## Lecture Notes in Artificial Intelligence 1502

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# Advanced Topics in Artificial Intelligence

11th Australian Joint Conference on Artificial Intelligence, AI'98 Brisbane, Australia, July 13-17, 1998 Selected Papers



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#### **Preface**

Al'98 is the 11th in a series of annual conferences on artificial intelligence held in Australia. The aim of the conference is to serve the Al community in Australia by providing a forum for discussions and the presentation of the most recent ideas and results. The conferences have traditionally attracted significant international participation, as was again the case with Al'98.

The current volume is based on the proceedings of AI'98. Full-length versions of all submitted papers were referred by the international program committees. As a result 28 papers – less than half of those submitted – were selected for publication in this volume.

The conference comprised a scientific track, an applications track, workshop and tutorial programs, and an invited session on philosophical aspects of AI. In addition there were three invited keynote speakers: Peter Cheeseman of the NASA Ames Center, Norman Foo of the University of New South Wales, and Bart Selman of Cornell University.

We extend our thanks to the members of the program committees who did an excellent job under very tight time constraints. Special thanks are due to Catrina Waterson and Joe Elso for making the paper reviewing process possible, and to Susan Williams and the other people of Conventions Queensland for organising the conference. We are also grateful to the Australian National Committee for Artificial Intelligence and Expert Systems, Griffith University, the Australian National University, and the University of New South Wales for their financial support of the conference. Finally, we would like to thank everybody else who contributed to the organization of AI'98, and of course the participants and authors without whom it could not have taken place.

Brisbane, July 1998

Grigoris Antoniou, Conference Co-Chair John Slaney, Program Committee Chair

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