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GeoSpatial Semantics

Second International Conference, GeoS 2007
Mexico City, Mexico, November 29-30, 2007
Proceedings

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Preface

GeoS 2007 was the second edition of the International Conference on Geospatial Semantics. It was held in Mexico City, November 29–30, 2007.

Semantics has become one of the most important topics of research in computer and information sciences. After many of the basic problems in information sharing and use were solved, it became time to face the most challenging one of all: how to make sense of all the information available even when it was collected and organized by different people under different premises?

Geographic information science is no different in this aspect. Although we start with more or less the same spatio-temporal cognitive abilities, when it comes to splitting the world into objects and fields, fiat and bona fide boundaries, and events and processes, we have a hard time understanding each other's information and its underlying assumptions. This is where GeoS 2007 tries to fit in and to bring some of the state-of-the-art research results related to the many facets of modeling and processing geospatial semantics.

This volume contains 19 papers, which were selected from among 35 submissions received in response to the Call for Papers. Each submission was reviewed by three or four Program Committee members and 15 full and 4 short papers were chosen for presentation. The papers focused on geo-ontologies ranging from alignment and integration aspects to how to create and use them in information retrieval. Formal representations for geospatial data and the integration of semantics into spatial query processing were also favorite topics among the researchers who presented at GeoS 2007. Overall, a very diverse body of research was presented coming from institutions in Brazil, France, Germany, India, Italy, Mexico, Spain, UK and the USA

We are in debt to many people who made this event happen. The members of the Program Committee offered their help with reviewing submissions. Our thanks go also to Marco Moreno, Miguel Torres, Rolando Quintero, and Giovanni Guzmán, who formed the Local Organizing Committee and took care of all the logistics. The Centro de Investigación en Computación, Mexico City, Mexico, was the local host and co-sponsored GeoS 2007. Finally, we would like to thank all the authors who submitted papers to GeoS 2007.

November 2007

Frederico Fonseca
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