

Dagstuhl Seminar on
**Adaptive, Output Sensitive, Online
and Parameterized Algorithms**
Executive Summary

Dates: 9.04.09 - 24.04.09, Seminar 09171

Organizers: Jérémy Barbay (DCC - Universidad de Chile, CL)
Rolf Klein (Universität Bonn, DE)
Alejandro Lopez-Ortiz (University of Waterloo, CA)
Rolf Niedermeier (Universität Jena, DE)

Topics: Databases, data structures, algorithms, complexity, computer graphics, optimization, scheduling.

Keywords: Adaptive analysis, instance optimal algorithms, fixed parameter tractable, output sensitive algorithms.

Traditionally the analysis of algorithms measures the complexity of a problem or algorithm in terms of the worst-case behavior over all inputs of a given size. However, in certain cases an improved algorithm can be obtained by considering a finer partition of the input space. As this idea has been independently rediscovered in many areas, the workshop gathered participants from different fields in order to explore the impact and the limits of this technique, in the hope to spring new collaboration and to seed the unification of the technique.

The workshop was organized into a serie of tutorials and “bridging” talks in the first two days, followed by a three days of more regular taks grouped by pairs of themes, with a large amount of time left for interaction in the afternoon, and two “exchange sessions” on Tuesday and Wednesday evenings.

The workshop succeeded in attracting many young students, and a proportion of female participants larger than usual in computer science. The survey attests in particular that the workshop suggested new directions of research (22 participants rated the sentence “The seminar identified new research directions.” on average of 4.05 out of 5), but that participants would prefer to receive the schedule of the workshop earlier.

During the exchange sessions, many participants mentionned that they enjoyed from hearing about proof techniques and open problems in areas they were not familiar with before. After the session, several participants, both young and more experienced, contacted the organizers separately to express their satisfaction with the social aspect of the seminar.