



## IFCS 2022

### Classification and Data Science in the Digital Age

by **Paula Brito\***

Last July took place in Porto the 17<sup>th</sup> conference of the *International Federation of Classification Societies* (IFCS) —IFCS 2022, *Classification and Data Science in the Digital Age*. The conference was a joint organization of the *Portuguese Association for Classification and Data Analysis* (CLAD) and the *Faculty of Economics of the University of Porto*, and was supported by CIM — see <https://ifcs2022.fep.up.pt/>.

IFCS,<sup>[1]</sup> of which CLAD is a member, is a federation of national, regional or language-based classification societies, and organises an international conference every two years. IFCS 2022 was its first edition in Portugal.

The conference gathered 330 participants from 32 countries in Europe, Asia, Africa, Australia and the Americas, including more than 70 students. Prestigious Keynote Speakers delivered lectures on highly topical subjects:

**Charles Bouveyron** (Université Côte d'Azur, France): *Statistical Learning with Dynamic Interaction Data for Public Health*

**Dianne Cook** (Monash University, Australia): *A Showcase of New Methods for High Dimensional Data Viewing with Linear Projections and Sections*

**Genevera Allen** (Rice University, USA): *Fast Minipatch Ensemble Strategies for Learning and Inference*

**João Gama** (University of Porto, Portugal): *Trends in Data Stream Mining*

Plenary lectures were also given by **Edwin Diday** (Université Paris Dauphine-PSL, France), who was awarded the *IFCS Medal for Outstanding Research Achievements in Classification*, and **Rebecca Nugent** (Carnegie Mellon University, USA), President-Elect of IFCS.

The scientific programme further included semi-plenary invited sessions on current topics in Data Science: Categorical Data Analysis and Visualization, Clustering and Classification of Time Series, Covid Data Analysis, Dimension Reduction, and Explainable Machine Learning. There were 67 thematic sessions and two Poster sessions.

The Social Programme provided moments of relaxation and informal networking. It counted with an Ice-Breaker kindly offered by Comissão de Viticultura da Região dos Vinhos Verdes (CVRVV), a Cocktail at Praia da Luz, a boat trip on Douro River and finally the conference dinner at Taylor's, preceded by a visit to the Port Wine cellars. We believe that all will have fond memories of IFCS 2022 in Porto !

[1] <https://ifcs.boku.ac.at/site/doku.php>

\* FEP–University of Porto and LIADD INESC TEC [mpbrito@fep.up.pt]