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Top Three News Stories on *IEEE CIM* in 2014



As a new editor-in-chief of the *IEEE Computational Intelligence Magazine (CIM)*, I oversaw publication of four issues in 2014.

It has been much more challenging than I thought to work for *CIM* in this capacity. I am always under pressure to keep up with the annual publication schedule. In January, I collect the final versions of the articles for the May issue. In mid-February, after checking each article, I send a package of all the required files to the IEEE Publication Department. In early March, I check the front cover design and the figures of the articles. In late March, I proofread the draft, which completes my editorial work for the May issue. Then, in April, just after proofreading the May issue, I start to collect the final versions of the articles for the August issue. In this manner, I repeat a three-month cycle for each *CIM* issue. The best news for me in 2014 was the publication of all four *CIM* issues on schedule.

I would like to share with you a number of updates. First, and of most direct importance to *CIM* readers, is a change in the way *CIM* is distributed. *CIM* is the official magazine of the IEEE Computational Intelligence Society (CIS), and so far was sent in paper form to all CIS members as a part of the standard CIS membership package. However, no printed copy is included in the membership package for 2015. Members will, of course, continue to receive an e-mail notification of *CIM*, and can read all articles through the IEEE *Xplore*.

A second piece of news was a drop in our impact factor, from 4.629 to 2.706. Since the number of papers published in *CIM* is quite small, just a few highly-cited papers can have a dominant effect on the impact factor. As a result, the impact factor does not remain stable from year to year. Whereas 2.706 is still good, I received many e-mails about the drop in the impact factor for 2013. I will continue to publish high quality papers, which I hope will lead to a higher impact factor in the future.

Now let me move on to perhaps the most impressive piece of news. We have received about 160 submissions to the May 2015 special issue on "New Trends of Learning in Computational Intelligence". This number is astonishing. Since the average number of submissions to a *CIM* special issue is about 25, the submissions to the upcoming special issue were more than the total of submissions for six average special issues. I sincerely appreciate the hard work of the guest editors in handling such a large number of submissions.

The feature topic of the current *CIM* issue is "Cloud Computing". Its relation to computational intelligence (CI) is twofold. On the one hand, cloud computing provides us with a large computation power, which increases the applicability of CI techniques. Your learning algorithms may become applicable to big data if such a large computation power is available. On the other hand, cloud computing can be viewed as a promising new application field of CI techniques. Your optimization algorithms may be useful for various scheduling problems in cloud computing. I hope that you will find the articles in this issue interesting.

Hisao Ishibuchi

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