

Call for Papers

28th International Workshop on Evolutionary Rule-based Machine Learning

IWERL 2025 (formerly IWLCS)

to be held as part of GECCO (July 14 - 18, 2025) in Málaga, Spain (online participation possible)

Modern machine learning systems, including generative AI and large language models (LLMs), offer significant potential for addressing real-world challenges. However, the decision-making process of the majority of these models is often difficult to interpret. The interpretability of decisions is critical in many real-world applications. Evolutionary rule-based machine learning (ERL) systems generate niche-based solutions, require less memory, and can be trained using comparatively small data sets. The decision-making process of the ERL systems is interpretable, which is an important step toward eXplainable AI (XAI).

ERL methods have been developed using a diverse array of learning paradigms, including supervised learning, unsupervised learning, and reinforcement learning. ERL encompasses several prominent categories, such as Learning Classifier Systems, Ant-Miner, artificial immune systems, and fuzzy rule-based systems. The International Workshop on Evolutionary Rule-based Machine Learning (IWERL) is designed to provide a platform for sharing the research trends in the realm of ERL. It aims to highlight modern implementations of ERL systems for real-world applications and to show the effectiveness of ERL in creating flexible and eXplainable AI systems. The particular topics of interest of this workshop are (not exclusively):

- **Advances in ERL methods** local models, problem space partitioning, rule mixing, ...
- **Applications of ERL** medical domains, bioinformatics, computer vision, games, cyber-physical systems, ...
- **State-of-the-art analysis** surveys, sound comparative experimental benchmarks, carefully crafted reproducibility studies, ...
- **Formal developments in ERL** provably optimal parametrization, time bounds, generalization, ...
- **Comprehensibility of evolved rule sets** knowledge extraction, visualization, interpretation of decisions, XAI, ...
- **Advances in ERL paradigms** Michigan/Pittsburgh style, hybrids, iterative rule learning, ...
- **Hyperparameter optimization for ERL** hyperparameter selection, online self-adaptation, ...
- **Optimizations and parallel implementations** GPU acceleration, matching algorithms, ...
- **Generative AI and LLMs in ERL** Integration of generative models and LLMs with ERL, ...

Submission deadline: March 26, 2025

Decision notification: April 28, 2025

Camera-ready deadline: May 5, 2025

Author's mandatory registration: May 8, 2025

Why submit to IWERL '25?

- reviews by [renowned ERL experts](#)
- published as part of the GECCO conference companion
- usually online within one month after the conference

Submissions

- This workshop accepts two types of submissions:
 - regular papers (up to 8 pages excl. references) on *novel* research
 - extended abstracts (up to 2 pages excl. references) summarizing, showcasing and/or highlighting your *recent, already-published, work on ERL*
- All submissions must conform to the [GECCO submission instructions](#) and be submitted via [GECCO's submission system](#).

Workshop organization

- Abubakar Siddique, Wellington Institute of Technology, New Zealand
- Michael Heider, University of Augsburg, Germany
- Hiroki Shiraishi, Yokohama National University, Japan

More information at <https://iwlcs.organic-computing.de>.

