

Preface

The work described in this book was first presented at the Eighth Workshop on Genetic Programming, Theory and Practice, organized by the Center for the Study of Complex Systems at the University of Michigan, Ann Arbor, May 20-22, 2010. The goal of this workshop series is to promote the exchange of research results and ideas between those who focus on Genetic Programming (GP) theory and those who focus on the application of GP to various real-world problems. In order to facilitate these interactions, the number of talks and participants was small and the time for discussion was large. Further, participants were asked to review each other's chapters *before* the workshop. Those reviewer comments, as well as discussion at the workshop, are reflected in the chapters presented in this book. Additional information about the workshop, addendums to chapters, and a site for continuing discussions by participants and by others can be found at <http://cscs.umich.edu/gtp-workshops/> .

We thank all the workshop participants for making the workshop an exciting and productive three days. In particular we thank the authors, without whose hard work and creative talents, neither the workshop nor the book would be possible. We also thank our keynote speaker Jürgen Schmidhuber, Director of the Swiss Artificial Intelligence Lab IDSIA, Professor of Artificial Intelligence at the University of Lugano, Switzerland, Head of the CogBotLab at TU Munich, Germany, and Professor SUPSI, Switzerland. Jürgen's talk inspired a great deal of discussion among the participants throughout the workshop.

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RICK RIOLO, TRENT MCCONAGHY AND
EKATERINA (KATYA) VLADISLAVLEVA



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