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Computational Intelligence

**Alireza Darvishy · Hans-Peter Hutter ·  
Alexander Seifert**



# **Age-Appropriate Digital Channels**

 **Springer Vieweg**

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## **Computational Intelligence**

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# Preface

Children do not need any written instruction on how to use their mobile phones. They simply use them, and if they need help, they ask their peers.

Such an approach is completely alien to older people, and there are many reasons for this:

- They did not encounter the world of computers and computer science at school, but mostly only in the course of their professional lives.
- Depending on their field of activity, they received more or less systematic training for their specific area of work and computer environment at the time.
- The computer world changes rapidly. Devices and programs have to be updated time and again, even after just a few years, and even more quickly in the case of new program versions. What is more, new products, apps and services are constantly being developed.
- There are not only new digital services, but also there are increasingly more scams (darknet, ransomware, etc.) as well as regulations and dependencies.

The world of information technology has become one of the largest sectors in the global economy. Older people ought to be able to navigate this world with ease; however, they tend to use information technology more cautiously than their younger counterparts. In order to minimise this reluctance, knowledge of simple rules—like road traffic rules—are essential. Such rules form the core of this book, which is now available in a revised new edition.

However, the book is not primarily aimed at older people, but rather at those who wish to and are able to help this age group. On the one hand, it can aid developers of websites and mobile applications, particularly those who develop software for general users and therefore need to take the specific concerns of older users into account, as opposed to those involved in developing special software for older people and people with disabilities. On the other hand, this book supports the work of those who commission the development of applications so that the needs of older adults are not forgotten.

The aim of this book is to help ensure that, for older generations, not only their living and work environments are designed in an increasingly accessible way, but also the ever-growing world of information technology.

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