Open Post-Doctoral Researcher Position in Evolutionary Robotics

Department of Computer Science
University of Cape Town, South Africa

The Department of Computer Science at the University of Cape Town has an open position for a post-doctoral researcher.

The researcher will participate in an ongoing evolutionary robotics research project, where the objective is to derive novel adaptive methods that autonomously adapt robot controllers (behaviours) and sensory-motor configurations (morphologies) such that large groups of robots (robotic swarms) autonomously produce problem solving collective behaviours for a range of tasks with high level user specified goals. Example tasks with such high level goals include, collective construction, disassembly or repair of a specific structure and cooperative search for and transport of specific objects.

The position is funded by the National Research Foundation and is for eighteen (18) months starting in June, 2015. Salary is commensurate with experience and expertise.

Eligibility:

1. Prospective candidates must have received their PhD within the last five (5) years.
2. Experience with evolutionary robotics, neuro-evolution, evolutionary computation and artificial neural networks is mandatory.

3. Strong programming (Java and C++) and statistical analysis skills are required.

A broader knowledge of various machine learning techniques and robotics is also highly desirable.

Interested individuals are encouraged to review pertinent publications at the Department of Computer Science and to contact Geoff Nitschke (gnitschke@cs.uct.ac.za) with questions about the position.

Those wishing to apply should send the following (PDF documents only) to Geoff Nitschke (gnitschke@cs.uct.ac.za):

1. Cover letter.
2. CV (including a list of publications).
3. Names and contact details of three academic referees.

Deadline: Applications must be received by June 15, 2015, 19.00 GMT.

Start Date: The successful candidate can begin as early as July 1, 2015.