

FOREWORD

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gation. However, with both the effectiveness of expert systems and their practical problems and

limitations becoming more evident, it is important to make a proper distinction between problems which should be solved by the refinement of conventional control algorithms and those which should be solved by AI techniques. In other words, what is required is a well-defined

marriage of AI and existing techniques (mathematical engineering, control engineering, etc.). These technologies are expected to make a major contribution to computer integrated manufac-