

Preface

We would like to present, with great pleasure, the inaugural volume of a new scholarly journal, *Transactions on Computational Science*. This journal is part of the Springer series *Lecture Notes in Computer Science*, and is devoted to the gamut of computational science issues, from theoretical aspects to application-dependent studies and the validation of emerging technologies.

This new journal was envisioned and founded to represent the growing needs of computational science as an emerging and increasingly vital field, now widely recognized as an integral part of scientific and technical investigations. Its mission is to become a voice of the computational science community, addressing researchers and practitioners in areas ranging from aerospace to biochemistry, from electronics to geosciences, from mathematics to software architecture, presenting verifiable computational methods, findings, and solutions.

Transactions on Computational Science focuses on original high-quality research in the realm of computational science in parallel and distributed environments, encompassing facilitation of the theoretical foundations and the applications of large-scale computations to massive data processing. The Journal is intended as a forum for practitioners and researchers to share computational techniques and solutions in the area, to identify new issues and to shape future directions for research, while industrial users may apply techniques of leading-edge, large-scale, high-performance computational methods.

This inaugural volume is devoted to computer systems research and the application of such research, which naturally complement each other. In this spirit, the volume is divided into two parts, with the first devoted to core computational science issues faced by researchers and industries today, and the second focusing on the development of novel computational techniques that are versatile and verifiable in a wide range of applications.

Part 1 of this volume comprises five manuscripts, connected by a unifying theme: information systems design. Specifically, the presented articles can be categorized into the following groups:

- Data flow analysis
- Building fuzzy interference systems
- Multi-agent systems design
- Models for curve fitting
- Network map topology representation

These articles exemplify the analysis and exploration of complex computational models and data sets from various domains. They provide invaluable insights into the studied problems and offer convincing case studies and experimental analysis.

Part 2 is concerned with the specific computational science problems in the areas of data processing and their industrial applications. The four papers comprising this part present original research in the following areas:

- Missing value imputation techniques in data mining
- Normalization techniques for electrocardiogram data analysis
- A unified method for solving laminar forced convection problems
- A new versatile technique for solving non-linear stochastic differential equations

Each article provides an example of a concrete industrial application or a case study of the presented methodology to amplify the impact of the contribution.

Many scientists and institutions have contributed to the creation and the success of the computational science community. We are very thankful to everybody within that community who supported the idea of creating a new LNCS journal subline – the *Transactions on Computational Science*. We are certain that this very first issue will be followed by many others, reporting new developments in the computational science field. This issue would not have been possible without the great support of the Editorial Board members, and we would like to express our sincere thanks to all of them. We would also like to express our gratitude to the LNCS editorial staff of Springer, in particular Alfred Hofmann and Ursula Barth, who supported us at every stage of the project. Throughout preparation of this volume the Editors were supported by various research programs and funds, including NSERC funding.

It is our hope that this fine collection of articles will be a valuable resource for *Transactions on Computational Science* readers and will stimulate further research into the vibrant area of computational science.

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