
Electronic Forums and Other EC-Related Activities

The evolutionary computation community maintains a number of electronic mailing lists that provide timely interactions, exchange of information, and sharing of software. Participants submit articles on research issues, recent results, notices on new technical reports, workshop announcements, and calls for papers. A brief description of the more active ones follows.

Comp.AI.Genetic is a newsgroup intended for anyone interested in the general area of evolutionary computation. See your local systems administrator to obtain this news feed. A substantial FAQ sheet (frequently asked questions) on EC is maintained and is quite helpful.

EP-List is an electronic mailing focusing on Evolutionary Programming (EP) as defined by Fogel. To subscribe, send mail to EP-List-Request@magenta.me.fau.edu.

Genetic-Programming is an electronic mailing list focusing on genetic programming (GP) as defined by Koza. To subscribe, send mail to Genetic-Programming-Request@cs.stanford.edu.

GA-List is a moderated electronic digest for the interchange of information relating to genetic algorithms (GAs) as defined by Holland and general issues of evolutionary computation. Submissions are put into digest form and sent to subscribers approximately once a week. To subscribe, send mail to GA-List-Request@aic.nrl.navy.mil.

An ftp archive site is maintained with back issues of GA-List and other useful information, including source code for genetic algorithm and other evolutionary algorithm packages. The ftp site can be accessed using anonymous ftp to ftp.aic.nrl.navy.mil. Use a username of "anonymous" and use your own e-mail address as your password.

In addition to the ftp site, the archive is now available on the World Wide Web. This also

contains links to other GA and evolutionary computation information sources and links to the home pages of other research groups working in evolutionary computation. The URL is <http://www.aic.nrl.navy.mil/galist>.

The GA-List digest also includes a calendar of recent and upcoming EC-related events. The following listing of events is excerpted from a recent issue of GA-List. The volume/number designation refers to the GA-List issue where the full announcement can be found.

4 – 9 May, 1998

The 1998 IEEE International Conference on Evolutionary Computation (ICEC) (part of the IEEE Neural Networks Council World Congress on Computational Intelligence) (v11n22)

Papers for the conference should be submitted on or before September 26, 1997, to me at the address below (i.e., they should be received by this date). The technical program chairs who will be responsible for handling the reviews and the formation of the final technical program are Thomas Bäck, Hans-Paul Schwefel, and Xin Yao. Papers should present original, unpublished efforts in evolutionary computation and are limited to six (6) pages.

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10 – 14 May, 1998

Learning Cyclic Control/Behavior in Robots

at ISORA'98 (Seventh International Symposium on Robotics with Applications: part of the World Automation Congress (WAC 98)) (v11n8)

A special session is planned on learning cyclic control/behavior in robots. Facets of robot control require that a sequence of instructions be continually repeated to attain the desired behavior. The purpose of this session will be to examine alternative means of learning these cycles and their applications. Learning methods can be (but are not limited to):

- Genetic algorithms
- Cyclic genetic algorithms
- Genetic programming
- Evolutionary strategies
- Classifier systems
- Evolutionary programming
- Neural networks
- Fuzzy logic
- Probabilistic reasoning

Important Dates:

- May 15, 1997: Abstract due
- Aug 1, 1997: Notification of acceptance
- Sept 1, 1997: Full manuscript due date
- May 10–14, 1998: ISORA'98

Session Chair:

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17 – 21 August, 1998

From Animals to Animats

Fifth International Conference of the Society for Adaptive Behavior (SAB98), Zurich (v11n35)

Scope:

The objective of the conference is to bring together researchers from ethology, psychology,

ecology, artificial intelligence, artificial life, robotics, engineering, and related fields so as to further our understanding of the behaviors and underlying mechanisms that allow natural and artificial animals to adapt and survive in uncertain environments.

Focus:

The conference will focus on well-defined models—robot models, computer simulation models, mathematical models—to help characterize and compare various organizational principles or architectures underlying adaptive behavior in real animals and synthetic agents, the animats. In addition, there will be a session on philosophical and psychological issues in animat research.

Important Dates (1998):

- Jan 19: Submissions must be received
- Jan 30: Proposals for Workshops, Tutorials and Demonstrations
- March 16: Notification of acceptance or rejection (via e-mail)
- April 17: Camera-ready revised versions due
- May 11: Early registration deadline
- July 10: Hotel reservations and regular registration deadline
- Aug 17–21: Conference dates

<http://www.ifi.unizh.ch/groups/ailab/events/sab98>

23 – 25 September, 1998

International ICSC/IFAC Symposium on Neural Computation NC'98, Vienna (v11n35)

Purpose of the Conference:

NC'98 will bring together scientists and practitioners in the field of artificial neural networks. The conference will concentrate on the computational aspects of neural networks in the widest sense, from convergence theory, numerical aspects, and hybrid systems through to neural software and hardware. In addition, the conference will provide a venue for the discussion of commercial and other practical applications of the technology.

It is hoped that participants will have a common interest in, and a fascination for, self-learning systems in nature, their theoretical modeling and

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interpretation, and in their computational implementation.

Important Dates:

Submission of abstracts:	January 31, 1998
Notification of acceptance:	March 31, 1998
Delivery of full papers:	May 31, 1998
Submission of poster presentations:	June 30, 1998
Tutorials and workshops:	September 21–22, 1998
NC'98 symposium:	September 23–25, 1998

<http://www.compumart.ab.ca/icsc/nc98.html>