ANDREW JAMES SMITH

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Date of Birth: 12 August 1975 **Nationality:** British

Education and Qualifications

1998 - Present
University of Edinburgh
Institute for Adaptive & Neural Computation (http://www.anc.ed.ac.uk/)
Ph.D. in Artificial Intelligence
"Dynamic Generalisation of Continuous Action Spaces in Reinforcement Learning: A Neurally Inspired Approach".

1996 - 1997
University of Edinburgh
Centre for Cognitive Science (http://www.cogsci.ed.ac.uk/)
M.Sc. in Cognitive Science
Class: Distinction

1993 - 1996
University of Kent at Canterbury
B.Sc. (Hons.) in Computer Science
Class: First

1991 - 1993
Solihull Sixth Form College
A Levels: Mathematics: Grade A
Computing: Grade A

1986 - 1991
Arden School, Knowle, Solihull
Nine GCSEs
Extension Mathematics: Distinction

Relevant Experience

1998 - 1999
University of Edinburgh
Tutoring various logic courses.

1997 - 1998
IBM, Winchester
Software developer on a product called *MQSeries*, designed to provide consistent and secure cross-platform communication. Worked with Unix (Solaris, AIX, HP), Windows NT and OS2.

1995/96 (Summer)
Root Solutions, Cambridge
Software developer.

Additional Information

My current research interests lie in understanding, engineering and modelling adaptive systems, both natural and artificial. My Ph.D. thesis addresses the issue of adapting real-valued actions in reinforcement learning tasks, with a particular emphasis on the use of unsupervised learning. My academic background is broad, drawing on computer science, cognitive science and artificial intelligence, and I am interested in focusing on research within any of these areas.

Study programmes that I have enjoyed include neural computation, cognitive psychology, natural language processing, and logic. During my postgraduate studies I tutored three logic courses on topics including first order logic, computability, Gödel's incompleteness theorems, Montague semantics and natural deduction, and also proposed and joint supervised an M.Sc. project on an application of genetic algorithms to robot learning.

I have been involved in a number of software engineering projects within both commercial and academic environments, and am familiar with a range of programming languages from C and C++, to Visual Basic, Pascal and Delphi, Matlab, Prolog (logic), Fortran (scientific), Miranda (functional), Occam (parallel), and 68000 assembler. Experienced with both Unix and Windows.

Activities and Interests

My other interests include music, mountaineering, squash, skiing and short story writing. I enjoy playing the piano, hiking in the Scottish Highlands, and have made a number of other trips to the Alps, Rockies, and more recently the Himalaya where our expedition climbed the highest trekking peak in Asia.

Referees

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