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Symbolic and Quantitative Approaches to Reasoning with Uncertainty

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Preface

Since 1991, the European Conference on Symbolic and Quantitative Approaches to Reasoning with Uncertainty (ECSQARU) has been a major forum for advances in the theory and practice of reasoning and decision making under uncertainty. The scope of ECSQARU is wide and includes, but is not limited to, fundamental issues, representation, inference, learning, and decision making in qualitative and numeric paradigms. The first ECSQARU conference (1991) was held in Marseilles, and since then it has been held in Granada (1993), Fribourg (1995), Bonn (1997), London (1999) and Toulouse (2001).

This volume contains the papers that were presented at ECSQARU 2003, held at Aalborg University, Denmark, from July 2 to July 5, 2003. The papers went through a rigorous reviewing process: three program committee members reviewed each paper monitored by an area chair, who made a final recommendation to the program co-chairs. In addition to the regular presentations, the technical program for ECSQARU 2003 also included talks by three distinguished invited speakers: Didier Dubois, Philippe Smets and Jeroen Vermunt. Didier Dubois and Jeroen Vermunt also contributed to this volume with papers on the subjects of their talks.

As a continuation of tradition, an affiliated workshop was held prior to the conference itself. The workshop was entitled “Uncertainty, Incompleteness, Imprecision and Conflict in Multiple Data Sources” and it was organized by Weiru Liu (UK), Laurence Cholvy (France), Salem Benferhat (France) and Anthony Hunter (UK). ECSQARU 2003 also included a special software demo session which was intended to promote software development activities in the area of tools supporting symbolic and quantitative approaches to reasoning with uncertainty. This volume contains two special papers that describe two of the presentations.

Finally, we would like to thank the area chairs, the members of the program committee and all the additional referees for their work. We would also like to thank Regitze Larsen and Lene Mogensen for their help with the organization of the conference.

April 2003

Thomas D. Nielsen
Nevin L. Zhang

Organization

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