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Preface

This volume constitutes the proceedings of the 2nd Atlantic Web Intelligence Conference (AWIC 2004). The conference was held in the city of Cancun, Mexico, a setting that inspired lively discussions and reflections on open issues facing the field of Web intelligence.

The AWIC conferences have been motivated by advances in the field of artificial intelligence and the challenges facing their application to Web-based systems. With this second edition, AWIC provided a forum for specialists from different disciplines of computer science to exchange their experiences and ideas in this growing field of research.

The selection of papers followed a strict, double-blind refereeing process by a renowned international committee. We received 57 contributions, with first authors from 15 different countries, from which 22 papers were selected to be presented and published in this proceedings volume. We thank all members of the Program Committee for their valuable reviews of the papers.

In addition, we were pleased to have as invited speakers Dr. Prabhakar Raghavan, Chief Scientist and Vice President of Emerging Technologies in Verity, Inc. and Consulting Professor of Computer Science at Stanford University, and Prof. C. Lee Giles, Davide Reese Professor of the School of Information Sciences and Technology at The Pennsylvania State University. Abstracts of their lectures are included in these proceedings.

In putting together this conference, we had the pleasure of working with an outstanding group of people. We thank them all for their hard work on behalf of this conference. In particular we would like to thank Manuel Montes y Gómez, Director of the Mexico Research Centre of the Web Intelligence Consortium, Elisa Moran, Marcela Rodríguez, and Jorge Niebla.

We extend a special acknowledgment to our sponsoring organizations: Centro de Investigación Científica y de Educación Superior de Ensenada, B.C., Universidad Michoacana de San Nicolás de Hidalgo, Instituto Nacional de Astrofísica, Óptica y Electrónica, and Sociedad Mexicana de Ciencia de la Computación, in Mexico, and Universidad Politécnica de Madrid, in Spain.

Last, but certainly not least, we thank you for your interest in AWIC 2004, and very much hope you find these conference proceedings to be enriching.

May 2004

Jesus Favela
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Table of Contents

Invited Speakers

Social Networks and the Web	1
<i>Prabhakar Raghavan</i>	

CiteSeer: Past, Present, and Future	2
<i>C. Lee Giles</i>	

Collaborative Filtering and Recommendation

A Fuzzy Linguistic Multi-agent Model for Information Gathering on the Web Based on Collaborative Filtering Techniques	3
<i>Enrique Herrera-Viedma, Carlos Porcel, Antonio Gabriel López, María Dolores Olvera, Karina Anaya</i>	

Case-Based Reasoning as a Prediction Strategy for Hybrid Recommender Systems	13
<i>Mark van Setten, Mettina Veenstra, Anton Nijholt, Betsy van Dijk</i>	

Supporting Web Communities

Facing Environment Discontinuity through User Location	23
<i>Rosa Alarcón, David A. Fuller</i>	

Adaptive Resource Management in the PIÑAS Web Cooperative Environment	33
<i>Sonia Mendoza, Dominique Decouchant, Ana María Martínez Enríquez, Alberto L. Morán</i>	

Multi-agent Systems

A Fuzzy Multi-agent System for Secure Remote Control of a Mobile Guard Robot	44
<i>Luis Mengual, Jesús Bobadilla, Garcían Triviño</i>	

Implementation of an Ontology Sharing Mechanism for Multiagent Systems Based on Web Services	54
<i>Leonid Sheremetov, Miguel Contreras, Alexander Smirnov</i>	

An Agent Based System for the Contextual Retrieval of Medical Information	64
<i>Marcela Rodríguez, Alfredo Preciado</i>	

Soft Computing Methods I

Attribute Reduction for Effective Intrusion Detection	74
<i>Fernando Godínez, Dieter Hutter, Raúl Monroy</i>	
Computing Minimal Probabilistic Rules from Probabilistic Decision Tables: Decision Matrix Approach	84
<i>Wojciech Ziarko, Xiang Xiao</i>	
A Framework for Extending Fuzzy Description Logic to Ontology Based Document Processing	95
<i>Shailendra Singh, Lipika Dey, Muhammad Abulaish</i>	

Text Processing and Semantic Web

On Correction of Semantic Errors in Natural Language Texts with a Dictionary of Literal Paronyms	105
<i>Alexander Gelbukh, Igor A. Bolshakov</i>	
Web-Based Sources for an Annotated Corpus Building and Composite Proper Name Identification	115
<i>Sofía N. Galicia-Haro, Alexander Gelbukh, Igor A. Bolshakov</i>	
Intelligent Automated Navigation through the Deep Web	125
<i>Vicente Luque Centeno, Carlos Delgado Kloos, Luis Sánchez Fernández, Norberto Fernández García</i>	

Web Information Retrieval

Extending the Rocchio Relevance Feedback Algorithm to Provide Contextual Retrieval	135
<i>Chris Jordan, Carolyn Watters</i>	
Toward a Document Model for Question Answering Systems	145
<i>Manuel Pérez-Coutiño, Tamar Solorio, Manuel Montes-y-Gómez, Aurelio López-López, Luis Villaseñor-Pineda</i>	
Designing Ontological Agents: an Alternative to Improve Information Retrieval in Federated Digital Libraries	155
<i>María A. Medina, Alfredo Sánchez, Alberto Chávez, Antonio Benítez</i>	

Categorization and Ranking

Query Clustering for Boosting Web Page Ranking	164
<i>Ricardo Baeza-Yates, Carlos Hurtado, Marcelo Mendoza</i>	
Fast Transforms in the Internet Document Retrieval	176
<i>Piotr S. Szczepaniak, Michał M. Jacymirski</i>	

Analysis of a Web Content Categorization System Based on Multi-agents	184
<i>Pedro A.C. Sousa, João P. Pimentão, Bruno R.D. Santos, A. Steiger Garção</i>	

Soft Computing Methods II

ImmoSoftWeb: a Web Based Fuzzy Application for Real Estate Management	196
<i>Carlos D. Barranco, Jesús Campaña, Juan M. Medina, Olga Pons</i>	

Adaptive Watermarking Algorithm for Binary Image Watermarks	207
<i>Beatriz Corona-Ramirez, Mariko Nakano-Miyatake, Hector Perez-Meana</i>	

Bayesian Methods to Estimate Future Load in Web Farms	217
<i>José M. Peña, Víctor Robles, Óscar Marbán, María S. Pérez</i>	

Author Index	227
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