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Applications of Evolutionary Computing

EvoWorkshops 2005: EvoBIO, EvoCOMNET, EvoHOT,
EvoIASP, EvoMUSART, and EvoSTOC
Lausanne, Switzerland, March 30 – April 1, 2005
Proceedings



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Volume Editor
see next page

Cover illustration: *Triangular Urchin*, by Chaps (www.cetoine.com).

Chaps has obtained an MSc in Physics at the Swiss Federal Institute of Technology. He is the developer of the ArtiE-Fract software that was used to create *Triangular Urchin*. *Triangular Urchin* (an Iterated Functions System of 2 polar functions) emerged from an urchin structure after a few generations using ArtiE-Fract. The evolutionary process was only based on soft mutations, some of them directly induced by the author.

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Preface

Evolutionary computation (EC) techniques are efficient nature-inspired planning and optimization methods based on the principles of natural evolution and genetics. Due to their efficiency and the simple underlying principles, these methods can be used for a large number of problems in the context of problem solving, optimization, and machine learning. A large and continuously increasing number of researchers and practitioners make use of EC techniques in many application domains. The book at hand presents a careful selection of relevant EC applications combined with thorough examinations of techniques for a successful application of EC. The presented papers illustrate the current state of the art in the application of EC and should help and inspire researchers and practitioners to develop efficient EC methods for design and problem solving.

All papers in this book were presented during EvoWorkshops 2005, which was a varying collection of workshops on application-oriented aspects of EC. Since 1999, the format of the EvoWorkshops has proved to be very successful and well representative of the advances in the application of EC. Consequently, over the last few years, EvoWorkshops has become one of the major events addressing the application of EC. In contrast to other large conferences in the EC field, the EvoWorkshops focus solely on application aspects of EC and are an important link between EC research and the application of EC in a large variety of different domains. The EvoWorkshops are combined with EuroGP, the main European event dedicated to genetic programming, and EvoCOP, which has become the main European conference on EC in combinatorial optimization. The proceedings for both events, EuroGP and EvoCOP, are also available in the LNCS series (numbers 3447 and 3448).

EvoWorkshops 2005, of which this volume contains the proceedings, was held in beautiful Lausanne, Switzerland, on March 30–April 1, 2005, jointly with EuroGP 2005 and EvoCOP 2005. EvoWorkshops 2005 consisted of the following individual workshops:

- *EvoBIO*, the Third European Workshop on Evolutionary Bioinformatics,
- *EvoCOMNET*, the Second European Workshop on Evolutionary Computation in Communications, Networks, and Connected Systems,
- *EvoHOT*, the Second European Workshop on Hardware Optimization,
- *EvoIASP*, the Eighth European Workshop on Evolutionary Computation in Image Analysis and Signal Processing,
- *EvoMUSART*, the Third European Workshop on Evolutionary Music and Art, and
- *EvoSTOC*, the Second European Workshop on Evolutionary Algorithms in Stochastic and Dynamic Environments.

EvoBIO was concerned with the exploitation of EC and related techniques in bioinformatics and computational biology. For analyzing and understanding biological data, EC plays an increasingly important role in pharmaceuticals, biotechnology, and associated industries, as well as in scientific discovery.

EvoCOMNET addressed the application of EC techniques to problems in communications, networks, and connected systems. New communication technologies, the creation of interconnected communication and information networks such as the Internet, new types of interpersonal and interorganizational communication, and the integration and interconnection of production centers and industries are the driving forces on the road towards a connected, networked society. EC techniques are important tools for facing these challenges.

EvoHOT highlighted the latest developments in the field of EC applications to hardware and design optimization. This includes various aspects like the design of electrical and digital circuits, the solving of classical hardware optimization problems like VLSI floorplanning, the application of EC to antenna array synthesis, or the use of ant colony optimization as a hardware-oriented metaheuristic.

EvoIASP, which was the first international event solely dedicated to the applications of EC to image analysis and signal processing, has been a traditional meeting since 1999. This year it addressed topics ranging from solutions for problems in the context of image and signal processing to the adaptive learning of human vocalization in robotics, and the design of multidimensional filters.

EvoMUSART focused on the use of EC techniques for the development of creative systems. There is a growing interest in the application of these techniques in fields such as art, music, architecture and design. The goal of EvoMUSART was to bring together researchers who use EC in this context, providing an opportunity to promote, present and discuss the latest work in the area, fostering its further developments and collaboration among researchers.

EvoSTOC addressed the application of EC in stochastic environments. This includes optimization problems with noisy and approximated fitness functions that are changing over time, the treatment of noise, and the search for robust solutions. These topics recently gained increasing attention in the EC community, and EvoSTOC was the first workshop that provided a platform to present and discuss the latest research in this field.

EvoWorkshops 2005 continued the tradition of providing researchers in these fields, as well as people from industry, students, and interested newcomers, with an opportunity to present new results, discuss current developments and applications, or just become acquainted with the world of EC, besides fostering closer future interaction between members of all scientific communities that may benefit from EC techniques.

This year, EvoWorkshops had the highest number of submissions ever. The number of submissions increased from 123 in 2004 to 143 in 2005. Therefore, EvoWorkshops introduced a new presentation format and accepted a limited number of posters with a reduced number of pages (six pages). In contrast to regular papers, which were presented orally, the posters were presented and discussed in a special poster session during the workshops. The acceptance rate

of 39.1% for EvoWorkshops is an indicator of the high quality of the papers presented at the workshops and included in these proceedings. The following table gives some numbers for the different workshops (accepted posters are in parentheses). Of further importance for the statistics is the acceptance rate of the EvoWorkshops 2004, which was 44.7%.

Workshop	submitted	accepted	acceptance ratio
EvoBIO 2005	32	13	40.6%
EvoCOMNET 2005	22	5	22.7%
EvoHOT 2005	11	7	63.6%
EvoIASP 2005	37	17	45.9%
EvoMUSART 2005	29	10(6)	34.5%
EvoSTOC 2005	12	4(4)	33.3%
Total	143	56(10)	39.1%

We would like to thank all members of the program committees for their quick and thorough work. Furthermore, we would like to acknowledge the support from the University of Lausanne, which provided a great place to run a conference, and from EvoNet, the European Network of Excellence in Evolutionary Computing. The success of EvoWorkshops 2005 shows that the EvoWorkshops, as well as EuroGP and EvoCOP, have reached a degree of maturity and scientific prestige that will allow them to continue their success even without the active support from EvoNet. Over the years, the EvoWorkshops have become major EC events that have been important not only for Europeans but have also attracted large numbers of international EC researchers.

Finally, we want to say a special thanks to everybody who was involved in the preparation of the event. Special thanks are due to Jennifer Willies, whose work and support is a great and invaluable help for scientists who are planning to organize an international conference, and to the local organizers Marco Tomassini, Mario Giacobini, Leonardo Vanneschi, Leslie Luth and Denis Rochat. Without their hard work and continuous support, it would not have been possible to be in such a nice place and to have such a great conference.

April 2005	Franz Rothlauf	Jürgen Branke	Stefano Cagnoni
	David W. Corne	Rolf Drechsler	Yaochu Jin
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	George D. Smith	Giovanni Squillero	

Organization

EvoWorkshops 2005 was jointly organized with EuroGP 2005 and EvoCOP 2005.

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