

Preface

AI2000 was the 13th in the series of biennial Artificial Intelligence conferences sponsored by the Canadian Society for Computational Studies of Intelligence/Société canadienne pour l'étude de l'intelligence par ordinateur. For the first time, the conference was held in conjunction with four other conferences. Two of these were the annual conferences of two other Canadian societies, Graphics Interface (GI2000) and Vision Interface (VI2000), with which this conference has been associated in recent years. The other two conferences were the International Symposium on Robotics (ISR2000) and the Institute for Robotics and Intelligent Systems conference (IRIS2000). It is our hope that the overall experience will be enriched by this conjunction of conferences.

The Canadian AI conference has a 25 year tradition of attracting Canadian and international papers of high quality from a variety of AI research areas. All papers submitted to the conference received three independent reviews. Approximately one third were accepted for plenary presentation at the conference. A journal version of the best paper of the conference will be invited to appear in Computational Intelligence. The conference attracted submissions from six continents, and this diversity is represented in these proceedings. The overall framework is similar to that of the last conference, AI'98. Plenary presentations were given of 25 papers, organized into sessions based on topics. Poster presentations were given for an additional 13 papers. A highlight of the conference continues to be the invited speakers. Three speakers, Eugene Charniak, Eric Horvitz, and Jan Żytkow, were our guests this year.

Many people contributed to the success of this conference. The members of the program committee coordinated the refereeing of all submitted papers. They also made several recommendations that contributed to other aspects of the program. The referees provided reviews of the submitted technical papers; their efforts were irreplaceable in ensuring the quality of the accepted papers. Our thanks also go to those who organized various conference events and helped with other conference matters, especially Heather Caldwell, Helene Lamadeleine, and Bob Mercer. We also acknowledge the help we received from Alfred Hofmann and others at Springer-Verlag.

Lastly, we are pleased to thank all participants. You are the ones who make all this effort worthwhile!

March 2000

Howard Hamilton
Qiang Yang
Program Co-chairs, AI2000

Organization

AI2000 was organized by the Canadian Society for Computational Studies of Intelligence/Société canadienne pour l'étude de l'intelligence par ordinateur.

Program Committee

General Chair (ISR): Paul Johnston, PRECARN Associates Inc.
Program Co-chairs: Howard J. Hamilton, University of Regina
Qiang Yang, Simon Fraser University
Local Chair: Robert Mercer, University of Western Ontario
Workshops: Zakaria Maamar, Defence Research Establishment
Valcartier
Dr. Weiming Shen, National Research Council of
Canada
Committee Members: Irene Abi-Zeid, Defence Research Establishment
Valcartier
Fahiem Bacchus, University of Toronto
Ken Barker, University of Ottawa
Sabine Bergler, Concordia University
Nick Cercone, University of Waterloo
David Chiu, University of Guelph
Jim Delgrande, Simon Fraser University
Chrysanne DiMarco, University of Waterloo
Renee Elio, University of Alberta
Brian Gaines, University of Calgary
Scott Goodwin, University of Regina
Ali Ghorbani, University of New Brunswick
Jim Greer, University of Saskatchewan
Russ Greiner, University of Alberta
Graeme Hirst, University of Toronto
Nathalie Japkowicz, Daltech / Dalhousie University
Luc Lamontagne, Defence Research Establishment
Valcartier
Guy LaPalme, Université de Montréal
Dekang Lin, University of Manitoba
Charles Ling, University of Western Ontario
Alan Mackworth, University of British Columbia
Joel Martin, National Research Council
Paul McFetridge, Simon Fraser University
Stan Matwin, University of Ottawa
Gord McCalla, University of Saskatchewan
Robert Mercer, University of Western Ontario

VIII Organization

Committee Members
(continued):

Guy Mineau, University of Laval
Eric Neufeld, University of Saskatchewan
Peter Patel-Schneider, AT&T Research
Fred Popowich, Simon Fraser University
Jonathan Schaeffer, University of Alberta
Dale Schuurmans, University of Waterloo
Bruce Spencer, University of New Brunswick
Ahmed Tawfik, University of Prince Edward Island
André Trudel, Acadia University
Afzal Upal, Daltech / Dalhousie University
Peter van Beek, University of Alberta
Kay Wiese, University of British Columbia
Yang Xiang, University of Regina
Jianna Zhang, Brock University

Referees

Irene Abi-Zeid	Graeme Hirst	Peter Patel-Schneider
Aijun An	Markian Hlynka	Fred Popowich
Fahiem Bacchus	Nathalie Japkowicz	Jonathan Schaeffer
Ken Barker	Vlado Keselj	Dale Schuurmans
Sabine Bergler	Luc Lamontagne	Daniel Silver
Nick Cercone	Guy LaPalme	Bruce Spencer
David Chiu	Dekang Lin	Ahmed Tawfik
Jim Delgrande	Charles Ling	Janine Toole
Chrysanne DiMarco	Alan Mackworth	André Trudel
Eugene Eberbach	Joel Martin	Afzal Upal
Renee Elio	Paul McFetridge	Peter van Beek
Brian Gaines	Stan Matwin	Kay Wiese
Lev Goldfarb	Gord McCalla	Yang Xiang
Scott Goodwin	Robert Mercer	Jianna Zhang
Ali Ghorbani	Guy Mineau	
Jim Greer	Andrew Mironov	
Russ Greiner	Eric Neufeld	

Sponsoring Institutions

University of Regina
Simon Fraser University