Frontiers of Natural Computing

University of York York, UK 10th – 12th September 2012

Complex Systems and Morphogenetic Engineering: New Avenues Toward Self-Organized Architecture

~ A Position (60%) and an Illustration (40%) ~

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grupo de estudios

en biomimética





Doursat, Sanchez, Fernandez, Kowaliw & Vico (2012)

ERCIM

European Research Consortium for Informatics and Mathematics www.ercim.eu

Also in this issue:

01

Keynote

special theme convention

computing Paradigns

> Unconventional Computation by Susan Stepney

Research and Innovation Self-Organizing P2P Systems Inspired by Ant Colonies by Carlo Mastroianni

Simulation and Assessment of Vehicle Control Network Systems by Alexander Hanzlik and Erwin Kristen

Susan Stepney, York

+ Stanislaw Ulam [said] that using a term like nonlinear science is like referring to the bulk of **zoology as the study of non-elephant animals**.



- + The elephant in the room here is the classical Turing machine. "Unconventional" computation is a similar term: the study of non-Turing computation.
- + The classical Turing machine was developed as an abstraction of how human "computers", i.e. clerks following predefined and prescriptive rules, calculated various mathematical tables...
- + [In contrast] unconventional computation can be inspired by the whole of wider nature. We can look to physics (...), to chemistry (reactiondiffusion systems, complex chemical reactions, DNA binding), and to biology (bacteria, flocks, social insects, evolution, growth and selfassembly, immune systems, neural systems), to mention just a few.

+ PARALLELISM – INTERACTION – NATURE = COMPLEX SYSTEMS & SELF-ORG.



ADVANCES IN EMBRYOMORPHIC ENGINEERING





ADVANCES IN EMBRYOMORPHIC ENGINEERING

The Promise of Unconventional / Natural Computing

1. Tur(n)ing to Complex Systems



Emergence on multiple levels of self-organization





From cells to pattern formation, via reaction-diffusion





From social insects to <u>swarm intelligence</u>, via stigmergy





From birds to <u>collective motion</u>, via flocking





> From neurons to <u>cognition</u>, via synaptic transmission





All agent types: molecules, cells, animals, humans & tech





> All agent types: molecules, cells, animals, humans & tech

Alright, so lots of complex systems "naturally" doing lots of non-Turing computation, so what?...

patterns

molecules

living cell

animals

animal flocks

... Tap into this fantastic reservoir and exploit them: <u>engineer</u> new ones and/or <u>control</u> existing ones!



ADVANCES IN EMBRYOMORPHIC ENGINEERING

- The Promise of Unconventional / Natural Computing
 - 1. Tur(n)ing to Complex Systems
- 2. Engineering & Control of Self-Organization (ECSO)

(CS)

Between natural and engineered emergence



CS Science: observing and understanding "natural", spontaneous emergence (including human-caused) → Agent-Based Modeling (ABM)

Unconventional / Natural CS Computation:

fostering <u>and</u> guiding complex systems at the level of their elements



CS (ICT) Engineering: creating and programming a new, artificial self-organization / emergence \rightarrow (Complex) Multi-Agent Systems (MAS)

> Exporting models of natural CS to ICT: "(bio-)inspiration"

✓ already a tradition...



TODAY: simulated in a Turing machine / von Neumann architecture

> Exporting models of natural CS to ICT: "(bio-)inspiration"

 ... and looping back onto an unconventional physical implementation to fully exploit the "in materio" computational efficiency



> Exporting models of natural CS to ICT: "(bio-)inspiration"

- common shortcoming: the classical "(over-)engineering" attitude
 - reintroducing too much exogenous, top-down design/control
 - → exploit and only "influence" the natural endogenous properties!
 - breaking things apart too much
 - → keep the system internally complex and self-organized!
 - the stepwise fallacy: start with simple tasks (ex: XOR) and build up from there
 - → go for the collective attractors right away! (Kauffman's "order for free")
 - keeping self-organization, but forcing it into rigid design (logic gate <u>flow</u> ≠ RBN)
 - clinging to computing universality
 - \rightarrow specialization is more promising!



Ex. of "over-engineered" bio-inspired domain: evo computation John Holland, founder of GAs and GECCO, among the biggest (and major promoter of Complex (Adaptive) most selective) EC conferences: Systems: his titles \rightarrow ~100% CAS its tracks in 2009 \rightarrow ~15% CAS?

- Hidden order: How adaptation builds complexity
- *Emergence*: From chaos to order
- Artificial adaptive <u>agents</u> in economic theory
- Outline for a logical theory of adaptive <u>systems</u>
- Studying <u>complex adaptive systems</u>
- Exploring the evolution of complexity in signaling networks
- Can there be a unified theory of <u>CAS</u>?

(... individuals internally complex?)

- ACO and Swarm Intelligence
- Artificial Life, Evolutionary Robotics, Adaptive • Behavior, Evolvable Hardware
- **Bioinformatics and Computational Biology** •
- Combinatorial Optimization and Metaheuristics •
- Estimation of Distribution Algorithms
- Evolution Strategies and Evolutionary • Programming
- Evolutionary Multiobjective Optimization
- Generative and Developmental Systems
- *Genetic Algorithms*
- Genetic Programming
- Genetics-Based Machine Learning
- Parallel Evolutionary Systems
- Real World Application
- Search Based Software Engineering

etc.

- Other examples of "over-engineered" bio-inspired domains:
 - artificial neural networks (IJCNN, etc.)
 - multi-agent systems (AAMAS, etc.)
 - Image: which were artificial life! (Alife, ECAL) is playing down the selforganization and complex systems properties of living matter
- Conversely: "natural" complex systems conferences don't show much concern for design, engineering or control issues
 - overcrowded with (statistical) physicists (ICCS, ECCS, etc.)
 - or overcrowded with biologists

... and that's why we need

ECSO 2014 1st International Conference on the Engineering & Control of Self-Organization

Home | Call for Papers | Submission | Program | Organization | Registration | Venue

(dates and venue to be announced)

Overview

This conference is the new center for all the emerging cross-disciplinary topics that attempt to solve, at their core, the paradox of *engineering and controlling self-organization* (ECSO) in various forms, and for this reason cannot find an appropriate home in traditional venues. ECSO researchers are torn between scientific domains focused on the pure observation and modeling of natural complex systems (in which they appear too "artificial") and engineering domains more interested in top-down design and optimization than complexity (in which they appear too "soft" or "bio-inspired").

- Amorphous Computing, Spatial Computing
- Morphogenetic Engineering, Embryomorphic Engineering
- Morphogenetic Robotics, Evo-Devo Robotics, Generative Robotics
- Swarm Robotics, Collective Robotics, Swarm Intelligence, Swarm Chemistry
- Pervasive Computing, Ubiquitous Computing, Ambient Intelligence
- Pervasive Adaptation, Autonomic Computing, Autonomic Networking, Emergent Engineering

http://iscpif.fr/ecso2014

- Organic Computing
- Artificial Development, Artificial Embryogeny, Artificial Ontogeny, Neuroevolution
- Generative Systems, Rewriting Systems
- Unconventional Computing, Natural Computing
- Complex Systems Engineering
- Synthetic Biology, Biological and Chemical IT, Artificial Chemistry
- Multi-Agent Systems, Agent-Based Modeling



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- The Promise of Unconventional / Natural Computing
 - 1. Tur(n)ing to Complex Systems
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(CS)

(ME)

3. Morphogenetic Engineering i.e. "Architectures without Architects"



3. Architectures Without Architects

All agent types: molecules, cells, animals, humans & tech





3. Architectures Without Architects

"Simple"/random vs. architectured complex systems



• *heterogeneous*: differentiation, division of labor

✓ random at agent level, reproducible at system level





http://doursat.free.fr/morpheng.html

Doursat, Sayama & Michel (2012)







(a)



Self-Organized Systems Showing <u>no</u> Architecture



Doursat, Sayama & Michel (2012)

Morphogenetic Engineering (ME) is about designing the agents of self-organized architectures... not the architectures directly

- ME brings a new focus inside the ECSO family
 - exploring the artificial design and implementation of decentralized systems capable of developing elaborate, heterogeneous morphologies without central planning or external lead

Related emerging ICT disciplines and application domains

- ✓ *amorphous/spatial computing* (MIT, Fr.)
- ✓ *organic computing* (DFG, Germany)
- ✓ pervasive adaptation (FET, EU)
- ✓ *ubiquitous computing* (PARC)
- ✓ programmable matter (сми)

- ✓ swarm robotics, modular/reconfigurable robotics
- ✓ mobile ad hoc networks, sensor-actuator networks
- ✓ synthetic biology, etc.

1st Morphogenetic Engineering Workshop, ISC, Paris 2009 http://iscpif.fr/MEW2009

2nd Morphogenetic Engineering Session, ANTS 2010, Brussels http://iridia.ulb.ac.be/ants2010

3rd Morphogenetic Engineering Workshop, ECAL 2011, Paris http://ecal11.org/workshops#mew

Morphogenetic Engineering:
Toward Programmable Complex SystemsImage: Complex SystemsR. Doursat, H. Sayama & O. Michel, eds. Fall 2012, SpringerMorphogenetic
Engineering

Doursat, Sayama & Michel, eds. (2012)

2) O'Grady, Christensen & Dorigo

3) Jin & Meng

4) Liu & Winfield

5) Werfel

6) Arbuckle & Requicha

7) Bhalla & Bentley

8) Sayama

9) Bai & Breen

10) Nembrini & Winfield

11) Doursat, Sanchez, Dordea, Fourquet & Kowaliw

12) Beal

13) Kowaliw & Banzhaf

14) Cussat-Blanc, Pascalie, Mazac, Luga & Duthen

15) Montagna & Viroli

16) Michel, Spicher & Giavitto

17) Lobo, Fernandez & Vico

18) von Mammen, Phillips, Davison, Jamniczky, Hallgrimsson & Jacob

19) Verdenal, Combes & Escobar-Gutierrez

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The Promise of Unconventional / Natural Computing

(CS)

(ME)

(EE)

- 1. Tur(n)ing to Complex Systems
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- 3. Morphogenetic Engineering i.e. "Architectures without Architects"
 - 4. Embryomorphic Engineering i.e. "An Artificial Life Evo-Devo"

Exporting models of natural CS to ICT: "(bio-)inspiration"
already a tradition (although too re-engineered and "decomplexified")

- > A new line of bio-inspiration: *biological morphogenesis*
 - ✓ designing multi-agent models for decentralized systems engineering

Embryomorphic Engineering

whether simulated in a Turing machine...

... or embedded in bioware, nanoware...

Nothing in biology makes sense except in the light of evolution –Dobzhansky, 1973

Not much in evolution makes sense except in the light of multicellular development (or molecular self-assembly for unicellular organisms)

Nothing in development makes sense except in the light of complex systems

> Development: the missing link of the Modern Synthesis...

"When Charles Darwin proposed his theory of evolution by variation and selection, explaining selection was his great achievement. He could not explain <u>variation</u>. That was Darwin's dilemma."

"To understand novelty in evolution, we need to understand organisms down to their individual building blocks, down to their deepest components, for these are what undergo change."

> Development: the missing link of the Modern Synthesis...

macroscopic, <u>em</u>ergent level

microscopic, componential

level

"To understand novelty in evolution, we need to understand organisms down to their individual building blocks, down to their deepest components, for these are what undergo change."

> Nathan Sawaya www.brickartist.com

emergence

Development: the missing link of the Modern Synthesis...

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4.a. MapDevo Modular Architecture by Programmable Development http://doursat.free.fr/mapdevo.html

http://doursat.free.fr/mapdevo.html Doursat, Sanchez, Fernandez, Kowaliw & Vico (2012)

G

Capturing the essence of morphogenesis in an Artificial Life agent model

 $B_i = \sigma(L_i(X, Y)) = \sigma(w_{ix} X + w_{iy} Y - \theta_i)$

$$I_{k} = \prod_{i} |w'_{ki}| (w'_{ki}B_{i} + (1 - w'_{ki})/2)$$

Programmed patterning (patt): the hidden embryo atlas

- a) same swarm in different colormaps to visualize the agents' internal patterning variables *X*, *Y*, *B*_i and *I*_k (virtual *in situ hybridization*)
- b) consolidated view of all identity regions I_k for k = 1...9
- c) gene regulatory network used by each agent to calculate its expression levels, here: $B_1 = \sigma(1/3 X)$, $B_3 = \sigma(2/3 Y)$, $I_4 = B_1B_3(1 B_4)$, etc.

Bones & muscles: structural differentiation and properties

http://doursat.free.fr/mapdevo.html

Locomotion and behavior by muscle contraction

http://doursat.free.fr/mapdevo.html

Quantitative mutations: limb thickness

Qualitative mutations: limb position and differentiation

Doursat (2009)

by tinkering with the genotype, new architectures (phenotypes) can be obtained

Doursat (2009)

A simple challenge: path-based fitness

f = / end - start / / path length < 1

optimal body size?

optimal limb size?

limb size vs. fitness boxplots

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4.a. *MapDevo Modular Architecture by Programmable Development*

4.b. ProgLim Program-Limited Aggregation

(ME)

(CS)

Doursat, Fourquet, Dordea & Kowaliw (2012)

Ρ

Environment-Induced Polyphenism

Microevolutionary Polymorphism

Macroevolution

http://doursat.free.fr/proglim.html

Preferential Programmed Attachment Networking (ProgNet)

Diffusion-Program-Limited Aggregation (ProgLim)

Doursat, Fourquet, Dordea & Kowaliw (2012)

(b)

Stereotyped development

Port	Routine $P2$: Row of
Recta	angles
h =	10, w = 5, n = 4
if (:	x' = 0) then open X'
if (:	w % w = 0 then open Y'
if (y > 0) then close X'
if (y = h) then open X'
if (:	$x \ge n.w$) then close X'
if ($y \ge h$) then close Y'

Environment-Induced Polyphenism

Port Routine P5: Rectangles (b) h = 8, w = 5, n = 4, c = 9if (y % h = 0) then open X'if (x % w = 0) then open Y'if (y = h) then close Y'if (x = n.w) then close X'if (r(Y') = 1) then open Xif (y' > c & r(X') = 1) then open X

Port Routine P6 : Rectangles (c)

- h=8, w=5
- if (y % h = 0) then open X'
- if (x % w = 0) then open Y'
- $\mathbf{if}\;(r(X)=1)\;\mathbf{then\;open}\;Y'$
- if (r(X') = 1) then open X

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