



# International Federation of Classification Societies Newsletter

**President:** Geoff McLachlan

Number 40

December, 2010

**Editor:** André Hardy

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

Associação Portuguesa de Classificação e Análise de Dados, British Classification Society, Central American and Caribbean Society of Classification and Data Analysis, Classification Society of North America, Gesellschaft für Klassifikation, 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.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 December 2010**

Since my last column, members of the Executive Committee of the IFCS have been extremely busy in making new arrangements for the IFCS-2011 conference, following the decision not to proceed with the University of St. Andrews site. Due to unforeseen circumstances beyond our control, the Executive Committee really had no viable option other than to seek alternative arrangements for our 2011 conference after the resignation of the Chairs of the Conference Program and Organizing Committees for the St. Andrews-based conference.

The new site for the IFCS-2011 conference is Frankfurt. It is to be organized in conjunction with the 2011 annual meeting of GfKI (jointly organized with the German Association for Pattern Recognition DAGM) from August 30 to September 2, 2011.

In particular, a one-day IFCS Symposium will be organized on 30th August, 2011 (that is, the day before the actual GfKI-DAGM meeting), with IFCS keynote speakers, IFCS plenary and parallel sessions, and the IFCS Presidential address. Participants of the IFCS symposium will also attend the actual GfKI/DAGM conference from 31st August until 2nd September, 2011 for which IFCS will act as the international partner of GfKI. Participants of the IFCS symposium may submit papers for the GfKI/DAGM conference, for which IFCS can also nominate invited speakers. More information on the IFCS-2011 conference, including the membership of the Scientific Program Committee and a renewed call for application for the Chikio Hayashi awards associated with the conference, may be found elsewhere in this IFCS Newsletter. Please note that all information about IFCS-2011 is available at a single website: <http://www.ifcs2011.de>.

I wish to thank Claus Weihs (President of GfKI), Alfred Ultsch (Local Organizer for GfKI), and Berthold Lausen (Chair of the SPC-GfKI) for their efforts in amending their original arrangements to enable our IFCS 2011 conference to be held in conjunction with GfKI-DAGM.

I do hope that your calendar is free for the new time of our IFCS-2011 conference and that you are able to come. It would be great to have as many members as possible in Frankfurt.

On a personal note, I was deeply saddened to learn of the death of Herman Friedman. I used to look forward very much to catching up with him and his wife Judith Goldberg at the annual Joint Statistical Meetings organized jointly by the American Statistical Association and associated societies. He was someone to whom the term "a gentleman and a scholar" did literally apply. His obituary appears elsewhere in this Newsletter.

Wishing everyone a safe and a very happy festive season,

Geoff McLachlan  
IFCS President  
[g.mclachlan@uq.edu.au](mailto:g.mclachlan@uq.edu.au)

**IFCS-2011**  
**Symposium of the International**  
**Federation of Classification Societies**  
**(IFCS)**  
**August 30, 2011**  
**and**  
**Joint Conference of the German**  
**Classification Society (GfKI)**  
**with international partner IFCS**  
**and the German Association for Pattern**  
**Recognition (DAGM)**  
**August 31 to September 2, 2011**  
**Frankfurt am Main, Germany**

*Conference Setup*

In 2011 a Joint Conference of the German Classification Society (GfKI), with the International Federation of Classification Societies (IFCS) as an international partner, and the German Association for Pattern Recognition (DAGM) will take place in Frankfurt am Main. The title of this conference will be "Algorithms from & for Nature and Life".

This conference will be preceded by a one-day Symposium of the International Federation of Classification Societies (IFCS), which will feature keynote addresses by Gilles Celeux and Douglas Steinley, a President's invited session, and a Presidential address by IFCS President Geoff McLachlan.

*Frankfurt am Main*

A dynamic international financial and trade fair city with the most imposing skyline in Germany: this is the image that many visitors associate with the Frankfurt metropolis. But the city in the heart of Germany and Europe also has many other facets and contrasting variety to offer. Not too far from the skyscrapers you can find cosy Ebbelwei pubs, and at the heart of the bustling city centre you can find numerous historical sites. Frankfurt is not just proud of its most famous son, the poet, politician and scientist Johann Wolfgang von Goethe. The Kaiserdom (Cathedral) and the Paulskirche, the cradle of German democracy, are also to be found here. Interesting destinations for excursions in and around Frankfurt will turn your stay into a great experience, and you will long to

return to this fascinating city.

### **Conference Topics**

Contributed papers from scholars and practitioners are invited on any of the topics below as well as on related ones:

- Applications in Natural Sciences, Engineering, Medicine and Biology
- Banking and Finance
- Bioinformatics and Biostatistics
- Biomedical Data Analysis and Imaging
- Business and Industry
- Classification, Discriminant Analysis and Supervised Learning
- Clustering and Unsupervised Learning
- Complex Event Processing
- Data Analysis in Archaeology
- Databionics
- Exploratory Data Mining
- Geospatial Planning
- Graphics and Vision
- Image Analysis and Computer Vision
- Information Retrieval and Library Science
- Knowledge Discovery
- Linguistics and Musicology
- Machine Learning and Pattern Recognition
- Marketing and Management
- Medical and Health Sciences
- Psychology and Educational Sciences
- Social Network Analysis
- Statistical Data Analysis and Models
- Swarm Systems
- Text Mining, Web Mining, and Ontology Learning
- Visualization

### **Submission of Abstracts and Papers**

The symposium and the joint conference accept the following types of submissions according to the usual standards of GfKI/IFCS and DAGM:

GfKI/IFCS (submission via [www.gfki2011.de](http://www.gfki2011.de)):

- abstracts intended to be published in an Abstracts volume
- full post-conference paper to be published in the Springer Series "Studies in Classification, Data Analysis, and Knowledge Organization".

DAGM (submission via [www.dagm2011.org](http://www.dagm2011.org)):

- full paper to be published in the Springer series "Lecture Notes in Computer Science"

All abstract and full paper submissions will be subject to a peer review process.

Deadlines for GfKI/IFCS abstracts and post-conference papers:

- 30 March 2011: Deadline for abstract submission
- 30 May 2011: Notification of acceptance
- 30 September 2011: Deadline for submission of full post-conference papers
- 30 November 2011: Notification of acceptance of full post-conference papers
- 15 January 2012: Deadline for delivery of final, camera-ready versions of full post-conference papers

Deadlines for DAGM (LNCS) submissions: see [www.dagm2011.org](http://www.dagm2011.org)

### **Scientific Program Committee (GfKI and IFCS)**

- Daniel Baier, Univ. Cottbus, Germany
- Hans-Hermann Bock, RWTH Aachen, Germany
- Reinhold Decker, Univ. Bielefeld, Germany
- Mark de Rooij, Leiden Univ., Netherlands
- Anuška Ferligoj, Univ. of Ljubljana, Slovenia
- Wolfgang Gaul, KIT, Karlsruhe, Germany
- Christian Hennig, UCL, London, UK
- Irmela Herzog, LVR, Bonn, Germany
- Eyke Hüllermeier, Univ. Marburg, Germany
- Krzysztof Jajuga, Univ. Wrocław, Poland
- Hans Kestler, Univ. Ulm, Germany
- Andreas Koch, Univ. Salzburg, Austria
- Sabine Krolak-Schwerdt, Univ. Luxembourg, Lx.
- Berthold Lausen, Univ. Essex, UK (chair)
- Hermann Locarek-Junge, Univ. Dresden, Germany
- Geoff McLachlan, Univ. of Queensland, Australia
- Fred R. McMorris, Illinois Inst. of Technology, USA
- George Menexes, Univ. of Thessaloniki, Greece
- Boris Mirkin, London Univ., UK
- Masahiro Mizuta, Hokkaido University,

Japan

- Angela Montanari, Univ. of Bologna, Italy
- Rebecca Nugent, Carnegie Mellon Univ., USA
- Akinori Okada, Tama University, Japan
- Gunter Ritter, Univ. Passau, Germany
- Alfred Ultsch, Univ. Marburg, Germany
- Dirk Van den Poel, Univ. Gent, Belgium
- Iven Van Mechelen, Univ. Leuven, Belgium
- Gilles Venturini, Tours Univ., France
- Jeroen Vermunt, Tilburg Univ., Netherlands
- Maurizio Vichi, Univ. Rome, Italy
- Claus Weihs, TU Dortmund, Germany

### **Local Organizers**

- Prof. Dr.- Ing. Rudolf Mester, University of Frankfurt/Main, Germany
- Prof. Dr. Eyke Hüllermeier and Prof. Dr. Alfred Ultsch, University of Marburg, Germany

### **Website**

Further information will be available on the conference website [www.gfkl2011.de](http://www.gfkl2011.de) and on the symposium webpage [www.ifcs2011.de](http://www.ifcs2011.de).

We look forward to seeing you in Frankfurt in August/September 2011!

Berthold Lausen, Alfred Ultsch, and the IFCS Executive Committee

## **International Federation of Classification Societies (IFCS) Chikio Hayashi Awards Program (CHA) - Application Form –**

### **Some Rules on Submitting an Application**

Researchers and persons who want to apply for a CHA award, for the occasion of the IFCS'11 Conference (Frankfurt, August 30, 2011), need to submit their application to the Chair of the Awards Committee (Dr. Gilles Celeux at the e-mail address: [Gilles.Celeux@inria.fr](mailto:Gilles.Celeux@inria.fr)).

All candidates must be under the age of 35 years at the time of the conference and need to be authors of a paper to be presented at the IFCS Conference.

All candidates will be notified the evaluation results no later than May 20<sup>th</sup>, 2011.

### **Deadline**

**March 30<sup>th</sup>, 2011** is the deadline for the submission of applications to the Chair of the Awards Committee.

### **Candidate's Application Form**

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Date of birth: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Fax: \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail: \_\_\_\_\_

The location from which the candidate would travel to the IFCS'11 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): \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

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Type of paper submitted by the candidate at the IFCS 2011 conference:

invited paper                       contributed paper

Title of the paper submitted by the candidate at the IFCS 2011 conference:

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### **IFCS-sponsored courses: Call for applications**

In its meeting at the Dresden conference, the IFCS Council has adopted a proposal from the IFCS Executive Committee to sponsor each year one course on IFCS-related topics. **The call for applications is now open!** All individual members of the IFCS member societies are invited to consider submitting a proposal. Below, one may find the rules for sponsoring as approved by the IFCS Council.

- Eligible for sponsoring by IFCS are courses:
  - open for an international audience, in the English language, on topics within the domains of classification and data analysis as those may be typically encountered in the mainstream of IFCS conferences
  - that are supported by at least two IFCS member societies (as made clear by the explicit mentioning of members from those societies in the organizing committee)
  - that are attended by participants from at least two IFCS member societies
  - that are non-profit (in the sense that no financial gain is aimed at by the organizers) .
- Pre IFCS conference workshops are excluded from sponsoring.
- Sponsoring can only be used to cover costs directly pertaining to the organization of the course (e.g., for lecture rooms, announcements, travel costs, etc.), herewith excluding financing of teachers (except for a reimbursement of expenses). In addition to financial sponsoring, IFCS will mention the course on its website and in other media, if possible. Conversely, in all announcements of the course, IFCS has to be mentioned as sponsor.
- Requests for sponsoring shall be made to the President of IFCS by the organizer of the course, at least 6 months before the course starts. The request should contain:
  - A description of the aim of the course
  - A preliminary program of the course
  - A list of the IFCS member societies involved in the organization of the course as well as the composition of the organizing committee, which should include an IFCS Council member from a society not involved in the organization of the course
  - A description of the size and kind of the intended audience
  - A detailed budget for the course, including the height of the fees, and the amount requested from IFCS.
- Decisions on sponsoring shall be made by the IFCS Executive Committee.
- Each budgetary year, only one course can be sponsored, with a maximum amount of \$750. In this respect, the dates of the course determine with which budgetary year the course is associated.
- If the local situation of the course organizers allows to apply for matching funds, the organizers are encouraged to make use of this possibility; if needed, upon request of the organizers, the IFCS Executive Committee will state that IFCS

sponsoring is granted conditional upon the awarding of matching funds.

- The sponsoring is paid after the course, upon receipt of a report on the course (mentioning at least the topics on the program, the number of participants and their countries of residence, as well as the number of days the course lasted), and a full financial account.

Iven Van Mechelen  
Acting IFCS Treasurer

## News from GfKI/CLADAG

### Joint Conference GfKI/CLADAG at the University of Florence, September 8-10, 2010

From September 8 to 10 of this year a successful joint conference of the Classification and Data Analysis Group of the Italian Statistical Society CLADAG and the German Gesellschaft für Klassifikation, GfKI, both members of the ifcs, took place at the "Polo Universitario delle Scienze Sociali". Details on the conference program, its four plenaries, its discussed twelve invited sections, and its about 90 contributed talks have been published in the last newsletter 39. There will be a proceedings volume in the Springer series Studies in Classification, Data Analysis, and Knowledge Organization. The refereeing process is just under way.

Besides the scientific program the Italian hosts had prepared stimulating social events. The reception at Palazzo Medici-Riccardi was accompanied by a guided visit to the chapel with its famous frescoes by Benozzo Gozzoli. The Conference Dinner at the "Biblioteca delle Oblate" offered a splendid view to the dome of the cathedral. A large number of free entrance tickets to Palazzo Vecchio were provided by the Italian hosts. In the evenings, dinner in the open air were enjoyable.

Gunter Ritter

## News from JCS

### (I) Information about 28th Annual Research Meeting of the Japanese Classification Society

The 28th Annual Research Meeting will be held on December 19, 2010 at the RENAISSANCE CENTER of the Tama University. The official Web site is <http://stat.tama.ac.jp/jcs28thmeeting>. The invited session is included in the meeting. The JCS invites Professor Myung-Hoe Huh Korea University.

### (II) The Symposium and the 27th Annual Research Meeting of the Japanese Classification Society

The Symposium and the 27th Annual Research Meeting of the Japanese Classification Society were held at the Aoyama Gakuin University on July 31, 2010. The program of the 27th Annual Research Meeting comprised 10 presentations in all, divided into 3 sections. The titles and the speakers of their talks in the symposium are as follows:

- 1) Potentiality and Incompleteness of Applied Cluster Analysis -Actual Topics in Marketing Research-  
Tokuhisa SUZUKI (Nikkei Research Inc.)
- 2) Clustering the Objects with the Constrained Variables  
Toshinari Kamakura (Chuo University)
- 3) On how to use cluster analysis and discriminant analysis for a complex data set  
Tadashi Imaizumi (Tama University)

### (III) The 26th Annual Research Meeting of the Japanese Classification Society

The 26th Annual Research Meeting of the Japanese Classification Society was held at the Kyushu University on February 19, 2010. The program comprised 9 presentations in all, divided into 2 sections.

Atsuhō Nakayama

**CLAD**  
**ASSOCIAÇÃO PORTUGUESA DE**  
**CLASSIFICAÇÃO E ANÁLISE DE DADOS**

**New elected CLAD Officers**

The Executive Committee, General Assembly and Fiscal Council of CLAD for the years 2010-2012 are the following:

**Executive Committee**

President: Fernanda Sousa (FEUP - Universidade do Porto); Vice-President: José Gonçalves Dias (ISCTE – Instituto Universitário de Lisboa); Secretary: Carlos Ferreira (DEGEI – Universidade de Aveiro); Secretary: Ana Sousa Ferreira (FPUL – Universidade de Lisboa); Treasurer: Isabel Silva Magalhães (FEUP - Universidade do Porto).

**General Assembly**

President: Helena Bacelar-Nicolau (FPUL – Universidade de Lisboa); Secretary: Margarida Cardoso (ISCTE – Instituto Universitário de Lisboa); Secretary: Carlos Marcelo (INE – Instituto Nacional de Estatística).

**Fiscal Council**

President: Adelaide Figueiredo (FEP - Universidade do Porto); Secretary: Fernando Costa Nicolau (FCT – Universidade Nova de Lisboa); Member: Irene Oliveira (DM.UTAD – Universidade de Trás-os-Montes e Alto Douro)

**JOCLAD 2011 - Call for Participation**

The XVIII Annual Meeting of CLAD - Associação Portuguesa de Classificação e Análise de Dados, JOCLAD 2011, will be held on April 6 - 9 2011 at the Universidade de Trás-os Montes e Alto Douro, Portugal.

The JOCLAD 2011 scientific program includes four types of presentations: key note speakers invited by the Organizing Committee, thematic sessions, contributed papers and posters. Two short courses will take place on April 6.

More details may be found on [www.joclad2011.utad.pt](http://www.joclad2011.utad.pt)

Helena Bacelar-Nicolau  
[hbacelar@fp.ul.pt](mailto:hbacelar@fp.ul.pt)

**News from IPRCS**

The Irish Pattern Recognition and Classification Society (IPRCS) organises or supports various meetings and conferences in 2011:

- The 15th Irish Machine Vision and Image Processing Conference (IMVIP) will be held at Dublin City University from the 7<sup>th</sup> to the 9<sup>th</sup> September 2011.

IMVIP 2011 is the main conference of IPRCS, bringing together theoreticians and practitioners, industrialists and academics, from the numerous related disciplines involved in the processing and analysis of image-based information. The conference is single-track, consisting of high quality previously unpublished contributed papers, presented orally, and with plenary speakers and poster sessions.

IMVIP 2011 will be hosted by the Centre for Image Processing and Analysis, RINCE, Dublin City University.

All information can be found at:

<http://elm.eeng.dcu.ie/imvip/>

- The 58th World Statistics Congress of the International Statistical Institute (ISI) will be held in the brand new Convention Centre in Dublin from the 21st to the 26th August 2011.

The ISI has held biennial Congresses since 1853 and recent sessions have attracted over 2,500 delegates.

Participants include academics, government and private sector statisticians and related experts from various institutes.

Topics of interest include (but are not limited to): official statistics; business, financial, environmental and industrial statistics; surveying and sampling; computational & mathematical statistics; probability and stochastic modeling and statistical education.

All information can be found at: <http://www.isi2011.ie/>

- The 31st Conference of Applied Statistics in Ireland (CASI) will be held in Galway from the 18<sup>th</sup> to the 20<sup>th</sup> May 2011 on the Salthill Promenade.

CASI 2011 is hosted by the Statistics Group within the School of Mathematics, Statistics and Applied Mathematics in NUI Galway (West of Ireland), in conjunction with the newly established HRB Clinical Research Facility NUIG.

All information can be found at:  
<http://www.maths.nuigalway.ie/~jnmaths/CASI2011/>

IPRCS IFCS representatives:  
Rozenn Dahyot, [Rozenn.Dahyot@scss.tcd.ie](mailto:Rozenn.Dahyot@scss.tcd.ie)  
Bryan Scotney, [bw.scotney@ulster.ac.uk](mailto:bw.scotney@ulster.ac.uk)

## News from the Classification Society

### ELECTION UNDERWAY

Election of two new members of the Board of Directors takes place annually. The election is currently underway, with voting on-line during the month of November. There are three candidates, Elizabeth Ayers, Graduate School of Education, University of California - Berkeley; Elizabeth Hohman, Naval Surface Warfare Center, Dahlgren, VA, and Doug Steinley, Psychological Sciences Dept., University of Missouri.

### MEMBERSHIP

Renewal notices will soon be sent out. Those wishing to join for the first time may contact Stan Sclove, Secretary, [slsclove@uic.edu](mailto:slsclove@uic.edu). Benefits of membership include receipt of the Journal of Classification.

### THE CLASSIFICATION SOCIETY 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 2010-2011, the evaluation committee is: Samantha Prins (Committee Chair, Dept. of Mathematics & Statistics, James Madison

University), 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: Daniel Aloise (Dept. of Production Engineering, Universidade Federal do Rio Grande do Norte; 2009-2010 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 2011, nominated PhDs have to have been successfully completed in the 2010 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 2011 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. CS will cover travel expenses to the 2011 Annual Meeting of at most US\$1000 for a North American based Award winner or at most US\$1500 for an Award winner based elsewhere.

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

More information on the award can be found at the CS website: <http://www.classification-society.org/csna/csna.html>

## NEW BOOK ON CLUSTER ANALYSIS

The book Ordinal and Relational Clustering by former Classification Society president Mel Janowitz (DIMACS, Rutgers University, Piscataway, NJ, email: [melj@dimax.rutgers.edu](mailto:melj@dimax.rutgers.edu)) was published in May, 2010.

This book presents the subject from a mathematical viewpoint. Further details may be found on the publisher's website <http://www.worldscibooks.com/mathematics/7449.html>.

Stan Sclove, Secretary

Classification Society  
2011 Annual Meetings

Thursday June 16th-Saturday June 18th,  
2011

Carnegie Mellon University, Pittsburgh,  
PA

<http://www.stat.cmu.edu/~rnugent/CS2011>

First Announcement for the annual Classification Society meetings to be held at Carnegie Mellon University in Pittsburgh, PA in June 2011. The first Call for Abstracts will be out shortly; questions can be directed to the conference co-organizers below:

RebeccaNugent, Doug Steinley  
[rnugent@stat.cmu.edu](mailto:rnugent@stat.cmu.edu); [steinleyd@missouri.edu](mailto:steinleyd@missouri.edu)

Department of Statistics Department of  
Psychology Carnegie Mellon University  
University of Missouri

Looking forward to seeing everyone in June!

Rebecca Nugent

## News from SFC

The 18th meeting of the French-speaking Classification Society (SFC) will be held at Orléans (France) on September 28-30, 2011. The meeting will be organized jointly by the two laboratories LIFO and MAPMO from the university of Orléans. The scientific program will include sessions with invited talks and selected 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

## Important dates :

- \* Submission of short papers (2-4 pages long) :  
Friday, May 6th, 2011
- \* Notification of acceptance : Friday, June 17th  
2011
- \* Camera-ready copy due : Friday, July 1st,  
2011

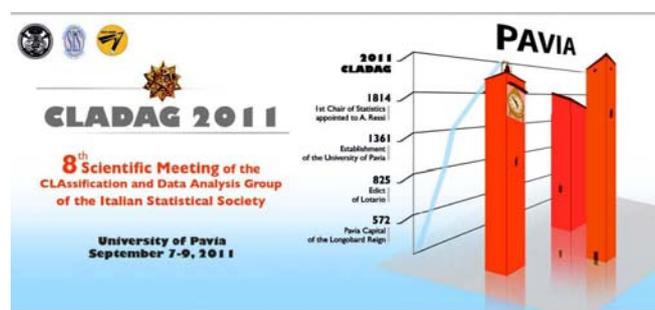
Web site of the meeting (available soon):  
<http://www.univ-orleans.fr/lifo/evenements/SFC2011/>

Guillaume Cleuziou

## News from CLADAG

### CLADAG 2011

**Pavia, Italy, September 7-9, 2011**



The 8th International Meeting of the CLAssification and Data Analysis Group (CLADAG) of the Italian Statistical Society will be hosted by the University of Pavia within the celebration of its 650th anniversary. The Meeting will take place on September 7-9, 2011. Researchers interested in classification, clustering, data analysis, multivariate analysis and computational statistics and their applications are invited to participate.

A Symposium on "REPUTATION: A STATISTICAL CHALLENGE?" will also take place within the Conference. This session will be devoted to listen, discuss and understand how statistical methods can help quantifying this central topic of today society. In the session experts will discuss how to practically major reputation in different fields such as University, Finance and Health.

People who wish to submit a paper should send a tentative title by **January 31, 2011** by filling in the on-line form. A short paper should be sent to the Scientific Committee by **April 5, 2011** - guidelines will be available on the conference web site. Short Papers will be refereed and

accepted manuscripts will be published in a Book of Short Papers. After the meeting a selection of extended papers will be published in a Proceedings volume by Springer in the series "Studies in Classification, data Analysis and Knowledge Organization".

Detailed information will be available in due course through the conference web site  
<http://www.cladag2011.it/>

#### Contacts:

Chair of the Local Organizing Committee: Prof. Paolo Giudici (University of Pavia)  
[paolo.giudici@unipv.it](mailto:paolo.giudici@unipv.it)

Chair of the Scientific Program Committee: Prof. Salvatore Ingrassia (University of Catania)  
[s.ingrassia@unict.it](mailto:s.ingrassia@unict.it)

Organizing Secretariat: Ms. Silvia Ferrari (Pragma Congressi)  
[silvia.ferrari@pragmacongressi.it](mailto:silvia.ferrari@pragmacongressi.it)

## NEWS FROM EGC 2011



### CALL FOR PARTICIPATION

**11<sup>th</sup> International French-speaking Conference  
on the Extraction and management of  
Knowledge  
EGC 2011**

**January 25-28, 2011, Brest, France**

**<http://www.ensieta.fr/egc11/>**

The 11th edition of the EGC 2011 Conference will be held in Brest, France, from January 25-28 this year. This French-speaking international conference is devoted to theories methods and applications of data mining, machine learning, and knowledge discovery in databases, knowledge management and engineering. It aims to provide a forum by researchers, students and professionals for presenting research results, and to bring together experts from both academia and industry for the exchange of ideas and discussion of future challenges in knowledge extraction and management. The scientific program will include sessions, demonstrations with invited talks and

contributed presentations from a broad range of topics. This year the honorary president will be Jian Pei associate professor at the School of Computing Science from the Simon Fraser University (Canada). He will give an invited talk about early classification of temporal sequences, which has applications in, for example, health informatics, intrusion detection, anomaly detection, and scientific and engineering sequence data monitoring. Fosca Giannotti, Senior Researcher at the Information Science and Technology Institute of the National Research Council at Pisa, Italy, will talk about Mobility, Data Mining and Privacy. Data Mining is faced with new challenges. In emerging applications (like financial data, traffic TCP/IP, sensor networks, etc) data continuously flow eventually at high speed. The processes generating data evolve over time, and the concepts we are learning change. In his talk Joao Gama, researcher at LIAAD, the Laboratory of Artificial Intelligence and Decision Support of the University of Porto, Portugal, will present how to reason about the learning process in such a context. Today, in the ocean of Web data, Web search engines are the primary way to access content. The talk proposed by Ricardo Baeza-Yates, Vice-President of Yahoo! Research for Europe, Middle East and Latin America, will illustrate why we need of fully distributed search engines. Finally, in his presentation, Jacques Blanc-Talon, Head of the Scientific Domain "Information Engineering and Robotics" at the Office for Advanced Research and Innovation (MRIS) at the DGA (Direction Générale de l'Armement) will show that for new Defence applications finding the right information is still very difficult since communication networks, surveillance and information systems transmit and generate significant amounts of complex information which cannot be processed with low level algorithms.

Furthermore this year 67 high quality papers will be presented during the three days of the conference.

Schedule:

Tuesday, 25<sup>th</sup> January           Tutorials           and  
2011                                   Workshops

Wednesday to Friday, 26-28<sup>th</sup> Main Conference  
January 2011

Information on the conference and registration is available at: <http://www.ensieta.fr/egc11/>

See you in Brest!

EGC 2011 organization committee

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

In 2010 the journal ADAC has published a Special Issue on the topic 'Robust methods in classification and data analysis' (double issue 2+3/2010) with guest editors Andrea Cerioli, Marco Riani, and Peter J. Rousseeuw. It contains the following seven articles:

Luis Angel García-Escudero, Alfonso Gordaliza, Carlos Matrán, Augustín Mayo-Iscar:

- A review of robust clustering methods (89-109)

Pietro Coretto, Christian Hennig :

- A simulation study to compare robust clustering methods based on mixtures (111-135)

C. Croux, C. Dehon, A. Yadine:

- The k-step spatial sign covariance matrix (137-150)

Michiel Debruyne, Tim Verdonck:

- Robust kernel principal component analysis and classification (151-167)

Alfio Marazzi, Victor J. Yohai:

- Optimal robust estimates using the Hellinger distance (169-179)

Stefan Van Aelst, Gert Willems:

- Inference for robust canonical variates analysis (181-197)

Arnout Van Messem, Andreas Christmann :

- A review on consistency and robustness properties of support vector machines for heavy-tailed distributions (199-220)

The forthcoming issue 4/2010 will comprize the following six articles:

Casper J. Albers, John C. Gower:

- A general approach to handling missing values in Procrustes analysis

Mia Hubert, Stephan Van Der Veeken:

- Robust classification of skewed data

Heungsun Hwang, Marc A. Tomiuk:

- Fuzzy clusterwise quasi-likelihood generalized linear models

Matthijs Warrens:

- Inequalities between multi-rater kappas

Tiziano Bellini:

- Detecting atypical observations in financial data: the forward search for elliptical copulas

Tri-Dzung Nguyen, Roy E. Welsch:

- Outlier detection and robust covariance estimation using mathematical programming

For 2011 the publication schedule includes a Special Issue on 'Network analysis' (with guest editors Anushka Ferligoj and Vlado Batagelj) as well as a Special Issue on 'Time series clustering and related topics' (see the call for papers in this Newsletter)

H.-H. Bock

### **Call for Papers for a Special ADAC Issue on "Clustering of Time Series and Related Problems"**

The journal *Advances in Data Analysis and Classification* (ADAC) will publish a Special Issue on Clustering of Time Series and Related Problems. This issue will consider situations where data have the form of time series with discrete or continuous time, often in a multidimensional state space, e.g. in

- meteorology where daily temperatures are continuously measured in different cities
- social sciences where longitudinal personal data are observed over suitable time periods
- microarray analysis where gene expression values are measured over time
- marketing where the shopping behaviour of customers is followed over the year
- finance where daily stock or asset prices are recorded over many years
- medicine where EEG curves are to be analyzed.

Then clustering methods will look for classes of time series that have similar shape or structure. Given the eventually complex nature of time

series with, e.g., with autocorrelation and interdependence among different time points, periodicities, trends, categorical values etc., classical clustering approaches must be suitably modified, by designing tricky dissimilarity measures, by using tools from functional data analysis, or by recourse to probabilistic models from the theory of stochastic processes (Gaussian processes, Markov models,...).

The Special Issue of ADAC should collect a range of high quality research and survey papers from the field of clustering methods for time series, including also related methods, and should present, e.g.:

- new and innovative clustering methods and clustering models for time series,
- approaches for for new types of time series data, e.g., streaming data,
- sequence data where 'time order' is replaced by another ordering (such as, e.g., in text data),
- clustering processes that are dynamically varying over time, etc.
- successful applications of time series clustering in new fields of application.

Researchers from all IFCS member societies are invited to submit a manuscript for this volume. It should be sent as a pdf file to the ADAC editor at [bock@stochastik.rwth-aachen.de](mailto:bock@stochastik.rwth-aachen.de). Submitted papers must contain original unpublished work that has not been submitted for publication elsewhere. All manuscripts will undergo a classical double-blind reviewing process.

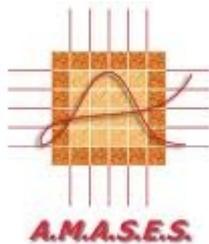
Important dates:

- Submission of manuscripts: January 31, 2011 (earlier submission is encouraged).
- Notification to authors after reviewing: April 30, 2011 (tentative).
- Final papers for the Special Issue: July 31, 2011 (tentative).

Detailed formatting instructions are given on the homepage of the journal ADAC <http://www.springer.com/journal/11634> or can be downloaded from the website <http://www.stochastik.rwth-aachen.de/adac.php>.

H.-H. Bock

**ASMDA International**  
**1981 - 2011**  
**30 years**  
**Conferences and Meetings**  
**Worldwide**



Associazione per la Matematica Applicata alle Scienze Economiche e Sociali

**Applied Stochastic Models and Data Analysis (ASMDA2011)**

**The 14th Conference of the ASMDA International Society**

Rome, Italy, **7 - 10 June 2011**

**Background:** Since 1981, ASMDA aims to serve as the interface between Stochastic Modeling and Data Analysis and their real life applications particularly in Business, Finance and Insurance, Management, Production and Reliability, Biology and Medicine.

Our main objective is to publish papers, both theoretical or practical, presenting new results having potential for solving real-life problems. Another important objective is to present new methods for solving these problems by analyzing the relevant data.

Also, the use of recent advances in different fields will be promoted such as for example, new optimization and statistical methods, data warehouse, data mining and knowledge systems, computing-aided decision supports and neural computing.

The role played by ASMDA as interface between theory and practice means that the symposia are of great interest for both the academic and business worlds. The high standards of the meetings are guaranteed by strong international scientific committees and by a permanent world-wide ASMDA Committee.

The preceding international ASMDA Symposia were organized in Brussels (1981, 1983, 1985), Belgium, in Nancy (1988), France, in Granada (1991), Spain, in Chania (1993), Greece, in Dublin (1995), Ireland, in Anacapri (1997), Italy, in Lisboa (1999), Portugal, in Compiègne (2001), France and in Brest (2005), France, in Chania (2007), Greece and in Vilnius (2009) Lithuania.

In general, the proceedings volumes were published by international scientific publishers or local publishers.

The Conference 2011 will focus on new trends in theory, applications and software of Applied Stochastic Models and Data Analysis. ASMDA 2011 will take place in Rome, Italy.

Particular interest will be given to interesting applications in engineering, productions and services (maintenance, reliability, planning and control, quality control, finance, insurance, management and administration, inventory and logistics, marketing, environment, human resources, biotechnology, medicine, ...).

<http://www.asmda.eu/> is the site address

**Organizing committee**

**Chairmen**

Raimondo Manca  
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Claudio Macci  
Gabriele Stabile  
Andrea Tancredi

**Invited Speakers**

**Narayanaswamy Balakrishnan**, McMaster University

*Pierre Devolder*, Université Catholique de Louvaine

*Domenico Marinucci*, University of Rome “Tor Vergata”

*Fabio Maccheroni*, Università Bocconi

*Yosi Rinott*, The Hebrew University of Jerusalem

*Dmitrii Silvestrov*, University of Stockholm

*Larry Wasserman*, Carnegie Mellon University

## In Memoriam



Herman P. Friedman, President of Statistical Science and Technology Associates, Inc., a former President of the Classification Society of North America, and a longtime member of the American Statistical Association, died on October 17, 2010 in New York City. Herman is survived by his wife, Judith D. Goldberg, herself a longtime member and Fellow of ASA; daughters, Ellen Friedman (Bloomfield), Anne Friedman (Finkelstein), and Lisa Friedman Wolkoff; and seven grandchildren.

Herman was born in New York City where he lived all his life. He graduated from Brooklyn

Technical High School and earned his B.S. and M.A. in Mathematics, with a concentration in Geometrical Algebra, from Brooklyn College. He studied Statistics at the New York University Courant Institute of Mathematical Sciences with Allan Birnbaum, and received an M. Phil. in Statistics from Yale University, where he worked with John Hartigan.

Near the end of the Korean War, Herman was drafted into the U.S. Army. He taught and then joined the Scientific and Professional Program as a Mathematician in the Ballistic Research Laboratory until his discharge as a sergeant in the reserves.

After his discharge from the Army, Herman held positions of increasing responsibility while attending NYU and Yale as a part time student. His first position was as a Mathematician for Project Cyclone at Reeves Instruments Corp., where he worked on the design of a missile seeker and missile target simulations. Subsequently, he assumed roles as a Senior and Principal Mathematician at the System Development Corp. and Bulova Research and Development, where he began his work in statistical classification theory and pattern recognition. In 1963, he joined IBM where he spent most of his career-- over 26 years. It was during those years that he pioneered the development of methods and software for cluster analysis as a member of the New York Science Center. As a Senior Institute Staff member of the IBM Systems Research Institute, and, then, Institute Consultant at Systems Research Education, he taught courses in advanced methods of data analysis and systems evaluation, continued his research, and consulted throughout IBM. While at IBM, Herman made significant contributions to the theory and application of classification and clustering, and received several awards for his contributions.

After early retirement from IBM, Herman founded Statistical Science and Technology Associates, Inc., and was Visiting Professor in the Psychometrics Program at Fordham University Graduate School of Psychology where he was a mentor to several graduate students.

During his career, Herman published on different topics, ranging from pattern recognition to classification and data mining; and gave numerous lectures at various institutions and professional meetings. He was President of the

Classification Society of North America (1992-1993); a Fellow of the New York Academy of Science and Chair of its Section on Computers and Information Science; a member of Pi Mu Epsilon, Sigma Xi Yale Chapter; and a National ACM Lecturer. Herman also served as a member of the ASA National Council, a member of the ASA Board of Directors, and a President of the ASA New York Chapter.

As an accomplished statistician, researcher, teacher, and mentor, Herman touched the lives of many young statisticians. The profession has lost one of its champions, and he will be deeply missed by all who had the good fortune to have known him.

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

[andre.hardy@fundp.ac.be](mailto:andre.hardy@fundp.ac.be)

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

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