Guest Editorial on Advances in Tools and Techniques for Enabling Cyber–Physical–Social Systems—Part I

Cyber–physical–social systems (CPSS) integrate computational physical elements (seamless integration of computational algorithms and physical components) capable of interacting with, reflecting and influencing each other as well as the complicated system and information exhibited by human’s social behavior. Rapid advances in mobile cloud computing, man–machine, machine–machine communications, smart phone networks will cause a new paradigm shift in CPSS design, applications, and operations by bringing improvements not only to the quality of service (QoS) but also to quality of experiment (QoE) and quality of protection (QoP) in terms of the cost efficiency, reliability, security, and energy efficiency from the human perspective of view. The integration of cyber–physical systems and social networks also provides a novel platform to addresses challenges in cyber–physical–social interactions and human-centric technologies development by using powerful tools such as social computing, social cooperation, and social sensing. Application examples of employing mobile computing in CPSS include traffic accidents detection in smart transportation, energy management in smart grid, health monitoring and evaluation.

The introduction of social elements into CPS poses new system design challenges and open research issues. Therefore, safety and reliability requirements of physical components are qualitatively different from general-purpose distributed computing infrastructures and lack of consistent and unified system modeling and design principles. Resources in data centers and cloud infrastructures have to be efficiently managed and scheduled to optimize reliability and scalability of CPSS under various constraints of QoE and QoP. Besides, CPSS are expected to deal with data directly coming from trans-domain applications, which could be in different forms such as GPS coordinates, flood level, temperature, rainfall rate, vehicle speed, electricity consumption. How to coordinate various applications of heterogeneous systems and facilitate a deeper integration, interaction, and personalization of the physical, cyber, and social domains is another important challenge. This Special Issue on CPSS devoted to recent addressing these challenges. A Call for Papers was issued in early 2015, with the submission deadline set to June 15, 2015. We have received overwhelming submissions, and ultimately seven high-quality papers have been selected in the first part of this special issue.

The papers can be broadly classified according to their primary focus. Papers in the first group aim at facilitating the social network technologies into the CPS using mobile social network, machine learning, smartphones, social discovery, users’ behavior identification, pervasive social networking, and big data computing in social networks.

The paper “PIF: A Personalized Fine-grained Spam Filtering Scheme With Privacy Preservation in Mobile Social Networks” by Zhang et al. proposed a personalized fine-grained filtering scheme with privacy preservation in MSNs. Specifically, a social-assisted filter distribution scheme and cryptographic filtering schemes are developed to protect users’ private keywords included in the filter from disclosure to others and detect forged filters.

The paper “Safeguard: User Re-Authentication on Smartphones via Behavioral Biometrics” by Lu and Liu presented an accurate and efficient smartphone user reauthentication system based upon on-screen finger movement. A scheme through five machine learning approaches is implemented and a support vector machine-based approach is selected due to the scheme’s high accuracy.

The paper “A Performance Evaluation of Machine Learning Based Streaming Spam Tweets Detection” by Chen et al. proposed a performance evaluation of existing machine learning-based streaming spam detection methods. A performance evaluation is carried out from three different aspects of data, feature, and model.

The paper “Social Discovery: Exploring the Correlation among Three-Dimensional Social Relationships” by Zhao et al. explores the correlation among three kinds of social relationships: face-to-face social relationship, online social relationship, and self-report social relationship. Moreover, social popularity is defined according to social relationships self-reported by users.

The paper “Rumor Identification in Microblogging Systems Based on Users’ Behavior” by Liang et al. investigated the machine learning-based rumor identification approaches and proposed a method to predict whether a microblog post is rumor by applying five new features based on users’ behaviors and combining the new features with existing well-proved effective user behavior-based futures such as followers’ comments and reposting.

The paper “Anonymous Authentication for Trustworthy Pervasive Social Networking” by Yan et al. proposed an anonymous authentication scheme for authenticating both pseudonyms and trust levels in order to support trustworthy pervasive social networking with privacy preservation. In addition, the batch signature verification is used to further reduce the cost of authenticity verification on a large number of messages.

The paper “Scalable Energy-Efficient Distributed Data Analytics for Crowdsensing Applications in Mobile...
Environments” by Jayaraman et al. proposed a scalable, energy-efficient, generic, and extensible component-based distributed data analytics platform for mobile condensing application. Moreover, theoretical cost models for typical crowdsensing application scenarios are proposed and developed.

In conclusion, the papers presented in this Special Issue demonstrate the breadth and diversity of research in the field of CPSS.

The guest editors would like to thank both the authors and the reviewers for their hard work in helping them organize this Special Issue. They would also like to express their sincere gratitude to the Editors-in-Chief, Prof. G. Cybenko and Prof. E. E. Santos, for providing this opportunity and lots of guidance throughout the process, and the editorial staff L. A. Cullen for their continuous support and professionalism.

Mianxiong Dong, Guest Editor
Muranor Institute of Technology
Hokkaido 050-0071, Japan

Rajiv Ranjan, Guest Editor
School of Computing Science
Newcastle University
Newcastle upon Tyne, NE1 7RU, U.K.

Albert Y. Zomaya, Guest Editor
Centre for Distributed and High Performance Computing,
School of Information Technologies
The University of Sydney
Sydney, N.S.W. 2006, Australia

Man Lin, Guest Editor
Department of Computer Science
St. Francis Xavier University
Antigonish, NS B0H 1X0, Canada

Mianxiong Dong received the B.S., M.S., and Ph.D. degrees in computer science and engineering from the University of Aizu, Aizuwakamatsu, Japan, in 2006, 2008, and 2013, respectively.

He is currently an Assistant Professor with the Department of Information and Electronic Engineering, Muroran Institute of Technology (Muranor-IT), Hokkaido, Japan. Prior to joining Muroran-IT, he was a Researcher at the National Institute of Information and Communications Technology (NICT), Tokyo, Japan. He was a JSPS Research Fellow with the School of Computer Science and Engineering, the University of Aizu, and was a Visiting Scholar at BBCR Group, University of Waterloo, Waterloo, ON, Canada, supported by the JSPS Excellent Young Researcher Overseas Visit Program from April 2010 to August 2011. He was selected as a Foreigner Research Fellow (a total of three recipients all over Japan) by the NEC C&C Foundation in 2011. He has authored or coauthored 120 research papers published in international journals, conferences, and books. His research interests include wireless networks, cloud computing, and cyber–physical systems.

Dr. Dong serves as an Associate Editor for the IEEE COMMUNICATIONS SURVEYS AND TUTORIALS, the IEEE NETWORK, the IEEE ACCESS, and Cyber–Physical Systems (Taylor & Francis). He has been serving as the Program Chair of IEEE SmartCity 2015 and Symposium Chair of IEEE GLOBECOM 2016. He is currently a Research Scientist with A3 Foresight Program (2011–2016) funded by Japan Society for the Promotion of Sciences (JSPS), NSFC of China, and NRF of Korea. He was the recipient of the Best Paper Awards from the IEEE HPCC 2008, the IEEE ICESS 2008, ICA3PP 2014, GPC 2015, and the IEEE DASC 2015.

Rajiv Ranjan received the B.Eng degree from North Gujarat University, Gujarat, India, in 2002 and the Ph.D. degree in computer and software engineering from University of Melbourne, Melbourne, Australia, in 2009.

He has been a Reader (Associate Professor) of Computing Science with Newcastle University, Newcastle upon Tyne, U.K., since September 1, 2015. He is an Internationally Renowned Researcher in the areas of cloud computing, Internet of Things (IoT), and big data. By applying ground-breaking combination of well-founded formal models from four domains (operations research, computational statistics, peer-to-peer networking, and performance engineering) of computer science, he has developed novel algorithmic techniques and distributed system architectures that facilitate service level agreement (SLA) driven provisioning of multimedia (e.g., content delivery networks), eScience (e.g., scientific workflows), and IoT applications (e.g., remote sensing) applications over multiple cloud datacenters. He has authored or coauthored more than 150 peer-reviewed scientific publications, including publications in the IEEE TRANSACTIONS ON PARALLEL AND DISTRIBUTED SYSTEMS (ERA A*), the IEEE TRANSACTIONS ON COMPUTERS (ERA A*), Journal of Computer and System Sciences (ERA A*), and the IEEE/ACM World Wide Web conference (CORE A+). His research is widely recognized through citations (more than 5000 Google Scholar citations: https://goo.gl/7FONZN and more than 800 Web of Science citations: http://goo.gl/St567J).
Albert Y. Zomaya (S’82–M’90–SM’97–F’04) received the B.Eng degree from Kuwait University, Kuwait City, Kuwait, in 1987 and the Ph.D. degree from Sheffield University, Sheffield, U.K., in 1990.

He is the Chair Professor of High-Performance Computing and Networking with the School of Information Technologies, University of Sydney, Sydney, N.S.W., Australia, and he also serves as the Director of the Centre for Distributed and High-Performance Computing. He has authored/coauthored more than 500 scientific papers and articles and is the author, coauthor, or editor of more than 20 books. His research interests include parallel and distributed computing and complex systems.

Prof. Zomaya is a Chartered Engineer, a Fellow of AAAS and IET. He is the Founding Editor-in-Chief of the IEEE TRANSACTIONS ON SUSTAINABLE COMPUTING and serves as an Associate Editor for 22 leading journals. He served as an Editor-in-Chief for the IEEE TRANSACTIONS ON COMPUTERS (2011–2014). He was the recipient of the IEEE Technical Committee on Parallel Processing Outstanding Service Award (2011), the IEEE Technical Committee on Scalable Computing Medal for Excellence in Scalable Computing (2011), and the IEEE Computer Society Technical Achievement Award (2014).

Man Lin received the B.E. degree in computer science and technology from Tsinghua University, Beijing, China, in 1994, and the Lic. and Ph.D. degrees in computer science and information from Linköping University, Linköping, Sweden, in 1997 and 2000, respectively.

She is currently a Professor of Computer Science with St. Francis Xavier University, Antigonish, NS, Canada. Her research interests include system design and analysis, power aware scheduling, and optimization algorithms. Her research is supported by the National Sciences and Engineering Research Council, Canada (NSERC) and the Canada Foundation for Innovation (CFI).