

Lecture Notes in Artificial Intelligence 5351

Edited by R. Goebel, J. Siekmann, and W. Wahlster

Subseries of Lecture Notes in Computer Science

Tu-Bao Ho Zhi-Hua Zhou (Eds.)

PRICAI 2008: Trends in Artificial Intelligence

10th Pacific Rim International Conference
on Artificial Intelligence
Hanoi, Vietnam, December 15-19, 2008
Proceedings

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Library of Congress Control Number: 2008939435

CR Subject Classification (1998): I.2, F.1

LNCS Sublibrary: SL 7 – Artificial Intelligence

ISSN 0302-9743
ISBN-10 3-540-89196-X Springer Berlin Heidelberg New York
ISBN-13 978-3-540-89196-3 Springer Berlin Heidelberg New York

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Printed in Germany

Typesetting: Camera-ready by author, data conversion by Scientific Publishing Services, Chennai, India
Printed on acid-free paper SPIN: 12558841 06/3180 5 4 3 2 1 0

Preface

The Pacific Rim International Conference on Artificial Intelligence (PRICAI) is one of the preeminent international conferences on artificial intelligence (AI). PRICAI 2008 (<http://www.jaist.ac.jp/PRICAI-08/>) was the tenth in this series of biennial international conferences highlighting the most significant contributions to the field of AI. The conference was held during December 15–19, 2008, in the beautiful city Hanoi, the capital of Vietnam.

As in previous years this year’s technical program saw very high standards in both the submission and paper review process, resulting in an exciting program that reflects the great variety and depth of modern AI research. This year’s contributions covered all traditional areas of AI, including AI foundations, knowledge representation, knowledge acquisition and ontologies, evolutionary computation, etc., as well as various exciting and innovative applications of AI to many different areas. There was particular emphasis in the areas of machine learning and data mining, intelligent agents, language and speech processing, information retrieval and extraction.

The technical papers in this volume were selected from a record of 234 submissions after a rigorous review process. Each submission was reviewed by at least three members and one Vice-Chair of the Program Committee. Decisions were reached following discussions among the reviewers of each paper, Vice Chairs and Chairs of the Program Committee, and finalized in a highly selective process that balanced many aspects of a paper, including the significance of the contribution and originality, technical quality and clarity of contributions, and relevance to the conference. Finally, we accepted 49 long papers and 33 regular papers for oral presentation (35%), and 32 short papers for poster presentation (13.6%) at the conference. In addition, we were honored to have one keynote and three invited speeches by leading researchers in the field. The PRICAI 2008 program also included four workshops (“Pacific Rim Knowledge Acquisition Workshop,” “Empirical Methods for Asian Language Processing,” “Soft Computing for Knowledge Technology”, and “Knowledge, Language, and Learning in Bioinformatics”) and three tutorials (“Empirical Methods for Artificial Intelligence,” “Agent and Data Mining: The Synergy to Empower Intelligent Information Processing Systems,” and “Writing and Presenting Scientific Papers”).

PRICAI 2008 would not have been possible without the work of many people and organizations. We wish to express our gratitude to:

- The Conference Chairs: Hiroshi Motoda and Bach Hung Khang
- The PRICAI Steering Committee
- The keynote and invited speakers: Paul Cohen, Hendrik Blockeel, An-Hai Doan and Yuji Matsumoto
- The Organizing Chairs: Nguyen Ngoc Binh, Pham Hoang Luong, and Luong Chi Mai as well as their staff and volunteer students
- The Workshop Chairs: Duc Nghia Pham and Takashi Washio
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- The Registration Chairs: Ngo Cao Son and Saori Kawasaki
- Web masters: Pham Ngoc Khanh and Tran Dang Hung
- The team of Microsoft's conference management tool for its support
- Springer for its continuing support in publishing the proceedings
- The workshop organizers: Debbie Rechards and Byeong Ho Kang; Akira Shimazu, Luong Chi Mai and Manabu Okumura; Hung Son Nguyen and Van Nam Huynh; Kenji Satou and Masanori Arita
- The tutorial presenters: Paul Cohen, Longbin Cao and Chengqi Zhang, and Tu Bao Ho
- The Program Committee members and Vice Chairs: Naoki Abe, Hung Bui, Peter Flach, Eibe Frank, Randy Goebel, Achim Hoffmann, James Kwok, Doheon Lee, Riichiro Mizoguchi, Wee Keong Ng, Satoshi Tojo, Abdul Sattar, Qiang Yang, Chengqi Zhang, and Limsoon Wong
- The external reviewers

We greatly appreciate the financial support from various sponsors: the Vietnamese Academy of Science and Technology (VAST), Ministry of Science and Technology of Vietnam (MoST), Hanoi University of Technology (HUT), Vietnam National Universities, Air Force Office of the Scientific Research/Asian Office of Aerospace Research and Development (AFOSR/AOARD).

Last but not the least we would like to thank all authors of the submitted papers, and all conference attendees for their contribution and participation. Without them we would not have had this conference.

December 2008

Tu-Bao Ho
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Table of Contents

Keynotes

What Shall We Do Next? The Challenges of AI Midway through Its First Century.....	1
<i>Paul R. Cohen</i>	
Exposing the Causal Structure of Processes by Learning CP-Logic Programs	2
<i>Hendrik Blockeel</i>	
Building Structured Web Community Portals Via Extraction, Integration, and Mass Collaboration	3
<i>An-Hai Doan</i>	
Large Scale Corpus Analysis and Recent Applications	4
<i>Yuji Matsumoto</i>	
On the Computability and Complexity Issues of Extended RDF	5
<i>Anastasia Analyti, Grigoris Antoniou, Carlos Viegas Damásio, and Gerd Wagner</i>	
Toward Formalizing Common-Sense Psychology: An Analysis of the False-Belief Task	17
<i>Konstantine Arkoudas and Selmer Bringsjord</i>	
Computing Stable Skeletons with Particle Filters.....	30
<i>Xiang Bai, Xingwei Yang, Longin Jan Latecki, Yanbo Xu, and Wenyu Liu</i>	
Using Semantic Web Technologies for the Assessment of Open Questions	42
<i>Dagoberto Castellanos-Nieves, Jesualdo Tomas Fernandez-Breis, Rafael Valencia-Garcia, Carlos Cruz, Maria Paz Prendes-Espinosa, and Rodrigo Martinez-Bejar</i>	
Quantifying Commitment	54
<i>Timothy William Cleaver and Abdul Sattar</i>	
Temporal Data Mining for Educational Applications.....	66
<i>Carole R. Beal and Paul R. Cohen</i>	
Dual Properties of the Relative Belief of Singletons	78
<i>Fabio Cuzzolin</i>	

Alternative Formulations of the Theory of Evidence Based on Basic Plausibility and Commonality Assignments	91
<i>Fabio Cuzzolin</i>	
Non-negative Sparse Principal Component Analysis for Multidimensional Constrained Optimization	103
<i>Thanh D.X. Duong and Vu N. Duong</i>	
Sentence Compression by Removing Recursive Structure from Parse Tree	115
<i>Seiji Egawa, Yoshihide Kato, and Shigeki Matsubara</i>	
An ATP of a Relational Proof System for Order of Magnitude Reasoning with Negligibility, Non-closeness and Distance	128
<i>Joanna Golińska-Pilarek, Angel Mora, and Emilio Muñoz-Velasco</i>	
A Heuristic Data Reduction Approach for Associative Classification Rule Hiding	140
<i>Juggapong Natwichai, Xingzhi Sun, and Xue Li</i>	
Evolutionary Computation Using Interaction among Genetic Evolution, Individual Learning and Social Learning	152
<i>Takashi Hashimoto and Katsuhide Warashina</i>	
Behavior Learning Based on a Policy Gradient Method: Separation of Environmental Dynamics and State Values in Policies	164
<i>Seiji Ishihara and Harukazu Igarashi</i>	
Developing Evaluation Model of Topical Term for Document-Level Sentiment Classification	175
<i>Yi Hu, Wenjie Li, and Qin Lu</i>	
Learning to Identify Comparative Sentences in Chinese Text	187
<i>Xiaojiang Huang, Xiaojun Wan, Jianwu Yang, and Jianguo Xiao</i>	
Efficient Exhaustive Generation of Functional Programs Using Monte-Carlo Search with Iterative Deepening	199
<i>Susumu Katayama</i>	
Identification of Subject Shareness for Korean-English Machine Translation	211
<i>Kye-Sung Kim, Seong-Bae Park, Hyun-Je Song, Se-Young Park, and Sang-Jo Lee</i>	
Agent for Predicting Online Auction Closing Price in a Simulated Auction Environment	223
<i>Deborah Lim, Patricia Anthony, and Chong Mun Ho</i>	
Feature Selection Using Mutual Information: An Experimental Study	235
<i>Huawen Liu, Lei Liu, and Huijie Zhang</i>	

Finding Orthogonal Arrays Using Satisfiability Checkers and Symmetry Breaking Constraints	247
<i>Feifei Ma and Jian Zhang</i>	
Statistical Model for Japanese Abbreviations	260
<i>Norifumi Murayama and Manabu Okumura</i>	
A Novel Heuristic Algorithm for Privacy Preserving of Associative Classification	273
<i>Nattapon Harnsamut and Juggapong Natwichai</i>	
Time–Frequency Analysis of Vietnamese Speech Inspired on Chirp Auditory Selectivity	284
<i>Ha Nguyen and Luis Weruaga</i>	
Meta-level Control of Multiagent Learning in Dynamic Repeated Resource Sharing Problems	296
<i>Itsuki Noda and Masayuki Ohta</i>	
Ontology-Based Natural Query Retrieval Using Conceptual Graphs	309
<i>Tho Thanh Quan and Siu Cheung Hui</i>	
Optimal Multi-issue Negotiation in Open and Dynamic Environments	321
<i>Fenghui Ren and Minjie Zhang</i>	
The Density-Based Agglomerative Information Bottleneck	333
<i>Yongli Ren, Yangdong Ye, and Gang Li</i>	
State-Based Regression with Sensing and Knowledge	345
<i>Richard Scherl, Cao Son Tran, and Chitta Baral</i>	
Some Results on the Completeness of Approximation Based Reasoning	358
<i>Cao Son Tran and Enrico Pontelli</i>	
KT and S4 Satisfiability in a Constraint Logic Environment	370
<i>Lynn Stevenson, Katarina Britz, and Tertia Hörne</i>	
Clustering with Feature Order Preferences	382
<i>Jun Sun, Wenbo Zhao, Jiangwei Xue, Zhiyong Shen, and Yidong Shen</i>	
Distributed Memory Bounded Path Search Algorithms for Pervasive Computing Environments	394
<i>Anoj Ramasamy Sundar and Colin Keng-Yan Tan</i>	
Using Cost Distributions to Guide Weight Decay in Local Search for SAT	405
<i>John Thornton and Duc Nghia Pham</i>	

Fault Resolution in Case-Based Reasoning	417
<i>Ha Manh Tran and Jürgen Schönwälder</i>	
Constrained Sequence Classification for Lexical Disambiguation	430
<i>Tran The Truyen, Dinh Q. Phung, and Svetha Venkatesh</i>	
Map Building by Sequential Estimation of Inter-feature Distances	442
<i>Atsushi Ueta, Takehisa Yairi, Hirofumi Kanazaki, and Kazuo Machida</i>	
Document-Based HITS Model for Multi-document Summarization	454
<i>Xiaojun Wan</i>	
External Force for Active Contours: Gradient Vector Convolution	466
<i>Yuanquan Wang and Yunde Jia</i>	
Representation = Grounded Information	473
<i>Mary-Anne Williams</i>	
Learning from the Past with Experiment Databases	485
<i>Joaquín Vanschoren, Bernhard Pfahringer, and Geoffrey Holmes</i>	
An Argumentation Framework Based on Conditional Priorities	497
<i>Quoc Bao Vo</i>	
Knowledge Supervised Text Classification with No Labeled Documents	509
<i>Congle Zhang, Gui-Rong Xue, and Yong Yu</i>	
Constrained Local Regularized Transducer for Multi-Component Category Classification	521
<i>Congle Zhang and Yong Yu</i>	
Low Resolution Gait Recognition with High Frequency Super Resolution	533
<i>Junping Zhang, Yuan Cheng, and Changyou Chen</i>	
NIIA: Nonparametric Iterative Imputation Algorithm	544
<i>Shichao Zhang, Zhi Jin, and Xiaofeng Zhu</i>	
Mining Multidimensional Data through Element Oriented Analysis	556
<i>Yihao Zhang, Mehmet A. Orgun, Weiqiang Lin, and Rohan Baxter</i>	
Evolutionary Feature Selections for Face Detection System	568
<i>Zalhan Mohd Zin, Marzuki Khalid, and Rubiyah Yusof</i>	
A Probabilistic Approach to the Interpretation of Spoken Utterances . . .	581
<i>Ingrid Zukerman, Enes Makalic, Michael Niemann, and Sarah George</i>	

Regular Papers

Towards Autonomous Robot Operation: Path Map Generation of an Unknown Area by a New Trapezoidal Approximation Method Using a Self Guided Vehicle and Shortest Path Calculation by a Proposed SRS Algorithm	593
<i>K. Ahmed, M.S. Munir, A.S.M Shihavuddin, M.A. Hoque, and K.K. Islam</i>	
Exploring Combinations of Ontological Features and Keywords for Text Retrieval	603
<i>Tru H. Cao, Khanh C. Le, and Vuong M. Ngo</i>	
Instance Management Problems in the Role Model of Hozo	614
<i>Kouji Kozaki, Satoshi Endo, and Rūchiro Mizoguchi</i>	
Advancing Topic Ontology Learning through Term Extraction	626
<i>Blaž Fortuna, Nada Lavrač, and Paola Velardi</i>	
Handling Unknown and Imprecise Attribute Values in Propositional Rule Learning: A Feature-Based Approach	636
<i>Dragan Gamberger, Nada Lavrač, and Johannes Fürnkranz</i>	
Fuzzy Knowledge Discovery from Time Series Data for Events Prediction	646
<i>Ehsanollah Gholami and Mohammadreza Matash Borujerdi</i>	
Evolution of Migration Behavior with Multi-agent Simulation	658
<i>Hideki Hashizume, Atsuko Mutoh, Shohei Kato, and Hidenori Itoh</i>	
Constraint Relaxation Approach for Over-Constrained Agent Interaction	668
<i>Mohd Fadzil Hassan and Dave Robertson</i>	
Structure Extraction from Presentation Slide Information	678
<i>Tessai Hayama, Hidetsugu Nanba, and Susumu Kunifuji</i>	
Combining Local and Global Resources for Constructing an Error-Minimized Opinion Word Dictionary	688
<i>Linh Hoang, Jung-Tae Lee, Young-In Song, and Hae-Chang Rim</i>	
An Improvement of PAA for Dimensionality Reduction in Large Time Series Databases	698
<i>Nguyen Quoc Viet Hung and Duong Tuan Anh</i>	
Stability Margin for Linear Systems with Fuzzy Parametric Uncertainty	708
<i>Petr Hušek</i>	

An Imperative Account of Actions	718
<i>Victor Jauregui and Son Bao Pham</i>	
Natural Language Interface Construction Using Semantic Grammars . . .	728
<i>Anh Kim Nguyen and Huong Thanh Le</i>	
Exploiting the Role of Named Entities in Query-Oriented Document Summarization	740
<i>Wenjie Li, Furu Wei, Ouyang You, Qin Lu, and Yanxiang He</i>	
A Probabilistic Model for Understanding Composite Spoken Descriptions	750
<i>Enes Makalic, Ingrid Zukerman, Michael Niemann, and Daniel Schmidt</i>	
Fuzzy Communication Reaching Consensus under Acyclic Condition . . .	760
<i>Takashi Matsuhisa</i>	
Probabilistic Nogood Store as a Heuristic	768
<i>Andrei Missine and William S. Havens</i>	
Semantic Filtering for DDL-Based Service Composition	778
<i>Wenja Niu, Zhongzhi Shi, Peng Cao, Hui Peng, and Liang Chang</i>	
Prediction of Protein Functions from Protein Interaction Networks: A Naïve Bayes Approach	788
<i>Cao D. Nguyen, Katherine J. Gardiner, Duong Nguyen, and Krzysztof J. Cios</i>	
Multi-class Support Vector Machine Simplification	799
<i>DucDung Nguyen, Kazunori Matsumoto, Kazuo Hashimoto, Yasuhiro Takishima, Daichi Takatori, and Masahiro Terabe</i>	
A Syntactic-based Word Re-ordering for English-Vietnamese Statistical Machine Translation System	809
<i>Hong-Nhung Nguyen Thi and Dien Dinh</i>	
A Multi-modal Particle Filter Based Motorcycle Tracking System	819
<i>Phi-Vu Nguyen and Hoai-Bac Le</i>	
Bayesian Inference on Hidden Knowledge in High-Throughput Molecular Biology Data	829
<i>Viet-Anh Nguyen, Zdena Koukolíková-Nicola, Franco Bagnoli, and Pietro Lió</i>	
Personalized Search Using ODP-based User Profiles Created from User Bookmark	839
<i>Tetsuya Oishi, Yoshiaki Kambara, Tsunenori Mine, Ryuzo Hasegawa, Hiroshi Fujita, and Miyuki Koshimura</i>	

Domain-Driven Local Exceptional Pattern Mining for Detecting Stock Price Manipulation	849
<i>Yuming Ou, Longbing Cao, Chao Luo, and Chengqi Zhang</i>	
A Graph-Based Method for Combining Collaborative and Content-Based Filtering	859
<i>Nguyen Duy Phuong, Le Quang Thang, and Tu Minh Phuong</i>	
Hierarchical Differential Evolution for Parameter Estimation in Chemical Kinetics	870
<i>Yuan Shi and Xing Zhong</i>	
Differential Evolution Based on Improved Learning Strategy	880
<i>Yuan Shi, Zhen-zhong Lan, and Xiang-hu Feng</i>	
SaliencyGraph: Visualizing Saliency Dynamics of Written Discourse by Using Reference Probability and PLSA	890
<i>Shun Shiramatsu, Kazunori Komatani, Tetsuya Ogata, and Hiroshi G. Okuno</i>	
Learning Discriminative Sequence Models from Partially Labelled Data for Activity Recognition	903
<i>Tran The Truyen, Hung H. Bui, Dinh Q. Phung, and Svetha Venkatesh</i>	
Feature Selection for Clustering on High Dimensional Data	913
<i>Hong Zeng and Yiu-ming Cheung</i>	
Availability of Web Information for Intercultural Communication	923
<i>Takashi Yoshino, Kunikazu Fujii, and Tomohiro Shigenobu</i>	
Short Papers	
Mining Weighted Frequent Patterns in Incremental Databases	933
<i>Chowdhury Farhan Ahmed, Syed Khairuzzaman Tanbeer, Byeong-Soo Jeong, and Young-Koo Lee</i>	
Revision of Spatial Information by Containment	939
<i>Omar Doukari, Robert Jeansoulin, and Eric Würbel</i>	
Joint Power Control and Subcarrier Allocation in MC - CDMA Systems - An Intelligent Search Approach	945
<i>Le Xuan Dung</i>	
Domain-Independent Error-Based Simulation for Error-Awareness and Its Preliminary Evaluation	951
<i>Tomoya Horiguchi and Tsukasa Hirashima</i>	

A Characterization of Sensitivity Communication Robots Based on Mood Transition	959
<i>Chika Itoh, Shohei Kato, and Hidenori Itoh</i>	
Recommendation Algorithm for Learning Materials That Maximizes Expected Test Scores	965
<i>Tomoharu Iwata, Tomoko Kojiri, Takeshi Yamada, and Toyohide Watanabe</i>	
A Hybrid Kansei Design Expert System Using Artificial Intelligence	971
<i>Jyun-Sing Chen, Kun-Chieh Wang, and Jung-Chin Liang</i>	
Solving the Contamination Minimization Problem on Networks for the Linear Threshold Model	977
<i>Masahiro Kimura, Kazumi Saito, and Hiroshi Motoda</i>	
A Data-Driven Approach for Finding the Threshold Relevant to the Temporal Data Context of an Alarm of Interest	985
<i>Savo Kordic, Peng Lam, Jitian Xiao, and Huaizhong Li</i>	
Branch and Bound Algorithms to Solve Semiring Constraint Satisfaction Problems	991
<i>Louise Leenen and Aditya Ghose</i>	
Image Analysis of the Relationship between Changes of Cornea and Postmortem Interval	998
<i>Fang Liu, Shaohua Zhu, Yuziao Fu, Fan Fan, Tianjiang Wang, and Songfeng Lu</i>	
Context-Based Term Frequency Assessment for Text Classification	1004
<i>Rey-Long Liu</i>	
Outlier Mining on Multiple Time Series Data in Stock Market	1010
<i>Chao Luo, Yanchang Zhao, Longbing Cao, Yuming Ou, and Li Liu</i>	
Generating Interactive Facial Expression of Communication Robots Using Simple Recurrent Network	1016
<i>Yuki Matsui, Masayoshi Kanoh, Shohei Kato, and Hidenori Itoh</i>	
Effects of Repair Support Agent for Accurate Multilingual Communication	1022
<i>Mai Miyabe, Takashi Yoshino, and Tomohiro Shigenobu</i>	
Towards Adapting XCS for Imbalance Problems	1028
<i>Thach Huy Nguyen, Sombut Foitong, Phaitoon Srinil, and Owen Pinngern</i>	
Personalized Summarization Agent Using Non-negative Matrix Factorization	1034
<i>Sun Park</i>	

Interactive Knowledge Acquisition and Scenario Authoring	1039
<i>Debbie Richards</i>	
Reconstructing Hard Problems in a Human-Readable and Machine-Processable Way	1046
<i>Rolf Schwitter</i>	
Evolving Intrusion Detection Rules on Mobile Ad Hoc Networks	1053
<i>Sevil Sen and John A. Clark</i>	
On the Usefulness of Interactive Computer Game Logs for Agent Modelling	1059
<i>Matthew Sheehan and Ian Watson</i>	
An Empirical Study on the Effect of Different Similarity Measures on User-Based Collaborative Filtering Algorithms	1065
<i>Ashish Sureka and Pranav Prabhakar Mirajkar</i>	
Using Self-Organizing Maps with Learning Classifier System for Intrusion Detection	1071
<i>Kreangsak Tamee, Pornthep Rojanavasuu, Sonchai Udomthanapong, and Ouen Pinngern</i>	
New Particle Swarm Optimization Algorithm for Solving Degree Constrained Minimum Spanning Tree Problem	1077
<i>Huynh Thi Thanh Binh and Truong Binh Nguyen</i>	
Continuous Pitch Contour as an Improvement Feature for Music Information Retrieval by Humming/Singing	1086
<i>Tri Nguyen Truong Duc, Minh Le Nhat, Ha Nguyen Duc Hoang, and Quan Vu Hai</i>	
Classification Using Improved Hybrid Wavelet Neural Networks	1092
<i>Nhu Khue Vuong, Yi Zhi Zhao, and Xiang Li</i>	
Online Classifier Considering the Importance of Attributes	1098
<i>Hiroaki Ueda, Yo Nasu, Yuki Mikura, and Kenichi Takahashi</i>	
An Improved Tabu Search Algorithm for 3D Protein Folding Problem	1104
<i>Xiaolong Zhang and Wen Cheng</i>	
Transferring Knowledge from Another Domain for Learning Action Models	1110
<i>Hankui Zhuo, Qiang Yang, Derek Hao Hu, and Lei Li</i>	
Texture and Target Orientation Estimation from Phase Congruency	1116
<i>Qingbo Yin, Liran Shen, and Jong Nam Kim</i>	

Query Classification and Expansion for Translation Mining Via Search
Engines 1121
Jian-Min Yao, Jun Sun, Lei Guo, and Qiao-Ming Zhu

Author Index 1127