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ISSN 1615-3871
ISBN 978-3-540-70704-2

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Soft Computing in Industrial Applications

ADVANCES IN *SOFT COMPUTING* 39

Ashraf Saad
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Soft Computing in Industrial Applications

Recent and Emerging Methods and Techniques

Springer

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Library of Congress Control Number: 2007923718

ISSN print edition: 1615-3871
ISSN electronic edition: 1860-0794
ISBN-10 3-540-70704-2 Springer Berlin Heidelberg New York
ISBN-13 978-3-540-70704-2 Springer Berlin Heidelberg New York

Springer is a part of Springer Science+Business Media

springer.com

Printed in Germany

Typesetting: by the authors and SPS using a Springer LaTeX macro package

Printed on acid-free paper SPIN: 11585275 89/SPS 5 4 3 2 1 0

Preface

On behalf of all members of the International Technical Program Committee of the 11th Online World Conference on Soft Computing in Industrial Applications (WSC11), we would like to extend our sincere welcome to you. The conference continues a tradition started over a decade ago by the World Federation of Soft Computing (WFSC) to bring together researchers interested in advancing state of the art in the field. Continuous technological improvements since then continue to make this online forum a viable gathering format for a world class conference.

The program committee received a total of 63 submissions, of which 61 papers qualified for peer review by the International Program Committee. Each paper was then reviewed by at least three referees, culminating in the acceptance of 30 papers for publication. Authors of all accepted papers were then notified to prepare and submit their final manuscripts and conference presentations. This resulted in a total of 28 final submissions by 73 authors that comprise the six sessions of the conference program. Based on the reviewers' reports, the authors provided revised versions of the papers – all of them are featured in this book. Also featured is an invited paper based on a keynote presentation. The authors of several outstanding papers have been invited to submit significantly revised and extended versions of their papers to the Applied Soft Computing Journal.

We extend our sincere thanks to all authors and to all members of the International Program Committee for their clear and unwavering commitment to the success of WSC11. Reflecting the worldwide nature of WSC11, authors, members of the program committee and the conference organizers are from over 20 countries and five continents. We also extend our thanks to our keynote speaker, Dr. Pieter Mosterman of the MathWorks for his contributed talk.

November 29, 2006

Ashraf Saad
General Chair of WSC11
Savannah, Georgia, USA

Erel Avineri
Program Chair of WSC11
Bristol, UK

Message from the WSC11 General Chair and Program Chair

It is our pleasure to officially announce the start of the conference. The official WSC11 web site has been relocated since August to the following URL: http://www.cs.armstrong.edu/wsc11/. Please make the necessary changes to any web pages that you maintain with reference to the conference. That will increase the chances of search engines pointing to the correct WSC11 web site.

An opening note has been posted to the conference web site along with the final pdf version of all accepted papers. With regard to the presentation of papers and the keynote, we will be able to support (for the first time in WSC's history) real-time presentations via audio conferencing. This is made possible through a kind three-week trial offer (for the duration of the conference) of Elluminate (http://www.Elluminate.com), a Java-based (http://java.sun.com/products/javawebstart/) webinar environment. In return, we will provide feedback about the use of this web-based conferencing tool in support of our worldwide conference. In order to get an idea of the use of this tool, please visit the following URL: https://sas.elluminate.com/m.jnlp?sid=1125&password=M.161974A26FAAF95DB6C50F2C6CFF05 where an image version of the opening note is currently posted for testing purposes.

Therefore, we request from each correspondence author to email us back by Friday, September 22, with his/her availability to make a 25-30 minutes presentation during the upcoming two weeks (Sep 25-Oct 6). Please provide us with 2-3 possible times, and indicate your local time zone as it relate to GMT (e.g., EST in the US is GMT-5, while Brazil should be GMT-4). A presenter will need a Java-enabled computer, with a reasonable high quality connection to the Internet, and which is also equipped with a speaker and a microphone (or a headset). We will schedule all presentations and upload into Elluminate the presentation slides that have been submitted in August. A final schedule of presentations will be posted and emailed to all by Monday, September 25. All interested participants will then be able to connect to a presentation at the scheduled time, up to a maximum of 30 seats per session. We will expect session chairs to attend as many of the presentations of their sessions as possible.

It is indeed an exciting development for us to be able to support a synchronous mode of interaction for WSC11 given our global community. We also hope to witness a strong level of participation in the sessions by researchers from all four corners of the globe.

September 18, 2006

Ashraf Saad
General Chair of WSC11
Savannah, Georgia, USA

Erel Avineri
Program Chair of WSC11
Bristol, UK

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** Formerly with the Georgia Institute of Technology

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Contents