Statistical Mathematics. As a special topic of this meeting, Y. Kawaura, a specialist of the research fields in social psychology, will present an overview of the "Electronics Surveys on the Internet Environment." In addition, several speakers will read their research results in the contributed session. Their titles will appear in the next Newsletter.

*Atsuhiko Hayashi, JCS Correspondent*  
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## New Book

Series in Studies in Classification, Data Analysis, and Knowledge Organization Data Science, Classification, and Related Methods Proceedings of the Fifth Conference of the International Federation of Classification Societies (IFCS-96), Kobe, Japan, March 27-30, 1996

Editors: C. Hayashi, K. Yajima, H.H. Bock, N. Ohsumi, Y. Tanaka, Y. Baba  
1997 Dec. Pub., 796 pages, 390 figures, Soft Cover,  
14,000 yen, ISBN:4-431-70208-3  
3-3-13 Hongo, Bunkyo-ku, Tokyo 113

### Contents:

- General Aspects of Data Science
- Methodologies in Classification
- Classification and Discrimination
- Related Approaches for Classification
- Correspondence Analysis, Quantification Methods, and Multidimensional Scaling
- Multivariate and Multidimensional Data Analysis
- Case Studies of Data Science

## Articles from the second 1996 issue of *Journal of Classification* (mailed in November 1997)

- A. Okada and T. Imaizumi: Asymmetric Multidimensional Scaling of Two-Mode Three-Way Proximities
- Y. Takane and H. A. L. Kiers: Latent Class DEDICOM
- A. R. Webb: Radial Basis Functions for Exploratory Data Analysis: An Iterative Majorisation Approach for Minkowski Distances Based on Multidimensional Scaling
- B. Monjardet: Concordance between two Linear Orders: The Spearman and Kendall Coefficients Revisited
- H. A. L. Kiers: A Modification of the SINDCLUS Algorithm for Fitting the ADCLUS and INDCLUS Models

- V. Chepoi and B. Fichet: Recognition of Robinsonian Dissimilarities

## Book received

*Cataloging and Classification, Trends, Transformation, Teaching, and Training*, J.R. Shearer, A.R. Thomas, Editor, The Haworth Press, Inc, New York, 1997, 210p.

## A message from the outgoing Editor Keiji Yajima

Now it is time to retire, after seven issues of the IFCS Newsletter.

It is a pleasure to thank all of my colleagues in the IFCS societies who have contributed to the success of this organization and its Newsletter. Also, I would like to thank Allan Gordon for his tedious help and all of the co-workers in my laboratory at the Science University of Tokyo who have helped me in editing this publication: Masahiro Nozawa, Mari Okusaka, Daisuke Asaki and Hirokazu Inaba.

One of the great satisfactions in retiring is to know that the work will be taken up by a outstandingly qualified successor. I am delighted to congratulate Paul de Boeck upon his new office, and I hope he will have as much pleasure in this job as I have had.

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