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This volume is part of the three-volume proceedings of the 20th International Conference on Artificial Neural Networks (ICANN 2010) that was held in Thessaloniki, Greece during September 15–18, 2010. ICANN is an annual meeting sponsored by the European Neural Network Society (ENNS) in cooperation with the International Neural Network Society (INNS) and the Japanese Neural Network Society (JNNS). This series of conferences has been held annually since 1991 in Europe, covering the field of neurocomputing, learning systems and other related areas. As in the past 19 events, ICANN 2010 provided a distinguished, lively and interdisciplinary discussion forum for researchers and scientists from around the globe. It offered a good chance to discuss the latest advances of research and also all the developments and applications in the area of Artificial Neural Networks (ANNs). ANNs provide an information processing structure inspired by biological nervous systems and they consist of a large number of highly interconnected processing elements (neurons). Each neuron is a simple processor with a limited computing capacity typically restricted to a rule for combining input signals (utilizing an activation function) in order to calculate the output one. Output signals may be sent to other units along connections known as weights that excite or inhibit the signal being communicated. ANNs have the ability “to learn” by example (a large volume of cases) through several iterations without requiring a priori fixed knowledge of the relationships between process parameters.
