University of Granada, JJ Merelo

Short CV

JJ Merelo is a professor at the university of Granada, where he studied and has been teaching since 1988. He became involved with evolutionary computation circa 1993, as a part of his PhD research on evolutionary neural nets. Since then, he's been involved in many venues of research related to metaheuristics, including ACO algorithms, PSO, as well as adjacent areas like complex networks or artificial life.

Within the area of EC, he's specially interested in novel paradigms applied to it and how the concept of evolution carries over to them; he's been working in concurrent/functional/stateless versions of EC, and interested and implied in low-level implementation.

He's an active supporter of free software, and is part of the core group developing the Raku language. He's also been involved in the organization of several conferences, including EC related ones like PPSN or EvoStar.

Google Citations profile: https://scholar.google.com/citations?hl=es&user=gFxqc64AAAAJ

Github profile: github.com/JJ

Telegram, Twitter: jjmerelo

Research group

The Geneura research group includes several professors, as well as some PhD students, spread across several universities in Spain, France, Portugal and Mexico. Main topics of research are

- Computational intelligence in games.
- Data science applied to soccer and other games.
- Procedural content generation using metaheuristics.
- Distributed/concurrent evolutionary algorithms.

We disseminate our work in Twitter (@geneura) and the web https://geneura.wordpress.com.

Work to be carried out by the student

In principle, we are open to any line of work related to the topics we have experience with. We would be specially interested in procedural game generation, but working with concurrent evolutionary algorithms would also be of interest to us.

The main issue, however, is that our group is committed with open science, carrying out all our research in the open, including open repositories and open-source sofware and data for our work. So the student would have to release all software, data and documentes related to work carried out under a free license.

We also emphasize software craftmantship, using test-driven development to boost reproducibility of our results.

About the university and the city

Granada is a lively and livable city, well communicated by plane with the rest of Europe and by train with Madrid and other capitals. Our institution has space for invited researchers on our campus.
Additionally, the tech scene is quite interesting, with lots of tech events, including Granada AI meetup, as well as LibreLab, a conduit for all kinds of open technologies.