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# P e t e r F l a c h

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## Short CV

*January 2008*

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Peter Flach (Sneek, the Netherlands, 1961) leads the *Machine Learning and Biological Computation* research group at the Department of Computer Science at the University of Bristol. He started his research career at Philips Research Laboratories, was an Assistant Professor at the University of Tilburg, and moved to Bristol in 1997, where he was promoted to a personal Chair in Artificial Intelligence in August 2003.

Professor Flach publishes widely and on a broad range of subjects. He is an internationally leading researcher in the areas of mining highly structured data and the evaluation and improvement of machine learning models using ROC analysis. He has also published on the logic and philosophy of machine learning, and on the combination of logic and probability. His most recent research concerns annotation, integration and mining of large volumes of scientific data.

According to Google Scholar, Flach's publications have accumulated 1715 citations (excluding self-citations), with an h-index of 24 (that is, 24 papers have at least 24 citations; data retrieved on 30 January 2008). His five most cited publications are:

- (102) N. Lavrac, P.A. Flach & B. Zupan (1999), 'Rule evaluation measures: a unifying view'. In *Proc. 9<sup>th</sup> International Workshop on Inductive Logic Programming (ILP'99)*, S. Dzeroski & P. Flach (eds.), pp.174–185, Springer.
- (99) S. Kramer, N. Lavrac & P.A. Flach (2001), 'Propositionalization Approaches to Relational Data Mining'. In *Relational Data Mining*, S. Dzeroski & N. Lavrac (eds.), pp.262–291, Springer.
- (93) T. Gärtner, P.A. Flach & S. Wrobel (2003), 'On Graph Kernels: Hardness Results and Efficient Alternatives'. In *Proc. 16<sup>th</sup> Annual Conference on Computational Learning Theory (COLT'03)*, M. Warmuth & B. Schölkopf (eds.), pp. 129–143.
- (87) C. Ferri, P.A. Flach & J. Hernandez-Orallo (2002), 'Learning decision trees using the area under the ROC curve'. In *Proc. 19<sup>th</sup> International Conference on Machine Learning (ICML'02)*, C. Sammut & A. Hoffman (eds.), pp.139–146, Morgan Kaufmann.
- (82) P.A. Flach & A.C. Kakas, eds. (2000), *Abduction and Induction: essays on their relation and integration*, Kluwer Academic Publishers. (xix+309 pp.)

Professor Flach was Principal Investigator on the EU-funded projects *Inductive Logic Programming 1 and 2*, *Data mining and decision support for business competitiveness*, *A meta-learning assistant for providing user support in machine learning and data mining*, and the *Network of Excellence ILPnet2*, and co-ordinated the latter two. He was or is Principal Investigator on the EPSRC-funded projects *Efficient first-order probabilistic models for inference and learning* and *Learning the morphology of complex synthetic languages*.

He was associate editor of *Machine Learning* from 2001–2005, and is on the editorial boards of *Machine Learning*, *Journal of Machine Learning Research*, *Journal of Artificial Intelligence Research*, *Artificial Intelligence Communications*, and *Theory and Practice of Logic Programming*. He was invited speaker at eight international conferences and workshops, most recently at the 2007 *European Conference on Machine Learning*. He was Programme Co-Chair of the 1999 *International Conference on Inductive Logic Programming*, the 2001 *European Conference on Machine Learning*, and will be Programme Co-Chair of the 2009 *ACM Conference on Knowledge Discovery and Data Mining*, when it comes to Europe (Pairs) for the first time.