



# International Federation of Classification Societies Newsletter

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President: Henk Kiers

Editor: Krzysztof Jajuga

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**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, Vereniging voor Ordinatie 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.

## 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.

## Next IFCS Conference

The next Tenth IFCS Conference will take place from July 25 to July 29, 2006 in Ljubljana, Slovenia. Anuska Ferligoj and Vladimir Batagelj are the organizers of the conference. More information is given in this Newsletter.

## A Word from the President

Even though on the IFCS front not much may seem to have happened, also in the last half year a lot of business has been going on. Most of it has focused on the next IFCS conference, the tenth, which will be held in Ljubljana, July 25-29. Information on this is continuously being updated on the website,

(<http://vlado.fmf.uni-lj.si/info/ifcs06/>, or via the IFCS home page),

and you can also read more about the conference in this very newsletter. Registration information will be available when you read this (or else soon after) on the website, and a global schedule for the program is available, so that you can already now plan your trip. Proposals for activities (like Round Table meetings, Workshops, Short Courses) are still very welcome. Also, please note that, like for previous conferences, Travel Awards are available for young researchers. These are now called the Chikio Hayashi Travel Awards. These awards are meant for researchers (less than 35 years old) with

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interests in classification, data analysis and related areas who are in the early stages of their professional careers as support for attending an IFCS conference. The award is a cash payment to a candidate who attends the IFCS conference, and may be used for travel, accommodation, and conference costs. Formal nominations can only be made by presidents of the member societies, so anyone interested in such an award (for him/herself or for somebody else) should contact the president of the candidate's member society, as soon as possible. Deadlines and further information is given on the conference website, so please consult this first. Furthermore, the conference program is now starting to be filled in with keynote and invited speakers, as well as invited sessions. I am fully confident that we will have yet another very stimulating IFCS conference in Ljubljana, and I hope to see you all there next July. By then, David Hand has succeeded me as president of IFCS. Already now, I wish him a fruitful presidency. In the same period, I will remain strongly involved in IFCS, as will a newly to be elected President-Elect. News about this you will hear early next year.

Finally, I wish to inform you that Hans Bock has recently written a very interesting history of the IFCS. The text, including photographs, is available on his site, to which a link is given on the IFCS home page. I suggest you all to go and have a look, and of course, anyone who wants to inform us about further historical IFCS facts is most welcome to share these with us.

**Henk Kiers**

## **News from the IFCS Secretary**

Dear Colleagues and Friends of the Classification,

In the past months, the IFCS Executive Committee and Council have been working mainly on four projects: the Chikio Hayashi Awards Program, the development of a new policy for the IFCS Finances, the preparation of the IFCS-2006 Meeting in Ljubljana, the election of IFCS officers.

### Chikio Hayashi Awards Program (CHA)

The IFCS provides awards to single persons in the framework of its Chikio Hayashi Awards

Program (CHA). Awards are given to promising researchers who started contributing to the domains of classification, data analysis and related areas, and who are in the early stages of their professional careers, as a support for attending an IFCS conference. The award is a cash payment to a candidate who attends the IFCS conference and may be used for travel, accommodation, and conference costs.

Henk Kiers, in co-operation with the other members of the IFCS Executive Committee, has been working on revising a document with Guidelines for the CHA. Taking into account that IFCS-2006 Conference is approaching fast, a CHA Committee has been appointed. This Committee is made of the following members (IFCS Member Society in parentheses):

Gunter Ritter (GfKI) – Chair of the Committee

Alain Guenoche (SCF)

Willem Heiser (VOC)

Tadashi Imaizumi (JCS)

Mel Janowitz (CSNA)

Fionn Murtagh (IPRCS)

Marek Walesiak (SKAD)

Vincenzo Esposito Vinzi (ex officio as IFCS Secretary, SIS)

Candidates, who wish to run for the CHA, must submit their CHA application to the President of their own classification society **by not later than February 1<sup>st</sup>, 2006**. The application form may be downloaded from the web site of the IFCS-2006 Conference (<http://vlado.fmf.uni-lj.si/info/ifcs06/>) or from the official IFCS web site (<http://www.classification-society.org/>).

The Presidents of member societies will then select at most two nominees, and send those ranked nominations to the chair of the Awards Committee (Gunter Ritter). The Awards Committee will finally propose prize winners to the IFCS President for approval, and if the President approves, the prize winners will be informed by the chair of the Awards Committee by not later than the beginning of April 2006. Full details on the procedures for CHA application and nomination are given in the CHA Guidelines that may be also downloaded from the same sites as above.

## New Policy for the IFCS Finances

As mentioned at the Chicago meeting of the IFCS Council, IFCS has experienced a structural financial problem with the Chikio Hayashi Awards Programme (CHA). More specifically, the expenses for the fund amount to about USD 5000 per IFCS conference, whereas the fund has no regular income. As a consequence, over the past years, there has been a considerable decrease of the fund. To solve this problem, the IFCS Council, at the suggestion of Iven van Mechelen (IFCS Treasurer) has voted and approved the following changes to the IFCS Finances policy:

- 1) To donate yearly a fixed amount of USD 1000 from the IFCS general account to the CHA fund;
- 2) IFCS collects from each IFCS conference organization USD 20 per regular conference participant (i.e., per participant paying a conference fee, excluding participants who pay student fees, if such fees are possible at all);
- 3) To start a search for sponsors for the CHA fund.

## IFCS-2006 Conference in Ljubljana

The 10<sup>th</sup> Conference of the IFCS will take place in Ljubljana (Slovenia) on July 25-29, 2006 and is organized by the Slovenian Statistical Society and the Faculty of Social Sciences, University of Ljubljana. The Scientific Programme Committee, chaired by Vladimir Batagelj and Anuska Ferligoj, has been recently nominated. The researchers interested in classification, data analysis and related methods are encouraged to participate in the conference and to present their work as oral presentation *or* poster (**February 15, 2006** is the deadline for submission of **abstracts**). They can also submit their manuscript to be considered for publication in the Conference proceedings (**November 15, 2005** is the deadline for submission of **manuscripts for the proceedings**).

Short courses will be held on July 25, 2006. The researchers interested to present a short course are invited to send their proposals to the Chair of the Scientific Program Committee, before February 15, 2006 following the rules for Abstracts.

More detailed information is available on the site: <http://vlado.fmf.uni-lj.si/info/ifcs06/>.

## Election of IFCS officers

At the very beginning of year 2006 there will be elections for the offices of President-Elect, Publication Officer, and an appointment to the Finance Committee. The Election Committee will be soon seeking nominees for these positions.

**Vincenzo Esposito Vinzi**  
**IFCS Scientific Secretary**

## **Final Call for the Conference Participation at the 10<sup>th</sup> Meeting of the International Federation of Classification Societies (IFCS-2006)**

### **Data Science and Classification**

**July 25 – 29, 2006**

The tenth conference of the International Federation of Classification Societies: *Data Science and Classification* is scheduled for July 25-29, 2006, with short courses to be held July 25. The Slovenian Statistical Society and Faculty of Social Sciences, University of Ljubljana will host the meeting at the Faculty of Social Sciences, Ljubljana, Slovenia. The organizers of the conference are Vladimir Batagelj ([vladimir.batagelj@fmf.uni-lj.si](mailto:vladimir.batagelj@fmf.uni-lj.si)) and Anuska Ferligoj ([anuska.ferligoj@fdv.uni-lj.si](mailto:anuska.ferligoj@fdv.uni-lj.si)). The conference is sponsored by the International Federation of Classification Societies (IFCS). The conference provides an interdisciplinary forum for social scientists, mathematicians, computer scientists, ethnologists and all others interested in data analysis and classification. Conference sessions allow individuals interested in theory, methods or applications of data analysis or classification to share ideas and explore common interests.

Final call for participation and registration is on the conference web site (<http://www.ifcs06.org>). Please, visit it often to learn of current plans for the meeting. Please, feel free to contact any of the organizers or at the conference e-mail address ([ifcs06@fdv.uni-lj.si](mailto:ifcs06@fdv.uni-lj.si)) with questions and suggestions.

The organizers are working hard to make the 10<sup>th</sup> IFCS Conference a great success and hope you can plan on coming to Ljubljana.

## **Deadlines and Time Schedule**

November 15, 2005	Deadline for the submission of manuscript for the proceedings
January 15, 2006	Notification of the acceptance of the manuscript
February 15, 2006	Deadline for sending in the revised manuscript
February 15, 2006	Deadline for the submission of abstract
February 28, 2006	Deadline for the conference fee payment for the authors of papers to be published in the proceedings
March 31, 2006	Notification of the acceptance of the abstract

**Anuska Ferligoj**

## **Chikio Hayashi Awards Program (CHA) for funding Young Promising Researchers who attend the IFCS conference**

### **Purpose**

The IFCS provides awards to single persons in the framework of its Chikio Hayashi Awards Program (CHA). Awards are given to promising researchers who started contributing to the domains of classification, data analysis and related areas, and who are in the early stages of their professional careers, as a support for attending an IFCS conference. Candidates shall be under the age of 35 years at the time of the conference. Under exceptional circumstances, the President of a Member Society may petition the IFCS President for a small waive of the age rule.

### **Application for a prize**

To be considered for a CHA awarding competition, a candidate must submit an application and shall be responsible for the completeness and accuracy of the information submitted (see [the Section called \*Application forms\*](#) below). The application and any supporting documentation will be written in English.

### **Disbursement of the award**

It is expected that a candidate who has been selected for an award attends the IFCS conference for at least three days. Under this condition, the IFCS Treasurer (or a designated representative) shall pay the award to the candidate at the conference place.

## **Submitting an Application**

Applications are indirectly submitted to the Chair of the AC through the presidents of the IFCS Member Societies: Researchers and persons who want to apply for a CHA award submit their application to the president of an IFCS Member Society.

The presidents of the Member Societies have to select from the obtained applications no more than two (possibly ranked) candidates for further consideration and recommendation (see [the Section called \*Evaluating the Candidates\*](#)). They forward the name(s) of the selected candidate(s) together with the application documents of all applicants to the Chair of the AC.

In unusual cases where no assignment to an existing Member Society is appropriate (e.g., the Group-at-Large), the application can be made directly to the Chair of the AC.

### **Deadline**

February 1 of the year in which an IFCS Conference is taking place is the deadline for the submission of applications to the Presidents of Member Societies (in unusual cases: to the Chair of the AC). The AC cannot guarantee that applications received thereafter would be considered.

### **Application forms**

The AC designs an application form and a time table which would be available from the AC Chair or from the IFCS World Wide Web home page. The presidents of the Member Societies should be consulted to ensure that the form will elicit the information needed to evaluate (and eventually to rank) the candidates. Such information should include:

- the candidate's name and date of birth;
- how to contact the candidate (address, phone, fax, e-mail);
- the location from which the candidate would travel to the conference;
- the candidate's memberships in IFCS Member Societies;
- the candidate's experience, expertise or education in classification, data analysis and related areas and contributions to these domains including any publications (with full references);
- whether the candidate submits an invited or contributed paper at the conference.

The form should be short, self-contained and self-explanatory.

#### **Information on the Results of the Evaluation**

Successful and unsuccessful candidates are officially informed by the AC Chair of the results of the evaluation process by March 25, and the Executive Committee makes a public announcement of the successful candidates at the same date. The AC will ensure that the CHA awards actually conferred are mentioned in the conference documents and in the IFCS Newsletter. The names of the successful candidates will be read at the first plenary session of the conference.

#### **News from the VOC**

By the time this newsletter appears, the autumn meeting of the VOC on November 18 will have been taken place in Zeist. The program is varied. Aspects of Procrustes Analysis will be discussed by John Gower and Garnt Dijksterhuis. A number of classification methods will battle in a shoot-out to distinguish Gaucher patients from healthy persons on the basis of serum spectra data. The meeting will be closed by Michael Greenacre, who will discuss some controversies in correspondence analysis, like the role of outliers in CA maps, en scaling of CA maps.

The spring meeting will take place on April 28, 2006, and will be organized around the theme of measurement theory. We are happy to announce our keynote speaker David Hand. The up-to-date information on the activities of the VOC is available via [www.voc.ac](http://www.voc.ac).

**Marieke Timmerman**

#### **News from the SFC**

##### **1. Elections**

Yves LECHEVALLIER (INRIA, Rocquencourt, France) has been elected as President of the SFC  
Bruno LECLERC (CAMS – CNRS, Paris) has been reelected as Treasurer of the SFC.

##### **2. SFC'2006 Conference, September 2006**

The 2006 annual meeting of the SFC will be organized by the "LITA" laboratory of the university of Metz in September 6-8, 2006. The conference will take place at Ile du Saulcy - 57045 Metz, France.

More informations on the internet:  
<http://lita.sciences.univ-metz.fr/~sfc06/>

The President of the scientific committee is Prof. Hoài An Lê Thi. The President of the organizing committee is Prof. Mohamed Nadif

##### **3. EGC 2006**

The annual meeting "EGC 2006" will be held at Lille, January 17-20, 2006. For further information: <http://www-rech.enic.fr/egc2006/>

**André Hardy, SFC Secretary**

#### **News from JCS**

(I) Reporting results of election for the Executive Members of the JCS

The new staff of the Japanese Classification Society was elected as the following list according to the bylaw of the JCS for electing the Executive Members. The tenure is for April 1, 2005 - March 31, 2007.

##### **PRESIDENT:**

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Auditors  
Hideo Miyahara  
Chigasaki Rehabilitation School  
Hitoshi Tamura  
Nippon Institute of Technology

THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEMBERS:  
Shiichi Iwatsubo, Noboru Osumi, Tatsuo Otsu,  
Yasuo Ohashi, Akinori Okada, Kiyoshi  
Katayama, Kouji Kurihara, Mika Sato-Ilic,  
Yoshiharu Sato, Yoshisada Shibata, Tokuhisa  
Suzuki, Toshiro Tango, Takahiro Tsuchiya,  
Yasumasa Baba, Hideo Miyahara, Hiroshi  
Yadohisa, Kazue Yamaoka, Yoshiro Yamamoto,  
Kazunori Yamaguchi, Osamu Yoshimura

(II) Information about 22nd Annual Research  
Meeting of the Japanese Classification Society  
The 22nd Annual Research Meeting will be held  
on December 6, 2005 at Rikkyo University,  
Tokyo. All the information is available on the  
website of the meeting:  
<http://www.ir.rikkyo.ac.jp/~jcs2005/>

(III) JGSC2005, Japanese and German  
Symposium on Classification  
JGSC2005 had been held on September 1st to  
3rd, 2005 at Shinagawa Campus of Tama  
University, Tokyo Japan. This symposium was  
the first collaboration event of two societies JCS  
and GfKI. The 49 lectures were given on Data  
Analysis and Related New Techniques and  
Applications. About 15 German participants  
with 55 Japanese participants discussed and  
shared the new sight of data analysis. This  
symposium was not so larger, but the great first  
step to the network of excellence of the IFCS.

(IV) Information about JGSC2006 in Berlin  
Japanese-German Workshop on data analysis  
and classification (JGSC2006) will take place on

March 7 2006 at the Free University of Berlin.  
All the information is available on the website of  
GfKI2006: <http://www.wiwiss.fu-berlin.de/lenz/gfki2006/>

**Yoshiro Yamamoto**

## **News from SKAD**

The Annual Conference of SKAD – Section of  
Classification and Data Analysis of Polish  
Statistical Society took place in Podlesice, from  
September 21 to September 23, 2005. The  
invited speaker was Wojtek Krzanowski, giving  
a talk: “The analysis of distance for structural  
multivariate data”. About 60 papers were  
presented during the conference, in the following  
sessions:

Theory of Classification and Data Analysis  
(5sessions), Data Analysis in Finance (2  
sessions), Data Analysis in Marketing, Data  
Analysis in Regional Studies, Data Analysis in  
Social Studies.

**Krzysztof Jajuga**

## **News from CSNA**

### **ELECTION**

The annual election is in process. Webmaster  
David Dubin has done a superb job of setting up  
online voting. Eligible voters have been notified  
by e-mail. This year the offices to be re-filled are  
two positions on the Board of Directors, and  
President-Elect. On 1-January-2006, current  
President-Elect Mel Janowitz will become  
President and current President Phipps Arabie  
will become Past President.

### **MEMBERSHIP INCENTIVES FROM SPRINGER**

The Journal of Classification is published by  
Springer Verlag. Springer offers the following  
incentives to CSNA members: a 20% discount  
for all CSNA members on all Springer books; a  
33% discount to new members on all Springer  
books they order during March, April, and May,  
2006.

Another important perquisite of CSNA  
membership: Springer will shortly provide

online access to all back issues of the Journal. New members receive the bibliographic CD, Classification Literature Automated Search Service, with their membership. The CD includes out-of-print classification-classic books by Hartigan, Bock, Jain and Dubes, and van Rijsbergen.

#### MEMBERSHIP INCENTIVE TO MEMBERS OF IFCS SOCIETIES

Members of IFCS societies who pay CSNA membership dues for the year 2006 through that society will receive a ten dollar discount, \$50 instead of \$60 for the Journal Affiliate Membership.

#### MEETINGS

The 2005 Annual Meeting was held in June at the Washington University School of Medicine, St. Louis, hosted by Bill Shannon, jointly with Ed Wegman of the Interface Foundation. The meeting featured a number of distinguished speakers and was a huge success.

Now we are looking forward to the 2006 Annual Meeting, which will be held from May 10 to 13. The meeting, organized by Mel Janowitz, will take place in Piscataway, New Jersey, at the DIMACS Center for Discrete Mathematics and Theoretical Computer Science at Rutgers University. The meeting will be co-sponsored by the Institute of Mathematical Statistics. It will be held jointly with a DIMACS Workshop on Clustering Problems in Biological Networks, which will take place May 9-11.

Information on participation, registration, accommodations, and travel can be found at:

<http://dimacs.rutgers.edu/Workshops/CSNA/>

#### MATERIALS FROM IFCS 2004 CHICAGO STILL AVAILABLE

The following items are still available through Stan Sclove, CSNA Secretary/Treasurer, at [sclslove@uic.edu](mailto:sclslove@uic.edu), in limited quantities, at reduced rates:

Proceedings Volume from IFCS2004/Chicago at \$25 for processing, shipping and handling; the bibliographic CD containing books by Hartigan, Bock, Jain and Dubes, and van Rijsbergen at a price of \$5.

**Stan Sclove**  
**CSNA Secretary**

## **30<sup>th</sup> Annual Conference of the German Classification Society (GfKI)**

**Free University of Berlin**

**March 8 – 10, 2006**

The 30<sup>th</sup> Annual Conference of the German Classification Society – Gesellschaft für Klassifikation (GfKI) – focuses on data analysis, learning of latent structures in datasets, and unscrambling of knowledge.

The scientific program of this international conference 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 program will be complemented by an advanced Japanese-German workshop on data analysis and classification, invited sessions on special topics, as well as a doctoral workshop for PhD students interested in the conference topics. The latter (including the section chairs) are listed below:

#### **Theory and Methods**

Clustering and Classification (Bock, Imaizumi)

Exploratory Data Analysis and Data Mining

(Meyer, Schwaiger)

Pattern Recognition and Discrimination (Ritter)

Visualization and Scaling Methods (Groenen, Okada)

Bayesian, Neural, and Fuzzy Clustering (Kruse, Ultsch)

Graphs, Trees, and Hierarchies (Godehardt, Hansohm)

Evaluation of Clustering Algorithms and Data Structures (Hennig)

Data Analysis and Time Series Analysis (Lang)

Data Cleaning and Pre-Processing (Lenz)

Text and Web Mining (Nürnbergger,

Spiliopoulou)

Personalization and Intelligent Agents (Geyer-Schulz)

Tools for Intelligent Data Analysis (Hahsler, Hornik)

#### **Applications**

Subject Indexing and Library Science (Hermes, Lorenz)

Marketing, Management Science, and OR (Baier, Opitz)  
E-commerce, Recommender Systems, and Business Intelligence (Schmidt-Thieme)  
Banking and Finance (Jajuga, Locarek-Junge)  
Economics (Kauermann, Polasek)  
Biostatistics and Bioinformatics (Lausen, Mansmann)  
Genome and DNA Analysis (Schliep)  
Medical and Health Sciences (Wernecke, Willich)  
Archaeology (Herzog, Kerig, Posluschny)  
Administrative Record Census (Neiling)  
Statistical Musicology (Weihs)  
Image and Signal Processing (Buhmann)  
Linguistics (Goebel, Grzybek)  
Psychology (Krolak-Schwerdt)  
Technology and Production (Feldmann)

Conference languages are English and German.

Detailed and continuously updated information about the conference can be found on the conference website

<http://www.gfkl.de/gfkl2006/>. If there are any further questions, please, send a message to the local organizers at [gfkl@wiwiss.fu-berlin.de](mailto:gfkl@wiwiss.fu-berlin.de).

**Reinhold Decker and Hans-J. Lenz**

## **The annual conference of CLAD**

The XIIIth annual conference of CLAD Association, JOCLAD 2006, will be held on April 6-8 2006 at the Lusíada University in Lisbon.

The scientific program will comprise plenary lectures as well as contributed paper sessions as usual. Also two round tables will be included in the program: one concerning Marketing, Business Intelligence and Data Analysis and the other regarding Data Analysis and Economics in Health.

A short course will precede the Conference on April 5.

The meeting will emphasize interdisciplinary research and interaction between theory and practice.

Among other invited speakers, Abraham Bovas (University of Waterloo-Canada; President of the ISI Section ISBIS-International Society for Business and Industrial Statistics) and Gilbert

Saporta (CNAM-Paris - France; President of the ISI Section IASC-International Association for Statistical Computing) will participate in the meeting.

Submissions of papers could relate to subject areas such as, but not limited to, those below:

Actuarial Science and Insurance, Applications and Methods in Official Statistics, Applications and Methods for Industry, Biostatistics, Business Intelligence, Categorical Data Analysis, Classification and Discrimination, Clinical Trials, Clustering, Conjoint Analysis, Data Mining, Design of Experiments, Dimensionality Reduction, Econometrics, Environmental Statistics, Graphics and Data Visualization, Image and Signal Processing, Imprecise Data and Fuzzy Methods, Internet Based Methods, Metadata and Data Representation, Microarray Data Analysis, Multivariate Data Analysis, Neural Networks and Genetic Algorithms, Optimization Algorithms, Partial Least Squares, Pattern Recognition, Quantitative Finance Resampling Methods, Risk analysis, Robustness, Simulation, Software Evaluation, Spatial Statistics, Statistical Databases, Statistical Education and Web Based Teaching Statistics for Medical Diagnosis, Statistical Matching and Data Imputation, Statistical Methods for Market Analysis, Statistical Software, Statistics in Finance, Symbolic Data Analysis, Textual Data Analysis and Information Retrieval, Time Series Analysis, Web Mining

Important Dates:

February 20 2006 - Submissions of Papers for Proceedings Deadline

March 3 2006 – Acceptance of Papers Notification

March 6 2006 – Early Registration Deadline

April 5 2006 – Short Course

April 6-8 2006 – JOCLAD 2006

More information may be found at the Website:

<http://joclad2006.lis.ulusiada.pt>

**Helena Bacelar-Nicolau**

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

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

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