Preface

This volume contains the papers selected for presentation at the Seventh International Workshop on Rough Sets, Fuzzy Sets, Data Mining, and Granular-Soft Computing (RSFDGrC'99) held in the Yamaguchi Resort Center, Ube, Yamaguchi, Japan, November 9-11, 1999. The workshop was organized by International Rough Set Society, BISC Special Interest Group on Granular Computing (GrC), Polish-Japanese Institute of Information Technology, and Yamaguchi University.

RSFDGrC'99 provided an international forum for sharing original research results and practical development experiences among experts in these emerging fields. An important feature of the workshop was to stress the role of the integration of intelligent information techniques. That is, to promote a deep fusion of these approaches to AI, Soft Computing, and Database communities in order to solve real world, large, complex problems concerned with uncertainty and fuzziness. In particular, rough and fuzzy set methods in data mining and granular computing were on display.

The total of 89 papers coming from 21 countries and touching a wide spectrum of topics related to both theory and applications were submitted to RSFDGrC'99. Out of them 45 papers were selected for regular presentations and 15 for short presentations. Seven technical sessions were organized, namely: Rough Set Theory and Its Applications; Fuzzy Set Theory and Its Applications; Non-Classical Logic and Approximate Reasoning; Information Granulation and Granular Computing; Data Mining and Knowledge Discovery; Machine Learning; Intelligent Agents and Systems.

The RSFDGrC'99 program was enriched by four invited speakers: Zdzisław Pawlak, Lotfi A. Zadeh, Philip Yu, and Setsuo Arikawa, from Soft Computing, Database, and AI communities. A special session on Rough Computing: Foundations and Applications was organized by James F. Peters.

An event like this can only succeed as a team effort. We would like to acknowledge the contribution of the program committee members and thank the reviewers for their efforts. Many thanks to the honorary chairs Zdzisław Pawlak and Lotfi A. Zadeh as well as the general chairs Setsuo Ohsuga and T.Y. Lin. Their involvement and support have added greatly to the quality of the workshop. Our sincere gratitude goes to all of the authors who submitted papers. We are grateful to our sponsors: Kayamori Foundation of Informational Science Advancement, United States Air Force Asian Office of Aerospace Research and Development, Yamaguchi Industrial Technology Development Organizer, for their generous support. We wish to express our thanks to Alfred Hofmann of Springer-Verlag for his help and cooperation.

November 1999

Ning Zhong
Andrzej Skowron
Setsuo Ohsuga

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