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## Letter From the Editor

Dear Colleague:

Welcome to Volume 1(3) of the *Intelligent Data Analysis* journal!

“World class” has become a popular phrase in our lives. Product developers claim that their products are within the “world class” quality. Researchers state that their work is notable, but within the “world class” standards. Therefore, our goal is to have a “world class” on-line journal, dedicated to the fields of artificial intelligence and data analysis. To achieve this, we should focus our efforts in two directions: (i) publish quality papers that are within the aims and scope of IDA, (ii) continuously enhance and improve IDA features, aiming towards the production of a high-quality journal.

Volume 1(3) contains four articles. The first article by Dash and Liu is a detailed survey that investigates feature selection in classification. Feature selection is important due to many reasons among which are: (i) the efficiency of the algorithm used in data analysis, (ii) the relevance of the features used and the meaning of the concepts generated during data analysis, and (iii) features being unknown *a priori*. The authors discuss four steps of a typical feature selection method and categorize some other methods in terms of feature generation procedures and their evaluation functions. The second article by Susmaga, discusses the problem of analyzing discretization of continuous attributes in decision tables. Decision tables contain the results of experiments in the form of a number of observations, each representing a number of parameters. The approach presented in this paper is based on the use of rough set theory techniques and is evaluated on a number of real-life data sets. The next article by Ting, characterizes the problem of low predictive accuracy in instance-based learning (IBL) and Naive Bayes. The author introduces two methods, *typicality* and *posterior probability*, that were found to be satisfactory for characterization of predictive accuracy. The article includes results of studies from a number of experimental domains. A composite learner is introduced that improves the overall performance of one of the newly introduced IBL algorithms. Finally, the last article by Maluf is a research note that discusses the issue of quantitative information measurement. The article briefly investigates current development in *entropy measure* induced from the *measure of dissonance*. It introduces a method in entropy calculation, and provides a solution for variety and complexity in information measures.

The support provided by the scientific community for the Intelligent Data Analysis journal has been great. Members of the scientific community have become rapidly interested in electronic publications and the number of articles submitted is growing at a fast rate. Members of the IDA editorial board greatly appreciate this support and would like to invite prospective authors to submit their articles to this high quality journal *Intelligent Data Analysis—An International Journal*. The overall structure and

presentation of the journal is currently being redesigned and restructured. We look forward to receiving your articles, suggestions, and feedback.

Best wishes,  
A. Famili  
Editor-in-Chief