Foreword

by Omer Deperlioglu

Nowadays, we are experiencing a new type of information era along rapid developments in many different technologies. When we take our daily life into consideration, we can see that mobile communication and computer technologies have an important role in making our life style better and more stable against the dynamic flow of the world. Additionally, almost every person is highly connected with computers and the related technologies in order to do their work, or just spending time. It is important that advanced communication and computer technology based devices are highly integrated into our life by shaping our daily lives and ensuring some practical aspects to form our activities in simpler modes rather than experiencing everything in a complex and confusing manner.

Changes among technologies are depended on academic - scientific developments and also improvements occurring in the related literatures. When we consider the used technologies from this perspective, we can see that many different scientific approaches are combined in a single technological object and take part under both theoretical and applied infrastructure under these technologies. For instance, intelligent applications running in our smart mobile phones or tablets are based on the usage of software related techniques from the Artificial Intelligence field of Computer Science.

Artificial Intelligence is one of today’s the most important research areas, and it is very popular with its effectiveness on providing effective solutions for almost all fields in the life. Advanced, flexible, mathematical infrastructure and strong logical, algorithmic approaches designed under this area make it a wide-spread, long running scientific factor to support many other disciplines for newer developments. It seems that the future will also be formed thanks to Artificial Intelligence.

The book Artificial Intelligence Applications in Distance Education focuses on education, which is one of the most important application subjects of Artificial Intelligence. In more detail, it gives emphasis on a widely active educational approach: distance education. Because of the functions on removing distance and time limitations, the distance education approach and associated techniques should be highly supported by Artificial Intelligence. The future of education will be determined with the employment of intelligent systems within educational studies. So, the chapters provided in this book give us a chance to see the current potential of Artificial Intelligence in application along distance education activities and enables us to think about the future better.

I feel very thankful to the editor Utku Kose, and his colleague Durmus Koc, for providing their valuable effort and time to form such a valuable reference study for a wide-scope literature. Also, I wish all the readers to have an enjoyable reading experience.

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Omer Deperlioglu received a BS degree in 1988 in electrical education from Gazi University in Turkey. He received an MS degree in 1996 from Afyon Kocatepe University, Turkey and he completed a PhD. degree in 2001 from Gazi University in the field of controlling switch-mode dc-dc converters with neuro-fuzzy systems. He is currently an Associate Professor in the Afyon Kocatepe University, in Turkey. His research interests include computer-based control systems, fuzzy logic control, neuro-fuzzy control, power electronics, distance education, and e-learning.