
Reports and Communications

CSNA Annual Meeting 1986

The Classification Society of North America (CSNA) held its Annual Meeting at the Ohio State University in Columbus, OH, June 14-16, 1986. It was attended by some 50 members (of 350) and the following 28 papers, arranged in six sessions, were given:

(1) *Cluster Statistics and Test Procedures I and II*
HANSELL, R.I.C., SNEATH, P.H.A., RIOSA, J.: On a family of information optimization measures for agglomerative clustering. - LI, X., DUBES, R.C.: A permutation statistic as a proximity measure. - DUBES, R.C.: Experiment in finding the number of clusters. - PEARLMAN, J.D., BOZDOGAN, H.: Complexity of cluster separability indices. - HUBERT, L., ARABIE, P.: Evaluating order hypotheses within proximity matrices. - SARLE, W.S.: A practical nonparametric test for the number of clusters. - BOCK, H.H.: Component analysis and multidimensional scaling.

(2) *Study and Comparison of Algorithms*

WINDHAM, M.J.: Convergence of numerical classification algorithms. - SOON, T.S.C., MILLIGAN, G.W.: On detection of extreme data points in cluster analysis. - DESAI, A., STORBECK, J.: On the measurement of constraint in successively-inclusive choice sets in multi-level location models. - RIOSA, J.: Relaxing the optimality criterion in the Gower algorithm. - CORTER, H., DeSARBO, W.S., CARROLL, J.D. DeSOETE, G.: Simulated annealing as a means of fitting non-hierarchical cluster models.

(3) *High-dimensional Analysis*

WEINBERG, S., CARROLL, J.D.: Choosing the dimensionality of an INDSCAL-derived space by using a method of resampling. - BOZDOGAN, H., RAMIRES, D.E.: Model selection approach to the factor model problem: Parameter parsimony, and choosing the number of factors. - ROGERS, D.F.: Aggregation techniques for Markov processes. - FURNAS, G.W.: Visualizing additive constant and missing data problems with a projective variant of "Critchley Diagrams". - KINNUCAN, M.T., HARSHMAN, R.A.: Symmetric and skew-symmetric components of alphabetic confusion matrices.

(4) *Applications of Cluster Methodology*

LEE III, A.R.: Shaving Ockham with his own razor: Stemmatic analysis of texts using most parsimonious trees. - ANDES, N.: Validation of cluster solutions using discriminant analysis and bootstrap techniques. - SCHEETZ, J.P., WILLIS, D.O.: Acquisition of perceptual motor skills in dentistry. - NORMAN, M.: Cluster analysis and the bankruptcy classification problem. - KENDALL, A.J.: Cognitive dimensions in perceptions of U.S. presidential candidates.

(5) *Cluster Software*

EDMONSTON, B.: Clustergram package for cluster partitions. - LING, R.F., JONES, W.D.: K-Clustering and software

for regression diagnostics. - GOWER, J.: Classification, geometry and data analysis.

(6) *Biological Sciences Applications*

FELSENSTEIN, J.: Bootstrapping phylogenies: A simulation study. - DANIEL, R., HARTIGAN, J.A.: Statistical analysis of hominoid molecular evolution. - DAY, W.H.E., SANKOFF, D.: The computational complexity of inferring phylogenies by compatibility. The program announced also an introductory "Marketing Faculty Symposium" with one paper by P.GREEN: "Recent advances in conjoint analysis" and another one by J.D.CARROLL: "Three-way multidimensional scaling and clustering". It was concluded by a cluster software demonstration (by J.FELSENSTEIN) and a discussion session by J.A.HARTIGAN and D.BARRY on "A measure of asynchronous evolutionary change". The invited guest speakers from Europe were Profs. H.H.Bock and J.Gower.

COMPSTAT 1986

The International Association for Computational Statistics (IACS) holds its COMPSTAT-Conference every two years, the 7th having taken place from Sept.1-5, 1986 at the University "La Sapienza" in Rome. With about 600 participants the program extended to include also fields like Information Science and Statistics, Probabilistic Models in Exploratory Data Analysis, Cluster Analysis Methods and Algorithms, Expert Systems, Statistical Software etc. There was also a remarkable large number of papers on numerical classification procedures: In some 30 contributions the following topics were treated: Computation of optimal partitions, tests and cluster structures, generalized hierarchies, graph theoretical cluster procedures, interactive cluster programs, and applications of cluster analysis.

The proceedings volume COMPSTAT 1986 was published by Springer Verlag, Berlin. H.H.Bock

Fall Meeting of SEK DA-NK, Gesellschaft für Klassifikation

The Section on Data Analysis and Numerical Classification of the German Society for Classification held its Fall Meeting from 7-8 Nov.1986 at Dortmund. The program which P.O.DEGENS had organized consisted of 7 papers and included also presentations, analyses and discussion of two data sets, one on brain tumors and one on S_{AB}-values of ribosomal RNA. The papers were the following: HERDEN, G. (Essen): Irrtumsfunktionen zur Gewinnung relativ-optimaler Klassifikationen. - KOHLSCHKE, A.J. (München): Das ökologische Wanderungsproblem - ein regressionsfreies Modell. - WILLE, R. (Darmstadt): Begriffsanalyse von Paarvergleichstests. - BANDEL, H. (Oldenburg): Zur Rekonstruktion phylogenetischer Bäume. - DRESS, A. (Bielefeld): Blockzerlegungen metrischer Räume. - GODEHARDT, E. (Düsseldorf): Klassifikation mit Hilfe graphentheoretischer Methoden. - HAESLER, A.v. (Bielefeld): Ein Algorithmus zur hierarchischen Clusterung. For further information write to Dr.P.O.Degens, Universität Dortmund, FB Statistik, PF 50 05 00, D-4600 Dortmund.

Stability in Classification

The British Classification Society together with the Biometrics Society/British Region and the Royal Statistical Society Multivariate Study Group held a joint half-day meeting on 11 Nov.1986 at Birkbeck College, London on this topic with the following four papers presented as well as a closing discussion: Allan D.GORDON (St.Andrews): Stability and validation of numerical classifications. - Ian JOLLIFFE, Byron JONES, Byron MORGAN (Kent): Stability in cluster analysis: illustrations from social applications. - James A.BARNETT (East Anglia): The instability of yeast nomenclature. - Ian JOLLIFFE, Byron JONES, Byron MORGAN (Kent): Influence in cluster analysis. - For further information please turn to: Dr.Frank Critchley, Department of Statistics, University of Warwick, Coventry CV4 7AL.

Standardization in Computerized Lexicography

The Institut der Gesellschaft zur Förderung der Angewandten Informationsforschung e.V.(IAI) of the University of the Saarland cosponsored by the European Science Foundation (ESF) held its 4th Forum on Information Science and Practice from Oct.15-17, 1986 in Saarbrücken. The subtitle of the Forum was "Problems of lexical data exchange". Sessions dealt with *Text-corpora, Dictionaries, Terminology, Problems and possible solutions of standardization in computerized lexicography, Prospects*. Some 23 papers were presented and discussed. Participation was free of charge. For further information please turn to Prof.Dr.Harald H.Zimmermann, Martin-Luther-Str.14, D-6600 Saarbrücken 13.

Going for Gold

The Department of Information Science of The City University of London will celebrate a Silver Jubilee Conference under this heading on Friday, Jan.16, 1987. The one-day program comprises 8 lectures and a closing address by R.T.BOTTLE. Chairman of the morning session on Information Technology is C.J.van RIJSBERGEN, his speakers include Ch.R.HILDRETH, USA ("Online library catalogues and information retrieval systems: will the marriage last") and K. SPARCK JONES ("Intelligent interfaces for information retrieval systems"). The afternoon sessions look at Social and Professional Aspects of the field. Further information is available from the Department of Information Science, The City University, Northampton Square, London EC1V OHB, Tel. 01-253 4399 Ext.3901.

8th International Conference on Computers and the Humanities

ICCH 1987 will be held at the University of South Carolina, Columbia SC, April 9-12, 1987. Papers are invited on all aspects of computer research in the humanities - *literature, linguistics, history, philosophy, music, visual arts* - as well as on topics appropriate to the humanities in the computer sciences and education. For further information please turn to: ICCH 87, c/o Prof.R.L.Oakman, Department of Computer Science, University of South Carolina, Columbia, SC 29208, USA.

25th Annual Meeting of ACL, Stanford, July 1987

A call for papers was distributed for this meeting of the Association for Computational Linguistics to be held from 6-9 July 1987 at Stanford University, Stanford, CA. Papers are invited on substantial, original, and unpublished research on all aspects of computational linguistics, theoretical or applied. Among the 21 topics named one can find also *knowledge representation; information and document retrieval; computational, mathematical, and psychological models; programming strategies*. A certain format for submission of abstracts etc., has to be obeyed.

Papers must be received by 12 Jan.1987. Further information: Candy Sidner, ACL-87, Program Chair. BBN Laboratories Inc., 10 Moulton Street, Cambridge, MA 02238, USA.

ACL European Chapter 1987. Third Conference

A Call for Papers has been distributed for this Chapter Conference of the Association for Computational Linguistics to be held from 1-3 April 1987 at the Copenhagen University. Papers are invited on all aspects of computational linguistics including *Morphology, Lexical Semantics, Computational Lexicography and Lexicology, Syntax and Semantics, Machine Translation and Translation Aids, Natural Language Interfaces, Knowledge Representation, and Expert Systems*. Summaries must be submitted by Nov.15, 1986. Further information: Bente Maegaard, Institut for Anvendt og Matematisk Lingvistik, Kobenhavns Universitet, Njalsgade 96, DK-2300 Kobenhavn S. Denmark.

Communication and Cognition: Applied Epistemology

An International Congress on this topic will be held at Ghent, Belgium, 6-8 Dec.1987. The objective is described as follows: "Studies in Cognition, Communication, Information, and Artificial Intelligence have caused important breakthroughs and successes in many other disciplines and sciences, viz. *cognitive psychopedagogy, cognitive linguistics, cognitive neurology, cognitive politicology, cognitive therapy, cognitive studies of sciences (methodology of science, history of science, study of protosciences, logic of science), cognitive study of literature and stylistics, cognitive study of the origin of language, etc.*"

The twentieth anniversary of the founding of the society COMMUNICATION AND COGNITION is an occasion to bring together scientists for whom the communicative and cognitive perspective is a crucial factor in their work, whether influencing its direction or providing impetus for reorientation. This perspective emphasises epistemology, its relevance to the methodology of particular sciences and its importance as a heuristical basis which generates building blocks and paradigms. It has also reoriented epistemology itself. More and more attention is being given to its potential for practical application."

Some 18 symposia are foreseen and papers are invited to specific subjects which fall within the symposium topics. The deadline of abstracts is fixed as Jan.15, 1987. Address: Communication and Cognition. Jan Van Dormael, Blandijnberg 2, B-9000 Ghent, Belgium.