EDITORIAL

This special issue of Mathware collects revised versions af almost all the papers presented at the Workshop "Aspects of Mechanizing Inference: Contexts and Problems" held in Naples, at Palazzo Serra di Cassano, from October 30th to November 2nd, 1995. The aim of the Workshop was to discuss the problem of revisable and uncertain inference in computational systems and the role of measures of fuzziness, and information in models of reasoning under uncertainty.

The Workshop was made possible by the combined efforts of many institutions; first of all, the Istituto Italiano per gli Studi Filosofici and the Istituto di Cibernetica del C.N.R. Our deepest thanks to Gerardo Marotta and Antonio Gargano, President and General Secretary of the Istituto Italiano per gli Studi Filosofici, respectively, and to Antonio Massarotti, Director of the Istituto di Cibernetica. We are also grateful to the Area della Ricerca di Napoli del C.N.R. for a financial support and the Italian Society of Logic and Philosophy of Science (S.I.L.F.S.) for sponsoring the Workshop.

We wish to thank the administrative and secretarial staff of the Istituto di Cibernetica for the support given to us and all participants. Very special thanks go to Ms. Annamaria Mazzarella who took care and marvellously solved the often unexpected organization problems arising during the Workshop.

The papers are presented in an order which reflects, in our view, thematic similarities with (appropriately) uncertain boundaries and overlappings. The first two papers present a general method for fuzzifying a logical structure and a general analysis connecting nonmonotonic inferences to the representation of concepts, respectively. The order of presentation of the other papers was induced by a (more or less) gradual shift along the following topics: logical approaches to revisable reasoning, probabilistic approaches to revisable reasoning, relationships between these approaches, measures of fuzziness and information, theoretical and experimental use of models of uncertain reasoning in symbolic as well as hybrid A.I. systems, historical and methodological issues concerning some of these topics.

As one can see even from a quick glance at the content of the papers, the role that quantum logic and de Finetti's coherence principle may play in the modelling of revisable reasoning is emphasized more than is usually done.

Finally, a sincere and profound thank goes to Joan Jacas, editor in chief of Mathware and Soft Computing, and to Rosa Navarro, secretary of the Journal, for the very friendly support they have given us during the preparation of this issue.

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Editors