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Preface

Artificial intelligence (AI) is a dynamic field that is constantly expanding into new application areas, discovering new research challenges, and facilitating the development of innovative products. Today's AI tools might not pass the Turing test, but they are invaluable aids in organizing and sorting the ever-increasing volume, complexity, and heterogeneity of knowledge available to us in our rapidly changing technological, economic, cultural, and social environment.

This volume aims at bringing to the reader all the latest developments in this exciting and challenging field, and contains papers selected for presentation at the 6th Hellenic Conference on Artificial Intelligence (SETN 2010), the official meeting of the Hellenic Society for Artificial Intelligence (EETN).

SETN 2010 was organized by the Hellenic Society of Artificial Intelligence and the Institute of Informatics and Telecommunications, NCSR 'Demokritos' and took place in Athens during May 4–7. Previous conferences were held at the University of Piraeus (1996), at the Aristotle University of Thessaloniki (2002), at the University of the Aegean (Samos, 2004, and Syros, 2008), and jointly at the Foundation for Research and Technology–Hellas (FORTH) and the University of Crete (2006).

SETN conferences play an important role in disseminating innovative and high-quality scientific results by AI researchers, attracting not only EETN members but also scientists advancing and applying AI in many and diverse domains and from various Greek and international institutes. However, the most important aspect of SETN conferences is that they provide the context in which AI researchers meet and discuss their work, as well as an excellent opportunity for students to attend high-quality tutorials and get closer to AI results.

SETN 2010 continued this tradition of excellence, attracting submissions not only from Greece but also numerous European countries, Asia, and the Americas, which underwent a thorough reviewing process on the basis of their relevance to AI, originality, significance, technical soundness, and presentation. The selection process was hard, with only 28 papers out of the 83 submitted being accepted as full papers and an additional 22 submissions accepted as short papers.

This proceedings volume also includes the abstracts of the invited talks presented at SETN 2010 by four internationally distinguished keynote speakers: Panos Constantopoulos, Michail Lagoudakis, Nikolaos Mavridis, and Demetri Terzopoulos. As yet another indication of the growing international influence and importance of the conference, the EVENTS international workshop on event recognition and tracking chose to be co-located with SETN 2010. And, finally, SETN 2010 hosted the first ever RoboCup event organized in Greece, with the participation of two teams from abroad and one from Greece.

The Area Chairs and members of the SETN 2010 Programme Committee and the additional reviewers did an enormous amount of work and deserve the

special gratitude of all participants. Our sincere thanks go to our sponsors for their generous financial support and to the Steering Committee for its assistance and support. The conference operations were supported in an excellent way by the ConfMaster conference management system; many thanks to Thomas Preuss for his prompt responding with all questions and requests. Special thanks go to Konstantinos Stamatakis for the design of the conference poster and the design and maintenance of the conference website. We also wish to thank the Organizing Committee and Be to Be Travel, the conference travel and organization agent, for implementing the conference schedule in a timely and flawless manner. Last but not least, we also thank Alfred Hofmann, Anna Kramer, Leonie Kunz, and the Springer team for their continuous help and support.

March 2010

Stasinos Konstantopoulos
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