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The institute gradually evolved from the General Computing Centre of the Czechoslovak Academy of Sciences. The Centre was founded in 1975 as a facility serving the institutes of the Academy of Sciences. In 1980, the Centre was transformed into a scientific institute of the Academy. The present English name of the Institute was adopted in 1993. Pursuant to Act No. 341/2005 Coll., the Institute became a public research institution as of 1 January, 2007.

Research work of the Institute focuses primarily on theoretical and applied areas of computer science, artificial intelligence and computational mathematics, especially on:

- mathematical, algorithmic and logical foundations of computer science, classical and unconventional computational models, computational complexity theory, computational statistics, soft computing, data mining, web technologies and software architectures
- matrix computations and numerical linear algebra, optimization, errorsin-variables modelling and modelling and simulations of problems in elastoplasticity
- theory and application of artificial neural networks, non-linear modelling and forecasting, environmental informatics
- biomedical informatics and biomedical statistics applied to various fields of medical research (e.g., preventive cardiology, epidemiology, genetic research, dentistry).

The Institute also actively participates in PhD studies at the following faculties: Faculty of Mathematics and Physics of Charles University, Faculty of Electrical Engineering of the Czech Technical University, Faculty of Nuclear and Physical Engineering of the Czech Technical University, and Faculty of Mechatronics and Interdisciplinary Engineering Studies, Technical University of Liberec.

Joint Research Centres

- European Centre for Medical Informatics, Statistics and Epidemiology (EuroMISE), a joint facility of Charles University and Academy of Sciences of the Czech Republic.
- Joint Laboratory of Reliability Systems of the Faculty of Transportation Sciences, Czech Technical University, and the Institute of Computer Science, ASCR

The Institute of Computer Science publishes a bimonthly journal (in English) called *Neural Network World*.

More detailed information about the organisational structure of the Institute and its research and specialised units can be found at the following URL:

http://www.cs.cas.cz