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Series editor

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Flexible Query Answering Systems 2015

Proceedings of the 11th International Conference FQAS 2015, Cracow, Poland, October 26–28, 2015

Springer

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Foreword

This volume contains the papers presented at the Eleventh Flexible Query Answering Systems 2015 (FQAS-2015) held on October 26–28, 2015 in Cracow, Poland. The international conferences on Flexible Query Answering Systems (FQAS) are a series of premier conferences focusing on the key issue in the information society of providing easy, flexible, and intuitive access to information and knowledge to everybody, even people with a very limited computer literacy. In targeting this issue, the Conference draws on several research areas, such as information retrieval, database management, information filtering, knowledge representation, soft computing, management of multimedia information, and human-computer interaction. The Conference provides a unique opportunity for researchers, developers and practitioners to explore new ideas and approaches in a multidisciplinary forum. The previous FQAS conferences, which always attracted a large audience from all parts of the world, include: FQAS 2013 (Granada, Spain), FQAS 2011 (Ghent, Belgium), FQAS 2009 (Roskilde, Denmark), FQAS 2006 (Milano, Italy), FQAS 2004 (Lyon, France), FQAS 2002 (Copenhagen, Denmark), FQAS 2000 (Warsaw, Poland), FQAS 1998 (Roskilde, Denmark), FQAS 1996 (Roskilde, Denmark), FQAS 1994 (Roskilde, Denmark).

An important contribution of the Conference has also been the fact that has greatly facilitated, and often made possible, a deeper discussion on papers presented which as a rule has resulted in new collaborative works and a further progress in the areas.

The Workshop has been partially supported, financially and technically, by many organizations, notably: Systems Research Institute, Polish Academy of Sciences; Department IV of Engineering Sciences, Polish Academy of Sciences; Cracow Branch, Polish Academy of Sciences; Academia Europaea – The Hubert Curien Initiative Fund; Ghent University; Polish Association of Artificial Intelligence, and Polish Operational and Systems Research Society. Their support is acknowledged and highly appreciated.

We hope that the collection of main contributions presented at the Conference, completed with plenary talks by leading experts in the field, will provide a source of much needed information and inspiration on recent trends in the topics considered.

We wish to thank all the authors for their excellent contributions and their collaboration during the editing process of the volume. We are looking forward to the same fruitful collaboration during the next FQAS Conferences of this series that are planned for the years to come. Special thanks are due to the peer reviewers whose excellent and timely work has significantly contributed to the quality of the volume.

And last but not least, we wish to thank Dr. Tom Ditzinger, Dr. Leontina di Cecco and Mr. Holger Schaepe for their dedication and help to implement and finish this large publication project on time maintaining the highest publication standards.

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