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# Flexible Query Answering Systems

13th International Conference, FQAS 2019  
Amantea, Italy, July 2–5, 2019  
Proceedings

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# Preface

This volume contains the papers presented at the 13th International Conference on Flexible Query Answering Systems (FQAS 2019), held during July 2–5, 2019, in Amantea, Calabria.

FQAS is the premier conference focusing on the key issue in the information society of providing easy, flexible, and intuitive access to information to everybody. In targeting this issue, the conference draws on several research areas, such as information retrieval, database management, data science, information filtering, knowledge representation, knowledge discovery, analytics, soft computing, management of multimedia information, and human-computer interaction. The guiding topic of the FQAS conferences are innovative query systems aimed at providing easy, flexible, and human-friendly access to information. Such systems are becoming increasingly important due to the huge and always growing number of users, as well as the growing amount of available information. Thus, works related to the concepts of data science, data streams querying etc., were welcomed. This year, FQAS had a special theme: “flexible querying and analytics for smart cities and smart societies in the age of big data.” This provided a unique opportunity to focalize on emerging research trends that have been leading the research scene for several years.

This year FQAS received a significant number of submissions from over several countries. Most papers were reviewed by three Program Committee members. The committee finally decided to accept 33 papers. We are thankful to all the researchers that helped in the review process and made this possible. The conference program featured three invited talks, namely: “Logic, Machine Learning, and Security” by V. S. Subrahmanian, Dartmouth College, Nil, USA; “Personal Big Data, GDPR and Anonymization” by Josep Domingo-Ferrer, Universitat Rovira i Virgili, Spain; and “Querying Databases with Ontologies: 17 Years Later” by Enrico Franconi, Free University of Bozen-Bolzano, Italy. In addition to this, the conference program was also comprised of two tutorials, namely: “Supervised Learning for Prevalence Estimation” by Alejandro Moreo and Fabrizio Sebastiani, ISTI-CNR, Pisa, Italy; and “Approaches to Computational Models of Argumentation” by Matthias Thimm, Universitat Koblenz-Landau, Germany.

We are very grateful to our institutions that actively supported the organization of the conference. These were:

- Dipartimento di Science Politiche e Sociali, University of Calabria, Italy;
- Dipartimento di Ingegneria Informatica, Modellistica, Elettronica e Sistemistica, University of Calabria, Italy;
- Department of Electronic Systems, Aalborg University, Denmark;
- Istituto di Calcolo e Reti ad Alte Prestazioni, National Research Council, Italy;

- Centro di Competenza, ICT-SUD, Italy;
- Dipartimento di Ingegneria e Architettura, University of Trieste, Italy.

July 2019

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