

# Preface

The present book includes extended and revised versions of a set of selected papers from the 6th International Conference on Agents and Artificial Intelligence (ICAART 2014), held in Angers, Loire Valley, France, during March 6–8, 2014. The conference was sponsored by the Institute for Systems and Technologies of Information, Control and Communication (INSTICC) in cooperation with the ACM Special Interest Group on Artificial Intelligence (ACM Sigart), the Association for the Advancement of Artificial Intelligence (AAAI), and the Portuguese Association for Artificial Intelligence (APPIA). ICAART was also technically co-sponsored by the IEEE Computer Society.

The purpose of the International Conference on Agents and Artificial Intelligence is to bring together researchers, engineers, and practitioners interested in theory and applications in the areas of agents and artificial intelligence. Two simultaneous related tracks were held, covering both applications and current research work. One track focused on agents, multi-agent systems and software platforms, distributed problem solving and distributed AI in general. The other track focused mainly on artificial intelligence, knowledge representation, planning, learning, scheduling, perception, reactive AI systems, and evolutionary computing.

ICAART 2014 received 225 paper submissions from 48 countries in all continents, of which 15 % were presented at the conference as full papers, and their authors were invited to submit extended versions of their papers for this book. In order to evaluate each submission, a double-blind review was performed by the Program Committee.

We would like to highlight that ICAART 2014 also included six plenary keynote lectures, given by internationally distinguished researchers, namely: Philippe Leray (Université de Nantes, France), Henry Lieberman (MIT Media Laboratory, USA), Matthias Klusch (German Research Center for Artificial Intelligence, DFKI, GmbH, Germany), Claude Frasson (University of Montreal, Canada), Pieter Spronck (Tilburg University, The Netherlands), and Marc-Philippe Huget (University of Savoie, France).

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. The knowledge and diligence of the reviewers and program chairs were essential to ensuring the quality of the papers presented at the conference and published in this book. Finally, a special thanks to all members of the INSTICC team, whose collaboration was fundamental for the success of this conference.

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Stephane Loiseau  
Joaquim Filipe

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Duval, B.; van den Herik, J.; Loiseau, S.; Filipe, J. (Eds.)

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