

Marco VIRGOLIN

(updated: May 3, 2021)

CONTACT

ADDRESS: Chalmers University of Technology, Hörsalsvägen 7A, SE-412 96 Gothenburg, SE
PHONE: +31 633 852233
EMAIL: marco.virgolin@chalmers.se
WEBSITE: marcovirgolin.github.io

RESEARCH INTERESTS

Evolutionary Computation, Machine Learning, Explainable AI, Human-Machine Interaction

EDUCATION

ONGOING	Postdoctoral Fellow @ Chalmers University of Technology, Gothenburg, SE Supervisor: Prof. dr. Mattias WAHDE
MARCH 2020	Project Researcher @ Centrum Wiskunde & Informatica, Amsterdam, NL Supervisor: Prof. dr. Peter A.N. BOSMAN
NOVEMBER 2019	Ph.D. in Evolutionary Machine Learning @ Centrum Wiskunde & Informatica, Amsterdam, NL Promotors: Prof. dr. Peter A.N. BOSMAN, Prof. dr. Cees WITTEVEEN Co-promotor: Dr. Tanja ALDERLIESTEN
MARCH 2015	Master in Computer Engineering @ University of Trieste, Trieste, IT 110/110 <i>cum laude</i> Advisor: Prof. dr. Alberto BARTOLI
AUGUST 2014	Internship in Machine Learning for Cybersecurity @ Machine Learning Lab, University of Trieste, Trieste, IT Supervisor: Prof. dr. Alberto BARTOLI
OCTOBER 2012	Bachelor in Information Technology Engineering @ University of Trieste, Trieste, IT Advisor: Prof. dr. Maurizio FERMEGLIA

PUBLICATIONS

1. **M. Virgolin**, A. De Lorenzo, F. Randone, E. Medvet, and M. Wahde. Model learning with personalized interpretability estimation (ML-PIE). *To appear at the EC+DM Workshop of the Genetic and Evolutionary Computation Conference*, [preprint arXiv:2104.06060v3](#), [arXiv \(2021\)](#).
2. **M. Virgolin**. Genetic programming is naturally suited to evolve bagging ensembles. *To appear at the Genetic and Evolutionary Computation Conference*, [preprint arXiv:2009.06037v5](#), [arXiv \(2021\)](#).
3. M. Wahde, **M. Virgolin**. Conversational agents: Theory and applications. *To appear as book chapter in Handbook on Computer Learning and Intelligence*, World Scientific (2021).
4. T. den Ottelander, A. Dushatskiy, **M. Virgolin**, and P.A.N. Bosman. Local search is a remarkably strong baseline for neural architecture search. **BEST PAPER AWARD** at [Evolutionary Multi-Criterion Optimization](#), pp. 465–479, Springer (2021).
5. **M. Virgolin**, A. de Lorenzo, E. Medvet, and F. Randone. Learning a formula of interpretability to learn interpretable formulas. [Parallel Problem Solving from Nature – PPSN XVI](#), pp. 79–93, Springer (2020).

6. **M. Virgolin.** Design and application of gene-pool optimal mixing evolutionary algorithms for genetic programming. *Doctoral dissertation, Delft University of Technology, Delft, the Netherlands* (2020).
7. **M. Virgolin, Z. Wang** (shared co-first authorship), B.V. Balgobind, I.W.E.M. van Dijk, J. Wiersma, P.S. Kroon, G.O. Janssens, M. van Herk, D.C. Hodgson, L. Zdravec Zaletel, C.R.N. Rasch, A. Bel, P.A.N. Bosman, and T. Alderliesten. Surrogate-free machine learning-based organ dose reconstruction for pediatric abdominal radiotherapy. *Physics in Medicine & Biology*, (2020).
8. **M. Virgolin, Z. Wang** (shared co-first authorship), B.V. Balgobind, I.W.E.M. van Dijk, J. Wiersma, D.C. Hodgson, A. Bryce-Atkinson, M. van Herk, C.R.N. Rasch, L. Zdravec Zaletel, P.S. Kroon, G.O. Janssens, A. Bel, P.A.N. Bosman, and T. Alderliesten. Highly-individualized dose reconstruction for pediatric abdominal radiotherapy with machine learning. *Preferred paper at ESTRO 2020, Radiotherapy and Oncology*, (2020).
9. **M. Virgolin, T. Alderliesten, and P.A.N. Bosman.** On explaining machine learning models by evolving crucial and compact features. *Swarm and Evolutionary Computation* 53, pp. 100640, Elsevier (2020).
10. **M. Virgolin, Z. Wang, T. Alderliesten, and P.A.N. Bosman.** Machine learning for the prediction of pseudorealistic pediatric abdominal phantoms for radiation dose reconstruction. *Journal of Medical Imaging*, 7 (4), pp. 1–25, SPIE (2020).
11. **M. Virgolin, Z. Wang, T. Alderliesten, and P.A.N. Bosman.** Machine learning for automatic construction of pediatric abdominal phantoms for radiation dose reconstruction. *In Proceedings of SPIE Medical Imaging 2020: Imaging Informatics for Healthcare, Research, and Applications*, International Society for Optics and Photonics, (2020).
12. **M. Virgolin, T. Alderliesten, and P.A.N. Bosman.** Linear scaling with and within semantic backpropagation-based genetic programming for symbolic regression. *In Proceedings of the Genetic and Evolutionary Computation Conference (GECCO '19)*, pp. 1084–1092, ACM (2019).
13. Z. Wang, B.V. Balgobind, **M. Virgolin**, I.W.E.M. van Dijk, J. Wiersma, C.M. Ronckers, P.A.N. Bosman, A. Bel, and T. Alderliesten. How do patient characteristics and anatomical features correlate to accuracy of organ dose reconstruction for Wilms' tumor radiation treatment plans when using a surrogate patient's CT scan? *Journal of Radiological Protection* 39 (2), pp. 598–619, IOP Publishing (2019).
14. **M. Virgolin, T. Alderliesten, C. Witteveen, and P.A.N. Bosman.** Improving model-based genetic programming for symbolic regression of small expressions. *Evolutionary Computation*, MIT Press (2020).
15. Z. Wang, **M. Virgolin**, P.A.N. Bosman, B.V. Balgobind, A. Bel, and T. Alderliesten. Automatic radiotherapy plan emulation for 3D dose reconstruction to enable big data analysis for historically treated patients. *In Proceedings of SPIE Medical Imaging 2019: Imaging Informatics for Healthcare, Research, and Applications* 10954, pp. 203–211, International Society for Optics and Photonics (2019).
16. E. Medvet, **M. Virgolin**, M. Castelli, P.A.N. Bosman, I. Gonçalves, and T. Tusar. Unveiling evolutionary algorithm representation with DU maps. *Genetic Programming and Evolvable Machines* 19 (3), pp. 351–389, Springer (2018).
17. **M. Virgolin, T. Alderliesten, A. Bel, C. Witteveen, and P.A.N. Bosman** (2018). Symbolic regression and feature construction with GP-GOMEA applied to radiotherapy dose reconstruction of childhood cancer survivors. *In Proceedings of the Genetic and Evolutionary Computation Conference (GECCO '18)*, pp. 1395–1402, ACM (2018).
18. **M. Virgolin, I.W.E.M. van Dijk, J. Wiersma, C.M. Ronckers, C. Witteveen, A. Bel, T. Alderliesten, and P.A.N. Bosman.** On the feasibility of automatically selecting similar patients in highly individualized radiotherapy dose reconstruction for historic data of pediatric cancer survivors. *Medical Physics* 45 (4), pp. 1504–1517, Wiley (2018).
19. **M. Virgolin, T. Alderliesten, C. Witteveen, and P.A.N. Bosman.** Scalable genetic programming by gene-pool optimal mixing and input-space entropy-based building-block learning. *In Proceedings of the Genetic and Evolutionary Computation Conference (GECCO '17)*, pp. 1041–1048, ACM (2017).
20. A. Bartoli, A. De Lorenzo, E. Medvet, F. Tarlao, and **M. Virgolin.** Evolutionary learning of syntax patterns for genic interaction extraction. *In Proceedings of the Genetic and Evolutionary Computation Conference (GECCO '15)*, pp. 1183–1190, ACM (2015).

NOTABLE TALKS

1. *Highly-individualized dose reconstruction for pediatric abdominal radiotherapy with machine learning* – ESTRO 2020, Vienna, Austria, November 2020
2. *Giving sight to recombination for more scalable genetic programming* – MIT Computer Science & Artificial Intelligence Lab, Boston, Massachusetts, USA, February 2020
3. *Evolutionary machine learning for 3D radiation dose reconstruction* – Delft AI Meetup Delft, the Netherlands, January 2020
4. *Linear scaling with and within semantic backpropagation-based genetic programming for symbolic regression* – the Genetic and Evolutionary Computation Conference, Prague, Czech Republic, July 2019
5. *Explainable, evolutionary machine learning for highly individualized radiation dose reconstruction* – Amsterdam Data Science 2018 Highlights, Amsterdam, the Netherlands, December 2018
6. *Symbolic regression and feature construction with GP-GOMEA applied to radiotherapy dose reconstruction of childhood cancer survivors* – the Genetic and Evolutionary Computation Conference, Kyoto, July 2018
7. *Automatic retrieval of similar patients by machine learning for 3D dose reconstruction* – Scientific Project Day, Universitair Medisch Centrum Utrecht, Utrecht, the Netherlands, October 2017
8. *Scalable GP by gene-pool optimal mixing and input-space entropy-based building-block learning* – the Genetic and Evolutionary Computation Conference, Berlin, July 2017

SERVICES

- Reviewer for the following journals:
 - IEEE Transactions on Evolutionary Computation (since 2019)
 - Genetic Programming and Evolvable Machines (since 2020)
 - Soft Computing (since 2020)
- Reviewer for the following books:
 - 2nd edition of the Handbook on Computer Learning and Intelligence (2021)
- Program committee member for the following conferences and events:
 - Parallel Problem Solving in Nature (2020)
 - Workshop Evolutionary and Population-based Optimization @ AlxIA (2020)
 - Journal Track @ European Conference on Machine Learning PKDD (2021)
 - Workshop and Tutorial on eXplainable Knowledge Discovery in Data Mining (XKDD) @ European Conference on Machine Learning PKDD (2021)
- Other services:
 - Session chair for the symposium “*Back to the Future and Beyond – Traversing the Ever-Evolving Landscape of Evolutionary Algorithms*” (2019)
 - Electronic media chair for the Genetic and Evolutionary Computation Conference (2017)

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

2021	Co-supervisor of Master Thesis <i>Chalmers University of Technology</i> , Gothenburg, SE. Co-supervision with Prof. dr. M. Wahde of Master Thesis by H. Zheng on natural language processing and conversational agents (title to be decided).
SEPTEMBER–OCTOBER 2020	Teaching Assistant <i>Chalmers University of Technology</i> , Gothenburg, SE. One-on-one student assistance and correction of practicals for the course “ <i>Stochastic Optimization Algorithms</i> ”
MAY 2020	Guest Lecturer <i>Delft University of Technology</i> , Delft, NL. Guest lecturer on Genetic Programming, incl. design and correction of a related assignment, for the course “ <i>Evolutionary Algorithms</i> ”
2019–2020	Co-supervisor of Master Thesis <i>Delft University of Technology</i> , Delft, NL. Co-supervision with M.Sc. A. Dushatskiy and Prof. dr. P.A.N. Bosman of Master Thesis by T. den Ottelander “ <i>Do More Elaborate Search Strategies Lead to Better Neural Architecture Search Performance?</i> ”
APRIL–JULY 2019	Teaching Assistant <i>Delft University of Technology</i> , Delft, NL. Assistance for exercise hours, design and correction of (part of) practicals and exam questions, and guest lecturer on Genetic Programming, for the course “ <i>Evolutionary Algorithms</i> ”
2018	Co-supervisor of Master Thesis <i>University of Utrecht</i> , Utrecht, NL. Co-supervision with Dr. D. Thierens of Master Thesis by S. de Vries, titled “ <i>Sensitivity Analysis Based Feature-Guided Evolution for Symbolic Regression</i> ”
FEBRUARY–JUNE 2017	Co-supervisor of Bachelor Seminar Course <i>Delft University of Technology</i> , Delft, NL. Co-supervision with Prof. dr. P.A.N. Bosman of Bachelor Seminar Course on Genetic Programming

INDUSTRY EXPERIENCE

AUGUST 2012–SEPTEMBER 2013	Front-end & Back-end Web Developer (Part-time) <i>Promoscience</i> , Area Science Park, Padriciano, IT
----------------------------	--

OTHER EXPERIENCE

2017	Electronic Media Chair for GECCO 2017 <i>Centrum Wiskunde & Informatica</i> , Amsterdam, NL. I worked on back-end, front-end, and maintenance of the website and social pages of GECCO. A noteworthy contribution is the proposal of a new style that would fit and modernize the website of the conference (shapely theme). From 2017 onward, GECCO's website has a new face.
2017	Member of PhD Activity Committee <i>Centrum Wiskunde & Informatica</i> , Amsterdam, NL. I organized and help organizing recreational events and activities.
2014–2015	Volunteer for ASsociazione TRIestina Ospedaliera (ASTRO) <i>Burlo Garofalo pediatric hospital</i> , Trieste, IT. I was keeping company and entertaining hospitalized children.
2012–2014	Member of Electrical Engineering STudents' European assoCiation (EESTEC) <i>University of Trieste</i> , Trieste, IT. I helped with the organization of recreational international summer schools and was first responsible for the organization of some events, among which a seminar on job opportunities after the studies (What's Next, speakers eng. Erni Durdevic, eng. Giorgio Faustini, prof. Eric Medvet), and a seminar on Machine Learning (speaker dr. Andrea de Lorenzo).

REFERENCES

- Prof. dr. Mattias WAHDE: Chalmers University of Technology, Gothenburg, Sweden
`mattias.wahde@chalmers.se`
- Prof. dr. Peter A.N. BOSMAN: Centrum Wiskunde & Informatica, Amsterdam, the Netherlands
Delft University of Technology, Delft, the Netherlands
`peter.bosman@cwi.nl`
- Prof. dr. Cees WITTEVEEN: Delft University of Technology, Delft, the Netherlands
`c.witteveen@tudelft.nl`
- Dr. Tanja ALDERLIESTEN: Leiden University Medical Center, Leiden, the Netherlands
`t.alderliesten@lumc.nl`
- Prof. dr. Alberto BARTOLI: Department of Engineering, University of Trieste, Trieste, Italy
`bartoli.alberto@units.it`
- Prof. dr. Eric MEDVET: Department of Engineering, University of Trieste, Trieste, Italy
`emedvet@units.it`