

## Preface

Fuzzy theory and more generally, soft computing technologies have been widely used in different applications, as proven by their impeccable track record for the past decades. Theoretical and practical developments are increasingly gaining ground in scientific publications. One such prominent venue for these achievements is the FSTA, the International Conference on Fuzzy Set Theory and Applications, which is organized biannually and offers a comprehensive review of the significant results in this field of the previous two years. This series of conferences is also supported by EUSFLAT (European Society of Fuzzy Logic and Technology) whose aim is to promote the cooperation between the European fuzzy research centers. The Hungarian Fuzzy Association is an important partner in this venture, as it regularly supports international conferences organized in Hungary as well as outside the borders of Hungary (SISY, SAMI, SACI, and CINTI) where publications on intelligent systems and model based on soft computing are featured prominently.

The present Special Issue of selected papers is of the result the application-oriented publications presented at the 10<sup>th</sup> FSTA (Tenth Conference on Fuzzy Set Theory and Applications, Liptovský Mikuláš, 2010, <http://www.math.sk/fsta2010/>) and other conferences supported by Hungarian Fuzzy Association.

This selection offers a cross section of soft computing technologies in terms of their widespread application. The aim of this publication is to offer scientists and researchers an insight into current directions of development and imminent trends of research in this field.

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Special Issue Guest Editor