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development of the mathematical models, heuristic algorithms and stability criteria. The book largely concentrates on the case of discretely controlled continuous-time systems and their relevance for modeling aspects of flexible manufacturing systems and dynamically routed queuing networks. It is an excellent resource for the study and analysis of hybrid dynamical systems used in systems and control engineering.

### *Information, communication, circuits*

J.W. KAY and D.M. TITTERINGTON, (Editors). — **Statistics and neural networks: advances at the interface.** — Un vol. relié. 16 × 24, de xvii, 260 p. — ISBN 0-19-852422-8. — Prix: £40.00. — Oxford University Press. Oxford, 1999.

There is now a growing awareness of the interface between statistical research and recent advances in neural computing and artificial neural networks. This book covers various aspects of current work in the area, drawing together contributions from authors who are leading researchers in the two fields. Topics covered include: nonlinear approaches to discriminant analysis; information-theoretic neural networks for unsupervised learning; radial basis function networks; techniques for optimizing predictions; approaches to the analysis of latent structure, including probabilistic principal component analysis, density networks and the use of multiple latent variables; and a substantial chapter outlining techniques and their application in industrial case-studies.