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Preface

The meeting of researchers from multi-agent systems engineering and the social/economic/organizational sciences plays a vital role in the cross-fertilization of ideas, and is undoubtedly an important source of inspiration for the body of knowledge that is being produced in the multi-agent field. The MABS series continues to pursue its goal of bringing together researchers interested in multi-agent systems with those focused on modelling complex social systems, in such areas as economics, management, and organizational and social sciences in general.

This volume is the ninth of its series. It is based on papers accepted for the 9th International Workshop on Multi-agent-Based Simulation (MABS 2008), co-located with the 7th International Joint Conference on Autonomous Agents and Multiagent Systems (AAMAS 2008), which was held in Estoril, Portugal, May 12–16, 2008. All the papers presented at the workshop have been extended, revised and reviewed again in order to be part of this volume. The success of this field is reflected in the outstanding number of submissions that we received at that time. Forty-four submissions from 14 countries were received, from which we selected 16 for presentation (near 35% acceptance). We are very grateful to the participants who provided a lively atmosphere of debate during the presentation of the papers and during the general discussion on the challenges that the MABS field faces.

We are also very grateful to all the members of the Program Committee and the additional reviewers for their hard work. Thanks are also due to Juan A. Rodriguez-Aguilar (AAMAS 2008 Workshop Chair), to Simon Parsons and Joerg P. Mueller (AAMAS 2008 General Chairs), to Lin Padgham and David Parkes (AAMAS 2008 Program Chairs) and to Ana Paiva and Luis Antunes (AAMAS 2005 Local Organization Chairs).

March 2009

Nuno David
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Table of Contents

Simulation of Economic Behaviour

Modeling Power Distance in Trade 1
Gert Jan Hofstede, Catholijn M. Jonker, and Tim Verwaart

Intrusion of Agent-Based Social Simulation in Economic Theory 17
Bogdan Werth and Scott Moss

Modelling and Simulation of Social Behaviour

A Model for HIV Spread in a South African Village 33
Shah Jamal Alam, Ruth Meyer, and Emma Norling

Understanding Collective Cognitive Convergence 46
H.V. Parunak, T.C. Belding, R. Hilscher, and S. Brueckner

Dynamics of Agent Organizations: Application to Modeling Irregular Warfare 60
Maksim Tsvetovat and Maciej Łatek

Applications

Using Simulation to Evaluate Data-Driven Agents 71
Elizabeth Sklar and Ilknur Icke

Evaluation of Automated Guided Vehicle Systems for Container Terminals Using Multi Agent Based Simulation 85
Lawrence Henesey, Paul Davidsson, and Jan A. Persson

MASFMMS: Multi Agent Systems Framework for Malware Modeling and Simulation 97
Rohan Monga and Kamalakar Karlapalem

Techniques, Infrastructure and Technologies

Towards a Formal Semantics of Event-Based Multi-agent Simulations . . . 110
Jean-Pierre Müller

A User Interface to Support Dialogue and Negotiation in Participatory Simulations 127
Eurico Vasconcelos, Jean-Pierre Briot, Marta Irving, Simone Barbosa, and Vasco Furtado

Towards Agents for Policy Making 141
Frank Dignum, Virginia Dignum, and Catholijn M. Jonker

Methods and Methodologies

A Quantitative Method for Comparing Multi-agent-Based Simulations in Feature Space 154
Ryota Arai and Shigeyoshi Watanabe

Deepening the Demographic Mechanisms in a Data-Driven Social Simulation of Moral Values Evolution 167
Samer Hassan, Luis Antunes, and Millán Arroyo

Cross-Disciplinary Views on Modelling Complex Systems 183
Emma Norling, Craig R. Powell, and Bruce Edmonds

Towards a New Approach in Social Simulations: Meta-language 195
Raif Serkan Albayrak and Ahmet K. Süerdem

Author Index 215