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Correct Reasoning

Essays on Logic-Based AI
in Honor of Vladimir Lifschitz

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Vladimir Lifschitz

Preface

Vladimir Lifschitz was born in Moscow, Russia, on May 30, 1947. The present volume is a Festschrift in his honor to celebrate the 65th birthday of an outstanding scholar of computer science, logic and artificial intelligence. It comprises 44 contributions by no less than 87 authors. They include many of Vladimir's students, colleagues, co-authors and friends. Their topics cover many of the scientific areas where Vladimir has made a lasting and profound contribution: logic programming, circumscription, default logic, action theory, planning, causal reasoning and of course answer set programming.

On approaching scholars to contribute to this Festschrift, we received an overwhelming, positive response. It became clear that Vladimir is admired, liked and held in esteem throughout the scientific community the world over. The enthusiasm with which authors responded to our request was delightful and infectious. It became clear that we could have produced several volumes of this size, and only time and practical concerns prevented us from doing so. We heartily thank all the contributors for their fine efforts, and we apologize sincerely to the many colleagues that we were not able to approach. We are especially grateful to Jack Minker for contributing a personal piece on Vladimir's life and work. The reader will also find a collection of personal reminiscences on Vladimir Lifschitz as teacher, as lived by his students. Our warm thanks also go to Springer for their support of this initiative and the editorial process.

We shall not dwell further here on the scientific achievements of Vladimir Lifschitz the scholar, since they are visible time and again in the pages that follow. For Vladimir Lifschitz, colleague and friend, we close by wishing you a very happy 65th birthday! We are sure we speak on behalf of all the present contributors in wishing you many more years in the business of correct reasoning.

March 2012

Esra Erdem
Joohyung Lee
Yuliya Lierler
David Pearce

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