

From Guest Editor

Mathematical Modelling is the most important component of any Operational Research approach to decision making. A model exhibits relationships between quantitative variables under a definite set of assumptions that portray the system and facilitates the use of sophisticated mathematical techniques and computers. Modelling is becoming increasingly popular as a primary tool for describing the behaviour of complex systems, forecasting the future events and prescribing the best course of action when required. One of the fields where mathematical modelling, particularly stochastic modelling has vastly been applied is Reliability. Stochastic Modelling in Reliability theory has continued to be an area of extensive research for more than past four decades. The subject has traditionally been attached to hardware systems. But with ever increasing use of computers in present times Software Reliability Engineering is fast emerging as an independent discipline that complements Software Engineering. When I was approached by the Editors to bring out a special issue on Software Reliability, I readily agreed. The subject over the years has emerged as an independent discipline. Unfortunately, the call for papers didn't elicit good response within the country although India is the hub of Software Industry. I guess, the subject is yet to take off in our country. As a result, I wrote to known researchers in the area outside India inviting them to contribute a paper. In all seven papers have been accepted. It should give a fairly good idea about what is happening in the area and should provide good impetus to researchers in India to work in this important field of research. I like to thank the authors for contributing their research work and help in bringing out this issue.

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