

Foreword

Welcome to the second issue of 2023 for the *Pertanika Journal of Science and Technology (PJST)*!

PJST is an open-access journal for studies in Science and Technology published by Universiti Putra Malaysia Press. It is independently owned and managed by the university for the benefit of the world-wide science community.

This issue contains 25 articles; three review articles and the rest are regular articles. The authors of these articles come from different countries namely Bangladesh, China, India, Indonesia, Malaysia, Nigeria, Thailand, Vietnam and Yemen.

A regular article titled “Conceptual Design of a Combined Brake-Accelerator Pedal for Limbs Disabled Driver using a Hybrid Approach” was presented by Salami Bahariah Suliano and her colleagues from Universiti Putra Malaysia, Malaysia. Their study aims to generate and select the best concept design for a combined brake-accelerator pedal with special attention based on the needs of the disabled’s ergonomics. Developing these improved ergonomics combined brake-accelerator pedals avoids braking and accelerating interference. Therefore, it is advantageous over conventional pedals and previously combined pedals. A TRIZ, morphological chart, and Pugh matrix hybrid introduce systematic generation, development, and selection of the concept design. Detailed information on this study is available on page 895.

The next article discussed the influencing physical characteristics of landslides in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia. In this study, a 100 landslides historical data set and eight landslide factors were obtained from proper field validation and maps provided by those concerned in the government, such as distance to roads, distance to streams, elevation, slope angle, curvature, slope aspect, land use, and lithology. This study found that 18.0% of landslides occurred along the Northwest of Kuala Lumpur, where most of these areas are surrounded by altered slopes. It indicates that the authorities are responsible for constructing an advanced prevention and mitigation procedure as the landslide-prone areas require critical planning and monitoring. In the meantime, a higher slope inclination can contribute to a higher gravity force in pulling materials down the slope, thereby increasing the risk of landslides. Details of this study are available on page 995.

Another article we wish to highlight is on “The Predictive Ability of Total Genotype Score and Serum Metabolite Markers in Power-Based Sports Performance Following Different Strength Training Intensities” by Elin Elisa Khairul et al. from Universiti Teknologi MARA, Malaysia. This study explored the predictive ability of total genotype score (TGS) and serum metabolite markers in power-based sports performance following different strength training (ST) intensities. The researchers recruited 15 novice male field hockey

players (age = 16.27 ± 12 years old, body mass index = 22.57 ± 2.21 kg/m²) and allocated them to; high-intensity strength training (HIST, n=5), moderate intensity strength (MIST, n=5), and control group (C, n=5). Both training groups completed an eight-week ST intervention. Pre- and post-training muscular power (vertical jump) was measured. TGS was calculated to annotate for strength-power (STP) and endurance (END) qualities. It is concluded that STP TGS may influence muscular power changes following MIST in novice field hockey players. Further details of the investigation can be found on page 1087.

We anticipate that you will find the evidence presented in this issue to be intriguing, thought-provoking and useful in reaching new milestones in your own research. Please recommend the journal to your colleagues and students to make this endeavour meaningful.

All the papers published in this edition underwent Pertanika's stringent peer-review process involving a minimum of two reviewers comprising internal as well as external referees. This was to ensure that the quality of the papers justified the high ranking of the journal, which is renowned as a heavily-cited journal not only by authors and researchers in Malaysia but by those in other countries around the world as well.

We would also like to express our gratitude to all the contributors, namely the authors, reviewers, Editor-in-Chief and Editorial Board Members of PJST, who have made this issue possible.

PJST is currently accepting manuscripts for upcoming issues based on original qualitative or quantitative research that opens new areas of inquiry and investigation.

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