

Welcome message from the Editor-in-Chief

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Received on 3 November 2012; published on 22 November 2012

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doi: 10.4108/trans.cs.2012.10-12.e1

It gives us immense pleasure to introduce to you the inaugural issue of the ICST Transactions on Complex Systems.

Interdisciplinary studies on complex systems have attracted extensive interest in recent times. Such studies have made major impacts on disciplines as wide-ranging as physics, biology, economics, ecology, social sciences, computer sciences, material sciences, and electrical, mechanical and civil engineering, etc. The researches on complex systems are also generating some most exciting results at various interdisciplinary frontiers such as econophysics, socio-ecology, social media, and many more. What may be even more important is that the development of complex systems science helps equip people with the proper mindset and tools to think about and analyze the world they are living in as a connected, complex world. For example, when tackling the world energy problem, we may expect to have, in the no-so-distant future, the sufficient data and efficient tools to analyze its relationship with many other critical issues such as water, food, economics, healthcare, environment, social resilience, critical infrastructures and transportation systems, etc. Traditional “linear” approaches will be abandoned and system approaches will prevail. The complex systems science has the great potential to revolutionize the way we understand and interact with the world.

ICST Transactions on Complex Systems is proud to be a part of the concerted efforts to foster the new science of complexity. It aims to provide a platform for fellow researchers around the world to exchange their observations, ideas and latest results generated from the cutting-edge researches on complex systems. It is a new open access scholarly archival journal that is committed to timely publication of high-quality original results on all aspects of complex systems theories, methodologies, modeling, analyses, and applications. Original

contributions that have not been published and are not currently under consideration by any other journal or conference are solicited. All submissions will go through a rigorous peer-review process, and will be reviewed and evaluated by at least two independent expert referees. The scope of the journal includes, but is not limited to:

- Complex networks
- Complex social systems
- Complex economic systems
- Complex biological systems
- Complex engineering systems
- Complex system modeling
- Complex system simulation
- Complex system theories
- Complex systems of complex systems
- Complexity in arts and music
- General complexity sciences
- New frontiers of complex systems

This inaugural issue includes three outstanding papers contributed by a few leading researchers in the area. These papers cover a diversity of different areas including complex engineering systems (P2P overlay networks), sociophysics (Sznajd model) and complex biological

systems (molecular diversity), etc. We hope that you will find the papers timely, informative and enjoyable.

We would like to take this opportunity to acknowledge all the authors who have sent in their manuscripts to this journal. We are grateful to all the anonymous reviewers for their time and effort in reviewing the papers and providing the authors valuable review comments. We are also thankful to all ICST publication staffs, in particular, Mr. Nicholas Ziglio, for their great assistance in producing and launching this inaugural issue of the journal.

Personally, I feel obliged to express my deepest appreciation to all editorial board members for their strong and endless support, without which this journal would have never been founded.

We cordially welcome all readers and fellow researchers to send us your manuscripts in the area. We are looking for innovative ideas and deep insights into complex systems and their applications. We welcome and appreciate contributions in theoretical research and potential and actual real-life applications. On a peer-review basis, we publish full papers, letters and surveys. We also welcome brief work-in-progress reports, important preliminary research results as well as comprehensive reports on finished projects. The next issue of this journal is scheduled to be published in February 2013. We look forward to your contributions.

Last, but certainly not least, we are keen to hear your constructive suggestions and comments on how we may improve the quality of this journal. Your feedback and suggestions are of extreme importance to the healthy growth of this new journal.

Thank you all. And enjoy the reading.

About the Editor-in-Chief



Gaoxi Xiao received the B.S. and M.S. degrees in applied mathematics from Xidian University, Xi'an, China, and the Ph.D. degree in computing from the Hong Kong Polytechnic University, Hong Kong. He joined the School of Electrical and Electronic Engineering, Nanyang

Technological University (NTU), Singapore, in 2001, where he is now an Associate Professor. Before joining NTU, he was with the Dept. Electrical Engineering, Polytechnic University, Brooklyn, NY, in 1999 and then the Dept. Electrical Engineering, University of Texas at Dallas, TX, USA, in 2000-2001.

His research interests include complex systems and networks, optical and wireless networks, security technologies and Internet technologies. He has published more than 100 papers in refereed journals and magazines, and peer-reviewed conference proceedings.

He was one of the two founding General Chairs (working with Dr. Eugene Stanley) of the First

International Conference on Complex Sciences: Theory and Application (Complex'2009) and one of the two guest co-editors (working with Dr. Janos Kertesz) of *Advances in Complex Systems*, Topical Session on "Complex Networks". He has also served in organizing committees and technical committees of more than twenty international conferences.