



September 2008 8 x 9, 659 pp., 130 illus. \$53.00/£34.95 (CLOTH) Short

ISBN-10: 0-262-06271-2 ISBN-13: 978-0-262-06271-8

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Bio-Inspired Artificial Intelligence Theories, Methods, and Technologies

Dario Floreano and Claudio Mattiussi



New approaches to artificial intelligence spring from the idea that intelligence emerges as much from cells, bodies, and societies as it does from evolution, development, and learning. Traditionally, artificial intelligence has been concerned with reproducing the abilities of human brains; newer approaches take inspiration from a wider range of biological structures that that are capable of autonomous self-organization. Examples of these new approaches include evolutionary computation and evolutionary electronics, artificial neural networks, immune systems, biorobotics, and swarm intelligence—to mention only a few. This book offers a comprehensive introduction to the emerging field of biologically inspired artificial intelligence that can be used as an upper-level text or as a reference for researchers.

Each chapter presents computational approaches inspired by a different biological system; each begins with background information about the biological system and then proceeds to develop computational models that make use of biological concepts. The chapters cover evolutionary computation and electronics; cellular systems; neural systems, including neuromorphic engineering; developmental systems; immune systems; behavioral systems—including several approaches to robotics, including behavior-based, bio-mimetic, epigenetic, and evolutionary robots; and collective systems, including swarm robotics as well as cooperative and competitive co-evolving systems. Chapters end with a concluding overview and suggested reading.

A teacher's kit with slides and exercises is available online at http://baibook.epfl.ch/

About the Authors

Dario Floreano is Director of the Laboratory of Intelligent Systems at the Swiss Federal Institute of Technology in Lausanne (EPFL). He is the coauthor of *Evolutionary Robotics: The Biology, Intelligence, and Technology of Self-Organizing Machines* (MIT Press, 2000).

Claudio Mattiussi is a researcher at the Laboratory of Intelligent Systems at EPFL.

Reviews

"The vast majority of this book is very accessible, engaging to read and easy to follow. It is definitely a good introduction for anybody interested in biologically inspired artificial intelligence. In summary, Floreano and Mattiussi deliver a great book that I highly recommend."

-Ivan Garibay, Genetic Programming and Evolvable Machines

Endorsements

"Bio-Inspired Artificial Intelligence brings together all the things I've been interested in for the last 25 years, and surprises me by providing a coherent intellectual framework for them all. This book is a treasure trove of history from Darwin to Gibson and Walter, an unambiguous tutorial on how to build a plethora of computational models, and a healthy exploration of the philosophies that have driven wide ranging research agendas."

-Rodney Brooks, Panasonic Professor of Robotics, Department of Electrical Engineering and Computer Science, MIT

"Competent, lucid, well-written, *Bio-Inspired Artificial Intelligence* contains precisely the material you want from a comprehensive textbook, with many highly informative examples from biology, engineering, and computing. This book has the potential to become the new standard in the artificial intelligence field."

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