

Lecture Notes in Artificial Intelligence

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Preface

The Portuguese Association for Artificial Intelligence (Associação Portuguesa Para a Inteligência Artificial-APPIA) has been organizing Portuguese Conferences on Artificial Intelligence, now held every second year, since 1985.

The present Fifth Conference on Artificial Intelligence, like the previous one, was aimed at an international audience and at a high standard regarding accepted communications.

The international status of the Conference can be assessed from the fact that 62 contributions from 13 countries were received (26 contributions from Portugal). All of them were reviewed by at least three researchers of the appropriate scientific areas, and the reviews closely scrutinized by the Program Committee. To guarantee a high scientific standard, the Program Committee decided to accept only those papers significantly better than merely acceptable, and in fact most of them were judged definitely acceptable. As a result, only 20 papers were accepted and included in these proceedings.

We would like to thank all the people who made important contributions to the technical quality of this Conference, namely the Program Committee members and the referees, listed elsewhere in these proceedings.

We also thank our invited speakers Hassan Aït-Kaci, Robin Cooper, Mark Drummond, Catherine Lassez Vladimir Lipschitz, and Werner Schimanovich for their presentations, which significantly increased the interest and quality of the Conference.

Finally, we would like to thank the institutions who have contributed (financially or otherwise) to the organization of this Conference, namely Fundação Calouste Gulbenkian, Instituto Nacional de Investigação Científica, Junta Nacional de Investigação Científica e Tecnológica, Fundação Luso-Americana para o Desenvolvimento, Banco Espírito Santo e Comercial de Lisboa, Caixa Geral de Depósitos, Companhia Portuguesa Radio Marconi, Alcatel Portugal, IBM Portuguesa, Centro de Inteligência Artificial do UNINOVA, and Departamento de Informática da Universidade Nova de Lisboa.

Lisbon, July 1991

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