Neural Networks, Associative Memories together with Fuzzy Systems and Genetic Algorithms are part of the called soft computing techniques aimed at providing a machine elements of human-like behaviour such as pattern recognition, learn by examples, function approximation, and so on. In addition to creating human-like-behaving machines, artificial neural networks and associative memories provide a very powerful platform for solving a wide range of complex optimisation problems.

This volume presents 25 carefully selected original research papers on the internal art and craft of neural networks and associative memories: its theoretical foundations, specific techniques and research methodologies. The papers are structures into eight thematic fields:

- Algorithms and Learning
- Associative Memories
- Data Analysis, Pattern Recognition and Self-Organization
- Neural Control and Robotic Applications
- Real World Applications
- Support Vector Machines
- Vision and Image Processing

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