
BULLETIN

The purpose of the *IJAR* Bulletin is to address issues of interest to the members of NAFIPS, the North American Fuzzy Information Processing Society, and any other readers interested in issues related to intelligent systems and approximate reasoning. The following is a list of current NAFIPS officers. More details about the society, such as technical committees and the names of their chairpersons, will be given in the next issue.

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This bulletin depends largely on NAFIPS members and other interested readers for providing items to be published. Do not hesitate to contact the Bulletin Editor at (215) 861-1405.

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From the Technical Committee on Expert Systems in Bio-Medicine

Two conferences were held October 1986 that were of interest to the expert systems community. For information contact Donna L. Hudson, School of Medicine, University of California, 2615 East Clinton Ave., Fresno, CA 93703.

The first conference, Computers in Cardiology, was held at Massachusetts Institute of Technology, October 7 to 10. Issues related to reasoning with uncertainty were discussed in several of the sessions, including the plenary

session in which a paper, "The role of uncertainty in a chest pain expert system," was presented by D. Hudson, M. Cohen, et al. At the following session on Artificial Intelligence, P. Cohen and P. Berman presented a paper entitled "Managing uncertainty in medicine." It is interesting to note that this topic was not treated at all at the last Computers in Cardiology meeting held in the United States in 1984.

The second conference, the World Congress on Medical Informatics (MEDINFO), was held in Washington, DC, October 26 to 30. Papers dealing with expert systems and medical decision making were presented, including K. P. Adlassnig's paper "Computer-based diagnostic screening and consultation in a hospital," and D. Hudson and M. Cohen's paper "A new multidimensional polynomial approach to medical pattern recognition problems." In all, 20 sessions were devoted to artificial intelligence in medicine and to decision support methodology.

A future conference of interest is the Second International Conference on Human-Computer Interaction, Honolulu, Hawaii, August 10-15, 1987.

Conference Announcements

The First Annual Conference on Neural Networks will be held June 20-24, 1987, at the Sheraton Harbor Island Hotel in San Diego, California. B. Kosko will chair the session on Knowledge Processing. Other sessions include topics such as learning algorithms, cognitive science connections, vision, etc. The conference chairman is Teuvo Kohonen, Helsinki Univ. of Technology. Send all Registration Correspondence to IEEE First Annual ICNN, Nomi Feldman, 3770 Tansy St., San Diego, CA 92121. Send abstracts to Maureen Caudill, ICNN, 10615G Tierrasanta Blvd., Suite 346, San Diego, CA 92124 or contact N. Feldman at (619) 453-6222.

The Second International Symposium on Methodologies for Intelligent Systems will be held October 14-17, 1987, at the Hilton Hotel, University Place, Charlotte, North Carolina. This symposium is intended for individuals who are actively engaged in research of the theoretical and of the practical aspects of intelligent systems. The goal is to provide a platform for a useful exchange between theoreticians and practitioners. Topics include expert systems, knowledge representation, logic for artificial intelligence, learning and adaptive systems, intelligent databases, approximate reasoning, etc.

Address all registration mail to the general chairman, Z. W. Ras at Computer Science Dept., University of North Carolina, Charlotte, NC 28223, (704) 547-4880. Send abstracts/papers to Keh-Hsun Chen, ISMIS'87, UNC-Charlotte, Dept. of Computer Science, Charlotte, NC 28223.

Professor Xihui writes that the response to the call for papers for the International Symposium on Fuzzy Systems and Knowledge Engineering to be

held July 10-16, 1987, in Guangzhou and in Guiyang, China, was excellent. The preparation for the symposium is under way: two days will be spent at Guangzhou University and three days at Guiyang University. Arrangements for sightseeing will be available. Address all inquiries to Professor Xihui at Guangzhou University, Guangzhou, People's Republic of China.

The Second International Congress sponsored by the International Fuzzy Systems Association will be held July 20-25, 1987, in Tokyo, Japan. Address all inquiries to the program committee chair, M. Sugeno at Dept. of Systems Science, Tokyo Institute of Technology, 4259 Nagatsuta, Midori-ku, Yokohama 227, Japan.

Past Conferences

There were three conferences of interest to NAFIPS members.

For information on the International Symposium on Methodology for Intelligent Systems held October 23-25, 1986, in Knoxville, Tennessee, write to Professor M. Zemankova, Computer Science Department, University of Tennessee, Knoxville, TN 37996.

The conference on the Progress in Fuzzy Sets in Europe was held November 25-27, 1986, in Warsaw, Poland. It was organized by the Systems Research Institute of the Polish Academy of Sciences. For information on the meeting write to Dr. J. Kacprzyk, Systems Research Institute, Polish Academy of Sciences, ul. Newelska 6, 01-447 Warsaw, Poland.

A panel discussion on new methodologies in simulation was presented at the Winter Simulation Conference held December 8-10, 1986, in Alexandria, Virginia. Participation generated a lot of interest within this community. Simulation is an area of application of fuzzy logic that is presently most important.

Suggested Reading

Fuzzy Logic in Knowledge Engineering, edited by Henri Prade of the Universite Paul Sabatier, Toulouse, France and Constantin Negoita of Hunter College, New York, New York. Published by Verlag, Tuv Rheinland, Am Grauen Stein, 5000 Koln 91, Germany, this volume presents a significant selection of the more advanced works on the topic. A foreword by L. A. Zadeh is followed by three chapters, respectively, on data bases and information systems, on uncertainty and vagueness in inference systems, and on application-oriented systems.