

HABILITATION BOARD DECISION ON THE NOMINATION FOR APPOINTMENT TO ASSOCIATE PROFESSOR

Masaryk University	
Faculty	Faculty of Informatics
Procedure field	Informatics
Applicant	RNDr. Vít Musil, Ph. D.
Applicant's home unit, institution	Department of Computer Science, Masaryk UIniversity
Habilitation thesis	Bridging Continuous Learning and Discrete Optimization in Artificial Intelligence

Board members

Chair

prof. Dr. rer. nat. RNDr. Mgr. Bc. Jan Křetínský, Ph.D., FI MU

Members

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 Prof. Christoph Lampert, ISTA
 Assoc. Prof. Ashutosh Trivedi, University of Colorado Boulder

Evaluation of the applicant's scholarly/artistic qualifications

The applicant has a very wide background, spanning calculus, machine learning and formal methods. After his PhD in Prague he moved to Florence as a postdoc before joining FI MU Brno. He is an established researcher with an excellent publication record for his seniority. Nevertheless, the role on the papers could be clarified more, in particular, are the middle positions corresponding to supervising the student first author? While he is also active in acquiring grants, the committee would expect involvement in some more projects (as a WP leader or at least a team member) which is, however, gradually improving. Besides, while some recognition from the community has been reached (e.g. teaching at summer schools), it is not clear whether he has fully made the step to decision-making roles, such as PC memberships or area chairing.

Conclusion: The applicant's scholarly/artistic capabilities **meet** the requirements expected of applicants participating in a habilitation procedure in the field of Informatics.

Evaluation of the applicant's pedagogical experience

The applicant works actively with students, with several having been awarded the Dean's prize. His activities span both seminars and lectures. While only one course has been lectured, it has been taking place repetitively and in an area quite distant to his expertise, while achieving success, which clearly documents his teaching skills. He is excited about passing on research skills and has invested non-trivial efforts into educating also high-school students, illustrating his commitment. As an Associate Professor, however, Vít should perhaps also consider getting

more involved in designing new courses or updating existing ones to reflect his extensive experience in his research field and pass that valuable knowledge to students. The exact extent of supervision is not completely clarified (data in IS suggest consulting 4 students, while none are mentioned in the application; the status of the Tübingen student is not discussed either).

Conclusion: The applicant's pedagogical capabilities **meet** the requirements expected of applicants participating in a habilitation procedure in the field of Informatics.

Habilitation thesis evaluation

The applicant has an extensive track record of high-quality publications. All the expert reviews agree on the excellence of the performed research. For instance, Pasquale Minervini describes the contributions as „extremely interesting“ and „very inspiring“ even for his own research, Mirco Giacobbe as „excellent results on a very important problém“. Nils Jansen adds that „the candidate's profile and the habilitation thesis are of high quality“.

It might be interesting to pinpoint the red thread of applicant's research activities, now spanning several rather diverse areas.

Conclusion: The applicant's habilitation thesis **meets** the requirements expected of habilitation theses in the field of Informatics.

Secret ballot results

Number of board members	5
Number of votes cast	4
Number of votes in favour	4

Board decision

Based on the outcome of the secret vote and following an evaluation of the applicant's scholarly or artistic qualifications, pedagogical experience and habilitation thesis, the board hereby submits a proposal to the scientific board of the Faculty of Informatics of Masaryk University to

☒ appoint the applicant associate professor of Informatics.

☐ terminate the procedure.

Date: 6. 10. 2026

prof. Dr. rer. nat. RNDr. Mgr. Bc. Jan Křetínský, Ph.D.

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