

Foreword

Workshop goals

Product configuration is the task of composing product models of complex systems from parameterizable components in the mass-customization business model. This task demands for powerful knowledge-representation formalisms and acquisition methods to capture the great variety and complexity of configurable product models. Furthermore, efficient reasoning methods are required to provide intelligent interactive behavior in configurator software, such as solution search, satisfaction of user preferences, personalization, optimization, diagnosis, etc...

The main goal of the workshop is to promote high-quality research in all technical areas related to configuration. The workshop is of interest for both researchers working in the various fields of applicable AI technologies mentioned below as well as for industry representatives interested in the relationship between configuration technology and the business problem behind configuration and mass customization. It provides a forum for the exchange of ideas, evaluations and experiences especially in the use of AI techniques within these application and research areas.

Workshop location and history

The Workshop on Configuration 2013 continues the series of successful workshops organized within IJCAI, AAAI, and ECAI since 1999 (for more details, please consult http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Knowledge-based_configuration). Beside researchers from a variety of different fields, past events also attracted a significant number of industrial participants from major configurator vendors Tacton, SAP, Oracle, Encoway, or IBM-ILOG, as well as from end-users Siemens, Renault, HP, or DaimlerChrysler. In 2013, the workshop is a stand-alone event for the first time and last one and a half days. It takes place in Vienna, Austria at the conference center of Siemens AG Österreich.

The working notes of this workshop gather contributions dealing with various topics closely related with configuration problem modeling and solving. The 16 papers demonstrate both the wide range of applicable techniques and the diversity of the problems and issues that need to be studied and solved to construct and adopt effective configurators.

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July 2013