

Letter from the Editor-in-Chief

Dear members and readers,

Two years ago, in Volume 9(2) Daniel Keim and Joern Schneidewind were the guest editors of a special issue on Visual Analytics. Much has happened since then in this young field of visual analytics and many advances and novel ideas were published about interactive data interpretation supported by visualization. In this edition, Kai Puolämaki and Alessio Bertone compile a new collection of articles in a new special issue on Visual Analytics and Knowledge Discovery. They put together six articles covering a variety of topics relevant to analytical reasoning supported by interactive visual interfaces and draw attention to the new state-of-the-art. To better appreciate the colourful figures, I invite you to check the papers freely accessible on-line at <http://www.sigkdd.org/explorations/>.

Also in this issue we have our traditional reports from KDD and KDD workshop organizers, various selected papers from some KDD workshops as well as two PhD dissertation abstracts. The program chairs of our flag ship conference in 2009, Peter Flach and Mohammad Zaki report on the innovative machine learning means they used to organize the review and selection process of the large number of paper submissions. Their account is followed by the customary KDDCup report which details the highlights of this year's competition. The report is mainly on the workshop that was organizer around the KDDcup. While we had eleven workshops in Paris, six full day and five half day, only organizers of six workshops reported on their events including: The workshop on Statistical and Relational Learning and Mining in Bioinformatics (stReBIO09); the workshop on Knowledge Discovery from Sensor Data (SensorKDD09); the Human Computation Workshop (HComp09); the workshop on Data Mining using Matrices and Tensors (DMMT09) and the workshop on Knowledge Discovery from Uncertain Data (U09). Some organizers also submitted selected papers from their workshops. We also received papers from the workshop on CyberSecurity and Intelligence Informatics (CSI-KDD). Because of lack of space, only 5 articles are published in this issue. Other articles from HComp09, CSI-KDD09, U09 and SensorKDD09 will be published in the next issue in June 2010.

Happy reading

Osmar R Zaiane