

Preface

Ambient intelligence (AmI) represents the functionality of environmental systematic and automatic sensing and the corresponding proactive acting. AmI problems belong to the domain of “being Helped”: social, psychological, and instrumental disciplines.

Ubiquitous computing (UC) provides the infrastructure to obtain environmental information and its massive processing in a non-limited way. UC is the confluence of computing, communication, and control technologies. It takes place regardless of the place, the time, and all other contextual variables.

The UCAmI Conference brings together AmI with its support, that is, UC. In other words, the UACmI Conference joins UC with its result, that is, AmI. Globally, the essence of the conference is an integral conception that mutually empowers UC and AmI.

Ideally, the recipients within an AmI environment will not be aware of the ambient devices; however, they will obtain benefits from the services that devices could provide. Devices embedded within the environment are aware of the people’s presence and subsequently react to their gestures, actions, and context. Recently, interest in AmI has grown considerably owing to new challenges posed by society, demanding highly innovative services such as vehicular ad hoc networks (VANET), ambient-assisted living (AAL), e-health, Internet of Things, and home automation, among others.

We are interested in the sound development of UC and AmI because it is the only way to properly satisfy the expectation around these excitant fields of information, communications, and control technologies. Therefore, the main focus of this edition of the UCAmI Conference was “Ubiquitous Computing and Ambient Intelligence: Conceptual Framework, Methodical Development, and Systematic Innovation”.

Self evaluation of expertise grade of each reviewer reaches an average of 3,63 in an up to 5 scale. In our permanent effort to enhance the relevance of the UCAmI Conference — beside the revision process including 74 reviewers from 26 countries — during the conference, each session chair was assisted by two additional session reviewers in order to intensify the discussion with authors during their presentation.

We received 62 submissions for this ninth edition of UCAmI that involved 183 authors from 16 countries. A total of 161 reviews were performed, reaching the high average of 2.60 reviews per submission. The acceptance rate was 58 %.

We would like to thank all the authors who submitted their work for consideration, as well as the reviewers who made the considerable effort of providing detailed and constructive reviews.

Finally, we are very grateful to our colleagues who assisted in the organization of this joint event, to the keynote presenters, and to the speakers who presented their accepted papers. They were the essence of the UCAmI Conference.

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