

## Preface

Scientific research journals and scientific research periodicals usually publish special issues as well as conference proceedings. Quite frequently, these special issues are devoted exclusively to specific topics and/or are dedicated respectfully to commemorate the celebrated works of renowned research scientists. This particular *Special Issue: “FSDM2017”* has stemmed essentially from the *Proceedings of the Third International Conference on Fuzzy Systems and Data Mining* (FSDM 2017), which was held at the National Dong Hwa University (NDHU) in Shoufeng [Hualien] in Taiwan (Republic of China) on November 24–27, 2017. The two preceding conferences in this series (FSDM 2015 and FSDM 2016) were held, respectively, in Shanghai (People’s Republic of China) on December 12–15, 2015 and at the Macau University of Science and Technology on December 11–14, 2016. The next conference in this series, the Fourth International Conference on Fuzzy Systems and Data Mining (FSDM 2018) is scheduled to be held in Bangkok (Thailand) on November 16–19, 2018.

Much of the relevant details about **FSDM 2017** is available at the following Web Site:

**URL: <http://www.fsdmconf.org>**

Some of the main features of FSDM 2017 include the following relevant items of special interest:

### **I. Keynote Speakers at FSDM 2017:**

#### **1. Prof. Dr. Hari Mohan Srivastava**

(Department of Mathematics and Statistics, University of Victoria, Canada)

#### **2. Prof. Dr. Shun-Feng Su**

(Department of Electrical Engineering, National Taiwan University of Science and Technology, Taiwan [Republic of China])

### **II. Best Presenters by Invited Speakers at FSDM 2017:**

#### **Session 1. Prof. Dr. Atsushi Inoue**

(College of Business and Public Administration, Eastern Washington University, U.S.A.)

**Session 2. Assoc. Prof. Dr. Gautam Srivastava** (Department of Mathematics and Computer Science, Brandon University, Canada)

**Session 3. Assoc. Prof Dr. Nick Pears**  
(Department of Computer Science, University of York, U.K.)

**Session 4. Prof. Dr. Xiaoxia Huang**  
(Donlinks School of Economics and Management, University of Science and Technology, People's Republic of China)

**Session 5. Dr. Liu Yang**  
(School of Management, Wuhan University of Technology, People's Republic of China)

**Session 6. Dr. Andrew Dai**  
(Google Brain, U.S.A.)

**Session 7. Assoc. Prof. Dr. Shieu-Hong Lin**  
(Department of Mathematics and Computer Science, Biola University, U.S.A.)

### **III. Content of This Special Issue:**

This *Special Issue* contains a well-selected, duly-refereed and peer-reviewed collection of a total of 54 articles which provide worthwhile advances in the subjects covered by **FSDM 2017**.

As usual, topical conferences (such as those under this series of international conferences on Fuzzy Systems and Data Mining) bring together participants who share similar or overlapping research interests. The participants of **FSDM 2017** (Shoufeng [Hualien], Taiwan, Republic of China; November 24–27, 2017) did also take the full advantage of this excellent opportunity to develop long-lasting professional friendship and research collaboration. Of course, most (if not all) of them took the opportunity and advantage to also enjoy their visit to Taiwan (Republic of China) (especially the beautiful Hualien County).

Each and every member of the remarkably efficient and capable Organizing Committee worked hard to make the international conference **FSDM 2017** a successful and fruitful event. The dedicated and wholehearted efforts by the members of the Technical Program Committee and the Local Organizing Committee are indeed worthy of praise and commendation.

Finally, on my own behalf as an Editor of ***Filomat*** and a Member of the Technical Program Committee for **FSDM 2017** (Shoufeng [Hualien], Taiwan, Republic of China; November 24–27, 2017) *as well as* on behalf of the other Members of the Editorial Board of ***Filomat***, I am exceedingly delighted to thank all of the participating authors and the referees for their *invaluable* contributions toward the remarkable success of *this* Special Issue. I do also greatly appreciate the editorial help and assistance provided efficiently and generously by Prof. Dragan S. Djordjević and many colleagues and associates in the Editorial Office of ***Filomat***, especially Dr. Milica Z. Kolundžija.

**Hari Mohan Srivastava**

(Member, The Editorial Board of ***Filomat***)

Guest Editor of the *Special Issue*:  
**“FSDM2017”**

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