

Preface

This volume contains the papers presented at the 8th European Conference on Case-Based Reasoning (ECCBR 2006).

Case-Based Reasoning (CBR) is an artificial intelligence approach where new problems are solved by remembering, adapting and reusing solutions to a previously solved, similar problem. The collection of previously solved problems and their associated solutions is stored in the case base. New or adapted solutions are learned and updated in the case base as needed.

ECCBR and its sister conference ICCBR alternate every year. ECCBR 2006 followed a series of seven successful European Workshops previously held in Kaiserslautern, Germany (1993), Chantilly, France (1994), Lausanne, Switzerland (1996), Dublin, Ireland (1998), and Trento, Italy (2000), and two European Conferences in Aberdeen, UK (2002), and Madrid, Spain (2004). The International Conferences on Case-Based Reasoning (ICCBR) were previously held in Sesimbra, Portugal (1995), Providence, Rhode Island, USA (1997), Seon, Germany (1999), Vancouver, Canada (2001), Trondheim, Norway (2003), and Chicago, USA (2005). These meetings have a history of attracting first-class European and international researchers and practitioners. Proceedings of ECCBR and ICCBR conferences are traditionally published by Springer in their LNAI series.

The ECCBR 2006 conference was held at the conference center of the Lykia-world Resort hotel in Ideniz/Fethiye, Turkey. The now traditional Industry Day started the program giving insight into fielded CBR applications. The second day was devoted to workshops on specific areas of interest to the CBR community such as Textual CBR: Reasoning with Texts, CBR in Health Sciences, Uncertainty and Fuzziness in Case-Based Reasoning, and CBR and Context-Awareness. The remaining two days featured invited talks, presentations and posters on both theoretical and applied research in CBR.

The accepted papers were chosen based on a thorough and highly selective review process. Each paper was reviewed and discussed by at least three Program Committee members and revised according to their comments.

We believe that the papers of this volume are a representative snapshot of current research and contribute to both theoretical and applied aspects of CBR research. The papers are organized into three sections: invited talks (two papers and two abstracts), research papers (31) and application papers (5).

The chairs would like to thank the invited speakers Edwina Rissland, David McSherry, and Gholamreza Nakhaeizadeh for their contribution to the success of this conference. With their invited talks on CBR in business, Michel Manago and Stefan Wess added substantially to Industry Day. Particular thanks go to the Program Committee and additional reviewers for their efforts and hard work in the reviewing and selection process.

We are also grateful for the work of the Industry Day Chairs, Bill Cheetham and Kareem S. Aggour, the Workshops Coordinator, Mirjam Minor, as well as the Chairs of the four workshops and their various committee members for preparations for Industry Day and the Workshops. We thank all the authors who submitted to the conference to make this program possible and gratefully acknowledge the generous support of the sponsors of ECCBR 2006 and their, partly long-time, sponsorship of ECCBR and ICCBR.

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¹ <http://www.easychair.org>