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University of Cambridge, Cambridge, UK, February 20-22, 2008



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Proceedings of the 7th WSEAS International Conference on SOFTWARE ENGINEERING, PARALLEL and DISTRIBUTED SYSTEMS (SEPADS'08)

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Preface

This book contains proceedings of the 7th WSEAS International Conference on SOFTWARE ENGINEERING, PARALLEL and DISTRIBUTED SYSTEMS (SEPADS '08) which was held in University of Cambridge, Cambridge, UK, February 20-22, 2008. The first WSEAS Software Engineering, Parallel and Distributed Systems Conference was held in Cadiz, Spain in 2002. In 2003 it was held in Rethymno, Greece. After that in 2004 and 2005 it took place in Salzburg, Austria. In 2006 this Conference was organized in Univ. de Alcala, Madrid, Spain. Last year in 2007 it was held in Corfu, Greece. And this year, it will be held in the University of Cambridge, Cambridge, UK. The World Conference of WSEAS on SOFTWARE ENGINEERING, PARALLEL and DISTRIBUTED SYSTEMS is the internationally recognised Forum for the dissemination of the latest advances on Software Engineering, Parallel Computing, Distributed Computing, Algorithms, Computer Networks etc as well as their impact and their interaction with other areas of Electrical Engineering and Computer Science and Engineering. The various WSEAS conferences on Theoretical and Applied Computer Science has been successfully held each year since 1996 and has produced more than 150 volumes of Proceedings while the best papers and the invited papers after extension and after peer review from 4 international referees, are published in WSEAS Journals covered by all the major scientific indexes.

The 7th WSEAS International Conference on SOFTWARE ENGINEERING, PARALLEL and DISTRIBUTED SYSTEMS (SEPADS'08) aims to disseminate the latest research and applications in the afore mentioned fields. The friendliness and openness of the WSEAS conferences, adds to their ability to grow by constantly attracting young researchers.

The WSEAS International Conference on SOFTWARE ENGINEERING, PARALLEL and DISTRIBUTED SYSTEMS attracts each year a large number of well-established and leading researchers in the aforementioned areas as well as Modern and Advanced Applications in Real Life.

The meetings have always had a special appeal to young researchers and are characterized by a friendly atmosphere in which delegates at different stages of their careers can talk to each other. Scientists within all the areas of Information Technologies will benefit from attending the meeting. As a conclusion, the conference offers to the engineers and scientists a unique forum for establishing new collaborations within present or upcoming research projects, exchanging useful ideas, presenting recent research results, participating in discussions and establishing new academic collaborations, linking university with the industry.

See other similar WSEAS conferences on Software Engineering, Parallel and Distributed Computing and Systems, Applied Computer Science etc via: www.worldses.org/history.htm

The Editors

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Plenary Lecture I

Toward Human-Level Machine Intelligence



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Director, Berkeley Initiative in Soft Computing (BISC)

Abstract: Achievement of human-level machine intelligence has profound implications for modern society a society which is becoming increasingly infocentric in its quest for efficiency, convenience and enhancement of quality of life. Humans have many remarkable capabilities. Among them a capability that stands out in importance is the human ability to perform a wide variety of physical and mental tasks without any measurements and any computations, based on perceptions of distance, speed, direction, intent, likelihood and other attributes of physical and mental objects. A familiar example is driving a car in city traffic. Mechanization of this ability is a challenging objective of machine intelligence. Science deals not with reality but with models of reality. In large measure, models of reality in scientific theories are based on classical, Aristotelian, bivalent logic. The brilliant successes of science are visible to all. But when we take a closer look, what we see is that alongside the brilliant successes there are areas where achievement of human-level machine intelligence is still a distant objective. We cannot write programs that can summarize a book. We cannot automate driving a car in heavy city traffic. And we are far from being able to construct systems which can understand natural language. Why is the achievement of human-level machine intelligence a distant objective? What is widely unrecognized is that one of the principal reasons is the fundamental conflict between the precision of bivalent logic and imprecision of the real world. In the world of bivalent logic, every proposition is either true or false, with no shades of truth allowed. In the real world, as perceived by humans, most propositions are true to a degree. Humans have a remarkable capability to reason and make rational decisions in an environment of imprecision, uncertainty, incompleteness of information and partiality of truth. It is this capability that is beyond the reach of bivalent logic—a logic which is intolerant of imprecision and partial truth.

A much better fit to the real world is fuzzy logic. In fuzzy logic, everything is or is allowed to be graduated, that is, be a matter of degree or, equivalently, fuzzy. Furthermore, in fuzzy logic everything is or is allowed to be granulated, with a granule being a clump of elements drawn together by indistinguishability, similarity, proximity or functionality. Graduation and granulation play key roles in the ways in which humans deal with complexity and imprecision. In this connection, it should be noted that, in large measure, fuzzy logic is inspired by the ways in which humans deal with complexity, imprecision and partiality of truth. It is in this sense that fuzzy logic is human-centric. In coming years, fuzzy logic and fuzzy-logic-based methods are likely to play increasingly important roles in achievement of human-level machine intelligence. In addition, soft computing is certain to grow in visibility and importance. Basically, soft computing is a coalition of methodologies which in one way or another are directed at the development of better models of reality, human reasoning, risk assessment and decision making. This is the primary motivation for soft computing—a coalition of fuzzy logic, neurocomputing, evolutionary computing, probabilistic computing and machine learning. The guiding principle of soft computing is that, in general, better results can be achieved through the use of constituent methodologies of soft computing in combination rather than in a stand-alone mode.

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Brief biography of the speaker: LOTFI A. ZADEH is a Professor in the Graduate School, Computer Science Division, Department of EECS, University of California, Berkeley. In addition, he is serving as the Director of BISC (Berkeley Initiative in Soft Computing).

Lotfi Zadeh is an alumnus of the University of Tehran, MIT and Columbia University. He held visiting appointments at the Institute for Advanced Study, Princeton, NJ; MIT, Cambridge, MA; IBM Research Laboratory, San Jose, CA; AI Center, SRI International, Menlo Park, CA; and the Center for the Study of Language and Information, Stanford University. His earlier work was concerned in the main with systems analysis, decision analysis and information systems. His current research is focused on fuzzy logic, computing with words and soft computing, which is a coalition of fuzzy logic, neurocomputing, evolutionary computing, probabilistic computing and parts of machine learning.

Lotfi Zadeh is a Fellow of the IEEE, WSEAS, AAAS, ACM, AAAI, and IFSA. He is a member of the National Academy of Engineering and a Foreign Member of the Russian Academy of Natural Sciences, the Finnish Academy of Sciences, the Polish Academy of Sciences, Korean Academy of Science & Technology and the Bulgarian Academy of Sciences. He is a recipient of the IEEE Education Medal, the IEEE Richard W. Hamming Medal, the IEEE Medal of Honor, the ASME Rufus Oldenburger Medal, the B. Bolzano Medal of the Czech Academy of Sciences, the Kampe de Feriet Medal, the AACC Richard E. Bellman Control Heritage Award, the Grigore Moisil Prize, the Honda Prize, the Okawa Prize, the AIM Information Science Award, the IEEE-SMC J. P. Wohl Career Achievement Award, the SOFT Scientific Contribution Memorial Award of the Japan Society for Fuzzy Theory, the IEEE Millennium Medal, the ACM 2001 Allen Newell Award, the Norbert Wiener Award of the IEEE Systems, Man and Cybernetics Society, Civitate Honoris Causa by Budapest Tech (BT) Polytechnical Institution, Budapest, Hungary, the V. Kaufmann Prize, International Association for Fuzzy-Set Management and Economy (SIGEF), the Nicolaus Copernicus Medal of the Polish Academy of Sciences, the J. Keith Brimacombe IPMM Award, the Silicon Valley Engineering Hall of Fame, the Heinz Nixdorf MuseumsForum Wall of Fame, other awards and twenty-six honorary doctorates. He has published extensively on a wide variety of subjects relating to the conception, design and analysis of information/intelligent systems, and is serving on the editorial boards of over sixty journals.

See also: http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Lotfi_Asker_Zadeh

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Plenary Lecture II

Decision support systems, human centric/centered computing, and computing with words: a synergistic combination?



Professor Janusz Kacprzyk
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Abstract: We start with a brief account of complex decision making problems, and advocate the use of modern approaches to real world decision making emphasizing the concept of a decision making process that involves more factors and aspects like: the use of explicit and tacit knowledge, intuition, individual habitual domains, non-trivial rationality, different paradigms, etc. We stress the need for computer based decision support systems that should exhibit some "intelligence" which is meant in an individual and collective perspective, and give an overview of main types of decision support systems.

We present some new so-called computing paradigms that try to attain a synergy, and bridge the gap between the human user and computer systems that is mainly caused by the fact that natural language is the only fully natural means of communication and articulation for a human being but it is "strange" to the computer. We advocate the so-called: human centric computing, human centered computing, human computing, etc. that can help bridge this gap.

Then, we present Zadeh's paradigm of computing with words (and perceptions) as a tool that may help bring computing closer to the human being by an explicit use of (quasi)natural language in many phases of computing, problem solving, etc.

We indicate relations between the computing with words and human centric computing paradigms, and indicate – first – that the former can be viewed as an attempt at providing proper tools to implement the latter, and that both can play a crucial role in intelligent decision support systems.

We show some implementations of using linguistic data summaries in a business context and show that they can be viewed as extremely human consistent data mining tools, notably for novice users.

Brief biography of the speaker: Janusz Kacprzyk is Professor of Computer Science at the Systems Research Institute, Polish Academy of Sciences, and Honorary Professor at the Department of Mathematics, Yli Normal University, Shanxi, China. He has been a visiting professor at many universities in the USA, England, Italy and Mexico. He is Academician (Member of the Polish Academy of Sciences).

His research interests include intelligent systems, soft computing, fuzzy logic, decision making, decision analysis and decision support, database querying, information retrieval, data analysis, data mining, etc.

He is President of IFSA (International Fuzzy Systems Association), and President of the Polish Society for Operational and Systems Research.

He is Fellow of IEEE and IFSA. He received The 2005 IEEE CIS Fuzzy Pioneer Award for pioneering works on multistage fuzzy control, notably fuzzy dynamic programming, and The Sixth Kaufmann Prize and Gold Medal for pioneering works on the use of fuzzy logic in economy and management.

His publication record is: 5 books, 30 volumes, 300 papers. He is Editor in chief of 3 Springer's book series, and a co-editor of one Springer book series, is on the editorial boards of ca. 30 journals, and was a member of the IPC at more than 200 conferences.

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Plenary Lecture III

Clustering with an N-Dimensional Extension of Gielis Superformula



Professor Angel Kuri-Morales
Instituto Tecnologico Autonomo de Mexico
Mexico

Abstract: One of the most important issues regarding the analysis of raw data is the adequate identification of groups within such data. There have been many attempts to define a measure of what is "adequate" clustering. In all published cases, however, the adequateness of a cluster depends on a measure of distance chosen a priori. A metric or distance function is a function which defines a distance between elements of a set (for instance, one of the Ln family or Mahalanobis' distances have been utilized). Once a metric has been defined it remains to prove that the resulting clusters do, indeed, correspond to a proper classification. An obvious disadvantage of this methodology is, however, that in the space of the metric all clusters are hyperspherical. The shortcoming is that this fact immediately invalidates the attempt to find irregular shapes in such N-dimensional space. A metric induces a topology on a set but not all topologies can be generated by a metric. Topological unmetrisable spaces correspond, in this case, to a family of formulas developed originally by Gielis which he called a "superformula" (S). By replacing a metric by the elements of the hull defined by S we allow the search for more general shapes for our clusters. We report on the application of Vasconcelos Genetic Algorithm to find the parameters of S whose hulls encompass a large number of observations and the application of this method to data mining.

Brief biography of the speaker: Angel Fernando Kuri-Morales is an Engineer in Electronics by the Universidad Anahuac in Mexico City. He got a M.Sc. degree from the University of Illinois and a Ph.D. from Kennedy-Western University. He is the author of two text books and more than 70 articles published in international magazines and conferences. He is a member of the National System of Researchers (SNI). He won an international prize for the best solution to the "Iterated Prisoner's Dilemma" during the International Congress on Evolutionary Computation in 2000. He has been included in "Who is Who in the World" in 1988, 1998, 2000, 2002, 2003 and 2007. He received the best paper award during the 7th Industrial Conference in Data Mining, Leipzig, Germany. He has been president of several International Congresses, and invited speaker in many national and international scientific events. He belongs to the Evaluating Committee in the Area of Computer Science of CONACYT (the National Council for Science and Technology in Mexico). He was founder partner of Micromex, Inc. and IDET, Inc. and Director of Applied Research in the Center for Research in Computation of the National Polytechnic Institute. He is a Distinguished Lecturer of the Association for Computing Machinery (ACM) and member of the Scientific Committee of the World Scientific and Engineering Academy and Society (WSEAS). Currently he is the member of the Board of IBERAMIA, President of the Mexican Society for Artificial Intelligence and Professor in the Autonomous Technological Institute of Mexico (ITAM).

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Plenary Lecture IV

Data Mining through Data Visualisation: Computational Intelligence Approaches



Professor Colin Fyfe
University of the West of Scotland

Abstract: One of the major tasks today is to create information from data. We do not mean to define information in terms of Shannon or indeed any other mathematical definition but information in terms of the subjective experience of a viewer of the data. People (and probably animals) are very good at pattern recognition; we are far more robust pattern matchers than any current computer programs. Increasingly however, we are dealing with high dimensional (and often high volume) data so to gain intuitions about a data set, we often project data onto low dimensional manifolds. One question which arises then, is what projections to low dimensional manifolds are best in order to present the projected data to a human user. We illustrate several projections which have been found by artificial neural network extensions of Hebbian learning.

We then show examples of similar projections found by reinforcement learning; our rationale in this case is that we have agents interacting proactively with a database examining different projections and, without human intervention, getting rewards when the projections reveal some interesting structure. We then give examples of the same projections found by other computational intelligence methods such as the cross entropy method and artificial immune systems.

We then examine projections to nonlinear manifolds and show that with a particular model of an underlying latent space, we may identify clusters in data sets when such clusters are not visible in any low dimensional linear projection.

Finally we review different data representation techniques: we begin with parallel coordinates and point out some difficulties with this method before reviewing Andrews' Curves, a method from the 1970s which has only become truly practicable with the advent of modern desktop computers. An extension to this method came from Wegman and his colleagues in the 1990s. We also discuss a more recent extension and illustrate three dimensional projections of data samples dancing together.

Brief biography of the Speaker: Colin Fyfe completed his PhD in 1995 in artificial neural networks and has since supervised 16 completed PhDs in neural networks, evolutionary computation and probabilistic modelling. He is on the Editorial Board of several neural network and wider computational intelligence journals, and has been Honorary Chair of several international conferences. He has published over 300 refered conference and journal papers, many book chapters and three books and is Series Co-Editor of the series "Computational Intelligence: Theory and Applications" with IGI International. He has given plenary talks at several international conferences and been visiting professor at universities in Australia, Korea, China, Taiwan and Spain. He is currently a Personal Professor at the University of the West of Scotland.

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Plenary Lecture V

Fundamental Theory of Controllability and Observability of First-Order Matrix Difference Systems



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Abstract: The theory of difference equations is much wealthier than its counterpart in differential equations. With the emergence of digital signal processing technology, the theory of difference equations assumes great importance in areas such as digital control, image processing, and digital filter design. In this talk, a first-order matrix Sylvester difference system with a control structure is discussed in view of the existence and uniqueness of its general solution. Results are used in the study of controllability and observability of the matrix difference system coupled with an output structure. More general criteria, such as the one-sided controllability and observability matrices, are obtained for complete controllability and complete observability of time-invariant systems.

Brief Biography of the Speaker: Yan Wu received the B.S. degree in Mathematics from Beijing University of Technology in 1992 and the Ph.D. degree in Applied Mathematics and Electrical Engineering both from University of Akron in 1996 and 2000, respectively. Currently he is an Associate Professor in the Department of Mathematical Sciences at Georgia Southern University. His research interests include numerical linear algebra, nonlinear control, and generalized sampling theory. He has two patents granted by the United States Patent and Trademark Office. One of his papers was ranked 4th place among the top 25 publications in the Journal of Digital Signal Processing in 2006. Dr. Wu serves as an Associate Editor for Instrumentation, Systems, and Automation (ISA) and American Automatic Control Council (AACC).

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Plenary Lecture VI

Formalisation and Verification in a Type-theoretic Framework



Professor Zhaohui Luo Dept. of Computer Science Royal Holloway, Univ of London UK

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Abstract: Dependent type theory provides a powerful logical calculus for computer-assisted formal reasoning. The associated technology of theorem proving has produced very useful tools, the so-called "proof assistants", for formal proof development both in verification of programs and in formalisation of mathematics. After giving an overview of the research field, I shall present a new type-theoretic framework LTT and explain its use in formalisation and verification. The particular features of the LTT framework include:

- LTT is a foundational calculus for formal reasoning with different logical foundations, establishing the basis for wider applications of the type theory based theorem proving technology.
- LTT employs a notion of "typed set", combining type-theoretical reasoning with set-theoretical reasoning in an effective way and supporting efficient proof development in formalisation and verification. As a promising framework, LTT has been used in several case studies, including the formalisation of Weyl's predicative mathematics and the analysis of security protocols.

Brief Biography of the Speaker: Zhaohui Luo is Professor of Computer Science at Royal Holloway, University of London. He has obtained the PhD degree in Computer Science at University of Edinburgh and worked as Lecturer, Reader and Professor in University of Durham, before going to Royal Holloway. Luo's research interests in the last twenty years have focussed on the study of type theory and its applications. His publications include two authored books on type theory and programming methodology.

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Plenary Lecture VII

Probability Measures of Fuzzy Events and Linguistic Fuzzy Modelling - Forms Expressing Randomness and Imprecision



Professor Anna Walaszek-Babiszewska

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Abstract: Statistical methods have a long history of applications to data analysis and modelling in many fields of human activities, as financial markets, business, optimal control. Zadeh's theory of fuzzy systems, soft computing and computing with words gave possibilities of utilising many approaches to modelling, taking into account different types of uncertainties, especially, human knowledge and perception expressed imprecisely in linguistic categories. The sets of numerical data, collected in many real systems, and expert's experiences would be very useful to modelling both randomness and imprecision. Starting with the reminding the basic notions of probability of fuzzy events, we define probability distributions of a linguistic variable and a linguistic vector as well as a mean fuzzy value (a mean fuzzy set) of the linguistic variable. We formulate also a stochastic process with fuzzy states. The next, we try to modelling randomness and imprecision, using linguistic fuzzy models with weights of rules. A structure of the fuzzy model is predefined at the beginning of the task. Probability of fuzzy events has been used to formulate probabilities of linguistic values of input variables are the weights of file rules. Conditional probabilities of linguistic values of the output variable are the weights in the consequence of elementary rules. The inference procedures are proposed and exemplary calculations are presented.

Brief Biography of the Speaker: Anna Walaszek-Babiszewska, at present, is a professor at the Opole University of Technology, Department of Control and Computer Engineering. She has obtained a MSc degree in Control Engineering from the Wroclaw University of Technology and a PhD as well as a DSc (Habilitation) degrees from the Silesian University of Technology in Gliwice, Poland. Her research interests include stochastic modeling, fuzzy systems, data analysis, and applications in technological and managerial situations. She has supervised 3 completed PhDs and reviewed 5 PhDs in technical and economic sciences. She has published 2 monographic books on stochastic and fuzzy modeling and over 80 scientific papers. She is a member of the Editorial Boards of Management (since 2000) and of Lecture Notes in Control and Computer Science (in 2003) of the University of Zielona Gora Press. She is a member of the Section of Cybernetics in Mining, Mining Committee of the Polish Academy of Sciences (since 1999).

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