
Editorial

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Biographical notes: Nagaraj Balakrishnan is working as a Professor and Dean from the Karpagam Innovation Centre at the Karpagam College of Engineering, Coimbatore, India. He received his ME and PhD from the Anna University and Karpagam University in 2004 and 2012, respectively. He applied for one patent and is published in *Indian Patent Journal*. He is a member of various professional bodies like IEEE, MAENG, IACSIT, ISTE and IETE. He is a reviewer for different reputed journals published by Elsevier, Wiley, Inderscience, etc. and has been the guest editor for few special issues in Hindawi, Elsevier, Inderscience, Springer, etc.

Danilo Pelusi is a Teacher from the Faculties of Communication Sciences and Bioscience and Agro-Food and Environmental Technology. His research focuses on coding theory and artificial intelligence. He is also a member of the PhD board in epistemology of informatics and social changes from the University of Teramo, administrator of the e-learning platform e-RID from the University of Teramo from 2009 to 2012 and PhD in Computational Astrophysics. He obtained his degree in Physics from the University of Bologna. He is also a Guest Editor for Inderscience and Springer.

Joy I-Z. Chen received his BSc in Electronics Engineering from the National Taiwan Technical University, Taipei, Taiwan, MSc in Electrical Engineering from the Dayeh University, Chunghua, Taiwan, in 1985 and 1995, respectively, and PhD in Electrical Engineering from the National Defense University, Tao-Yuan, Taiwan, in 2001. He is currently a Full Professor from the

Department of Communication Engineering, Dayeh University, Changhua, Taiwan. He has been serving many important positions in international conferences and is also a guest editor for *Inderscience* and *Springer*.

Today's modern businesses are very complex, which totally depends on the data collected from its customers. This is the reason for the emergence of big data. The business technology has faced major transformation in the past decades with the help of intelligent data collection and analysis. Forging data mining with the business processing procedures makes the business venture focus on a targeted customers. Terminologies such as business intelligence, big data, and data mining constitute important elements of this shift. In addition, the applications of soft computing are becoming increasingly important in the current scenario. Fully automated system, which would help in accurate identification of abnormalities, and providing good management among the systems. During the previous decade, soft computing has emerged as potential candidates for solving complex and intricate global optimisation problems, which are otherwise difficult to solve by traditional methods. In present scenario image processing, signal processing, industrial optimisation, control system applications and power system application fields have challenging deeds which are to be unravelled by researchers. Some popular soft computing techniques for machine learning and global optimisation include artificial neural networks, fuzzy logic, genetic algorithms (GA), differential evolution (DE), ant colony optimisation (ACO), particle swarm optimisation (PSO), artificial bee colony (ABC), firefly algorithm (FFA), etc. are the methods have been successfully applied to a wide range of benchmark and real-world application problems. Combining the soft computing methodologies with the data mining techniques, tremendously increase the intelligence inside the analytics to explore new possibilities.

This special issue is an ideal platform for the researchers to come out with innovative ideas and approaches in the area of data mining using these applied soft computing strategies. This issue gains much importance since it directly influences business analytics. It also explores many strategies and solutions that may generate, aggregate, visualise and analyse data are being used for the business, which may overcome the hurdles faced by researchers. On other hand these researches covers the insightful trends, patterns of data that create a revolutionary changes around. We hope that the practical implementation of this collection of researches may improve the technological innovations and excellence for the benefit of humanity.

We wish to thank the Editor-in-Chief, Dr. Mahardhika Pratama and Ms. Janet Marr, Journal Manager, *Inderscience* for giving us the opportunity of serving as guest editor(s) of this special issue. It has been a real pleasure. We also express our gratitude to all members of editorial office, the authors and to the independent reviewers that had made possible this issue. We hope that this special issue will be of high interest to the reader, as we consider that are the contributions contained in it.