

NUMBER 2, MAY 1971

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Please note the new address for correspondence if you are not certain of the direct address. Membership enquiries and subscriptions should be addressed to London or your local representative

2.1 IAMG at International Sedimentological Congress

IAMG is co-sponsoring the International Sedimentological Congress and is responsible for Section IX on quantitative methods in sedimentology. This will be held in Heidelberg [German Federal Republic] from 30 August - 4 September 1971. Dan Merriam is organizing a symposium on 'Mathematical models in sedimentology'. It is expected that the IAMG Council will meet in Heidelberg during the Congress. The program will be announced in the next Newsletter.

2.2 ISI-IAMG Joint Meeting in Washington

Bill Krumbein has arranged a program for the joint International Statistical Institute -- IAMG Meeting to be held in Washington on 17 August 1971 (pm).

Problems in the correlation analysis of geological data

Chairman: G S Watson, Princeton University

1. James W Parks [Lehigh University, Pennsylvania]: Cluster and factor analysis in classical correlation of palaeo-environmental data
2. W C Krumbein [Northwestern University, Illinois]: Relations between statistical correlations and areal variations in geological data
3. Felix Chayes [Geophysical Laboratory, Carnegie Institute of Washington]: Some implications of correlation with closed numbers in the analysis of geochemical data
4. James M Forgoison Jr [Petroleum Information Corporation, Denver]: Stratigraphical correlation of subsurface geological data by computer

Several statisticians have been invited to be discussants:

J W Tukey [Princeton University]
P Switzer [Stanford University]
J Hertzog [Yale University]
W Kruskal [University of Chicago]

2.3 IAMG British Group Meeting in Edinburgh

It is planned to hold a meeting of the British Group of the IAMG in Edinburgh during the celebration of the Centenary of the University of Edinburgh Department of Geology. The suggested topic is 'New directions in mathematical geology' and those interested in participating are invited to write to Graham Lea, Secretary, British Group of IAMG, P O Box 1024, Westminster, London SW1, England. The Edinburgh Coordinated meetings will include Geological Society and British Sedimentological Research Group meetings, and will take place from 8-11 September 1971.

2.4 IGC Montreal plans progressing

Plans for the IAMG symposia at the International Geological Congress in Montreal in 1972 are going ahead. The Program Chairman is Professor J E Klovan, Department of Geology, University of Calgary, CALGARY 44, Alberta, Canada to whom enquiries about submitting papers should be sent. The program will be divided into two parts. One symposium will consist of invited papers on Random processes in geological sciences and will include the significance of random processes, their determination, and description in all branches of geology -- particularly magmatism and sedimentation. The setting up and checking of models of different types of random processes will also be discussed. The other symposium will be Applications of mathematical techniques to geological processes and will deal with the problems of mathematical geology. The deadline for acceptance of papers for presentation is 30 June 1971 and abstracts must be received by 1 November 1971. As final arrangements are now being made for the program, please write at once to Ed Klovan if you are planning to submit a paper.

2.5 Finance Committee

The Finance Committee is now functioning under the Chairmanship of Dr Hernani AF Chaves, Petrobras, Caixa Postal 186, Salvador, Bahia, Brazil.

2.6 IAMG in Geotimes

Did you see the article in the October 1970 issue (page 16) of Geotimes by Bill Krumbein? It reviews the major events of IAMG history and has had a most welcome effect in increasing IAMG Membership.

2.7 Membership subscriptions

Subscriptions are now due. Please send your subscription to your regional representative; if you did not send your 1970 dues please add these to the 1971 dues. You are not entitled to receive the Journal at the members rate unless you have paid your subscription to date. Your name and address will only appear in the Membership Directory if you send your subscription by the end of June.

2.8 Decimalisation and postal strike in UK

If you send subscriptions to the U K, please remember that decimalisation has occurred and that the amount is now £0.60 (60 new pence). The postal strike has regrettably delayed this Newsletter. Please send news items to the Editor for another issue before the summer.

2.9 IAMG Journal

The IAMG Journal is going from strength to strength under Dan Merriam's editorship. A complete list of papers from volumes 1 and 2 is given below. Members may subscribe by writing to Plenum Publishing Corporation, 227 West 17th Street, New York, NY 10011, U S A. There is a reduced rate for members. Some members in the UK and the USA have reported difficulty in obtaining the Journal, or with invoices. If this has not been cleared up would they please write to Mr R Leech, Plenum Publishing Company Ltd, Donnington House, 30 Norfolk Street, LONDON WC2. Any others experiencing difficulty should write to Mr R Ubell in New York. Please note that Dan Merriam is now Chairman of the Department of Geology, Syracuse University, SYRACUSE, New York 13210, U S A. John Davis is now Chief, Geological Research Section, Kansas Geological Survey.

2.10 News from Members wanted

The Newsletter is an ideal medium for Departments of half-baked ideas and other informal communication between Members. Please send a few notes about what you are doing so that others can have a chance to steal your ideas. Don't be selfish. Someone may give something away that's useful to you if they are provoked.

2.11 Membership Directory

Will you please check your name and address on the envelope as they will be used in the Membership Directory which will be sent to paid-up members only this summer. If there is an error, please return the envelope, corrected, to the Editor.

2.12 Problems please!

Following a suggestion by John F Cutler of Idaho State University, Pocatello, Idaho 83201, U S A, the Newsletter will carry details of problems encountered by Members. It is hoped that readers able to provide help will send the solution, or references, to the Member with a copy to the Editor of the Newsletter for the information of readers. Problems should be stated in up to 250 words, with a similar length for replies. Copies of the Newsletter containing such problems will be directed to friendly statisticians.

2.13 Answers please!

"Imbrie, (1956, Bull. Am. Mus. Nat. Hist. 108: 227-241) gives a technique called "reduced major axis" (RMA) for fitting straight lines to scatters of points on X-Y plots (RMA is not the same thing as regression). He also gives some statistical tests (using the statistic z) that are used to test for differences in slope and position of pairs of RMA lines. I have some questions regarding the statistical significance of the RMA line and its associated correlation coefficient; and I have run into trouble regarding application and interpretation of the z tests. Neither Imbrie nor any of the references cited therein make any mention of these problems or their solutions.

I am publishing a series of computer programs that include RMA and the z tests (Cutler, JF, in press, Geocom Programs, Geosystems, London). It includes a brief outline of the problems and some attempted answers, but they need further work. " If anyone has knowledge of these techniques and tests, please write, for a full presentation of the matter, to

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