



Call for Papers

MABS'03 @ AAMAS'03

(<http://cfpm.org/mabs2003>)

*The 4th Workshop on Multi-Agent Based Simulation at the 2nd International Joint Conference on Autonomous Agents and Multi-Agent Systems, Melbourne Australia, 14th or 15th July 2003**.*

Workshop Aims and Scope

Multi-Agent Based Simulation (MABS) is a vibrant inter-disciplinary area which brings together researchers active within the agent-based social simulation community (ABSS) and the multi-agent systems community (MAS). The focus of ABSS is on simulating and synthesizing social behaviours in order to understand real social systems (human, animal and even electronic) via the development and testing of new concepts. The focus of MAS is on the solution of hard engineering problems related to the construction, deployment and efficient operation of agent based systems.

Topics include, but are not limited to, the following:

- Techniques produce scalable and robust agent societies
- Managing interactions in large-scale agent societies
- The emergence of cooperation and coordinated action
- Social structures and norms as tools for designing MAS
- The application of ABSS techniques to MAS task domains
- Methodologies and techniques that link ABSS and MAS work
- Agent-based models of pro-social behaviour
- Formal models of social processes applicable to MAS
- Emergence as an MAS programming paradigm (how to control it, when to apply it)
- Emergent specialisation and group level adaptations
- Comparison of agent architectures in a simulated MAS
- The application of biologically inspired ideas and techniques to MAS
- The effect of different kinds of cognition of the global outcomes in MAS/ABSS
- The use of MAS/ABSS to understand complex dynamics
- Visualisation and analytic tools to understand MAS outcomes
- Philosophical critiques of MABS
- New frameworks for the conceptualisation of MABS
- New tools and methodologies for producing ABSS
- Work which builds on or critiques past MABS papers

If your topic area is not included above then advice on the relevance of a proposed paper for MABS can be obtained from the Chair (email: dave@davidhales.com). Final judgement is, of course, a result of the reviewing process.

The MAS and ABSS communities have much to learn from each other. Real human societies are generally self-organising, highly scalable, robust and open systems. The ABSS community have

developed a sizable set of techniques, observations and models that give insight into sufficient mechanisms underpinning these kinds of systems. However, ABSS has not concerned itself with applying these techniques to solve engineering problems. Conversely, the MAS community is concerned with creating working agent systems that solve real problems. This focus has forced many to abandon experimentation with large scale systems (thousands of agents) composed of smart autonomous agents (i.e. complex adaptive learners) due to lack of traditional techniques (and or computational resources) for managing such complexity.

At MABS'03 we aim to challenge the ABSS community to propose MAS applications of their work (or programmes towards such applications). As well as original work in ABSS and MAS we particularly welcome submissions that identify open MAS problems that might be solvable by the application of ABSS techniques (and vice versa). We also welcome programmatic overviews which propose a way forward for MABS. We strongly encourage all papers to (at least briefly) discuss the relevance of their results to both the ABSS and MAS communities.

Previous MABS Workshops

MABS'03 will be the 4th workshop of the MABS series. The first two were organized as workshops of ICMAS'98 and ICMAS'2000. The 3rd MABS workshop was a workshop of AAMAS'02.

Important Dates

Paper submission deadline: March 21st

Notification of acceptance: April 30th

Pre-proceedings deadline: May 14th

Workshop event: 14th or 15th July 2003**

Publication

After the event we will give authors the opportunity to revise their papers based on feedback gained from the workshop before publication. We aim to publish the proceedings in the Springer-Verlag LNAI series before the end of 2003.

Organizing Committee

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**Exact date to be finalized

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