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Preface

The biennial Brazilian Symposium on Artificial Intelligence (SBIA 2002) – of which this is the 16th event – is a meeting and discussion forum for artificial intelligence researchers and practitioners worldwide. SBIA is the leading conference in Brazil for the presentation of research and applications in artificial intelligence. The first SBIA was held in 1984, and since 1995 it has been an international conference, with papers written in English and an international program committee, which this year was composed of 45 researchers from 13 countries. SBIA 2002 was held in conjunction with the VII Brazilian Symposium on Neural Networks (SBRN 2002). SBRN 2002 focuses on neural networks and on other models of computational intelligence.

SBIA 2002, supported by the Brazilian Computer Society (SBC), was held in Porto de Galinhas/Recife, Brazil, 11–14 November 2002. The call for papers was very successful, resulting in 146 papers submitted from 18 countries. A total of 39 papers were accepted for publication in the proceedings. We would like to thank the SBIA 2002 sponsoring organizations, CNPq, Capes, and CESAR, and also all the authors who submitted papers. In particular, we would like to thank the program committee members and the additional referees for the difficult task of reviewing and commenting on the submitted papers. We are also very grateful to our colleagues who provided invaluable organizational support and to Richard van de Stadt, the author of the Cyberchair system, a free software under GNU General Public License, that supported all the review process and the preparation of the proceedings.

November 2002

Guilherme Bittencourt
Geber Ramalho

Organization

SBIA 2002 was held in conjunction with the VII Brazilian Symposium on Neural Networks (SBRN 2002). Both conferences were organized by AI research groups that belong to the Federal University of Pernambuco.

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