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IFIP was founded in 1960 under the auspices of UNESCO, following the First World Computer Congress held in Paris the previous year. An umbrella organization for societies working in information processing, IFIP's aim is two-fold: to support information processing within its member countries and to encourage technology transfer to developing nations. As its mission statement clearly states,

IFIP's mission is to be the leading, truly international, apolitical organization which encourages and assists in the development, exploitation and application of information technology for the benefit of all people.

IFIP is a non-profitmaking organization, run almost solely by 2500 volunteers. It operates through a number of technical committees, which organize events and publications. IFIP's events range from an international congress to local seminars, but the most important are:

- The IFIP World Computer Congress, held every second year;
- Open conferences;
- Working conferences.

The flagship event is the IFIP World Computer Congress, at which both invited and contributed papers are presented. Contributed papers are rigorously refereed and the rejection rate is high.

As with the Congress, participation in the open conferences is open to all and papers may be invited or submitted. Again, submitted papers are stringently refereed.

The working conferences are structured differently. They are usually run by a working group and attendance is small and by invitation only. Their purpose is to create an atmosphere conducive to innovation and development. Refereeing is less rigorous and papers are subjected to extensive group discussion.

Publications arising from IFIP events vary. The papers presented at the IFIP World Computer Congress and at open conferences are published as conference proceedings, while the results of the working conferences are often published as collections of selected and edited papers.

Any national society whose primary activity is in information may apply to become a full member of IFIP, although full membership is restricted to one society per country. Full members are entitled to vote at the annual General Assembly, National societies preferring a less committed involvement may apply for associate or corresponding membership. Associate members enjoy the same benefits as full members, but without voting rights. Corresponding members are not represented in IFIP bodies. Affiliated membership is open to non-national societies, and individual and honorary membership schemes are also offered.

Lazaros Iliadis Chrisina Jayne (Eds.)

Engineering Applications of Neural Networks

12th INNS EANN-SIG International Conference, EANN 2011
and 7th IFIP WG 12.5 International Conference, AIAI 2011
Corfu, Greece, September 15-18, 2011
Proceedings Part I

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Preface

Artificial intelligence (AI) is a rapidly evolving area that offers sophisticated and advanced approaches capable of tackling complicated and challenging problems. Transferring human knowledge into analytical models and learning from data is a task that can be accomplished by soft computing methodologies. Artificial neural networks (ANN) and support vector machines are two cases of such modeling techniques that stand behind the idea of learning. The 2011 co-organization of the 12th Engineering Applications of Neural Networks (EANN) and of the 7th Artificial Intelligence Applications and Innovations (AIAI) conferences was a major technical event in the fields of soft computing and AI, respectively.

The first EANN was organized in Otaniemi, Finland, in 1995. It has had a continuous presence as a major European scientific event. Since 2009 it has been guided by a Steering Committee that belongs to the “EANN Special Interest Group” of the International Neural Network Society (INNS).

The 12th EANN 2011 was supported by the INNS and by the IEEE branch of Greece. Moreover, the 7th AIAI 2011 was supported and sponsored by the International Federation for Information Processing (IFIP).

The first AIAI was held in Toulouse, France, in 2004 and since then it has been held annually offering scientists the chance to present the achievements of AI applications in various fields. It is the official conference of the Working Group 12.5 “Artificial Intelligence Applications” of the IFIP Technical Committee 12, which is active in the field of AI. IFIP was founded in 1960 under the auspices of UNESCO, following the first World Computer Congress held in Paris the previous year.

It was the first time ever that these two well-established events were hosted under the same umbrella, on the beautiful Greek island of Corfu in the Ionian Sea and more specifically in the Department of Informatics of the Ionian University.

This volume contains the papers that were accepted to be presented orally at the 7th EANN conference and the papers accepted for the Applications of Soft Computing to Telecommunications (ASCOTE) Workshop, the Computational Intelligence Applications in Bioinformatics (CIAB) Workshop and the Second Workshop in Informatics and Intelligent Systems Applications for Quality of Life information Services (ISQLIS). The conference was held during September 15–18, 2011. The diverse nature of papers presented demonstrates the vitality of neural computing and related soft computing approaches and it also proves the very wide range of AI applications. On the other hand, this volume contains basic research papers, presenting variations and extensions of several approaches.

The response to the call for papers was more than satisfactory with 150 papers initially submitted. All papers passed through a peer-review process by at least two independent academic referees. Where needed a third referee was consulted to resolve any conflicts. In the EANN/AIAI 2011 event, 34% of the submitted

manuscripts (totally 52) were accepted as full papers, whereas 21% were accepted as short ones and 45% (totally 67) of the submissions were rejected. The authors of accepted papers came from 27 different countries from all over Europe (e.g., Austria, Bulgaria, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Italy, Poland, Portugal, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, UK), America (e.g., Brazil, Canada, Chile, USA), Asia (e.g., China, India, Iran, Japan, Taiwan), Africa (e.g., Egypt, Tunisia) and Oceania (New Zealand). Three keynote speakers were invited and they gave lectures on timely aspects of AI and ANN.

1. Nikola Kasabov. Founding Director and Chief Scientist of the Knowledge Engineering and Discovery Research Institute (KEDRI), Auckland (www.kedri.info/). He holds a Chair of Knowledge Engineering at the School of Computing and Mathematical Sciences at Auckland University of Technology. He is a Fellow of the Royal Society of New Zealand, Fellow of the New Zealand Computer Society and a Senior Member of IEEE. He was Past President of the International Neural Network Society (INNS) and a Past President of the Asia Pacific Neural Network Assembly (APNNA). Title of the keynote presentation: “Evolving, Probabilistic Spiking Neural Network Reservoirs for Spatio- and Spectro-Temporal Data.”
2. Tom Heskes. Professor of Artificial Intelligence and head of the Machine Learning Group at the Institute for Computing and Information Sciences, Radboud University Nijmegen, The Netherlands. He is Principal Investigator at the Donders Centre for Neuroscience and Director of the Institute for Computing and Information Sciences. Title of the keynote presentation: “Reading the Brain with Bayesian Machine Learning.”
3. A.G. Cohn. Professor of Automated Reasoning Director of Institute for Artificial Intelligence and Biological Systems, School of Computing, University of Leeds, UK. Tony Cohn holds a Personal Chair at the University of Leeds, where he is Professor of Automated Reasoning. He is presently Director of the Institute for Artificial Intelligence and Biological Systems. He leads a research group working on knowledge representation and reasoning with a particular focus on qualitative “spatial/spatio-temporal reasoning, the best known being the well-cited region connection calculus (RCC). Title of the keynote presentation: “Learning about Activities and Objects from Video.”

The EANN/AIAI conference consisted of the following main thematic sessions:

- AI in Finance, Management and Quality Assurance
- Computer Vision and Robotics
- Classification-Pattern Recognition
- Environmental and Earth Applications of AI
- Ethics of AI
- Evolutionary Algorithms—Optimization
- Feature Extraction-Minimization
- Fuzzy Systems
- Learning—Recurrent and RBF ANN
- Machine Learning and Fuzzy Control

- Medical Applications
- Multi-Layer ANN
- Novel Algorithms and Optimization
- Pattern Recognition-Constraints
- Support Vector Machines
- Web-Text Mining and Semantics

We would very much like to thank Hassan Kazemian (London Metropolitan University) and Pekka Kumpulainen (Tampere University of Technology, Finland) for their kind effort to organize successfully the Applications of Soft Computing to Telecommunications Workshop (ASCOTE).

Moreover, we would like to thank Efstratios F. Georgopoulos (TEI of Kalamata, Greece), Spiridon Likothanassis, Athanasios Tsakalidis and Seferina Mavroudi (University of Patras, Greece) as well as Grigorios Beligiannis (University of Western Greece) and Adam Adamopoulos (Democritus University of Thrace, Greece) for their contribution to the organization of the Computational Intelligence Applications in Bioinformatics (CIAB) Workshop.

We are grateful to Andreas Andreou (Cyprus University of Technology) and Harris Papadopoulos (Frederick University of Cyprus) for the organization of the Computational Intelligence in Software Engineering Workshop (CISE).

The Artificial Intelligence Applications in Biomedicine (AIAB) Workshop was organized successfully in the framework of the 12th EANN 2011 conference and we wish to thank Harris Papadopoulos, Efthyvoulos Kyriacou (Frederick University of Cyprus) Ilias Maglogiannis (University of Central Greece) and George Anastassopoulos (Democritus University of Thrace, Greece).

Finally, the Second Workshop on Informatics and Intelligent Systems Applications for Quality of Life information Services (2nd ISQLIS) was held successfully and we would like to thank Kostas Karatzas (Aristotle University of Thessaloniki, Greece) Lazaros Iliadis (Democritus University of Thrace, Greece) and Mihaela Oprea (University Petroleum-Gas of Ploiesti, Romania).

The accepted papers of all five workshops (after passing through a peer-review process by independent academic referees) were published in the Springer proceedings. They include timely applications and theoretical research on specific subjects. We hope that all of them will be well established in the future and that they will be repeated every year in the framework of these conferences.

We hope that these proceedings will be of major interest for scientists and researchers world wide and that they will stimulate further research in the domain of artificial neural networks and AI in general.

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The 12th EANN / 7th AIAI Joint Conferences were organized by IFIP (International Federation for Information Processing), INNS (International Neural Network Society), the Aristotle University of Thessaloniki, the Democritus University of Thrace and the Ionian University of Corfu.

Table of Contents – Part I

Computer Vision and Robotics

ART-Based Fusion of Multi-modal Information for Mobile Robots	1
<i>Elmar Berghöfer, Denis Schulze, Marko Tscherepanow, and Sven Wachsmuth</i>	
Vision-Based Autonomous Navigation Using Supervised Learning Techniques	11
<i>Jefferson R. Souza, Gustavo Pessin, Fernando S. Osório, and Denis F. Wolf</i>	

Self Organizing Maps

SOM-Based Clustering and Optimization of Production	21
<i>Primož Potočnik, Tomaž Berlec, Marko Starbek, and Edvard Govekar</i>	
Behavioral Profiles for Building Energy Performance Using eXclusive SOM	31
<i>Félix Iglesias Vázquez, Sergio Cantos Gaceo, Wolfgang Kastner, and José A. Montero Morales</i>	

Classification - Pattern Recognition

Hypercube Neural Network Algorithm for Classification	41
<i>Dominic Palmer-Brown and Chrisina Jayne</i>	
Improving the Classification Performance of Liquid State Machines Based on the Separation Property	52
<i>Emmanouil Hourdakís and Panos Trahanias</i>	
A Scale-Changeable Image Analysis Method	63
<i>Hui Wei, Bo Lang, and Qing-song Zuo</i>	
Induction of Linear Separability through the Ranked Layers of Binary Classifiers	69
<i>Leon Bobrowski</i>	
Classifying the Differences in Gaze Patterns of Alphabetic and Logographic L1 Readers - A Neural Network Approach	78
<i>André Frank Krause, Kai Essig, Li-Ying Essig-Shih, and Thomas Schack</i>	

Subspace-Based Face Recognition on an FPGA 84
Pablo Pizarro and Miguel Figueroa

A Window-Based Self-Organizing Feature Map (SOFM) for Vector
 Filtering Segmentation of Color Medical Imagery 90
*Ioannis M. Stephanakis, George C. Anastassopoulos, and
 Lazaros Iliadis*

Financial and Management Applications of AI

Neural Network Rule Extraction to Detect Credit Card Fraud 101
Nick F. Ryman-Tubb and Paul Krause

Fuzzy Systems

A Neuro-Fuzzy Hybridization Approach to Model Weather Operations
 in a Virtual Warfare Analysis System 111
D. Vijay Rao, Lazaros Iliadis, and Stefanos Spartalis

Employing Smart Logic to Spot Audio in Real Time on Deeply
 Embedded Systems 122
Mario Malcangi

Support Vector Machines

Quantization of Adulteration Ratio of Raw Cow Milk by Least
 Squares Support Vector Machines (LS-SVM) and Visible/Near Infrared
 Spectroscopy 130
Ching-Lu Hsieh, Chao-Yung Hung, and Ching-Yun Kuo

Support Vector Machines versus Artificial Neural Networks for Wood
 Dielectric Loss Factor Estimation 140
*Lazaros Iliadis, Stavros Tachos, Stavros Avramidis, and
 Shawn Mansfield*

Learning and Novel Algorithms

Time-Frequency Analysis of Hot Rolling Using Manifold Learning 150
*Francisco J. García, Ignacio Díaz, Ignacio Álvarez, Daniel Pérez,
 Daniel G. Ordonez, and Manuel Domínguez*

Reinforcement and Radial Basis Function ANN

Application of Radial Bases Function Network and Response Surface
 Method to Quantify Compositions of Raw Goat Milk with Visible/Near
 Infrared Spectroscopy 156
Ching-Lu Hsieh, Chao-Yung Hung, and Mei-Jen Lin

Transferring Models in Hybrid Reinforcement Learning Agents	162
<i>Anestis Fachantidis, Ioannis Partalas, Grigorios Tsoumakas, and Ioannis Vlahavas</i>	

Machine Learning

Anomaly Detection from Network Logs Using Diffusion Maps	172
<i>Tuomo Sipola, Antti Juwonen, and Joel Lehtonen</i>	
Large Datasets: A Mixed Method to Adapt and Improve Their Learning by Neural Networks Used in Regression Contexts	182
<i>Marc Sauget, Julien Henriet, Michel Salomon, and Sylvain Contassot-Vivier</i>	

Evolutionary Genetic Algorithms - Optimization

Evolutionary Algorithm Optimization of Edge Delivery Sites in Next Generation Multi-service Content Distribution Networks	192
<i>Ioannis Stephanakis and Dimitrios Logothetis</i>	
Application of Neural Networks to Morphological Assessment in Bovine Livestock	203
<i>Horacio M. González-Velasco, Carlos J. García-Orellana, Miguel Macías-Macías, Ramón Gallardo-Caballero, and Antonio García-Manso</i>	

Web Applications of ANN

Object Segmentation Using Multiple Neural Networks for Commercial Offers Visual Search	209
<i>I. Gallo, A. Nodari, and M. Vanetti</i>	

Spiking ANN

Method for Training a Spiking Neuron to Associate Input-Output Spike Trains	219
<i>Ammar Mohemmed, Stefan Schliebs, Satoshi Matsuda, and Nikola Kasabov</i>	

Feature Extraction - Minimization

Two Different Approaches of Feature Extraction for Classifying the EEG Signals	229
<i>Pari Jahankhani, Juan A. Lara, Aurora Pérez, and Juan P. Valente</i>	

An Ensemble Based Approach for Feature Selection 240
Behrouz Minaei-Bidgoli, Maryam Asadi, and Hamid Parvin

A New Feature Extraction Method Based on Clustering for Face
 Recognition 247
*Sabra El Ferchichi, Salah Zidi, Kaouther Laabidi,
 Moufida Ksouri, and Salah Maouche*

Medical Applications of AI

A Recurrent Neural Network Approach for Predicting Glucose
 Concentration in Type-1 Diabetic Patients 254
*Fayrouz Allam, Zaki Nossai, Hesham Gomma,
 Ibrahim Ibrahim, and Mona Abdelsalam*

Segmentation of Breast Ultrasound Images Using Neural Networks 260
Ahmed A. Othman and Hamid R. Tizhoosh

Knowledge Discovery and Risk Prediction for Chronic Diseases:
 An Integrated Approach 270
*Anju Verma, Maurizio Fiasché, Maria Cuzzola,
 Francesco C. Morabito, and Giuseppe Irrera*

Permutation Entropy for Discriminating ‘Conscious’ and ‘Unconscious’
 State in General Anesthesia 280
*Nicoletta Nicolaou, Saverios Houris, Pandelitsa Alexandrou, and
 Julius Georgiou*

Environmental and Earth Applications of AI

Determining Soil – Water Content by Data Driven Modeling When
 Relatively Small Data Sets Are Available 289
Milan Cisty

A Neural Based Approach and Probability Density Approximation for
 Fault Detection and Isolation in Nonlinear Systems 296
P. Boi and A. Montisci

A Neural Network Tool for the Interpolation of foF2 Data in the
 Presence of Sporadic E Layer 306
Haris Haralambous, Antonis Ioannou, and Harris Papadopoulos

Multi Layer ANN

Neural Networks Approach to Optimization of Steel Alloys
 Composition 315
Petia Koprinkova-Hristova, Nikolay Tontchev, and Silviya Popova

Predictive Automated Negotiators Employing Risk-Seeking and Risk-Averse Strategies	325
<i>Marisa Masvoula, Constantin Halatsis, and Drakoulis Martakos</i>	
Maximum Shear Modulus Prediction by Marchetti Dilatometer Test Using Neural Networks	335
<i>Manuel Cruz, Jorge M. Santos, and Nuno Cruz</i>	
NNIGnets, Neural Networks Software	345
<i>Tânia Fontes, Vânia Lopes, Luís M. Silva, Jorge M. Santos, and Joaquim Marques de Sá</i>	
Key Learnings from Twenty Years of Neural Network Applications in the Chemical Industry	351
<i>Aaron J. Owens</i>	

Bioinformatics

Incremental- Adaptive- Knowledge Based- Learning for Informative Rules Extraction in Classification Analysis of aGvHD	361
<i>Maurizio Fiasché, Anju Verma, Maria Cuzzola, Francesco C. Morabito, and Giuseppe Irrera</i>	

The Applications of Soft Computing to Telecommunications (ASCOTE) Workshop

An Intelligent Approach to Detect Probe Request Attacks in IEEE 802.11 Networks	372
<i>Deepthi N. Ratnayake, Hassan B. Kazemian, Syed A. Yusuf, and Azween B. Abdullah</i>	
An Intelligent Keyboard Framework for Improving Disabled People Computer Accessibility	382
<i>Karim Ouazzane, Jun Li, and Hassan B. Kazemian</i>	
Finding 3G Mobile Network Cells with Similar Radio Interface Quality Problems	392
<i>Pekka Kumpulainen, Mika Särkioja, Mikko Kylväjä, and Kimmo Hätönen</i>	
Analyzing 3G Quality Distribution Data with Fuzzy Rules and Fuzzy Clustering	402
<i>Pekka Kumpulainen, Mika Särkioja, Mikko Kylväjä, and Kimmo Hätönen</i>	
Adaptive Service Composition for Meta-searching in a Mobile Environment	412
<i>Ronnie Cheung and Hassan B. Kazemian</i>	

Simulation of Web Data Traffic Patterns Using Fractal Statistical Modelling 422
Shanyu Tang and Hassan B. Kazemian

Computational Intelligence Applications in Bioinformatics (CIAB) Workshop

Mathematical Models of Dynamic Behavior of Individual Neural Networks of Central Nervous System 433
Dimitra-Despoina Pagania, Adam Adamopoulos, and Spiridon D. Likothanassis

Towards Optimal Microarray Universal Reference Sample Designs: An *In-Silico* Optimization Approach 443
George Potamias, Sofia Kaforou, and Dimitris Kafetzopoulos

Information-Preserving Techniques Improve Chemosensitivity Prediction of Tumours Based on Expression Profiles 453
E.G. Christodoulou, O.D. Røe, A. Folarin, and I. Tsamardinos

Optimizing Filter Processes on Protein Interaction Clustering Results Using Genetic Algorithms 463
Charalampos Moschopoulos, Grigorios Beligiannis, Sophia Kossida, and Spiridon Likothanassis

Adaptive Filtering Techniques Combined with Natural Selection-Based Heuristic Algorithms in the Prediction of Protein-Protein Interactions 471
Christos M. Dimitrakopoulos, Konstantinos A. Theofilatos, Efstratios F. Georgopoulos, Spyridon D. Likothanassis, Athanasios K. Tsakalidis, and Seferina P. Mavroudi

Informatics and Intelligent Systems Applications for Quality of Life information Services (ISQLIS) Workshop

Investigation of Medication Dosage Influences from Biological Weather 481
Kostas Karatzas, Marina Riga, Dimitris Voukantsis, and Åslög Dahl

Combination of Survival Analysis and Neural Networks to Relate Life Expectancy at Birth to Lifestyle, Environment, and Health Care Resources Indicators 491
Lazaros Iliadis and Kyriaki Kitikidou

An Artificial Intelligence-Based Environment Quality Analysis System	499
<i>Mihaela Oprea and Lazaros Iliadis</i>	
Personalized Information Services for Quality of Life: The Case of Airborne Pollen Induced Symptoms	509
<i>Dimitris Voukantsis, Kostas Karatzas, Siegfried Jaeger, and Uwe Berger</i>	
Fuzzy Modeling of the Climate Change Effect to Drought and to Wild Fires in Cyprus	516
<i>Xanthos Papakonstantinou, Lazaros S. Iliadis, Elias Pimenidis, and Fotis Maris</i>	
Author Index	529

Table of Contents – Part II

Computer Vision and Robotics

Real Time Robot Policy Adaptation Based on Intelligent Algorithms . . .	1
<i>Genci Capi, Hideki Toda, and Shin-Ichiro Kaneko</i>	
A Model and Simulation of Early-Stage Vision as a Developmental Sensorimotor Process	11
<i>Olivier L. Georgeon, Mark A. Cohen, and Amélie V. Cordier</i>	
Enhanced Object Recognition in Cortex-Like Machine Vision	17
<i>Aristeidis Tsitiridis, Peter W.T. Yuen, Izzati Ibrahim, Umar Soori, Tong Chen, Kan Hong, Zhengjie Wang, David James, and Mark Richardson</i>	

Classification - Pattern Recognition

A New Discernibility Metric and Its Application on Pattern Classification and Feature Evaluation	27
<i>Zacharias Voulgaris</i>	

Financial and Management Applications of AI

Time Variations of Association Rules in Market Basket Analysis	36
<i>Vasileios Papavasileiou and Athanasios Tsadiras</i>	
A Software Platform for Evolutionary Computation with Pluggable Parallelism and Quality Assurance	45
<i>Pedro Evangelista, Jorge Pinho, Emanuel Gonçalves, Paulo Maia, João Luis Sobral, and Miguel Rocha</i>	
Financial Assessment of London Plan Policy 4A.2 by Probabilistic Inference and Influence Diagrams	51
<i>Amin Hosseinian-Far, Elias Pimenidis, Hamid Jahankhani, and D.C. Wijeyesekera</i>	
Disruption Management Optimization for Military Logistics	61
<i>Ayda Kaddoussi, Nesrine Zoghلامي, Hayfa Zgaya, Slim Hammadi, and Francis Bretaudeau</i>	

Fuzzy Systems

Using a Combined Intuitionistic Fuzzy Set-TOPSIS Method for Evaluating Project and Portfolio Management Information Systems 67
Vassilis C. Gerogiannis, Panos Fitsilis, and Achilles D. Kameas

Fuzzy and Neuro-Symbolic Approaches to Assessment of Bank Loan Applicants 82
Ioannis Hatzilygeroudis and Jim Prentzas

Comparison of Fuzzy Operators for IF-Inference Systems of Takagi-Sugeno Type in Ozone Prediction 92
Vladimír Olej and Petr Hájek

LQR-Mapped Fuzzy Controller Applied to Attitude Stabilization of a Power-Aided-Unicycle 98
Ping-Ho Chen, Wei-Hsiu Hsu, and Ding-Shinan Fong

Optimal Fuzzy Controller Mapped from LQR under Power and Torque Constraints 104
Ping-Ho Chen and Kuang-Yow Lian

Learning and Novel Algorithms

A New Criterion for Clusters Validation 110
Hosein Alizadeh, Behrouz Minaei, and Hamid Parvin

Modeling and Dynamic Analysis on Animals’ Repeated Learning Process 116
Mu Lin, Jinqiao Yang, and Bin Xu

Generalized Bayesian Pursuit: A Novel Scheme for Multi-Armed Bernoulli Bandit Problems 122
Xuan Zhang, B. John Oommen, and Ole-Christoffer Granmo

Recurrent and Radial Basis Function ANN

A Multivalued Recurrent Neural Network for the Quadratic Assignment Problem 132
Gracián Triviño, José Muñoz, and Enrique Domínguez

Employing a Radial-Basis Function Artificial Neural Network to Classify Western and Transition European Economies Based on the Emissions of Air Pollutants and on Their Income 141
Kyriaki Kitikidou and Lazaros Iliadis

Machine Learning

Elicitation of User Preferences via Incremental Learning in a Declarative Modelling Environment	150
<i>Georgios Bardis, Vassilios Golfopoulos, Dimitrios Makris, Georgios Miaoulis, and Dimitri Plemenos</i>	

Predicting Postgraduate Students' Performance Using Machine Learning Techniques	159
<i>Maria Koutina and Katia Lida Kermanidis</i>	

Generic Algorithms

Intelligent Software Project Scheduling and Team Staffing with Genetic Algorithms	169
<i>Constantinos Stylianou and Andreas S. Andreou</i>	

Data Mining

Comparative Analysis of Content-Based and Context-Based Similarity on Musical Data	179
<i>C. Boletsis, A. Gratsani, D. Chasanidou, I. Karydis, and K. Kermanidis</i>	

Learning Shallow Syntactic Dependencies from Imbalanced Datasets: A Case Study in Modern Greek and English	190
<i>Argiro Karozou and Katia Lida Kermanidis</i>	

A Random Forests Text Transliteration System for Greek Digraphia	196
<i>Alexandros Panteli and Manolis Maragoudakis</i>	

Acceptability in Timed Frameworks with Intermittent Arguments	202
<i>Maria Laura Cobo, Diego C. Martinez, and Guillermo R. Simari</i>	

Object Oriented Modelling in Information Systems Based on Related Text Data	212
<i>Kolyo Onkov</i>	

Reinforcement Learning

Ranking Functions in Large State Spaces	219
<i>Klaus Häming and Gabriele Peters</i>	

Web Applications of ANN

Modelling of Web Domain Visits by Radial Basis Function Neural Networks and Support Vector Machine Regression	229
<i>Vladimír Olej and Jana Filipová</i>	

A Framework for Web Page Rank Prediction 240
Elli Voukidari, John Pavlopoulos, and Michalis Vazirgiannis

Towards a Semantic Calibration of Lexical Word via EEG 250
Marios Poulos

Medical Applications of ANN and Ethics of AI

Data Mining Tools Used in Deep Brain Stimulation – Analysis
 Results 259
Oana Geman

Reliable Probabilistic Prediction for Medical Decision Support 265
Harris Papadopoulos

Cascaded Window Memoization for Medical Imaging 275
Farzad Khalvati, Mehdi Kianpour, and Hamid R. Tizhoosh

Fast Background Elimination in Fluorescence Microbiology Images:
 Comparison of Four Algorithms 285
Shan Gong and Antonio Artés-Rodríguez

Experimental Verification of the Effectiveness of Mammography Testing
 Description’s Standardization 291
Teresa Podsiadły-Marczykowska and Rafał Zawisław

Ethical Issues of Artificial Biomedical Applications 297
Athanasios Alexiou, Maria Psixa, and Panagiotis Vlamos

Environmental and Earth Applications of AI

ECOTRUCK: An Agent System for Paper Recycling 303
Nikolaos Bezirgiannis and Ilias Sakellariou

Prediction of CO and NOx levels in Mexico City Using Associative
 Models 313
*Amadeo Argüelles, Cornelio Yáñez, Itzamá López, and
 Oscar Camacho*

Neural Network Approach to Water-Stressed Crops Detection Using
 Multispectral WorldView-2 Satellite Imagery 323
*Dubravko Čulibrk, Predrag Lugonja, Vladan Minić, and
 Vladimir Crnojević*

A Generalized Fuzzy-Rough Set Application for Forest Fire Risk
 Estimation Feature Reduction 332
T. Tsatalzinos, L. Iliadis, and S. Spartalis

Pollen Classification Based on Geometrical, Descriptors and Colour Features Using Decorrelation Stretching Method	342
<i>Jaime R. Ticay-Rivas, Marcos del Pozo-Baños, Carlos M. Travieso, Jorge Arroyo-Hernández, Santiago T. Pérez, Jesús B. Alonso, and Federico Mora-Mora</i>	

Computational Intelligence in Software Engineering (CISE) Workshop

Global Optimization of Analogy-Based Software Cost Estimation with Genetic Algorithms	350
<i>Dimitrios Milios, Ioannis Stamelos, and Christos Chatzibagias</i>	
The Impact of Sampling and Rule Set Size on Generated Fuzzy Inference System Predictive Accuracy: Analysis of a Software Engineering Data Set	360
<i>Stephen G. MacDonell</i>	
Intelligent Risk Identification and Analysis in IT Network Systems	370
<i>Masoud Mohammadian</i>	
Benchmark Generator for Software Testers	378
<i>Javier Ferrer, Francisco Chicano, and Enrique Alba</i>	
Automated Classification of Medical-Billing Data	389
<i>R. Crandall, K.J. Lynagh, T. Mehoke, and N. Pepper</i>	

Artificial Intelligence Applications in Biomedicine (AIAB) Workshop

Brain White Matter Lesions Classification in Multiple Sclerosis Subjects for the Prognosis of Future Disability	400
<i>Christos P. Loizou, Efthymoulos C. Kyriacou, Ioannis Seimenis, Marios Pantziaris, Christodoulos Christodoulou, and Constantinos S. Pattichis</i>	
Using Argumentation for Ambient Assisted Living	410
<i>Julien Marcais, Nikolaos Spanoudakis, and Pavlos Moraitis</i>	
Modelling Nonlinear Responses of Resonance Sensors in Pressure Garment Application	420
<i>Timo Salpavaara and Pekka Kumpulainen</i>	
An Adaptable Framework for Integrating and Querying Sensor Data . . .	430
<i>Shahina Ferdous, Sarantos Kapidakis, Leonidas Fegaras, and Fillia Makedon</i>	

Feature Selection by Conformal Predictor	439
<i>Meng Yang, Ilia Nouretdunov, Zhiyuan Luo, and Alex Gammerman</i>	
Applying Conformal Prediction to the Bovine TB Diagnosing	449
<i>Dmitry Adamskiy, Ilia Nouretdinov, Andy Mitchell, Nick Coldham, and Alex Gammerman</i>	
Classifying Ductal Tree Structures Using Topological Descriptors of Branching	455
<i>Angeliki Skoura, Vasileios Megalooikonomou, Predrag R. Bakic, and Andrew D.A. Maidment</i>	
Intelligent Selection of Human miRNAs and Mouse mRNAs Related to Obstructive Nephropathy	464
<i>Ioannis Valavanis, P. Moulos, Ilias Maglogiannis, Julie Klein, Joost Schanstra, and Aristotelis Chatziioannou</i>	
Independent Component Clustering for Skin Lesions Characterization	472
<i>S.K. Tasoulis, C.N. Doukas, I. Maglogiannis, and V.P. Plagianakos</i>	
A Comparison of Venn Machine with Platt’s Method in Probabilistic Outputs	483
<i>Chenzhe Zhou, Ilia Nouretdinov, Zhiyuan Luo, Dmitry Adamskiy, Luke Randell, Nick Coldham, and Alex Gammerman</i>	
Author Index	491