

Preface

Revised versions of selected papers presented at the 34th Annual Conference of the German Classification Society (GfKI (Gesellschaft für Klassifikation), a member of IFCS (International Federation of Classification Societies)), held at KIT (Karlsruhe Institute of Technology) in July 2010, are contained in this volume of “Studies in Classification, Data Analysis, and Knowledge Organization”.

One aim of the conference was to provide a platform for discussions on results concerning the interface that data analysis has in common with other areas such as, e.g., computer science, operations research, and statistics from a scientific perspective, as well as with various application areas when “best” interpretations of data that describe underlying problem situations need knowledge from different research directions.

Practitioners and researchers – interested in data analysis in the broad sense – had the opportunity to discuss recent developments and to establish cross-disciplinary cooperation in their fields of interest. More than 200 persons attended the conference, 158 talks (including plenary and semiplenary lectures) were presented. The audience of the conference was quite international with about 90 contributions from participants from abroad with the largest groups of foreign presenters from Italy, Japan, and Poland. Additionally, a program for librarians (14 presentations) was organized. Parallel to the conference a German-Japanese workshop sponsored by GfKI and JCS (Japanese Classification Society) took place with additional 24 talks.

Sixty of the papers presented at the conference are contained in this volume (The contributions given at the German-Japanese workshop will be published elsewhere.). As an unambiguous assignment of topics addressed in single papers is sometimes difficult the contributions are grouped in a way that the editors found appropriate. Within (sub)chapters the presentations are listed in alphabetical order with respect to the authors’ names. At the end of this volume an index is included that, additionally, should help the interested reader.

Last but not least, we would like to thank all participants of the conference for their interest and various activities which, again, made the 34th annual GfKI conference and this volume an interdisciplinary possibility for scientific discussion, in particular all authors and all colleagues who reviewed papers, chaired sessions

or were otherwise involved. Here, the teams of Prof. Gaul, Prof. Geyer-Schulz, and Prof. Schmidt-Thieme have provided support in a way that outside persons cannot fully appreciate. Additionally, we gratefully take the opportunity to acknowledge support by Deutsche Forschungsgemeinschaft (DFG) as well as the Fakultät für Wirtschaftswissenschaften of KIT.

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Challenges at the Interface of Data Analysis, Computer
Science, and Optimization

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