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Integration of AI and OR Techniques in Constraint Programming for Combinatorial Optimization Problems

Second International Conference, CPAIOR 2005
Prague, Czech Republic, May 30–June 1, 2005
Proceedings

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Preface

The 2nd International Conference on Integration of AI and OR Techniques in Constraint Programming for Combinatorial Optimization Problems (CPAIOR 2005) was held in Prague, Czech Republic, during May 31–June 1, 2005.

The conference is intended primarily as a forum to focus on the integration and hybridization of the approaches of constraint programming (CP), artificial intelligence (AI), and operations research (OR) technologies for solving large-scale and complex real-life optimization problems. Therefore, CPAIOR is never far from industrial applications.

The high number of submissions received this year, almost 100 papers, in witness to the interest of the research community in this conference. From these submissions, we chose 26 to be published in full in the proceedings.

This volume includes summaries of the invited talks of CPAIOR: one from industry, one from the embedded system research community, and one from the operations research community. The invited speakers were: Filippo Focacci from ILOG S.A., France, one of the leading companies in the field; Paul Pop, professor in the Embedded Systems Lab in the Computer and Information Science Department, Linköping University; and Paul Williams, full professor of Operations Research at the London School of Economics.

The day before CPAIOR, a Master Class was organized by Gilles Pesant, where leading researchers gave introductory and overview talks in the area of metaheuristics and constraint programming. The Master Class was intended for PhD students, researchers, and practitioners. We are very grateful to Gilles who brought this excellent program together.

For conference publicity we warmly thank Willem Jan van Hoeve and Petr Vilím who did a great job with the high number of submissions received. We are very grateful to Michel Rueher who took care of the non-trivial task of finding funds for covering speakers' expenses, proceedings, and student grants.

Many thanks to the Program Committee, who reviewed all the submissions in detail and discussed conflicting papers deeply. Due to the unexpected number of submissions, their load was almost double that expected and their effort was repaid with nothing more than a free dinner.

A special thanks goes to Ondřej Čepek from Charles University and Milena Zeithamlová from Action M Agency who spent time in budgeting, planning, booking, and making it all work.

Finally, we would like to thank the sponsors who make it possible to organize this conference: the ARTIST Network of Excellence for sponsoring the talk by Paul Pop and making an interesting cross-fertilization possible; Carmen Systems, Sweden; CoLogNet, Network of Excellence; IISI (Intelligent Information Systems Institute, Cornell), USA; ILOG S.A., France; and SICS, Sweden.

June 2005 Roman Barták and Michela Milano

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Table of Contents

Invited Papers

Technical Papers