

About the Author



Mr. Ilkka Havukkala is Finnish by origin, studied at Helsinki University and received his MSc and Licentiate degree in Biological Sciences, obtained a PhD in Applied Zoology from University of London in 1981 and became a docent of Zoology at Helsinki University in 1984. After research on pest insect behaviour and biological control in Finland at Agricultural Research Centre and an adjunct visiting professorship at Michigan State University, he moved to Japan in 1988 to work on insect pathogenic fungi and molecular biology of chitinolytic enzymes. In 1991 he joined the Japanese Rice Genome Program in Tsukuba Science City to start his bioinformatics research in plant genomics. In 1996 he moved to New Zealand to a biotechnology company to become the head of bioinformatics in large-scale DNA sequencing and genome analysis projects for agroforestry and dairy industries. He has been European Union Advising Expert on epigenomics and medical informatics in 2004–2005. From 2005 he was Associate Director of Bioinformatics

at the Knowledge Engineering Research Institute at Auckland University of Technology, familiarizing himself with artificial intelligence methods for biodata analysis and from 2007 has been Senior Patent Examiner for biotechnology patents in the Intellectual Property Office of New Zealand (IPONZ). His interdisciplinary expertise includes plant, animal and medical genomics and biotechnology, bioinformatics, ontologies and data mining as well as intellectual property. He has published widely on a variety of topics in entomology, genomics, biotechnology and bioinformatics, is an inventor in numerous genomics patents and reviews regularly for genomics and data mining journals and conferences. His current interests include Semantic Web technologies for bioinformatics and intellectual property as well as artificial intelligence methods for integrated postgenomic biodata analysis.