Lecture Notes in Artificial Intelligence 5306
Edited by R. Goebel, J. Siekmann, and W. Wahlster

Subseries of Lecture Notes in Computer Science
Preface

The articles in this volume were selected for presentation at the Sixth International Conference on Rough Sets and Current Trends in Computing (RSCTC 2008), which took place on October 23–25 in Akron, Ohio, USA.

The conference is a premier event for researchers and industrial professionals interested in the theory and applications of rough sets and related methodologies. Since its introduction over 25 years ago by Zdzislaw Pawlak, the theory of rough sets has grown internationally and matured, leading to novel applications and theoretical works in areas such as data mining and knowledge discovery, machine learning, neural nets, granular and soft computing, Web intelligence, pattern recognition and control. The proceedings of the conferences in this series, as well as in Rough Sets and Knowledge Technology (RSKT), and the Rough Sets, Fuzzy Sets, Data Mining and Granular Computing (RSFDGrC) series report a variety of innovative applications of rough set theory and of its extensions. Since its inception, the mathematical rough set theory was closely connected to application fields of computer science and to other areas, such as medicine, which provided additional motivation for its further development and tested its real-life value. Consequently, rough set conferences emphasize the interactions and interconnections with related research areas, providing forums for exchanging ideas and mutual learning. The latter aspect is particularly important since the development of rough set-related applications usually requires a combination of often diverse expertise in rough sets and an application field. This conference was not different in that respect, as it includes a comprehensive collection of research subjects in the areas of rough set theory, rough set applications as well as many articles from the research and application fields which benefit from the results of rough set theory. To be more specific, major topics of the papers presented at RSCTC 2008 included theoretical aspects of rough set theory, rough set methodology enhanced by probability theory, fuzzy set theory, rough mereology, rule induction, rough set approaches to incomplete data, dominance-based rough set approaches, rough clustering, evolutionary algorithms, granular computing and applications of rough set theory to analysis of real-world data sets.

We would like to express our gratitude to Lotfi Zadeh, Lakhmi Jain and Janusz Kacprzyk for accepting our request to present keynote talks.

This conference was partially supported by the University of Akron, especially the Office of the Vice President for Research, the Buchtel College of Arts and Sciences, and the Department of Computer Science. The conference Web hosting was provided by the Computer Science Department of the University of Akron. The submissions, reviews, and conference proceedings were made through the EasyChair Conference System (http://www.easychair.org). The Infobright Inc. and ZL Technologies Inc. provided support for industrial speakers.
The International Rough Set Society provided technical and publicity support. We express our thanks to these organizations and the EasyChair system development team.

We would like to express our gratitude to Alfred Hofmann, Editor at Springer, and to Ursula Barth, Anna Kramer, and Brigitte Apfel, all from Springer.

Finally, our special thanks go to George R. Newkome, Ronald F. Levant, Wolfgang Pelz, Kathy J. Liszka, Timothy W. O’Neil, Peggy Speck, and Anthony W. Serpette for their help in organizing the conference and registration.

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<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Name</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Jarosław Stepaniuk</td>
<td>Gwo-Hshiung Tzeng</td>
<td>Huanglin Zeng</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Piotr Synak</td>
<td>Julio V. Valdes</td>
<td>Justin Zhan</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Andrzej Szałas</td>
<td>Alicja Wakulicz-Deja</td>
<td>Bo Zhang</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Marcin Szczuka</td>
<td>Hui Wang</td>
<td>Wen-Xiu Zhang</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Zbigniew Suraj</td>
<td>Anita Wasilewska</td>
<td>Ning Zhong</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Soe Than</td>
<td>Junzo Watada</td>
<td>Constantin Zopou-nidis</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Li-Shiang Tsay</td>
<td>Arkadiusz Wojna</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>I. Burhan Turksen</td>
<td>Jing Tao Yao</td>
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</tr>
</tbody>
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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
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</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Wolfram Kahl</td>
<td>Steven Schockaert</td>
<td>Yi Zeng</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Xiaobing Liu</td>
<td>Jinhui Yuan</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
# Table of Contents

## Keynote Papers

- **Neuroeconomics: Yet Another Field Where Rough Sets Can Be Useful?**  
  Janusz Kacprzyk  
  Page: 1

- **Research Directions in the KES Centre**  
  Lakhmi Jain and Jeffrey Tweedale  
  Page: 13

## Logical and Mathematical Foundations

- **On Irreducible Descriptive Sets of Attributes for Information Systems**  
  Mikhail Moshkov, Andrzej Skowron, and Zbigniew Suraj  
  Page: 21

- **Dominance-Based Rough Set Approach and Bipolar Abstract Rough Approximation Spaces**  
  Salvatore Greco, Benedetto Matarazzo, and Roman Slowiński  
  Page: 31

- **Paraconsistent Logic Programs with Four-Valued Rough Sets**  
  Jan Małuszyński, Andrzej Szalas, and Aida Vitória  
  Page: 41

- **An Equivalent Definition of Rough Sets**  
  Guilong Liu and James Kuodo Huang  
  Page: 52

- **A Note on Attribute Reduction in the Decision-Theoretic Rough Set Model**  
  Yan Zhao, S.K.M. Wong, and Yiyu Y. Yao  
  Page: 61

- **An Interpretation of Belief Functions on Infinite Universes in the Theory of Rough Sets**  
  Wei-Zhi Wu and Ju-Sheng Mi  
  Page: 71

- **Some Remarks on Approximations of Arbitrary Binary Relations by Partial Orders**  
  Ryszard Janicki  
  Page: 81

- **On Rough Equalities and Rough Equivalences of Sets**  
  Bala Krushna Tripathy, Anirban Mitra, and Jaladhar Ojha  
  Page: 92

## Data Analysis

- **Statistical Independence of Multi-variables from the Viewpoint of Linear Algebra**  
  Shusaku Tsumoto and Shoji Hirano  
  Page: 103
Table of Contents

Rough Mereology in Classification of Data: Voting by Means of Residual Rough Inclusions .................................................. 113
Lech Polkowski and Piotr Artiemjew

Rough Set Approach to Information Tables with Imprecise Decisions ... 121
Masahiro Inuiguchi and Bingjun Li

Computing Approximations of Dominance-Based Rough Sets by Bit-Vector Encodings ..................................................... 131
Chien-Chung Chan and Gwo-Hshiung Tzeng

A Framework for Multiagent Mobile Robotics: Spatial Reasoning Based on Rough Mereology in Player/Stage System ....................... 142
Lech Polkowski and Paweł Ośmiłowski

Natural versus Granular Computing: Classifiers from Granular Structures ................................................................. 150
Piotr Artiemjew

Data Mining

Inducing Better Rule Sets by Adding Missing Attribute Values ........ 160
Jerzy W. Grzymala-Busse and Witold J. Grzymala-Busse

Rule Induction: Combining Rough Set and Statistical Approaches ...... 170
Wojciech Jaworski

Action Rules Discovery without Pre-existing Classification Rules ...... 181
Zbigniew W. Raś and Agnieszka Dardzińska

Hierarchical Learning in Classification of Structured Objects .......... 191
Tuan Trung Nguyen

A Comparison of the LERS Classification System and Rule Management in PRSM ............................................................. 202
Jerzy W. Grzymala-Busse and Yiyu Yao

Similarity Relation in Classification Problems ............................. 211
Andrzej Janusz

Probabilistic Granule Analysis .................................................. 223
Ivo Düntsch and Günther Gediga

Paraconsistent Case-Based Reasoning Applied to a Restoration of Electrical Power Substations ............................................. 232
Helga Gonzaga Martins, Germano Lambert-Torres, Luiz Eduardo Borges da Silva, Claudio Inácio de Almeida Costa, and Maurilio Pereira Coutinho
Solving the Attribute Reduction Problem with Ant Colony Optimization .................................................... 242
Hong Yu, Guoyin Wang, and Fakuan Lan

Actor Critic Learning: A Near Set Approach .......................................................... 252
Shamama Anwar and K. Sridhar Patnaik

Compact Rule Learner on Weighted Fuzzy Approximation Spaces for Class Imbalanced and Hybrid Data .................................................. 262
Yang Liu, Boqin Feng, and Guohua Bai

Feature Selection Based on the Rough Set Theory and Expectation-Maximization Clustering Algorithm ........................................... 272
Farideh Fazayeli, Lipo Wang, and Jacek Mandziuk

Outlier Detection Based on Granular Computing ................................................. 283
Yuming Chen, Duoqian Miao, and Ruizhi Wang

Implementing a Rule Generation Method Based on Secondary Differences of Two Criteria ............................................................ 293
Hidenao Abe and Shusaku Tsumoto

Lower and Upper Approximations of Rules in Non-deterministic Information Systems ................................................................. 299
Hiroshi Sakai, Ryuji Ishibashi, and Michinori Nakata

A New Approach to Fuzzy-Rough Nearest Neighbour Classification ........ 310
Richard Jensen and Chris Cornelis

Decision Support Systems

Towards Approximation of Risk ................................................................. 320
Marcin Szczuka

Business Aviation Decision-Making Using Rough Sets .............................. 329
Yu-Ping Ou Yang, How-Ming Shieh, Gwo-Hshiung Tzeng,
Leon Yen, and Chien-Chung Chan

Phase Transition in SONFIS and SORST ................................................. 339
Hamed O. Ghaffari, Mostafa Sharifzadeh, and Witold Pedrycz

A New Rough Sets Decision Method Based on PCA and Ordinal Regression ................................................................. 349
Dun Liu, Tianrui Li, and Pei Hu

Rough Set Flow Graphs and Max – * Fuzzy Relation Equations in State Prediction Problems .................................................. 359
Zofia Matusiewicz and Krzysztof Pancerz
Clustering

Precision of Rough Set Clustering ........................................ 369
  Pawan Lingras, Min Chen, and Duoqian Miao

A Dynamic Approach to Rough Clustering .............................. 379
  Georg Peters and Richard Weber

Learning Patterns from Clusters Using Reduct ......................... 389
  Alka Arora, Shuchita Upadhyaya, and Rajni Jain

Pattern Recognition and Image Processing

Experiments with Rough Set Approach to Face Recognition ......... 399
  Xuguang Chen and Wojciech Ziarko

Standard and Fuzzy Rough Entropy Clustering Algorithms in Image Segmentation ..................................................... 409
  Dariusz Malyszko and Jarosław Stepaniuk

Efficient Mining of Jumping Emerging Patterns with Occurrence Counts for Classification ............................................. 419
  Łukasz Kobylański and Krzysztof Walczak

Evolutionary Algorithm for Fingerprint Images Filtration .......... 429
  Marcin Jędrzyka and Władysław Skarbek

Efficient Discovery of Top-K Minimal Jumping Emerging Patterns ... 438
  Pawel Terlecki and Krzysztof Walczak

Hierarchical Tree for Dissemination of Polyphonic Noise ............ 448
  Rory Lewis, Amanda Cohen, Wenxin Jiang, and Zbigniew Raś

A Data Driven Emotion Recognition Method Based on Rough Set Theory ................................................................. 457
  Yong Yang, Guoyin Wang, Fei Luo, and Zhenjing Li

Learning from Soft-Computing Methods on Abnormalities in Audio Data ................................................................. 465
  Alicja Wieczorkowska

Bioinformatics

Shadowed Clustering for Speech Data and Medical Image Segmentation ................................................................. 475
  Bishal Barman, Sushmita Mitra, Witold Pedrycz

Computational Intelligence Techniques Applied to Magnetic Resonance Spectroscopy Data of Human Brain Cancers ............ 485
  Alan J. Barton and Julio J. Valdes
A Hybrid Model for Aiding in Decision Making for the Neuropsychological Diagnosis of Alzheimer’s Disease
Ana Karoline Araújo de Castro, Plácido Rogério Pinheiro, and Mirian Caliope Dantas Pinheiro

Special Sessions

Rough Sets in Data Warehousing (Extended Abstract)
Dominik Šlezak, Jakub Wróblewski, Victoria Eastwood, and Piotr Synak

Classification Challenges in Email Archiving
Arvind Srinivasan and Gaurav Baone

Approximation Theories: Granular Computing vs Rough Sets
Tsau Young (‘T. Y.’) Lin

Author Index