

Preface to the CLTM-CLTD 2022 Special Issue

This preface opens the special issue on invited papers related to the 2023 edition of the MSc. and PhD. thesis contests organized by CLEI, the Latin American Center for Computing Studies.

One of the main objectives of CLEI is furthering the scientific development of all Computing areas in Latin America. To recognize such developments, as well as the achievements of the graduate programs in the region, and promote the development of new programs, CLEI organizes yearly since 1993 the Latin American Master Thesis Contest (CLTM), and since 2016 the Doctoral Thesis Contest (CLTD). Both events take place jointly with the Latin American Computing Conference (also known as CLEI conference) .

In the 2022 edition, the conference took place in Armenia, Quindio, Colombia; both the MSc. and PhD. contests received a number of high quality submissions, leading to very interesting presentations during the conference and to excellent prizes.

After the conference, the authors of the best works (receiving prizes as well as runner-ups) were invited to submit original works, not already published, to the CLEIej journal. These submissions were evaluated by independent reviewers, following the usual review process of the journal. As a result of this selection process, we are proud to present the current Special Issue, which comprises the following works:

- Carlos A. Astudillo, Nelson L.S. da Fonseca, “Medium Access Control Techniques for Massive Machine-Type Communications in Cellular IoT Networks”, Institute of Computing, Universidade Estadual de Campinas, Brazil (UNICAMP), 2nd prize CLTD 2022.
- María Fernanda Molina, Gustavo Betarte, Carlos Luna, “A Blockchain based and GDPR-compliant design of a system for digital education certificates”, Universidad de la República, Uruguay, 1st prize CLTM 2022.
- Juan V. Bogado, Christian E. Schaerer, Diego H. Stalder, Giohanna Martínez, “Cluster-based LSTM models to improve Dengue cases forecast”, Universidad Nacional de Asunción, Paraguay, 2nd prize CLTM 2022.
- Daniel San Martin, Claudio E. Torres, “2D Simplified Wildfire Spreading Model in Python: From NumPy to CuPy”, Universidad Técnica Federico Santa María, Chile, 3rd prize CLTM 2022.
- José E. Solsona, Álvaro Tasistro, Sergio Yovine, “On the specification and verification of the PCR parallel programming pattern in TLA+”, Universidad ORT, Uruguay, selected thesis CLTM 2022.

We want to congratulate the authors, both students and their advisors, for their fine work, and we hope that publication in the CLEIej journal will improve the visibility of their work in the Latin American and international community.

Hope you enjoy the read!

Francisco Tirado, Gabriela Marín, Héctor Cancela, & Rhadamés Carmona
CLEIej Guest editors
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