

## Table of Contents

|   |     |
|---|-----|
| <b>List of Figures</b>  | XV  |
| <b>List of Tables</b>   | XIX |
| <b>Chapter One: Overview</b>  | 1   |
| 1.1 Introduction  | 3   |
| 1.2 Research Motivations  | 4   |
| 1.2.1 Pedagogical Problems  | 5   |
| 1.2.2 Technical Problems  | 6   |
| 1.3 Dissertation Objectives   | 7   |
| 1.4 Contribution of Dissertation                                      | 8   |
| 1.5 Dissertation Structure  | 8   |
| <b>Chapter Two: e-Learning Pedagogical and Technical Problems</b>     | 11  |
| 2.1 Introduction  | 13  |
| 2.2 Pedagogical Problems  | 14  |
| 2.3 Adaptive and Intelligent e-Learning Systems                       | 17  |
| 2.3.1 Adaptive e-Learning Approaches                                  | 19  |
| 2.3.2 Intelligent e-Learning Systems                                  | 21  |
| 2.4 Utilizing Service Oriented Architecture in e-Learning Systems     | 22  |
| 2.4.1 Web services as main SOA enabler                                | 23  |
| 2.4.2 SOA and e-Learning Systems                                      | 24  |
| 2.5 Technical Problems with Services based e-Learning Systems         | 31  |
| 2.5.1 Evaluation of Utilizing SOA in integrating e-Learning Systems   | 32  |
| 2.5.2 Technical Evaluation Quality Parameters                         | 35  |
| 2.6 Summary   | 38  |
| <b>Chapter Three: Proposed Adaptive e-Learning Models</b>             | 39  |
| 3.1 Introduction  | 41  |
| 3.2 Adaptive e-Learning Model as a Solution                           | 41  |
| 3.2.1 Adaptive e-Learning Model Components                            | 42  |
| 3.2.2 Adaptive e-Learning Model Learning Scenarios                    | 43  |
| 3.2.3 Adaptive Features in Adaptive e-Learning Model                  | 50  |
| 3.3 Adaptive Online Lecture Model                                     | 52  |
| 3.3.1 Phase One: Preparing Online Lecture                             | 53  |
| 3.3.2 Phase Two: During Online Lecture                                | 54  |
| 3.3.3 Phase Three: Upcoming Lecture                                   | 55  |
| 3.4 IT Architecture to Enable Presented Adaptive Models               | 56  |
| 3.4.1 Utility, Middleware, and Load Balancing Servers                 | 56  |
| 3.4.2 Learning Content Management System and Content Servers          | 57  |
| 3.4.3 Adaptive LMS Servers  | 58  |
| 3.4.4 Adaptive Online Lecture Servers                                 | 58  |
| 3.5 Integration of Proposed Models Services Via SOA                   | 58  |
| 3.6 Learning Objects in Presented Adaptive Models                     | 64  |
| 3.7 Exam Management System and Cheating Challenges                    | 71  |
| 3.7.1 Problem Domain Analysis   | 72  |
| 3.7.2 Comparative Study Between Supervised and Non-Supervised Quizzes | 74  |
| 3.7.3 Comments on Results   | 79  |
| 3.7.4 Proposed Solution to Cheating Problems                          | 80  |
| 3.8 Summary   | 82  |

|   |     |
|---|-----|
| <b>Chapter Four: Proposed Intelligent Features</b>                                | 85  |
| 4.1 Introduction  | 87  |
| 4.2 Instructor Intelligent Services   | 90  |
| 4.2.1 Intelligent LOs Classifier  | 90  |
| 4.2.2 Intelligent Online Lecture LOs Advisor                                      | 91  |
| 4.2.3 Intelligent Student Tracker Service   | 94  |
| 4.2.4 Intelligent Cheat Depressor Service   | 98  |
| 4.3 Student Intelligent Services  | 98  |
| 4.3.1 Intelligent Study Plan Advisor  | 98  |
| 4.3.2 Intelligent Time-to-Learn Topic Calculation                                 | 101 |
| 4.3.3 Intelligent LOs Recommender   | 103 |
| 4.3.4 Intelligent Agenda Study Time Planner                                       | 111 |
| 4.3.5 Intelligent Meeting Manager for Suspended Students                          | 113 |
| 4.4 Summary   | 115 |
| <b>Chapter Five: Technical Details and Implementation</b>                         | 117 |
| 5.1 Introduction  | 119 |
| 5.2 Intelligent Student Tracking Service  | 120 |
| 5.3 Student Manager Service   | 122 |
| 5.4 Students' Usage Data Manager  | 127 |
| 5.5 Learning Objects Manager Service  | 128 |
| 5.6 Intelligent LOs Recommender   | 131 |
| 5.6.1 Pending LOs for Recommendation Manager Module                               | 131 |
| 5.6.2 Crawler Module  | 132 |
| 5.6.3 Document Processor Service  | 134 |
| 5.7 Intelligent Meeting Manager for Suspended Students Service                    | 141 |
| 5.8 Intelligent Document Classifier Service                                       | 144 |
| 5.9 Student e-Learning Environment and Adaptive Features                          | 146 |
| 5.10 Instructor Portal  | 147 |
| 5.11 Summary  | 149 |
| <b>Chapter Six: Optimization and Evaluation</b>                                   | 151 |
| 6.1 Introduction  | 153 |
| 6.2 Addressing Problems   | 154 |
| 6.2.1 Pedagogical Problems  | 154 |
| 6.2.2 Technical Problems  | 155 |
| 6.3 Presenting Proposed Solution  | 155 |
| 6.3.1 Pedagogical Solutions   | 156 |
| 6.3.2 Technical Solutions   | 158 |
| 6.4 Optimizing Selected Solution  | 159 |
| 6.4.1 Intelligent LOs Recommender Challenges                                      | 160 |
| 6.4.2 Intelligent LOs Recommender Optimization Techniques and Comments on Results | 167 |
| 6.5 Evaluation of Optimized Solution  | 168 |
| 6.5.1 User Satisfaction   | 169 |
| 6.5.2 Information Retrieval Evaluation  | 170 |
| 6.5.3 Intelligent LOs Classifier Evaluation                                       | 173 |
| 6.6 Summary   | 177 |
| <b>Chapter Seven: Conclusion and Future Work</b>                                  | 179 |
| <b>References</b>   | 185 |