

# Preface

This book contains the refereed contributions presented at the 11th Workshop on Self-Organizing Maps (WSOM 2016) held at Rice University, Houston, Texas (USA) during January 6–8, 2016. It brings together more than 90 researchers and practitioners from 15 countries in the field of self-organizing systems for data analysis, with a particular emphasis on self-organizing maps (SOMs) and learning vector quantization (LVQ). The book highlights key advances in these and closely related fields. WSOM 2016 is the 11th in a series of biennial international conferences started with WSOM'97 in Helsinki.

We would like to extend our thanks and gratitude to Prof. Teuvo Kohonen for serving as Honorary Chair of WSOM 2016. We are indebted to the WSOM Steering and Executive Committees for guidance and advice. We greatly appreciate the time, thoughtfulness, and participation of the WSOM 2016 plenary speakers: Prof. Marrie Cottrell (Université Paris 1 Panthéon-Sorbonne, France), Prof. Pablo Estévez (University of Chile and Millennium Institute of Astrophysics, Chile), and Prof. Risto Miikkulainen (University of Texas at Austin, USA). We would like to express our appreciation for all the hard and timely work performed by the Program Committee and additional reviewers. Above all, we would like to thank all of the authors whose contributions made this book a reality.

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Erzsébet Merényi  
Michael J. Mendenhall  
Patrick O'Driscoll

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Merényi, E.; Mendenhall, M.J.; O'Driscoll, P. (Eds.)

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