
Welcome from the Editor-in-Chief of *International Journal and Automation and Control*

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Biographical notes: Ling Wang received his BSc in Automation and PhD in Control Theory and Control Engineering from the Tsinghua University, Beijing, China, in 1995 and 1999, respectively. Since 1999, he has been with the Department of Automation, Tsinghua University, where he became a Full Professor in 2008. He has authored five academic books and over 260 refereed papers. His current research interests include intelligent automation, optimisation, control and scheduling. He was a recipient of the National Natural Science Fund for Distinguished Young Scholars of China, the National Natural Science Award (second place) in 2014, the Science and Technology Award of Beijing City in 2008, the Natural Science Award (first place in 2003, and second place in 2007) nominated by the Ministry of Education of China. He is the Editor-in-Chief of *International Journal of Automation and Control*, and an Associate Editor of *Swarm and Evolutionary Computation*, and an Editorial Board Member for several journals, including *Memetic Computing*, *Journal of Optimisation*, and *International Journal of Artificial Intelligence and Soft Computing*.

It is my honour to be appointed to take over the editorship of the *International Journal of Automation and Control (IJAAC)*. As the new Editor-in-Chief (EIC), I sincerely thank Dr. N.P. Mahalik who was the former EIC for his service during his tenure. I also would like to thank all the distinguished editors (Dr. A.T. Azar and Dr. B.M. Mohan) and associate editors (Dr. V.E. Balas and Dr. S. Vaidyanathan) for their great contributions to the journal. With the excellent and professional support of all the editorial board members and all the staff of Inderscience Publishers Limited, *IJAAC* has been indexed in Compendex (EI) and Emerging Sources Citation Index (Clarivate Analytics), etc. Our goal now is to make *IJAAC* one of the most well-recognised journals in the automation and control field.

We are also expanding the editorial team by adding several active professors to achieve our specific goals. I am happy to introduce the new Associate Editor (Prof. Rui Wang, National University of Defense Technology, China) and the following new editorial board members joining *IJAAC*. Now, we have two editors, three associate editors, and 28 editorial board members from 20 countries. They will promote the quality of the journal and provide leadership in spreading the word in many ways.

- Prof. Chaomin Luo, University of Detroit Mercy, USA
- Prof. M. Fatih Tasgetiren, Yasar University, Turkey
- Prof. Ponnuthurai Nagaratnam Suganthan (IEEE Fellow), Nanyang Technological University, Singapore
- Prof. Ruben Ruiz, Universitat Politècnica de València, Spain
- Prof. Zidong Wang (IEEE Fellow), Brunel University, UK
- Prof. Yuanqing Xia, Beijing Institute of Technology, China.

With the development of artificial intelligence (AI) and data science (DS), a new era is coming for automation and control. *IJAAC* will address the theory, algorithms, techniques, systems and applications of automation and control as well as the fuse of the emerging technologies especially AI. As agreed by the former EIC, *IJAAC* will increase from four to six issues from 2019. At the same time, we are going to launch several special issues for the significant developments and new focuses. I sincerely invite leading scholars and encourage early career researchers from universities and institutions to submit their best research to *IJAAC*.

Last but not least, my sincere thanks go to all the authors, reviewers and readers for their contributions and supports to *IJAAC*. Wish *IJAAC* a bright future.