

# Lecture Notes in Artificial Intelligence 4078

Edited by R. Goebel, J. Siekmann, and W. Wahlster

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Dickson Lukose Zhongzhi Shi (Eds.)

# Multi-Agent Systems for Society

8th Pacific Rim International Workshop  
on Multi-Agents, PRIMA 2005  
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Revised Selected Papers

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# Preface

The Pacific-Rim International Workshop on Multi-Agents (PRIMA) is held annually, and is one of the principal research forums in the practice and theory of autonomous agents and multi-agent systems. Autonomous agents and multi-agent systems are computational systems in which several (semi-) autonomous agents interact with each other or work together to perform some set of tasks or satisfy some set of goals. These systems may involve computational agents that are homogeneous or heterogeneous, they may involve activities on the part of agents having common goals or distinct goals, and they may involve participation on the part of humans and intelligent agents.

PRIMA is the first Pacific Rim workshop related to autonomous agents and multi-agent systems. Although we already have several workshops in Pacific Rim countries, such as MACC (Multi-agent Systems and Cooperative Computation) in Japan from 1991, and the Australian Workshop on Distributed Artificial Intelligence from 1995, there has been less interaction among the countries compared to Europe and the Americas. Since 1998, the PRIMA series of workshop has been conducted annually. PRIMA 2005, the first of its kind to be held in Malaysia, followed a strong tradition of workshops that began in 1998 as a platform to enable researchers from the Pacific-Rim countries to share and collaborate their research findings in the areas of autonomous agents and multi-agent systems. In addition to the traditional technical paper presentation and poster paper presentations there were two additional activities specifically for the benefit of doctoral students, and industry participants:

- (1) A Doctoral Mentoring Session
- (2) Agent School

The Chairs of the workshop take this opportunity to thank the members of the Local Organizing Committee, the Programme Committee, the Doctoral Selection Committee, and all the additional paper reviewers. Our special gratitude goes to all the members of the PRIMA Planning Committee for providing us with necessary guidance and advice on many aspect of organizing this workshop. The Chairs extend a very special thanks to all sponsors of this workshop, in particular our Principal Sponsor “DL Informatique Sdn. Bhd.” We also thank the International Foundation for Multi-Agent Systems for their generous grant towards organizing the Agent School, Monash University Malaysia for their support for both the Agent School and the Doctoral Mentoring Session, and the Multimedia Development Corporation for their help in promoting this event to MSC Status Companies.

Finally, the Chairs would like to thank the authors of the papers for their hard and efficient work in meeting all the deadlines, and making the organization

of this event a success. We also thank Toru Ishida and his colleagues Hiromitsu Hattori, Shoichi Sawada, Yusuke Tanaka for contributing to the publication of this volume.

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