Artificial Intelligence

Classic Paper Award 2020

Temporal Constraint Networks

Rina Dechter, Itay Meiri, Judea Pearl

This seminal paper introduced the temporal constraint satisfaction problem (TCSP), for quantitative temporal reasoning. The TCSP, and the polytime solvable special case of simple (non-disjunctive) temporal problems, have gained widespread use in planning & scheduling and other applications. The simple and elegant problem formulation of this paper also inspired subsequent work on temporal reasoning with temporal uncertainty, preferences, and other extensions.
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