Editorial

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Biographical notes: Ajith Abraham received his PhD degree from Monash University, Australia. He works in a multi-disciplinary environment involving computational intelligence, network security, e-commerce, web intelligence, web services, scheduling, data mining and applied to various real world problems. He has published over 400 publications and given more than 20 plenary lectures and conference tutorials in these areas. Currently, he works with the Norwegian University of Science and Technology, Trondheim, Norway. He serves the editorial board of over 30 international journals and has also guest edited 29 special issues on various topics. He is actively involved in the hybrid intelligent systems (HIS); intelligent systems design and applications (ISDA) and information assurance and security (IAS) series of international conferences. More information at http://www.softcomputing.net.

Juan M. Corchado is the Dean of the Faculty of Science at the University of Salamanca. He received his PhD in Computer Science from the University of Salamanca in 1998 and PhD in Artificial Intelligence from the University of the West of Scotland (UK) in 2000. At present, he is the Director of the Biomedicine, Intelligent Systems and Educational Technology Group (http://bisite.usal.es), University of Salamanca (Spain). Previously, he was the Sub-director of the Escuela Superior de Ingeniería Informática of the University of Vigo (Spain, 1999–2000) and Researcher at the University of Paisley (UK, 1995–1998). He is the co-author of over 200 books, book chapters, journal papers, technical reports, etc., most of them present practical and theoretical achievements of AI systems.

Emilio Corchado is an Associate Professor of CS at the University of Burgos, Spain. He received his PhD in Computer Science from University of Salamanca (Spain). His research interest centres on ANN, multiple classifier and hybrid systems. He has published around 20 papers in peer reviewed international journals, and around 70 papers in international editorial boards of *IJCIA* and *International Journal of Reasoning-based Intelligent Systems (IJRIS)*. He has also served as a Reviewer for several international journals and a Reviewer for the 6th FP, EC. He chaired and organised several international conferences and sessions, and a member of several IPC.

The papers included in this special issue represent a selection of extended contributions presented at the 2nd International Workshop on Hybrid Artificial Intelligence Systems (HAIS 2007), hold at the University of Salamanca, Spain.

These seven contributions finally accepted after a rigorous peer-review system are representative of several aspects based on the hybrid used of fields as fuzzy logic, artificial vision, agents and multiagent systems, case-based reasoning, mutual information; classification, feature selection and so on.

A hybrid artificial intelligence systems (HAIS) combine symbolic and sub-symbolic techniques to construct more robust and reliable problem solving models. The contributions in this special issue; cover a wide range of applications areas, going from artificial vision for agriculture, to student's performance and learning efficiency, ambient intelligence or social networks among others.

This special issue is then aimed at practitioners, researchers and postgraduate students who are engaged in developing and applying advanced intelligent systems principles to solving real-world problems.