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Preface

The biennial International Conference on Case-Based Reasoning (ICCBR) series, which began in Sesimbra, Portugal, in 1995, was intended to provide an international forum for the best fundamental and applied research in case-based reasoning (CBR). It was hoped that such a forum would encourage the growth and rigor of the field and overcome the previous tendency toward isolated national CBR communities.

The foresight of the original ICCBR organizers has been rewarded by the growth of a vigorous and cosmopolitan CBR community. CBR is now widely recognized as a powerful and important computational technique for a wide range of practical applications. By promoting an exchange of ideas among CBR researchers from across the globe, the ICCBR series has facilitated the broader acceptance and use of CBR.

ICCBR-99 has continued this tradition by attracting high-quality research and applications papers from around the world. Researchers from 21 countries submitted 80 papers to ICCBR-99. From these submissions, 17 papers were selected for long oral presentation, 7 were accepted for short oral presentation, and 19 papers were accepted as posters. This volume sets forth these 43 papers, which contain both mature work and innovative new ideas.

In addition to a technical session of invited talks, presentations, and posters, ICCBR-99 included an Industry Day, where the focus was on mature technology and applications in industry. Papers describing these “industrial-strength” applications are contained in a separate volume. Information on this volume is available at the ICCBR-99 home page, www.iccbr.org/iccbr99. The ICCBR-99 program also included four half-day workshops, also described in the ICCBR-99 home page.

The program chairs of ICCBR-99 were Klaus-Dieter Althoff, of the Fraunhofer Institute for Experimental Software Engineering, and L. Karl Branting, of the University of Wyoming. The conference chair was Ralph Bergmann, of the University of Kaiserslautern. The chairs would like to thank the program committee and the additional reviewers for their thoughtful and rigorous reviewing during the paper selection process.

The chairs gratefully acknowledge the generous support of ICCBR-99’s sponsors, the American Association for Artificial Intelligence (AAAI), AcknoSoft, BSR Consulting, DaimlerChrysler, the Fraunhofer Institute for Experimental Software Engineering, the German Society for Computer Science (Gesellschaft für Informatik, GI), Inference, Interactive Multimedia Systems, tec:inno, the University of Kaiserslautern, and the University of Wyoming. We would also like to thank Christine Harms for her assistance in making the local arrangements for the conference.

May 1999

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# Table of Contents

## Research Papers

Affect-Driven CBR to Generate Expressive Music ...................................................... 1  
*J. L. Arcos, D. Cañamero, and R. López de Mántaras*

Probability Based Metrics for Nearest Neighbor Classification and  
Case-Based Reasoning .............................................................................................. 14  
*E. Blanzieri and F. Ricci*

Active Exploration in Instance-Based Preference Modeling..................................... 29  
*L. K. Branting*

A Multiple-Domain Evaluation of Stratified Case-Based Reasoning ......................... 44  
*L. K. Branting and Y. Tao*

Bootstrapping Case Base Development with Annotated Case Summaries ................. 59  
*S. Brüninghaus and K. D. Ashley*

Activating CBR Systems through Autonomous Information Gathering .................... 74  
*C. Carrick, Q. Yang, I. Abi-Zeid, and L. Lamontagne*

Integrating CBR and Heuristic Search for Learning and Reusing Solutions  
in Real-Time Task Scheduling ................................................................................... 89  
*J. M. A. Coello and R. Camilo dos Santos*

Towards a Unified Theory of Adaptation in Case-Based Reasoning ....................... 104  
*B. Fuchs, J. Lieber, A. Mille, and A. Napoli*

A Knowledge-Level Task Model of Adaptation in Case-Based Reasoning .............. 118  
*B. Fuchs and A. Mille*

Development and Utilization of a Case-Based Help-Desk Support System in  
a Corporate Environment ....................................................................................... 132  
*M. Göker and T. Roth-Berghofer*

Modelling the CBR Life Cycle Using Description Logics ........................................ 147  
*M. Gómez-Albarrán, P. A. González-Calero, B. Díaz-Agudo, and  
C. Fernández-Conde*
An Evolutionary Approach to Case Adaptation ....................................................... 162
A. Gómez de Silva Garza and M. L. Maher

REMEX - A Case-Based Approach for Reusing Software Measurement
Experienceware ......................................................................................................... 173
C. Gresse von Wangenheim

A Unified Long-Term Memory System ................................................................. 188

Combining CBR with Interactive Knowledge Acquisition, Manipulation, and Reuse ................................................................. 203
D. B. Leake and D. C. Wilson

When Experience Is Wrong: Examining CBR for Changing Tasks and Environments ................................................................. 218
D. B. Leake and D. C. Wilson

Case Library Reduction Applied to Pile Foundations .............................................. 233
C. Lei, O. Babka, and L. A. G. Garanito

Case Representation, Acquisition, and Retrieval in SIROCCO ..................................... 248
B. McLaren and K. D. Ashley

Flexibly Interleaving Processes ................................................................................ 263
E. Melis and C. Ullrich

A Case Retention Policy Based on Detrimental Retrieval ......................................... 276
H. Muñoz-Avila

Using Guidelines to Constrain Interactive Case-Based HTN Planning .................. 288
H. Muñoz-Avila, D. C. McFarlane, D. W. Aha, L. Breslow, J. A. Ballas, and D. S. Nau

Speed-Up, Quality, and Competence in Multi-modal Case-Based Reasoning .......... 303
L. Portinale, P. Torasso, and P. Tavano

A Case-Based Methodology for Planning Individualized Case Oriented Tutoring ........................................................................... 318
A. Seitz

Building Compact Competent Case-Bases ............................................................ 329
B. Smyth and E. McKenna
Application Papers

Is CBR Applicable to the Coordination of Search and Rescue Operations?
A Feasibility Study .................................................................................................... 358
I. Abi-Zeid, Q. Yang, and L. Lamontagne

Integrating Case-Based Reasoning and Hypermedia Documentation: An
Application for the Diagnosis of a Welding Robot at Odense Steel Shipyard ........ 372
E. Auriol, R. M. Crowder, R. MacKendrick, R. Rowe, and T. Knudsen

Integrating Rule-Based and Case-Based Decision Making in Diabetic
Patient Management ................................................................................................. 386
R. Bellazzi, S. Montani, L. Portinale, and A. Riva

Managing Complex Knowledge in Natural Sciences .............................................. 401
N. Conruyt and D. Grosser

ELSI: A Medical Equipment Diagnostic System .................................................. 415
P. Cuddihy and W. Cheetham

Case-Based Reasoning for Candidate List Extraction in a Marketing
Domain ...................................................................................................................... 426
M. Fagan and K. Bloor

CBR for the Reuse of Image Processing Knowledge: A Recursive
Retrieval/Adaptation Strategy ................................................................................ 438
V. Ficet-Cauchard, C. Porquet, and M. Revenu

Virtual Function Generators: Representing and Reusing Underlying Design
Y. Han and K. Lee

Shaping a CBR View with XML ............................................................................ 468
C. Hayes and P. Cunningham

Integrating Information Resources: A Case Study of Engineering Design
Support .................................................................................................................... 482
D. B. Leake, L. Birnbaum, K. Hammond, C. Marlow, and H. Yang
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Page</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>A Hybrid Case-Based Reasoner for Footwear Design</td>
<td>497</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><em>J. Main and T. S. Dillon</em></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fault Management in Computer Networks Using Case-Based Reasoning:</td>
<td>510</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DUMBO System</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><em>C. Melchiors and L. M. R. Tarouco</em></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>An Architecture for a CBR Image Segmentation System</td>
<td>525</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><em>P. Perner</em></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Supporting Reusability in a System Design Environment by Case-Based</td>
<td>535</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Reasoning Techniques</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><em>H. Praehofer and J. Kerschbaummayr</em></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Case-Based Reasoning for Antibiotics Therapy Advice</td>
<td>550</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><em>R. Schmidt, B. Pollwein, and L. Gierl</em></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Surfing the Digital Wave: Generating Personalised TV Listings Using</td>
<td>561</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Collaborative, Case-Based Recommendation</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><em>B. Smyth and P. Cotter</em></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Case-Based Quality Management System Using Expectation Values</td>
<td>572</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><em>H. Taki, S. Hori, and N. Abe</em></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ICARUS: Design and Deployment of a Case-Based Reasoning System for</td>
<td>581</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Locomotive Diagnostics</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><em>A. Varma</em></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Author Index</strong></td>
<td>597</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>