

PREFACE TO THE EDITION

The **International Journal of Information Technology Research Studies (IJITRS)** is pleased to present its latest issue, bringing together a diverse collection of scholarly contributions that reflect the rapidly evolving landscape of information technology and its transformative influence across industries, education, governance, and society. As digital innovation continues to redefine organizational processes and human interaction, this issue showcases research that advances secure, intelligent, and responsible technological development.

The issue opens with a study on digital intelligence among youth, examining the multidimensional competencies required to navigate today's interconnected digital ecosystem. By exploring aspects such as digital literacy, communication, safety, security, emotional intelligence, and digital rights, the study highlights the growing importance of cultivating technologically proficient as well as ethically responsible digital citizens. Addressing one of the most critical concerns in intelligent transportation, the issue presents an advanced deep-learning-based intrusion detection framework for connected and autonomous vehicles. The proposed hybrid architecture demonstrates the potential of artificial intelligence to strengthen cybersecurity within in-vehicle communication networks while contributing to safer and more resilient automotive systems.

The expanding role of online education is explored through a comprehensive survey of personalized course recommendation systems for Massive Open Online Courses (MOOCs). The review synthesizes current recommendation methodologies, benchmark datasets, evaluation metrics, and emerging research directions, offering valuable insights into improving learner engagement, personalization, and educational effectiveness in digital learning environments. As quantum computing rapidly progresses, organizations face unprecedented cybersecurity challenges. This issue includes a timely contribution on post-quantum cryptography migration, presenting a practical roadmap for enterprises transitioning toward quantum-resistant security infrastructures. The study offers strategic guidance for adopting cryptographic agility while addressing the technical and operational challenges associated with future-ready security.

Artificial intelligence continues to reshape enterprise knowledge management, and this volume features a comprehensive examination of Retrieval-Augmented Generation (RAG) for trustworthy enterprise large language model assistants. By integrating retrieval mechanisms with generative AI, the work demonstrates approaches for improving factual accuracy, explainability, and secure enterprise deployment of intelligent assistants.

The issue concludes with an insightful discussion on self-service business intelligence and analytics in digital transformation, highlighting modern data architectures, governance frameworks, augmented analytics, and AI-assisted decision-making. The proposed maturity model provides organizations with practical guidance for building governed, scalable, and data-driven analytical ecosystems. Collectively, the articles featured in this issue illustrate the dynamic convergence of artificial intelligence, cybersecurity, enterprise computing, digital education, analytics, and emerging technologies. They address both foundational research questions and practical implementation challenges, offering valuable perspectives for researchers, academicians, industry professionals, policymakers, and technology practitioners. The breadth of topics demonstrates the increasing need for interdisciplinary collaboration in designing secure, intelligent, ethical, and sustainable digital systems.

We extend our sincere appreciation to all authors for their valuable scholarly contributions and to the reviewers whose expertise and dedication have ensured the quality and integrity of the published work. We also express our gratitude to the Editorial Board members and the publishing team for their continued commitment to maintaining the journal's academic excellence.

We hope this issue of the International Journal of Information Technology Research Studies (IJITRS) serves as an important resource for advancing research, encouraging innovation, and inspiring future developments that contribute to the continued evolution of information technology and its positive impact on society.

Dr. Mini T. V.
Chief Editor

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