International Federation of Classification Societies Newsletter

President: Iven Van Mechelen   Number 46   July, 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

The preparations of the IFCS-2013 conference in Tilburg (The Netherlands) are now nearing their end, and I must say that I am most impressed by the extraordinary efforts and the dedication of Jeroen Vermunt and his team. Because of their work, I am confident that everything is now ready to go for a scientifically challenging and very successful conference! From now on, the conference program can be consulted on the conference website, www.ifcs2013.org. The program includes a series of attractive invited speakers, and an impressive list of invited and contributed sessions. Moreover, the conference will also provide a unique opportunity to learn the most recent information on two exciting scientific projects IFCS is currently working on: the benchmarking project and *Classipedia*. I very much look forward to the scientific discussions and exchanges at IFCS-2013, and I hope to meet many of you in Tilburg!

As many of you know, at the occasion of each IFCS conference the Federation presents a number of Chikio Hayashi awards. These awards are scientific prizes for young researchers with a

very promising track record in classification, data analysis, or related areas, as a support of their professional career. As you can read in this Newsletter, the 2013 Chikio Hayashi Awards Committee decided to grant Chikio Hayashi Awards 2013 to Anne-Laure Boulesteix (Ludwig-Maximilians-Universität, München) and Paul McNicholas (University of Guelph). Please allow me to congratulate most cordially these two winners!

A final piece of exciting news is that several people are currently working on the foundation of new classification societies or interest groups in no less than four different countries! I guess we may reasonably expect applications for IFCS membership from several of them within the next year or so. I very much hope that this may contribute to yet more intense and fruitful exchanges and collaborations between researchers in 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 are piloting a move from two to three newsletters (March, July, and November), and the response has been very good so far. Please do not hesitate to let me have your feedback, either in person in Tilburg or by email (paul.mcnicholas@uoguelph.ca). I hope that we will have at least one book review in Newsletter 47; please contact me if you are interested in writing one. Also, please let me know the dates of your upcoming meetings so that they can be added to the next newsletter. Hopefully, we will also have a list of upcoming meetings on the website soon. Finally, I want to congratulate our President-Elect, Maurizio Vichi, and his colleagues on the editorial board of *Advances in Data Analysis and Classification* for what has been an extraordinary increase in the impact factor of the journal to 1.382 for 2012.

Paul McNicholas
IFCS Publication Officer

Chikio Hayashi Awards 2013

It is my pleasure to inform you that the 2013 Chikio Hayashi Awards Committee, consisting of Michel Wedel (chair), Edwin Diday, Sylvia Frühwirth-Schnatter, and James Ramsay, decided to grant the Chikio Hayashi Awards 2013 to Anne-Laure Boulesteix (Ludwig-Maximilians-Universität, München) and Paul McNicholas (University of Guelph).

Please allow me to thank the distinguished members of the Committee for their invaluable efforts at the service of the classification domain, and to congratulate most cordially the two winners. Together with you I look forward to the prize-giving during the opening session of the IFCS-2013 conference in Tilburg and to the talks of the winners at that conference.

Patrice Bertrand
IFCS Scientific Secretary

News from JCS

(I) New Executive Members of JCS
The following list includes the new staff of the Japanese Classification Society elected according to the articles of the JCS governing the election of Executive Members. The tenure for these members is from *April 1, 2013 to March 31, 2014*.

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Auditors
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Ryozo Yoshino, The Institute of Statistical Mathematics

Executive Committee Members
Kohei Adachi, Yasumasa Baba, Atsuhiro Hayashi, Fumi Hayashi, Koji Kurihara, Kazufumi Manabe, Takashi Murakami, Atsuho Nakayama, Akinori Okada, Noboru Ohsumi, Tatsuo Ohtsu, Fumitake Sakaori, Mika Sato-Ilic, Akinobu Takeuchi, Takahiro Tsuchiya, Michiko Watanabe, Hiroshi Yadohisa, Kazunori Yamaguchi, Yoshiro Yamamoto, Kazue Yamaoka.

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(II) Notice of the Japanese Classification Society Symposium on New Developments in Clustering

The symposium will be held on September 2013 at Osaka University, Toyonaka Campus in Osaka under the 2013 Japanese Joint Statistical Meeting. The organizer is Kouhei Adachi (Osaka University). The official Web site of the 2013 Japanese Joint Statistical Meeting is http://www.jfssa.jp/taikai/2013/

(III) Information about the 32nd AnnualMeeting of the Japanese Classification Society

The annual meeting will be held in *March*, *2014* at Tokyo Metropolitan University, Tokyo. The chairperson of organizing committee is Atsuho Nakayama (Tokyo Metropolitan University). For additional information, please visit our website at http://www.bunrui.jp.

Atsuho Nakayama

News from CLAD

JOCLAD 2013

The XX Annual Meeting JOCLAD 2013 of the Associação Portuguesa de CLassificação e Análise de Dados, CLAD, was held on April 11-13 2013 at the Universidade do Minho – Campus de Azurém, Guimarães. About 80 participants, among researchers, students and professionals, attended the conference.

The scientific program included three invited talks (*Statistical models for clustering data*, by Maurizio Vichi, Sapienza Università di Roma, Italy; *Estimation of labour force indicators in counties of Galicia using a multinomial mixed model*, by Maria José Lombardía Cortiña,

Universidade da Coruña, Spain; and *Data analysis in the large data era*, by Ana Maria Pires, Instituto Superior Técnico de Lisboa, Portugal), two thematic sessions (organized by Instituto Nacional de Estatística and Banco de Portugal), as well as contributed papers and posters.

A short course (*Métodos de reamostragem - o bootstrap*, by Conceição Amado, Instituto Superior Técnico de Lisboa) took place on April 11.

The book entitled *'CLASSIFICAÇÃO E ANÁLISE DE DADOS. Métodos e Aplicações'*, a recent CLAD Publication, was introduced and distributed at the JOCLAD2013 meeting. Publisher is the INE - Instituto Nacional de Estatística. Editors are Helena Bacelar-Nicolau (Universidade de Lisboa), Fernanda Sousa (Universidade do Porto) and Carlos Ferreira (Universidade de Aveiro).

For further information on the meeting see the web site http://w3.math.uminho.pt/joclad2013

"Banco de Portugal – Clad Award" for Young Researchers in the Field of Statistics

Banco de Portugal and CLAD have created the "Banco de Portugal – Clad Award" (Prémio Banco de Portugal – CLAD), to recognise the best works each year in statistical analysis produced by young researchers from statistical data published by Banco de Portugal.

The award will be first presented during the school year 2013/2014. The author of the best work in statistical analysis will receive a prize of one thousand five hundred euro and will be entitled to a six-month paid internship at Banco de Portugal.

Two further submissions may also receive honourable mentions. These researchers will be entitled to a three-month paid internship at Banco de Portugal.

Applications: The deadline for applications is 28 February 2014. Students that are at least in the second cycle of university studies (including post-graduate) may apply for the Prémio Banco de Portugal – CLAD**.**

Submissions must be unpublished, in scientific article format and produced in the following fields: Monetary and financial statistics; Balance of payments and international investment position statistics; Financial accounts and general government statistics; Non-financial corporation statistics in the Central Balance-Sheet Database.

Information published by Banco de Portugal in these statistical fields is available at BPstat. Submissions should be sent by e-mail, together with the authors' curricula vitae, to: Premio.BP.CLAD@bportugal.pt and mail@clad.pt, and by post to Faculdade de Engenharia da Universidade do Porto, Departamento de Engenharia Civil, Secção de Matemática, Rua Dr. Roberto Frias, 4200-465 Porto.

The rules governing the "Prémio Banco de Portugal – CLAD" are available at Banco de Portugal's institutional website. Requests for clarification on the award and its rules should be sent by e-mail to CLAD's Secretariat (mail@clad.pt).

JOCLAD 2014 - Call for Participation

The XXI Annual Meeting of the Associação Portuguesa de CLassificação e Análise de Dados, JOCLAD 2014, will be held at the Instituto Nacional de Estatística in Lisbon. Since in 2014 our association completes 20 years, some special activities are being prepared for that. The JOCLAD 2014 web site will soon be available.

CLAD-Sponsored Courses

Following the series of CLAD sponsored courses, a one day course will be held next September 28 under the topic *"Análise em Componentes Principais não linear: HOMALS, CATPCA e qlPCA"* at Faculdade de Engenharia do Porto. The course will be presented by Teresa Calapez (ISCTE - Instituto Universitário de Lisboa) and Nuno Lavado (Instituto Superior de Engenharia de Coimbra).

CLAD collaboration in the International Year of Statistics

As participating member in the organization of the *International Year of Statistics,* which is celebrated during 2013, several **CLAD** activities are being developed in that context.

Helena Bacelar-Nicolau

News from the VOC

The second VOC conference took place in the environmentally friendly Ecohuis in Antwerp (Belgium) on the 31st of May 2013 with a full day program including 10 contributions by VOC members and a keynote speech from Stijn Vansteelandt (Ghent University and the London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine) "On Confounding, Prediction and Efficiency in the Analysis of Longitudinal and Cross-sectional Clustered Data". The conference had approximately 25 participants and attracted several new members.

Katrijn Van Deun

News from the Irish Pattern Recognition and Classification Society

Symposium in Honour of Professor John Haslett

Professor John Haslett, Chair of Statistics, Trinity College Dublin, is retiring on 30th September 2013 after 40 years in Trinity College Dublin. To celebrate his enormous contributions to the College and our discipline, we are delighted to hold a one-day symposium to honour his achievements and to wish John well in his future endeavours.

Date: Friday, 4th October 2013

Location: the Printing House, Trinity College, Dublin.

Invited speakers:
1. Prof. Adrian Raftery
2. Prof. Alan Gelfand
3. Prof. Steve Haslett

There is no registration fee. However we may conclude the event with Commons in College, and there will be a charge of about €25 for anyone wishing to attend that (more details to follow on how to pay). Registration is by e-mailing Rozenn.Dahyot@scss.tcd.ie with subject "John Haslett Symposium", giving your name, affiliation and e-mail address. Further details at: https://www.scss.tcd.ie/conferences/JohnHaslettSymposium/

Rozenn Dahyot

News From ClaDAG

The University of Modena and Reggio Emilia will host the ninth SIS-ClaDAG scientific meeting form September 18th to 20th. Professor Francesco Palumbo and Professor Isabella Morlini, which respectively chair the Scientific Program Committee and the Local Organizing Committee, are gladly announcing that the following distinguished colleagues have accepted the invitation as keynote lecturers:

- Paolo S. Giudici, Università di Pavia, Italy
- Mia Hubert, Department of Mathematics KU Leuven, Belgium
- Stéphane Robin, AgroParisTech, France
- Jeroen K. Vermunt, University of Tilburg, The Netherlands

The SIS-ClaDAG promotes and encourages scientific relationships with all the IFCS societies and any other groups that are interested in Classification and Data Analysis topics. In this view, all SIS-ClaDAG conference talks and proceedings will be in English.

In occasion of the conference, the ClaDAG general assembly will vote the new ClaDAG Scientific Board. During the assembly, the current President Francesco Palumbo will end his office and the President-Elect Prof. Paolo Giudici will take up the position. We wish him a fruitful work.

A detailed conference schedule will be soon available. More details are available at the conference web site: http://www.cladag2013.it/.

Francesco Palumbo

News from The Classification Society

Classification Society Annual Meeting 2013

The Classification Society held its annual meeting June 13-15, 2013 at the Lubar School of Business at the University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee. There were four Lubar-sponsored keynote speakers and presidential addresses from the current CS President Rebecca Nugent and the CS President-Elect Doug Steinley. Besides three

days of parallel sessions on clustering and classification methodology and applications, attendees enjoyed fabulous social events at the Black Rose Irish Pub and the Sprecher Brewery!

Classification Society
Distinguished Dissertation Award

We were also very happy to award this year's Classification Society Distinguished Dissertation Award, a yearly prize awarded for the best PhD dissertation in the areas of clustering, classification and related areas of data analysis. The topics can encompass theory and/or applications. The award is given to a dissertation demonstrating the most *innovative* or *impressive* work in theory/methodology, or the most innovative or well-developed application(s) – with the proviso that the literature review has to be thorough. See the website for further details: http://www.classification-society.org/clsoc/dissaward2013.php

The winner of the 2013 Classification Society Distinguished Dissertation Award was Jeff Andrews from the University of Guelph (advisor Paul McNicholas). Jeff received $500 in book vouchers from Chapman and Hall and a $1000 travel award to present his research at the CS meeting. Runner-up went to Carel Peeters (Utrecht University) and an Honorable Mention was given to Sanjeena Dang (University of Guelph). All three were invited to present their work at the CS meeting. This year's award committee was: Ahmed N. Albatineh (Florida International University), Elizabeth Ayers (American Institutes for Research), Doug Steinley (University of Missouri-Columbia), and chair Nema Dean (University of Glasgow).

More details about the conference can be found at https://sites.google.com/site/classification2013 and the society at http://www.classification-society.org/clsoc/clsoc.php.

Classification Society Annual Meeting 2015

We're really looking forward to next year's meeting. It's our 50th anniversary, and we would love to have everyone join in the celebration!

Rebecca Nugent

News from GfKI (AG DANK) / BCS

Joint meeting of the British Classification Society and the AG DANK of the GfKl

The British Classification Society and the AG DANK of the GfKl (data analysis working group of the German Classification Society) will hold a joint meeting at University College London, 8/9 November 2013. As traditionally for AG DANK autumn meetings, the meeting will have a focus topic, namely "variable selection and dimension reduction in clustering and classification". Invited speakers are Gilles Celeux, Paris, Mario Figueiredo, Lisbon, and Roberto Rocci, Rome.

The meeting will be organized by Christian Hennig (c.hennig@ucl.ac.uk). BCS and AG DANK meetings are usually small and informal with much opportunity for discussion. A data set will be provided that can be analyzed by participants, with discussion of these analyses at the meeting.

More information on http://www.homepages.ucl.ac.uk/~ucakche/agdank/agdankht2013eng.html

Christian Hennig

Upcoming Conferences and Meetings

July 2013
IFCS-2013, Tilburg, The Netherlands, July 14-17 www.ifcs2013.org

September 2013
27th Annual Conference of Section on Classification and Data Analysis of Polish Statistical Society "Classification and Data Analysis: Theory and Applications", Karpacz September 11-13: http://skad2013.ue.wroc.pl

7th Panhellenic Data Analysis Conference, September 12-14, Kavala, Greece: www.gsda.gr/conference

CLADAG 2013: 9th Scientific Meeting of the Classification and Data Analysis Group of the Italian Statistical Society, Modena, September 18-20: http://www.cladag2013.it

10th Applied Statistics International Conference, September 22-25, Ribno (Bled), Slovenia: http://conferences.nib.si/AS2013/

CLAD-Sponsored Course: *"Análise em Componentes Principais não linear: HOMALS, CATPCA e qlPCA"*, September 28, Faculdade de Engenharia do Porto.

October 2013
Symposium in Honour of Professor John Haslett, October 4, Trinity College Dublin, Ireland: https://www.scss.tcd.ie/conferences/JohnHaslettSymposium/

November 2013
AG DANK autumn meeting, UCL, London, November 8-9:
http://www.homepages.ucl.ac.uk/~ucakche/agdank/agdankht2013eng.html

May 2014
PLS '14: 8th International Conference on PLS and Related Methods, May 26-28, Paris, France: www.pls14.org

Looking Ahead to IFCS Newsletter Number 47

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

paul.mcnicholas@uoguelph.ca

before October 25, 2013.

Plain text or Word files are preferred.

Thanks!

Paul McNicholas

IFCS Publication Officer