

# IJCAI-03

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Proceedings of the Eighteenth International  
Joint Conference on Artificial Intelligence

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Acapulco, Mexico  
August 9–15, 2003

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These proceedings are dedicated to the memory of Raymond Reiter (1939–2002),  
a distinguished scholar and pioneer, whose contributions have left an indelible mark on our field.

His legacy to us is a very rich collection of ideas and results, with names like  
Closed-World Assumptions, Default Logic, Consistency-Based Diagnosis,  
Successor State Axioms, and Cognitive Robotics.

Raymond Reiter served as IJCAI Program Chair in 1991 and  
received the IJCAI Research Excellence Award in 1993.

We remember him as a brilliant scientist, a wonderful colleague, and a friend.

The IJCAI Board of Trustees  
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# BRIEF CONTENTS

Ordering Information . . . . .	iv
Foreword . . . . .	v
IJCAI-03 Conference Organization . . . . .	vi
Corporate Sponsorship . . . . .	vi
Local Arrangements Committee . . . . .	vii
Program Committee . . . . .	viii
Poster Track Program Committee . . . . .	ix
IJCAI-03 Awards . . . . .	ix
Distinguished Papers . . . . .	x
Invited Speakers . . . . .	x
IJCAI Organization . . . . .	xi
AAAI Organization . . . . .	xii
IJCAI-03 Reviewers . . . . .	xiii
Contents . . . . .	xviii
AI and Data Integration . . . . .	1
AI and the Internet . . . . .	29
Art and Creativity . . . . .	49
Automated Reasoning . . . . .	73
Belief Revision and Update . . . . .	97
Case-based Reasoning . . . . .	119
Causality . . . . .	139
Cognitive Modeling . . . . .	161
Cognitive Robotics . . . . .	175
Constraints . . . . .	189
Decision Theory . . . . .	283
Description Logics . . . . .	317
Diagnosis . . . . .	361
Information Extraction . . . . .	401
Knowledge Representation . . . . .	441
Learning . . . . .	475
Multiagent Systems . . . . .	609
Natural Language . . . . .	803
Nonmonotonic Reasoning . . . . .	829
Ontologies and Foundations . . . . .	885
Perception . . . . .	907
Planning . . . . .	927
Probabilistic Inference . . . . .	967
Probabilistic Planning . . . . .	999
Qualitative Reasoning . . . . .	1031
Reasoning about Actions and Change . . . . .	1059
Resource-bounded Reasoning . . . . .	1097
Robotics . . . . .	1119
Satisfiability . . . . .	1165
Scheduling . . . . .	1209
Search . . . . .	1231
Spatial Reasoning . . . . .	1267
Temporal Reasoning . . . . .	1281
User Modeling . . . . .	1301
Vision . . . . .	1317
Poster Papers . . . . .	1333
Invited Speakers . . . . .	1565
Intelligent Systems Demonstration . . . . .	1627
Computers and Thought Award Paper . . . . .	1647

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# FOREWORD

These proceedings contain the papers and poster papers accepted for presentation at the Eighteenth International Joint Conference on Artificial Intelligence (IJCAI-03) to be held in Acapulco, Mexico, August 9–15, 2003. This year, an increased interest in the field of artificial intelligence is witnessed by the very high number of submitted papers: 913 papers were submitted for review and each paper was reviewed by at least three reviewers and discussed by members of the program committee. The 50 members of the program committee recruited 1,007 reviewers, whose considerable effort is much appreciated. This year 189 papers were accepted, for an overall acceptance rate of 20.7 percent.

As usual, reviewers and program committee members were asked to recommend papers for distinction, and then a subcommittee of the program committee decided which of them should be highlighted at the conference. This year, the two papers—“Approximating Game-Theoretic Optimal Strategies for Full-scale Poker” by Darse Billings, Neil Burch, Aaron Davidson, Robert Holte, Jonathan Schaeffer, Terence Schauenberg, Duane Szafron and “Thin Junction Tree Filters for Simultaneous Localization and Mapping” by Mark Paskin—were chosen as the best papers and share the distinguished paper award. Moreover, the authors of a set of at most 20 selected outstanding papers will be invited to submit full versions of their papers to the *Artificial Intelligence* journal.

In addition to the full paper sessions, IJCAI-03 hosts a poster track. The aims of this initiative are to promote new research ideas and to widen participation at the conference. The poster committee reviewed a large number of submissions and identified those that represented the most promising new research directions, met the high technical standards expected at IJCAI, but were not yet fully evaluated or developed. Submissions came from two directions. First, 139 posters were submitted directly to the poster track and were reviewed either by the poster committee or by one of the 48 external reviewers. Of these 139 submissions, 30 were accepted into the poster track, giving an acceptance rate of 21.6 percent. Second, the program committee recommended that 322 of the full paper submissions be considered as posters. Of these, 63 were accepted by the poster committee into the poster track, giving an acceptance rate of 19.5 percent.

The high quality of this year’s IJCAI is the joint effort of many people. First of all, the authors, the program committee, and the poster committee deserve great credit for their effort and dedication to make IJCAI the premier international forum for AI research. Secondly, the program committee executive administrator Vesna Sabljakovic, the program committee assistant Bibiane Angerer, the program committee technical administrator and advisor Jochen Renz as well as the staff at AAI, in particular Carol Hamilton, Rick Skalsky, and Keri Harvey, merit special thanks for the professional support and the effort throughout the entire paper handling process. Thirdly, Professional Book Center did as usual a splendid job in turning the set of individual contributions into the present volume.

The Conference Chair Tony Cohn, the Local Arrangements Chairs Francisco J. Cantú and Juan M. Rodríguez, the IJCAI-01 Program Committee Chair Bernhard Nebel, the IJCAI trustees and the members of the advisory board provided useful advice for selecting the program committee and the invited speakers, and at various other critical stages. Peter Stone and Mary-Anne Williams did an excellent job putting together an attractive tutorial program and workshop program, respectively. This year, the new conference software ConfMaster, specifically designed by Thomas Preuss for IJCAI, was used as an electronic support of the many complex tasks of the Chair and the program committee. The program worked very well and was much appreciated by the committee. The poster committee used Richard Gerber’s START package and was equally satisfied.

*Georg Gottlob, Program Chair  
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Nils Nilsson, Stanford University (USA)

Talk: *Adventures in Artificial Intelligence*

### The IJCAI-03 Computers and Thought Award

Tuomas Sandholm, Carnegie Mellon University (USA)

Talk: *Making Markets and Democracy Work: A Story of Incentives and Computing*

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*Computer Vision: AI or Non-AI Problem*

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*Challenges in Web Search Engines*

Craig Knoblock, University of Southern California, USA  
*Deploying Information Agents on the Web*

Jiming Liu, Hong Kong Baptist University and Web Intelligence Consortium  
*Web Intelligence (WI): What Makes Wisdom Web?*

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# CONTENTS

## AI AND DATA INTEGRATION

- Learning Value Predictors for the Speculative Execution of Information Gathering Plans  
*Greg Barish and Craig A. Knoblock* . . . . . 3
- Logic Programs for Consistently Querying Data Integration Systems  
*Loreto Bravo and Leopoldo Bertossi* . . . . . 10
- Query rewriting and answering under constraints in data integration systems  
*Andrea Cali, Domenico Lembo, and Riccardo Rosati* . . . . . 16
- Integrating Multiple Internet Directories by Instance-based Learning  
*Ryutaro Ichise, Hiedeaki Takeda, and Shinichi Honiden* . . . . . 22

## AI AND THE INTERNET

- A semantic framework for multimedia document adaptation  
*Jérôme Euzenat, Nabil Layaïda, and Victor Dias* . . . . . 31
- An Ontology-based Architecture for Cooperative Information Agents  
*Frederico L. G. Freitas and Guilherme Bittencourt* . . . . . 37
- Web Page Cleaning for Web Mining through Feature Weighting  
*Lan Yi and Bing Liu* . . . . . 43

## ART AND CREATIVITY

- A Learning-Based Jam Session System that Imitates a Player's Personality Model  
*Masatoshi Hamanaka, Masataka Goto, Hideki Asoh, and Nobuyuki Otsu* . . . . . 51
- Getting Serious about the Development of Computational Humor  
*Oliviero Stock and Carlo Strapparava* . . . . . 59
- Automated Generation of Graphic Sketches by Example  
*Michelle X. Zhou and Min Chen* . . . . . 65

## AUTOMATED REASONING

- Logical Filtering  
*Eyal Amir and Stuart Russell* . . . . . 75
- A Tractability Result for Reasoning with Incomplete First-Order Knowledge Bases  
*Yongmei Liu and Hector J. Levesque* . . . . . 83

- Practical Partition-Based Theorem Proving for Large Knowledge Bases  
*Bill MacCartney, Sheila McIlraith, Eyal Amir, and Tomás E. Uribe* . . . . . 89

## BELIEF REVISION AND UPDATE

- On the Revision of Probabilistic Beliefs using Uncertain Evidence  
*Hei Chan and Adnan Darwiche* . . . . . 99
- Quantifying information and contradiction in propositional logic through test actions  
*Sébastien Konieczny, Jérôme Lang, and Pierre Marquis* . . . . . 106
- Minimal Change and Maximal Coherence for Epistemic Logic Program Updates  
*Yan Zhang* . . . . . 112

## CASE-BASED REASONING

- Increasing Dialogue Efficiency in Case-Based Reasoning Without Loss of Solution Quality  
*David McSherry* . . . . . 121
- The Power of Suggestion  
*Barry Smyth and Lorraine McGinty* . . . . . 127
- A Weighted Polynomial Information Gain Kernel for Resolving Prepositional Phrase Attachment Ambiguities with Support Vector Machines  
*Bram Vanschoenwinkel and Bernard Manderick* . . . . . 133

## CAUSALITY

- A Logic For Causal Reasoning  
*Alexander Bochman* . . . . . 141
- Responsibility and Blame: A Structural-Model Approach  
*Hana Chockler and Joseph Y. Halpern* . . . . . 147
- Causes and Explanations Revisited  
*James D. Park* . . . . . 154

## COGNITIVE MODELING

- GHOST: experimenting conflicts countermeasures in the pilot's activity  
*Frédéric Dehais, Catherine Tessier, and Laurent Chaudron* . . . . . 163
- Dynamic Bayesian modeling of the cerebral activity  
*Vincent Labatut, Josette Pastor, and Serge Ruff* . . . . . 169

## COGNITIVE ROBOTICS

- Body Movement Analysis of Human-Robot Interaction  
*Takayuki Kanda, Hiroshi Ishiguro, Michita Imai, and  
Tetsuo Ono* . . . . . 177
- Qualitative Map Learning Based on Co-visibility  
of Objects  
*Takehisa Yairi and Koichi Hori* . . . . . 183

## CONSTRAINTS

- Propagate the Right Thing: How Preferences Can  
Speed-Up Constraint Solving  
*Christian Bessière, Anaïs Fabre, and Ulrich Junker* . . . 191
- Amalgams of Constraint Satisfaction Problems  
*Andrei A. Bulatov and Eugeny S. Skvortsov* . . . . . 197
- On a generalization of triangulated graphs for  
domains decomposition of CSPs  
*Assef Chmeiss, Philippe Jégou, and Lamia Keddar* . . . 203
- A Maximal Tractable Class of Soft Constraints  
*David Cohen, Martin Cooper, Peter Jeavons, and  
Andrei Krokhin* . . . . . 209
- Reasoning about soft constraints and conditional  
preferences: complexity results and approximation  
techniques  
*C. Domshlak, F. Rossi, K. B. Venable, and  
T. Walsh* . . . . . 215
- Multiset Ordering Constraints  
*Alan Frisch, Ian Miguel, Zeynep Kiziltan,  
Brahim Hnich, and Toby Walsh* . . . . . 221
- Non-Binary Constraints and Optimal Dual-Graph  
Representations  
*Gianluigi Greco and Francesco Scarcello* . . . . . 227
- Algorithms for Identifying Rigid Subsystems in  
Geometric Constraint Systems  
*Christophe Jermann, Bertrand Neveu, and  
Gilles Trombettoni* . . . . . 233
- In the quest of the best form of local consistency for  
Weighted CSP  
*Javier Larrosa and Thomas Schiex* . . . . . 239
- A Fast and Simple Algorithm for Bounds Consistency  
of the AllDifferent Constraint  
*Alejandro López-Ortiz, Claude-Guy Quimper,  
John Tromp, and Peter van Beek* . . . . . 245
- Solving Constraint Optimization Problems in  
Anytime Contexts  
*Samir Loudni and Patrice Boizumault* . . . . . 251
- Scenario-based Stochastic Constraint Programming  
*Suresh Manandhar, Armagan Tarim, and  
Toby Walsh* . . . . . 257
- Consistency and Set Intersection  
*Yuanlin Zhang and Roland H. C. Yap* . . . . . 263

## CONSTRAINTS AND SYMMETRY

- Efficient Symmetry Breaking for Boolean Satisfiability  
*Fadi A. Aloul, Karem A. Sakallah, and  
Igor L. Markov* . . . . . 271
- Tractable Symmetry Breaking for CSPs with  
Interchangeable Values  
*P. Van Hentenryck, P. Flener, J. Pearson, and  
M. Ågren* . . . . . 277

## DECISION THEORY

- On the Foundations of *Expected* Expected Utility  
*Craig Boutilier* . . . . . 285
- Great Expectations. Part I: On the Customizability  
of Generalized Expected Utility  
*Francis C. Chu and Joseph Y. Halpern* . . . . . 291
- Great Expectations. Part II: Generalized Expected  
Utility as a Universal Decision Rule  
*Francis C. Chu and Joseph Y. Halpern* . . . . . 297
- Qualitative Decision under Uncertainty: Back to  
Expected Utility  
*Hélène Fargier and Régis Sabbadin* . . . . . 303
- Incremental Utility Elicitation with the Minimax  
Regret Decision Criterion  
*Tianhan Wang and Craig Boutilier* . . . . . 309

## DESCRIPTION LOGICS

- Least Common Subsumers and Most Specific Concepts  
in a Description Logic with Existential Restrictions and  
Terminological Cycles  
*Franz Baader* . . . . . 319
- Terminological Cycles in a Description Logic with  
Existential Restrictions  
*Franz Baader* . . . . . 325
- On the Undecidability of Description and Dynamic  
Logics with Recursion and Counting  
*Piero A. Bonatti* . . . . . 331
- Abductive Matchmaking using Description Logics  
*Tommaso Di Noia, Eugenio Di Sciascio,  
Francesco M. Donini, and Marina Mongiello* . . . . . 337
- Decidability of *SHIQ* with Complex Role  
Inclusion Axioms  
*Ian Horrocks and Ulrike Sattler* . . . . . 343
- Keys, Nominals, and Concrete Domains  
*Carsten Lutz, Carlos Areces, Ian Horrocks, and  
Ulrike Sattler* . . . . . 349
- Non-Standard Reasoning Services for the Debugging  
of Description Logic Terminologies  
*Stefan Schlobach and Ronald Cornet* . . . . . 355

## DIAGNOSIS

- Formal Verification of Diagnosability via Symbolic Model Checking  
*Alessandro Cimatti, Charles Pecheur, and Roberto Cavada* . . . . . 363
- On the Design of Social Diagnosis Algorithms for Multi-Agent Teams  
*Meir Kalech and Gal A. Kaminka* . . . . . 370
- Model-based Diagnosis of Hybrid Systems  
*Sriram Narasimhan and Gautam Biswas* . . . . . 376
- Automated Qualitative Domain Abstraction  
*Martin Sachenbacher and Peter Struss* . . . . . 382
- Coupling CSP Decomposition Methods and Diagnosis Algorithms for Tree-Structured Systems  
*Markus Stumptner and Franz Wotawa* . . . . . 388
- Automatic Abstraction in Component-Based Diagnosis Driven by System Observability  
*Gianluca Torta and Pietro Torasso* . . . . . 394

## INFORMATION EXTRACTION

- Information Extraction from Web Documents Based on Local Unranked Tree Automaton Inference  
*Raymond Kosala, Maurice Bruynooghe, Jan Van den Bussche, and Hendrik Blockeel* . . . . . 403
- Intelligent Multimedia Indexing and Retrieval through Multi-source Information Extraction and Merging  
*Jan Kuper, Horacio Saggion, Hamish Cunningham, Thierry Declerck, Franciska de Jong, Dennis Reidsma, Yorick Wilks, and Peter Wittenburg* . . . . . 409
- Active Learning with Strong and Weak Views: A Case Study on Wrapper Induction  
*Ion Muslea, Steven N. Minton, and Craig A. Knoblock* . . . . . 415
- Bayesian Information Extraction Network  
*Leonid Peshkin and Avi Pfeffer* . . . . . 421
- Hierarchical Hidden Markov Models for Information Extraction  
*Marios Skounakis, Mark Craven, and Soumya Ray* . . . . . 427
- Coherent Keyphrase Extraction via Web Mining  
*Peter D. Turney* . . . . . 434

## KNOWLEDGE REPRESENTATION

- From Logic Programming Semantics to the Consistency of Syntactical Treatments of Knowledge and Belief  
*Thomas Bolander* . . . . . 443
- Inverse Circumscription  
*Hubie Chen* . . . . . 449

- A Theory of Average-Case Compilability in Knowledge Representation  
*Hubie Chen* . . . . . 455
- LADDER: A Language to Describe Drawing, Display, and Editing in Sketch Recognition  
*Tracy Hammond and Randall Davis* . . . . . 461
- Evaluating Significance of Inconsistencies  
*Anthony Hunter* . . . . . 468

## LEARNING

### CLUSTERING AND BAYES NET LEARNING

- Data Clustering: Principal Components, Hopfield and Self-Aggregation Networks  
*Chris H. Q. Ding* . . . . . 479
- Distributed Clustering Based on Sampling Local Density Estimates  
*Matthias Klusch, Stefano Lodi, and Gianluca Moro* . . . . . 485
- When Discriminative Learning of Bayesian Network Parameters Is Easy  
*Hannes Wettig, Peter Grünwald, Teemu Roos, Petri Myllymäki, and Henry Tirri* . . . . . 491

### ENSEMBLES

- Monte Carlo Theory as an Explanation of Bagging and Boosting  
*Roberto Esposito and Lorenza Saitta* . . . . . 499
- Constructing Diverse Classifier Ensembles using Artificial Training Examples  
*Prem Melville and Raymond J. Mooney* . . . . . 505

### EVALUATING CLASSIFIERS

- Evaluating Classifiers by Means of Test Data with Noisy Labels  
*Chuck P. Lam and David G. Stork* . . . . . 513
- AUC: a Statistically Consistent and more Discriminating Measure than Accuracy  
*Charles X. Ling, Jin Huang, and Harry Zhang* . . . . . 519

### INDUCTIVE LOGIC PROGRAMMING

- Spaces of Theories with Ideal Refinement Operators  
*Nicola Fanizzi, Stefano Ferilli, Nicola Di Mauro, and Teresa M. A. Basile* . . . . . 527
- Learning Minesweeper with Multirelational Learning  
*Lourdes Peña Castillo and Stefan Wrobel* . . . . . 533

### KERNEL METHODS

- Multi-prototype Support Vector Machine  
*Fabio Aielli and Alessandro Sperduti* . . . . . 541
- Continuous nonlinear dimensionality reduction by kernel eigenmaps  
*Matthew Brand* . . . . . 547

## PARTIALLY LABELED DATA

- Semi-Supervised Learning with Explicit Misclassification Modeling  
*Massih-Reza Amini and Patrick Gallinari* . . . . . 555
- Spectral Learning  
*Sepandar D. Kamvar, Dan Klein, and Christopher D. Manning* . . . . . 561
- SVMC: Single-Class Classification With Support Vector Machines  
*Hwanjo Yu* . . . . . 567

## TEXT AND WEB

- A Learning Algorithm for Web Page Scoring Systems  
*Michelangelo Diligenti, Marco Gori, and Marco Maggini* . . . . . 575
- Does a New Simple Gaussian Weighting Approach Perform Well in Text Categorization?  
*Giorgio Maria Di Nunzio and Alessandro Micarelli* . . . . . 581
- Learning to Classify Texts Using Positive and Unlabeled Data  
*Xiaoli Li and Bing Liu* . . . . . 587

## TREE LEARNING

- Inductive Learning in Less Than One Sequential Data Scan  
*Wei Fan, Haixun Wang, Philip S. Yu, and Shaw-Hwa Lo* . . . . . 595
- Skewing: An Efficient Alternative to Lookahead for Decision Tree Induction  
*David Page and Soumya Ray* . . . . . 601

# MULTIAGENT SYSTEMS

## COALITION FORMATION

- Complexity of Determining Nonemptiness of the Core  
*Vincent Conitzer and Tuomas Sandholm* . . . . . 613
- An Integrated Multilevel Learning Approach to Multiagent Coalition Formation  
*Leen-Kiat Soh and Xin Li* . . . . . 619
- Dynamics of Coalition Formation in Combinatorial Trading  
*Yiming Ye and Yuhai Tu* . . . . . 625

## EMERGENT BEHAVIOR

- Biologically-Inspired Self-Assembly of Two-Dimensional Shapes Using Global-to-Local Compilation  
*Attila Kondacs* . . . . . 633
- Emergence of Cooperation in a Pursuit-Evasion Game  
*Geoff Nitschke* . . . . . 639

## EVOLUTION AND GENETIC ALGORITHMS

- When Evolving Populations is Better than Coevolving Individuals: The Blind Mice Problem  
*Thomas Miconi* . . . . . 647
- Improving Coevolutionary Search for Optimal Multiagent Behaviors  
*Liviu Panait, R. Paul Wiegand, and Sean Luke* . . . . . 653

## GAME PLAYING

- Approximating Game-Theoretic Optimal Strategies for Full-scale Poker  
*D. Billings, N. Burch, A. Davidson, R. Holte, J. Schaeffer, T. Schauenberg, and D. Szafron* . . . . . 661
- Last-Branch and Speculative Pruning Algorithms for Max<sup>n</sup>  
*Nathan Sturtevant* . . . . . 669

## LOGIC-BASED MAS AND COMMUNICATION LANGUAGES

- Protocol Conformance for Logic-based Agents  
*Ulrich Endriss, Nicolas Maudet, Fariba Sadri, and Francesca Toni* . . . . . 679
- Hidden Uncertainty in the Logical Representation of Desires  
*Jérôme Lang, Leendert van der Torre, and Emil Weydert* . . . . . 685
- Constitutive Rules for Agent Communication Languages  
*Jeremy Pitt* . . . . . 691

## MULTIAGENT REINFORCEMENT LEARNING AND POMDPs

- Simultaneous Adversarial Multi-Robot Learning  
*Michael Bowling and Manuela Veloso* . . . . . 699
- Taming Decentralized POMDPs: Towards Efficient Policy Computation for Multiagent Settings  
*R. Nair, M. Tambe, M. Yokoo, D. Pynadath, and S. Marsella* . . . . . 705
- A Bayesian Approach to Imitation in Reinforcement Learning  
*Bob Price and Craig Boutilier* . . . . . 712

## MULTIAGENT SYSTEMS

- Detecting & Avoiding Interference Between Goals in Intelligent Agents  
*John Thangarajah, Lin Padgham, and Michael Winikoff* . . . . . 721
- Behavior Bounding: Toward Effective Comparisons of Agents & Humans  
*Scott A. Wallace and John E. Laird* . . . . . 727
- Characterization of Strategy/False-name Proof Combinatorial Auction Protocols: Price-oriented, Rationing-free Protocol  
*Makoto Yokoo* . . . . . 733

## MULTIAGENT TRACKING

- On Identifying and Managing Relationships in Multi-Agent Systems  
*Ronald Ashri, Michael Luck, and Mark d'Inverno* . . . 743
- ODISET: On-line Distributed Session Tracing using Agents  
*Salvador Mandujano and Arturo Galván* . . . . . 749

## NASH EQUILIBRIA

- A Continuation Method for Nash Equilibria in Structured Games  
*Ben Blum, Christian R. Shelton, and Daphne Koller* . . . . . 757
- Complexity Results about Nash Equilibria  
*Vincent Conitzer and Tuomas Sandholm* . . . . . 765
- Local-Effect Games  
*Kevin Leyton-Brown and Moshe Tennenholtz* . . . . . 772

## NONMANIPULABILITY AND FAULT-TOLERANCE

- Universal Voting Protocol Tweaks to Make Manipulation Hard  
*Vincent Conitzer and Tuomas Sandholm* . . . . . 781
- Probabilistically Survivable MASs  
*Sarit Kraus, V. S. Subrahmanian, and N. Cihan Tas* . . . . . 789
- Minimally intrusive negotiating agents for resource sharing  
*Fariba Sadri, Francesca Toni, and Paolo Torroni* . . . . . 796

## NATURAL LANGUAGE

- Extended Gloss Overlaps as a Measure of Semantic Relatedness  
*Satanjeev Banerjee and Ted Pedersen* . . . . . 805
- Evaluating Coverage for Large Symbolic NLG Grammars  
*Charles B. Callaway* . . . . . 811
- Hierarchical Semantic Classification: Word Sense Disambiguation with World Knowledge  
*Massimiliano Ciaramita, Thomas Hofmann, and Mark Johnson* . . . . . 817
- GRAEL: an agent-based evolutionary computing approach for natural language grammar development  
*Guy De Pauw* . . . . . 823

## NONMONOTONIC REASONING

### DEFAULT LOGIC

- Outlier Detection Using Default Logic  
*Angiulli Fabrizio, Rachel Ben-Eliyahu-Zohary, and Luigi Palopoli* . . . . . 833
- Ordering Default Theories  
*Chiaki Sakama* . . . . . 839

## LOGIC PROGRAMMING

- Aggregate Functions in Disjunctive Logic Programming: Semantics, Complexity, and Implementation in DLV  
*Tina Dell'Armi, Wolfgang Faber, Giuseppe Ielpa, Nicola Leone, and Gerald Pfeifer* . . . . . 847
- On Tight Logic Programs and Yet Another Translation from Normal Logic Programs to Propositional Logic  
*Fangzhen Lin and Jicheng Zhao* . . . . . 853
- On the Equivalence between Answer Sets and Models of Completion for Nested Logic Programs  
*Jia-Huai You, Li-Yan Yuan, and Mingyi Zhang* . . . . . 859

## NONMONOTONIC REASONING

- Answer Set Optimization  
*Gerhard Brewka, Ilkka Niemelä, and Mirosław Truszczyński* . . . . . 867
- Weak Conditional Logics of Normality  
*James P. Delgrande* . . . . . 873
- Recycling Computed Answers in Rewrite Systems for Abduction  
*Fangzhen Lin and Jia-Huai You* . . . . . 879

## ONTOLOGIES AND FOUNDATIONS

- What is Artificial Intelligence? Psychometric AI as an Answer  
*Selmer Bringsjord and Bettina Schimanski* . . . . . 887
- Tucking RCC in Cyc's Ontological Bed  
*Pierre Grenon* . . . . . 894
- Integrity and Change in Modular Ontologies  
*Heiner Stuckenschmidt and Michel Klein* . . . . . 900

## PERCEPTION

- Where is ...? Learning and Utilizing Motion Patterns of Persons with Mobile Robots  
*Grzegorz Cielniak, Maren Bennewitz, and Wolfram Burgard* . . . . . 909
- An Extension of the ICP Algorithm for Modeling Nonrigid Objects with Mobile Robots  
*Dirk Hähnel, Sebastian Thrun, and Wolfram Burgard* . . . . . 915
- People Tracking with Anonymous and ID-Sensors Using Rao-Blackwellised Particle Filters  
*Dirk Schulz, Dieter Fox, and Jeffrey Hightower* . . . . . 921

## PLANNING

- Factored Planning  
*Eyal Amir and Barbara Engelhardt* . . . . . 929
- A Parametric Hierarchical Planner for Experimenting Abstraction Techniques  
*Giuliano Armano, Giancarlo Cherchi, and Eloisa Vargiu* . . . . . 936

On the application of least-commitment and heuristic search in temporal planning <i>Antonio Garrido and Eva Onaindia</i> . . . . .	942
Resource Temporal Networks: Definition and Complexity <i>Philippe Laborie</i> . . . . .	948
Generalizing GraphPlan by Formulating Planning as a CSP <i>Adriana Lopez and Fahiem Bacchus</i> . . . . .	954
In Defense of PDDL Axioms <i>Sylvie Thiébaux, Jörg Hoffmann, and Bernhard Nebel</i> . . . . .	961

## PROBABILISTIC INFERENCE

Optimal Time–Space Tradeoff in Probabilistic Inference <i>David Allen and Adnan Darwiche</i> . . . . .	969
Variable Resolution Particle Filter <i>Vandí Verma, Sebastian Thrun, and Reid Simmons</i> . . . . .	976

### PROBABILISTIC INFERENCE: FIRST ORDER

First-order probabilistic inference <i>David Poole</i> . . . . .	985
Dynamic Probabilistic Relational Models <i>Sumit Sanghai, Pedro Domingos, and Daniel Weld</i> . . . . .	992

## PROBABILISTIC PLANNING

### ABSTRACTION, TRANSFER

Generalizing Plans to New Environments in Relational MDPs <i>Carlos Guestrin, Daphne Koller, Chris Gearhart, and Neal Kanodia</i> . . . . .	1003
SMDP Homomorphisms: An Algebraic Approach to Abstraction in Semi-Markov Decision Processes <i>Balaraman Ravindran and Andrew G. Barto</i> . . . . .	1011

### PROBABILISTIC PLANNING

Covariant Policy Search <i>J. Andrew Bagnell and Jeff Schneider</i> . . . . .	1019
Point-based value iteration: An anytime algorithm for POMDPs <i>Joelle Pineau, Geoff Gordon, and Sebastian Thrun</i> . . . . .	1025

## QUALITATIVE REASONING

A New Look at the Semantics and Optimization Methods of CP-Networks <i>Ronen I. Brafman and Yannis Dimopoulos</i> . . . . .	1033
--	------

Categorizing classes of signals by means of fuzzy gradual rules <i>Sylvie Galichet, Didier Dubois, and Henri Prade</i> . . . . .	1039
Gaussian Process Models of Spatial Aggregation Algorithms <i>Naren Ramakrishnan and Chris Bailey-Kellogg</i> . . . . .	1045
Qualitatively Faithful Quantitative Prediction <i>Dorian Suc, Daniel Vladusic, and Ivan Bratko</i> . . . . .	1052

## REASONING ABOUT ACTIONS AND CHANGE

Compiling Control Knowledge into Preconditions for Planning in the Situation Calculus <i>Alfredo Gabaldon</i> . . . . .	1061
Action representation and partially observable planning using epistemic logic <i>Andreas Herzig, Jérôme Lang, and Pierre Marquis</i> . . . . .	1067
Causal Theories of Action: A Computational Core <i>Jérôme Lang, Fangzhen Lin, and Pierre Marquis</i> . . . . .	1073
Describing Additive Fluents in Action Language C+ <i>Joohyung Lee and Vladimir Lifschitz</i> . . . . .	1079
The Concurrent, Continuous FLUX <i>Yves Martin</i> . . . . .	1085
Reasoning about the Interaction of Knowledge, Time and Concurrent Actions in the Situation Calculus <i>Richard B. Scherl</i> . . . . .	1091

## RESOURCE-BOUNDED REASONING

Definition and Complexity of Some Basic Metareasoning Problems <i>Vincent Conitzer and Tuomas Sandholm</i> . . . . .	1099
Approximating Optimal Policies for Agents with Limited Execution Resources <i>Dmitri A. Dolgov and Edmund H. Durfee</i> . . . . .	1107
Belief, Awareness, and Two-Dimensional Logic <i>Hu Liu and Shier Ju</i> . . . . .	1113

## ROBOTICS

Non-Invasive Brain-Actuated Control of a Mobile Robot <i>José del R. Millán, Frédéric Renkens, Josep Mourinho, and Wolfram Gerstner</i> . . . . .	1121
Exploring Unknown Environments with Mobile Robots using Coverage Maps <i>Cyrrill Stachniss and Wolfram Burgard</i> . . . . .	1127

## **SIMULTANEOUS LOCALIZATION AND MAPPING**

- DP-SLAM: Fast, Robust Simultaneous Localization and Mapping Without Predetermined Landmarks  
*Austin Eliazar and Ronald Parr* . . . . . 1135
- Consistent, Convergent, and Constant-Time SLAM  
*J. Leonard and P. Newman* . . . . . 1143
- FastSLAM 2.0: An Improved Particle Filtering Algorithm for Simultaneous Localization and Mapping that Provably Converges  
*Mike Montemerlo, Sebastian Thrun, Daphne Koller, and Ben Wegbreit* . . . . . 1151
- Thin Junction Tree Filters for Simultaneous Localization and Mapping  
*Mark A. Paskin* . . . . . 1157

## **SATISFIABILITY**

- A Structure-Based Variable Ordering Heuristic for SAT  
*Jinbo Huang and Adnan Darwiche* . . . . . 1167
- Backdoors To Typical Case Complexity  
*Ryan Williams, Carla P. Gomes, and Bart Selman* . . . . . 1173
- Backbone Guided Local Search for Maximum Satisfiability  
*Weixiong Zhang, Ananda Rangan, and Moshe Looks* . . . . . 1179

## **SATISFIABILITY AND PHASE TRANSITIONS**

- Phase Transitions of Bounded Satisfiability Problems  
*Delbert D. Bailey and Phokion G. Kolaitis* . . . . . 1187
- Understanding the Power of Clause Learning  
*Paul Beame, Henry Kautz, and Ashish Sabharwal* . . . . . 1194
- Phase Transitions of the Asymmetric Traveling Salesman  
*Weixiong Zhang* . . . . . 1202

## **SCHEDULING**

- Contract Algorithms and Robots on Rays: Unifying Two Scheduling Problems  
*Daniel S. Bernstein, Lev Finkelstein, and Shlomo Zilberstein* . . . . . 1211
- Maximizing Flexibility: A Retraction Heuristic for Oversubscribed Scheduling Problems  
*Laurence A. Kramer and Stephen F. Smith* . . . . . 1218
- Distributed Patient Scheduling in Hospitals  
*T. O. Paulussen, N. R. Jennings, K. S. Decker, and A. Heinzl* . . . . . 1224

## **SEARCH**

- Faster Heuristic Search Algorithms for Planning with Uncertainty and Full Feedback  
*Blai Bonet and Héctor Geffner* . . . . . 1233

- Comparing Best-First Search and Dynamic Programming for Optimal Multiple Sequence Alignment  
*Heath Hohwald, Ignacio Thayer, and Richard E. Korf* . . . . . 1239
- Factored A\* Search for Models over Sequences and Trees  
*Dan Klein and Christopher D. Manning* . . . . . 1246
- An Improved Algorithm for Optimal Bin Packing  
*Richard E. Korf* . . . . . 1252
- Sparse-Memory Graph Search  
*Rong Zhou and Eric A. Hansen* . . . . . 1259

## **SPATIAL REASONING**

- Layered Mereotopology  
*Maureen Donnelly* . . . . . 1269
- Reasoning about distances  
*Frank Wolter and Michael Zakharyashev* . . . . . 1275

## **TEMPORAL REASONING**

- Incremental Tractable Reasoning about Qualitative Temporal Constraints  
*Alfonso Gerevini* . . . . . 1283
- Tractable Pareto Optimization of Temporal Preferences  
*Lina Khatib, Paul Morris, Robert Morris, and Kristen Brent Venable* . . . . . 1289
- Automatic Video Interpretation: A Novel Algorithm for Temporal Scenario Recognition  
*Van-Thinh Vu, François Bremond, and Monique Thonnat* . . . . . 1295

## **USER MODELING**

- Corpus-based, Statistical Goal Recognition  
*Nate Blaylock and James Allen* . . . . . 1303
- A General Model for Online Probabilistic Plan Recognition  
*Hung H. Bui* . . . . . 1309

## **VISION**

- Use of Off-line Dynamic Programming for Efficient Image Interpretation  
*Ramana Isukapalli and Russell Greiner* . . . . . 1319
- Switching Hypothesized Measurements: A Dynamic Model with Applications to Occlusion Adaptive Joint Tracking  
*Yang Wang, Tele Tan, and Kia-Fock Loe* . . . . . 1326



## POSTER PAPERS

### AUTOMATED REASONING

- Active Probing Strategies for Problem Diagnosis in Distributed Systems  
*Mark Brodie, Irina Rish, Sheng Ma, and Natalia Odintsova* . . . . . 1337
- A Resolution Theorem for Algebraic Domains  
*Pascal Hitzler* . . . . . 1339
- A Novel Framework for Integrating Discrete Event System Control and Diagnosis  
*Gregory Provan* . . . . . 1341
- Assertion Application in Theorem Proving and Proof Planning  
*Quoc Bao Vo, Christoph Benzmüller, and Serge Autexier* . . . . . 1343

### CASE-BASED REASONING

- Case Base Adaptation Using Solution-Space Metrics  
*Brian Knight and Fei Ling Woon* . . . . . 1347
- Coverage-Optimized Retrieval  
*David McSherry* . . . . . 1349
- Explicit vs Implicit Profiling – A Case-Study in Electronic Programme Guides  
*Derry O’Sullivan, Barry Smyth, and David Wilson* . . . . . 1351

### CONSTRAINTS

- A Simulated Annealing Approach to the Travelling Tournament Problem  
*A. Anagnostopoulos, L. Michel, P. Van Hentenryck, and Y. Vergados* . . . . . 1357
- Grid-based SensorDCSP  
*R. Béjar, C. Domshlak, C. Fernández, C. Gomes, B. Selman, and M. Valls* . . . . . 1359
- Dynamic Vehicle Routing with Stochastic Requests  
*Russell Bent and Pascal Van Hentenryck* . . . . . 1362
- Solving Finite Domain Constraint Hierarchies by Local Consistency and Tree Search  
*Stefano Bistarelli, Philippe Codognot, H. K. C. Hui, and J. H. M. Lee* . . . . . 1364
- Splitting the atom: A new approach to Neighbourhood Interchangeability in Constraint Satisfaction Problems  
*James Bowen and Chavalit Likitvivanavong* . . . . . 1366
- Efficient Representation of Adhoc Constraints  
*Kenil C. K. Cheng, Jimmy H. M. Lee, and Peter J. Stuckey* . . . . . 1368
- Propagation Redundancy for Permutation Channels  
*C. W. Choi, J. H. M. Lee, and P. J. Stuckey* . . . . . 1370

- Channeling Constraints and Value Ordering in the QuasiGroup Completion Problem  
*Iván Dotú, Alvaro del Val, and Manuel Cebrián* . . . . . 1372
- Making the Breakout Algorithm Complete Using Systematic Search  
*Carlos Eisenberg and Boi Faltings* . . . . . 1374
- Sampling Combinatorial Spaces Using Biased Random Walks  
*Jordan Erenrich and Bart Selman* . . . . . 1376
- Finite Domain Constraint Solver Learning  
*Arnaud Lallouet, Thi-Bich-Hanh Dao, Andrei Legtchenko, and AbdelAli Ed-Dbali* . . . . . 1379
- Applying interchangeability techniques to the distributed breakout algorithm  
*Adrian Petcu and Boi Faltings* . . . . . 1381
- EVOC: A Music Generating System using Genetic Algorithms  
*Timothy Weale and Jennifer Seitzer* . . . . . 1383
- Temporal Reasoning with Preferences and Uncertainty  
*N. Yorke-Smith, K. B. Venable, and F. Rossi* . . . . . 1385

### KNOWLEDGE REPRESENTATION

- BDIOCTL: Obligations and the Specification of Agent Behavior  
*Jan Broersen, Mehdi Dastani, and Leendert van der Torre* . . . . . 1389
- Prolegomenon to a Theory of Conservative Belief Revision  
*James P. Delgrande, Abhaya C. Nayak, and Maurice Pagnucco* . . . . . 1391
- Extending DTGOLOG with Options  
*A. Ferrein, Ch. Fritz, and G. Lakemeyer* . . . . . 1394
- Indirect and Conditional Sensing in the Event Calculus  
*Jeremy Forth* . . . . . 1396
- Proactive Dialogue for Interactive Knowledge Capture  
*Jihie Kim and Yolanda Gil* . . . . . 1398
- Coherence of Laws  
*Rex Kwok, Norman Y. Foo, and Abhaya C. Nayak* . . . . . 1400
- An Epistemic Logic for Arbitration (Extended Abstract)  
*Churn-Jung Liau* . . . . . 1402
- Constructing utility models from observed negotiation actions  
*Angelo Restifcar and Peter Haddawy* . . . . . 1404
- Engineering a complex ontology with time  
*Jorge Santos and Steffen Staab* . . . . . 1406
- A Logic-based Algorithm for Image Sequence Interpretation and Anchoring  
*Paulo Santos and Murray Shanahan* . . . . . 1408

## INFORMATION RETRIEVAL AND DATA MINING

- Learning Consumer Photo Categories for Semantic Retrieval  
*Joo-Hwee Lim and Jesse S. Jin* . . . . . 1413
- Intelligent Multimodal Stream Processing  
*Mark Maybury* . . . . . 1415
- Collaborative Web Search  
*Barry Smyth, Evelyn Balfe, Peter Briggs, Maurice Coyle, and Jill Freyne* . . . . . 1417
- A Statistical Model for Flexible String Similarity  
*Atsuhiko Takasu* . . . . . 1420
- Mining Video Associations for Efficient Database Management  
*Xingquan Zhu and Xindong Wu* . . . . . 1422

## MACHINE LEARNING

- A Learning Algorithm for Localizing People Based on Wireless Signal Strength that Uses Labeled and Unlabeled Data  
*Mary Berna, Brennan Sellner, Brad Lisien, Sebastian Thrun, Geoffrey Gordon, and Frank Pfenning* . . . . . 1427
- Learning to Compete in Heterogeneous Web Search Environments  
*Rinat Khossainov and Nicholas Kushmerick* . . . . . 1429
- Approximate Policy Iteration using Large-Margin Classifiers  
*Michail G. Lagoudakis and Ronald Parr* . . . . . 1432
- Active Learning with Ensembles for Image Classification  
*H. Liu, A. Mandvikar, P. Foschi, and K. Torkkola* . . . . . 1435
- Item Selection Strategies for Collaborative Filtering  
*Rachael Rafter and Barry Smyth* . . . . . 1437
- Modular self-organization for a long-living autonomous agent  
*Bruno Scherrer* . . . . . 1440
- Towards a Theoretical Framework for Ensemble Classification  
*Alexander K. Seewald* . . . . . 1443
- Multiple-Goal Reinforcement Learning with Modular Sarsa(0)  
*Nathan Sprague and Dana Ballard* . . . . . 1445
- Integrating Background Knowledge Into Text Classification  
*Sarah Zelikovitz and Haym Hirsh* . . . . . 1448
- Parametric Distance Metric Learning with Label Information  
*Zhihua Zhang, James T. Kwok, and Dit-Yan Yeung* . . . . . 1450

## MULTIAGENTS

- Network Meta-Reasoning for Information Assurance in Mobile Agent Systems  
*Donovan Artz, Max Peysakhov, and William Regli* . . . . . 1455
- Towards Cooperative Negotiation for Decentralized Resource Allocation in Autonomic Computing Systems  
*Craig Boutilier, Rajarshi Das, Jeffrey O. Kephart, and William E. Walsh* . . . . . 1458
- A Formalization of Equilibria for Multiagent Planning  
*Michael Bowling, Rune Jensen, and Manuela Veloso* . . . . . 1460
- Bidding Marginal Utility in Simultaneous Auctions  
*Amy Greenwald* . . . . . 1463
- NoA – A Normative Agent Architecture  
*Martin J. Kollingbaum and Timothy J. Norman* . . . . . 1465
- A heuristic model for concurrent bi-lateral negotiations in incomplete information settings  
*Thuc Duong Nguyen and Nicholas R. Jennings* . . . . . 1467
- Imitation Learning of Team-play in Multiagent System based on Hidden Markov Modeling  
*Itsuki Noda* . . . . . 1470
- Virtual World as Interface for Human-Robot Interaction  
*Eric Normand and Sheila Tejada* . . . . . 1473
- Learning Algorithms for Software Agents in Uncertain and Untrusted Market Environments  
*Thomas Tran and Robin Cohen* . . . . . 1475
- A Multi-Agent Computational Linguistic Approach to Speech Recognition  
*Michael Walsh, Robert Kelly, Gregory M. P. O'Hare, Julie Carson-Berndsen, and Tarek Abu-Amer* . . . . . 1477

## NATURAL LANGUAGE

- The Knowledge Required to Interpret Noun Compounds  
*James Fan, Ken Barker, and Bruce Porter* . . . . . 1483
- Improving Word Sense Disambiguation in Lexical Chaining  
*Michel Galley and Kathleen McKeown* . . . . . 1486
- A Revised Algorithm for Latent Semantic Analysis  
*Xiangen Hu, Zhiqiang Cai, Max Louwerse, Andrew Olney, Phanni Penumatsa, Art Graesser, and TRG* . . . . . 1489
- Identifying Synonyms among Distributionally Similar Words  
*Dekang Lin, Shaojun Zhao, Lijuan Qin, and Ming Zhou* . . . . . 1492
- A Logic Prover for Text Processing  
*Dan Moldovan and Christine Clark* . . . . . 1494

Inducing criteria for lexicalization parts of speech using the Cyc KB <i>Tom O'Hara, Michael Witbrock, Bjørn Aldag, Stefano Bertolo, Nancy Salay, Jon Curtis, and Kathy Panton.</i> . . . . .	1496
--	------

**NEURAL NETWORKS**

Neural Executive Attentional Control in Robots <i>Jason Garforth, Sue McHale, and Anthony Meehan.</i> . . . . .	1501
Boosting Face Identification in Airports <i>Liu Jiang Jimmy and Kia-Fock Loe.</i> . . . . .	1503
Action Selection for Single- and Multi-Robot Tasks Using Cooperative Extended Kohonen Maps <i>Kian Hsiang Low, Wee Kheng Leow, and Marcelo H. Ang, Jr.</i> . . . . .	1505
Artificial Neural Network for Sequence Learning <i>Sorin Moga and Philippe Gaussier.</i> . . . . .	1507

**PLANNING**

Comparison of Different Grid Abstractions for Pathfinding on Maps <i>Yngvi Björnsson, Markus Enzenberger, Robert Holte, Jonathan Schaeffer, and Peter Yap.</i> . . . . .	1511
Multiagent Planning with Partially Ordered Temporal Plans <i>Michael Brenner.</i> . . . . .	1513
Recognizing Plan/Goal Abandonment <i>Christopher W. Geib and Robert P. Goldman.</i> . . . . .	1515
Automated Generation of Understandable Contingency Plans <i>Max Horstmann and Shlomo Zilberstein.</i> . . . . .	1518
A Planning Algorithm for Predictive State Representations <i>Masoumeh T. Izadi and Doina Precup.</i> . . . . .	1520
Parallelizing State Space Plans Online <i>Romeo Sanchez Nigenda and Subbarao Kambhampati.</i> . . . . .	1522
A lookahead strategy for solving large planning problems <i>Vincent Vidal.</i> . . . . .	1524
Using Available Memory to Transform Graphplan's Search <i>Terry Zimmerman and Subbarao Kambhampati.</i> . . . . .	1526

**SEARCH**

Lookahead Pathologies for Single Agent Search <i>Vadim Bulitko, Lihong Li, Russ Greiner, and Ilya Levner.</i> . . . . .	1531
Real-Time Strategy Games: A New AI Research Challenge <i>Michael Buro.</i> . . . . .	1534

Multiple Agents Moving Target Search <i>Mark Goldenberg, Alexander Kovarsky, Xiaomeng Wu, and Jonathan Schaeffer.</i> . . . . .	1536
Delayed Duplicate Detection: Extended Abstract <i>Richard E. Korf.</i> . . . . .	1539
A Portfolio Approach to Algorithm Selection <i>Kevin Leyton-Brown, Eugene Nudelman, Galen Andrew, Jim McFadden, and Yoav Shoham.</i> . . . . .	1542
A New Node Centroid Algorithm for Bandwidth Minimization <i>Andrew Lim, Brian Rodrigues, and Fei Xiao.</i> . . . . .	1544
Combining Two Local Search Approaches to Hypergraph Partitioning <i>Arathi Ramani and Igor Markov.</i> . . . . .	1546

**VISION AND ROBOTICS**

A New Content Based Image Retrieval Method Based on a Sketch-Driven Interpretation of Line Segments <i>Marco Anelli, Alessandro Micarelli, and Enver Sangineto.</i> . . . . .	1551
Towards Pervasive Robotics <i>Artur M. Arsenio.</i> . . . . .	1553
A Visual-Sensor Model for Mobile Robot Localisation <i>Matthias Fichtner and Axel Großmann.</i> . . . . .	1555
Improving Speech Recognition on a Mobile Robot Platform through the use of Top-Down Visual Queues <i>Robert J. Ross, R. P. S. O'Donoghue, and G. M. P. O'Hare.</i> . . . . .	1557
Comparing image-based localization methods <i>Robert Sim and Gregory Dudek.</i> . . . . .	1560
Quantum Computation and Image Processing: New Trends in Artificial Intelligence <i>S. E. Venegas-Andraca and S. Bose.</i> . . . . .	1563

**INVITED SPEAKERS**

Corpus-Based Knowledge Representation <i>Alon Y. Halevy and Jayant Madhavan.</i> . . . . .	1567
Challenges in Web Search Engines <i>Monika R. Henzinger, Rajeev Motwani, and Craig Silverstein.</i> . . . . .	1573
Deploying Information Agents on the Web <i>Craig A. Knoblock.</i> . . . . .	1580
Constraint Satisfaction, Databases, and Logic <i>Phokion G. Kolaitis.</i> . . . . .	1587
Web Intelligence (WI): What Makes <i>Wisdom Web</i> ? <i>Jiming Liu.</i> . . . . .	1596
Self-reconfiguring Robots: Successes and Challenges <i>Daniela Rus.</i> . . . . .	1602
Automated Verification: Graphs, Logic, and Automata <i>Moshe Y. Vardi.</i> . . . . .	1603

Automated Reasoning: Past Story and New Trends <i>Andrei Voronkov</i> . . . . .	1607
Automatically Personalizing User Interfaces <i>Daniel S. Weld, Corin Anderson, Pedro Domingos, Oren Etzioni, Krzysztof Gajos, Tessa Lau, and Steve Wolfman</i> . . . . .	1613
Intelligent Systems in Travel and Tourism <i>Hannes Werthner</i> . . . . .	1620

## INTELLIGENT SYSTEMS DEMONSTRATIONS

Writer's Aid: Using a Planner in a Collaborative Interface <i>Tamara Babaian, Barbara J. Grosz, and Stuart M. Shieber</i> . . . . .	1629
Sensible Agent Technology Improving Coordination and Communication in Biosurveillance Domains <i>K. S. Barber, D. Faith, K. Fullam, T. Graser, D. C. Han, J. Jeong, J. Kim, D. Lam, R. McKay, M. Pal, J. Park, and M. Vanzin</i> . . . . .	1631
GSTP: A Temporal Reasoning System Supporting Multi-Granularity Temporal Constraints <i>Claudio Bettini, Sergio Mascetti, and Vincenzo Pupillo</i> . . . . .	1633
Comparing Different Cognitive Paradigms with a Virtual Laboratory <i>Carlos Gershenson</i> . . . . .	1635

Towards domain-independent, task-oriented, conversational adequacy <i>Darsana P. Josyula, Michael L. Anderson, and Don Perlis</i> . . . . .	1637
Broadcast News Navigator (BNN) Demonstration <i>Mark Maybury</i> . . . . .	1639
Demonstration: Liaison Agents for Distributed Space Operations <i>D. Schreckenghost, P. Bonasso, D. Kortenkamp, C. Martin, T. Milam, and C. Thronesbery</i> . . . . .	1641

Interactive Spoken Simulation Control and Conversational Tutoring <i>Karl Schultz, Brady Clark, Elizabeth Owen Bratt, Stanley Peters, Heather Pon-Barry, Pucktada Treeratpituk, and Zack Thomsen-Gray</i> . . . . .	1643
TAGA: Travel Market Framework in Agentcities <i>Youyong Zou, Tim Finin, Li Ding, Harry Chen, and Rong Pan</i> . . . . .	1645

## COMPUTERS AND THOUGHT AWARD PAPER

Making Markets and Democracy Work: A Story of Incentives and Computing <i>Tuomas Sandholm</i> . . . . .	1649
<b>Author Index</b> . . . . .	1673