Preface

Since the Harmony Search Algorithm (HSA) was first introduced in 2001, it has drawn a world-wide attention which comes to the citations of over 2,000 citations in the domain of not only soft computing but also engineering optimization. The first International Conference on HSA (ICHSA) was held in February of 2014 out of an acknowledged need to bring together researchers who study on and with HSA.

The second ICHSA, which will be held in Korea University in Seoul, South Korea from 19 to 21 August, 2015, is intended to be an international forum for researchers in the area of developing, design, variants, and hybrid methods of HSA. The Conference created an excellent opportunity to introduce various aspects of HSA to junior researchers as well as professors in various disciplines. Topics ranged from the most recent variants of HSA to the application to new engineering problems.

This proceedings contain many interesting papers each of which has a lot of potential to be extended to a journal paper in high-quality journals. The papers can be divided into seven groups: various aspects of optimization algorithms, large scale applications of HSA, recent variants of HSA, other nature-inspired algorithms, related areas and computational intelligence, optimization in civil engineering, and multi-objectives variants of HSA. We hope that you gain a deeper insight into HSA and other optimization algorithms and enjoy reflecting and discussing the proceedings with your colleagues.

In the first part, the papers on various aspects of optimization algorithms are included. In the following chapters, large scale applications and recent variants of HSA, other nature-inspired algorithms, and computational intelligence are included. Finally, multi-objectives variants of HSA are introduced after optimization in civil engineering.

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