2010 is a new year and will be a significant one for JRPIT. It is my intention as the new Editor-in-Chief to work with the Academic Committee of the ACS to make the Journal one that has increased academic standing as well as greater relevance to the many aspects of computing important in the Australian context. The exact nature and style of the new Journal will be made explicit as the year unfolds but it is important to state now that the intention is to provide high quality and significant review articles within the main and emerging areas of computing.

For 2010 the format of the Journal will remain the same as it has been in 2009. In 2011 the Journal will move to a totally online format.

This edition contains two papers in the areas of pattern recognition and decision support and two papers which form a short special collection from the Australasian Conference on Information Systems 2007.

The first paper by Zhonglong Zheng, Xueping Chang and Jie Yang on "Laplacian MinMax Discriminant Projection and its Applications" deals with the problem of dimensionality reduction for more effective pattern recognition. They propose a new method, Laplacian MinMax Discriminant Projection (LMMDP), based on a Laplacian eigenmap and Linear Discriminant Analysis (LDA) for a supervised approach to dimensionality reduction. Using similarity weighted discriminant criteria, they define a within class Laplacian matrix and a between class Laplacian matrix. Their approach focuses on the furthest points within class and nearest points between class. The Laplacian MinMax Discriminant Projection focuses more on discriminating local structures than LDA and is more flexible in finding optimal discriminant subspaces. Experimental results on the effectiveness of the LMMDP are presented.

In the second paper "Sample-based Decision Support for Specifying XML Constraints", Sven Hartmann and Sebastian Link and Thu Trinh "show how sample documents assist participants of the design process in making informed choices about the specification of Boolean constraints on XML documents." They "establish how off-the-shelf tools for solving problems in propositional logic can be used to generate the collection of our sample documents semi-automatically."

This Issue also includes a short special collection from the Australasian Conference on Information Systems 2007 which are described in the Guest Editorial.

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http://www.ballarat.edu.au/ard/itms/staff/jyearwood.shtml