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Preface

This book and its sister volumes constitute the Proceedings of the Third International Symposium on Neural Networks (ISNN 2006) held in Chengdu in southwestern China during May 28–31, 2006. After a successful ISNN 2004 in Dalian and ISNN 2005 in Chongqing, ISNN became a well-established series of conferences on neural computation in the region with growing popularity and improving quality. ISNN 2006 received 2472 submissions from authors in 43 countries and regions (mainland China, Hong Kong, Macao, Taiwan, South Korea, Japan, Singapore, Thailand, Malaysia, India, Pakistan, Iran, Qatar, Turkey, Greece, Romania, Lithuania, Slovakia, Poland, Finland, Norway, Sweden, Denmark, Germany, France, Spain, Portugal, Belgium, Netherlands, UK, Ireland, Canada, USA, Mexico, Cuba, Venezuela, Brazil, Chile, Australia, New Zealand, South Africa, Nigeria, and Tunisia) across six continents (Asia, Europe, North America, South America, Africa, and Oceania). Based on rigorous reviews, 616 high-quality papers were selected for publication in the proceedings with the acceptance rate being less than 25%. The papers are organized in 27 cohesive sections covering all major topics of neural network research and development. In addition to the numerous contributed papers, ten distinguished scholars gave plenary speeches (Robert J. Marks II, Erkki Oja, Marios M. Polycarpou, Donald C. Wunsch II, Zongben Xu, and Bo Zhang) and tutorials (Walter J. Freeman, Derong Liu, Paul J. Werbos, and Jacek M. Zurada). ISNN 2006 provided an academic forum for the participants to disseminate their new research findings and discuss emerging areas of research. It also created a stimulating environment for the participants to interact and exchange information on future challenges and opportunities of neural network research.

Many volunteers and organizations made great contributions to ISNN 2006. The organizers are grateful to the University of Electronic Science and Technology of China and the Chinese University of Hong Kong for their sponsorship; to the National Natural Science Foundation of China and K.C. Wong Education Foundation of Hong Kong for their financial supports; and to the Asia Pacific Neural Network Assembly, European Neural Network Society, IEEE Computational Intelligence Society, IEEE Circuits and Systems Society, and International Neural Network Society for their technical cosponsorship. The organizers would like to thank the members of the Advisory Committee for their supports, the members of the International Program Committee for reviewing the papers and members of the Publications Committee for checking the accepted papers in a short period of time. Particularly, the organizers would like to thank the publisher, Springer, for publishing the proceedings in the prestigious series of

Lecture Notes in Computer Science. Last but not least, the organizers would like to thank all the speakers and authors for their active participation at ISNN 2006, which is essential for the success of the symposium.

May 2006

Jun Wang
Zhang Yi
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ISNN 2006 was organized and sponsored by the University of Electronic Science and Technology of China and the Chinese University of Hong Kong. It was technically cosponsored by the Asia Pacific Neural Network Assembly, European Neural Network Society, IEEE Circuits and Systems Society, IEEE Computational Intelligence Society, and International Neural Network Society. It was financially supported by the National Natural Science Foundation of China and K.C. Wong Education Foundation of Hong Kong.

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