Celebrating 90th birthday of Dr.H.C. Lotfi A. Zadeh at "Aurel Vlaicu" University of Arad

Lotfi A. Zadeh, born on February 4, 1921, is a famous mathematician, electrical engineer, computer scientist, and a professor of computer science at the University of California, Berkeley, United State of America. He is father of fuzzy sets, fuzzy logic and computing with words. His paper entitled "Fuzzy sets" (1965) is cited over 26,000 time in many prestigious journals. He is a Doctor Honoris Causa of "Aurel Vlaicu" University of Arad (2003) and a collaborator of professors Valentina Bălaş and Ioan Dzițac from "Aurel Vlaicu" University of Arad.

Lotfi A. Zadeh (Doctor Honoris Causa of "Aurel Vlaicu" University of Arad, 2003) and Lizica Mihuț (Rector of "Aurel Vlaicu" University of Arad)

Valentina E. Bălaş ("Aurel Vlaicu" University of Arad), Lotfi A. Zadeh (University of California, Berkeley) and Ioan Dzițac ("Aurel Vlaicu" University of Arad) at International Conference on Computers, Communications and Control, Baile Felix, 2008

Short CV of Lotfi A. Zadeh [1]

Lotfi A. Zadeh joined the Department of Electrical Engineering at the University of California, Berkeley, in 1959, and served as its chairman from 1963 to 1968. Earlier, he was a member of the electrical engineering faculty at Columbia University. In 1956, he was a visiting

member of the Institute for Advanced Study in Princeton, New Jersey. In addition, he held a number of other visiting appointments, among them a visiting professorship in Electrical Engineering at MIT in 1962 and 1968; a visiting scientist appointment at IBM Research Laboratory, San Jose, CA, in 1968, 1973, and 1977; and visiting scholar appointments at the AI Center, SRI International, in 1981, and at the Center for the Study of Language and Information, Stanford University, in 1987-1988. Currently he is a Professor in the Graduate School, and is serving as the Director of BISC (Berkeley Initiative in Soft Computing).

Until 1965, Dr. Zadeh's work had been centered on system theory and decision analysis. Since then, his research interests have shifted to the theory of fuzzy sets and its applications to artificial intelligence, linguistics, logic, decision analysis, control theory, expert systems and neural networks. Currently, his research is focused on fuzzy logic, soft computing, computing with words, and the newly developed computational theory of perceptions and precisiated natural language.

An alumnus of the University of Tehran, MIT, and Columbia University, Dr. Zadeh is a fellow of the IEEE, AAAS, ACM, AAAI and IFSA, and a member of the National Academy of Engineering. He held NSF Senior Postdoctoral Fellowships in 1956-57 and 1962-63, and was a Guggenheim Foundation Fellow in 1968. Dr. Zadeh was the recipient of the IEEE Education Medal in 1973 and a recipient of the IEEE Centennial Medal in 1984. In 1989, Dr. Zadeh was awarded the Honda Prize by the Honda Foundation, and in 1991 received the Berkeley Citation, University of California.

In 1992, Dr. Zadeh was awarded the IEEE Richard W. Hamming Medal "For seminal contributions to information science and systems, including the conceptualization of fuzzy sets." He became a Foreign Member of the Russian Academy of Natural Sciences (Computer Sciences and Cybernetics Section) in 1992, and received the Certificate of Commendation for AI Special Contributions Award from the International Foundation for Artificial Intelligence. Also in 1992, he was awarded the Kampe de Feriet Prize and became an Honorary Member of the Austrian Society of Cybernetic Studies.

In 1993, Dr. Zadeh received the Rufus Oldenburger Medal from the American Society of Mechanical Engineers "For seminal contributions in system theory, decision analysis, and theory of fuzzy sets and its applications to AI, linguistics, logic, expert systems and neural networks." He was also awarded the Grigore Moisil Prize for Fundamental Researches, and the Premier Best Paper Award by the Second International Conference on Fuzzy Theory and Technology. In 1995, Dr. Zadeh was awarded the IEEE Medal of Honor "For pioneering development of fuzzy logic and its many diverse applications." In 1996, Dr. Zadeh was awarded the Okawa Prize "For outstanding contribution to information science through the development of fuzzy logic and its applications."

In 1997, Dr. Zadeh was awarded the B. Bolzano Medal by the Academy of Sciences of the Czech Republic "For outstanding achievements in fuzzy mathematics." He also received the J.P. Wohl Career Achievement Award of the IEEE Systems, Science and Cybernetics Society. He served as a Lee Kuan Yew Distinguished Visitor, lecturing at the National University of Singapore and the Nanyang Technological University in Singapore, and as the Gulbenkian Foundation Visiting Professor at the New University of Lisbon in Portugal. In 1998, Dr. Zadeh was awarded the Edward Feigenbaum Medal by the International Society for Intelligent Systems, and the Richard E. Bellman Control Heritage Award by the American Council on Automatic Control. In addition, he received the Information Science Award from the Association for Intelligent Machinery and the SOFT Scientific Contribution Memorial Award from the Society for Fuzzy Theory in Japan. In 1999, he was elected to membership in Berkeley Fellows and received the Certificate of Merit from IFSA (International Fuzzy Systems Association). In 2000, he received the IEEE Millennium Medal; the IEEE Pioneer Award in Fuzzy Systems; the ASPIH 2000 Lifetime Distinguished Achievement Award; and the ACIDCA 2000 Award for the paper, "From Computing with Numbers to Computing with Words—From Manipulation of Measurements to Manipulation of Perceptions." In addition, he received the Chaos Award from the Center of Hyperincursion and Anticipation in Ordered Systems for his outstanding scientific work on foundations of fuzzy logic, soft computing, computing with words and the computational theory of perceptions. In 2001, Dr. Zadeh received the

ACM 2000 Allen Newell Award for seminal contributions to AI through his development of fuzzy logic. In addition, he received a Special Award from the Committee for Automation and Robotics of the Polish Academy of Sciences for his significant contributions to systems and information science, development of fuzzy sets theory, fuzzy logic control, possibility theory, soft computing, computing with words and computational theory of perceptions. In 2003, Dr. Zadeh was elected as a foreign member of the Finnish Academy of Sciences, and received the Norbert Wiener Award of the IEEE Society of Systems, Man and Cybernetics "For pioneering contributions to the development of system theory, fuzzy logic and soft computing." In 2004, Dr. Zadeh was awarded Civitate Honoris Causa by Budapest Tech (BT) Polytechnical Institution, Budapest, Hungary. Also in 2004, he was awarded the V. Kaufmann Prize by the International Association for Fuzzy-Set Management and Economy (SIGEF). In 2005, Dr. Zadeh was elected as a foreign member of Polish Academy of Sciences, Korea Academy of Science & Technology and Bulgarian Academy of Sciences. He was also awarded the Nicolaus Copernicus Medal of the Polish Academy of Sciences and the J. Keith Brimacombe IPMM Award.

Dr. Zadeh is a recipient of twenty-three honorary doctorates from: Paul-Sabatier University, Toulouse, France; State University of New York, Binghamton, NY; University of Dortmund, Dortmund, Germany; University of Oviedo, Oviedo, Spain; University of Granada, Granada, Spain; Lakehead University, Canada; University of Louisville, KY; Baku State University, Azerbaijan; the Silesian Technical University, Gliwice, Poland; the University of Toronto, Toronto, Canada; the University of Ostrava, the Czech Republic; the University of Central Florida, Orlando, FL; the University of Hamburg, Hamburg, Germany; the University of Paris(6), Paris, France; Jahannes Kepler University, Linz, Austria; University of Waterloo, Canada; the University of Aurel Vlaicu, Arad, Romania; Lappeenranta University of Technology, Lappeenranta, Finland; Muroran Institute of Technology, Muroran, Japan; Hong Kong Baptist University, Hong Kong, China; Indian Statistical Institute, Kolkata, India; University of Saskatchewan, Saskatoon, Canada and the Polytechnic University of Madrid, Madrid, Spain.

Dr. Zadeh has single-authored over two hundred papers and serves on the editorial boards of over fifty journals. He is a member of the Advisory Committee, Center for Education and Research in Fuzzy Systems and Artificial Intelligence, Iasi, Romania; Senior Advisory Board, International Institute for General Systems Studies; the Board of Governors, International Neural Networks Society; and is the Honorary President of the Biomedical Fuzzy Systems Association of Japan and the Spanish Association for Fuzzy Logic and Technologies. In addition, he is a member of the Advisory Board of the National Institute of Informatics, Tokyo; a member of the Governing Board, Knowledge Systems Institute, Skokie, IL; and an honorary member of the Academic Council of NAISO-IAAC.

Lotfi A. Zadeh- keynote speaker at Workshop "From Natural Language to Soft Computing: New Paradigms in Artificial Intelligence", Baile Felix, 2008 [2]

Key Idea: "Computation with information described in natural language (NL) is closely related to Computing with Words. NL-Computation is of intrinsic importance because much of human knowledge is described in natural language. This is particularly true in such fields as economics, data mining, systems engineering, risk assessment and emergency management. It is safe to predict that as we move further into the age of machine intelligence and mechanized decision-making, NL-Computation will grow in visibility and importance." (Zadeh, 2007)

The imprecision of natural language is one of the main difficulties in the intelligent man-machine interaction. Prof. Lotfi Zadeh has proposed a theory that treats exactly this problem, as well as an extremely powerful calculation formalism, built on the very imprecise natural language constructions.

Lotfi A. Zadeh and Ioan Dzitac at EWNLC 2008

In this volume we publish some papers presented at the Exploratory Workshop on Natural Language Computation (EWNLC 2008), entitled "From Natural Language to Soft Computing: New Paradigms in Artificial Intelligence", during May 15-17, 2008, Băile Felix, Oradea, Romania.

References

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2. Lotfi A. Zadeh, Dan Tufis, Florin Gheorghe Filip, Ioan Dzitac (eds.), From Natural Language to Soft Computing: New Paradigms in Artificial Intelligence, Editing House of Romanian Academy, ISBN: 978-973-27-1678-6, 2008. http://www.uav.ro/files/exacte/book/Zadeh_et_al_final.pdf
3. Lotfi A. Zadeh, A New Frontier in Computation- Computation with Information Described in Natural Language, http://www.uav.ro/files/exacte/book/Zadeh_et_al_appendix.pdf