In July 2010 the previous Editor-in-Chief, Prof. G. Forgionne, asked me to take in charge the function of Editor-in-Chief of the International Journal of Decision Support System Technology. I assume this function since this date and for this occasion I asked the Editorial Review Board Committee members to freely express their views on DSS Technologies. This issue is comprised of papers on the topic of data and models tools for DSS contributed by the editorial board of IJDSST.

I received four papers suitable for this issue. These papers broadly reflect the current research work of their authors. All these authors greatly contribute to the DSS community, but the content of this issue could be seen as very heterogeneous. I think that the heterogeneity of contributions to the DSS field is not harmful since the provided support is really efficient for decision makers.

For a long time now, the proposed architecture by Sprague and Carlsson (1982) is more or less shared by all of us. This architecture is composed by a Data Base, a Model Base and a Man/Human Interface. The published papers in this issue are generally contributions to Data Base or Models Base.

DATA AND MODELS TOOLS FOR DSS

The first paper authored by Vicki L. Sauter, Srikanth Mudigonda, Ashok Subramanian, and Ray Creely proposes visualization tools for DSS.

The second paper authored by Alejandro Rodríguez-González, Ángel García-Crespo, Ricardo Colomo-Palacios, José Emilio Labra Gayo, Juan Miguel Gómez-Berbis, and Giner Alor-Hernández presents a system able to support decision makers by an automated diagnosis through ontologies and logical descriptions, using the ADONIS approach.

The third paper also describes an approach based on ontology design, it is authored by J. M. Easton, J. R. Davies, and C. Roberts and is titled “Ontology Engineering: The “What’s”, “Why’s”, and “How’s” of Data Exchange”.

The fourth paper, written by Miro Gradisar, Jure Erjavec, and Luka Tomat, describes a method for solving one-dimensional cutting stock problem with usable leftover.

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REFERENCES


Pascale Zaraté is a Professor at Toulouse 1 Capitole University. She conducts her researches at the IRIT laboratory (http://www.irit.fr). She holds a Ph.D. in Computer Sciences / Decision Support from the LAMSADE laboratory at the Paris Dauphine University, Paris (1991). She also holds a Master degree in Computer Science from the Paul Sabatier University, Toulouse, France (1986); as well as a Bachelors degree Toulouse, France (1982). Pascale Zaraté’s current research interests include: Decision Support Systems; distributed and asynchronous decision making processes; knowledge modelisation; cooperative knowledge based systems; cooperative decision making. She is the editor-in-chief of the International Journal of Decision Support System Technology (IGI Global). Since 2000, she is head of the Euro Working Group on DSS (www.euro-online.org). She published several studies and works: one book, edited two books, edited 11 special issues in several international journals, two proceedings of international conferences, 22 papers in several international journals, five chapters in collective books, 26 papers in international conferences. She belongs the Editorial Scientific Committee of three International Journals: Journal of Decision System (Lavoisier), ComSIS, Intelligent Decision Technologies (IOSPress). She was chairing the IFIP TC8/WG8.3 conference devoted to Collaborative Decision Making (http://www.irit.fr/CDM08).