

After a PhD in physics in 1987 (U Giessen, Germany) and postdoctoral visits (ecole normale superieure, Paris and UC Santa Cruz) in 1989-90 Manfred Opper received a habilitation degree in theoretical physics in 1991. In 1992 he was awarded the Physics Prize of the German Physical Society for his work on learning in neural networks. After some time as a research associate (Giessen and Wuerzburg, Germany) he was awarded a Heisenberg fellowship in 1994 which he spent at the machine learning group of UC Santa Cruz and at the Weizmann Institute in Israel. He joined the Neural Computing Research Group at Aston University in Birmingham UK as a reader in 1997. In 2004 he moved to the ISIS group of Southampton University, where he became a professor in 2005. Since 2006 he is a professor for artificial intelligence at the Technical University in Berlin, Germany. Manfred Opper has over 120 publications, mostly in applications of statistical mechanics and related probabilistic methods to problems of machine learning and other complex systems.