# International Federation of Classification Societies Newsletter

**President:** Iven Van Mechelen | Number 47 | November, 2013

**Editor:** Paul McNicholas

**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 Carribean Society of Classification and Data Analysis, The Classification Society, Gesellschaft für Klassifikation, Greek Society of Data Analysis, 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 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" and the journal "Advances in Data Analysis and Classification (ADAC)".

## IFCS Homepage:

http://www.ifcs.info
The website contains, among other things: the IFCS Constitution and By-Laws, IFCS newsletters, and links to the websites of member societies.

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## Words from the IFCS President

Since the last Newsletter, the IFCS-2013 conference was held in Tilburg (The Netherlands). I am most happy that the conference was well attended, and especially that the overall quality of the presentations was very high. Jeroen Vermunt and his co-workers are to be congratulated once again for their outstanding efforts, which led to a very smooth and effective conference organization, and to a most enjoyable atmosphere that greatly facilitated many informal interactions!

In the meantime, the IFCS Council has approved a bid from CLADAG, the Italian IFCS member society, to organize the next IFCS conference from the 6th to the 8th July 2015 in Bologna. I want to congratulate CLADAG, and in particular Angela Montanari and Francesco Palumbo, on their successful bid. I would further like to thank them most cordially for the work they invested in the preparation of it, and for their willingness to

undertake the heavy scientific and practical task of organizing IFCS-2015!

I also told you in the last Newsletter that at present several people are working on the foundation of new classification societies and interest groups. I am now most happy and proud to inform you that, firstly, on May 31st a new classification society was born: the Moroccan Classification Society (Société Marocaine de Classification: SMC), which had its first meeting on June 14th in Rabat. I want to congratulate this Society and its president, Abderrahmane Sbihi, and I want to extend my special thanks to the Society's godfather, Mohamed Nadif, and the Society's secretary, Ahmed Moussa. Secondly, I am also most happy and proud to inform you that on November 5th the formation of a Classification and Data Analysis Focus Group was formally endorsed by the Executive Committee of the South African Statistical Association (SASA). I want to congratulate this Focus Group and its chair, Sugnet Lubbe, and I want to extend my special thanks to the Group's godfather, Niel Le Roux. I already had the privilege to meet Ahmed Mousssa, NieI Le Roux, and Sugnet Lubbe at the IFCS-2013 conference in Tilburg. I very much hope that in the near future it will be possible to welcome their societies within the IFCS community as new members of the federation! At this point, I would further like to emphasize that, for our colleagues from Morocco and South Africa as well as for the federation, the possibility of joining of the IFCS goes far beyond an administrative or merely organizational matter. First and foremost, it is a matter of settling down in a family of colleagues and peers. Second, as amply illustrated by Niel Le Roux during the IFCS Council meeting in Tilburg, several African countries, including South Africa, are in great need of help, not in the least in the domains of statistics, classification and data analysis. Major challenges at this point include fulfilling educational needs, next to the development and application of statistical tools to address societally relevant problems, that is, for the benefit of people in everyday life. Obviously, viewed from this perspective, the possibility of joining of IFCS by the two new classification societies would not be noncommittal for any of the parties involved.

The Tilburg conference provided a nice opportunity to learn the most recent information on two exciting scientific projects IFCS is currently working on: the benchmarking project and Classipedia. Let me briefly summarize the most important points regarding them.

On the one hand, the benchmarking project pertains to the fact that nowadays new methods, algorithms, and data-analytic devices are very often being proposed in the classification domain without adequate comparison with current best practices or reference methods, and without sufficient evidence of good performance on benchmark data sets. This practice is prohibitive as it hampers the building of a cumulative body of knowledge. To address this issue, IFCS has established a benchmarking task force, chaired by Nema Dean. The mission of this task force is to reflect over benchmarking in (primarily unsupervised) classification and to organize a series of concrete initiatives to stimulate benchmarking in this domain. Ongoing initiatives at this point include:

- the preparation of a white paper (with Doug Steinley as lead author), which will cover conceptual distinctions, considerations in setting up benchmarking studies, and a few examples;
- the creation of an archive website connected to the IFCS website (with Fritz Leisch as leading organizer) that will contain benchmarking data sets (along with meta-data) and R code for generating simulated data;
- the construction of a questionnaire to collect meta-data information on benchmarking data sets (for which Christian Hennig takes the lead);
- the organization of sessions, workshops, and forum discussions at major conferences, as exemplified by the Presidential invited session at IFCS-2013, and by an invited session (scientifically sponsored by IFCS and IASC) at the most recent World Statistical Conference in Hong Kong.

The Classipedia project, on the other hand, pertains to the fact that, whereas clustering and classification as a research domain are alive and kicking, the available clustering models, algorithms, and data analysis techniques, in their entirety, form an inconvenient and intricate jungle. This is a most problematic obstacle for researchers in classification, for students who want to familiarize themselves with the domain,

and for applied researchers who are on the lookout for suitable clustering methods to address substantive problems at hand. Within the IFCS, we want to work out a way to overcome this obstacle. The proposed solution takes the form of a dynamic, web-based, wiki-like road map for unsupervised classification, based on a common conceptual framework, with editors, peer-reviewed, and indexed. The aim of the Classipedia project, guiding questions and conceptual distinctions that constitute its conceptual backbone, and a first outline of its architecture have been elaborated by a task force comprising Henk Kiers (past IFCS President), Paul De Boeck (past IFCS Publication Officer), and myself; moreover, this task force could rely on advice from a host of scholars from within the IFCS community. Slides of my Presidential Address at IFCS-2013 that contain a blueprint of Classipedia are available on the IFCS website (www.ifcs.info). The blueprint has been positively received by the IFCS Council during its meeting in Tilburg. The further development of it constitutes a thrilling challenge for the IFCS community as a whole.

This is my last column for this Newsletter as my two-year term as IFCS President is coming to a close. It has been a privilege to serve the federation in this office. Over the years I have very much enjoyed the interactions with many members of the IFCS community, whose invaluable contributions to the federation I have very much appreciated. I am in particular most grateful to the members of the IFCS task forces on Benchmarking and Classipedia, to Buck McMorris as advisor on the expansion by the Federation into new membership regions, and to the chairpersons and members of the IFCS Election Committee, Finance Committee, and Chikio Hayashi Awards Committee. Special words of thanks further go to the other members of the IFCS Executive Committee: Geoff McLachlan (Past President), Maurizio Vichi (President-Elect), Patrice Bertrand (Scientific Secretary), Nema Dean (Treasurer), and Paul McNicholas (Publication Officer). Admittedly, I have given them a hard time, with extensive Skype meetings almost once every two months, and with lengthy to do lists! However, I have always very much appreciated their hard work and the very constructive and pleasant atmosphere in which we have been able to collaborate. At this point, Geoff McLachlan and

Patrice Bertrand deserve special mention as they will be leaving the Executive Committee soon. I would like to thank them for their dedication, and trust that they will remain active as ambassadors of the federation! Obviously, there remain quite a few challenging issues for the IFCS, and I look forward to continuing to work on them with other members of the Executive Committee under the leadership of the incoming President, Maurizio Vichi.

Please allow me to close with a final wish. As already mentioned above, from the perspective of research and scientific progress, I think that the domains of (supervised and unsupervised) classification and data analysis are alive and kicking. I further strongly believe that, within these domains, IFCS may continue to provide a unique platform for very rich and rewarding multidisciplinary and international get-togethers. Moreover, during my presidency, I have been very much impressed by the scientific realizations that have become possible by unselfish efforts from many volunteers within the IFCS community. Admittedly, IFCS paths are not always strewn with roses. Some member societies may be on the outlook to get a second wind, and from time to time the federation may have to cope with divergences of views. However, I see enormous potential if colleagues within the IFCS can keep joining forces despite their differences. This potential is not primarily in terms of strengthening the federation as an organization, but in terms of realizing a significant scientific added value and a true and fully-fledged scientific progress in the domains of classification and data analysis!

Iven Van Mechelen
IFCS President

## News from the IFCS Publication Officer

I would like to begin by thanking all of the member societies who have contributed to this newsletter. This year we have piloted a move from two to three newsletters (March, July, and November), and the response has been entirely positive. Accordingly, we are going to remain with a three-newsletter format for 2014.

I also want to mention that thanks to Henk Kiers and Hans-Hermann Bock, we now have a complete archive of IFCS Newsletters on our website ([www.ifcs.info](www.ifcs.info)), right back to Number 1 in October 1990. I read this first issue, which was edited by Fionn Murtagh, with great interest. Amongst other things, it is stricking that some of the names that appear in various contexts in Number 1 also appear herein. I invite you to take a look through the archive of newsletters, which provides an interesting lens into the past.

Finally, a word for our President, Iven Van Mechelen, as he draws near the end of his term. I have greatly enjoyed working with Iven during my time as Publication Officer, and I have been fortunate to witness, first hand, his extraordinary efforts on behalf of the IFCS. I think that the IFCS has benefitted, in many ways, from having Iven as President, and I wish him the very best going forward!

Paul McNicholas
IFCS Publication Officer

## Report on IFCS-2013

The 2013 conference of the International Federation of Classification Societies (IFCS-2013) was held at Tilburg University, The Netherlands, from July 14 to July 17, 2013. The conference theme was 'United through Ordination and Classification'. In all, 241 participants from 26 countries participated.

Four pre-conference workshops were held on July 15 (Geoff McLachlan on recent advances in mixture modelling, Isabelle Guyon on model selection, Niel Le Roux and Sugnet Lubbe on classification and biplot methodology, and Anne-Laure Boulesteix on the construction and evaluation of prediction models). The conference proper contained seven invited presentations (Anne-Laure Boulesteix, Peter Hall, Tammo Bijmolt, Bernhard Ganter, Surajit Ray, Isabelle Guyon, and Salvatore Ingrassia), three presentations in the President's invited session (Christian Hennig, Friedrich Leisch, Douglas Steinley), the Presidential address (Iven Van Mechelen), and 184 contributed presentations.

During the opening ceremony, Anne-Laure Boulesteix and Paul McNicholas both received a Chikio Hayashi Award, a prize for young researchers with promising track records in the areas of classification and data analysis, as a support of their professional career. Furthermore, a welcoming reception, a social program, a closing ceremony, and a conference dinner were organized. The IFCS Council met on July 16.

We thank all the presenters, participants, and session organizers for this successful conference. We look forward to seeing you at IFCS-2015 in Bologna.

Jeroen Vermunt
Chair, Scientific Program Committee
Andries van der Ark
Chair, Local Organizing Committee
Iven Van Mechelen
IFCS President

## News from JCS

**(I) The Japanese Classification Society Symposium on New Developments in Clustering**
The symposium was held on September 9th, 2013 at Osaka University, Osaka under the 2013 Meeting of the Japanese Federation of Statistical Science Associations. The organizer, discussant, and speakers were as follows:
- Organizer: Kohei Adachi (Osaka University)
- Discussant: Akinori Okada (Tama University)
- Speaker and co-speaker(s): Mika Sato-Ilic (University of Tsukuba); Yutaka Nishida and Kohei Adachi (Osaka University); Kenji Tanioka and Hiroshi Yadohisa (Doshisha University); Sadaaki Miyamoto (University of Tsukuba).

**(II) Information about the 32nd Annual Meeting of the Japanese Classification Society**
The 32nd Annual Meeting will be held on March 1st and 2nd, 2014, at Tokyo Metropolitan University, Akihabara Campus in Tokyo. The chairperson of the organizing committee is Atsuho Nakayama (Tokyo Metropolitan University). For additional information, please visit our website at [http://www.bunrui.jp/](http://www.bunrui.jp/)

A workshop about *Bijinesu no tame no Deta Mappingu [Data Mapping for Business]* will be

held on March 1st at the meeting. The organizer is Yuki Toyoda (Tama University).

**(III) Publication of the Journal**
Volume 3 Number 1 of the Journal of the Japanese Classification Society, *Date Bunseki no Riron to Oyo [Bulletin of Data Analysis]*, was successfully published last September (all papers are written in the Japanese language).

Satoru Yokoyama

# News from CLAD

### JOCLAD 2014 - Call for Participation
The next *XXI Jornadas de Classificação e Análise de Dados*, JOCLAD 2014, will be held April 9–12, 2014, in Lisbon, at *Instituto Nacional de Estatística*, INE. It will be the 20th CLAD annual meeting, and the 20th CLAD anniversary; therefore, a double celebration will take place. It was during the *I Jornadas de Classificação e Análise de Dados*, JOCLAD 1993, organized by the Laboratory of Statistics and Data Analysis, LEAD, at the Faculty of Psychology and Education of the University of Lisbon, that it was decided to create a Portuguese classification society. After one year, CLAD was founded. JOCLAD 1994 was the first CLAD annual meeting and since then a CLAD meeting has happened every year (twice together with international meetings organized in Lisbon sponsored by CLAD). LEAD was during 20 years the CLAD siege. INE was the first national institution to support CLAD and CLAD-INE cooperation has continually been reinforced during all these years.

The JOCLAD 2014 program and further information will soon be available at the CLAD web site.

### CLAD-sponsored courses
Following the series of CLAD sponsored courses, a one-day course was held September 28 under the topic *"Análise em Componentes Principais não linear: HOMALS, CATPCA e qlPCA"*. The course, presented by Teresa Calapez (ISCTE-IUL & BRU-IUL) and Nuno Lavado (ISEC-IPC & BRU-IUL), was hosted by the Faculty of Engineering of the University of Porto.

Helena Bacelar-Nicolau

# News from GSDA

Theodore Chadjipadelis (Aristotle University of Thessaloniki, Greece) has been elected as the new representative for GSDA in the IFCS (until Oct. 2015), email: chadji@polsci.auth.gr

Theodore Chadjipadelis is Professor of Applied Statistics at the Department of Political Sciences of Aristotle University of Thessaloniki, Greece. His main areas of research interest are: Electoral behavior, Electoral geography, Public opinion research methods, Political analysis, Urban and regional planning, Graph theory, Mathematics and Statistics Education, Social statistics, Social networks, Ecological inference, and e-Government. He is member of the board of the National Committee for the Reforms in Administration in Greece (Ministry of the Interior), member of the board of the Institute for Local Government (Greek Local Government Authorities) and member of the board of Information Society S.A. (Ministry of the Interior).

Angelos Markos

# News from the British Classification Society

### Report on BCS/AG DANK Meeting 2013
The British Classification Society and the Data Analysis and Numerical Classification group of the German GfKl held a meeting on Variable Selection and Dimension Reduction in Classification and Clustering on 8/9 November 2013, at the UCL Department of Statistical Science, hosted and supported by UCL Computational Statistics and Machine Learning. Gilles Celeux, Roberto Rocci and Andre T. Martins were the invited speakers.

The meeting was very successful with about 40 participants from the United Kingdom, Germany, Italy, Portugal, France, Japan and Ireland, and lively discussions and exchange. Apart from the regular presentations listed below, two datasets were made available to the participants. The datasets were analysed in advance and the results were presented at the meeting. The first dataset from Neuroscience was made available by Kenneth Harris, UCL Neuroscience, the second

one about bat species was introduced by Veronica Zamora-Gutierrez, Cambridge University. The first dataset had one artificial know true cluster in it and some participants took part in a competition to find a cluster most similar to the true one. The competition was won by Gunter Ritter, who demonstrated the value of using proper data visualisation and competent human decision making. Among the contributed presentations, Yoshikazu Terada impressed with the suggestion to characterise observations by the whole vector of distances to other observations, potentially making variable selection even in high dimensional problems superfluous.

Here are the titles of the other presentations:
- Gilles Celeux - Variable selection in clustering and classification: issues, difficulties and solutions
- Silvia Liverani and Michail Papathomas - Using Profile Regression Mixture Models and Dirichlet Processes to explore the combined effect of risk factors; the R package PReMiuM
- Francesca Greselin - Data driven constraints for Gaussian mixtures of factor analyzers: an application to market segmentation
- Silvia Pandolfi - Item selection by latent class-based methods: an application to nursing homes evaluation
- Hans-Joachim Mucha - Variable Selection in Cluster Analysis Using Resampling Techniques
- James Barrett - Dimensionality detection and integration of multiple sources via the Gaussian Process Latent Variable Model
- Andre T. Martins and Mario Figueiredo - Sparsity and Structured Sparsity for Feature Selection in Machine Learning
- Ulrich Müller-Funk - Non-linear factor selection and copulas of copulas
- Gunter Ritter - A probabilistic method for gene expression data
- Yoshikazu Terada - Achieving near-perfect clustering for high dimension, low sample size data
- Thomas Weber - Multidimensional questions: Can multivariate statistics help us to classify Older Stone Age artefact inventories?
- Nema Dean - Variable selection in educational testing clustering
- Andreas Artemiou - Sufficient dimension reduction using machine learning

- Roberto Rocci - Models for simultaneous clustering and reduction of three-way data

Christian Hennig

# News from ClaDAG

### Report on 9th CLADAG Meeting
The 9th Scientific Meeting of the Classification and Data Analysis Group (CLADAG) was held in Modena (Italy) on September 18-20, with the support of the Italian Statistical Society.

The Meeting aimed at providing a focus on the state-of-the-art research in the field of clustering and classification as well as scientific discussions concerning methodological, applied and computational issues in data analysis and classification. The Meeting was organized by Tommaso Minerva and Isabella Morlini (University of Modena and Reggio Emilia, Italy), and Francesco Palumbo (University of Naples Federico II, Italy).

The scientific program of the Conference included:
- 2 plenary sessions (Depth-Based Classification of Multivariate Functional Data, by Mia Hubert, and Multilevel Latent Markov Modeling in Continuous Time with an Application to the Analysis of Ambulatory Mood Assessment Data, by Jeroen Vermunt).
- 2 semi plenary sessions (Financial Risk Data Analysis: Problems and Solutions, by Paolo Giudici, and Deciphiring and Modelling Heterogeneity in Interaction Networks, by Stéphane Robin).
- 11 specialized sessions.
- 11 contributed sessions.
- 8 coordinated sessions.
- 1 poster session regarding the use of the R package.

About 120 talks were given in the Conferences by researchers, students and professionals. The proceedings of the conference can be downloaded from the web site www.cladag2013.it and further information about the meeting are also downloadable from the web site.

Isabella Morlini

## MBC²

The Second International Workshop on Model-Based Clustering and Classification will be organized by the Department of Economics and Business of the Univerisity of Catania (Italy) and will take place in Catania (Italy) on September 3-5, 2014. The workshop aims at providing a focus on the state-of-the-art research in the field of model-based clustering and classification as well as a forum of scientific discussions and comparisons among young and senior researchers. Topics concern methodological, applied and computational issues in model-based clustering and classification.

The workshop will take place with the support of the Italian Statistical Society and the Classification and Data Analysis Group (CLADAG). For more information, visit the website http://www.dei.unict.it/mbc2 or contact mbc2@unict.it

Salvatore Ingrassia

# News from GfKl

### First European Conference on Data Analysis (ECDA 2013)

This year's European Conference on Data Analysis (ECDA 2013), jointly hosted by the German Classification Society (GfKl) and the French speaking Classification Society (SFC) took place from July 10th to 12th in the exciting European Capital of Luxembourg. ECDA focused on data analysis, learning of latent structures in data sets, and un-scrambling of knowledge. About 300 participants from 44 countries (77% from Europe, 9% from Africa, 7% from Asia, 6% from the Americas, and 1% from Australia) joined ECDA, which was held under the patronage of Jean-Claude Juncker, Prime Minister of the Grand Duchy of Luxembourg.

At the conference venue, the Abbey of Neumünster, 196 presentations including 11 keynote speeches, 3 invited symposia, and 3 invited talks were given. Several renowned personalities agreed to give talks at ECDA. Among them were Walter Radermacher, Director General of Eurostat and Chief Statistician of the European Union, who gave the opening lecture; Francis Bach, Research Director at the Ecole Normale Supérieure, Paris; Hamparsum (Ham)

Bozdogan, Tobey and Brenda McKenzie, Professor of Information Complexity and Model Selection at the Center for Intelligent Systems and Machine Learning (CISML), University of Tennessee at Knoxville; Andrea Cerioli, Professor of Statistics at the University of Parma; Peter A. Flach, Professor of Artificial Intelligence at the University of Bristol; Tim Friede, Professor of Biostatistics at the University Medical Center Göttingen; Eyke Hüllermeier, Professor of Computational Intelligence at the Philipps-Universität Marburg; Yves Lechevallier, Research Director at the National Institute for Research in Computer Science and Control (INRIA), Paris; Gilbert Saporta, Professor of Applied Statistics at the National Conservatory of Arts and Crafts (CNAM), Paris; Winfried J. Steiner, Professor of Marketing at the Clausthal University of Technology; and Maurizio Vichi, Professor of Statistics at the Sapienza University of Rome.

The scientific program included sessions from a broad range of topics. Special emphasis was laid on interdisciplinary research and the interaction between theory and practice. The program of ECDA covered theory, methods, and applications of data analysis from seven thematic areas: (i) Statistics and Data Analysis, organized by Claus Weihs, Eva Ceulemans, Christian Hennig and Patrice Bertrand; (ii) Machine Learning and Knowledge Discovery, organized by Myra Spiliopoulou, Mohamed Nadif and Eyke Hüllermeier; (iii) Data Analysis in Marketing, organized by Daniel Baier, Reinhold Decker and Vincenzo Esposito Vinzi; (iv) Data Analysis in Finance, organized by Krzystof Jajuga and Michael Hanke; (v) Data Analysis in Biostatistics and Bioinformatics, organized by Hans Kestler, Rudi Balling, Rainer Spang, Matthias Schmid and Amedeo Napoli; (vi) Data Analysis in Interdisciplinary Domains, organized by Sabine Krolak-Schwerdt, Claus Weihs, Alexandra Schwarz, Hans-Joachim Mucha and Pascale Kuntz-Cosperec; and (vii) the Workshop Library and Information Science (LIS'2013), organized by Frank Scholze.

In conclusion, a stimulating scientific program and the attractiveness of the capital Luxembourg made it worthwhile participating in the European Conference on Data Analysis 2013. The proceedings will be published in the Springer

Series "Studies in Classification, Data Analysis, and Knowledge Organization".

Sabine Krolak-Schwerdt, Berthold Lausen
and Matthias Böhmer

**New Board of GfKl (2013-16)**
The new board of the GfKl was elected at the AGM of the GfKl in Luxembourg:

*Executive Board*: President: Berthold Lausen (University of Essex, Colchester); First Vice President: Daniel Baier (Brandenburgische Technische Universität Cottbus); Second Vice President: Reinhold Decker (University of Bielefeld); Treasurer: Andreas Geyer-Schulz (Karlsruhe Institute of Technology); Eyke Huellermeier (University of Marburg); Hans. A. Kestler (University of Ulm); Sabine Krolak-Schwerdt (University of Luxembourg).

*Advisory Board*: Hans-Herman Bock (RWTH Aachen); Wolfgang Gaul (Karlsruhe Institute of Technology); Christian Hennig (University College London); Irmela Herzog (Bonn); Otto Opitz (University of Augsburg); Lars Schmidt-Thieme (University of Hildesheim); Frank Scholze (Karlsruhe Institute of Technology); Myra Spiliopoulou (University of Magdeburg); Alfred Ultsch (University of Marburg); Claus Weihs (Technical University of Dortmund).

*IFCS Council members for the GfKl*: Berthold Lausen (University of Essex, Colchester); Daniel Baier (Brandenburgische Technische Universität Cottbus).

**Third Bilateral German-Polish Symposium on Data Analysis and its Applications (GPSDAA 2013)**
The third Bilateral German-Polish Symposium on Data Analysis and its Applications (GPSDAA 2013) took place at the Technical University of Dresden 26-28 September 2013. Organizers of the symposium were Jo'zef Pociecha (Cracow University of Economics), Andreas Geyer-Schulz (Karlsruhe Institute of Technology - KIT) and Hermann Locarek-Junge (TU Dresden).

The symposium of GfKl and SKAD aims to facilitate and to intensity longterm contacts and collaborations between Polish and German researchers and to establish new collaborations between young academics and researchers. The meeting continues the initiative of Hans-Hermann Bock (RWTH Aachen) in Aaachen 2009 and Jo'zef Pociecha in Cracow 2011. An open access e-proceedings volume will be edited by Jo'zef Pociecha and Andreas Geyer-Schulz and will be published by KIT.

The programme and abstracts are available at http://www.em.uni-karlsruhe.de/gpsdaa2013

Andreas Geyer-Schulz

**Second European Conference on Data Analysis (ECDA 2014), Bremen 2-4 July 2014**
The scientific program of the conference will include invited sessions and contributed presentations covering a broad range of topics. A special emphasis is laid on research on and development of innovative tools, techniques and strategies that address current challenges in the data analysis process. We solicit contributions from scholars and practitioners on all domains where statistical and data analytical methods are being developed and applied. We welcome contributions from all areas, in particular in the fields Data Analysis and Statistics Machine Learning and Knowledge Discovery Data Analysis in Marketing Data Analysis in Finance and Economics Data Analysis in Medicine and the Life Sciences Data Analysis in the Social, Behavioral and Health Care Sciences Data Analysis in Interdisciplinary Domains including archeology, astronomy, education, engineering, geosciences, linguistics, logistics, musicology, natural sciences.

Local organizer: Adalbert F.X. Wilhelm and Karina De Santis, School of Humanites and Social Sciences, Jacobs University Bremen gGmbH, Campus Ring 1, 28759 Bremen, Germany, info@ecda2014.eu

Chair of the scientific program committee: Hans A. Kestler (University of Ulm)

Abstract submission deadline: March 15, 2014

Further details at www.ecda2014.eu or www.gfkl2014.de

Christian Hennig

## Upcoming Conferences and Meetings

**April 2014**

JOCLAD 2014: 20th CLAD annual meeting, April 9-12, Lisbon, Portugal: www.clad.pt

**May 2014**

PLS '14: 8th International Conference on PLS and Related Methods, May 26-28, Paris, France: www.pls14.org

**July 2014**

Second European Conference on Data Analysis (ECDA 2014), July 2-4, Bremen, Germany: www.gfkl2014.de

**September 2014**

Second International Workshop on Model-Based Clustering and Classification ($MBC^2$), September 3-5, Catania, Italy: **http://www.dei.unict.it/mbc2**

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### Looking Ahead to IFCS Newsletter Number 48

Contributions for the forthcoming issue of the IFCS newsletter should be sent to

paul.mcnicholas@uoguelph.ca

before March 15, 2014.

Plain text or Word files are preferred.

Thanks!

Paul McNicholas

IFCS Publication Officer