CSM6120 Fundamentals of Intelligent Systems

Report: Oral presentation and discussion of analytic report on scientific paper

Academic Year 2019–2020

Thomas Jansen

1 Introduction

This is the first assignment for CSM6120 'Fundamentals of Intelligent Systems' and comprises 40% of the total marks for the module. It gives information about the different components, how and when to hand in, specifies the tasks you have to perform, and highlights the criteria from which the assignment will be marked. Please follow these instructions carefully. If anything is unclear or you have any questions, please, send an email to `t.jansen@aber.ac.uk` and ask!

This assignment prepares you to submit work to a scientific conference and present it in case it is accepted. We use this year's *Genetic and Evolutionary Computation Conference* (GECCO 2019) as example, the arguable most important international conference on evolutionary search. Most researchers submit their work as 'full papers' for consideration. In a selection process based on peer reviews a submission is either accepted as full paper, accepted as poster, or rejected. If a paper is accepted as a poster the authors have to reduce their full length submission to only two pages.

You are asked to do this based on a paper that was actually accepted as a full paper. Pretend that you are author of a GECCO paper that has been accepted as poster only and that needs to be shortened to only two pages. The shortened paper should, ideally, contain the same scientific contents but omit details and have a more concentrated presentation. If it is inevitable that contents is removed, the more important contributions should be kept.

These shorter papers are called 'poster-only papers' because the authors present them in a poster session based on a poster they prepare. You also have to prepare such a poster and present it to all participants of the modules.

2 Hand-In

You have to write a scientific paper (called a report) that is two pages long based on a specific paper that is longer (usually 5–8 pages). Additionally, you have to prepare a poster about this paper and present the paper to all participants of the modules.

You are asked to submit the report via Blackboard. The deadline for submission is 5th November 2019, at 1pm.

You are asked to submit the poster via Blackboard. The deadline for submission is 8th November 2019, at 1pm.

By submitting your work you are acknowledging that it is your own work and that you are aware of both the University's and the Department's views on plagiarism. See the section on plagiarism at the end of the assignment for the special rules that apply here.

3 Task

You have to write a scientific paper (called a report) that is two pages long based on a specific paper that is longer (usually 5–8 pages). You can chose from the list of all accepted full papers at this year's *Genetic and Evolutionary Computation Conference* (GECCO 2018). The list is available at `http://gecco-2019.sigevo.org/index.html/Accepted+Papers` (also available on Blackboard) and contains 173 papers. Be careful to only consider the accepted full papers, not the posters! Another list of the same full papers is available at `http://dblp.org/db/conf/gecco/gecco2019.html`. Be careful not to chose the introduction or one of the three keynote talks! To help you chose a paper, you can find abstracts of all papers in a PDF at `https://gecco-2019.sigevo.org/index.html/dl1477` (starting on page 102 (page 104 in the PDF), also available on Blackboard) where you can search for the paper title. The second list also contains links to the papers in the ACM Digital including abstracts.

To make sure that no two students chose the same paper send your choice by 3rd October 2019, 4pm, to `t.jansen@aber.ac.uk`. The selection will be confirmed on the 7th October 2019.

If you have difficulties deciding which paper to chose or if you have difficulties with the paper, please, contact me as soon as possible to arrange to discuss your questions.

Additionally, you have to prepare a poster for a presentation to all participants in the module about your paper. Instead of printing actual posters we will prepare mock posters on A4 paper that will be made available to all participants. However, design your poster for paper size A1.

There are specific requirements for your report as well as the poster that are specified in the next section. Please, follow them closely. Also consider the marking scheme to understand what is expected.

4 Requirements

The **report** has to be written following the GECCO instructions for poster-only papers given on `https://gecco-2019.sigevo.org/index.html/Papers+Submission+Instructions` (also available on Blackboard). The web site also contains template files for LaTeX and Word that help to get the formatting correct. Note that for writing the report special plagiarism rules apply, explained in the plagiarism section at the end of the assignment brief.

The report has to be submitted as a single document via Blackboard before the deadline. If you use LaTeX submit a PDF file. **The submission deadline for the report is 5th November 2019 (1pm).**

The **poster** has to be submitted via Blackboard before the deadline. You are free to use any software to create the poster but it has to be submitted as a single document in PDF formatted for A1 paper. **The submission deadline for the poster is 8th November 2019 (1pm).**

The **presentation** should be given in a way that explains the main contents of the paper, using the poster as visual aid, to an interested researcher in 5–10 minutes. We plan to have all presentations during work week (11th/12th November 2019).

5   Marks

The report accounts for 60% of the marks of the assignment, the poster for 20%, the presentation for 20%.

The **report** will be assessed under departmental assessment criteria in appendix AC (Essays) of the Student Handbook (`http://impacs-inter.dcs.aber.ac.uk/images/editor-content/Documentation/Handbooks/Appendices/AppendixAC.pdf`). The marks breakdown for this component is as follows, adding up to 60 marks (corresponding to the weight of 60%):

- 10 marks for the contents

- 10 marks for structure

- 10 marks for linguistic quality

- 10 marks for appropriate use of figures/tables/...

- 10 marks for references

- 10 marks for formal aspects (single file PDF submission via Blackboard; two pages; correct GECCO format)

The **poster** will be assessed under departmental assessment criteria in appendix AD (Oral Presentation; `http://impacs-inter.dcs.aber.ac.uk/images/editor-content/Documentation/Handbooks/Appendices/AppendixAD.pdf`) of the Student Handbook as far as applicable to posters as visual presentation aids. The marks breakdown for this component is as follows, adding up to 20 marks (corresponding to the weight of 20%):

- 5 marks for visual quality as a poster (mostly figures/tables; text well-structured (e. g., bullet lists) and only used where needed)

- 5 marks for contents

- 5 marks for overall appearance

- 5 marks for formal aspects (single file PDF submission via Blackboard; single page A1 size)

The **presentation** will be assessed under departmental assessment criteria in appendix AD (Oral Presentation; `http://impacs-inter.dcs.aber.ac.uk/images/editor-content/Documentation/Handbooks/Appendices/AppendixAD.pdf`) of the Student Handbook as far as applicable to presentations using a poster as visual aid. The marks breakdown for this component is as follows, adding up to 20 marks (corresponding to the weight of 20%):

- 5 marks for contents

- 5 marks for connection with poster

- 5 marks for ability to answer questions

- 5 marks for formal aspects (timing; clarity of voice; connection to audience)

The poster and presentation will both be marked by Thomas Jansen and the students present. The average of the students marks (taken as single mark) are averaged with Thomas's marks to yield the total mark for the poster and presentation.

6   Plagiarism

Please follow the guidelines from the Student Handbook (available on Blackboard in the study information module) to help you avoid straying from legitimate and desirable cooperation into the area of plagiarism.

In this assignment the original long paper you chose is **exempt** from the usual plagiarism rules: you can copy from this paper as much as you want without having to mark this as quotation and without referencing it. For example, you should probably copy the title without change. You might perhaps decide that you can copy the complete abstract unchanged, too. However, make sure that your report makes sense on its own. In the example, the unchanged abstract would still have to be an accurate reflection of your report, not only of the original (and much longer) paper.