The History Committee (2010)

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History of the Neural Networks Committee (NN Com) : 1988

1. Introduction

Figure 88.1 charts the growth of IEEE publications in Neural Networks and Fuzzy Systems from 1985 to 2008. There was a huge surge for NNs in the second half of 1987 which partially explains the interest in this field that led to the First ICNN in 1987. The area of fuzzy sets was not yet on the IEEE radar, and its more gradual growth within the IEEE began in the early 1990s (cf. the anecdote about this by Jim Bezdek, Section 7, NNC History, 1990).
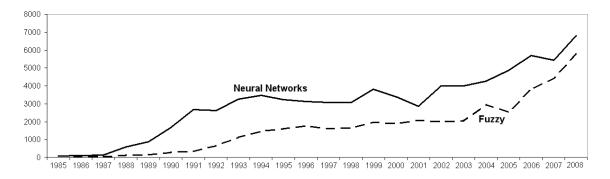

Figure 88.1. IEEE publications in neural networks and fuzzy systems.
Source: IEEE Xplore using keyword search on ~neural ne*

1988 was the year the IEEE formally entered the NN publishing arena. NNCom held a meeting in Denver on November 28, 1988. Troy Nagle appointed a committee to propose the first NNCom archival publication, to be titled the IEEE Transactions on Neural Networks. Members of the committee were: Herb Rauch (Lockheed), Robert Newcomb (University of Maryland), Evangelia Tzanakou (Rutgers), and Robert J. Marks, Chair. Troy Nagle was elected TAB Vice President. Since the TAB VPs were not allowed to hold an officer positions in any other IEEE Organization, Troy resigned his Chair position on the NNCom. Robert J. Marks became Chairman on a temporary basis.

2A. Sponsor organizations. The IEEE NNCom comprised charter members from 10 IEEE societies, viz.

Acoustics, Speech and Signal Processing
Circuits and Systems Society
Communications Society
Control Theory Society
Engineering in Medicine and Biology Society
Industrial Electronics Society
Information Theory Society

Laser and Electro-Optics Society (LEOS)
Robotics and Automation Society
Systems, Man and Cybernetics

2B. Administrative Structure

Officers of NNCom:
Robert J. Marks II, Chair
Wesley Snyder, Treasurer

Standing Committees of the NNCom: None
Working Committees of the NNCom: Publication proposal for the IEEE Trans. NN

3. Conferences sponsored by the IEEE.

Name	Second IEEE ICNN
Dates	July 24-27, 1988
Venue	San Diego, CA
Administrators	Robert Hecht-Nielsen, Organizing Committee Chair
Conference record	*Proc. of the Second IEEE ICNN*

4. Archival Publications: None

5. Awards and Prizes : None

6. Significant Related Events

The DARPA neural network study [88.1] was published in 1988, and this collection of articles, written by leading authorities in various fields related to NNs, was very influential in generating interest in the field both internal and external to the IEEE.

7. Anecdotes for 1988

None

8. Glossary, Notation and Acronyms for 1988

BOD Excom	*Board of Directors Executive Committee*
CIS	*Computational Intelligence Society* (of the IEEE)
DARPA	*Defense Advanced Research Projects Agency*
ICNN	*International Conference on Neural Networks*
INNS	*International Neural Networks Society*
NN	*Neural Network*
NNC	*Neural Networks Council* (of the IEEE)
NNCom	*Neural Network Committee* (of the IEEE)
NNS	*Neural Networks Society* (of the IEEE)
TAB	*Technical Activities Board* (of the IEEE)

9. References for 1988

[88.1] Darpa Neural Network Study. (1988) Afcea Intl Press, Fairfax, VA.