



## Scope of the Conference

The Metaheuristics International Conference series was established in 1995 and this is its 9th edition. MIC is the main event focusing on the progress of the area of metaheuristics and their applications. As in previous editions, MIC 2011 will provide an opportunity to the international research community in metaheuristics to discuss recent research results, to develop new ideas and collaborations, and to meet old and make new friends in a friendly and relaxed atmosphere.

Presentations covering all aspects of metaheuristic research such as new algorithmic developments, high-impact applications, new research challenges, theoretical developments, implementation issues, in-depth experimental studies, etc. are welcome. MIC 2011 strives for a high-quality program that will be completed by a number of invited talks, tutorials, and special sessions.

## Relevant Research Areas

MIC 2011 solicits contributions dealing with any aspect of metaheuristics. Typical, but not exclusive, topics of interest are:

- Metaheuristic techniques such as tabu search, simulated annealing, iterated local search, variable neighborhood search, memory-based optimization, dynamic local search, evolutionary algorithms, memetic algorithms, ant colony optimization, variable neighborhood search, particle swarm optimization, scatter search, path relinking, etc.
- Algorithmic techniques that enhance the usability and increase the potential of metaheuristic algorithms such as parallelization of algorithms, reactive search mechanisms for self-tuning, offline metaheuristic algorithm configuration techniques, algorithm portfolios, etc.
- Empirical and theoretical research in metaheuristic including large-scale experimental analyses, algorithm comparisons, new experimental methodologies, engineering methodologies for stochastic local search algorithms, search space analysis, theoretical insights into properties of metaheuristic algorithms, etc.
- High-impact applications of metaheuristics in fields such as bioinformatics, electrical and mechanical engineering, telecommunications, sustainability, business, scheduling and timetabling. Particularly welcome are innovative applications of metaheuristic algorithms that have a potential of widening research frontiers.
- Contributions on the combination of metaheuristic techniques with those from other areas, such as integer programming, constraint programming, machine learning, etc.
- Challenging applications areas such as continuous, mixed discrete-continuous, multi-objective, stochastic, or dynamic problems.

## Invited speakers

Holger H. Hoos, University of British Columbia, Canada  
Andrea Lodi, Università degli Studi di Bologna, Italy  
Pascal Van Hentenryck, Brown University, USA

## Submission Details

We will accept submissions in three different formats:  
S1) Original research contributions for publication in the conference proceedings (max 10 pages)

S2) Extended abstracts of work-in-progress and position papers on an important research aspect (max 3 pages)

S3) High-quality manuscripts that have recently, within the last six months, been submitted or accepted for journal publication

Accepted contributions of categories S1 and S2 will be published in the conference proceedings. The proceedings will have an ISBN number. Accepted contributions of category S3 will be orally presented at the conference, but not be included into the conference proceedings (neither in the post-conference proceedings).

## Post-conference Publication

It has become a tradition of MIC conference to publish post-conference proceedings in an edited book. Authors of accepted papers in categories S1 and S2 (see submission details) are invited to submit improved and extended versions of their conference papers for publication in the MIC 2011 post-conference volume. The post-conference volume will appear in the Operations Research / Computer Science Interfaces series of Springer Verlag (confirmation pending).

## Best Paper Award

A best paper award will be presented at the conference. Only papers submitted in category S1 will be eligible for the best paper award.

## Special Sessions

The conference will integrate a number of special sessions. The submission to the special sessions will be through the same submission site as for the main conference. For submission details and paper categories, we refer to the main submission information.

## Important Dates

Submission:	March 6, 2011
Notification of acceptance:	May 13, 2011
Camera-ready papers:	May 27, 2011
Early registration:	June 6, 2011
Conference:	July 25-28, 2011

## Program chairs

Luca Di Gaspero, Università degli Studi di Udine, Italy  
Andrea Schaerf, Università degli Studi di Udine, Italy  
Thomas Stützle, Université Libre de Bruxelles, Belgium

## Information

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MIC 2011 Organizing committee  
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