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Introduction to Special Issue on: Web of Things and Big Data

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Preamble: This special issue of the International Journal of Computing and Digital Systems (IJCDS) focuses on Web of Things and Big Data, and publishes selected papers from the 2015 International Symposium on Web of Things and Big Data (WoTBD 2015), 18-20 October 2015, Manama, Bahrain, which was held in conjunction with the Fifth International Conference on e-Learning: Cognitively Informed Technology, October 2015, Bahrain [1]. The WoTBD 2015 Symposium included two sessions; Web of Things and Big Data Session I, and Web of Things and Big Data Session II, each session included 5 peer-reviewed papers [3-12]. The papers covered a range of topics related to the theme of Web of Things and Big Data. From these papers, seven have been selected to be submitted as extended versions in the special issue on Web of Things and Big Data in the IJCDS journal [3-9], with four papers only that have been accepted to be included in the special issue [3-6], in addition to another two papers selected from normal submission to the IJCDS journal.

Keywords: Web of Things; Cloud Computing; Internet of Things Analytics; Big Data Models and Algorithms

1. Introduction

Admittedly, the Web of Things (WoT) is a novel paradigm, which is shaping the evolution of the future Internet. According to the vision underlying the WoT, the next step in increasing the ubiquity of the Internet, after connecting people anytime and everywhere, is to connect inanimate objects. When the number of subscriptions exceeded the population size, the WoT was tuned. In the WoT, huge amounts of multimedia traffic and data are being continuously generated. It is worth noting that the WoT and big data should be treated as two sides of the same coin. Recent studies have shown that over 200 million emails, over 1 million Facebook likes and over 2000 thousands tweets are being generated every single minute. In the web of things storage, processing and communication of continuous stream of data are major components. When selecting the technology for big data analytics, we need to keep in mind that there would be tremendous influx of data that needs to be mined and processed in almost real-time. Recently many industries have been Hadoop and Hive to store big data and distributed cloud computing for processing data for real-time operations. Extracting meaningful and valuable data from big data generated from the WoT is one of the important tasks. A big data analytics platform should be based on three main aspects: performance, infrastructure, and scalability. Moreover, the WoT is regarded as a heterogeneous system where security vulnerabilities are diverse and different. In the WoT era, we also need to make fundamental changes in their security landscape. Note that the WoT and the IoT are bringing not only more benefits to the world/business, but also many more unique and new challenges. The accepted papers in the SI of WoTBD cover different areas related to the theme of the Web of Things and Big Data, in the following two sections we are going to highlight the main contributions of the accepted papers in the SI of WoTBD.



2. SELECTED PAPERS FROM MOBIAPPS 2015

In this section, we discuss the four papers selected from WoTBD 2015. The authors in [13] propose a solution to the problem of client dissatisfaction with long waiting times associated with some services. This solution is a smart queue management system that provides real-time visual and audio updates to service requests via a smartphone app. Users receive digital tickets and are free to leave the waiting area until it is their turn to be served. In [14], the author presents an unsupervised hyperspectral image classification algorithm, in particular, Iterative Self-Organizing Data Analysis Technique Algorithm (ISODATA) algorithm used to produce a classified image and extract agricultural information, using ENVI (Environment of Visualizing Images) that is a software application utilized to process and analyze geospatial imagery. The study area, which has been applied on Florida, USA. Hyperspectral dataset of Florida was generated by the SAMSON sensor, the performance was evaluated on the base of the accuracy assessment of the process after applying Principle Component Analysis (PCA) and ISODATA algorithm. The overall accuracy of the classification process is 75.6187%.

A Mobile Agents (MA) paradigm has been introduced and discussed in [15] to implement a decentralized microenergy system instead of using a centralized system, with a security model that is based on Rivest Cipher 5 (RC5). It is shown that (RC5) block cipher algorithm can be implemented efficiently for encryption of real-time applications and demonstrated that the (RC5) block cipher algorithm is highly secure from the strong cryptographic viewpoint, which ensures the confidentiality of network management agents. The authors in [16] outlines the design and development phases of a residential energy monitoring system that has been tailored to meet local needs, that is to say a non-intrusive system with a user friendly interface available both in English and Arabic endowed with an alert system providing real-time consumption information, as well as energy saving and awareness tips.

3. SELECTED PAPERS FROM REGULAR SUBMISSION

The authors of paper [17] presented a research work that focused on citizens' attitude and satisfaction with the e-government, and try to shed light on physical and psychological barriers to gain better understanding of the reasons that prevent citizens from using e-government services. The aim of this research is to explore the public's behavioral intentions towards using the Bahraini E-government services. The problem of this research evolved as the author was considering the reasons why some people hesitate to exploit the E-government portal despite the great value of its services and the huge efforts and funds invested in such a venture. Paper [18] a hybrid MAC protocol for M2M network has been introduced which collects the advantages of both reservation-based and contention-based protocols. In that proposed protocol, the transmission time is divided into frames and each frame consists of three parts: Notification Period (NP), Contention Only Period (COP) and Transmission Only Period (TOP). BS broadcasts a notification messages to the devices at each frame. The COP is based on NP-CSMA mechanism where the devices contend over transmission opportunities.

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