

Preface

The European Workshop on Probabilistic Graphical Models (PGM) is a biennial workshop that brings together researchers interested in all aspects of graphical models for probabilistic reasoning, decision making, and learning. It provides a forum for discussion of the latest research developments in these fields. The workshop is organized so as to facilitate discussions and collaboration among the participants also outside the workshop sessions.

PGM 2012 is the sixth workshop in the series, and will take place in Granada, Spain, in September 19–21, 2012. Previous meetings were held in Cuenca, Spain (PGM 2002), Leiden, Netherlands (PGM 2004), Prague, Czech Republic (PGM 2006), Hirtshals, Denmark (PGM 2008) and, Helsinki, Finland (PGM 2010).

This year there were 63 papers submitted to the workshop (a record with respect to the previous editions of the workshop) with authors coming from 23 different countries. The reviewing process took place in the period from June 12th to July 18th, 2012. The papers went through a rigorous reviewing process, where the majority of the papers were reviewed by three members of the PGM 2012 programme committee and with each PC member reviewing around four papers. The reviews were handled electronically using the EasyChair conference system.

Of the 63 submissions, 47 were accepted for presentation at the workshop (although the authors of one of the accepted papers had to withdraw their paper from the workshop). Each accepted paper is given a slot in both a plenary and a poster session taking place on the same day. In addition to the presentation of the technical papers, we are very pleased to have three distinguished invited speakers: Norman Fenton (Queen Mary University of London) who will give a talk on *Improving Legal Reasoning with Bayesian Networks* as well as Pedro Larrañaga and Concha Bielza (Technical University of Madrid) who will give a presentation about *Bayesian Networks in Neuroscience*.

We would like to give our sincere thanks to the 56 members of the programme committee for their outstanding work during the reviewing process, which is of course crucial for a successful workshop. In addition to the programme committee members, there were also 9 additional reviewers to whom we are also most grateful. The reviews that we received were of general high quality and included constructive comments to help the authors improve upon their papers.

We would also like to thank the members of the Local Organizing Committee, which helped us with a multitude of issues. Special thanks to Serafín Moral for his help in the production of the proceedings.

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Our wish is for the participants of the PGM 2012 workshop to appreciate both the beauty of Granada and the scientific program of the workshop. We also hope and expect that people will enjoy the taste of tapas in Granada.

We hope that these proceedings will help convey the state of the art of probabilistic graphical models, raise interest, and contribute to the further dissemination and discussion of the fascinating ideas of this active and highly relevant research field.

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