GUEST EDITORIAL PREFACE

Special Issue on Information Processing and Integration in Advanced Applications

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In this special issue, we present selected papers presented at the *13th International Conference on Information Integration and Web-based Applications and Services* (iiWAS'2011), held in Ho Chi Minh City, Vietnam from the 5th to the 7th of December 2011. The conference was held in co-location with the *9th International Conference on Advances in Mobile Computing and Multimedia* (MoMM'2011).

The papers have been extended significantly from their conference version, to include a thorough literature review and more advanced result. After the review process, we are pleased to include the five papers in this issue.

The first paper by Song et al. investigates the issue of utilising data from social networks without compromising the privacy of the networks' members and groups. The authors try to solve the classic issue of privacy versus utility by representing the social networks data in modified graphs that employ two graph anonymization techniques. The authors also provide thorough experiments to measure the usefulness of the data after being represented in privacy-preserving graphs.

The second paper by Niang et al. investigates the issues of creation and maintenance of a global schema to support integration of heterogeneous data. To achieve this, they propose the use of global ontology, which is constructed using domain-reference technologies and some reasoning techniques. The authors develop a prototype called Semi-Automatic Global Ontology Building (SAGOB) and use it in a case study set for agricultural domain.

In the next paper, Isern-Deyà et al. tackle the issue of micropayment, a type of payment used for e-commerce transaction involving a very small sum of money. The authors present a new adaptable, efficient and secure micro-payment scheme that fulfils the security properties so as to guarantee no financial risk for merchants and the privacy of the customers.

Due to large amount of information available through the Web these days, there is increasing need to classify or index information using visualization tool. Tag cloud is one tool that has been accepted for this purpose. Abulaish and Anwar investigate a mechanism to improve current tag cloud systems by providing a new

framework to generate tag clouds using key phrases. The authors run a set of experiments that compare their framework with existing methods. The tag cloud outcome from the framework is also provided.

In the last paper, Puustjärvi and Puustjärvi described competence management system used in pharmacy industry. Using this system, the user access is maintained through competence portal, which provide connections to the relevant cloud applications such as skill gap analysis and succession planning. The modular structure of the competence server new cloud applications can be easily added as the need arises.

At the end of the editorial note, the guest editor and iiWAS'2011 organizer would like to thank IJARAS Editor-in-Chief and IGI Global for the collaboration opportunity in this special issue.

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Guest Editor
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Eric Pardede is a Lecturer at La Trobe University, Melbourne. He completed his Master of Information Technology and Doctor of Philosophy in computer science at La Trobe University He also holds a Master of Quality Management degrees from University of Wollongong and a Bachelor of Engineering degree from Bandung Institute of Technology. He has co-authored a book and several research papers appeared in international journals and conference proceedings. He is an active scholar that has chairing several international conferences and workshops. His current research area is in XML Database, Data Modeling, Query Optimization, and Health Informatics.