This issue of the International Journal of Web Services research (JWSR) collects four papers related to semantic service description and clustering.

The first paper is titled *SDWS - Semantic Description of Web Services*. Bravo, Rodríguez, and Pascual introduce a Web tool that automatically generates semantic descriptions for Web services. Experimental results are reported.

The second paper is titled *Web Service Clustering using a Hybrid Term-Similarity Measure with Ontology Learning*. Kumara, Paik, Chen, and Ryu address the problem of functionally clustering Web services. They adopt ontology learning to generate ontologies via the hidden semantic patterns existing within complex terms. Cluster centers are identified by combining service similarity with service names. Experimental results are also reported.

The third paper is titled *On the Updating of Domain OWL Models at Runtime in Factory Automation Systems*. Puttonen, Lobov, and Lastra explore how to let software agents controlling production devices remain an up-to-date view of surrounding context to reason and plan actions consequently. Based on event notifications sent by Web services, they have established a technique to allow to specify update rules as well as to derive update rules from semantic web service descriptions.

The fourth paper is titled *A Novel Physics Inspired Approach for Web Service Composition*. Inspired by concepts in physics, Ahmed and Srivastava tackle the issue of selecting a service based on QoS attributes at runtime. The focus is on minimizing and balancing the waiting time for users. Experimental study is reported as well.

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