Editorial

Dear Colleague:

Welcome to Volume 4(6) of the journal *Intelligent Data Analysis*!

Volume 4(6) of IDA consists of five articles which are both in applied and theoretical research. In the first article, Philip and Joseph introduce a new classifier that assumes the clustering of attribute values while boosting the attribute differences. The method is based on taking the error produced by each example in the training set and updating the connection weights associated with the Bayesian probability of each attribute of that example. The approach has produced some optimal generalization ability on all the data sets that the have tested. The second article by Gama presents an iterative approach to naive Bayes, which begins with building distribution tables. The tables are iteratively updated in order to improve the probability class distribution associated with each training example. His experimental results of evaluating iterative Bayes on 27 benchmark datasets show consistent gains in accuracy. The third article by Mandala, Tokunaga and Tanaka is about use of some novel text mining techniques to improve the performance of information retrieval systems. Their approach involves combining different text mining techniques with tools, such as thesaurus, to make it more useful in information retrieval applications. In the next article, Ramirez et al. propose an approach for discovering useful knowledge from temporal databases. They introduce a temporal pattern discovery system that uses an event set sequence approach for discovering sequence patterns in medical data. The results presented in the article are from a medical database. The last article of this issue by Chen is an interesting applied research work. The author describes a particular class of neural networks called radial basis function networks and its application in a real world case which is for adding intelligence to the operation of home appliances. The approach involves synthesizing a stepwise radial basis function network to predict performance of cloth dryers and optimize the number of required sensors, while providing learning capabilities to account for perturbations.

And finally, this issue is the last of the six issues for the year 2000. Although from our production schedule, we are a bit behind due to transfer our journal to IOS Press, we have been quite successful in attracting more quality papers, reviewing them on-time and delivering revised papers to our publisher. We are confident that in the new year, we will make up for the time and we will publish one issue every two month. We appreciate your patience. Thank you.

Best wishes,

A. Famili
Editor-in-Chief