

Contents

Preface	v
1 Cybernetics: Origins and Aims	1
Origins	1
Understanding	3
Theories	3
Neuroscience	5
Visual Pathways	7
Microtubule Computation	8
Memory	8
C fibres	9
Orange, New Jersey	10
Artificial Intelligence	11
Wider Applications	13
Appendix to Chapter 1: Early History	15
Summary of Chapter 1	15
2 Where to Start?	17
Brains and Computers	17
Discrete Logic	17
Meaning of “Logic”	18
Laws of Form	19
Associative Recall	20
The Binding Problem	21
Models	22
Conditioned Reflex	23
Application to Process Control	25
Boxes	26
Learning Filters	29
Classification versus Tuning	33
Nontrivial Machines	34
Conclusion	34
Summary of Chapter 2	35

3	Continuous versus Discrete	37
	The Continuous Environment	37
	Catastrophe Theory and Dissipative Structures	39
	Nervous System	39
	Evolution and Learning	41
	Near Misses	46
	Logic	47
	AI and Computers	49
	The Ashby–Bellman Debate	52
	Summary of Chapter 3	54
4	Adaptation, Self-Organisation, Learning	57
	Adaptation in Continuous Environments	57
	Even and Odd Objective Functions	59
	Optimisation without a Model	61
	Optimisation with a Model	63
	Models	65
	Error Decorrelation	67
	Self-Organisation	68
	JANET	70
	Checkers	70
	Pandemonium	71
	Emergence of Concepts	72
	Bacterial Chemotaxis	75
	Daisyworld	76
	Appendix to Chapter 4: Statistics as Running Values	78
	Running Values	78
	Weighting Patterns	78
	Exponential Smoothing	79
	Digital Precision	80
	Summary of Chapter 4	82
5	Backpropagation	85
	Learning in Nets	85
	Multilayer Operation	87
	Local Goals	87
	Significance Feedback	90
	Evidence from Biology	96
	Structured Feedback	100
	Summary of Chapter 5	103
6	Self-Reference	105
	Consciousness	105
	Hierarchies	105
	Everyday Self-Reference	107

- Nontrivial Machines and Paradox 108
- Gödel’s Incompleteness Theorem 109
- Induction and Deduction 109
- Double Bind and Creativity 110
- Summary of Chapter 6 110

- 7 Fractal Intelligence 113**
- Is Intelligence Fractal 113
- Elementary Exemplification 113
- Fractal Intelligence 115
- Summary of Chapter 7 115

- 8 Conclusions 117**
- Motivation 117
- Is Artificial Intelligence Possible? 118
- Probably Academic 123
- Summary of Chapter 8 126

- References 127**

- Index 137**