



Preface

The contents of this volume are a part of the continuing tradition involving the publication of specially selected and refereed articles stemming from the Bellman Continuum—a series of workshops dedicated to the memory of the late Professor Richard E. Bellman. These series are intended to memorialize his contributions of a pioneering nature to a wide array of fields as well as his long lasting influence on students throughout the world in mathematics, science including computer science, engineering, economics, and medicine.

Earlier workshops were held in Michigan (U.S.A.), Georgia (U.S.A.), Sophia-Antipolis (France), Kansas (U.S.A.), and Hawaii (U.S.A.). This sixth workshop hosted by the Bellman Continuum Japan Section (c/o Union of Japanese Scientists and Engineers) was co-sponsored by the Operational Society of Japan and the Japan Society of Industrial and Applied Mathematics. The meeting took place at the International House, Tokyo Metropolitan University, Hachioji, Tokyo, Japan. We are especially grateful for their contribution in making this meeting one of the most successful and memorable ever. In particular, we thank President Jiro Kondo of the Science Council of Japan as well as Professors Toshio Odanaka and Masami Kurano, together with the other members of the local organizing committee.

This workshop recognized and emphasized the role played by Bellman in the birth of the current field of Intelligent Systems and Computations. As a consequence, the contents of this edited volume reflect this variety and research direction. We thank all the reviewers of the papers for their contributions to the quality of this final volume. We were pleased and grateful to have the continuing presence and leadership of Professor Lotfi Zadeh who gave the keynote and plenary session address, as well as Professor George Leitmann who thrilled the participants with his post-banquet speech.

The workshop featured contributions from several other longtime Bellman associates such as Professors S. Ueno, H. Natsuyama, R. Kalaba, and A. Wang as well as new associates. The International Organizing Committee wishes to emphasize its openness and welcomes the active participation and contribution of new generations of associates at future meetings of the Continuum which will take place every other year. Interested participants and readers with any comments or suggestions should contact any of the members of the International Organizing Committee listed below.

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