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Yutaka Tanaka studied mathematical engineering at University of Tokyo, Japan under the guidance of Professor Sigeiti Moriguti, and earned his Ph.D. in Mathematical Statistics at Kyushu University, Fukuoka, Japan. His Ph.D. thesis was "On some generalized methods of optimal scaling" (supervisor Professor Akio Kudo). His research interests include methods of quantification or optimal scaling, variable selection in multivariate statistical methods, in particular, in the case where no outside variable exists, sensitivity analysis in multivariate methods and development of software related to the above statistical techniques. Before moving to Nanzan University he had been a professor of statistics at Okayama University, Okayama, Japan, for 25 years and had worked for Takeda Chemical Industries as a biostatistician for 17 years. He was presented "Distinguished Achievement Award" in 1993 by Japanese Society of Computational Statistics (JSCS) for his research on sensitivity analysis in multivariate methods. He also received "Award for Software Development" jointly with T. Tarumi, Y. Mori, Y. Odaka, S. Watadani and Y. Yamamoto in 2005 from JSCS for the development of Software SAMMIF (Sensitivity Analysis in Multivariate Methods based on Influence Functions).

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