
Preface

The Sixteenth Brainstorming Week on Membrane Computing (BWMC) was held in Sevilla, from January 30 to February 2, 2018, in the organization of the Research Group on Natural Computing (RGNC) from the Department of Computer Science and Artificial Intelligence of Sevilla University. The first edition of BWMC was organized at the beginning of February 2003 in Rovira i Virgili University, Tarragona, and all the next editions took place in Sevilla at the beginning of February, each year.

In the style of previous meetings in this series, the sixteenth BWMC was conceived as a period of active interaction among the participants, with the emphasis on exchanging ideas and cooperation. Several “provocative” talks were delivered, mainly devoted to open problems, research topics, conjectures waiting for proofs, followed by an intense cooperation among the about 30 participants – see the list in the end of this preface. The efficiency of this type of meetings was again proved to be very high and the present volume is only part of the proof of this assertion.

The papers included in this volume, arranged in the alphabetic order of the authors, were collected in the form available at a short time after the brainstorming; several of them are still under elaboration. The idea is that the proceedings are a working instrument, part of the interaction started during the stay of authors in Sevilla, meant to make possible a further cooperation, this time having a written support.

A selection of papers from this volume will be considered for publication in the forthcoming *Journal of Membrane Computing*, published by Springer-Verlag (www.springer.com/41965).

Other papers elaborated during the 2018 edition of BWMC will be submitted to other journals or to suitable conferences. The reader interested in the final version of these papers is advised to check the current bibliography of membrane computing available in the domain website <http://ppage.psyste.ms.eu>.

The list of participants as well as their email addresses are given below, with the aim of facilitating the further communication and interaction:

1. José A. Andreu Guzmán, Universidad de Sevilla, Spain
andreguzman36@gmail.com
2. Péter Battyányi, University of Debrecen, Hungary
battyanyi.peter@zimbra.inf.unideb.hu
3. Lucie Cencialová, Silesian University in Opava, Czech Republic
lucie.cencialova@fpf.slu.cz
4. Erzsébet Csuha-j-Varjú, Eötvös Loránd University, Hungary
csuhaj@inf.elte.hu
5. Andrés Doncel Ramírez, Universidad de Sevilla, Spain
andrestp95@gmail.com
6. Rudolf Freund, Technological University of Vienna, Austria
rudi@emcc.at
7. Sandra M. Gómez Canaval, Universidad Politécnica de Madrid, Spain
sgomez@etsisi.upm.es
8. Carmen Graciani, Universidad de Sevilla, Spain
cgdiaz@us.es
9. Florentin Ipate, University of Bucharest, Romania
florentin.ipate@ifsoft.ro
10. Sergiu Ivanov, Université Paris Est Créteil, France
sivanov@colimite.fr
11. Jiang Jung, Chongqing University of Technology and Business, China
jiangyun@email.ctbu.edu.cn
12. Kristóf Kántor, University of Debrecen, Hungary
rapid90x@gmail.com
13. Raluca Lefticaru, University of Bradford, United Kingdom
R.Lefticaru@bradford.ac.uk
14. Alberto Leporati, University of MilanBicocca, Italy
leporati@disco.unimib.it
15. Luca Manzoni, University of MilanBicocca, Italy
luca.manzoni@disco.unimib.it
16. Miguel A. Martínez-del-Amor, Universidad de Sevilla, Spain
mdelamor@us.es
17. David Orellana-Martín, Universidad de Sevilla, Spain
dorellana@us.es
18. Georghe Păun, Universidad de Sevilla, Spain, and the Romanian Academy,
Bucharest
gpaun@us.es, curteadelaarges@gmail.com
19. Ignacio Pérez-Hurtado, Universidad de Sevilla, Spain
perezh@us.es
20. Mario de J. Pérez-Jiménez, Universidad de Sevilla, Spain
marper@us.es

21. Antonio E. Porreca, University of MilanBicocca, Italy
porreca@disco.unimib.it
22. Agustín Riscos-Núñez, Universidad de Sevilla, Spain
ariscosn@us.es
23. Daniel Rodríguez Chavarría, Universidad Sevilla, Spain
danrodcha@gmail.com
24. Álvaro Romero-Jiménez, Universidad de Sevilla, Spain
romero.alvaro@us.es
25. Zeyi Shang, University Southwest Jiaotong, China
zeyi.shang@lacl.fr
26. Ana Țurlea, University of Bucharest, Romania
t_anacris@yahoo.com
27. Luis Valencia-Cabrera, Universidad de Sevilla, Spain
lvalencia@us.es
28. György Vaszil, University of Debrecen, Hungary
vaszil.gyorgy@inf.unideb.hu

As mentioned above, the meeting was organized by the Research Group on Natural Computing from Sevilla University (<http://www.gcn.us.es>)– and all the members of this group were enthusiastically involved in this (not always easy) work.

The meeting was partially supported from various sources: (i) Research Project TIN2017-89842-P cofinanced by Ministerio de Economía, Industria y Competitividad (MINECO) of Spain, through the Agencia Estatal de Investigación (AEI), and by Fondo Europeo de Desarrollo Regional (FEDER) of the European Union, (ii) VI Plan Propio, *Vicerrectorado de Investigación de la Universidad de Sevilla*, and (iii) Department of Computer Science and Artificial Intelligence from *Universidad de Sevilla*.

The Editors
(May 2018)

