

News and Notes

1. Third International Conference on Genetic Algorithms

George Mason University; June 4-7, 1989

The Third International Conference on Genetic Algorithms (ICGA-89), will be held on June 4-7, 1989, at George Mason University in Fairfax, Virginia (near Washington, DC). Authors are invited to submit papers on all aspects of genetic algorithms, including: foundations of genetic algorithms, search, optimization, machine learning using genetic algorithms, classifier systems, algorithms for credit apportionment, and relationships to other search and learning paradigms. Papers discussing specific applications (e.g., operations research, engineering, science) are encouraged.

Authors should send four copies (hard copy only) of a full paper to the program chair:

J. David Schaffer
Philips Laboratories
345 Scarborough Road
Briarcliff Manor, New York 10510, U.S.A.
Telephone: (914) 945-6168
Email: DS1@PHILABS.PHILIPS.COM

Submissions must be received by February 10, 1989. Authors will be notified of acceptance or rejection by March 10, and revised, camera-ready versions will be due by April 10.

The program committee for the conference includes: *Kenneth A. De Jong*, George Mason University (Conference Chair); *Lashon B. Booker*, Naval Research Laboratory (Local Arrangements); *J. David Schaffer*, Philips Laboratories (Program Chair); *Lawrence Davis*, Bolt, Beranek and Newman, Inc.; *David E. Goldberg*, University of Alabama; *John J. Grefenstette*, Naval Research Laboratory; *John H. Holland*, University of Michigan; *George G. Robertson*, Xerox PARC; *Stephen F. Smith*, Carnegie Mellon University; and *Stewart W. Wilson*, Rowland Institute for Science.

2. Second Workshop on Computational Learning Theory

University of California, Santa Cruz; July 31-August 2, 1989

The Second Workshop on Computational Learning Theory (COLT '89) will be held at the University of California, Santa Cruz, on July 31-August 2, 1989. The conference is jointly sponsored by SIGACT and SIGART, and is expected to be similar in style to the first such workshop, which was held at MIT in

the summer of 1988. Registration at COLT '89 is open, within the limits of the space available (about 150 people). ACM is providing limited support for students to attend, with preference to students giving papers.

It is expected that most papers will present rigorous formal analyses of theoretical issues in machine learning. Possible topics include, but are not limited to: resource and robustness analysis of learning algorithms (time, space, number of examples, noise sensitivity, etc.), general learnability and non-learnability results in new and existing computational learning models, theoretical comparisons among learning models, and papers that make formal connections with work in robotics, neural nets, pattern recognition and cryptography. The program will contain one or more invited talks, and V. N. Vapnik (Academy of Sciences, USSR) has agreed to present one such talk.

Authors should submit an extended abstract that consists of: (1) a cover page with title, authors' names, (postal and email) addresses, and a 200-word summary; (2) a body not longer than ten pages in twelve-point font. Be sure to include a clear definition of the model used, an overview of the results, and some discussion of their significance, including comparison to other work. Proofs or proof sketches should be included in the technical section. Authors should send nine copies of their abstract to the program chair:

Ron Rivest, COLT '89
 MIT Laboratory for Computer Science
 545 Technology Square
 Cambridge, MA 02139, U.S.A.
 Telephone: (617) 253-5880
 Email: RIVEST@THEORY.LCS.MIT.EDU

The deadline for receiving submissions is April 15, 1989. This deadline is *firm*. Authors will be notified of acceptance or rejection by May 22, and final camera-ready papers will be due June 15. The proceedings will be published by Morgan Kaufmann. For further information about submissions, contact the program chair by telephone or electronic mail.

The program committee for the conference consists of: *D. Haussler*, UC Santa Cruz (Chair); *M. Warmuth*, UC Santa Cruz (Local Arrangements Chair); *R. Rivest*, MIT (Program Chair); *D. Angluin*, Yale University; *J. Cherniavsky*, Georgetown University; *B. Natarajan*, Carnegie Mellon University; *L. Pitt*, University of Illinois, Urbana; *C. Smith*, University of Maryland; and *L. Valiant*, Harvard University.

Note: Papers that have appeared in journals or that are being submitted to other conferences are not appropriate for submission to COLT, except for papers submitted to the IEEE 30th Symposium on Foundations of Computer Science (FOCS). A dual submission policy coordinated with FOCS allows authors to submit papers to both COLT and FOCS. If a paper is accepted for both conferences, it will appear only in the FOCS proceedings, and the COLT proceedings will contain a one-page abstract that references the FOCS proceedings. The authors will be invited to give distinct talks on the subject at FOCS and COLT.

3. Workshop on Principles of Computational Learning

University of Helsinki; June 5-7, 1989

The University of Helsinki will host a workshop on principles of computational learning from June 5 to 7, 1989. The purpose of the meeting is to promote research and international collaboration on the rigorous analysis of theoretical and algorithmic issues in machine learning. Empirical studies of hypotheses based on formal models will also be examined.

Attendance will be limited and through invitation only. Researchers interested in participating should contact the workshop chairman:

Esko Ukkonen
Department of Computer Science
University of Helsinki
Teollisuuskatu 23
SF-00510 Helsinki, Finland
Telephone: 358 0 708-4172
Email: UKKONEN@CS.HELSINKI.FI

Some financial support may be available to help cover the costs of participation in the workshop.

4. Editorial changes for Machine Learning

Starting with Volume 4, the journal *Machine Learning* will have a new set of editors. *Jaime Carbonell* has agreed to serve as executive editor – coordinating issues, acting as liaison to the publisher, and distributing papers to the five new editors: *Tom Dietterich*, Oregon State University; *David Haussler*, University of California, Santa Cruz; *Pat Langley*, University of California, Irvine; *Jack Mostow*, Rutgers University; and *Paul Rosenbloom*, Information Sciences Institute, USC.

Authors should submit four copies of papers to *Machine Learning*, c/o Jaime G. Carbonell, Department of Computer Science, Carnegie Mellon University, Pittsburgh, PA 15213 [Email: JAIME.CARBONELL@CS.CMU.EDU]. Authors should still send letters, short notes, reviews, and announcements to *Machine Learning*, c/o Thomas G. Dietterich, Department of Computer Science, Oregon State University, Corvallis, OR 97331 [Email: TGD@CS.ORST.EDU].

Thanks go to two of *Machine Learning*'s founding editors, *Ryszard Michalski* and *Tom Mitchell*, who remain active members of the journal's editorial board. Special thanks also go to *Caroline Ehrlich*, who acted as unofficial managing editor for Volumes 2 and 3, and who played a central role in the journal's preparation, from submissions through typesetting.