

Contract No. DASG60-00-M-0201
Purchase request no.: Foot in the Door-01
Title Name: Artificial Neural Network Analysis System
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Technical Report-Study/Service
Final Report
Due Date February 27, 2001

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REPORT DOCUMENTATION PAGE				Form Approved OMB No. 0704-0188	
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1. REPORT DATE (DD-MM-YYYY) 27-02-2001		2. REPORT TYPE Final Report		3. DATES COVERED (From - To) 28-10-2000 27-02-2001	
4. TITLE AND SUBTITLE Artificial Neural Network Analysis System				5a. CONTRACT NUMBER DASG60-00-M-0201	
				5b. GRANT NUMBER	
				5c. PROGRAM ELEMENT NUMBER	
6. AUTHOR(S) Powell, Bruce C				5d. PROJECT NUMBER	
				5e. TASK NUMBER	
				5f. WORK UNIT NUMBER	
7. PERFORMING ORGANIZATION NAME(S) AND ADDRESS(ES) Atlantic Engineering Company 1779 S. Lakeshore Dr. Louisa, VA 23093				8. PERFORMING ORGANIZATION REPORT NUMBER	
9. SPONSORING / MONITORING AGENCY NAME(S) AND ADDRESS(ES) U.S. Army Space & Missile Defense Command P.O. Box 1500 Huntsville, Al 35807-3801				10. SPONSOR/MONITOR'S ACRONYM(S) SMDC	
				11. SPONSOR/MONITOR'S REPORT NUMBER(S)	
12. DISTRIBUTION / AVAILABILITY STATEMENT					
13. SUPPLEMENTARY NOTES					
14. ABSTRACT Target detection, multi-target tracking and threat identification of ICBM and its warheads by sensor fusion and data fusion of sensors in a fuzzy neural network system based on the compound eye of a fly.					
15. SUBJECT TERMS Sensor fusion; data fusion; fuzzy; neural; network; threat identification; multi-target; tracking; target detection					
16. SECURITY CLASSIFICATION OF:			17. LIMITATION OF ABSTRACT	18. NUMBER OF PAGES 8	19a. NAME OF RESPONSIBLE PERSON Bruce C. Powell
a. REPORT UNCLASSIFIED	b. ABSTRACT UNCLASSIFIED	c. THIS PAGE UNCLASSIFIED			19b. TELEPHONE NUMBER (include area code) 540-967-5005

Form SF298 Citation Data

Report Date <i>("DD MON YYYY")</i> 27-02-2001	Report Type N/A	Dates Covered (from... to) <i>("DD MON YYYY")</i> 28-10-2000 27-02-2001
Title and Subtitle Artificial Neural Network Analysis System	Contract or Grant Number DASG60-00-M-0201	
	Program Element Number	
Authors Powell, Bruce C	Project Number	
	Task Number	
	Work Unit Number	
Performing Organization Name(s) and Address(es) Atlantic Engineering Company 1779 S. Lakeshore Dr. Louisa, VA 23093	Performing Organization Number(s)	
Sponsoring/Monitoring Agency Name(s) and Address(es) U.S. Army Space & Missile SMDC Defense Command P.O. Box 1500 Huntsville, Al 35807-3801	Monitoring Agency Acronym	
	Monitoring Agency Report Number(s)	
Distribution/Availability Statement Approved for public release, distribution unlimited		
Supplementary Notes		
Abstract Target detection, multi-target tracking and threat identification of ICBM and its warheads by sensor fusion and data fusion of sensors in a fuzzy neural network system based on the compound eye of a fly.		
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Document Classification unclassified	Classification of SF298 unclassified	
Classification of Abstract unclassified	Limitation of Abstract unlimited	
Number of Pages 8		

Title Name: Artificial Neural Network Analysis System
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Table of Contents:

Section I	
Introduction	Page 1
Summary	Page 1
Conclusion	Page 2
Section II	
Method to arrive to Conclusion	Page 2
References	Page 4

Introduction

The purpose of the study is to examine the issue of target detection, multiple target tracking and threat identification from ICBMs and their warheads. The study is to propose how to perform sensor fusion and data fusion in a biological equivalent system using fuzzy neural networks. Matlab is to be considered, as it is a rapid development tool.

Summary:

The biological equivalent system identified is the compound eye of the housefly. Entomologists believe that the compound eyes are adapted to seeing swiftly moving objects. The housefly lacks a cortex so the system performs object recognition and tracking without high level computation. The housefly performs sensor fusion that is highly noise tolerant and the fly reacts to movements of less than 2/10 of a degree even though the calculated angle for each lens of the compound eye would be for two degrees of movement. By mimicking the housefly using several infrared detectors in an overlapping manner, the ability to tolerate noise and detect targets is increased and the angle of resolution should be improved by ten times.

The fuzzy neural network has the ability to track an unlimited number of multiple targets. Tracking is accurate even when the targets have a very complex movement and there is crossover in motion. The combination of a fuzzy neural network, which is also highly tolerant to noise, with the housefly's sensor fusion, should yield a system that is very precise. The system should perform multi-pixel object recognition in addition to single pixel tracking. The fusion of many radar sensors into the system will produce a radar system that is highly noise tolerant and adds the radar's abilities of ranging, Doppler and chaff penetration. Radar enhances the system's target identification and tracking ability. Data fusion of remote sensor is inherent to the system.

Conclusion:

The fuzzy neural network system based on the housefly's compound eyes visual system promises a fast and highly accurate system for target detection, multiple target tracking and threat identification from ICBMs and their warheads. Sensor fusion and data fusion are inherent to the system and give the high performance of the system.

Section II: Method to arrive to Conclusion:

The conclusion is based on information gained from written material from newspapers, technical journals, technical papers and books. Following this section are the references. The knowledge gained from the references to arrive to the conclusion is summarized below.

To identify, track and intercept an ICBM the characteristics and methods of sensing the ICBM need to be known. The launch of an ICBM has a large and bright rocket plume. The plume can be detected by the characteristic of infrared absorption due to the H₂O and CO₂ in the plume. The plume also has metal particles and the Doppler of the plume is in the opposite direction of the ICBM. The body of the ICBM has a high temperature from air friction. At the height of the trajectory the ICBM's warhead will separate from the ICBM's body. The warhead is much smaller and is surrounded by chaff and decoys. There is also jamming radar. The decoys can be distinguished from the true warheads as the decoys lack the mass of the warheads. There are methods for dealing with chaff and jammers.

The warhead must be detected quickly and intercepted prior to the warhead reentering the upper atmosphere. NORAD may have 15 minute warning of a launch and an interceptor may only have 100 seconds of flight time. The actual time for making the decision that the launch is a threat is after the payload separates and takes an angle and velocity to come down on the US.

For most of the time the target appears as a single infrared pixel. The combination of Doppler with single pixel can fix the target's coordinates. Time of the coordinate must also be accounted for. The time of the reception of the data and correcting for time delay from receiver electronics and propagation delay of the wave from the target to the receiver must be done.

The difference of radar from infrared is that search radar can quickly find an object and find its range and tracking radar is good at following the target. Radar has a large angle that the target may be in. Infrared can track a target to a smaller angle but can not measure the target range.

To quickly detect and track multiple targets, all the available radar, infrared and laser data needs to be organized and processed in as few steps as possible. A biological comparison is the housefly's compound eye with 4000 individual hexagon shaped image-forming elements. Also, the fly does not have a cortex so there does not exist a high computation of vision. The fly is able to organize and process data in a simple system. Each hexagon element has a directional view of two degrees in its vision. The output of the hexagon element is to eight receptors. The receptors do not receive the same view of space from the eight hexagon elements, but an overlapping offset from the elements. Another issue is that the input is adjusted for intensity. This setup allows the fly to react to movements of less than $2/10$ of a degree. Entomologists believe that the compound eyes are adapted to seeing swiftly moving objects.

The fly's model implies that the issue of different location of radar, infrared and laser sensors can be dealt with by organizing the sensors with overlapping field of view. The result is a system tolerant to noise and the detection ability of locating the object to an angle is more accurate.

As a general-purpose detection and tracking computer, not all resources of radar and infrared may be available in a search area. The "Artificial Neural Network Analysis System" must be able to use what is available and produce an accurate detect or tracking. This ability to adjust for the unavailability of a sensor has the added benefit if the unavailability was due to malfunction or lost by military action. To account for the difference in sensor input timing difference, the last input needs to be held and given a life, the data can expire at the end of its life. When there is not an input the life is zero.

The fly's eye does take information from separate lens as single pixel detection and fuses the single detection with other single detection from other lenses. This has a natural offset and overlap. Due to the ICBM's great distance from sensors, the fusion of separate sensors can mimic the process of the fly's system. When one sensor is off to the side of the ICBM the model has a dramatic change. This can be compared to an object that is close and between the eyes of the fly. Another ability of the fly is to go from single pixel movement detection to feature recognition when the image becomes a multi-pixel image

without having to include additional steps. In the same subclass as the housefly is the dragonfly. The dragonfly is territorial and hunts flies as prey. The dragonfly performs detection, tracking and interception as a hunter. However the study [4] is on houseflies. The ability to identify, track, and avoid obstacles needs an ability for short term memory and an instinct (memory recall) to recognize objects. The fly's organization of data is forced by the precise construction of its compound eyes and the connection from the eyes to the neural system. To mimic the fly's system by various sensors at different locations require a communication system. The sensor data needs to be organized for input into the "Artificial Neural Network Analysis System". Having a fixed system with sensors gives the advantage of ease in organizing the data. However, data from a remote sensor that will be fused will also need to be organized. Data from remote sensors that does not relate to the areas being monitored needs to be ignored.

The above information was found in various books and papers listed in References following this section. The "Artificial Neural Network Analysis System" proposed is to be written using the Neural Network Toolbox and Fuzzy Logic Toolbox by MathWorks Inc and the simulation of radar and infrared input to the system will use Matlab products.

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