

## *Preface*

The annual international symposium on Knowledge and Systems Sciences aims to promote the exchange and interaction of knowledge across disciplines and borders to explore the new territories and new frontiers. Over the past 12-years, continuous endeavors to strictly define knowledge science have led to a very tolerant, broad-based and open-minded approach to the discipline. Knowledge science and systems science can complement and benefit each other methodologically. The first International Symposium on Knowledge and Systems Sciences (KSS2000), initiated and organized by Japan Advanced Institute of Science and Technology, was held in September of 2000. Since then KSS2001 (Dalian, China), KSS2002 (Shanghai, China), KSS2003 (Guangzhou, China), KSS2004 (JAIST, Japan), KSS2005 (Vienna, Austria), KSS2006 (Beijing, China), KSS2007 (JAIST, Japan), KSS2008 (Guangzhou, China), KSS2009 (Hong Kong, China), KSS2010 (Xi'an, China) and KSS2011 (Hull, UK) have been held successfully, with many scientists and researchers from different countries contributing. Within the past 12 years, people interested in Knowledge and Systems Sciences have become a community, and an international academic society has existed for 10 years. This year, the 13th KSS Symposium will be held November 19th-20th, 2012, at the Japan Advanced Institute of Science and Technology, Ishikawa, Japan.

The main objective of the Symposium is to provide a forum for exchanges of research results, ideas for and experience of application among researchers and practitioners interested in Knowledge and Systems Sciences. The topics of KSS 2012 include, but are not limited to, the following: Creation of agent-based social systems sciences; Cross-cultural learning on systems thinking and knowledge management; Complex system modeling and complexity; Decision support systems; Knowledge creation, creativity support, awareness support, etc.; Knowledge discovery, data mining, text mining, recommendation system and relevant Web intelligence tools; Knowledge systems engineering and knowledge management; Meta-synthesis and advanced modeling; Problem structuring methods and system methodologies; Social dynamic network modeling.

Shouyang Wang, Symposium Co-Chair

Yoshiteru Nakamori, Symposium Co-Chair

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# CONTENT

Hironobu Matsushita, Kyoichi Kijima

*Value Co-creation of Health Care Services through Competency Modeling*

Wooseok DONG, Kunio Shirahada and Michitaka Kosaka

*Experience Sharing Service Value Co-creation Model (ESSVC) and its application to Korean language service*

Ng Ching Wa, Daniel

*Effect of Informal Network on Innovation*

Kunio Shirahada and Susumu Kunifuji

*City's role for creating transformative service: Case study of Nomi city, Japan*

Yuichi MORITA and Yoshiteru NAKAMORI

*Analysis of Sales Professionals' Requisites: A Case Study in Small-and Medium-Size Car dealers in Japan*

Rong Lili, Lu Ronghui

*An Evaluation Method of Contingency Plans Based on Content Clustering*

Haoxiang Xia, Xin Han

*A Variant Culture Dissemination Model on Adaptive Network*

Qi Zhang, Michitaka Kosaka

*A Service Communication Process to Streamline Efficient Service Behaviors for Knowledge Creation in Collaboration*

Zhan Li, Jiangning Wu and Xiang Zhu

*An Implicit Trust Based Collaborative Filtering Recommendation Approach by Analyzing Individual Rating Habits*

Huayi Chen, Tiejun Ma

*An optimization model with limited foresight and endogenous technological change*

Mingzheng Wang and Yue He

*A Heuristic Item-sanitization Method for Hiding Sensitive Association Rule in Business Collaboration*

Yong Nie, Kunio Shirahada, Michitaka Kosaka

*Transforming Leadership for Enterprise Transformation*

Yutong Li, Yanzhong Dangs

*Quantitative Study of Affection-based relations*

Yang Liu , Tieju Ma

*Empirical Research on the Relation between Export Technology Complexity and Real Exchange Rate*

Shuang Chang, Manabu Ichikawa, and Hiroshi Deguchi

*Allocative Efficiency of E-government User Support for Different Social Groups: An Agent Based Approach*

Xian Yang, Jiangning Wu and Guangfei Yang

*Identifying Valuable Product Features by Mining Consumer Reviews on Chinese E-Commerce Websites*

Hongwei Zhang, Jiangning Wu and Donghua Pan

*A Temporal Topic Chain Mining Method based on the Scientific Literature*

Guangfei Yang, Yanzhong Dang

*Coordination, Knowledge Coordination and Knowledge Coordination Management*

Jing Huang, Jiangning Wu and Chonghui Guo

*Simulation of Emergence of Opinion Leaders in Word-of-Mouth Network*

Biswas Subrata Kumar, Mina Ryokey

*Evaluation of business strategies of mobile phone operators using agent-based simulation*

Chunlai Zhou, Mingyue Wang

*Updating Beliefs on Lattices*

Masahiro Moriya, Mina Ryokey

*Information Balance between Government and Receiver in a case of Great East Japan Earthquake and Fukushima Nuclear Power Plant Accident*

Mina Ryokey, Yukihiro Yamashita and Yoshiteru Nakamori

*Analysis of Kansei Evaluation Data collected in a Consumption Area on Traditional Crafts*

Kazusa Watanabe, Mina Ryoke

*Local Perceptions of Regional Attractiveness as an Approach for Promoting Resettlement of Rural Areas*

Tian Ruya, Liu Yijun, Gu Jifa

*Study on the Risk Level Information Database of Key Roles in Emergency Online Public Opinion*

Lina CAO, Xijin TANG

*An Illustrative Analysis of College Students' Friendships Based on Dynamic Social Network Models*

Ngoc Tu Le, Yoshimasa Tsuruoka, and Tu Bao Ho

*Study on literature-based seeded networks for inferring histone modification relationships*

Bui Thang Ngoc, Ho Tu Bao, Kawasaki Saori

*An adaptive Apriori algorithm for design rules of effective and ineffective siRNA sequences*

Gang Xie, Wuyi Yue and Shouyang Wang

*Least Squares Support Vector Regression for Container Throughput Forecasting – Pre-processed by Seasonal Decomposition*

Hongli JU, Marek MAKOWSKI, Hongtao REN and Yoshiteru NAKAMORI

*Target-Oriented Multi-Criteria Analysis for Selecting Traditional Crafts*

Tetsuya Murai, Sadaaki Miyamoto, Masahiro Inuiguchi, Yasuo Kudo and Seiki Akama

*Fuzzy Multisets in Granular Hierarchical Structures Generated from Free Monoids*

Kentaro Endo, Tetsuya Murai, Yasuo Kudo, Mayuka F. Kawaguchi, Nam Van Hunyh

*Algebraic Agents Playing a Board Game for Kansei Engineering*

Wei Zhang, Yoshiteru Nakamori

*A Systematizing Study on Knowledge Management Methodologies*

Jessica Y.T. Yip, W.B. Lee and Eric Tsui

*Knowledge Audit for Structured and Unstructured Business Processes*

Jing SUN and Yoshiteru NAKAMORI

*Exploring Academic Knowledge Creation Models in Knowledge Science Researches*

Khoat Than and Tu-Bao Ho

*Automatic construction of knowledge from large unstructured data with topic modeling*