

case-control studies; • relationship of classical Mantel-Haenszel inference to the above inference; • likelihood for individually matched studies; • regression models (Poisson, Cox, unconditional and conditional logistic); • modelling complex time-dependent exposures, e.g. effects of screening.

Open problems raised by participants were discussed, too. In addition, there was a lot of cross-country skiing, sauna bathing, swimming through a hole in the ice, downhill sledge rides etc. in the beautiful surroundings of a snow-covered Finnish lake-district countryside. Everyone had a nice time in addition to learning a lot.

Trond Haider

Nordic Correspondent

Spain



E.A. Carbonell

Hellas!, we are finally a Region. In only ten years we have changed from 6 members scattered around Spain without any organization whatsoever to a Region with over 100 members. It seems to be a miracle but as they used to say, "Spain is different". Everything bloomed in 1982 at the IBC at Toulouse but it started one year earlier when Carmen Santisteban met at the

statistical meetings in Nancy (France) with Prof. Tomassone, president at that time of the French Region and later with Prof. Cormack, president of the Biometric Society. She was willing to organize a Spanish National Group by bringing together the members of Biometric Society living in Spain and all other Spanish scientist interested in the application of the quantitative methods. The ideas of Carmen found fertile ground and both started to work. Some preliminary meetings of those living in Madrid (no money for travel expenses) and a few letters, allowed to spread the idea in such a way that in November 84 the Spanish National Group was born and one year later we were already 30 members. With such a number of very motivated people new things came about. In May 85 the number zero of a newsletter called "Biometria" came to light and, among other things, included a foreword and a report of the European Biometric Conference by Carmen, a report of the activities of the biometricians working at the National Institute of Agricultural Research by Emilio and an open forum by Fernando Orozco, the senior member of the Society in Spain, now retired. (see the May 91 issue of the Bulletin) about "A suggestion to improve the teaching of Statistics in Spain". In May 86 the first Spanish Biometric Conference was held at Granada. We were almost convinced that the participants in the meeting would only be the members of the organizing committee led by Antonio Martin, but fortunately we were proved wrong and more than 60 contributed papers were presented plus invited papers by Profs. Pierre Dagnelie (unable to attend due to an accident) and Ivo Molenaar. In 1988, we had surpassed 50 members and secretary Mead encouraged us to become a Region. However, at the 1989 general assembly in Segovia we decided to postpone it till we had a well established group of members. In Segovia we held a

very successful 2nd Spanish Biometric Conference with over 100 participants, many from other countries like Italy, Germany and Switzerland. Two years later in Salamanca at the 3rd Spanish Biometric Conference where Prof. Mead gave the opening invited paper, we unanimously approved to propose the Council of the Society to become a Region. So, in 1992 three main events have occurred in Spain: hosting the Olympic Games, the World's Fair, and the Creations of the Spanish Region of the Biometric Society. In future we hope that the effort and dedication that some of us have put on this endeavor will continue and expanded by others. Our National Group has grown in an unbalanced manner. Percentage-wise small number of people belong to important areas like Biology, Medicine and Agriculture with a large number from the Human Sciences like Psychology. It is the responsibility of the officials elected, to run the Region and to promote the membership coming from these areas in the Region. To this purpose our by-laws mandate that the elections be held by areas in such a way that there will be an equal representation in the regional council of the areas so that no one should feel discriminated for being a minority, and that the minorities should work to become majorities.

Emilio A. Carbonell

Spanish Correspondent

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Signal Processing; Bayesian Statistics; Neural Networks; Experimental Designs; Wavelets; Inference for Stochastic Processes.

Deadlines

11 January 1993; Papers to be submitted; 23 March 1993; Notification of acceptance of papers; 1 April 1993; Increase in enrolment fees; 1 April 1993; Despatch of definitive programme for the Congress.

Additional information and enrolment forms may be obtained from the Organ-

izing Committee :

XXVèmes Journées de Statistique-Institut Universitaire de Technologie-8 rue Montaigne-56014 VANNES-TEL : (33)97 46 06 00. FAX : (33)97 46 04 40. MAIL:VANASU93@CERBERE.CICB.FR. Domiciliation Bancaire : ASU XXV JOURNÉES DE STATISTIQUE, 16006 36011 92452004510 68. Hotel reservations (to be made as soon as possible) will be dealt with by the Tourist Office, 1 rue Thiers-56000 VANNES-FAX : (33)97 47 29 49.

Appeal by a Reader

I would like to get in touch with researchers who are interested in applying diversity and similarity indices in ecology and in epidemiology, including inpatient morbidity and cause of death statistics. I am engaged in this topic since more than a decade. Now I should share some results and suggest further studies. I think that scholars engaged in the "small science" have to lay special stress on their professional connections. I would be pleased to any kind of reaction on my appeal. Address: Janos Izsak, Berzsenyi College, Dept. Zoology, Szombathely 11-9700, Károlyi Gaspártér 4, Hungary.

Janos Izsak (HR)