

Preface

This volume contains revised versions of the papers presented at the 14th European Conference on Multi-Agent Systems (EUMAS 2016) and the 4th International Conference on Agreement Technologies (AT 2016), which were both held in Valencia during December 15–16, 2016. EUMAS 2016 followed the tradition of previous editions (Oxford 2003, Barcelona 2004, Brussels 2005, Lisbon 2006, Hammamet 2007, Bath 2008, Agia Napa 2009, Paris 2010, Maastricht 2011, Dublin 2012, Toulouse 2013, Prague 2014, and Athens 2015) in aiming to provide the prime European forum for presenting and discussing agents research as the annual designated event of the European Association of Multi-Agent Systems (EURAMAS). AT 2016 was the fourth instalment in a series of events (after Dubrovnik 2012, Beijing 2013, and Athens 2015) that focus on bringing together researchers and practitioners working on computer systems in which autonomous software agents interact, typically on behalf of humans, in order to come to mutually acceptable agreements. A wide scope of technologies can help provide the support needed for reaching mutually acceptable agreements, such as argumentation and negotiation, trust and reputation, computational social choice, coalition and team formation, coordination and distributed decision-making, and semantic alignment, to name a few.

This year, for the second time, both events were co-located and run as a single, joint event. This joint organization aimed to encourage and continue cross-fertilization among the broader EUMAS and the more specialized AT communities, and to provide a richer and more attractive program to participants. While the technical program was put together by their independent committees into conference-specific thematic sessions, they shared keynote talks and aligned their schedules to minimize overlap and enable participants to make the best possible use of the combined program of the two conferences. Traditionally, both conference series have always followed a spirit of providing a forum for discussion and an annual opportunity for primarily European researchers to meet and exchange ideas. For this reason, they have always encouraged submission of papers that report on both early and mature research. The peer-review processes carried out by both conferences put great emphasis on ensuring a high quality of accepted contributions. The EUMAS Program Committee accepted 17 submissions (32.7%) as full papers and another 16 submissions (30.8%) as short papers out of a total of 52 submissions. The AT review process resulted in the acceptance of seven full (43.8%) and three short papers (18.8%) out of 16 submissions overall. This volume is structured as follows: In the first part, we present the two invited papers; in the second, we present the EUMAS papers, and in the third we present the AT papers. The papers of each part are then grouped into thematic areas, where we first present full papers, followed by short papers. For the EUMAS papers, the thematic areas are:

- Agent and Multi-agent System Models
- Algorithms
- Applications
- Simulations
- Theoretical Studies

For AT, the thematic areas are:

- Algorithms and Frameworks
- Applications
- Philosophical and Theoretical Studies

The editors would like to thank all authors for submitting to EUMAS and AT, all participants, the invited speakers, the members of the Program Committees, and the additional reviewers for putting together strong programs. We also thank the local organizers for their hard work organizing the events. Finally, we would like to express our gratitude to the sponsors of the conferences, the European Association for Artificial Intelligence (EurAi), the Universitat Politècnica de València, the Escuela Técnica Superior de Ingeniería Informática, and the *Artificial Intelligence* journal for their generous support, without which this event would not have been possible.

March 2017

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Multi-Agent Systems and Agreement Technologies
14th European Conference, EUMAS 2016, and 4th
International Conference, AT 2016, Valencia, Spain,
December 15-16, 2016, Revised Selected Papers
Criado Pacheco, N.; Carrascosa, C.; Osman, N.; Julian,
V. (Eds.)
2017, XIV, 582 p. 147 illus., Softcover
ISBN: 978-3-319-59293-0