We are pleased to present the proceeding of the Second International Conference on Soft Computing in Data Science 2016 (SCDS 2016). SCDS 2016 was held in Pullman Kuala Lumpur Bangsar, Malaysia during September 21–22, 2016. The theme of the conference was “Science in Analytics: Harnessing Data and Simplifying Solutions.” Data science can improve corporate decision-making and performance, personalize medicine and health-care services, and improve the efficiency and performance of organizations. Data science and analytics plays an important role in various disciplines including business, medical and health informatics, social sciences, manufacturing, economics, accounting, and finance.

SCDS 2016 provided a platform for discussions on leading-edge methods and also addressed challenges, problems, and issues in machine learning in data science and analytics. The role of machine learning in data science and analytics is significantly increasing in every field from engineering to life sciences, and with advanced computer algorithms, solutions for complex real problems can be simplified. For the advancement of society in the 21st century, there is a need to transfer knowledge and technology to industrial applications so as to solve real-world problems. Research collaborations between academia and industry can lead to the advancement of useful analytics and computing applications to facilitate real-time insights and solutions.

We are delighted that the conference attracted submissions from a diverse group of national and international researchers. We received a total of 66 paper submissions. SCDS 2016 utilized a double-blind review procedure. All accepted submissions were assigned to at least three independent reviewers (at least one international reviewers) in order to have a rigorous and convincing evaluation process. A total of 57 international and 57 local reviewers were involved in the review process. The conference proceeding volume editors and Springer’s CCIS Editorial Board made the final decisions on acceptance, with 27 of the 66 submissions (41 %) published in the conference proceedings.

We would like to thank the authors who submitted manuscripts to SCDS 2016. We thank the reviewers for voluntarily spending time to review the papers. We thank all Conference Committee members for their tremendous time, ideas, and efforts in ensuring the success of SCDS 2016. We also wish to thank the Springer CCIS Editorial Board, organizations, and sponsors for their continuous support. To all our sponsors, we are deeply grateful for your continuous support.

We sincerely hope that SCDS 2016 provided a venue for knowledge sharing, publication of good research findings, and new research collaborations. Last but not least, we hope everyone gained from the keynote, special, and parallel Sessions, and had an enjoyable and memorable experience at SCDS 2016 and in Malaysia.

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