

FIRST Autumn School on Modal Logic and the 6th Workshop on Methods for Modalities

By Jens Ulrik Hansen

From the 12th to the 14th of November the workshop Methods for Modalities 6 was held in Copenhagen. This event was preceded by the Autumn School on Modal Logic, also sponsored by FIRST.

The Autumn School had 54 participants (including the speakers) and lasted for two full days at the ITU. Both days were started by a tutorial on computational modal logic, by Patrick Blackburn



and Carlos Areces. In the afternoons, shorter tutorials on various topics were held by: Renate Schmidt on resolution based theorem proving, Patrick Blackburn on hybrid deduction, Valentin Goranko on temporal logics and Carsten Schürman on the judgmental approach. Besides FIRST PhD students, the Autumn School also attracted people from a range of other places like for example Luxembourg, Finland and Aalborg. As tradition in Denmark prescribes, duck was eaten on the 10th of November to celebrate St. Martin's eve, which took place in the restaurant Zeleste in Nyhavn. (For more on the Autumn School see <http://hylocore.ruc.dk/m4m6school.html>)

The workshop Methods for Modalities 6 (M4M-6) followed up on several of the themes taken up in the Autumn School. The aim of the workshop was to bring together researchers interested in developing algorithms, verification methods and tools based on modal logic, where modal logic was understood in a broad sense. The invited speakers included Renate Schmidt, Stéphane Demri, Kim



Guldstrand Larsen, Yde Venema and Franz Baarder. Tableau calculus appeared as the most frequently mentioned method for deciding validity and satisfiability for modal logics, but resolution, Gentzen systems and automata methods were also discussed. Model checking was another reasoning task widely discussed. Besides basic modal logics, several talks also

explicitly mentioned temporal logic, epistemic logic, description logic and co-algebraic logic.

The location of the workshop was the IDA Conference Center conveniently located at the docks in the center of Copenhagen, which besides providing a beautiful view also served delicious breakfast, lunch, cakes and coffee. On the last day of the conference we were presented with a typical Danish lunch before going for a nice walk (with no rain!) through the centre of Copenhagen to the Søren Kierkegaard research center. Here the very last talk of the conference was about the life of the famous Danish philosopher Søren Kierkegaard. This was however not the end of the conference; we still had a visit to a Danish Brewery, but the details of this visit are left to the imagination of the reader... (For more on the workshop see <http://m4m.loria.fr/M4M6/>)

ESSLLI 2010

By Marija Slavkovic

The European Summer School of Logic, Language and Information (ESSLLI) was first held in 1989 in Groningen, The Netherlands. Since then, it is held every year for two weeks during the summer. The main focus of the program of the summer school is the interface between linguistics, logic and computation, with special emphasis on human linguistic and cognitive ability. Courses, both introductory and advanced, cover a wide variety of topics within the combined areas of interest: Logic and Computation, Computation and Language, and Language and Logic. Workshops are also organized, providing opportunities for in-depth discussion of issues at the forefront of research, as well as a series of invited lectures. ESSLLI attracts more than 400 participants from countries around the world.



STuS during ESSLLI 2009, Bordeaux.

During the 8th ESSLLI held in Prague in 1996, the first Student Session (STuS) was held. From the beginning, the intention has been to provide an informal forum where promising work by Master or Ph.D. students could be presented. It

turned out to be an excellent training for students in different respect. Students from all over the world have the possibility to present their results in front of a broad audience and obtain feedback from peers. The papers describe original, unpublished work (completed or in progress), that demonstrates insight, creativity and promise in the topics within ESSLLI subject areas (Logic, Language and Computation).

The 22nd ESSLLI will be held August 9-20 2010 in Copenhagen, Denmark.

In coherence with tradition, the STuS will also take place in 2010. The call for submissions for the StuS is currently open. The deadline for submissions is February 19, 2010.

Submissions that are welcomed are papers (both long and short) describing original, unpublished research conducted in the interdisciplinary areas of LOGic and COMputation, LOGic and LANguage, and LANguage and COMputation. Topics of interest include, but are not limited to:

- natural language semantics, natural language syntax, syntax-semantics interface, semantics pragmatics interface, discourse semantics, vagueness in natural language, Lambek calculus
- natural language processing, morphology, syntax, parsing, dialogue and discourse modeling, machine translation, computational psycholinguistics
- knowledge representation and reasoning, belief dynamics, formal verification and model checking, logics for individual and collective agency, formal argumentation, game semantics

The list of keyword is given for general orientation and is in no way intended to exclude work on topics not covered by the list.

Each submission is reviewed by three specialists in the field, who provide the authors with useful, constructive feedback regardless of whether their paper is accepted. The student sessions aim to provide a forum where promising work of Master or Ph.D. students can be presented and discussed. It is an excellent training for students in different respects. The students have the opportunity to prepare their own submission and experience the entire cycle of the (peer-reviewed) selection process, as well as receive feedback from both fellow students and leading experts in the corresponding field. Selected papers from both submission tracks will appear in the proceedings.

As in previous years, Springer is offering 1000€ in prizes for the best short and the best long papers.

Students interested in submitted are kindly asked to consult the instructions for authors to obtain information on how to proceed:
<http://marija.gforge.uni.lu/esslli2010.html#instructions>

More information on the school is available on the school web page: <http://esslli2010cph.info/>

Overview spring courses

DTU

Master/ Advanced

Master

- * 02283 Algorithms for Massive Data Sets (5 ECTS)
Contact: [Philip Bille](#)

See also:

<http://www.kurser.dtu.dk/02283.aspx?menulanguage=en-gb>

- * 02243 Access Control (5 ECTS)
Contact: [Flemming Nielson](#)

See also:

<http://www.kurser.dtu.dk/02243.aspx?menulanguage=en-gb>

- * 02244 Language-Based Security (7.5 ECTS)
Contact: [Hanne Riis Nielson](#)

See also:

<http://www.kurser.dtu.dk/02244.aspx?menulanguage=en-gb>

PhD Courses

- * 02913 Advanced Analysis Techniques (5 ECTS)

Contact: [Hanne Riis Nielson](#)

See also:

<http://www.imm.dtu.dk/English/Teaching/IMM%20Courses.aspx?coursecode=02913>

DIKU

Master/PhD combined combined course/seminar/project

- * Theory and practice of regular expressions (7.5 ECTS)

Contact: [Fritz Heinglein](#)

Detailed description see also:

http://docs.google.com/View?id=ddnsvfp5_34c2z3qfgv



NOTE! The details around this course are not yet finalized, and therefore subject to change.

There are plans to hold a summer school in connection with/related to the topics of this course in June 2010, with a number of external lecturers. The specifics regarding the summer school are still unknown; a more detailed description will follow in the next FIRST newsletter.

ITU

Advanced seminar

* Models of Names and Computational Effects (7.5 ECTS)

Contact: [Lars Birkedal](#), [Rasmus Møgelberg](#)

PhD Courses

* Foundations and current trends in Ubiquitous Computing (7.5 ECTS)

Contact: [Jakob Bardram](#)

* Category Theory (7.5 ECTS)

Contact: [Lars Birkedal](#), [Rasmus Møgelberg](#)

* Modular Software Verification (7.5 ECTS)

Contact: [Lars Birkedal](#)

* Structuring Software Libraries and Frameworks (tentative title)

Contact: [Dario Pacino](#), [Kasper Østerbye](#) or [Peter Sestoft](#)

Arne Glentstrup (panic@itu.dk) is considering organizing a 3-5 days Ph.D. mini-course with an external invited lecturer on Functional Reactive Programming.

Please send Arne an email if you might be interested in participating, so that he may gauge whether it makes sense to offer such a mini-course.

News on People

Fan Yang, DTU, has finished his external stay (May - September 2009) as a visiting PHD student at the University of Tokyo, Japan, hosted by Hidehiko Masuhara. There he worked on the [AspectKlava project](#), which is within aspect-oriented programming and the program analysis domain.



"Academia vs Business" from <http://xkcd.com>

Network and lunch meetings

The next December lunch meeting will be held on Thursday the 17th of December at DIKU (north) from 12:00 until 15:00 in room 3-1-25.

Further details regarding the registration deadline will be announced through the first-announce mailing list and on the FIRST website.



The first network meeting in 2010 will be held at RUC on Tuesday the 9th of February. Further details regarding the room and registration deadline will be announced through the First-announce mailing list as well as on the website.

Website content

FIRST members are highly encouraged to submit content for the website, including but not limited to forthcoming events, conferences and opportunities for collaboration that may interest other members of the Research School. It is impossible for the secretariat to be aware of all activities, so it is up to you to give your event focus!

Suggestions for Activities

Proposals for courses, workshops, guests, etc. from members will be considered for FIRST funding. Forward a short description to Thomas Hildebrandt (hilde@itu.dk) and Anna Sommer (asommer@itu.dk) including a budget sketch using the template found under "FAQs" sub-page.

