Lecture Notes in Artificial Intelligence 6657

Edited by R. Goebel, J. Siekmann, and W. Wahlster

Subseries of Lecture Notes in Computer Science

Cory Butz Pawan Lingras (Eds.)

Advances in Artificial Intelligence

24th Canadian Conference
on Artificial Intelligence, Canadian AI 2011
St. John's, Canada, May 25-27, 2011
Proceedings

Springer

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ISSN 0302-9743 e-ISSN 1611-3349
ISBN 978-3-642-21042-6 e-ISBN 978-3-642-21043-3
DOI 10.1007/978-3-642-21043-3
Springer Heidelberg Dordrecht London New York

Library of Congress Control Number: 2011926783

CR Subject Classification (1998): I.3, H.3, I.2.7, H.4, F.1, H.5

LNCS Sublibrary: SL 7 – Artificial Intelligence

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Typesetting: Camera-ready by author, data conversion by Scientific Publishing Services, Chennai, India

Printed on acid-free paper

Springer is part of Springer Science+Business Media (www.springer.com)

Preface

This volume contains the papers presented at the 24th Canadian Conference on Artificial Intelligence (AI 2011). The conference was held in St. John's, Newfoundland and Labrador, during May 25–27, 2011, and was collocated with the 37th Graphics Interface Conference (GI 2011), and the 8th Canadian Conference on Computer and Robot Vision (CRV 2011).

The Program Committee received 81 submissions for the main conference, AI 2011, from across Canada and around the world. Each submission was reviewed by a minimum of four and up to five reviewers. For the final conference program and for inclusion in these proceedings, 23 regular papers, with allocation of 12 pages each, were selected. Additionally, 22 short papers, with allocation of 6 pages each, were accepted. Finally, 5 papers from the Graduate Student Symposium appear in the proceedings, each of which was allocated 4 pages.

The conference program featured three keynote presentations by Corinna Cortes, Head of Google Research, New York, David Poole, University of British Columbia, and Regina Barzilay, Massachusetts Institute of Technology.

One pre-conference workshop on text summarization, with its own proceedings, was held on May 24, 2011. This workshop was organized by Anna Kazantseva, Alistair Kennedy, Guy Lapalme, and Stan Szpakowicz.

We would like to thank all Program Committee members and external reviewers for their effort in providing high-quality reviews in a timely manner. We thank all the authors of submitted papers and the authors of selected papers for their collaboration in preparation of the final copy. The conference benefited from the practical perspective brought by the participants in the Industry Track session. Many thanks to Svetlana Kiritchenko, Maria Fernanda Caropreso, and Cristina Manfredotti for organizing the Graduate Student Symposium, and chairing the Program Committee of the symposium. The coordinating efforts of General Workshop Chair Sheela Ramanna are much appreciated. We express our gratitude to Jiye Li for her efforts in compiling these proceedings as the Proceedings Chair. We thank Wen Yan (Website Chair), Atefeh Farzindar (Industry Chair) and Dan Wu (Publicity Chair), for their time and effort.

We are in debt to Andrei Voronkov for developing the EasyChair conference management system and making it freely available to the academic world. EasyChair is a remarkable system with functionality that saved us a significant amount of time.

The conference was sponsored by the Canadian Artificial Intelligence Association (CAIAC), and we thank the CAIAC Executive Committee for the constant support. We would like to express our gratitude to John Barron, the AI/GI/CRV General Chair, Andrew Vardy, the AI/GI/CRV Local Arrangements Chair, and Orland Hoeber, the AI Local Organizing Chair, for making AI/GI/CRV 2011 an enjoyable experience.

March 2011

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