Reports and Communications

Classification Society of North America

The program of the Annual Meeting, 16-18 June 1988 has been published in the Journal of Classification 5(1988)No.2, p.305-308. It comprises 27 papers arranged in 5 sessions (on Scaling, Applications, Classification, Multidimensional Scaling, Factor Analysis and Data Analysis) and 2 symposia (on Applications of Clustering/Scaling and on Tree-Fitting and Clustering). In addition to what has already been reported in Int.Classif.15(1988)No.2 on this meeting we are listing in the following its authors and their papers:

LING, R.F.: Influence diagnostics for scaling problems. – HEISER, W.J.: Reciprocal location with least weighted distances. – RIJCKEVORSEL, J.L.A.van: The history of correspondence analysis. – HIRTLE, St.C.: On the parsing of recall strings: Uncovering strategies in free-recall. DAY, W.H.E.: Recovering phylogenetic structure from molecular fragments. - WIEDEMANN, C.F.: The use of classification analysis to examine the relation of arson to other crime categories.– NOVAK, T.: Where to eat: A classification of New York City restaurants. – THAYER, J.F.: Pattern classification in the psychophysiology of emotion: Idiographic and nomothetic approaches. – TANAKA, J.S.: How do musicians hear Mozart?: Scaling the person space to explore individual differences in information processing. – PANTER, A.T.: Item-level analyses of ordered categorical data: Assessing the structure of dysphoric affect. – SOUDERS, St.K.: MOCA: The multiply-overlapping clustering algorithm. – CRAWFORD, St.: An improved error estimation scheme for the CART algorithm. – MILLIGAN, G.W.: A validation study of a variable weighting algorithm for cluster analysis.– SATO, Y., Kawaguchi, M.: Multidimensional scaling for asymmetric dissimilarities using Randers metric function in Minkowski space. – EGGEBEEN, S.L., CORTER, J.E.: Circular degeneracy in multidimensional scaling solution. – MEULMAN, J.J.: Distance driven multivariate data analysis. – LONGMAN, R.St., COTA, A.A., HOLDEN, R.R., FEKKEN, G.C.: A regression equation for the parallel analysis criterion in principal components analysis: Mean and 95th percentile eigenvalues. – FAVA, J.L., VELICER, W.F.: An empirical comparison of factor, image, component, and scale scores. – MURTAGH, F.: Clustering of astronomical data: Some new approaches and recent results (Keynote address). – DeSARBO, W.: MULTICLUS. A new methodology for simultaneously performing multidimensional scaling and cluster analysis. - CORTER, J.E.: Extended and multiple tree representations of non-hierarchical clustering solutions. – FOWLKES, E.B., GNANADESIKAN, R., KETTENRING, J.R.: Variable selection in clustering. – DeSOETE, G.: CARROLL, J.D.: Tree fitting of three-way three- mode data. – LEGENDRE, P.: The fourth corner problem. – HUBERT, L., ARABIE, Ph.: The confirmatory comparison of partitions agains data matrices using optimally weighted within and between class information. – FURNAS, G.W.: Constraints on low dimensional views of high dimensional loci. – DUFFY, D.E., QUIROZ, A.J.: A general algorithm for clustering multidimensional data matrices.

Since in 1989 the Second Conference of the International Federation of Classification Societies (IFCS) will take place in Charlottesville, VA, June 27-30, there will be no other annual meeting of CSNA in 1989. See also the announcement in Int.Classif.15(1988)No.2, p.87. The CSNA Annual Elections resulted in having Pascale Rousseau (Université du Quebec à Montréal) and Sharon L.Weinberg (New York University) as Elected Directors from the 1989 business meeting through Dec.31, 1991. The size of the membership of the Society is at present (1988) 398 (affiliates, regular and student members) which means an increase since 1986 by over 100!

VOC: A New Dutch Classification Society

On Friday, January 13, 1989 the new Society was founded, called: "Vereiniging voor Ordinatie en Classificatie" (VOC). A first Spring Meeting was proposed to be held on April 7, 1989 at Wageningen. Papers have been invited on the scientific principles and methods of clustering, multidimensional scaling, multivariate analysis, seriation, network analysis, pattern recognition, and related techniques for discovering structure. For further information please contact: William J.Heiser, Department of Data Theory, University of Leiden, Middelstegracht 4, NL-2312 TW Leiden.

British Classification Society

Two meetings are planned in 1989, namely the Annual General Meeting to take place on 16 June at Open University, Milton Keynes, and a one day meeting at Rothamsted Experimental Station, 19 Sept.1989, on the topic "Ordination in Classification". This will be organized jointly with the British Ecological Society. For further information write to: R.W.Payne, Hon.Secretary, British Classification Society, Biomathematics Division, Rothamstead Experimental Station, Harpenden, Herts. AL5 2JQ, England.

German Society for Classification

(See the report on the conference "Intension and Extension" as well as the program description of the 13th Annual Conference under FID/CR News 25)

U.S.National Conference on Clustering of Health Events

On Febr.16-17, 1989 the Centers for Disease Control, Agency for Toxic Substances and Disease Registry, and the Association of State and Territorial Health Officials sponsored a conference at Atlanta, GA with the purpose to "provide a forum for the comprehensive considera-

tion of the phenomenon of clustering and to furnish public health workers, the media, and others with a theoretical and practical basis for addressing clusters of adverse health events". It is expected that clues to risk factors and etiology can be derived from the detection and interpretation of clusters of adverse health events. For further information turn to Martha S.Brocoto, Center for Environmental Health and Injury Control, Centers for Disease Control, 1600 Clifton Road N.E., Atlanta, GA 30333, USA.

Journées Internationales – International Symposium: Data Analysis, Learning Symbolic and Numeric Knowledge, 11-14 Sept.1989, Antibes, France

A call for papers has been released for the two symposia. For Data Analysis the topics include: Clustering, orders and distances; Longitudinal, spatial and experimental data analysis; Data analysis and models; Validation and influence; New aspects in correspondence analysis; Survey and industrial data processing software; and Visualization of data.

For "Learning Symbolic and Numeric Knowledge" the aim is to show the mutual enhancement of the symbolic approach in Artificial Intelligence and Machine Learning and the numeric approach in Statistics and Data Analysis. Topics include: Methods Analysis, synthesis and knowledge representation of large sets of mixed symbolic and numeric knowledge; Concept formation by clustering, lattices, and graphs, law discovery, generating rules and inheritance trees, etc.; Connectionist models, genetic models, etc. Type of knowledge – special data and knowledge; Uncertain knowledge; Recovery from noise, stability and robustness of acquired knowledge. Software – Symbolic-numeric systems; Man-machine interface, graphic representation of numeric and symbolic knowledge; Constructive learning and autonomous systems. Applications – Creating a knowledge base for expert systems; knowledge organization for oriented object representation; Integrated learning system in statistical data base, in industry, biology, medicine, etc.

For further information contact INRIA, Service des Relations Extérieures, Bureau des Colloques, Domaine de Voluceau – B.P.105, F-78153 Le Chesnay.

SYN-TAX III. Computer Programs for Multivariate Data Analysis

A Hungarian company, called Software Technology, (PF 257, H-1325 Budapest) offers a package called SYN-TAX III which contains 22 programs written in FORTRAN for data analysis in ecological and taxonomical studies. The use of methods is not restricted to biological problems, however. The programs may be grouped into five general fields: Classification, Ordination, Comparison and Evaluation of Classifications and Ordinations, Simulated Sampling and Pattern Analysis, and Character Ranking. The programs may be run in batch or interactive mode. The package distributed contains the following items: 25 programs in executable code, plus sample input data files on six 2D 360 K floppy disks for IBM PCs and compatibles; a 183-page user's manual; a license agreement. Total price: 240 USD. For more information write to the address given above.

Society of Conceptual and Content Analysis by Computer (SCCAC)

The Newsletter No.4 of SCCAC (66 pages) appeared in the Fall of 1988 and starts out with a remarkable statement about its position. To quote: "SCCAC is a loosely organized group of scholars in the humanities and related disciplines such as the social sciences and psychology as well as communication sciences interested in the special area of computerized content and conceptual analysis. This area is very generally defined as including methods of lexicography, indexing, and text analysis using entire conceptual systems such as Roget's Thesaurus rather than alphabetical systems of order. It includes automatic retrieval systems and thesaurus building as well as studies searching for motifs and themes in larger text corpora. It also includes content analysis using special dictionaries for text analysis, which follows models like the GENERAL INQUIRER and Iker's WORDS. It shares with Artificial Intelligence and Machine Translation the interest in classification and representation of natural language meaning and the building of knowledge bases.

The function of SCCAC is to provide a medium for communication and information to scholars working in the various disciplines within the given common areas of interest with the least amount of red tape and financial burden. SCCAC will provide addresses of participating scholars, disseminate project descriptions, plans and information via newsletter, and organize meetings on a regular basis, sometimes in conjunction with ACH (Association for Computers in the Humanities) and ALLC (Association for Literary and Linguistic Computing) Conferences. SCCAC is also a recognized special interest group of ACH. ALLC and/or ACH membership is recommended but not required for SCCAC members."

The time of the first five years in which the founder, Prof.Dr.Klaus SCHMIDT, Bowling Green State University and Prof.Roy BOGGS, University of South Florida, were ready to serve as Secretaries is over now and they would like to see the Society continued in some other way. In the Newsletter 4 they ask the 200 members to vote for one of three options concerning the continuation of the work of this Society, either in the same way as so far, but with other Secretaries, or as a regular society with statutes and officers and a membership fee, or lastly as a subgroup of one of the current umbrella organizations. What would the readers of International Classification recommend?

In addition the Newsletter contains reports on 1987/1988 activities, the 7th and 8th International SCCAC Meetings (Sept.28-Oct.1, 1987, Trier; June 6-12, 1988, Jerusalem) both held in conjunction with other congresses, namely (1) the International Congress on Terminology and Knowledge Engineering, and (2) the 15th International Conference on Literary and Linguistic Computing and 2nd International Conference on Computers

and Biblical Studies. The abstracts of the papers are included.

The 9th International SCCAC Meeting will be held in conjunction with the 16th International ALLC Conference and the 9th ICCH Conference on June 6-10, 1989, Toronto, Ont., Canada.

The Newsletter contains also a list of upcoming conferences of interest in 1989 and 1990 as well as a list of journals and other publications, arranged in 8 systematic groups. The membership list and questionnaires conclude the issue.

International Network for Terminology (TermNet)

In a letter of Jan.2, 1989 the Director of Infoterm, Christian GALINSKI informed about the constitution of the statutory organs of TermNet on Dec.12, 1988. TermNet is being registered with the Austrian authorities as an international association.

TermNet will be composed of TermNet Members, TermNet Affiliates and TermNet Sponsors. TermNet has already been in operation on an informal basis under the same name over the past years. Among its members were international organizations, supranational organizations (e.g. the European Centre for Nuclear Research, CERN), national authorities in the field of terminology (e.g. the Centre for Terminology and Neology at the French Centre of Scientific Research, CNRS/CTN), standard bodies (e.g. INNORPI, Tunis), software houses (from Europe and Japan), universities or university institutes as well as other institutions and organizations.

The TermNet Board determined the working programme of TermNet and the work plan for 1989 including topics for working groups to be organized by the TermNet Secretariat. The Board also agreed upon the admission fee (ca USD 580) and the annual membership dues (ca USD 1390). Prof.Dr.Erhard Oeser, Institute of the Theory of Science and Science Research, University of Vienna, was elected President of TermNet and Mr.Pierre Lerat (CNRS/CTN) was elected Vice-President. Mr.Christian Galinski was appointed Executive Secretary and heads the TermNet Secretariat.

The first regular TermNet Assembly will be convened towards the end of 1989, probably in conjunction with an international symposium.

Close cooperation of TermNet and Infoterm will open up new possibilities for the production and dissemination of publications and other information products as well as for an effective implementation of high-quality services in terminology at a world-wide scale.

For further information write to Dir.Christian Galinski, Infoterm, Postfach 130, A-1021 Wien.

International Organization for Unification of Terminological Neologisms IOUTN

The president of IOUTN, Prof.Zygmunt STOBERSKI, Warsaw, on Jan.19, 1989 invites interested organizations to send their newly coined terms (individually or collectively) along with their definitions to the IOUTN for inclusion in the periodical NEOTERM and in other terminological bulletins published in the world. By doing so, numerous countries in which IOUTN individual members or members of IOUTN national committes operate, could become aware of these new terms and concepts.

One of the advantages of this would be that terms coined in a company or institution would stand a good chance of being borrowed by other languages, enhancing, at the same time, the international standing of the company and its achievements in the sphere of production and research.

Together with this invitation a draft was included of the Convention on International Exchange of Neologisms in Science and Technology which was presented at a special workshop of the UN Inter-Agency Meeting for Language Arrangements, Documentation and Publications held in Geneva's Palais des Nations on June 30, 1988.

The letter contained also an invitation and call for papers for a Second Symposium on Transnationalizing Scientific and Technical Terminology and a preparatory conference on the signing of the Convention on the International Exchange of Scientific and Technological Neologisms, under the joint motto: "International Terminology Brings Nations Closer Together" to be held in Warsaw, Oct.20-22, 1989. The planned topics are:

1. Terminology and activity of the UN and UNESCO.
2. The defining of specialist terms.
3. System of concepts in national and international languages.
4. The creation of a universal system of concepts.
5. The registration of neologisms on a national, regional and global basis.
6. The role of terminology in studies, scientific research and translation.
7. International terminology in communication and civilization progress.
8. ISO/TC37 and Infoterm on problems of transnationalizing terminology.
9. Terminology banks and their worldwide cooperation.

Authors and interested participants are requested to book a room as quickly as possible in one of the following Warsaw hotels: "Victoria", "Forum", "Europejski", "Grand Hotel", "Metropol-Polonia". (The "Victoria" is also the place of the conference). Authors of reports, who will send two-page summaries of their papers before July 21, 1989, may be eligible for refunds to cover the full expenses of their two day stays in Warsaw.
Official languages are English and French. For more information contact:
IOUTN, ul.Filtrowa 54/58, p.I. PL-02-057 Warszawa, Poland.