SICSA funded workshop - CIAO 2013

Ewen Maclean

22nd-24th April 2013

The 22nd CIAO workshop was held at The Burn, Brechin, and included participants from 3 Scottish Universities – namely Dundee, Heriot-Watt and Edinburgh – and from Universities elsewhere in Europe, including Oxford University and the German Research Centre for Artificial Intelligence in Bremen, and Chalmers University in Gothenburg. The workshop consisted of two days of presentations, with time in between filled with discussions about complementary research.

The SICSA CSE theme funded subsistence for 5 PhD students based in Scottish Universities. These were chosen by the organisers from the applicants based on available grant money. In many cases PhD students have no money attached to their grant to go to conferences and workshops, and so the help from SICSA proved invaluable. Each accepted PhD student was required to give a talk, all of which were very well received and in many cases promoted greater potential links between universities. Each PhD student was asked to write a short paragraph detailing how they benefitted from attending the workshop. These are included below.

Colin Farquar - Heriot-Watt

For me, the main benefit of CIAO was the chance to get some feedback on my work from members of the wider theorem proving community. Comments regarding similar work done previously were particularly helpful. I also found it useful to be able to discuss ideas for the future direction of my PhD with people who have worked in related areas, and whose work may form a basis for my future research. I enjoyed the diversity of the presentations, and there are a couple of things I want to look into further now. Of course, as a relatively inexperienced researcher, it was good to have the opportunity to attend a workshop like this and gain more experience of presenting and discussing my work to a wider audience.

Iain Whiteside - Edinburgh

I would like to acknowledge the support of SICSA to allow me to attend the CIAO 2013 workshop. During each year of my phd so far I have been able to attend and it provides a wonderful, informal forum to express my ideas and gain some feedback from experts in the field.

Rajiv Murali - Heriot-Watt

The 22nd CIAO workshop was held on 23rd and 24th April 2013 at The Burn (near Brechin, Scotland). It provided an excellent forum for discussion of on-going research into automating mathematical reasoning, especially in the areas of proof planning, verification, theory exploration, and ontology evolution. The workshop was informal and had a fun and friendly atmosphere for interesting discussions. It has helped me to keep up to date with developments in the automated reasoning group on work in Event-B (talks by Gudmund Grov and Yuhui Lin). The other talks were also very interesting, giving good insight into the different areas of research within the group. I would like to thank SICSA for sponsoring and Iain Whiteside, Ewen Maclean and Gudmund Grov for organising CIAO 2013 in an excellent fashion.

Daniel Raggi - Edinburgh

CIAO was a great opportunity to meet researchers and students from other universities. It was very helpful to present my research and get feedback from them. Moreover, I got to learn about other people's ongoing work and its relation to my own.

Mohammed Alzahrani - Heriot-Watt

CIAO 2013 gave me the chance to meet experts and researchers in my study area. The talks given were interesting and useful to know the current directions of research. I had some very useful input and suggestions to enhance my research. The workshop had an informal atmosphere and also the location and transportation was successfully organised by the group.