

Preface

The present book includes extended and revised versions of a set of selected papers from the Fifth International Conference on Agents and Artificial Intelligence (ICAART 2013), held in Barcelona, Spain, from February 15 to 18, 2013, which was organized by the Institute for Systems and Technologies of Information, Control and Communication (INSTICC) and held in cooperation with the Association for the Advancement of Artificial Intelligence (AAAI).

The purpose of the International Conference on Agents and Artificial Intelligence (ICAART) is to bring together researchers, engineers, and practitioners interested in the theory and applications in these areas. The conference was organized in two simultaneous tracks: artificial intelligence and agents, covering both applications and current research work within the area of agents, multi-agent systems and software platforms, distributed problem solving and distributed AI in general, including Web applications, on one hand, and within the area of non-distributed AI, including the more traditional areas such as knowledge representation, planning, learning, scheduling, perception and also not so traditional areas such as reactive AI systems, evolutionary computing and other aspects of computational intelligence and many other areas related to intelligent systems, on the other hand.

ICAART 2013 received 269 paper submissions from 50 countries, in all continents. To evaluate each submission, a double-blind paper review was performed by the Program Committee, whose members are highly qualified researchers in ICAART topic areas. Based on the classifications provided, only 97 papers were selected for oral presentation (37 full papers and 60 short papers) and 59 papers were selected for poster presentation. The full paper acceptance ratio was about 14 %, and the total oral acceptance ratio (including full papers and short papers) 36 %. These strict acceptance ratios show the intention to preserve a high quality forum which we expect to develop further next year.

We would like to highlight that ICAART 2013 included also three plenary keynote lectures, given by internationally distinguished researchers, namely—Elias M. Awad (University of Virginia, USA), Jaap van den Herik (Tilburg University, The Netherlands), and Wiebe van der Hoek (University of Liverpool, UK).

We would like to express our appreciation to all of them and in particular to those who took the time to contribute with a paper to this book.

We must thank the authors, whose research and development efforts are recorded here. We also thank the keynote speakers for their invaluable contribution and for taking the time to synthesize and prepare their talks. Finally, special thanks to all the members of the INSTICC team, whose collaboration was fundamental for the success of this conference.

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