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RoboCup 2007: Robot Soccer World Cup XI

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Preface

The 11th RoboCup International Symposium was held during July 9–10, 2007 at the Fox Theatre in Atlanta, GA, immediately after the 2007 Soccer, Rescue and Junior Competitions. The RoboCup community has observed an increasing interest from other communities over the past few years, e.g., the robotics community. RoboCup is seen as a significant approach to the evaluation of newly-developed methods to many difficult problems in robotics. Atlanta was also the location of a RoboCup@Space demonstration, which reflected the role of AI and robotics in space exploration. Prior to the symposium, space agencies had expressed an interest in cooperating with RoboCup. A first step in this direction was a successful demonstration at RoboCup 2007, which was accompanied with an invited talk given by a leading scientist from the Japan Aerospace Exploration Agency JAXA.

The symposium represented the core meeting for the presentation and discussion of scientific contributions in diverse areas related to the main threads within RoboCupSoccer, RoboCupRescue and RoboCupJunior. Its scope encompassed, but was not restricted to, research and education activities within the fields of artificial intelligence and robotics. The RoboCup International Symposium 2007 featured 18 full papers for oral presentation and 42 posters. These were selected by the program committee from a total of 133 submissions, which meant an acceptance rate of 13,5% for full papers. Each paper was reviewed by at least three program committee members, usually two experts and one person outside the immediate area of the paper. After the initial reviewing period, papers that had not received unanimous recommendations were discussed among the reviewers, moderated by the Co-chairs, and a consensus was reached in all cases. The final decisions were made by the Co-chairs.

In addition to the paper and poster presentations, which cover the state of the art in a broad range of topics central to the RoboCup community, we had two outstanding invited speakers, Takashi Kubota from the Institute of Space and Astronautical Science, JAXA, Japan and Christine Lisetti from Florida International University, USA. Kubota's talk was about Japanese space activities in the field of automation and robotics, and Lisetti talked about building communicative interfaces for natural human-robot interaction.

March 2008

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