EDITORIAL



E-waste management using game theory concept

R. Sitharthan¹ · Rajesh M²

Published online: 10 January 2022

© The Author(s), under exclusive licence to Springer-Verlag GmbH Germany, part of Springer Nature 2022

For the increased solid waste, the emergence of e-waste has been one of the most important and crucial problems faced by the world today. The disposal of an enormous amount of e-waste has been a challenging task for the municipal department of developed and growing nations. Furthermore, the disposal of e-waste creates environmental pollution and also affects the health impact of all living organisms. E-waste is collectively the waste from electrical and electronic equipment. Most of the electrical component and electronic gadgets that we use today are been made up of lead, cadmium, mercury, PVC, chromium, barium, phosphorus, nickel, and heavy metals. After certain usage of such electrical and electronic equipment, they are been replaced by new featured electrical and electronic equipment. The old electrical and electronic equipment are now been treated as e-waste. The average total e-waste accumulated by the outmoded or broken equipment was estimated at about 50 million tons each year. Among which, only 3% is being recycled and properly disposed of. Further, it has been estimated that e-waste can grow up to 60 million tons by 2021.

E-waste is averagely growing by 13 kilotons a day. It has grown above the alarming situation, and this is the right time to save the world from a hazardous situation by managing e-waste properly. This work proposes cooperative, non-cooperative, and volunteer's dilemma game theory concept to manage e-waste by decreasing its act of impact by taking the consumer, manufacturer, recycler, and government as key players. The advantage of game theory is that it makes rational decisions and thus improves the decision-making process.

Publisher's Note Springer Nature remains neutral with regard to jurisdictional claims in published maps and institutional affiliations.

Responsible Editor: Philippe Garrigues

- ⊠ R. Sitharthan sitharthan.r@vit.ac.in
- School of Electrical Engineering, Vellore Institute of Technology, Vellore, Tamil Nadu, India
- Deparment of Computer Science & Engineering, Sanjivani College of Engineering, Kopargaon, India



Dr. Sitharthan R received his B.E. degree in Electrical and Electronics Engineering, M.E. degree in Power Systems Engineering, and Ph.D. degree in Electrical Engineering from the Anna University, India, in 2010, 2012, and 2016, respectively. He is an assistant professor in the School of Electrical Engineering, Vellore Institute of Technology, Vellore, Tamil Nadu, India. He has completed a research funded project as a principal investigator under the ECRA scheme, Science and Engineering Research Board, Department of Science and Tech-

nology, Government of India. He has published research articles in refereed journals and received two patents. His research interests include renewable energy systems, artificial intelligence-based control methodology, FACTS devices, blockchain, sensor devices, soft computing techniques, and piezoelectric materials.



Dr. Rajesh M is an associate professor in Sanjivani College of Engineering, India, and a research associate in RaGa Academic Solutions, Chennai, India, and he is an associate editor of IET Nanobiotechnology, 3D Research (Springer), and editor of Mathematical and Computational Forestry and Natural-Resource Sciences (MCFNS). He has published over 90 papers in international refereed journals like IEEE, Springer, and Elsevier. He served as a reviewer for

Springer, Inderscience, and Elsevier journals. He has published many research articles in refereed journals and IEEE conferences. He has served as a general chair for international and national conferences organized globally. He has worked as PC members for many conferences conducted in India and abroad and also has successfully organized some special issues in highly index journals. His main research interests include IoT, blockchain techniques, cyber-physical system, Industry 4.0, e-health technologies, and soft computing techniques.

