EDITORIAL PREFACE

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We are pleased to bring you the first issue of 2014 of the International Journal of Web Portals, with five relevant contributions to the discussion of developments and applications of web portals. This issue comprises the understanding of online shopping, development of dashboard services in cloud and ubiquitous manufacturing, discussion on documental search algorithms and algorithmic complexity, and the presentation of job web portals. These contributions, authored by renowned contributors coming from Portugal, United Arab Emirates, Algeria, Tunes and Indonesia, are briefly introduced bellow.

In the first paper, "*Online Shopping in the United Arab Emirates: User Web Experience*", Abdallah and Jaleel empirically explore the perception of a group of United Arab Emirates (UAE) web users towards e-commerce transactions, study their willingness to trade online, and isolate factors that drive these users towards purchase decisions. The study finds that web users largely use functional characteristics to assess the effectiveness of e-commerce websites, and are driven towards online purchase decisions by factors such as greater security, better value, and convenience. Overall, web experience was defined by the users in terms of three main dimensions; website features, credibility and trust, and transaction value. Practitioners can use these findings to improve their websites and online offers to better serve this market. The paper fills an identified gap in the literature by investigating the perceptions of the UAE web users, and makes a contribution towards studying the concept of online shopping in this region.

Efficient tool and platform for several areas based on concept lattice are widely used in many fields of research. Dynamic environment requires an incremental algorithm to build formal concepts. It plays an essential role in the application of concept lattice. In "*Efficient Incremental Algorithm for Building Swiftly Concepts Lattices*", Amrane, Belalem, Branci and Slimani, present a fast, efficient, incremental algorithm to compute formal concepts. Algorithmic complexity is studied both theoretically (in the worst case) and experimentally. The paper presents a complexity of at most $(|M|.|G|.|L|)$ where M is set of attributes, G is set of objects, and L is set of concepts of the lattice. Irrespective of the lattice, the algorithm computes incrementally all formal concepts without increasing time complexity. Algorithmic complexity of the most important incremental algorithms is compared theoretically, and an experimental study based on density/sparseness of underlying formal contexts is performed with Norris' algorithm classified the most one efficient incremental in practice.

The real Cloud and Ubiquitous Manufacturing systems require effectiveness and permanent availability of resources, their capacity and scalability. One of the most important problems

for applications management over cloud based platforms, which are expected to support efficient scalability and resources coordination following SaaS implementation model, is their interoperability. Besides the fact that application dashboards need to easily incorporate those new applications, their interoperability still remains a big problem to override. So, the possibility to expand these dashboards with efficiently integrated communicational cloud based services (cloudlets) represents a relevant added value as well as contributes to solving the interoperability problem. Following the architecture for integration of enriched existing cloud services, as instances of manufacturing resources, Ferreira *et al.,* in their paper entitled "*Dashboard Services for Pragmatics based Interoperability in Cloud and Ubiquitous Manufacturing*": a) propose a cloud based web platform to support dashboard integrating communicational services; and b) describe an experimentation to sustain the theory that the effective and efficient interoperability (especially in dynamic environments), could be achieved only with human intervention.

Search for documents is a common and pertinent task lots of organizations face every day as well as common Internet users in their daily searches. One specific document search is scientific paper search in reference manager systems, such as Mendeley or IEEExplore. Considering the difficult task finding documents can sometimes represent, semantic search is currently being applied to improve this type of search. As the act of deciding if a document is a good result for a given search expression is vague, fuzziness becomes an important aspect when defining search algorithms. In "*A Fuzzy Algorithm for Optimizing Semantic Documental Searches – a case study with Mendeley and IEEExplore*", Sara Paiva presents a fuzzy algorithm for improving documental searches optimized for specific scenarios where one wants to find a document but do not remember the exact words used, if plural or singular words were used or if a synonym was used. The paper also present the application of this algorithm

to a real scenario comparing Mendeley and IEEExplore results.

The last paper, entitled "*Users' Interest Assessment on Job Portal*", is authored by Sudiana and Pardamean. Job portal is considerably useful for both job seekers and employers. It enables job seekers to look for an employment, to advance their careers, or to market themselves. As for the employers, they can post vacant positions to be filled with suitable employees. A certain job portal received numerous complaints regarding its features that were unable to fulfill the users' needs. These complaints led to the decrease of the number of users. A study was conducted to determine factors that influenced users' interest by referring to the 7C framework. Questionnaires were distributed to numerous job seekers and employers. The data was analyzed using multiple linear regression technique, and Chi-square analysis was also performed to further analyze which elements of the 7C framework were essential for the users. The results showed that only four out of seven elements from the framework affected the users' choice towards job portal, namely the context, the content, the community, and the commerce.

Before finishing this editorial preface, we would like to take this opportunity to express our gratitude to IGI Global for the excellent support of their team of professionals. We would like also to thank all the members of the Editorial Board, for their commitment and for sharing their knowledge and experience in the support of the decision-making process. Finally, we would like to express our gratitude to all the authors who submitted their work, for their visions and excellent contributions.

We hope you will find here an interesting and a valuable source of knowledge and ideas. Enjoy your reading!

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