Preface

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IWANN (International Work-Conference on Artificial Neural Networks) is a biennial conference that is being held since 1991 aiming at creating a discussion and exchange forum for researchers involved in the field of hybrid systems inspired in nature (neural networks, fuzzy systems and evolutionary systems).

The eleventh edition of the IWANN conference was held in Torremolinos (Spain) during June 8–10, 2011. During this event 154 papers were presented either in oral or poster format. From the initial feedback provided by the program committee during the review process a careful paper selection was performed bearing in mind the aim and scope of the Neural Processing Letters journal. This ended in the selection of 13 high-quality candidate papers that were asked to submit an extended version of the work. Three independent reviewers reviewed the submitted papers and finally 6 papers were selected as appropriate for publication. These papers constitute the contents of the current special issue.

The papers included this issue provide a clear overview of the thematic areas covered by the IWANN conference, ranging from theoretical aspects to real-world applications of nature-inspired system.

We would like to thank you all the people who supported us in the compilation of this special issue, and specially the external referees whose suggestions and critical comments guided the authors in producing the high quality-manuscripts present in this issue.

We really hope that you enjoy these contributions as much as we did when putting them together.

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