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Soft Computing and MCDA Methods for Support Decision Making

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Message from the Guest Editor

Dear Colleagues,

Soft computing technologies concern a fusion of research in evolutionary algorithms and genetic programming, neural science and neural net systems, fuzzy set theory and fuzzy systems, and chaos theory and chaotic systems and so on. The integration of soft computing techniques and tools into advanced applications is essential in the decision-making process. By linking the ideas and techniques of soft computing with other disciplines, this Special Issue serves as a unifying platform that fosters comparisons, extensions, and new applications in decision making. Very often, soft computing is used to improve existing MCDA methods or design a new one. MCDA methods are significant for supporting complex decision-making problems with multiple conflicting objectives. The notion of symmetry is of particular importance in MCDA techniques. Symmetry, asymmetry, and antisymmetry are fundamental characteristics of binary relations used when modeling the decision maker's preferences in many methods. Moreover, the notion of symmetry has appeared in many articles on fuzzy set theory, which is employed in MCDA methods.



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Message from the Editor-in-Chief

Symmetry is ultimately the most important concept in natural sciences. It is not surprising then that very basic and fundamental research achievements are related to symmetry. For instance, the Nobel Prize in Physics 1979 (Glashow, Salam, Weinberg) was received for a unified symmetry description of electromagnetic and weak interactions, while the Nobel Prize in Physics 2008 (Nambu, Kobayashi, Maskawa) was received for the discovery of the mechanism of spontaneous breaking of symmetry, including CP symmetry. Our journal is named *Symmetry* and it manifests its fundamental role in nature.

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