Introduction

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Biographical notes: Siddhartha Bhattacharyya received his Bachelors in Physics and Optics and Optoelectronics and Masters in Optics and Optoelectronics from University of Calcutta, India in 1995, 1998 and 2000 respectively. He completed his PhD in Computer Science and Engineering from Jadavpur University, India in 2008. He is currently a Senior Research Scientist at VSB Technical University of Ostrava, Czech Republic, and is also the Principal of RCC Institute of Information Technology, Kolkata, India. He is a co-author of four and co-editor of 20 books, and has published over 200 publications in international journals and conference proceedings. His research interests include soft computing, pattern recognition, hybrid intelligence and quantum computing.

We are proud and honoured to launch the inaugural issue of *International Journal of Hybrid Intelligence (IJHI)*.

With the advancement of human civilisation, efforts are being continually invested to solve real life problems with inherent uncertainty and inexactness (or unstructured nature) in some form or other. The initial efforts in this direction were cantered on resorting to intelligent tools and techniques to mimic human understanding in addressing the problems. However, the limitations of the intelligent techniques did not always yield full proof solutions under varied conditions of uncertails, inaccuracy and imprecision. Hence, the scientists tried to combine different intelligent tools and techniques such that the individual tools within such combinations complement each other, thereby obviating the inherent limitations of individual tools and techniques. These resulted in a new computing paradigm referred to as hybrid intelligence paradigm, the term 'hybrid' coming from the concept of hybridisation of the individual tools with the help of other complementary tools or techniques.

IJHI focuses on the role of the hybrid intelligence paradigm in the modern context of rapidly evolving technologies. Hybrid intelligent systems research aims to develop state-of-the-art devices for implementing efficient hybrid intelligent algorithms for pattern recognition, sensors and networks, social networks, mobile computing, portfolio management and computational intelligence. It also aims to foster the development of intelligent human-centric computer interfaces in areas including portfolio management, network security, ubiquitous computing and cloud computing. *IJHI* provides comprehensive and up-to-date coverage in this research field.

In the best interests of the scientific community, *IJHI* will be freely accessible via the internet for immediate worldwide, open access to the full text of articles. The editorial policy of *IJHI* will be guided by high standards of scientific quality and integrity, professional responsibility, and human element in tune with the ethics of publishing.

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Eminent scientists and academicians from around the globe constitute the editorial board to inculcate scholarly and ethical practices in the peer review process.

IJHI will be published four times a year with contributions from across the world with due emphasis on selective special issues on emergent and timely topics for the benefit of the scientific community.