Preface

This volume contains all the papers presented at the Sixth International Workshop on Algorithmic Learning Theory (ALT '95), held at the Recent Hotel, Fukuoka, Japan, October 18–20, 1995. The ALT'95 technical program included 21 papers selected for presentation by the program committee from 46 submissions. Additionally, three invited talks presented by Yves Kodratoff of Université Paris, Ming Li of University of Waterloo, and Yasubumi Sakakibara of Fujitsu Labs., Numazu, respectively, were featured at the conference.

This workshop is the sixth in a series of annual conferences established in 1990. The ALT series is focusing on all areas related to algorithmic learning theory including (but not limited to): the theory of machine learning, the design and analysis of learning algorithms, computational logic of/for machine discovery, inductive inference of recursive functions and recursively enumerable languages, learning via queries, learning by artificial and biological neural networks, pattern recognition, learning by analogy, statistical learning, Bayesian/MDL estimation, inductive logic programming, robotics, application of learning to databases, gene analyses, etc.

The diversity of approaches presented in this and the other ALT proceedings reflects the broad spectrum of relevant disciplines. The many possible aspects of learning that can be formally investigated and the variety of viewpoints expressed in the technical contributions clearly indicate that developing models of learning is still particularly important to broaden our understanding of what learning really is. This ALT conference as well as its predecessors aimed to extend and to intensify the communication in the continuously growing scientific community interested in the phenomenon of learning. Continuation of the ALT series is supervised by its steering committee consisting of Setsuo Arikawa (chair, Kyushu Univ.), Takashi Yokomori (University of Electro-Communications, Tokyo), Hiroshi Imai (Univ. of Tokyo), Teruyasu Nishizawa (Niigata Univ.), Akito Sakurai (Hitachi, Tokyo), Taiske Sato (Tokyo Inst. Technology), Takeshi Shinohara (Kyushu Inst. Technology), Masayuki Numao (Tokyo Inst. Technology), and Yuji Takada (Fujitsu, Numazu).

The 6th International Workshop on Algorithmic Learning Theory (ALT'95) has been sponsored by the Japanese Society for Artificial Intelligence (JSAI), by the Kyushu Institute of Technology, and by the Human Genome Center, University of Tokyo.

The ALT'95 Conference Chair was

Takeshi Shinohara (Kyushu Inst. Techn., Iizuka, Japan),

and the Local Arrangement Chair was

Masateru Harao (Kyushu Inst. Techn., Iizuka, Japan).

We would like to express our immense gratitude to all the members of the Program Committee, which consisted of:

N. Abe (NEC, Kawazaki, Japan)
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T. Yokomori (Univ. Electro-Comm., Tokyo, Japan)
T. Zeugmann (Kyushu Univ., Fukuoka, Japan, chair).

They and the subreferees they enlisted put a huge amount of work into reviewing the submissions and judging their importance and significance.

We would like to thank everybody who made this meeting possible: the authors for submitting papers, the invited speakers for accepting our invitation and providing us their insight into the recent development of their research area, the conference and local arrangement chair, the Steering Committee, the sponsors, Fukuoka Science and Technology Foundation and Telecommunications Advancement Foundation for providing generous financial support, and Springer-Verlag. Finally, the Program Committee heartily thanks the following person who served as subreferees for ALT'95:

Sumitaka Akiba
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Fukuoka, July 1995

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