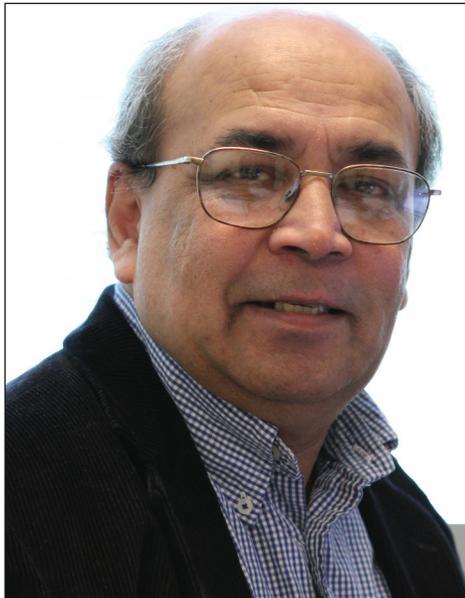


Editorial

Expository AI Applications

Ashok K. Goel



AI Magazine and the conference series on Innovative Applications of AI (IAAI) have had a close relationship ever since the latter's inception 1989. This close relationship between *AI Magazine* and IAAI is no coincidence. Much of our society knows about and interacts with AI mainly through its applications. Applications are the source of many problems that AI research seeks to address, and we often measure our progress through successful applications. Applications are how AI makes an impact on the world. Hence, as “the journal of record for the AI community,” it is only logical for *AI Magazine* to cover AI applications extensively. Thus, every year since 1990, *AI Magazine* typically has published a special issue based on the previous year's IAAI conference. The articles in this special issue derive from IAAI 2016, and I thank Peter Yeh and James Crawford for putting it together.

I should note another feature of the articles in this special issue on AI applications: they contain few mathematical formalisms and equations. This too is by design. At *AI Magazine*, we are incrementally moving towards expository articles that are accessible to the broader AI community. It is important that the AI community at large has access to serious AI research but in a language it can understand. I thank the authors of the articles in this issue for their cooperation in going through a second round of reviewing to make the articles more explanatory and less “technical” and yet maintain high quality. As we move forward, we will continue the move towards descriptive articles accessible to the AI community at large.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Ashok K. Goel".