

Welcome to the third edition of JRPIT for 2010. It has been a most interesting year in Australia with the outcome of the recent Federal election taking 17 days to be decided and that outcome being one of a minority Labor government with the Greens and the independents playing a significant role in the formation of the new government. One of the issues at the centre of the election has been the National Broadband Network (NBN) and there continues to be much discussion around that and what it will deliver for Australia and at what cost.

This edition contains a special collection on Digital Convergence which is very relevant to the way in which the Australian NBN may be used to provide integrated and converging services. The Guest Editor for the special collection is Heejin Lee from the Graduate School of International Studies, Yonsei University, Korea, and the collection is described in the Guest Editorial.

The first part of this edition is a paper on model checking. The paper, “FBDVerifier: Interactive and Visual Analysis of Counter-examples in Formal Verification of Function Block Diagram” by Eunyoung Jee *et al* describes their Function Block Diagram verifier “which allows domain experts to perform automated model checking and intuitive visual analysis of counter-examples without having to know technical details on temporal logic or the model checker”. The authors report that “When applied to FBD programs implementing a shutdown system for a nuclear plant, domain engineers were able to perform effective FBD verification and detect logical errors in the FBD design”.

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