From: IN%"Robert.Landau@dravido.soar.cs.cmu.edu" 30-AUG-1993 23:14:28.90
To: IN%"rekers@robin.rp.CSIRO.AU"
CC:
Subj: Faulty: Report from IJCAI-93

Hi Ron,

I'm writing from the Artificial Intelligence conference in France to keep you up to date on
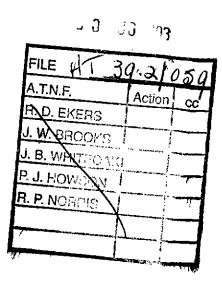our dissemination of information about the   Faulty.

I gave my paper at the workshop on innovative applications yesterday, where it was well
received. It had been given two positive reviews and one neutral one in May when it
was accepted, the objection being that I hadn't put Faulty in the context of other
projects of a similar type. An appropriate objection, but the reviewers thought I was
a computer scientist- everyone else at the workshop was-   . I'm learning some interesting
things about the field of expert systems   , particularly their connections with the
newer data-base management systems. However, I've noticed that, at least as represented
at this conference, there are noy   t a lot of completed expert systems that work at the
scale of ours, nor at its speed. The Workshop was particularly interested in the fact
that we could reason in time (we calculate trends) and that we are not CPU-cycle bound
(Faulty could run on a 80386). Combining non-AI pieces of the program (signature analysis)
with the rest of the diagnosis section to achieve speed is a recognized though unadvertised
part of some other systems, although the versatility of our approach was recognized.

The conference in New Zealand was somewhat less successful; I was told the day before I
left Narrabri that I would have to give my talk as a poster, but I had no time to change
the format of my presentation, so I just put up photocopies of my paper that I had sent
to Ravi Sood for publication in the Procedings of the Q   ASA. It looked undistinguished,
and no one asked me about it except Brad Carter. The papers at the sessons, I thought
were quite good. (Jessica's was an example).

I've been invited to give two lectures in Russia next month. One at the Institute for
Applied Astronomy on Faulty - apparently the Institute is building a 30-meter telescope
and would like to hear about diagnosis. The other at the Institute for Theoretical
Astronomy on general principles of AI, about which I knoz   w two beans, but I'm told
the Institute is interested in learning about AI and only know one bean. We'll see.

Working with my managers at the AT was difficult, as you know. People like Russell and
Mike Hayes kept me going by being enthusu   iastic users and my own motivation helped.
But you also kept me going, and I've been trying to analyse what it is about your approach
that keeps so many people so loyal. I think it was because you gave me information, even
if it might not be (or especially because it might not be) relevant- it created trust
and a feeling of colaboration. If I left Faulty useful, a third of the credit is yours.

Cheers,
-Rob

Date: Fri, 05 Nov 1993 16:06:12 +1100
From: Ron Ekers <REKERS@atnf.CSIRO.AU>
Subject: Fault diagnosis system - report from Rob Laundau in France
To: rfrater@iise.csiro.au
Content-Type: TEXT/PLAIN; CHARSET=ISO-8859-1
Content-Transfer-Encoding: BASE64

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