
FOREWORD

Special Section on Empirical Software Engineering

Empirical software engineering is an active research field in software engineering, ranging from forming a body of knowledge from empirical studies to developing data-driven techniques to help practitioners. IEICE Technical Committee on Software Science (IEICE/SS) hosts workshops for software science and engineering researchers and practitioners to exchange their experience and knowledge of empirical software engineering. This special section is also one of such continuing activities and aims to collect the most recent research contributions on a wide range of topics in empirical software engineering.

In response to the Call for Papers, we received a total of eight submissions, consisting of six papers and two letters. After a careful and rigid review process, the editorial committee accepted four of them, consisting of three papers and one letter. The accepted papers cover various topics, including software ecosystems, code review, and defect prediction.

On behalf of the editorial committee of this special section, I would like to express my sincere gratitude to all who submitted their valuable papers. I am also grateful to the external reviewers and the editorial committee members, especially the Guest Associate Editors-in-Chief of this special section, Prof. Akinori Ihara and Prof. Takashi Kobayashi, for their devoted efforts toward the success of the special section and the progress of research on empirical software engineering.

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Shinpei Hayashi (*Member*) is an associate professor in School of Computing at Tokyo Institute of Technology, Japan. His research interests include software evolution and software development environments. He received his Dr.Eng. degree in computer science from Tokyo Institute of Technology.

