

Preface

The International Conferences on Artificial Neural Networks, ICANN, have been held annually since 1991 and over the years have become the major European meeting in neural networks. This proceedings volume contains all the papers presented at ICANN 2002, the 12th ICANN conference, held in August 28–30, 2002 at the Escuela Técnica Superior de Informática of the Universidad Autónoma de Madrid and organized by its Neural Networks group.

ICANN 2002 received a very high number of contributions, more than 450. Almost all papers were revised by three independent reviewers, selected among the more than 240 serving at this year's ICANN, and 221 papers were finally selected for publication in these proceedings (due to space considerations, quite a few good contributions had to be left out). I would like to thank the Program Committee and all the reviewers for the great collective effort and for helping us to have a high quality conference.

I would also like to thank the European Neural Networks Society (ENNS, on whose behalf the ICANN conferences are organized) for its support and also ICANN 2002's other main sponsors: the Universidad Autónoma de Madrid, Spain's Ministerio de Ciencia y Tecnología, the Instituto de Ingeniería del Conocimiento, and the European Commission under the FET Program. I also thank our cooperating institutions, the IEEE Neural Network Council, the Japanese Neural Network Society, the Asia Pacific Neural Network Assembly, and the Spanish RIG of the IEEE NNC for the very good job they did in promoting ICANN among their membership. Particular thanks go to the Neural Networks group of the E.T.S. de Informática, i.e., Ramón Huerta, Juan A. Sigüenza, Alberto Suárez, Alejandro Sierra, Francisco Rodríguez, Pablo Varona, Carlos Aguirre, Ana González, and Eduardo Serrano. I would also like to thank Werner Horn for his suggestions about the submission and review software. And finally, I must mention and thank ICANN 2002 technical staff, Juana Calle and Angel González: without their tremendous effort and dedication the conference would not have been possible.

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José R. Dorrnsoro

Organization

ICANN 2002 was organized by the Neural Network group of the Escuela Técnica Superior de Ingeniería Informática of the Universidad Autónoma de Madrid in cooperation with the European Neural Network Society. Other sponsoring institutions were the Universidad Autónoma de Madrid, Spain's Ministerio de Ciencia y Tecnología, the Instituto de Ingeniería del Conocimiento, and the European Commission under the FET Program. Other Cooperating Institutions were the IEEE Neural Network Council, the Japanese Neural Network Society, the Asia Pacific Neural Network Assembly, and the Spanish RIG of the IEEE NNC. We also acknowledge the collaboration of the EUNITE project for the Special Session on Adaptivity in Neural Computation

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