GUEST EDITORIAL

This issue is devoted to the 11th International Conference on Information and Intelligent Systems held in Varaždin, Croatia, from September 20th to 22nd, 2001 in the organisation of the Faculty of Organisation and Informatics. As information sciences are generic by nature, the Conference had admitted a wide range of papers dealing with the field in a variety of ways. For this special issue I have selected 9 original scientific papers that were the cornerstones of the Conference:

V. Maček, J. Brumec, V. Dušak, BCG MATRIX ANALYSIS DURING THE STRATEGIC PLANNING OF GOVERNMENT ADMINISTRATION INFORMATION SYSTEMS (GAIS). The authors discuss the specifics of strategic planning of government administration information systems in each of its segments, including its importance, non-profit making, availability, privacy and confidentiality, complexity, its common data bases, interconnections, fast growth and changes, international profile, changes, vulnerability, education and the high costs.

M. I. Štemberger, J. Jaklič, K. Ćurko, USAGE OF INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY AND DATA WAREHOUSES IN LARGER SLOVENIAN AND CROATIAN COMPANIES: A COMPARISON. The authors investigate and compare the modes and levels of information technology usage in Slovenia and Croatia. Furthermore, they discuss the similarities and differences in the modes and levels of usage in the decision making process, with particular emphasis on data warehousing.

N. Lipljin, AN EXAMPLE OF THE INFORMATICS COURSES PARALLEL FREQUENCY & QUALITATIVE ANALYSIS. The author presents the complex method of selected curriculum quantitative and qualitative analysis and their comparison. In one part of the research, this method is tested by analysis/comparison of the selected Croatian information systems curriculum with selected foreign curriculum model and Croatian recommendation. The goals of the research are to investigate the quality and consistence of selected Croatian informatics graduate curriculum, and to present these processes as a method for objective curriculum analysis and evaluation.

V. Čerić, INTERNET ECONOMY AND ELECTRONIC COMMERCE. The paper presents an overview of and development trends in the Internet Economy and Electronic Commerce: the influence of information technology on the economy, the basic components of the Internet Economy (i.e. the economy based on the Internet), key figures from recent research on revenues and jobs related to the Internet Economy, and an analysis of current trends in business, technology and social issues involved in E-commerce.

I. J. Rudas, NEW APPROACH TO INFORMATION AGGREGATION. The paper introduces new types of aggregation operators, such as absorbing norms and parametric type of operator families called distance-based or evolutionary operators. Absorbing-norms are commutative, associative binary operators having an absorbing element from the unit interval. A detailed discussion of properties and structure of these operators is given in the paper.

J. K. Tar, M. Ronto, ADAPTIVE CONTROL BASED ON THE APPLICATION OF SIMPLIFIED UNIFORM STRUCTURES AND LEARNING PROCEDURES. The paper reports on the present state in evolvement of a new branch of Soft Computing (SC) for particular problem classes that is possibly wider than the control of mechanical systems. The advantage of this approach is that the development of an intricate and complicated analytical system model can be evaded. Instead of this typical problem, classes have been identified for whose solution typical uniform architectures have been crystallized.

A. Rauber, J. Paralič, EMPIRICAL EVALUATION OF CLUSTERING ALGORITHMS. The authors present an empirical evaluation of some prominent unsupervised data classification techniques with respect to their usability and the interpretability of their result representation.

A. Lovrenčić, DATA SOURCE WRAPPERS BASED ON DEFINITE CLAUSE GRAMMARS. The paper deals with the problem of translation between different query languages that data sources may use. The author creates grammar templates for some of them using DC grammars and shows that DC grammars are satisfactory enough to represent all properties of query languages that are syntactically of first or higher order.

M. Maleković, M. Čubrilo, INTEGRATED AGENT IN MULTI-AGENT SYSTEM. The authors characterize the integrated agent in multi-agent systems. They prove some relations between a multi-agent system and the integrated agent of the multi-agent system, and multi-agent system's serialness. In addition, they present a knowledge relationship between the integrated agent and agents in a multi-agent system.

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