Journal policies

Mission and Scientific Patronage

The Electronic Transactions on Artificial Intelligence (ETAI) is published under the scientific patronage of the Royal Swedish Academy of Sciences and the European Coordinating Committee for Artificial Intelligence. Its goals are to maintain the highest scientific standards in scientific publishing and at the same time to participate in the innovation of the system of scientific publication. It is directed by the *Policy committee* and an *Editor-in-chief* which are named elsewhere in this issue.

Technical Organization

The ETAI is published in two editions: an electronic edition published by Linköping University Electronic Press, and a paper edition published by the Royal Swedish Academy of Sciences. The journal is owned by Linköping University, Sweden.

All correspondence concerning either of these editions should by sent to the editor-in-chief under the following address:

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ETAI's Mode of Operation

The Electronic Transactions on Artificial Intelligence (ETAI) referees and publishes research articles in selected areas of Artificial Intelligence. However, it is organized quite differently from traditional journals, in order to make the best possible use of the opportunities offered by the Internet technology. In fact, it can be viewed both as an *activity* and as a *research journal.*

In its role as a research journal, ETAI reviews, referees, and distributes research articles and research notes according to consistently high scientific standards. All articles in the present issue.

In its role as a research communication activity, the ETAI organizes online communication over the Internet about received articles, both before and after their refereeing. Major parts of the debate about an article is performed in public, and with active participation by the researchers in the respective area of A.I. Only the strict part of the refereeing, that is, the decision whether to accept the article or not, is done by anonymous referees.

The ETAI operates without subscription charges. Major parts of the distribution cost are shared in a natural way between the author side and the reader side. The author side must arrange for the persistent publication of their articles through approved First Publication Archives (FPAs). For the case of the electronic edition, the reader side carries the costs of network access, computer and printing devices, and paper and ink for the printer. The mediating reviewing and refereeing processes are organized on a community-service basis within the present research community. The paper edition is sold at self-cost.

The ETAI imposes strict requirements on its participating First Publication Archives, in order to insure the integrity of ETAI received articles, in their electronic edition, even over long periods of time. Articles that have been published in First Publication Archives can not be removed or changed, also not by their own author. Improved versions can be added, but the publication date of each version must always be posted and subjected to a reliable verification scheme.

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A more complete description of how ETAI is organized and of its quality assurance scheme, as well as the peer-based information and discussion that is associated with ETAI articles, is found at the following URL:

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