

Preface

The present book includes extended and revised versions of a set of selected papers from the 7th International Conference on Agents and Artificial Intelligence (ICAART 2015), held in Lisbon, Portugal, during January 10–12, 2015, which 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 SIGAI), the Association for the Advancement of Artificial Intelligence (AAAI), the Spanish Association for Artificial Intelligence (AEPIA), the European Society for Fuzzy Logic and Technology (EUSFLAT), the European Coordinating Committee for Artificial Intelligence (ECCAI), the Italian Association for Artificial Intelligence, and the Portuguese Association for Artificial Intelligence (APPIA). ICAART 2015 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 the theory and applications in the areas of agents and artificial intelligence. Two related tracks were held simultaneously, 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 2015 received 187 paper submissions from 45 countries in all continents, of which 19 % 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. Finally, only the 19 best papers were included in this book.

We would like to highlight that ICAART 2015 also included four plenary keynote lectures, given by internationally distinguished researchers, namely: Chris Reed (University of Dundee, UK), Joseph Halpern (Cornell University, USA), Nick Jennings (University of Southampton, UK), and Robert Kowalski (Imperial College London, UK). We must acknowledge the invaluable contribution of all keynote speakers who, as renowned researchers in their areas, presented cutting-edge work and thus enriched the scientific content of the conference.

We especially thank the authors, whose research and development efforts are recorded here. The knowledge and diligence of the reviewers were essential to ensure 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 involvement was fundamental for organizing a smooth and successful conference.

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