# Preface

The Twelfth International Conference on Inductive Logic Programming was held in Sydney, Australia, July 9–11, 2002. The conference was colocated with two other events, the Nineteenth International Conference on Machine Learning (ICML 2002) and the Fifteenth Annual Conference on Computational Learning Theory (COLT 2002).

Started in 1991, Inductive Logic Programming is the leading annual forum for researchers working in Inductive Logic Programming and Relational Learning.

Continuing a series of international conferences devoted to Inductive Logic Programming and Relational Learning, ILP 2002 was the central event in 2002 for researchers interested in learning relational knowledge from examples.

The Program Committee, following a resolution of the Community Meeting in Strasbourg in September 2001, took upon itself the issue of the possible change of the name of the conference. Following an extended e-mail discussion, a number of proposed names were subjected to a vote. In the first stage of the vote, two names were retained for the second vote. The two names were: Inductive Logic Programming, and Relational Learning. It had been decided that a 60% vote would be needed to change the name; the result of the vote was 57% in favor of the name Relational Learning. Consequently, the name Inductive Logic Programming was kept.

In order to facilitate submissions, the Program Committee decided to extend the deadline and at the same time publish the proceedings after the conference (the extended deadline was cutting into the time needed by the publisher to produce the proceedings from the camera-ready copy). At the extended deadline there were 45 submissions to the conference, which resulted in 24 accepted papers, of which two withdrew and 22 were presented.

The conference program consisted of two invited talks, the presentations of accepted technical papers, a Work-in-Progress session, and a panel. The invited talk by John Shawe-Taylor introduced the concept of the Set Covering Machine and its relations to ILP. The second invited talk, by Sašo Džeroski, joint with ICML, reviewed the goals of ILP and showed how they fruitfully support Computational Scientific Discovery. There was a Work-in-Progress session with 10 papers, whose abstracts were published in a separate booklet. Furthermore, there was a panel "If I had to start a Ph.D. in ILP today, what would my topic be?", chaired by S. Matwin, with the following panelists: I. Bratko, P. Flach, J. Lloyd, S. Muggleton, C. Rouveirol, P. Tadepalli, and L. Saitta.

The ILP 2002 technical program, as with previous editions of the conference, covered a broad range of topics, from implementation techniques to applications, and from kernels for structured data to associations for relational data.

ILP 2002 would not have been possible without the generous support of ILPNet2 to European participants. This is kindly acknowledged. Several volunteers assisted the Program Chairs in different phases of the organization of

the conference. We are very grateful to Erick Alphonse from Université Paris XI for his help in organizing the distribution of papers to reviewers, to Svetlana Kiritchenko from the University of Ottawa for her help in producing the camera-ready version of these proceedings, and to Michael Bain from the University of New South Wales for his help in local arrangements.

November 2002                                                    Stan Matwin
                                                                Claude Sammut

# Organization

Program Chairs:     Stan Matwin, University of Ottawa, Canada
                    Claude Sammut, University of New South Wales, Australia

## Program Committee

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| H. Blockeel (Belgium) | L. Holder (USA) | L. De Raedt (Germany) |
| J.F. Boulicaut (France) | T. Horvath (Germany) | D. Roth (USA) |
| I. Bratko (Slovenia) | D. Jensen (USA) | C. Rouveirol (France) |
| J. Cussens (UK) | R. Khardon (USA) | L. Saitta (Italy) |
| T. Dietterich (USA) | J.-U. Kietz (Switzerland) | M. Sebag (France) |
| S. Džeroski (Slovenia) | S. Kramer (Germany) | A. Srinivasan (UK) |
| F. Esposito (Italy) | N. Lavrač (Slovenia) | P. Tadepalli (USA) |
| P. Flach (UK) | R. Mooney (USA) | S. Wrobel (Germany) |
| J. Fürnkranz (Austria) | S. Muggleton (UK) | A. Yamamoto (Japan) |
| K. Furukawa (Japan) | D. Page (USA) | G. Zaverucha (Brazil) |
| L. Getoor (USA) | B. Pfahringer (NZ) | J.-D. Zucker (France) |