ifcs

International Federation of Classification Societies Newsletter

President: Buck McMorris

Number 37   June 2009

Editor: André Hardy

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

Associaçáo Portuguesa de Classificaçào e Análise de Dados, British Classification Society, Central American and Carribean Society of Classification and Data Analysis, Classification Society of North America, Gesellschaft für Klassifikation, Irish Pattern Recognition and Classification Society, Japanese Classification Society, Korean Classification Society, Société Francophone de Classification, Società Italiana di Statistica, Statistical Society of Slovenia, Vereniging voor 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.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.

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Words from the IFCS President
June 2009

The Dresden, IFCS 2009 conference was a great success with a robust scientific program, excellent social activities, fine facilities and superb organization. Please see the report later in this newsletter from the organizers. I was happy to see that there were many early career researchers presenting papers. As we all know, these colleagues mold the future of our societies and we should do all we can to encourage their participation in IFCS activities. In addition, I was pleased to see many new faces at the July 2009 Classification Society meeting in St. Louis (I hope that this is not simply a result of me getting old) which gives me confidence that a new wave of researchers stand ready to be

engaged in the various classification societies activities.

Elsewhere, Vincenzo Esposito Vinzi announces the results of the latest IFCS elections. Congratulations to the winners who have stepped up to assist IFCS. Also, I would like to thank out-going "additional members" of the Council, David Banks and Jean-Paul Rasson, for their many years of dedicated service to IFCS.

Back to Scotland we go! The IFCS 2011 conference will be held in St. Andrews on 10-17 July 2011, so mark your calendars and visit www.st-andrews.ac.uk/management/ifcs2011/

As always, the Executive Committee is looking for input from members with new ideas so please feel free to contact me with your comments.

Best wishes to all for a fun and productive summer!

Buck McMorris
IFCS President
mcmorris@iit.edu

News from the IFCS Scientific Secretary – June 2009

Dear Colleagues and Friends of the Classification,

Here is a report on the activities run and the decisions taken by the IFCS Executive Committee and Council over the past few months:

1. **IFCS'09 Conference in Dresden (Germany)**: The 11th Bi-Annual Conference of the IFCS took place in Dresden (Germany) last 13-18 March. The German Classification Society (Gesellschaft für Klassifikation) and the Dresden University of Technology organized IFCS'09. Largely more than 300 participants attended the Conference. More information on the scientific program, as well as some pictures from the scientific sessions and the social events, is still available on the site: http://www.ifcs2009.de/

The IFCS Executive Committee and Council meetings took place during IFCS 2009 in Dresden. Several issues and projects related to the scientific and administrative life of IFCS were discussed during these meetings. The Minutes of the Council meeting will be sent to the representatives of all IFCS member societies soon.

2. **IFCS'11 Conference in St. Andrews (Scotland)**: The 12th Bi-Annual Conference of the IFCS will be organized by the British Classification Society and will take place in St. Andrews (Scotland) on 10-17 July 2011. Keep these dates in mind! A first announcement with preliminary information is available at: http://www.st-andrews.ac.uk/management/ifcs2011/

3. **IFCS Elections**: Early this year, the IFCS Election committee, chaired by Helena Bacelar-Nicolau (other members were Tae Rim Lee, Fionn Murtagh and Ron Wehrens) has taken care of organizing the election process for (re-)electing the IFCS Publication Officer (till the end of 2011) and two of the four IFCS Council Additional Members (till the end of 2012). The Election Committee asked the Council Members and Presidents of the IFCS Member Societies for nominations for the three positions. After completing a list of candidates, the Election Committee has run the election. The election round has ended with the following results:

- André Hardy is re-elected as IFCS Publication Officer;
- Henk A.L. Kiers is elected to be an IFCS Council Additional Member;
- Carlo Lauro is elected to be an IFCS Council Additional Member.

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

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

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

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

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

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

André Hardy
Publication Officer till 31/12/11
Andre.Hardy@fundp.ac.be

Instead, the group of "Four Additional Members" is now made of:

Bernard Fichet till 31/12/10
Bernard.Fichet@medecine.univ-mrs.fr

Claus Weihs till 31/12/10
weihs@statistik.uni-dortmund.de

Henk A.L. Kiers till 31/12/12
H.A.L.Kiers@rug.nl

Carlo Lauro till 31/12/12
carlo.lauro@unina.it

4. **Chikio Hayashi Awards Program:** These awards, which are based on scientific merit, are given to promising early career researchers. This year's winners of the Chikio Hayashi Awards, as recommended by the Chikio Hayashi Awards Committee chaired by Anuska Ferligoj (other members were David Banks, Paula Brito, Willem Heiser, Fionn Murtagh, Akinori Okada, Maurizio Vichi, Claus Weihs, and Vincenzo Esposito Vinzi (ex officio as IFCS Secretary)) presented research papers at the IFCS conference in Dresden. They were also recognized and given their certificates and awards during the opening ceremony on March 14, 2009. Congratulations to the following Hayashi Award winners:

Ulas Akkucuk, Turkey
Javier Arroyo, Spain
Martijn Kagie, The Netherlands
Rebecca Nugent, USA
Katrijn Van Deun, Belgium
Matthijs J. Warrens, The Netherlands

5. **IFCS Finances:** The financial report (general IFCS account and the Chikio Hayashi Fund) over 2008 and the budget proposal 2009 were prepared by Iven Van Mechelen and discussed with the Executive Committee members. These documents were then sent to the Finance Committee that provided a positive audit report. Finally, the IFCS Council gave the final approval of this year's financial documents.

The IFCS Council has approved Krzysztof Jajuga (term till spring 2013) as a new member of the Finance Committee. The Finance Committee is now made of Akinori Okada (JCS), Stanley L. Sclove (CS), Patrick Groenen (VOC), Krzysztof Jajuga (SKAD).

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

I take this opportunity to wish all of you nice and relaxing summer holidays!

Vincenzo Esposito Vinzi
IFCS Scientific Secretary

IFCS 2009

The 11th Conference of the IFCS took place in Dresden (Germany) last 13-18 March. IFCS'09 was organized by the GfKl - Gesellschaft für Klassifikation - and professors of Dresden University of Technology as LOC, together with the 33rd annual meeting of GfKl.

The reviewing for the conference presentation was done by 92 reviewers, for the evaluation of more than 320 submitted presentations. More than 200 papers could be accepted for the conference program, in 64 sessions and up to 7 parallel tracks. Also, 5 tutorials were held on Friday March 13th, and one scientific workshop was organized. During the conference, 11 plenary sessions were held and 14 invited and special interest sessions were organized in special tracks.

The conference was attended by 366 participants (among them 158 members of ifcs and societies, 114 non-members, 65 doctoral students). Also, some daily tickets were sold to special-interest groups. In parallel, a meeting of the librarian special interest group of the GfKl (40 participants) was held in a library nearby.

More information on the scientific program as well as some pictures from the scientific sessions and the social events is still available on the site: http://www.ifcs2009.de.

The Chikio Hayashi Awards Program winners for the 11th International IFCS Conference 2009 in Dresden are (in alphabetical order):

1. Ulas Akkucuk, Turkey
2. Javier Arroyo, Spain
3. Martijn Kagie, The Netherlands
4. Rebecca Nugent, USA
3. Katrijn Van Deun, Belgium
6. Matthijs J. Warrens, The Netherlands

We want to express our gratitude to the main supporters of the conference 2009: Springer Verlag, Statistics South Africa (organizer of ISI 2009, Durban), Gesellschaft für Klassifikation and the board of the International Federation of Classification Societies.

The next conference will be held in St. Andrews, Scotland from July 11th to 14th, 2011!

Hermann Locarek-Junge

News from the Dutch Classification Society (VOC)

In the autumn of 2008, the VOC organised a meeting about 'propensity scores', at Erasmus University, Rotterdam. Five experts presented different aspects of propensity scores. Saskia le Cessie (departments of Medical Statistics and Clinical Epidemiology, LUMC, Leiden) held an introductory lecture. Fannie Cobben (Statistics Netherlands, Division of Methodology & Quality) presented an application of response propensities in survey research. Arjan Blokland (Netherlands Institute for the Study of Crime and Law Enforcement, Leiden) discussed the collateral effects of imprisonment. Edwin Martens (University of Utrecht) talked about the preference for propensity scores when estimating an average treatment effect in case of a dichotomous outcome. Finally, Stef van Buuren (TNO Quality of Life, Leiden, & Department of Methodology and Statistics, University of Utrecht) closed the meeting with a presentation about pooling outcomes after quintile stratification.

The VOC spring meeting, held at Tilburg university on April 17, 2009, was focussing on mixture models. Invited speakers Geert Molenberghs (Hasselt and Leuven Universities) and Christian Hennig (University College, London) talked about sensitivity analysis for incomplete longitudinal data, and merging normal mixture components, respectively. Further contributions were given by Andries van der Ark (Tilburg University), Tomoki Tokuda (Leuven University), Carlos Hernandez (Erasmus University Rotterdam) and Gerrit Gort (Wageningen University). All abstracts of these lectures are available at the VOC website (www.voc.ac) under the heading 'VOC newsletter'. At this meeting, the board of the VOC also welcomed Berrie Zielman (Netherlands Court of Audit), who takes over the position of treasurer from Laurence Frank (University of Utrecht).

On November 12-13, 2009, the VOC will celebrate its 20th anniversary with a jubilee meeting at Hotel de Wageningse Berg, Wageningen. Typical for the rich variety of VOC-interests, the theme 'Everything is in Flux' will be approached from different perspectives: themes include classification from a philosophy of science perspective, biological and social networks, biostatistics and psychometrics. The interesting program is available via www.voc.ac; this is also the place to register for the meeting. Early bird registration closes at August 10, 2009.

Hugo Duivenvoorden, secr. VOC.

News from the Classification Society

Report on Classification Society Annual Meeting, June 2009

The Classification Society's Annual Meeting was co-located with the Interface Society's annual meeting in St. Louis, Missouri on June 10-13, 2009 on the Washington University School of Medicine campus. There were 58 registered attendees. The event opened with a reception on the seventh floor of the Bernard Becker Memorial Library. Attendees enjoyed wine and beer (St. Louis is the home of Anheuser-Busch after all) and a fabulous view of St. Louis. The next day David Banks from Duke University opened the sessions with a very interesting talk on "Statistics Issues in Agent Based Models" and challenged us to join this potentially fruitful research field. The rest of the day was full of sessions ranging from social networks to clustering in cognitive diagnosis modeling to mixture models, the final topic generating a spirited discussion about the history of the field. Luckily we had a room full of experts! Erin Tanenbaum from Nielsen Claritas also gave an overview talk of clustering/classification problems in marketing analysis. After hearing about the 66 different categories used to label our neighborhoods (e.g. Blue Blood Estates, Bohemian Mix, Young Digerati), we all were guessing about our own categories! The CS Board meeting was held that night at the Mediterranean Cafe - good food, good beer, good people. We welcomed Nema Dean (University of Glasgow, Statistics) and Carolyn Anderson (University of Illinois, Urbana-Champaign, Educational Psychology) to the Board, discussed future directions for the society, and brainstormed ideas for next year's meeting.

Friday June 12th began with a bang. Ed Wegman gave a great overview talk on document clustering and social networks including thoughts on where the field was going. The remaining sessions varied from the application of wavelet regressions to drug conflicts in Columbia to statistical problems in astrophysics to library science analyses. Attendees gorged themselves at that evening's banquet; in particular, the desserts were a huge hit. While most people lingered at their tables catching up and enjoying each other's company, those from Detroit and Pittsburgh excused themselves to watch the final game of the National Hockey League Stanley Cup finals in the conference hotel bar. Pittsburgh emerged victorious but a good time was had by all.

The final day began with a special session to honor the nominees for the 2009 CS Distinguished Dissertation Award. This year's winner Innar Liiv from the Tallinn University of Technology (Estonia) gave a presentation on "Seriation, Clustering and Matrix Reordering". Georgi I. Nalbantov from Erasmus University (Rotterdam, Netherlands) was awarded an Honorable Mention for his work on "Support Hyperplanes for Classification". We will soon be accepting applications for 2010.

A huge thanks goes to Bill Shannon and his staff for the organization of this year's conference. Please visit our website http://www.classification-society.org/csna/csna.html to learn more about the society's activities and meetings as well as view some of this year's talks. The next meeting will be held in June 2010 in St. Louis, Missouri. We invite everyone to join us!

> **Rebecca Nugent**
> **Department of Statistics**
> **Carnegie Mellon University**
> **http://www.stat.cmu.edu/~rnugent**

Classification Society on LinkedIn

The Classification Society is now on LinkedIn. At the time of writing there are 58 members. LinkedIn is a mainly but not exclusively business-oriented networking environment. LinkedIn claims to have more than 40 million registered users.

LinkedIn is at www.linkedin.com It is easy (and free of course) to sign on. Once you have done so, you can then search for the group "Classification Society" and sign on to it.

The LinkedIn Classification Society group will be a very useful way to ensure lots of mutually beneficial linkages between research and its applications.

> **Fionn Murtagh (contact through LinkedIn)**

The Classification Society Distinguished Dissertation Award supported by Chapman and Hall/CRC

The Award will be for the best PhD (or approximately equivalent doctoral) dissertation nominated by an annual deadline. The theme is clustering, classification, related areas of data analysis, encompassing both associated theory and/or applications.

The Award is administered by the Classification Society (CS). An evaluation committee is set up by CS to evaluate the nominated theses. This committee should have between 3 and 5 members. The chair of the committee is appointed
by the CS President. The committee is selected by the committee chair, in conjunction with the CS President, and is approved by the CS Board.

In 2009-2010, the evaluation committee is: Samantha Prins (chair, Dept. of Mathematics & Statistics, James Madison University), Fionn Murtagh (Science Foundation Ireland; and Dept. of Computer Science, Royal Holloway, University of London), Douglas Steinley (Dept. of Psychological Sciences, University of Missouri-Columbia), Rebecca Nugent (Dept. of Statistics, Carnegie Mellon University), Nema Dean (Dept. of Statistics, University of Glasgow) and special invited member: Innar Liiv (Dept. of Informatics, Tallinn University of Technology; 2008-2009 Award winner).

Members of the evaluation committee must declare any potential conflict of interest. A member of the evaluation committee cannot play any role in regard to evaluating his/her own PhDs, nor also in regard to nominations where there has been a direct collaborative link (e.g. through joint
publications).

Typical criteria for nomination for the Award include: (i) the most innovative or impressive work in theory/methodology, or the most innovative or well developed application(s); and (ii) the literature review has to be thorough. For the next submission deadline, 1 January 2010, nominated PhDs have to have been successfully completed in the 2009 calendar year.

Nominations are to be made through the evaluation committee chair and will be received from the author (PhD), their advisor/supervisor, or other related person. Nomination includes the name and contact points, an online copy of the dissertation, and a short description of why the dissertation merits the award (see above). Web-accessible versions of the nomination and dissertation must be made available. Printed copies may be requested.

After the nomination has been received, the evaluation committee chair will request that the nominator obtain two external referee reports. It is suggested that these reports be completed by knowledgeable persons other than the author, their advisor/supervisor or similarly related person.

A decision is made by the evaluation committee by 1 April. The evaluation committee can recommend one award; an award and a runner-up; two joint winners; or other combinations if they think it appropriate.

Awards are ratified by the CS Board. Publicity is made in the CS and other newsletters, and on relevant websites. The short-list of nominated dissertations will also be openly published.

For non-English language theses, it is requested to provide an extended abstract, and (where relevant) pointers to papers associated with the thesis that have been published.

In 2010 the Award totals US$500 in book vouchers from Chapman and Hall/CRC. The winner will be invited to make a presentation in a special plenary session at the CS Annual Meeting. Up to $500 of the Award winner's travel expenses to the Annual Meeting will be covered by CS.

Contact for information and nominations: prinssc (at) jmu (.) edu

More information on the award can be found at the CS website:
http://thames.cs.rhul.ac.uk/~fionn/classification-society/

News from Associação Portuguesa de Classificação e Análise de Dados, CLAD

JOCLAD 2009

The XVI Annual Meeting of the **Associação Portuguesa de Classificação e Análise de Dados,** JOCLAD 2009, was held on April **2 - 4** 2009 at the University of Algarve in Faro.
JOCLAD 2009 scientific program was especially dedicated to Health Care and Tourism, important areas studied in the University of Algarve. About 60 papers were presented and two short courses were organised. The meeting was also an excellent opportunity to visit beautiful places in Algarve, the south cost of Portugal. Several applied research papers presented at the meeting are expected to be published in CLAD's Journal.

JOCLAD 2010 - Call for Participation

The XVII Annual Meeting of the *Associação Portuguesa de Classificação e Análise de Dados CLAD*, JOCLAD 2010, will be held on March 25 - 27 2010 at the Instituto Superior de Ciências do Trabalho e da Empresa, ISCTE, in Lisbon. More details will be available soon.

Helena Bacelar-Nicolau
hbacelar@fpce.ul.pt

News from GfKl

DANK2009, 31st Fall Meeting of the working group AG-DANK 2009

Profs. Udo Kamps and Erhard Cramer have invited the working group AG-Dank to have its 31st Fall Meeting, DANK2009, at the Institute for Statistics of the RWTH Aachen from October 8 till October 10. The meeting will be held jointly with the "First German-Polish Symposium on Data Analysis and its Applications." Talks will cover the whole range of data analysis, data clustering, and classification. In addition, two data sets will be issued for classification by participants. The deadline for submission of a talk is July 15. For more details, please see the item AG-DANK in http://www.uni-passau.de/ritter and also http://gpsdaa2009.rwth-aachen.de

Gunter Ritter

News from CLADAG and GfKl

Joint meeting CLADAG - GfKl: first announcement

Every two years, CLADAG invites a partner society to have a joint conference in Italy. The last conference of this kind was held in Caserta in 2008 jointly with SFC. In 2010, the guest society will be GfKl. The joint conference will take place at Florence from September 8 to September 10. The Italian and German parts of the Scientific Program Committee are chaired by Antonio Giusti and Gunter Ritter, respectively. Andrea Giommi was appointed the chairman of the local organizing committee.

The conference intends to foster cooperation among researchers in the fields of data analysis with its various ramifications classification, clustering, machine learning, data mining, visualization techniques, etc..

The program will be subdivided in plenary talks given by leading researchers in the field, and in invited, contributed, and poster sessions (on contributers' request). The deadline for submitting
a talk is end of March 2010. Details will be announced in due time.

We plan to issue a proceedings volume in the Springer Series "Studies in Classification, Data Analysis, and Knowledge Organization" by the end of 2010.

Gunter Ritter

1st Cladag Young Researcher Data Mining Prize sponsored By SAS

On the occasion of CLADAG 2009 hosted in Catania, it is announced the first edition of "CLADAG Young Researcher Data Mining Prize" sponsored by SAS Institute, see http://cladag2009.unict.it/DataMiningPrize.aspx.

Shootout goal will be an analytical solution of a real case study. The Competition aim is to promote transfer of novel scientific knowledge of

the young researchers to the operative world of the data mining users.

This Competition asks for a solution development of a real data mining problem from groups composed at most of 3 young researchers.

CLADAG Young Researcher Data Mining Prize will consist in 2 prizes: 1) 4000 euro for the absolute best solution 2) 1500 euro for the best solution in terms or re-applicability

The grants will be paid as funds to those administrations winners belong to or, if the winners prefer, they will be paid directly, in this case all taxes on the prize are the sole responsibility of the winners. Further details at http://cladag2009.unict.it/PrizeAnnouncement. pdf.

Salvatore Ingrassia

First Bilateral German-Polish Symposium on Data Analysis and its Applications (GPSDAA 2009)

RWTH Aachen University, Germany, October 8-10, 2009

Members of the *German Classification Society (GfKl)* and the *Polish Classification Group (SKAD)* will meet together in the framework of the first ***Bilateral German-Polish Symposium*** organized by the Institute of Statistics (Prof. Udo Kamps, Prof. Erhard Cramer) of the University of Aachen, October 10-12, 2009. The meeting will be attended by about 35 invited participants from Germany and Poland. Thus far the scheduled program comprizes the following sections:

-- Data analysis and statistics (5 papers)
-- Classification and clustering approaches (9 papers)
-- Data analysis in economics and social science (9 papers)
-- Data analysis methods for cultural sciences (3 papers).

For details see the website *www.stochastik.rwth-aachen.de* and the GfKl website *www.gfkl.de.*

With some temporal and thematic overlap, there will be the traditional Fall Meeting of the

Working Group *'Data Analysis and Classification' (DANK)* of the GfKl that takes place on October 11-12, 2009 in Aachen as well. It is organized by the Institute of Statistics too, the program will be handled by the Chairman of DANK, Prof. Gunter Ritter (Passau). For details and paper submissions see the GfKl website *www.gfkl.de* or ask Prof. Ritter (*ritter@fim.uni-passau.de*).

Hans-Hermann Bock

News from SFC

SFC 2009

The 16th Francophone Classification Society (SFC) meeting will be held at Grenoble (France) on September 2-4 2009 (http://sfc-2009-grenoble.imag.fr/). The scientific program will include sessions with invited talks and contributed presentations.

The main topics of the conference are:
- Classification and discrimination
- Clustering and distance analysis
- Combinatorial methods
- Data mining
- Hierarchical and non hierarchical classification
- Image and signal analysis
- Mathematical and statistical approaches
- Neural networks and genetic algorithms
- Optimization approaches
- Representation and visualisation
- Similarities and dissimilarities
- Symbolic data analysis
- Trees, graphs and lattices
- Validation

Special emphasis will be laid on the following topics:
- Biostatistics, Bioinormatics
- Web-Mining
- Temporal and Spatial data analysis
- Structural data analysis (e.g. trees, graphs)
- Textual-Mining
- Data Stream

Invited speakers are:

- Michel Verleysen, "Méthodes non linéaires de réduction de dimension"
- François Denis, « Inférence de langages stochastiques rationnels »
- Bernard Fichet, « Approximation de dissimilarités et complexité »
- Nicolas Vayatis « Les courbes Roc »
- Jean-Michel Poggi « Forêts aléatoires : importance et sélection de variables »

The registrations for the conference will be opened in last June 2009

Local Organizing Committee

SFC 2010

The seventeenth Meeting of the "Société Francophone de Classification" (SFC 2010: http://sfc2010.univ-reunion.fr) will be held in Reunion island, a French overseas department, June 9-11, 2010.

Papers in English are accepted as well.

Important dates and deadlines:
- January 15: Short abstract due (200 words)
- January 22: Extended abstract due (2 to 4 pages)
- March 12: Notification to authors
- April 16 : Final version due

Jean Diatta

Journal "Advances in Data Analysis and Classification (ADAC)"

The issue 1/2009 of ADAC contains the following articles:

• Jukka Corander, Mats Gyllenberg, Timo Koski
Bayesian unsupervised classification framework based on stochastic partitions of data and a parallel search strategy

• Adrien Jamain, David J. Hand
Where are the large and difficult data sets ?

• Marc Boullé
Optimum simultaneous discretization with data grid models in supervised classification: a Bayesian model selection approach

• Markus Franke, Andreas Geyer-Schulz
An update algorithm for restriced walk clustering for dynamic data sets

About twenty manuscripts have been submitted for the ADAC Special Issue that is scheduled for contributions from the conference IFCS-09 that has been held in Dresden, March 13-18, 2009 (in addition to the usual Proceedings volume). The reviewing process has begun and should be finished by August 2009.

Hans-Hermann Bock

Special Issue of the journal ADAC on

"Robust Methods for Classification and Data Analysis"

The journal *Advances in Data Analysis and Classification* (ADAC) will publish a Special Issue on "Robust Methods for Classification and Data Analysis" in Summer 2010.

This issue is designed to collect a range of high quality research papers from the field of **robust statistical methods for multivariate data**, with an emphasis on **classification** and **data analysis**. Topics of particular interest may include, but are not limited to:

- Methodological innovations in the fields of robust multivariate data analysis, robust classification and clustering, robust

regression, and multivariate outlier detection.

- The development of computational and graphical tools that efficiently implement robust statistical methods in the abovementioned fields.
- Applications of robust multivariate methods in specific domains such as bioinformatics, business, finance, signal processing, data mining, etc.

Guest editors will be Prof. Marco Riani (Parma), Prof. Andrea Cerioli (Parma), and Peter J. Rousseeuw (Antwerpen).

Researchers and practitioners are kindly requested to submit relevant, innova-tive, still unpublished papers for publication in this Special Issue. The pdf file of the manuscript should be submitted by e-mail to Prof. Marco Riani, at the address mriani@unipr.it, not later than October 30, 2009. For formatting details (e.g.: *LaTeX*, not more than 20 pages in 12pt) see the ADAC website *www.springer.com/journal/11634* or *www.stochastik.rwth-aachen.de/adac.php*. Submitted manuscripts will undergo the classical double-blind reviewing process.

Hans-Hermann Bock

IFCS 2011 Conference

The dates of IFCS 2011 for your calendar are July 10-17, 2011.

The University of St Andrews is Scotland's oldest university, founded in 1411 by the medieval Scottish Church and King James I of Scotland. Its sexcentenary will commence in 2011. St Andrews is the home of golf.

A preliminary web page is available now at: http://www.st-andrews.ac.uk/management/ifcs2011

Expressions of interest are now being sought on co-located workshops or special sessions.

Expressions of interest for satellite meetings or short courses need to be made soon. Any

meetings outside of 10-17 July have to be booked well in advance.

Local organisation: David Wishart d dot wishart at st-andrews dot ac dot uk)
Scientific organisation: Fionn Murtagh (f murtagh at acm dot org)

Call for papers - EGC 2010

10th EGC conference – Knowledge Extraction and Management
Hammamet, Tunisie, 26-29 January 2009
http://www.projets.rnu.tn/egc2010/

Call for papers, demonstrations, tutorials and workshops. EGC 2010 is the meeting point for French speaking researchers, industrials and users from Databases, Machine Learning, Knowledge Representation, Knowledge Management, Statistics and Data Analysis communities.

Important dates and deadlines:

- September 25: Abstract due
- October 2: Full paper due
- November 21: Notification to authors
- December 4: Final version due

Call for Papers - Cataloging & Classification Quarterly

CCQ welcomes the submission of research, theory, and practice papers relevant to the broad field of bibliographic organization.

This journal, published now 8 times a year by Taylor & Francis, LLC, is respected as an international forum that emphasizes research and review articles, description of new programs and technologies relevant to cataloging and classification, and considered speculative articles on improved methods of bibliographic control for the future.

Articles are particularly welcome in areas dealing with research-based cataloging practice, including user behavior, user needs and benefits.

Authors are encouraged to submit manuscripts via email with attached word document to the Editor, Sandra K. Roe, Bibliographic Services Librarian, Illinois State University (email: skroe@ilstu.edu).

Special Issues

Colleagues interested in guest editing a special issue or expanded double issue are invited to contact the Editor with a general proposal, tentative schedule, and CVs. Previous special issues have included:

Metadata and Open Access Repositories (Michael Babinec and Holly Mercer, Guest Editors)

Bibliographic Database Quality (Jeffrey Beall and Stephen Hearn, Guest Editors)

The Intellectual and Professional World of Cataloging (Qiang Jin, Guest Editor)

Knitting the Semantic Web (Jane Greenberg and Eva Méndez, Guest Editor)

Cataloger, Editor and Scholar: Essays in Honor of Ruth C. Carter (Robert Holley, Guest Editor)

Annual Best Paper Award

Taylor & Francis sponsors an annual prize for *CCQ* with a small financial stipend for the Best Paper of the Year.

Free Print Sample

A free print specimen copy may be obtained by sending an email to <Marisa.starr@taylorandfrancis.com>

For More Details
Further details may be found at the *CCQ* home page:
http://catalogingandclassificationquarterly.com/

Bill Cohen , *Publisher*
The Haworth Press
www.informaworld.com
(Taylor & Francis Group)

INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE ON ROBUST STATISTICS (icors09)

Università degli Studi di Parma
Facoltà di Economia

14-19 JUNE 2009
Parma, Italy

http://www.icors2009.unipr.it

The ICORS 2009 conference aims to join people working on robust statistics and related fields. It intends to bring together both leading experts and young researchers, thus creating a forum to cover recent progress and to stimulate exchanges among active researchers. The conference will also encourage informal contacts and discussions between participants.

Contributions to applied statistics are welcome as well as theoretical ones, introducing new problems related to or interacting with robust statistics. The following areas are mentioned, but contributed talks on other related topics are welcome as well:

- Concepts and theory of robust statistics
- Asymptotic theory and efficiency
- Nonparametric methods
- Multivariate analysis
- Data depth
- Quantile regression models
- Linear and generalized linear models; mixed models
- Biostatistics
- Official statistics and survey sampling
- Statistical methods in business and finance
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- Statistical methods in telecommunication
- Statistical methods in bioinformatics/genetics statistical computing, graphics and data mining

Special issue of RNTI Journal: SIA

R. Gras, J.-C. Régnier et F. Guillet (eds). "Analyse Statistique Implicative - une méthode d'analyse de données pour la recherche de causalités", 500 pages, special number of the RNTI Journal (Revue des Nouvelles Technologies de l'Information), E-16, Cépaduès Editions, ISSN 1764.1667, ISBN 978.2.85428.897.1

Statistical Implicative Analysis (SIA) is a data analysis method of non-symmetric data, which was designed by Régis Gras three decades ago. It was developed and is still by his doctoral students or in collaboration with university research teams in France and abroad, but also by himself, through supervision of PhDs and publications in journal, books and seminars. It has its epistemological roots in teaching of mathematics whose starting point was a question about the complexity of the learning-teaching of mathematics.

It led, first in modeling and measuring of implicative relationships between two variables a and b, such as "if one observe property a then one also tend to observe property b, and this in a statistically significant way."

This special issue of RNTI Journal aims to recall the genesis of SIA method, to provide a recent overview of concepts, models, methods, and illustrated applications of SIA. The book is composed of 31 chapters that are grouped into 3 main parts:
• Part 1 offers a kind of course, like a manual illustrated with numerical examples, that presents all the concepts of SIA;
• Part 2 deals with complements, extensions, algorithm and the implementation on computers of these concepts that show the exciting, innovative applications in data mining;
• Part 3 presents a selection of applications that illustrate the contributions of the SIA approach in various fields, looking for causal paths in teaching, pedagogy, psychology, sociology, bio-informatics, history of the art, etc. ..

This work, which more than 30 authors from various disciplines have contributed to, is prefaced by Djamel ZIGHED, Co-editor-in-Chief of the RNTI journal (Revue des Nouvelles Technologies de l'Information), and Chair of the French-speaking International Association in Knowledge Discovery and Management (EGC, Extraction et Gestion des Connaissances).

Fabrice Guillet