Contents

Preface x
Acknowledgements xiv

CHAPTER 1 - CONNECTIONISM: AN HISTORICAL PERSPECTIVE 1
Early connectionism and the associationistic tradition 2
Formal neurons and their logical characteristics 9
Minsky and Papert and the EXOR problem 14
Early neural nets and pattern recognition: perceptrons 19
Perceptrons: Minsky and Papert's analysis 24
  Diameter-limited perceptrons 29
  Order-limited perceptrons 31
Perceptrons as computational devices 35
Coda 36

CHAPTER 2 - MEMORY AND LEARNING IN NEURAL NETWORKS 38
Parallel distributed processing and representation in neural networks 39
  Distributed representation as coarse coding 41
Introduction to the formal properties of PDP systems 43
  Preliminary comments about units and their interconnections 45
    Weights and thresholds 46
    Linear versus non-linear units 46

Pattern associators 49
Content-addressable memory 50
Learning in pattern associators 51
The Hebb rule 51
The delta rule 55
Back-propagation 56
Preliminary remarks 57
Gradient descent 58
Learning as gradient descent 59
Application of the back-propagation algorithm 66
Extensions to the standard back-propagation algorithm 68
Drawbacks and limitations of back-propagation 69
Probabilistic update of units 71
Hopfield nets 71
Boltzmann machines 76
Functional characteristics of the units in a Boltzmann machine 77
Concluding comments 81

CHAPTER 3 - ASPECTS OF VISION 83
Low-level vision 83
Visual information processing and levels of explanation 84
Stereopsis 85
Operation of the Marr–Poggio model 86
Appraisal of the Marr–Poggio model 87
New connectionism and the visual cortex 88
Description of Linsker's model 88
Appraisal of Linsker's model 92
Shape-from-shading 93
Architecture of the Lehky and Sejnowski model 93
Functional characteristics of the model 94
Appraisal of the Lehky and Sejnowski model 94
The biological implausibility of back-propagation 95
Edge extraction and figure–ground segmentation 97
The Kienker *et al.* model 97
Architecture of the model 98
Operation of the model 100
Grossberg's BCS/FCS Model 102
The model in detail 105
Appraisal of the model 107
Higher-level vision: object and shape recognition 109
Marr's account of object recognition 109
Hinton's (1981) account of shape recognition 112
Architecture of the model 112

Operation of the model 114
Hinton's model and the simulation of psychological phenomena 115
Hinton and Lang's simulations 116
General appraisal of Hinton's framework 119
Alternative connectionist accounts of object recognition 120
TRAFFIC: Object recognition as a process of 'transforming feature instances' 121
Appraisal of TRAFFIC 124
Object recognition on the basis of privileged views 126
The Poggio and Edelman model 126
The Edelman and Weinshall model 128
Concluding comments 130

CHAPTER 4 - ASPECTS OF LANGUAGE 132
Phoneme recognition 133
The model of Waibel and co-workers 133
Architecture of the model 134
Functional characteristics of the model 136
Initial appraisal of the model 138
General appraisal of the work on phoneme recognition 140
Context effects and the top-down/bottom-up distinction 142
TRACE 144
The architecture of TRACE 144
The operation of TRACE 147
General appraisal of TRACE 152
Massaro's critique of TRACE 154
New connectionist accounts of visual word recognition 157
Some functional characteristics of the IA model 158
General appraisal of the IA model 160
Interactive activation and word naming 162
Further issues concerning visual word recognition 163
Massaro's critique of the IA Model 166
Extensions to the early IA model of visual word recognition: processing more than one word at a time 167
CID 169
Architecture of CID 169
Functional characteristics of CID 170
BLIRNET 172
Critical appraisal of BLIRNET 175
The pronunciation of written words 177
Architecture of the Seidenberg and McClelland model 178
Training 180
Mature performance 181

Initial analysis of the Seidenberg and McClelland model 182
Lesioning the Seidenberg and McClelland model 186
General appraisal of the Seidenberg and McClelland model 189
Concluding comments 193

CHAPTER 5 - HIGHER-ORDER ASPECTS OF COGNITION 195
Accessing meaning from print: new connectionist accounts of deep dyslexia 196
Semantics 1: The Hinton and Sejnowski model 197
Architecture of the model 199
Operation of the model 200
Lesioning the model 201
Semantics 2: The Hinton and Shallice model 203
Architecture of the model 203
Semantic representation in the model 204
Lesioning the model 205
Further points about semantic classification 206
Category-specificity 207
Semantic classification without conscious identification 207
Concluding remarks about the psycholinguistics of lesioned nets 210
Double dissociations 210
Wood's account of double dissociations 212
Appraisal of Wood's model 214
Semantics 3: Distributed representations as lists of properties 217
McClelland and Rumelhart's model of prototype abstraction 217
Appraisal of the model 218
Smolensky's views on distributed representation 219
The implementation of classical symbols? 223
Hinton's account of conceptual structure 224
The role/filler distinction 226
Neural nets and reasoning 227
Context-independent representations 230
Limitations of the framework 230
Connectionist nets and rule-governed behaviour 232
McClelland and Rumelhart's model of past tense learning 233
Concluding comments 236

CHAPTER 6 - NEW CONNECTIONISM: A CRITICAL APPRAISAL 239
Neurological considerations 240
Crick and Asanuma's assessment of neurophysiological evidence 241
Additional hardware constraints 242
Problems with hidden units and the back-propagation algorithm 244

Massaro's critique 244
Norris's simulations 249
General morals 252
Stage-like models 252
Structured learning 253
Even more problems with the back-propagation account of human learning: Ratcliff's simulations 253
Error correction and human learning 255
Minsky and Papert's critique 257
Connectionism and thought: higher levels of cognition revisited 260
New connectionism and human reasoning 262
Concluding comments 265
References 267
Index 285