

Preface

The Multi-Agent-Based Simulation (MABS) workshop series aims to bring together researchers engaged in modeling and in analyzing multi-agent systems, and those interested in applying agent-based simulation techniques to real-world problems. Its scientific focus lies in the confluence of socio-technical-natural sciences and multi-agent systems, with a strong application/empirical vein. Lately, its emphasis has been placed on (i) exploratory agent-based simulation as a principled way of undertaking scientific research in the social sciences, and (ii) using social theories as an inspiration to new frameworks and developments in multi-agent systems.

The 2016 International Multi-Agent-Based Simulation workshop was held in conjunction with the 15th Autonomous Agents and Multi-Agent Systems conference (AAMAS) in Singapore in May 2016. This volume represents the 17th in a series that began in 1998. Fifteen papers from 10 countries were submitted to the workshop. We selected 10 papers for presentation (around 66% acceptance). The papers presented at the workshop were extended, revised, and re-reviewed, incorporating points from the discussions held at the workshop with their original ideas. In this MABS edition, two papers, the most “visionary” and the “best” papers, had already been published by Springer in the Lecture Notes in Artificial Intelligence (LNAI) series and the Communications in Computer and Information Science (CCIS) series, respectively.

The workshop could not have taken place without the contribution of many people. We are very grateful to Virginia Dignum, who gave a very inspiring invited talk, and to all the participants, who took part in a lively debate during the presentation of the papers. We are also very grateful to all the members of the Program Committee for their hard work. Thanks are also due to Carles Sierra and Nardine Osman (AAMAS 2016 workshop chairs), to Stacy Marsella and Catholijn Jonker (AAMAS 2016 general co-chairs), to John Thangarajah and Karl Tuyls (AAMAS 2016 program co-chairs), and to Pradeep Varakantham (AAMAS 2016 local arrangements chair).

June 2017

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Multi-Agent Based Simulation XVII

International Workshop, MABS 2016, Singapore,

Singapore, May 10, 2016, Revised Selected Papers

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2017, IX, 155 p. 60 illus., Softcover

ISBN: 978-3-319-67476-6