

Preface

“How often we recall, with regret”, wrote Mark Twain about editors, “that Napoleon once shot at a magazine editor and missed him and killed a publisher. But we remember with charity, that his intentions were good.” Fortunately, we live in more forgiving times, and are openly able to express our pleasure at being the editors of this volume containing the papers selected for presentation at the 14th International Conference on Inductive Logic Programming.

ILP 2004 was held in Porto from the 6th to the 8th of September, under the auspices of the Department of Electrical Engineering and Computing of the Faculty of Engineering of the University of Porto (FEUP), and the Laboratório de Inteligência Artificial e Ciências da Computação (LIACC). This annual meeting of ILP practitioners and curious outsiders is intended to act as the premier forum for presenting the most recent and exciting work in the field. Six invited talks—three from fields outside ILP, but nevertheless highly relevant to it— and 20 full presentations formed the nucleus of the conference. It is the full-length papers of these 20 presentations that comprise the bulk of this volume. As is now common with the ILP conference, presentations made to a “Work-in-Progress” track will, hopefully, be available elsewhere.

We gratefully acknowledge the continued support of Kluwer Academic Publishers for the “Best Student Paper” award on behalf of the *Machine Learning* journal; and Springer-Verlag for continuing to publish the proceedings of these conferences. The Fundação para a Ciência e a Tecnologia, Fundação Luso-Americana para o Desenvolvimento, Fundação Oriente, Departamento de Engenharia Electrotécnica e de Computadores, and KDNNet, the European Knowledge Discovery Network of Excellence have all been extremely generous, and we are thankful. Special mention too must be made of João Correia Lopes, who orchestrated the electronic components of the conference most beautifully.

Apreciem.

Porto, June 2004

Rui Camacho
Ross King
Ashwin Srinivasan

Program Committee Chairs

Ashwin Srinivasan	IBM India Research Laboratory, India
Ross King	University of Wales, United Kingdom

Program Committee

Michael Bain	University of New South Wales, Australia
Hendrik Blockeel	Katholieke Universiteit Leuven, Belgium
Luc De Raedt	Albert-Ludwigs-University Freiburg, Germany
Sašo Džeroski	Jozef Stefan Institute, Slovenia
Peter Flach	University of Bristol, United Kingdom
Lawrence Holder	University of Texas at Arlington, USA
Tamas Horvath	University of Bonn and Fraunhofer Inst. for AIS, Germany
Katsumi Inoue	National Institute of Informatics, Japan
Roni Khardon	Tufts University, USA
Jorg-Uwe Kietz	Switzerland
Ross King	University of Wales, United Kingdom
Stefan Kramer	TU München, Germany
Nicolas Lachiche	LSIIT, Pôle API, France
Nada Lavrač	Jozef Stefan Institute, Slovenia
Francesca Lisi	Università degli Studi di Bari, Italy
John Lloyd	Australian National University, Australia
Donato Malerba	University of Bari, Italy
Eric McCreath	Australian National University, Australia
Tetsuhiro Miyahara	Hiroshima City University, Japan
Stephen Muggleton	Imperial College London, United Kingdom
Ramon Otero	University of Corunna, Spain
Tomonobu Ozaki	Graduate School of Media and Governance, Japan
David Page	University of Wisconsin, USA
Jan Ramon	K.U.Leuven, Belgium
Dan Roth	University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, USA
Michele Sebag	Université Paris-Sud Orsay, France
Jude Shavlik	University of Wisconsin, USA
Takayoshi Shoudai	Kyushu University, Japan
Ashwin Srinivasan	IBM India Research Laboratory, India
Tomoyuki Uchida	Hiroshima City University, Japan
Christel Vrain	Université d'Orléans, France
Stefan Wrobel	Fraunhofer AIS and University of Bonn, Germany
Akihiro Yamamoto	Kyoto University, Japan
Gerson Zaverucha	Universidade Federal do Rio de Janeiro, Brazil
Filip Železný	Czech Institute of Technology in Prague, Czech Republic
Jean-Daniel Zucker	University of Paris XIII, France

Organizing Committee

Rui Camacho Universidade do Porto, Portugal
 João Correia Lopes Universidade do Porto, Portugal

Sponsoring Institutions

FCT, Fundação para a Ciência e a Tecnologia (Portugal)
 DEEC, Departamento de Engenharia Electrotécnica e de Computadores
 (FEUP, Portugal)
 FEUP, Faculdade de Engenharia da Universidade do Porto (Portugal)
 FLAD, Fundação Luso-Americana para o Desenvolvimento (Portugal)
 Fundação Oriente (Portugal)
 KDNet, The European Knowledge Discovery Network of Excellence
 “Machine Learning” journal of Kluwer Academic Publishers

Additional Referees

Annalisa Appice	Murdoch J. Gabbay
Teresa Basile	Kristian Kersting
Margherita Berardi	Nicola Di Mauro
Michelangelo Ceci	Richard Maclin
Yann Chevaleyre	Martijn van Otterlo
Vítor Santos Costa	Aloisio Carlos de Pina
Damjan Demšar	Philip Reiser
Frank DiMaio	Kate Revoredo
Nicola Fanizzi	Taisuke Sato
Stefano Ferilli	Antonio Varlaro
Daan Fierens	Joost Vennekens

Invited Speakers

James Cussens	University of York, United Kingdom
Luc Dehaspe	Katholieke Universiteit Leuven, Belgium
Jude Shavlik	University of Wisconsin-Madison, USA
Wray Buntine	Helsinki Institute of Information Technology, Finland
Pedro Domingos	University of Washington, USA
Steve Oliver	University of Manchester, United Kingdom