

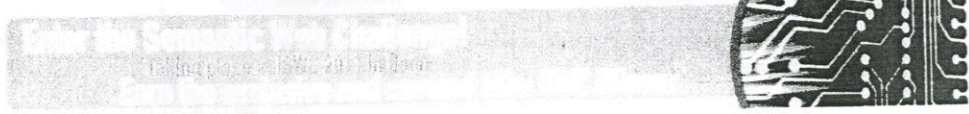


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2 **A new and robust method for character segmentation and recognition in license plate images**
Pages 13497-13504
Amir Sedighi, Mansur Vafadust
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3 **Evaluating supplier development programs with a grey based rough set methodology**
Pages 13505-13517
Chunguang Bai, Joseph Sarkis
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Highlights

- Integrates Rough Set and Grey Systems Theory as a synergistic methodology. ► There is development of categories for general supplier development. ► A formal model for selection of supplier development programs is introduced.

4 **Classification for predicting offender affiliation with murder victims**
Pages 13518-13526
Rui Yang, Sigurdur Olafsson
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




5 **Bee colony optimization for combined heat and power economic dispatch**
Pages 13527-13531
M. Basu
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6 **Web-based concession period analysis system**
Pages 13532-13542
Xueqing Zhang
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Highlights

- Public-private partnership (PPP) is a principal-agent maximization problem that requires a win-win solution. ► We introduce an improved concession period determination methodology. ► We develop a web-based concession period analysis system (WCPAS). ► The WCPAS integrates project scheduling tools, financial analysis methods and the Monte Carlo simulation technique. ► The WCPAS provides a systematic framework and organized modules for data input and simulation-based analysis of the concession period.

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- 7  **An imperfect production process for time varying demand with inflation and time value of money – An EMQ model**
 Pages 13543-13548
 Biswajit Sarkar, Shib Sankar Sana, Kripasindhu Chaudhuri
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- Highlights**
- ▶ We consider an EMQ model which produces a single type of items. ▶ During long-run process machine produces defective items which are reworked at a cost. ▶ The production of the defective items increases with time and depends on reliability of the system. ▶ We model a time-dependent demand with reliability as a decision variable under the effect of inflation and time value of money. ▶ We find the associated profit function which is maximized by the control theory.
-
- 8  **A hybrid multi-objective genetic algorithm for planning order release date in two-level assembly system with random lead times**
 Pages 13549-13554
 S. Fallah-Jamshidi, N. Karimi, M. Zandieh
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- Highlights**
- ▶ Supply planning of two-level assembly system is considered in this paper in which lead times are stochastic at both levels. ▶ This paper attempts to make a tradeoff between these objectives' affects using multi-objective approach. ▶ A hybridized algorithm of genetic algorithm and electromagnetism-like was proposed to tackle the given problem.
-
- 9  **Behavioral modeling and verification of multi-agent systems for manufacturing control**
 Pages 13555-13562
 W.L. Yeung
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- Highlights**
- ▶ Behavioral modeling and verification of multi-agent systems for manufacturing control. ▶ We model the contract net protocol in a manufacturing control application. ▶ We examine behavioral problems such as deadlocks and livelocks. ▶ We demonstrate how formal verification can help resolve such behavioral problems.
-
- 10  **Analyze dynamic value of strategic partners using Markov chain**
 Pages 13563-13567
 Chih-Hsing Liu, Chiung-Lin Chiu, Su-Chin Chiu
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- Highlights**
- ▶ Strategic management. ▶ Value analysis of strategic partners. ▶ Transition probability matrix. ▶ Migration pathways of strategic partners.
-
- 11  **Intelligent problem solving in process control of an event filter cluster for a particle physics experiment**
 Pages 13568-13579
 Kristina Marasović, Domagoj Jakobović
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- Highlights**
- ▶ Expert systems technology and statistical tools and methods applied in process control.
 - ▶ Monitoring and detection of known problems and unfamiliar system behavior.
 - ▶ Prediction of system performance deterioration.
 - ▶ Decision support and recovery procedures.
 - ▶ Application of the proposed problem solving architecture to a wider range of systems.
-
- 12  **Internal pricing strategies design and simulation in virtual enterprise formation**
 Pages 13580-13587
 Yalin Chen, Kwai-Sang Chin, X.J. Wang
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- Highlights**
- ▶ We adopt the bargaining to VE formation process comparing with known researches from the core enterprise's perspective. ▶ Build the incomplete information bargaining model considering the characteristics of VE formation process. ▶ Present the pricing strategies for the corresponding bargaining scenario. ▶ Verify the correctness and validity of the pricing strategies using computer simulation. ▶ Provide the basis for the intelligent information platform of VE whose key part is pricing software.
-
- 13  **A group AHP-TOPSIS framework for human spaceflight mission planning at NASA**
 Pages 13588-13603
 Madjid Tavana, Adel Hatami-Marbini

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Highlights

► A generic framework is proposed to evaluate a number of decision alternatives. ► The information requirements are stratified into hierarchies. ► The analytical procedures decompose complex problems into manageable steps. ► The built-in inconsistency checking identifies discrepancies in judgments. ► The framework is applicable to a wide range of real-world decision making problems.

- 14  **Outbound logistics exception monitoring: A multi-perspective ontologies' approach with intelligent agents**


Pages 13604-13611

Dongming Xu, Chinthake Wijesooriya, Yong-Gui Wang, Ghassan Beydoun

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Highlights

► Develop multi-perspective ontologies for outbound logistics exceptions. ► A novel rule extraction approach reduces redundancy and complications. ► A multi-agent system assists outbound logistics exception monitoring. ► Reflect the effective use of information systems in logistics monitoring.

- 15  **A network of ontology networks for building e-employment advanced systems**


Pages 13612-13624

Boris Villazón-Terrazas, Jaime Ramirez, Mari Carmen Suárez-Figueroa, Asunción Gómez-Pérez

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Highlights

► We develop an ontology-based solution for achieving e-employment interoperability. ► The ontology-based solution uses a network of ontology networks. ► The network contains a reference ontology network and two local ontology networks. ► NeOn Methodology provides sufficient guidelines for building an ontology network. ► Reusing agreed non-ontological resources permits to reduce costs.

- 16  **A hybrid model based on adaptive-network-based fuzzy inference system to forecast Taiwan stock market**

Pages 13625-13631

Liang-Ying Wei, Tai-Liang Chen, Tien-Hwa Ho

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Highlights

► The proposed model promotes prediction performance in stock market. ► Moreover, forecasting rules generated by the proposed are useful and viable for stock investors, decision makers and future researches. ► Investors can utilize this forecasting model to discover the superior target of investment with benefits in stock market.

- 17  **The construction of fuzzy least squares estimators in fuzzy linear regression models**

Pages 13632-13640

Hsien-Chung Wu

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Highlights

► The fuzzy least squares estimators are constructed via "Resolution Identity". ► We conduct the h -level (conventional) linear regression models. ► The sign of fuzzy parameters are determined by testing hypotheses. ► Membership degrees can be obtained by solving the optimization problems. ► Computational procedures are provided to obtain the membership degrees.

- 18  **Unsupervised neural models for country and political risk analysis**

Pages 13641-13661

Álvaro Herrero, Emilio Corchado, Alfredo Jiménez

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Highlights

► A projection-based analysis is proposed for business decision-making. ► Neural models help understand the dynamics within the emerging market countries. ► Real data sets are analyzed to empirically probe the robustness of the proposal. ► Conclusions are obtained regarding internationalization strategies and political risk issues.

- 19  **An efficient hybrid Taguchi-immune algorithm for the unit commitment problem**

Pages 13662-13669

Whei-Mn Lin, Hong-Jey Gow, Ming-Tang Tsai

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Highlights