

ABOUT THE EDITORS

Dr. T. Warren Liao received his MS and Ph.D. both in Industrial Engineering from Lehigh University, Bethlehem, PA, USA, in 1984 and 1990, respectively. The concentration area of his MS study was in Information Systems and his Ph.D. contraction was in Manufacturing Engineering with dissertation titled “Creep Feed Grinding of Ceramics with Diamond Wheels.”

Before that, he had five years work experience. He first worked in the area of Production Planning and Control for two years for an electronics company in Taiwan. He then worked in the area of Manufacturing Engineering for two years and one year as an IE Project Engineer for a TV producer, RCA - Taiwan. This industrial experience has directly or indirectly shaped Dr. Liao’s problem oriented research in the years to come.

Since 1990, Dr. Liao has been with the Louisiana State University (LSU) in the U.S.A. He is currently a Full Professor in the Construction Management and Industrial Engineering Department at LSU. His research interest covers three major areas: manufacturing processes, manufacturing systems, and artificial intelligence. More specifically, he has carried out research related to grinding processes, cellular manufacturing systems, automated inspection, intelligent systems, and applied soft computing.

At the turn of this century, he started working together with Dr. E. Triantaphyllou in the area of data mining and knowledge discovery. He decided to devote this particular research effort to enterprise systems at the outset. With the support of National Science Foundation, he together with Dr. Triantaphyllou organized the International Workshop on Mining of Enterprise Data, held on June 23, 2004 at Como, Italy, as part of the Mathematics and Machine Learning (MML) Conference. This edited book is a product evolved from this Workshop. For his individual research effort in data mining and knowledge discovery, Dr. Liao is particularly interested in the mining of time series and images related to the operation of an enterprise system. He welcomes any opportunity for collaboration in this area as well as in others.

Dr. Evangelos Triantaphyllou did all his graduate studies at Penn State University. While at Penn State, he earned a Dual M.S. in Environment and Operations Research (O.R.) (in 1985), an M.S. in Computer Science (in 1988) and a Dual Ph.D. in Industrial Engineering and O.R. (in 1990). His Ph.D. dissertation was related to data mining by means of optimization approaches. Since the spring of 2005 he is a Professor in the Computer Science Department at the Louisiana State University (LSU) in Baton Rouge, LA, U.S. Before that, he had served for 11 years as an Assistant, Associate, and Full Professor in the Industrial Engineering Department at LSU. He has also served for one year as an Interim Associate Dean for the College of Engineering at LSU.

His research is focused on decision-making, data mining, and the interface of O.R. and computer science. He has developed new methods for data mining and knowledge discovery and has also explored some of the most fundamental and intriguing subjects in decision making. In 1999 he has received the prestigious IIE (Institute of Industrial Engineers), OR Division, Research Award. In 2005 he received an LSU Distinguished Faculty Award as recognition of his research, teaching, and service accomplishments. Some of his graduate students have also received awards and distinctions including the Best Dissertation Award at LSU for science, engineering and technology (2003). In 2000 Dr. Triantaphyllou published a bestseller book on multi-criteria decision-making. He has also co-edited a book on data mining by means of induction (2006) and this one on the mining of enterprise data (2007). He has also written a monograph on the use of a new logic method for data mining (to be published by Springer in 2007).

He always enjoys doing research with his students. He has received teaching awards and distinctions. His research has been funded by federal and state agencies, and the private sector. He has extensively published in the above areas. Dr. Triantaphyllou has a strong interdisciplinary background. He is a strong believer of the premise that the next round of major scientific and engineering discoveries will come from the work of inter-disciplinary groups. More details of his work can be found in his web site (<http://www.csc.lsu.edu/trianta>).