Preface

It is our pleasure to present this special issue of *Cybernetics and Information Technologies*. In this issue (Volume 16, No 6 – LISS 2016), we selected 20 papers which have gone through several rounds of review and revision, and represent a cross-section of research in information technology areas that touch upon both technical and managerial issues. The preliminary versions of these papers were presented at the 6th International Conference on Logistics, Informatics and Service Science (LISS 2016), which was jointly hosted by Beijing Jiaotong University and the University of Sydney, in 24-27 July 2016 at Sydney, Australia.

Ever since the first meeting in Beijing (July 2011), LISS conferences have been a big scientific event for researchers and practitioners in the areas of IT, logistics and service science. Increasingly more participants from outside China attended the Conference, thus expanding its impact in the scientific world. Since 2012, the organizers of LISS decided to publish selected best full papers presented at the Conference as special issues of respected scientific journals. Publication of extended full papers of presentations given at the Conference provides advantages for both authors and reviewers. On the one hand, the authors had the opportunity to considerably improve the quality of their work through previous deep discussions with peers during the Conference. On the other hand, we could use the precious help of our expert colleagues, who followed the presentations, in assessing the quality of selected papers, hence achieving an even worthier evaluation of these contributions.

After receiving the camera-ready papers for LISS 2016 we started to select candidates for submissions to a number of respected scientific journals. To provide an equal opportunity to all authors of invited papers from LISS 2016, we announced in the conference circulars the inclusion of a special issue on *Cybernetics and Information Technologies*. From here on, authors of 54 submissions were invited to revise and extend, according to the publishing standards, to a full paper volume their Conference contributions, eventually shaping a Special Issue of *Cybernetics and Information Technologies*. Based on a regular reviewing process 20 papers were finally accepted, representing an acceptance rate less than 37%.

The topics covered by papers published in this Special Issue include:

• Data analysis method and algorithm of processing Chinese text (Ni et al.), time series data (Gao et al.), Squinted Mode Synthetic Aperture Sonar data (Fan et al.),

- Data analysis application in recommendation system (Zhang et al. and Xie et al.)
- Cloud data (Li et al.) and cloud computing (Wang et al.)
- Clustering algorithm (Yang et al. and Peng et al.) and clustering validation (Fu et al.)
- Game theory application in internet public opinion (Chen et al.)
- Position detection method (Wang et al.), wireless sensor locating method (Yu)
- Data processing, including reconstruction of depth data (Li et al.), adaptive bionic wavelet transforms (Wang et al.)
- Structural robustness of Unidirectional dependent networks (Ma et al.) and analysis of Contaminant Insulator Flashover Acoustic Signal (Wang et al.)
- Humanoid robot realization (Wu et al.). and head pose estimation (Bao et al.)

The 20 papers examine information technology in different contexts; various approaches with analytical methods, design science methods and the like have been applied to reach the findings presented there. Moreover, they demonstrate the practical relevance of academic research in the IT area.

To sum up, we would like to thank all those who kindly contributed to this Special Issue: Authors who submitted their papers, reviewers for their kind help and cooperation, and the Editor-in-Chief, Professor Danail Dochev, for his gracious invitation and continued support. We are also indebted for the assistance provided in the preparation and publication of this issue to the publishing and production team of *Cybernetics and Information Technologies*. We hope that you will enjoy reading these papers as much as we enjoyed reviewing, compiling and editing this Special Issue.

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Guest Editors