



# International Federation of Classification Societies Newsletter

**President:** Berthold Lausen

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**Editor:** Katrijn Van Deun

**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, The Classification Society, Classification and Multivariate Statistics Group of the Hungarian Statistical Association, Gesellschaft für Klassifikation, Greek Society of Data Analysis, Irish Pattern Recognition and Classification Society, Japanese Classification Society, Korean Classification Society, Moroccan Classification Society, Société Francophone de Classification, Multivariate Data Analysis Group of the South African Statistical Association, Multivariate Statistics and Classification Group of the Spanish Society of Statistics and Operations Research, 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 two journals: *Advances in Data Analysis and Classification* and the *Journal of Classification*.

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## Words from the IFCS President

These are my first words to the newsletter as president. It is a privilege and a great honour for me to serve as President. I have the honour to succeed Akinori Okada. Akinori has been an excellent President. Congratulations and welcome to Angela Montanari, the President-Elect and to Katrijn Van Deun, the Publication Officer. I like to thank Maurizio Vichi as past president and Paul McNicholas as Publication Officer very much for all their hard work and excellent contributions to the Executive Committee (EC) of IFCS.

After our very successful IFCS conference at Tokyo, Japan, in August 8-10, 2017 we are looking forward to the upcoming IFCS2019 in Thessaloniki, Greece, August 26-29, 2019. Theodore Chadjipadelis leads as conference chair the organisation. Tae Rim Lee and myself co-chair the scientific program committee (SPC). I will meet on 4 June with Theodore and the local organisers in Thessaloniki. We hope and aim that many representatives of our member societies

**IFCS Homepage:** <http://www.ifcs.info>

contribute to the IFCS 2019 and that the IFCS and its member societies grow further.

Berthold Lausen  
IFCS President

### **News from the IFCS Secretary**

Since the last newsletter, the IFCS Executive Committee (EC) had two Skype meetings on 11 December 2017 and 19 February 2018 (a Skype meeting scheduled for 24 January had to be cancelled because of technical issues). The EC welcomes the new President Elect Angela Montanari and the new Publication Officer Katrijn Van Deun who were elected in the meantime, and thank the outgoing Past President Maurizio Vichi and Publication Officer Paul McNicholas for all the work they have done for the IFCS during their tenures in the EC. Further members of the EC are the new IFCS President Berthold Lausen and the now Past President Akinori Okada, as well as the Treasurer Sugnet Lubbe and the Secretary Christian Hennig (myself).

Much of the two meetings was devoted to the preparation of the IFCS 2019 conference in Thessaloniki and the discussion of options for hosting the IFCS 2021, about there is already contact between the EC and member societies. A call for hosting the conference has been sent out to the IFCS Council Mailing List with a deadline 20 March (after I write this but before the newsletter is published).

The EC also amended a proposal for a change of the IFCS Constitution and Election Rules, which is currently discussed on the IFCS Council Mailing List. The proposal had originally been made in late 2016 but did not get enough positive votes in the Council (despite not getting any negative votes). In Tokyo the EC was asked to make an amended proposal and to discuss it openly on the Mailing List, which is what currently happens. I had sketched the proposal already in the previous newsletter; the majority of proposed changes are just clarifications of some procedures (such as including the borderline number of members a member society must have in order to have two delegates in the Council and in order to pay higher dues); furthermore Data Science is integrated in the statement of scope and purpose, conferences, awards and Protocol Agreements

with other societies are also now described more explicitly in the constitution.

There was some discussion in the EC about whether it is a good thing that the Council has four "additional members" (on top of the EC members and the delegates of member societies), but the EC decided to not currently propose to change this. It may be discussed at the Council meeting in Thessaloniki in case that there is interest in a change.

Another issue is that there are new regulations on data protection in Europe which means that the Secretary needs to ask more explicitly for consent for the publication of email addresses of member societies officers, delegates and contact persons in the IFCS Directory.

Please note that the IFCS Directory needs to contain updated information on the Societies' Presidents, Treasurers, Council Representatives (names, email addresses and terms of office). Any change should be emailed to the IFCS Secretary ([c.hennig@ucl.ac.uk](mailto:c.hennig@ucl.ac.uk)).

Christian Hennig  
IFCS Secretary

### **News from the IFCS Treasurer**

Thank you for your support.

Although the IFCS membership fees are quoted per annum, we have a two year cycle, just completing the collection of dues for 2017 and 2018 in January 2018. From my side I would like to say a big thank you to all the member society treasurers for their cooperation and swift response. For the three societies who have not yet paid or made any specific arrangements, we can only serve the classification community effectively if everyone plays their part, come on, we need you on board.

Sugnet Lubbe  
IFCS Treasurer

### **News from the IFCS Publication Officer**

I would like to begin by thanking Berthold Lausen for his warm words of welcome and Paul McNicholas for his help with the changeover. Many thanks to everyone who has contributed to

this newsletter. I also want to welcome Angela Montanari to the IFCS Executive Committee. As Berthold Lausen's term as IFCS President begins, I wish him all the best in this very important role.

Katrijn Van Deun  
IFCS Publication Officer

## **IFCS 2019: Announcement and Call for Papers**

The 2019 conference of the International Federation of Classification Societies (IFCS) will be held in Thessaloniki, Greece from August 26 to 29, 2019. The conference theme will be 'Data Analysis and Rationality in a Complex World'. On August 26, pre-conference workshops will be held. The conference itself will start on August 27 in the morning, and will close on August 29 with a full day conference program and a conference dinner. The conference will include a President's invited session and a Presidential address, invited presentations, invited and contributed sessions, and poster sessions. The following awards and medals ceremony will be scheduled at the conference.

- Helga and Wolfgang Gaul Stiftung Award (age < 30)
- Chikio Hayashi Award (age 30–35)
- IFCS Research Medal for outstanding research achievements (age > 35)
- Student/Postdoctoral Fellow Paper Competition and Travel Award (age 22–29)

### **Conference Venue**

The conference venue will be confirmed in June 2018 and details will be provided in the next IFCS Newsletter.

### **Conference Topics**

Contributed papers from scholars and practitioners are invited on any of the topics below as well as on related issues: Data Analysis and Classification in the 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 / Formal Concept Analysis / Functional Data Analysis / Geospatial Planning / Graphics and Vision / High-

Dimensional Data and Dimension Reduction / Image Analysis and Computer Vision / Information Retrieval and Library Science / Impact of Technical Revolution, Globalization on Statistical Process / Knowledge Discovery / Linguistics and Musicology / Machine Learning and Pattern Recognition / Marketing and Management / Medical and Health Sciences / Neural Networks and Deep Learning / Psychology and Educational Sciences / Social Network Analysis / Sparse Modeling / Statistical Data Analysis, Statistical Models and Model Selection / Swarm Systems / Symbolic Data Analysis / Text Mining, Web Mining, and Ontology Learning / Visualization

In addition, plenary lectures and conference sessions will focus on the following topics:

a) theoretical aspects and applications of data analysis methods and classification methodology in various scientific fields, b) organizing, analysing and visualizing official data, and c) needs and insights of statistical education. Particular emphasis will be placed on multidisciplinary approaches for social and health sciences, mathematics, informatics, humanities, and science.

### **Submission of Abstracts**

Titles and abstracts should be submitted and uploaded via the conference website <http://www.ifcs2019.gr> by April 15, 2019. All abstracts will be subject to a peer review process. Notifications of acceptance will be sent by May 15, 2019.

### **Important Dates**

- November 1, 2018: Start early bird registration
- April 15, 2019: Deadline for abstract submission
- April 15, 2019: Deadline for early bird registration
- May 15, 2019: Notification of acceptance for abstract submission
- May 31, 2019: Deadline for standard registration
- June 30, 2019: Deadline for late registration
- August 26, 2019: Pre-conference workshops
- August 27-29, 2019: IFCS-2019 conference

### **Publications Related to the Conference**

We are planning to publish a post-conference proceedings. The tentative schedule is as follows:

- October 15, 2019: Deadline manuscript submission
- December 15, 2019: Notification of acceptance
- February 15, 2020: Deadline revised manuscript submission
- June 15, 2020: Publication and shipment

### Conference Fees

	Early Bird until May 15, 2019	Standard	Late after May 15, 2019
IFCS Societies Member*	260,00 €	300,00 €	340,00 €
Non-Member	340,00 €	380,00 €	420,00 €
Student	150,00 €	150,00 €	150,00 €

\* IASC members are entitled to IFCS societies members reduced fees.

### Contact Address

Theodore Chadjipadelis, Aristotle University of Thessaloniki, School of Political Sciences, University Campus, 54625, Thessaloniki, Greece. Email: [ifcs2019@polsci.auth.gr](mailto:ifcs2019@polsci.auth.gr). Further Information can be found on the conference website <http://www.ifcs2019.gr>.

### Submission of Abstracts

Titles and abstracts should be submitted and uploaded via the conference website <http://www.ifcs2019.gr> by 15 April 2019. We look forward to seeing you in Thessaloniki in August 2019.

Theodore Chadjipadelis

## News from The Classification Society

### CS 2018

The 47th annual meeting of the Classification Society will take place from Thursday, June 21 to Saturday, June 23 2018 at Stony Brook University, Long Island, New York. The meeting will be hosted by former Classification Society president, F. James Rohlf. He and Paul McNicholas, the current president of the Classification Society, have lined up a great program.

The President's Invited Address will be given by:

- Charles Bouveyron, Université Nice Côte d'Azur, France.

The President's Address will be given by:

- Paul McNicholas, McMaster University, Ontario, Canada.

The other keynote lectures will be given by:

- Tanzy Love, University of Rochester, New York, US.
- Volodymyr Melnykov, The University of Alabama, Tuscaloosa, US.
- Katrijn Van Deun, Tilburg University, The Netherlands.

Also, there will be a special invited session for the Distinguished Dissertation Award.

In addition, there will also be two invited sessions:

- Applications of Classification
  - Justin Gross, University of Massachusetts Amherst, US.
  - Yang Tang, McMaster University, Ontario, Canada.
- Recent Advances in Classification
  - Sanjeena Dang, Binghamton University, New York, US.
  - Berthold Lausen, University of Essex, UK.

The local arrangements chair is Jim Rohlf and the members of program committee are Jeff Andrews, Abby Flynt, Brian Franczak, and Paul McNicholas (chair). Contributed abstracts for talks and posters are most welcome!

**Presentations:** The organizing committee is now accepting abstracts for oral and poster presentations. If you are interested in presenting your work at the upcoming meeting, please, email a pdf file with a title and abstract containing no more than 300 words to Brian Franczak, franczakb@macewan.ca. Please, indicate whether you would like to be considered for an oral or poster presentation.

**Deadlines:** The submission deadline for contributed abstracts is April 15, 2018 The Early Bird Registration deadline is May 15, 2018.

**Transportation:** Stony Brook University is situated on the North shore of Long Island in South-Eastern New York. It is approximately 60 miles East of New York City. The Islip-MacArthur Airport (ISP) in Long Island is 16 miles from the campus and is serviced by direct flights by major airlines and commuter lines. Stony Brook is also easily reached by bus/train from the New York City Area Airports Newark (EWR), John F. Kennedy (JFK), and La Guardia (LGA) that are located approximately 50 miles to the West.

**Accommodation:** A block of rooms has been reserved at the Holiday Inn Express in Stony Brook, with complimentary breakfast, and shuttle service to and from campus (it is a couple of miles East of campus).

Further Information: All these details and more can be found on the website of the Classification Society at <https://tcs.wildapricot.org/Meeting>. Hope to see you in New York for CS 2018!

### **Classification Society Distinguished Dissertation Award, the Award in early 2018 for PhDs from 2017**

Each year, the Classification Society offers a Distinguished Dissertation Award for an outstanding Ph.D. dissertation on the theme of clustering, classification, or related areas of data analysis, encompassing associated theory and/or applications. The Award totals US\$500 in book vouchers from Chapman and Hall/CRC and the winner is invited to make a presentation in a special session at the Classification Society Annual Meeting. The Classification Society covers travel expenses to the 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.

The 2018 Award Committee for submissions of awarded PhDs in the year 2017, comprised: Stephen France (Mississippi State University, US), Bobby Gramacy (Virginia Tech., US), and, chair, Fionn Murtagh (University of Huddersfield, UK).

The following candidates displayed excellence in regard to methodology and applications, and both also demonstrated effective and relevant dissemination of their work through publications in very prominent journals. It was concluded from this that both candidates, here, demonstrated excellence. Our evaluation panel outcomes has been that, here, in this particular context, it is great to have, on this particular occasion, two Distinguished Dissertation Award winners. The Award book vouchers and travel expenses for attendance at the Classification Society Annual Meeting will be available for the awardees.

For Dr Yang Tang, she had one paper under review, 1 in press, and 1 indicated in the nomination as being expected to be submitted shortly. Applications include Airbnb reviews. Nomination was by Prof. Paul McNicholas, Department of Mathematics and Statistics, McMaster University, Hamilton, Ontario, Canada. Yang Tang successfully defended her PhD in the Department of Mathematics and Statistics in April 2017. The title of the dissertation is "Dimensionality Reduction with Non-Gaussian Mixtures". One expression from the reviews is

this: "Her work demonstrates a deep and comprehensive understanding of the material." For Dr Michael Fop, he has had one paper published, one paper in press, one paper under review, and one paper in preparation. Applications include medical diagnosis. Dr Michael Fop's nomination was by Prof. Brendan Murphy, UCD School of Mathematics and Statistics, University College Dublin, Ireland. Michael Fop successfully defended his PhD in statistics in September 2017 and graduated in December 2017. The title of his dissertation is "Advances in Model-based Clustering and Classification". One expression from the reviews is this: "I expect the articles that come out of it to have a substantial impact in the field in coming years."

Hans-Friedrich Köhn

### **News from MDAG**

Multivariate Data Analysis Group (MDAG) is hosting the first Correspondence Analysis and Related Methods (CARME) conference outside of Europe. The CARME 2019 conference will take place in Stellenbosch (South Africa), 4-6 February 2019. We invite all IFCS members who are intrigued by the wide range of applications of correspondence analysis and relevant related methods to consider this conference for your 2019 calendar. Information is available on the conference website: <https://carmesa2019.wixsite.com/conference>

Johané Nienkemper-Swanepoel

### **News from SEIO-AMyC**

#### **AMyC 2018**

The IV International Workshop on Proximity Data, Multivariate Analysis and Classification, AMyC 2018, will be held at the University of Salamanca, Spain, October 2018: <http://www.ub.edu/wamyc/SEIO/Anuncio%20AMyC2018.pdf>. This is the annual meeting of the Multivariate Statistics and Classification Group of the Spanish Society of Statistics and Operations Research <http://amyc.seio.es/>.

Eva Boj del Val

## News from JCS

### (I) The 36th Annual Meeting of the Japanese Classification Society

The 36th Annual Meeting was held on December 4th and 5th at Sapporo Convention Center, Hokkaido. The chairperson of the organizing committee was Masahiro Mizuta (Hokkaido University). The speakers and the titles of their talks were as follows:

- Semi-supervised local canonical correlation analysis for binary classification problem with latent label structure, Seigo Mizutani (Graduate School of Doshisha University) and Hiroshi Yadohisa (Doshisha University)
- Multiclass classification using relative density ratio, Masaaki Okabe (Doshisha University), Jun Tsuchida (Graduate School of Doshisha University) and Hiroshi Yadohisa (Doshisha University)
- Smartphone based emergency reporting and response system in Myanmar, Dim En Nyaung (Rikkyo University) and Kazunori Yamaguchi (Rikkyo University)
- High-dimensional EM factor analysis with clustering variables, Jingyu Cai (Graduate School of Osaka University) and Kohei Adachi (Osaka University)
- Ghostwriter verification of Kan KIKUCHI's novel Jihi Shincyo with statistical classification methods, Yeji Liu (Graduate School of Doshisha University), Hao Sun (Graduate School of Doshisha University) and Mingzhe Jin (Doshisha University)
- General response pattern on the cross national survey research, Hiroko Tsunoda (Nihon Wellness Sports University) and Ryoza Yoshino (The Institute of Statistical Mathematics)
- Multi-label classification for remote sensing images with spatial and structured support vector machine, Satoru Koda (Graduate School of Kyushu University), Abdallah Zeggada (University of Trento), Farid Melgani (University of Trento) and Ryuei Nishii (Institute of Mathematics for Industry, Kyushu University)
- Subspace k-means clustering for three-way data, Sho Hashimoto (Kwansei Gakuin University) and Noriko Nagata (Kwansei Gakuin University)
- Mixture exploratory structural equation modeling, Kohei Uno (Graduate School of Osaka University)

- Directional regression models with high-dimensional linear predictors, Yuji Mochizuki (Graduate School of Chuo University) and Fumitake Sakaori (Chuo University)
- Detecting suicide hotspots by ages and cities, Qihao Li (Graduate School of Hokkaido University), Yuriko Komiya (Hokkaido University), Hiroyuki Minami (Hokkaido University) and Masahiro Mizuta (Hokkaido University)
- Joint graph of row and column objects of cross tabulate based on multidimensional scaling using super distance matrix given by dual scaling, Hiroyasu Abe (Kyoto University)
- Removing the indeterminacy in the MCMC estimation of the multidimensional scaling model, Kensuke Okada (Senshu University) and Shin-ichi Mayekawa (Tokyo Institute of Technology)
- Group-L1-norm based sparse MDS for hierarchical clustering, Kohei Adachi (Osaka University)
- Classification of coordinate for the pitched ball detection on baseball pitching video, Kazuki Konda (Graduate School of Tokai University) and Yoshiro Yamamoto (Tokai University)

### (II) Awards and Fellows of JCS in 2017

In 2017, award winners of contribution award, paper award, encouraging award and fellows of JCS are selected as follows:

- Distinguished Career Award: Akinori Okada (Rikkyo University)
- Outstanding Paper Award: Kenichi Hayashi (Keio University)
- Young Researcher Award: Makiko Oda (National Defense Medical College), Mariko Takagishi (Graduate School of Doshisha University), and Kuniyoshi Hayashi (St. Luke's International University)
- Fellows: Sadaaki Miyamoto (Tsukuba University) and Takashi Murakami (Chukyo University)

### (III) Information about seminars

Two kinds of seminar for data analysis were held. One was the seminar of marketing data analysis by using R. The seminar consists of two classes. First, the introduction of analysis for customer satisfaction data was explained on February 26th. Second, methods of segments for customers were explained on March 9th. On the other hands, the other one was the seminar of marketing data analysis by using Excel. The seminar also consists

of two classes and held on March 4th and 17th, respectively. These lectures were conducted by Yuki Toyoda (Hosei University).

#### **(IV) Information about the 37th Annual Meeting of the Japanese Classification Society**

The 37<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting will be held on June 9<sup>th</sup> and 10<sup>th</sup>, 2018 at the Institute of Statistical Mathematics, Tokyo. The chairperson of the organizing committee is Nobuo Shimizu (The Institute of Statistical Mathematics). For additional information, please visit our website at <http://www.bunrui.jp/meeting.html> (in Japanese).

Kensuke Tanioka

### **News from CLADAG**

#### **(I) Report on CLADAG 2017**

The vibrant city of Milan and its Universities have been celebrating 20 years of ClaDaG meetings (the Classification and Data Analysis Group of the Italian Statistical Society), hosting its biennial conference (September 13-15, 2017) at the University of Milano-Bicocca, Italy. We dealt with a great scientific experience, with a total of 152 presented papers, and 184 participants, also coming from 20 foreign countries. I would like to personally thank Francesco Mola and the entire Scientific committee for their excellent work in creating an amazing scientific program, with a wide range of topics in the field of Data Analysis and Classification and with three prestigious speakers for plenary talks.

My appreciation also goes to the [Young ClaDaG Committee](#), a team composed by current and former PhD students of Politecnico, for their magnificent work in organizing a data contest: the Young ClaDaG. This challenging competition has been thought as a bridge among young people in the Academy and in Data-Science enterprises, to compare the more innovative methodologies for the analysis of complex datasets. Data Reply, Fondazione Cariplo and Oracle were the main sponsors for the event. After an intense day of working on the data, the Young ClaDaG culminated in an *Aperitivo Milanese* in piazza Sempione, in front of Arco della Pace, as a passionate and informal networking opportunity for the participants.

A further satellite event on [Statistical Challenges in Big Data & Complex Systems](#), took place in the unforgettable Crociera Alta di Giurisprudenza, at the historical building of the Università degli Studi

di Milano. This scientific meeting has been organized through flash talks, to stimulate cross-discussion between the various researchers working on diversified application fields, and all related to Big Data & Complex Systems. My personal thanks go to Pieralda Ferrari and the Data Science Lab of the University of Milan, for ideating and organizing the event.

The ClaDaG 2017 Conference began with the Opening, six Invited Sessions, twelve Contributed Sessions and a Plenary talk on *Statistical models for complex extremes* given by [Anthony Davison](#), Institute of Mathematics, Ecole Polytechnique Fédérale de Lausanne. This first very busy day ended with a Concert, where the Milano Chamber Orchestra, directed by Alessandro Arnoldo, gracefully played selected pieces from Grieg, Holst and Elgar.

On the second and third day, the Congress was organized into sixteen Invited, and six more Contributed Sessions. We unfortunately did not have our second plenary talk, on *Classified Mixed Model Prediction*, which would have been given by [J. Sunil Rao](#), Division of Biostatistics, Department of Public Health Sciences University of Miami, Florida. The strong hurricane Irma was moving northward, along the Florida Peninsula, exactly in these days. We really missed professor Rao's participation.

The third plenary talk was given on "*An Underlying Response Variable approach to cluster ordinal data*", by [Roberto Rocci](#), Dipartimento di Economia e Finanza, Università degli studi di Tor Vergata, Rome. We take this opportunity to convey our most hearty congratulations to Roberto Rocci, as the new President of the ClaDaG Group of the Italian Statistical Society, nominated by the Assembly during the Conference.

Finally, the Conference proceedings have been published in the [Cladag2017 Book of Short papers](#) (with ISBN), available on-line. Authors were also invited to submit a full paper in the [Springer Series "Studies in Classification, Data Analysis and Knowledge Organization"](#) to be edited in 2018, or for a special issue of the journals [Statistical Analysis and Data Mining](#) and [Statistics & Applications](#). The reviewing processes are currently undergoing.

My last words will be for thanking the whole ClaDaG, in particular the former President Salvatore Ingrassia and the Chair of the Scientific Committee, Francesco Mola, for giving me the opportunity of organizing the conference at the

University of Milano Bicocca. With the amazing people that formed the [Organizing Committee](#), we had lot of fun together, when preparing - and then enjoying – ClaDaG 2017.

## **(II) Joint Summer School ERS-IASC, ECAS and CLADAG: Clustering, Data Analysis and Visualization of Complex Data**

The course is organized by ERS-IASC, ECAS and SIS-CLADAG and will take place in Catania on May 21-25, 2018. It is intended to achieve postgraduate training in special areas of statistics for both researchers and professional data analysts. The focus is on classification and clustering methods with particular emphasis on modern high-dimensional data sets (MHDS). Starting from basic concepts, the course will introduce the audience to novel techniques and software through extensive applications to real data. Numerical applications will be performed through some R packages issuing from research but targeting many kinds of practitioners. Invited people are invited to apply by April 8, 2018. For more information, visit the website <http://www.clucla-summerschool.org/> or contact [clucla.summerschool@gmail.com](mailto:clucla.summerschool@gmail.com).

Francesca Greselin, Salvatore Ingrassia, Roberto Rocci

## **News from VOC**

The VOC is proud to announce its seventh VOC conference which will take place the 25th of May 2018 in Utrecht, the Netherlands. Keynote speeches will be given by Ellen Hamaker (Utrecht University) and Johannes Textor (Radboud University Nijmegen). We would like to invite you to attend the conference. Contributed papers can be submitted on topics such as classification, clustering, scaling, data analysis, machine learning, pattern recognition, statistical modeling, and applications of classification and data analysis. To encourage PhD students to participate, the conference fee is kept very low. Please consult the conference website for more information: [www.voc.ac](http://www.voc.ac).

Katrijn Van Deun

## **MBC<sup>2</sup>: Call for Papers**

The Fourth International Workshop on Model-Based Clustering and Classification will be

organized by the Department of Economics and Business of the University of Catania (Italy) and will take place in Catania on September 5-7, 2018. The workshop aims to providing a focus on state-of-the-art research in the field of model-based clustering and classification as well as a forum of scientific discussions and comparisons among young and senior researchers. Topics concern methodological, applied and computational issues in model-based clustering and classification. The workshop will take place with the support of the Italian Statistical Society and the Classification and Data Analysis Group (CLADAG). Interested people are invited to submit an abstract by May 7, 2018. For more information, visit the website [mbc2.unict.it](http://mbc2.unict.it) or contact [mbc2@unict.it](mailto:mbc2@unict.it)

Salvatore Ingrassia

## **Upcoming Conferences and Meetings**

### **May 2018**

III International Workshop on Proximity Data, Multivariate Analysis and Classification, AMyC 2017. Annual meeting of the Multivariate Statistics and Classification Group of the Spanish Society of Statistics and Operations Research, University of Valladolid, Spain, October 26-27, 2017, <http://www.eio.uva.es/wamyc/>

Seventh conference of the Dutch/Flemish classification society, VOC, Utrecht University, The Netherlands, May 25.

### **June 2018**

CS 2018, the annual meeting of The Classification Society, New York, June 20-23, [www.theclassificationssociety.org](http://www.theclassificationssociety.org)

37th Annual Meeting of the Japanese Classification Society, Tokyo, Japan, June 9-10, <http://www.bunrui.jp/meeting.html>

### **September 2018**

MBC<sup>2</sup>, the Fourth International Workshop on Model-Based Clustering and Classification, Catania, Italy, September 5-7, 2018, [mbc2.unict.it](http://mbc2.unict.it).

### **October 2018**

MBC<sup>2</sup>, the Fourth International Workshop on Model-Based Clustering and Classification, Catania, Italy, September 5-7, 2018, [mbc2.unict.it](http://mbc2.unict.it).

AMyC, the IVth International Workshop on Proximity Data, Multivariate Analysis and Classification, University of Salamanca, Spain, October 2018.

**February 2019**

CARME, the conference on Correspondence Analysis and Related Methods outside of Europe, Stellenbosch, South Africa, 4-6 February 2019.

**August 2019**

IFCS 2019, conference of the International Federation of Classification Societies (IFCS), Thessaloniki, Greece, August 26-29.

**Looking Ahead to IFCS Newsletter  
Number 58**

Contributions for the forthcoming issue of the IFCS newsletter should be sent to Katrijn Van Deun, IFCS Publication Officer, at [k.vandeun@uvt.nl](mailto:k.vandeun@uvt.nl) by September 24.

Plain text or Word files are preferred. Thanks!

Katrijn Van Deun  
IFCS Publication Officer