

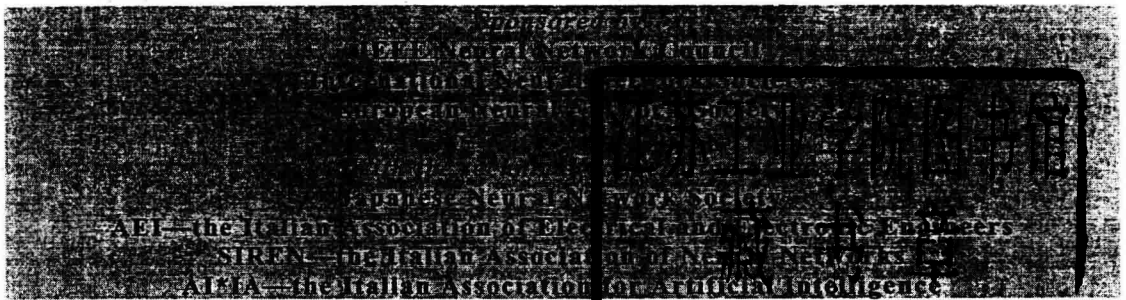
**2000 International Joint Conference on
Neural Networks
(V. 2)**

Proceedings of the IEEE-INNS-ENNS
International Joint Conference on
Neural Networks

IJCNN 2000

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*Neural Computing: New Challenges and Perspectives
for the New Millennium*



Edited by Shun-Ichi Amari, C. Lee Giles, Marco Gori, and Vincenzo Piuri

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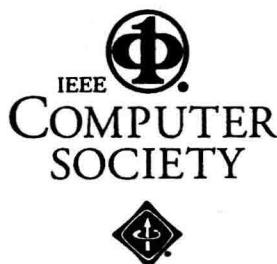
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Minami-Aoyama
Minato-ku, Tokyo 107-0062
JAPAN
Tel: +81 3 3408 3118
Fax: +81 3 3408 3553
tokyo.ofc@computer.org

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Proceedings of the IEEE-INNS-ENNS
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IJCNN 2000

Message from the Conference Chairpersons

The IEEE-INNS-ENNS International Joint Conference on Neural Networks (IJCNN 2000) in Como, Italy, is the year 2000 edition of a long and successful series that gathered the most outstanding scientists and practitioners in all areas of neural network theory and applications from all over the world. This is the first time that the conference is held in Europe, as a worldwide recognition of the European contribution to the field. We are honored by this and grateful to the sponsoring bodies.

The topic of this edition is "*Neural Computing: New Challenges and Perspectives for the New Millennium.*" We recognize in fact a compelling need to compare, update, and share our knowledge and best practice to deal effectively with the evolving challenges coming from research, industry, and daily life in the upcoming millennium. This conference aims therefore to become a milestone, an opportunity for all of us to review our past and to define new challenges and perspectives for the foregoing years.

The research on artificial neural networks comprises a wide spectrum of directions, both theoretical and practical. This conference reflects all these aspects in detail and offers the possibility of discussing and comparing the latest results obtained by researchers all over the world. In particular the conference sessions will cover topics related to aspects of computational intelligence, cognitive neuroscience, neural network architectures, hardware implementations, hybrid systems, and applications. This makes IJCNN 2000 a major international forum for researchers, practitioners, policy makers, industries, and all people who are interested in the latest developments both of research and application of neural networks.

The conference will offer a number of high quality tutorials on basic aspects as well as on recent advancements, a wide technical program with plenty of sessions to present results of worldwide research and application efforts, some interesting plenary talks by outstanding scientists, and interactive panels for open discussion on some hot topics. Organizing a large conference like IJCNN 2000 is a complex task involving many people for a number of different aspects. We want therefore to thank everyone who contributed to the organization: without their valuable efforts the meeting could not have been held.

Although the new telecommunication technologies will allow easy, fast and wide long distance communications and information access, direct human interaction—happily—still remains fundamental to exchange ideas, establish new links, make new friends, and create new opportunities for international cooperation.

We wish all the attendees an enjoyable participation in the conference and a nice stay in Italy!

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Session MA4: Plenary Talk

Table of Contents

Message From the Conference Chairpersons.....	xxxiii
Conference Organizers.....	xxxiv

VOLUME I

Information Geometrical Methods for Neural Networks	I-xxxvii
<i>Shun-ichi Amari</i>	

Iterative Design of Regularizers Based on Data by Minimizing Generalization Errors	I-3
<i>M. Ishikawa, H. Shimada, and S. Amari</i>	
Bias Learning, Knowledge Sharing	I-9
<i>J. Ghosn and Y. Bengio</i>	
Incremental Active Learning with Bias Reduction	I-15
<i>M. Sugiyama and H. Ogawa</i>	
Development and Convergence Analysis of Training Algorithms with Local Learning Rate Adaptation	I-21
<i>G. D. Magoulas, V. P. Plagianakos, and M. N. Vrahatis</i>	
Predicting the Generalization Ability of Neural Networks Resembling the Nearest-Neighbor Algorithm.....	I-27
<i>M. Muselli</i>	

A General Framework for the Functions of the Brain	I-35
<i>J. G. Taylor</i>	
The Frontal Lobes and Executive Function	I-41
<i>J. G. Taylor, N. R. Taylor, R. Bapi, G. Bugmann, and D. Levine</i>	
A Modular Neural System for Machine Cognition	I-47
<i>P. O. A. Haikonen</i>	

Model Structure Selection for Nonlinear System Identification Using Feedforward Neural Networks	I-53
<i>I. Petrović, M. Baotić, and N. Perić</i>	
A Neurofuzzy Scheme for On-Line Identification of Non-Linear Dynamical Systems with Variable Transfer Function	I-58
<i>M. Pinzolas, J. J. Ibarrola, and J. Lopez</i>	
Approximation of Non-Autonomous Dynamic Systems by Continuous Time Recurrent Neural Networks	I-64
<i>C. Kambhampati, F. Garces, and K. Warwick</i>	
Approximation of Hammerstein/Wiener Dynamic Models	I-70
<i>A. Balestrino and A. Caiti</i>	
Modelling Unstable Behavior of a Natural Circulation Loop with a Neural Network	I-75
<i>A. Fichera, G. Muscato, M. G. Xibilia, and A. Pagano</i>	

Session VB4: Panel on "Blind Signal Separation and Independent Component Analysis with Neural Networks"

Session MB6: Classification

Classification of Helical Structures	I-85
<i>S. Singh</i>	
Boundary Region Sensitive Classification for the Counterpropagation Neural Network	I-90
<i>L. Kovács and G. Terstyánszky</i>	
Focus of Attention in a Neural Network Using Meta Knowledge	I-95
<i>D. L. Hudson and M. E. Cohen</i>	
Target Adaptation to Improve the Performance of Least-Squared Classifiers	I-100
<i>K. M. Adeney and M. J. Korenberg</i>	
The K-Winner Machine Model	I-106
<i>S. Ridella, S. Rovetta, and R. Zunino</i>	

Session MB7: Multilayer Perceptrons I

Overfitting and Neural Networks: Conjugate Gradient and Backpropagation	I-114
<i>S. Lawrence and C. L. Giles</i>	
Overlapped Multi-Neural-Network: A Case Study	I-120
<i>J. Hu and K. Hirasawa</i>	
Levenberg-Marquardt Algorithm with Adaptive Momentum for the Efficient Training of Feedforward Networks	I-126
<i>N. Ampazis and S. Perantonis</i>	
Global Optimization Algorithms for Training Product Unit Neural Networks	I-132
<i>A. Ismail and A. P. Engelbrecht</i>	
Training Feedforward Neural Networks with the Dogleg Method and BFGS Hessian Updates	I-138
<i>S. J. Perantonis, N. Ampazis, and S. Spirou</i>	

Session MB8: Image Segmentation

Proposal of Complex-Valued Region-Based-Coupling Segmentation Neural Networks and the Application to Radar Imaging Systems	I-146
<i>A. Hirose and K. Hiramatsu</i>	
Segmentation of Partially Occluded Objects by Local Classification	I-152
<i>G. Heidemann, D. Lücke, and H. Ritter</i>	
Segmentation of Virus-Infected Areas in Retinal Angiograms Using a Learning-by-Sample Approach	I-158
<i>D. Brahmi, C. Serruys, N. Cassoux, A. Giron, P. Lehoang, and B. Fertil</i>	
Optimizing Ship Length Estimates from ISAR Images	I-163
<i>F. E. McFadden and S. A. Musman</i>	
Image-Compression for Wireless World Wide Web Browsing: A Neural Network Approach	I-169
<i>N. Vljajic, H. C. Card, and T. Kunz</i>	

Session MD4: Pattern Classification

Towards Understanding Images of the Mind	I-177
<i>John G. Taylor</i>	

Session ME1: Supervised Learning

A Weight Evolution Algorithm with Deterministic Perturbation	I-185
<i>S.-C. Ng, S.-H. Leung, and A. Luk</i>	
On the Combination of Weight-Decay and Input Selection Methods	I-191
<i>M. Fernández-Redondo and C. Hernández-Espinosa</i>	
Conditional Information Analysis	I-197
<i>R. Kamimura</i>	
Selective Information Acquisition with Application to Pattern Classification	I-203
<i>R. Kamimura</i>	

Session MF2: Neurobiology

A Three-dimensional Physiologically Realistic Model of the Retina	I-211
<i>M. Tadross, C. Whitehouse, M. Hornstein, V. Eng, and E. Micheli-Tzanakou</i>	
A Study on Spatial and Temporal Visual Simulation of Nerve Excitement Propagation	I-217
<i>K. Shimokawa and S. Muraki</i>	
Network Capacity for Latent Attractor Computation	I-222
<i>S. Doboš and A. A. Minai</i>	
Orientation Map: A Reaction-Diffusion Based Model	I-228
<i>B. Bhaumik and C. M. Markan</i>	
A Gustatory Information-Processing Model for the Evaluation of Taste Preference	I-234
<i>K. Oguri, T. Sugimoto, and A. Iwata</i>	

Min Max Control of Nonlinear Systems Using Universal Learning Networks	I-242
<i>H. Chen, K. Hirasawa, J. Hu, and J. Murata</i>	
Stability and Performance Robustness Issues in Neural Network Feedback Linearization	I-248
<i>D. Obradovic</i>	
Methods to Design Robust Controllers against Nonlinear and Multiple Uncertainties by Use of Neural Networks	I-254
<i>H. Nakanishi and K. Inoue</i>	
Robust Control in Closed Loops Realised by Fast Signal Transmission of Infinite Gain Neurons	I-260
<i>J. J. Steil</i>	
Intelligent Fault Tolerant Control Using Artificial Neural Networks	I-266
<i>G. G. Yen and L.-W. Ho</i>	

Comparison of Rates of Linear and Neural Network Approximation	I-277
<i>V. Kůrková and M. Sanguineti</i>	
On Dimension-Independent Approximation by Neural Networks and Linear Approximators	I-283
<i>S. Giulini and M. Sanguineti</i>	
Should Activation Functions Be Affinely Recursive?	I-289
<i>A. Vogt</i>	
Genetic Algorithms and Neural Networks: Making Use of Parameter Space Symmetries	I-293
<i>R. Neruda</i>	
Convex Geometry and Nonlinear Approximation	I-299
<i>P. C. Kainen</i>	

Session MF3: Multilayer Perceptrons II

Continuous Optimization of Hyper-Parameters	I-305
<i>Y. Bengio</i>	
Gradient Descent in Feed-Forward Networks with Binary Neurons	I-311
<i>M. Costa, D. Palmisano, and E. Pasero</i>	
On MCMC Sampling in Bayesian MLP Neural Networks	I-317
<i>A. Vehtari, S. Särkkä, and J. Lampinen</i>	
Technique of Learning Rate Estimation for Efficient Training of MLP	I-323
<i>V. Golovko, Y. Savitsky, T. Laopoulos, A. Sachenko, and L. Grandinetti</i>	

Session MF4: Practical Applications

Analysis of fMRI Time Series with Mixtures of Gaussians	I-331
<i>V. Sanguineti, C. Parodi, S. Perissinotto, F. Frisone, P. Vitali, P. Morasso, and G. Rodriguez</i>	

MR Image Reconstruction from Sparsely Sampled Scans Based on Multilayer Perceptrons and Using Regularization Techniques.....	I-336
<i>D. A. Karras, M. Reczko, B.G. Mertzios, D. Graveron-Demilly, and D. Van Ormondt</i>	
Identification of Masses in Digital Mammograms with MLP and RBF Nets	I-342
<i>K. Bovis, S. Singh, J. Fieldsend, and C. Pinder</i>	
Fluorescence Micrograph Segmentation by Gestalt-Based Feature Binding	I-348
<i>T. W. Nattkemper, H. Wersing, W. Schubert, and H. Ritter</i>	
A Neuro-Fuzzy System for Automatic Assessment of Myocardial Viability in Positron Emission Tomography	I-354
<i>F. Behloul, M. Janier, B. P. F. Lelieveldt, and J. H. C. Reiber</i>	
Author Index	I-363

VOLUME II

Session TA: Plenary Talks

Self-Organizing Maps of Massive Document Collections	II-3
<i>Teuvo Kohonen</i>	

Session TB1: Statistical Frameworks for Learning

Stochastic Resonance Neural Network and Its Performance	II-13
<i>T. Nobori and N. Matsui</i>	
Bayesian Field Theory: Nonparametric Approaches to Density Estimation	II-18
<i>J. C. Lemm</i>	
Large Margin Classifier via Semiparametric Inference	II-23
<i>K. Tsuda and S. Akaho</i>	
Parallel Non Linear Dichotomizers	II-29
<i>F. Masulli and G. Valentini</i>	

Session TB2: Neurocognition I

Pattern Recognition with Eye Movement: A Neural Network Model	II-37
<i>M. Kikuchi and K. Fukushima</i>	
A Hippocampal Model of Visually Guided Navigation as Implemented by a Mobile Agent	II-41
<i>J. P. Banquet, P. Gaussier, A. Revel, and Y. Burnod</i>	

Session TB3: Hardware Implementation I

A Full-Parallel Digital Implementation for Pre-Trained NNs.....	II-49
<i>T. Szabó, L. Antoni, G. Horváth, and B. Fehér</i>	
FPGA Architecture Comparison for Non-Conventional Signal Processing.....	II-55
<i>D. Franco and L. Carro</i>	
Building a 2D-Compatible Multilayer Neural Network.....	II-59
<i>B. Girau</i>	
Hardware Implementation of a PCA Learning Network by an Asynchronous PDM Digital Circuit.....	II-65
<i>Y. Hirai and K. Nishizawa</i>	
Pulse Mode Multilayer Neural Network with Floating Point Operation and On-Chip Learning	II-71
<i>H. Hikawa</i>	

Session TB4: Neural Networks for Intelligent Control and Perspective

Session TB5: Structure of Human Symbolic Neural Network Representations in Symbols

A Theory of the Brain: There Are Parts of the Brain That Control Other Parts.....	II-81
<i>A. Roy</i>	

A General Framework for Symbol and Rule Extraction in Neural Networks.....	II-87
<i>B. Apolloni, C. Orovas, J. Taylor, W. Fellenz, S. Gielen, and M. Westerdijk</i>	
On Emotion Recognition of Faces and of Speech Using Neural Networks, Fuzzy Logic and the ASSESS System	II-93
<i>W. A. Fellenz, J. G. Taylor, R. Cowie, E. Douglas-Cowie, F. Piat, S. Kollias, C. Orovas, and B. Apolloni</i>	
Constructing Symbols as Manipulable Structures by Recurrent Networks.....	II-99
<i>J. G. Taylor, N. R. Taylor, B. Apolloni, and C. Orovas</i>	
Beyond Simple Rule Extraction: The Extraction of Planning Knowledge from Reinforcement Learners	II-105
<i>R. Sun</i>	
The Inefficiency of Batch Training for Large Training Sets.....	II-113
<i>D. R. Wilson and T. R. Martinez</i>	
Tree-Structured Neural Networks: Efficient Evaluation of Higher-Order Derivatives and Integrals	II-118
<i>A. P. Heinz</i>	
Backpropagation Algorithm for Logic Oriented Neural Networks.....	II-123
<i>T. Kamio, S. Tanaka, and M. Morisue</i>	
A Hyperbolic Multilayer Perceptron.....	II-129
<i>S. Buchholz and G. Sommer</i>	
Spreading Associative Neural Network Recognizes the Shape and Position of an Object Simultaneously	II-137
<i>K. Nakamura, N. Kinoshita, H. Kanayama, and T. Minami</i>	
Multiple Kinds of Paper Currency Recognition Using Neural Network and Application for Euro Currency	II-143
<i>F. Takeda and T. Nishikage</i>	
A Neural Network Approach to Hyphenating Norwegian	II-148
<i>T. Kristensen</i>	
Improved Rotational Invariance for Statistical Inverse in Electrical Impedance Tomography.....	II-154
<i>J. Lahtinen, T. Martinsen, and J. Lampinen</i>	
Pattern Matching in High Energy Physics by Using Neural Network and Genetic Algorithm.....	II-159
<i>M. Castellano, G. Mastronardi, V. Bevilacqua, and E. Nappi</i>	
Searching the Web: Fundamental Limitations, Artificial Intelligence, and Future Directions	II-163
<i>Steve Lawrence</i>	
On Derivation of MLP Backpropagation from the Kelley-Bryson Optimal-Control Gradient Formula and Its Application	II-167
<i>E. Mizutani, S. E. Dreyfus, and K. Nishio</i>	
Training Feedforward Neural Networks Using Orthogonal Iteration of the Hessian Eigenvectors.....	II-173
<i>A. Hunter</i>	
Effective Learning in Noisy Environment Using Neural Network Ensemble.....	II-179
<i>P. Hartono and S. Hashimoto</i>	
Evaluation of Gradient Descent Learning Algorithms with an Adaptive Local Rate Technique for Hierarchical Feed Forward Architectures.....	II-185
<i>F. Diotalevi, M. Valle, and D. D. Caviglia</i>	
Analyzing Learning Dynamics: How to Average?	II-191
<i>C. Goerick</i>	

Session TE2: Neurocognition II

Unfaithful Population Decoding	II-199
<i>S. Wu, D. Chen, and S. Amari</i>	
The Hidden Layer Associative Memory Model of Hippocampus	II-205
<i>W. A. Fellenz and J. G. Taylor</i>	
Frequency-Based Error Back-Propagation in a Cortical Network	II-211
<i>R. Bogacz, M. W. Brown, and C. Giraud-Carrier</i>	
Is There More to TSSG than Associative Chaining (Chunking and All That)?	II-217
<i>N.R. Taylor and J.G. Taylor</i>	

Session TE3: Time Series Prediction

Time Series Prediction by a Neural Network Model Based on the Bi-directional Computation Style	II-225
<i>H. Wakuya and J. M. Zurada</i>	
Predicting Chaotic Time Series by Ensemble Self-Generating Neural Networks	II-231
<i>H. Inoue and H. Narihisa</i>	
Input Window Size and Neural Network Predictors	II-237
<i>R. J. Frank, N. Davey, and S. P. Hunt</i>	
On the Use of Neural Networks in the Generalized Likelihood Ratio Test for Detecting Abrupt Changes in Signals	II-243
<i>C. L. Fancourt and J. C. Principe</i>	

Session TE4: Panel on Neural Network Applications and Implementations

Session TE5: Symbolic and Sub-Symbolic Computation

Complex Preferences for the Integration of Neural Codes	II-253
<i>C. Panchev and S. Wermter</i>	
Extracting Distributed Representations of Concepts and Relations from Positive and Negative Propositions	II-259
<i>A. Paccanaro and G. E. Hinton</i>	
Building Predictive Models on Complex Symbolic Sequences with a Second-Order Recurrent BCM Network with Lateral Inhibition	II-265
<i>P. Tiño, M. Stančík, and L. Beňušková</i>	
Refining Hidden Markov Models with Recurrent Neural Networks	II-271
<i>T. Wessels and C. W. Omlin</i>	

Session TE6: Pattern Recognition II

A Comparison of Feature Sets and Neural Network Classifiers on a Bird Removal Approach for Wind Profiler Data	II-279
<i>R. Kretschmar, N. B. Karayiannis, and H. Richner</i>	
On the Performance of the HONG Network for Pattern Classification	II-285
<i>A. S. Atukorale, P.N. Suganthan, and T. Downs</i>	
Incorporating <i>a priori</i> Knowledge into Initialized Weights for Neural Classifier	II-291
<i>Z. Chen, T.-J. Feng, and Z. Houkes</i>	
Combining Neural Networks, Fuzzy Sets, and Evidence Theory Based Approaches for Analysing Colour Images	II-297
<i>A. Verikas, K. Malmqvist, and M. Bacauskiene</i>	
Author Index	II-303

VOLUME III

Bi-Causal Recurrent Cascade Correlation.....	III-3
<i>A. Micheli, D. Sona, and A. Sperduti</i>	
Periodic Motions, Mapping Ordered Sequences, and Training of Dynamic Neural Networks to Generate Continuous and Discontinuous Trajectories.....	III-9
<i>P. Zegers and M. K. Sundareshan</i>	
Improved Learning of Multiple Continuous Trajectories with Initial Network State	III-15
<i>M. Galicki, L. Leistritz, and H. Witte</i>	
Weight Groupings in the Training of Recurrent Networks	III-21
<i>L.-W. Chan and C.-C. Szeto</i>	
A Bounded Exploration Approach to Constructive Algorithms for Recurrent Neural Networks	III-27
<i>R.. Boné, M. Crucianu, G. Verley, and J.-P. Asselin de Beauville</i>	
Category Theory Applied to Neural Modeling and Graphical Representations.....	III-35
<i>M. J. Healy</i>	
Realtime Visualization of the Learning Processes in the LAPART Neural Architecture as it Controls a Simulated Autonomous Vehicle.....	III-41
<i>K. M. Edlund and T. P. Caudell</i>	
The Role of Multiple, Linear-Projection Based Visualization Techniques in RBF-Based Classification of High Dimensional Data	III-47
<i>A. Agogino, J. Ghosh, S. J. Perantonis, V. Virvilis, S. Petridis, and P. J. G. Lisboa</i>	
Visualizing Communication between Neurons in the Lamina Ganglionaris of <i>Musca domestica</i>	III-53
<i>K. G. Haines, B. A. Pearlmutter, J. A. Moya, K. Edlund, and T. P. Caudell</i>	
New Directions in ACDs: Keys to Intelligent Control and Understanding the Brain.....	III-61
<i>P. J. Werbos</i>	
Robust Adaptive Critic Based Neurocontrollers for Systems with Input Uncertainties.....	III-67
<i>Z. Huang and S. N. Balakrishnan</i>	
Adaptive Critic Design for Intelligent Steering and Speed Control of a 2-Axle Vehicle.....	III-73
<i>G. G. Lendaris, L. Schultz, and T. Shannon</i>	
The Cellular Simultaneous Recurrent Network Adaptive Critic Design for the Generalized Maze Problem Has a Simple Closed-Form Solution	III-79
<i>D. Wunsch</i>	
Improving the Generalization Capability of the Binary CMAC	III-85
<i>T. Szabó and G. Horváth</i>	
A "Recruiting Neural-Gas" for Function Approximation.....	III-91
<i>M. Aupetit, P. Couturier, and P. Massotte</i>	
Universal Learning Networks with Branch Control.....	III-97
<i>K. Hirasawa, J. Hu, Q. Xiong, J. Murata, and Y. Shiraishi</i>	
Learning Heterogeneous Functions from Sparse and Non-Uniform Samples	III-103
<i>D. Pokrajac and Z. Obradovic</i>	
Fuzzy Set Theoretic Adjustment to Training Set Class Labels Using Robust Location Measures	III-109
<i>N. J. Pizzi and W. Pedrycz</i>	

Session WA7: Spiking Neural Networks I

Analysis of Fluctuation-Induced Firing in the Presence of Inhibition	III-115
<i>C. Christodoulou, T. G. Clarkson, G. Bugmann, and J. G. Taylor</i>	
Neurophysiology of a VLSI Spiking Neural Network: LANN21	III-121
<i>S. Fusi, P. Del Giudice, and D. J. Amit</i>	
On the Effect of the Stimulus on the Synchronization of Coupled Rose-Hindmarsh Neurons	III-127
<i>M. Güler and C. Ergün</i>	

Session WA8: Pattern Recognition III

Recognition of Occluded Patterns: A Neural Network Model	III-135
<i>K. Fukushima</i>	
Natural Object Classification Using Artificial Neural Networks	III-139
<i>S. Singh, M. Markou, and J. Haddon</i>	
Classification of the Italian Liras Using the LVQ Method	III-145
<i>T. Kosaka and S. Omatu</i>	
Image Redundancy Reduction for Neural Network Classification Using Discrete Cosine Transforms	III-149
<i>Z. Pan, A. G. Rust, and H. Bolouri</i>	
Unsupervised Learning of Neural Network Ensembles for Image Classification	III-155
<i>G. Giacinto, F. Roli, and G. Fumera</i>	

Session WA9: On-Line Reinforcement Learning

On-Line EM Reinforcement Learning	III-163
<i>J. Yoshimoto, S. Ishii, and M. Sato</i>	
Competing Hidden Markov Models on the Self-Organizing Map	III-169
<i>P. Somervuo</i>	
Recognition and Geometrical On-Line Learning Algorithm of Probability Distributions	III-175
<i>T. Aida</i>	
An Adaptable Boolean Neural Network Performing Specific Sequence Learning	III-181
<i>F. E. Lauria, R. Prevete, and M. Milo</i>	

Session WA10: Learning and Memory

Recurrent Nets That Time and Count	III-189
<i>F. A. Gers and J. Schmidhuber</i>	
On the Properties of Time Trajectories Learned by the Cerebellar Cortex	III-195
<i>A. Garenne, P. Chauvet, and G. A. Chauvet</i>	
Short Term Memory Phenomena in an Autosynaptic Neuron	III-201
<i>A. Herrera, J. L. Pérez, R. Prieto, and A. Padrón</i>	
Storage and Recall of Complex Temporal Sequences through a Contextually Guided Self-Organizing Neural Network	III-207
<i>G. de A. Barreto and A. F. R. Araújo</i>	
Trading Off Perception with Internal State: Reinforcement Learning and Analysis of Q-Elman Networks in a Markovian Task	III-213
<i>B. Bakker and G. van der Voort van der Kleij</i>	

Session WA11: On-Line Reinforcement Learning and Adaptive Critic Design II

On-Line Learning Control by Association and Reinforcement	III-221
<i>J. Si and Y.-T. Wang</i>	
An Estimate of the Number of Samples to Convergence for Critic Algorithms	III-227
<i>T. Hrycej</i>	