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Preface

The papers included in this volume were presented at the Catalanian Conference on Artificial Intelligence, which was held in Castellón, Spain on October 24–25, 2002. The main aim of the 5th Catalanian Conference on Artificial Intelligence (CCIA 2002) was to get the Catalanian Artificial Intelligence community together for a fruitful interchange of ideas, allowing researchers to get a quick overview of the local state of the art. Another important aim of the conference was to promote collaborations among research groups in the community.

Seventy-seven contributed papers were submitted. The program committee selected 48 among them, after considering the reviews provided by at least two referees per paper. Among these 48 accepted papers, 37 were original papers and therefore they were included in this volume. The number of submitted papers and the number of rejected papers had increased with respect to the last conference.

In this volume, final versions of the accepted papers incorporating the reviewers' comments have been included. We have arranged the contents into five subjects: Reasoning Models, Constraint Satisfaction, Machine Learning and Classification, Multi-Agent Systems, and Computer Vision and Robotics.

In the first subject, *Reasoning Models*, six of the 11 papers included deal with qualitative reasoning, four papers deal with case-based reasoning, and the other paper deals with representing dynamic processes.

In the second subject, *Constraint Satisfaction*, three papers were included two of them contain theoretical results and the other one combines Petri Nets with Constraint Satisfaction methodology to represent manufacturing architectures and production logistics.

In the third subject, *Machine Learning and Classification*, six of the eight papers included in the proceedings deal with classification of knowledge, another paper evaluates algorithms which perform feature selection for improving the inductive learner, and the remaining paper evaluates algorithms for record linkage.

The use of the *Multi-Agent System* (MAS) paradigm has increased sharply, and it's now an important field within Artificial Intelligence. In fact, many papers on this subject were received, from which five were included in this volume. The topics of these papers are very different: real-time MAS; the combination of MAS with case-based reasoning for autonomous learning from experience; the combination of MAS with learning and fuzzy logic for robot navigation; the application of MAS for organizing the procurement of organs and tissues for transplantation purposes; and the application of several approaches based on ant colony optimization to solve the resource constraint project scheduling problem.

For the last subject, *Computer Vision and Robotics*, one paper deals with robot path planning, and the other nine papers deal with topics of computer vision, each very different and interesting: 3-D reconstruction; face classification; recognition of textures from different distances; unsupervised approach to image

segmentation; the use of panoramic images for motion segmentation; unsupervised parameterization of Gaussian Mixture Models; real-time visual inspection and classification of cork stoppers; the fusion of information from angiograms and intravascular ultrasound images; and an application to seek people wearing specific clothes.

CCIA 2002 was organized by the *Asociació Catalana d'Intel·ligència Artificial* (ACIA) which promotes this conference and the Universitat Jaume I de Castelló, the hosting institution. Support for this event was provided by the Associació Catalana d'Intel·ligència Artificial, the Departamento de Ingeniería y Ciencia de los Computadores de la Universitat Jaume I, the Fundació Caixa Castelló-Bancaixa, British Petroleum Oil Castellón, Generalitat Valenciana, and the Ministerio de Educación y Ciencia.

We would like to express our sincere gratitude to all the authors for making the conference and this book possible with their contributions and participation. We sincerely thank the members of the organizing and program committees, and the reviewers, for their invaluable efforts in helping with the preparation of this event. We explicitly want mention the invaluable effort of Feliciano Manzano Casas. Thanks also to the invited speakers, Christian Freksa and José del R. Millán.

The global assessment of the contributions contained in this volume is positive. They give a representative sample of the current state of the art in the Catalanian Artificial Intelligence community.

July 2002

Maria Teresa Escrig Monferrer
Francisco Toledo Lobo

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Table of Contents

Reasoning Models

Components for Case-Based Reasoning Systems	1
<i>Chema Abásolo, Enric Plaza, Josep-Lluís Arcos</i>	
Analysis of Tensions in a Population Based on the Adequacy Concept	17
<i>J. Aguilar-Martin, N. Agell, M. Sánchez, F. Prats</i>	
Qualitative Velocity	29
<i>M. Teresa Escrig Monferrer, Francisco Toledo Lobo</i>	
Knowledge Representation Model for Dynamic Processes	40
<i>Gabriel Fiol-Roig</i>	
A Decision Case-Based System, That Reasons in Uncertainty Conditions ..	54
<i>Ilana Gutiérrez Martínez, Rafael E. Bello Pérez</i>	
Modeling Motion Qualitatively: Integrating Space and Time	64
<i>Lledó Museros, M. Teresa Escrig Monferrer</i>	
Qualitative Comparison of Temporal Series. <i>QSI</i>	75
<i>J.A. Ortega, F.J. Cuberos, R.M. Gasca, M. Toro, J. Torres</i>	
Integrating 3D Orientation Models	88
<i>Julio Pacheco, M. Teresa Escrig Monferrer, Francisco Toledo Lobo</i>	
Improving Reliability in Classification of Microcalcifications in Digital Mammograms Using Case-Based Reasoning	101
<i>Carles Vallespi, Elisabet Golobardes, Joan Martí</i>	
Fusion of Qualitative Preferences with Different Vocabularies	113
<i>Aïda Valls, Vicenç Torra</i>	
FUTURA: Hybrid System for Electric Load Forecasting by Using Case-Based Reasoning and Expert System	125
<i>Raúl Vilcahuamán, Joaquim Meléndez, Josep Lluís de la Rosa</i>	

Constraint Satisfaction

Minimal and Redundant SAT Encodings for the All-Interval-Series Problem	139
<i>T. Alsinet, R. Béjar, A. Cabiscol, C. Fernández, F. Manyà</i>	
PN to CSP Methodology: Improved Bounds	145
<i>Daniel Riera, Miquel A. Piera, Antoni Guasch</i>	

Disjunction of Non-binary and Numeric Constraint Satisfaction Problems	159
<i>Miguel A. Salido, Federico Barber</i>	

Machine Learning and Classification

An Empirical Approach to Discourse Markers by Clustering	173
<i>Laura Alonso, Irene Castellón, Karina Gibert, Lluís Padró</i>	

The Role of Interval Initialization in a GBML System with Rule Representation and Adaptive Discrete Intervals	184
<i>Jaume Bacardit, Josep Maria Garrell</i>	

Feature Subset Selection in an ICA Space	196
<i>Marco Bressan, Jordi Vitrià</i>	

Validating Distance-Based Record Linkage with Probabilistic Record Linkage	207
<i>Josep Domingo-Ferrer, Vicenç Torra</i>	

Evaluating Feature Selection Algorithms	216
<i>Luis Carlos Molina, Lluís Belanche, Àngela Nebot</i>	

KDSM Methodology for Knowledge Discovery from Ill-Structured Domains Presenting Very Short and Repeated Serial Measures with Blocking Factor	228
<i>Jorge Rodas, Karina Gibert, J. Emilio Rojo</i>	

On Filtering the Training Prototypes in Nearest Neighbour Classification	239
<i>J.S. Sánchez, R. Barandela, F.J. Ferri</i>	

Classification of Abnormal Situations in a Waste Water Treatment Plant	249
<i>Adama Traoré, Monique Polit, Cecilio Angulo, Andreu Català</i>	

MultiAgent Systems

Ant Colonies for the RCPS Problem	257
<i>Joaquín Bautista, Jordi Pereira</i>	

A Multi-agent Architecture Integrating Learning and Fuzzy Techniques for Landmark-Based Robot Navigation	269
<i>Dídac Busquets, Ramon López de Màntaras, C. Sierra, T.G. Dietterich</i>	

SIMBA: An Approach for Real-Time Multi-agent Systems	282
<i>V. Julian, C. Carrascosa, M. Rebollo, J. Soler, V. Botti</i>	

Cooperative Case Bartering for Case-Based Reasoning Agents	294
<i>Santiago Ontañón, Enric Plaza</i>	

Integrating the Organ and Tissue Allocation Processes through an Agent-Mediated Electronic Institution	309
<i>Javier Vázquez-Salceda, Ulises Cortés, Julian Padget</i>	

Computer Vison and Robotics

Modelling the Acquisition Geometry of a C-Arm Angiography System for 3D Reconstruction	322
<i>Cristina Cañero, Eduardo Nofrerías, Josefina Mauri, Petia Radeva</i>	

Non-negative Matrix Factorization for Face Recognition	336
<i>David Guillaumet, Jordi Vitrià</i>	

Efficient Path Planning Using Harmonic Functions Computed on a Non-regular Grid	345
<i>Pedro Iñiguez, Jan Rosell</i>	

Image Texture Prediction Using Colour Photometric Stereo	355
<i>Xavier Lladó, Joan Martí, Maria Petrou</i>	

Region-Boundary Cooperative Image Segmentation Based on Active Regions	364
<i>Xavier Muñoz, Jordi Freixenet, Xavier Cufí, Joan Martí</i>	

Spherical Panoramas for Pan-Tilt Camera Motion Compensation in Space-Variant Images	375
<i>Filiberto Pla, V. Javier Traver</i>	

Unsupervised Parameterisation of Gaussian Mixture Models	388
<i>Daniel Ponsa, Xavier Roca</i>	

Bayesian Classification for Inspection of Industrial Products	399
<i>Petia Radeva, Marco Bressan, A. Tovar, Jordi Vitrià</i>	

Internal and External Coronary Vessel Images Registration	408
<i>D. Rotger, Petia Radeva, Josefina Mauri, E. Fernandez-Nofrerias</i>	

Textual Descriptors for Browsing People by Visual Appearance	419
<i>Francesc Tous, Agnés Borràs, Robert Benavente, Ramon Baldrich, Maria Vanrell, Josep Lladós</i>	

Author Index	431
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