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## Editorial

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### W. Jiang

College of Computer Science and Electronic Engineering,  
Hunan University,  
Changsha, 410082, China  
Email: w.j.jiang@hotmail.com

**Biographical notes:** W. Jiang received her Master's in Computer Science from the Huazhong University of Science and Technology in 2001, and then received her PhD in Computer Science in Hunan University in 2006. Currently, she is a Professor in College of Computer Science and Electronic Engineering of Hunan University. Her main research direction is computer distributed computing and cloud computing, machine learning, and the application of computer science.

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Today, people increasingly tend not to access and consume news through traditional media but using social media platforms, thanks to the low cost, ease of access, and speed of information dissemination that social media can ensure. This change has modified the way people inform themselves and form their opinions but, at the same time, has exposed them to the large-scale proliferation of disinformation in online newspapers and social networks. Disinformation, in all its forms, has serious negative repercussions on fields as diverse as economics, politics, and health, and its propagation finds even more fertile ground in times of crisis such the one we are experiencing due to the COVID-19 pandemic. Despite recent efforts undertaken by the scientific community to devise appropriate countermeasures, identifying misinformation in social media and mitigating its spread are still open problems.

Therefore, this special issue aims to collect innovative research papers, both theoretical and experimental, from different areas such as machine learning, social network analysis, data mining, and natural language processing, on using social media data for automatic online disinformation detection and mitigation.