

# Preface

This volume of Lecture Notes in Computer Science, vol. 8866, constitutes the Proceedings of the 11th International Symposium on Neural Networks (ISNN 2014) held during November 28–December 1, 2014 in Hong Kong and Macao, the twin city, following the successes of previous events. Known as the Special Administrative Regions of China, Hong Kong and Macao are two modern metropolies situated on the southern coast of China by the Pearl River Delta. ISNN is a prestigious annual symposium on neural networks with past events held in Dalian (2004), Chongqing (2005), Chengdu (2006), Nanjing (2007), Beijing (2008), Wuhan (2009), Shanghai (2010), Guilin (2011), Shenyang (2012) and Dalian (2013). Over the past few years, ISNN has matured into a well-established series of international conference on neural networks and their applications to other fields. Following this tradition, ISNN 2014 provided an academic forum for the participants to disseminate their new research findings and discuss emerging areas of research. Also, it created a stimulating environment for the participants to interact and exchange information on future research challenges and opportunities of neural networks and their applications.

ISNN 2014 received submissions from about 218 authors in 14 countries and regions (Belgium, Canada, China, Czech Republic, Hong Kong, India, Japan, Macao, Pakistan, Poland, Republic of Korea, Tunisia, UK and USA). Based on the rigorous peer reviews by the Program Committee members and the reviewers, 71 high-quality papers were selected for publications in the LNCS proceedings. These papers cover all major topics of the theoretical research, empirical study, and applications of neural networks research.

ISNN 2014 would not have achieved its success without the support and contributions of many volunteers and organizations. We would like to express our sincere thanks to The Chinese University of Hong Kong, and University of Macau, to European Neural Network Society, International Neural Network Society, IEEE Computational Intelligence Society, and Asia Pacific Neural Network Assembly for their technical co-sponsorship.

We would also like to sincerely thank the General Chair and General Co-chairs for their overall organization of the symposium, members of the Advisory Committee and Steering Committee for their guidance for every aspects of the entire conference, and the members of the Organizing Committee, Special Sessions Committee, Publication Committee, Publicity Committee, Finance Committee, Registration Committee, and Local Arrangements Committee for all their great efforts and time in organizing such an event. We would also like to take this opportunity to express our deepest gratitude to the members of the International Program Committee and all reviewers for their professional review of the papers; their expertise guaranteed the high quality of the technical program of the ISNN 2014!

Furthermore, we would also like to thank Springer for publishing the proceedings in the prestigious series of Lecture Notes in Computer Science. Meanwhile, we also would like to express our heartfelt appreciations to the plenary and panel speakers for their vision and discussions on the latest research development in the field as well as critical future research directions, opportunities, and challenges.

Finally, we would also like to thank all the speakers, authors, and participants for their great contribution and support that made ISNN 2014 a great success.

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