Editor’s Note
Ravishankar K. Iyer

In keeping with TDSC’s recent arrival on the scene, this third issue sees our key characteristics still emerging. Among our regular submissions, we are seeing a good mix of dependability and security papers, as well as some papers that span both areas.

This issue continues the strong content of the first two. It includes the paper “A Comprehensive Approach to Intrusion Detection Alert Correlation,” by F. Valeur, G. Vigna, C. Kruegel, and R. Kemmerer, which we mentioned in our first issue’s welcoming editorial. This paper presents an approach to intrusion detection based on a multicomponent correlation process and provides a framework for performing the correlation analysis.

The other papers in this issue are the first two to be accepted as regular submissions. The first of these is “Identity-Based Fault-Tolerant Conference Key Agreement” by X. Yi, which was guided through the review process by Bhavani Thuraisingham. This paper presents a novel fault-tolerant agreement protocol for secure computer network conferencing even in the presence of malicious conference participants. The second paper, “An On-Chip Signal Suppression Countermeasure to Power Analysis Attacks,” by G.B. Ratanpal, R.D. Williams, and T.N. Blalock, was guided by Jacob Abraham. The paper proposes and evaluates a circuit that can be added to crypto-hardware to suppress the leakage of information through the power supply pin side channel.

For those interested, we have collected some statistics about our process for handling regular submissions. We follow standard IEEE procedures and have enjoyed remarkably smooth and efficient turnaround times. To date, we have received 162 submissions, 106 of which have been decided, and 56 of which are currently still in review. The average time from submission to decision has been 118 days. We have been very gratified to receive submissions from all over the world, including Europe, Asia, the Middle East, and Australia, in addition to the US. Once again, our thanks go out to all our contributors, editors, and reviewers, and to the staff at the IEEE Computer Society.

The journal’s health depends on the continued receipt of strong, high-quality submissions. Keep them coming!

Ravishankar K. Iyer
Editor-in-Chief