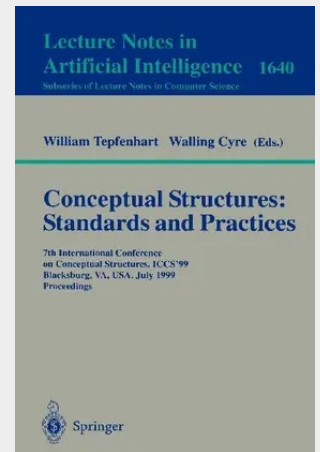


Conceptual Structures: Standards and Practices

7th International Conference on Conceptual Structures, ICCS'99, Blacksburg, VA, USA,
July 12-15, 1999, Proceedings

With all of the news about the Internet and the Y2K problem, it is easy to forget that other areas of computer science still exist. Reading the newspaper or watching the television conveys a very warped view of what is happening in computer science. This conference illustrates how a maturing subdiscipline of computer science can continue to grow and integrate within it both old and new approaches despite (or perhaps due to) a lack of public awareness. The conceptual graph community has basically existed since the 1984 publication of John Sowa's book, "Conceptual Structures: Information Processing In Mind and Machine." In this book, John Sowa laid the foundations for a knowledge representation model called conceptual graphs based on semantic networks and the existential graphs of C.S. Peirce. Conceptual graphs constitutes a very powerful and expressive knowledge representation scheme, inheriting the benefits of logic and the mathematics of graphs. The expressiveness and formal underpinnings of conceptual graph theory have attracted a large international community of researchers and scholars. The International Conferences on Conceptual Structures, and this is the seventh in the series, is the primary forum for these researchers to report their progress and activities. As in the past, the doors were open to admit alternate representation models and approaches.

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53,49 €
49,99 € (zzgl. MwSt.)

Lieferfrist: bis zu 10 Tage

Artikelnummer: 9783540662235
Medium: Buch
ISBN: 978-3-540-66223-5
Verlag: Springer
Erscheinungstermin: 29.06.1999
Sprache(n): Englisch
Auflage: 1999
Serie: Lecture Notes in Computer Science
Produktform: Kartoniert
Gewicht: 1640 g
Seiten: 524
Format (B x H): 155 x 235 mm

