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Neural Networks
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for the New Millennium*

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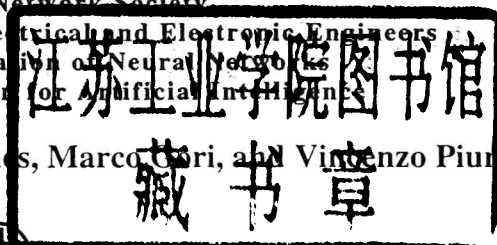


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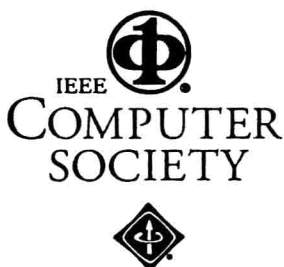
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Message from the Conference Chairpersons

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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Table of Contents

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

VOLUME I

Session MA4: Plenary Talk

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

Session MB1: Supervised Learning 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>	

Session MB2: Special Session on "Global Brain"

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>	

Session MB3: System Identification 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 MB4: Function "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 Processing

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 MB9 - Image Processing II

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

Session MB10 - Pattern Recognition

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 MI2: 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. Dobioli 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>	
Session MI3: Adaptive and Nonlinear Control	
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>	
Session MI4: Pattern Detection, Classification, and Recognition	
Session MI5: Signal Processing and Applications	
Comparison of Rates of Linear and Neural Network Approximation	I-277
<i>V. Kůrková and M. Sanguinetti</i>	
On Dimension-Independent Approximation by Neural Networks and Linear Approximators	I-283
<i>S. Giulini and M. Sanguinetti</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 MI6: Information Processing and Control	
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 MI7: Medical Applications	
Analysis of fMRI Time Series with Mixtures of Gaussians	I-331
<i>V. Sanguinetti, 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 I/A4: Plenary Talk

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

Session I/B1: 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 I/B2: 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 I/B3: 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 I/B4: Artificial Neural Networks: Intelligent Control and Applications

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>	
Session 1B7: Multilayer Perceptrons III	
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>	
Session 1B8: Applications of Neural Networks	
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. Martinen, 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>	
Session 1B9: Other Topics	
Searching the Web: Fundamental Limitations, Artificial Intelligence, and Future Directions	II-163
<i>Steve Lawrence</i>	
Session 1C: Other Topics	
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 I

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 TE6: Symbolic and Sub-Symbolic Computation I

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 TE7: Pattern Recognition I

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 WB1: Unsupervised Learning I

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 WB2: 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 WB3: Reinforcement Learning and Adaptive Critic Design I

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>	

Comparison of a Heuristic Dynamic Programming and a Dual Heuristic Programming Based Adaptive Critics Neurocontroller for a Turbogenerator	III-233
<i>G. K Venayagamoorthy, R. G. Harley, and D. C. Wunsch II</i>	
Gaussian Process Regression: Active Data Selection and Test Point Rejection	III-241
<i>S. Seo, M. Wallat, T. Graepel, and K. Obermayer</i>	
Neural Network Based on QBP and Its Performance.....	III-247
<i>N. Matsui, N. Kouda, and H. Nishimura</i>	
A Structure Trainable Neural Network with Embedded Gating Units and Its Learning Algorithm	III-253
<i>K. Nakayama, A. Hirano, and A. Kanbe</i>	
Piecewise Linear Homeomorphisms: The Scalar Case	III-259
<i>R. E. Groff, D. E. Koditschek, and P. P. Khargonekar</i>	
Dynamic Programming with ARMA, Markov, and NARMA Models vs. Q-Learning: Case Study	III-265
<i>J. Chrobak, A. Pacut, and A. Karbowski</i>	
A Learning Algorithm for Improved Pattern Synchronization in Networks with Biologically Motivated Neurons.....	III-273
<i>J. Teichert and R. Malaka</i>	
Unsupervised Classification of Complex Clusters in Networks of Spiking Neurons	III-279
<i>S. M. Bohte, J. N. Kok, and H. La Poutré</i>	
An Unsupervised Learning Rule for the Pulsed Neuron Model: The Vector Quantization of the Auditory Temporal Signals	III-285
<i>S. Kuroyanagi and A. Iwata</i>	
Pulse-Coupled Networks of Non-Autonomous Integrate-and-Fire Oscillators and Classification Functions	III-291
<i>H. Torikai and T. Saito</i>	
FPGA Implementation of a Pulse Density Neural Network Using Simultaneous Perturbation.....	III-296
<i>Y. Maeda and T. Tada</i>	
Network Ensembles for Facial Analysis Tasks	III-305
<i>S. Gutta and H. Wechsler</i>	
Neural Net with Adaptive Activation Functions for Face Recognition	III-311
<i>A. Talukder and D. Casasent</i>	
Neuro-Based Human-Face Recognition with 2-Dimensional Discrete Walsh Transform	III-315
<i>M. Yoshida, T. Kamio, and H. Asai</i>	
Fast Modular Neural Nets for Human Face Detection	III-320
<i>H. M. El-Bakry, M. A. Abo-Elsoud, and M. S. Kamel</i>	
A Constraint Learning Algorithm for Blind Source Separation.....	III-327
<i>K. Nakayama, A. Hirano, and M. Nitta</i>	
Low Complexity Adaptive Non-Linear Function for Blind Signal Separation.....	III-333
<i>A. Pierani, F. Piazza, M. Solazzi, and A. Uncini</i>	
Blind Source Separation Using a Matrix Pencil	III-339
<i>A. M. Tomé</i>	
Stiefel-Grassman Flow (SGF) Learning: Further Results	III-343
<i>S. Fiori</i>	

Session WC2: Independent Component Analysis I

α -EM Algorithm and α -ICA Learning Based upon Extended Logarithmic Information Measures	III-351
<i>Y. Matsuyama, T. Niimoto, N. Katsumata, Y. Suzuki, and S. Furukawa</i>	
ICA of Complex Valued Signals: A Fast and Robust Deflationary Algorithm.....	III-357
<i>E. Bingham and A. Hyvärinen</i>	
Unsupervised Rank-Deficient Density Estimation via Multi-Class Independent Component Analysis	III-363
<i>F. Palmieri and A. Budillon</i>	
Feature Extraction from Colour and Stereo Images Using ICA.....	III-369
<i>P. O. Hoyer and A. Hyvärinen</i>	

Session WC3: Principal Component Analysis

Fuzzy Clustering Algorithm Extracting Principal Components Independent of Subsidiary Variables.....	III-377
<i>C.-H. Oh, H. Komatsu, K. Honda, and H. Ichihashi</i>	
Kernel Factor Analysis with Varimax Rotation	III-381
<i>D. Charles and C. Fyfe</i>	
Convergence Analysis of Online Linear Discriminant Analysis.....	III-387
<i>K. Hiraoka, S. Yoshizawa, K. Hidai, M. Hamahira, H. Mizoguchi, and T. Mishima</i>	
Improved ψ -APEX Algorithm for Digital Image Compression.....	III-392
<i>S. Fiori, S. Costa, and P. Burrascano</i>	

Session WC4: Rule Extraction

A Statistics Based Approach for Extracting Priority Rules from Trained Neural Networks	III-401
<i>Z.-H. Zhou, S.-F. Chen, and Z.-Q. Chen</i>	
Applying a Clustering Genetic Algorithm for Extracting Rules from a Supervised Neural Network	III-407
<i>E. R. Hruschka and N. F. F. Ebecken</i>	
A New Rule Generation Method from Neural Networks Formed Using a Genetic Algorithm with Virus Infection	III-413
<i>M. Fukumi, Y. Mitsukura, and N. Akamatsu</i>	
Rule Extraction from a Multi Layer Perceptron with Staircase Activation Functions	III-419
<i>G. Bologna</i>	
Using Graphs to Analyze High-Dimensional Classifiers.....	III-425
<i>O. Melnik and J. Pollack</i>	

Session WC5: Symbolic and Sub-Symbolic Combination

Meaning Spotting and Robustness of Recurrent Networks.....	III-433
<i>S. Wermter, C. Panchev, and G. Arevian</i>	
Encoding of Probabilistic Automata into RAM-Based Neural Networks.....	III-439
<i>M. C. P. de Souto, T. B. Ludermir, and M. A. Campos</i>	
What Inductive Bias Gives Good Neural Network Training Performance?	III-445
<i>S. Snyder and C. W. Omlin</i>	
On-Line Connectionist Q-Learning Produces Unreliable Performance with a Synonym Finding Task.....	III-451
<i>I. Johnson and M. Plumbley</i>	

Session WC6: Multiscale Representation

Exact Representations from Feed-Forward Networks	III-459
<i>O. Melnik and J. Pollack</i>	
Justification of a Neuron-Adaptive Activation Function	III-465
<i>S. Xu and M. Zhang</i>	
Artificial Neural Networks with Adaptive Multidimensional Spline Activation Functions	III-471
<i>M. Solazzi and A. Uncini</i>	