Editorial

Dear Reader,

This week I attended a quiz that aimed to raise money to help with the human tragedy unfolding in Ukraine. One of the questions asked was, "in what year was the first text message sent?" Most people attending the fundraiser got the answer wrong by going for a date many years earlier than the correct answer of 1992. In fact, the exact date of that text, which simply read "Merry Christmas", was the third of December 1992. That first, simple message was sent by Neil Papworth, a 22-year-old software programmer, to his colleague Richard Jarvis. Today it is estimated that over six billion texts are sent every day. We have come a long way in thirty years!!

What I find fascinating about technological development is how quickly novel things become mainstream. Reading through the papers that constitute the heart of this edition, we see Artificial Intelligence being applied in new and innovative ways, applications of algorithms to improve the quality of sound recordings, and faster ways of making the systems that we have come to rely on more secure. While it is exciting to be involved with some of these cutting-edge developments, it is also good to see that much of the work is already impactful in real-world applications.

In the frenetic environment where research is often done, it is sometimes easy to forget how much things have progressed in such a short period. Through the endeavours of many, I trust that such progress will continue to better the lives of all.

Professor Andrew Ware,
On behalf of the Editorial Board,
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