ABOUT THE EDITORS

Dr. Triantaphyllou did his graduate studies at Penn State University from 1984 to 1990. While at Penn State, he earned a Dual M.S. degree in Environment and Operations Research (OR), an M.S. degree in Computer Science and a Dual Ph.D. degree in Industrial Engineering and Operations Research. Since the spring of 2005 he is a Professor in the Computer Science Department at the Louisiana State University (LSU) in Baton Rouge, LA, U.S.A., after he has served for 11 years as an Assistant, Associate, and Full Professor in the Industrial Engineering Department at the same university. He has also served for one year as an Interim Associate Dean for the College of Engineering at LSU.

His research is focused on decision-making theory and applications, data mining and knowledge discovery, and the interface of operations research and computer science. Since the years he was a graduate student, he has developed new methods for data mining and knowledge discovery and also has explored some of the most fundamental and intriguing subjects in decision making. In 1999 he has received the prestigious IIE (Institute of Industrial Engineers), OR Division, Research Award for his research contributions in the above fields. In 2005 he received an LSU Distinguished Faculty Award as recognition of his research, teaching, and service accomplishments. Some of his graduate students have also received awards and distinctions including the Best Dissertation Award at LSU for Science, Engineering and Technology for the year 2003. In 2000 Dr. Triantaphyllou published a bestseller book on multi-criteria decision-making. Also, in 2006 he published a monograph on data mining and knowledge discovery, besides co-editing a book on the same subject.

He always enjoys sharing the results of his research with his students and is also getting them actively involved in his research activities. He has received teaching awards and distinctions. His research has been funded by federal and state agencies, and the private sector. He has extensively published in some of the top refereed journals and made numerous presentations in national and international conferences.

Dr. Triantaphyllou has a strong inter-disciplinary background. He has always enjoyed organizing multi-disciplinary teams of researchers and practitioners with complementary expertise. These groups try to comprehensively attack some of the most urgent problems in the sciences and engineering. He is a strong believer of the premise that the next round of major scientific and engineering discoveries will come from the work of such inter-disciplinary groups. More details of his work can be found in his web site (http://www.csc.lsu.edu/trianta/).

Dr. Giovanni Felici graduated in Statistics at the University of Rome "La Sapienza" in 1991. While completing his graduate studies, he won an Erasmus scholarship to attend the Master of Science in Operations Research and Operations Management course at the University of Lancaster, UK, where he was awarded the M.Sc. title in 1990. He was then enrolled in the Ph.D. program in Operations Research at the University of Rome "La Sapienza", where he successfully defended his dissertation on Classification and Recognition algorithms in 1995. He is presently a permanent researcher in IASI, the Istituto di Analisi dei Sistemi ed Informatica of the Italian National Research Council (CNR), where he started his research activity in 1994 working on research projects in Logic Programming and Mathematical Optimization, both publicly and privately funded. In 1995 and 1996 he was research assistant of Professor Klaus Truemper at the University of Texas at Dallas, TX, where he developed new algorithmic approaches for Data Mining in logic settings.

His current research activity is mainly devoted to the application of Optimization Techniques to Data Mining problems, with particular focus on Integer Programming algorithms for Learning in Logic and Expert Systems, but he is also active in the field of Operations Research techniques for large-scale logistics and production problems; he published papers in international refereed journals and edited books and presented his researches in many international conferences.

He is also involved in education and teaching, holding graduate and post-graduate courses in Operations Research and Data Mining in two Roman universities and hosting and tutoring students in the Optimization Laboratory for Data Mining (OLDAM), that he co-founded in IASI with some colleagues in 2002.

He is one of the members of the board of the Italian Operations Research Association, playing an active role in the organization of scientific events and in the relations with the Operations Research International community.

Dr. Felici's strong interest in Data Mining and in the cross-fertilization between this research area and Mathematical Optimization is driven by the belief that the amazing progress made in the last decades in the field of mathematical programming can provide enormous benefits if it is applied to the construction of intelligent systems with recognition, learning, and rule induction capabilities.