



AGREEMENT  
TECHNOLOGIES

## **COST Action IC0801**

### **Report on the organization of the summer school EASSS 2009 and the federated workshop MALLOW 2009**

#### *1. Introduction*

The Computer Science department of the University of Turin organized the main European summer school - at its tenth anniversary – addressed to PhD students and young researchers about intelligent systems in computer science and five workshops at international level, some of them with old tradition, that have taken place simultaneously; therefore the organized events involved high level training at both post-university and scientific research level.

10<sup>th</sup> European Agent Systems Summer School (EASSS) 2009  
30<sup>th</sup> August 2009 – 4<sup>th</sup> September 2009

and

2<sup>nd</sup> Multi-Agent Logics, Languages, and Organizations (MALLOW) 2009, Federated International Workshops,  
7<sup>th</sup> September 2009 – 11<sup>th</sup> September 2009

The above reported events have been taken place at Educatorio della Provvidenza,  
Cso Trento, 13 – 10129 Torino.

The websites of EASS and MALLOW can be reached at <http://agents2009.di.unito.it/>

#### *2. Organization*

The EASSS summer school and the workshop MALLOW are organized by Prof. Matteo Baldoni, Cristina Baroglio and Guido Boella, of the Computer Science department of the University of Turin and by Educatorio della Provvidenza. Some PhD students and short-term researchers of the Computer Science department actively participated to the organization, in particular: Valerio Genovese, Roberto Grenna, Elisa Marengo, Claudio Schifanella, Serena Villata, Alessia Visconti. The above mentioned researchers took place in the organization as part of the job at the University.

Concerning the registrations management and the administrative activity during the 10 days, a work contract has been stipulated with Rosalia Rizzo. Concerning the installation of a wifi network, management and login assignment to the users in respect of the existing laws, a work contract has been stipulated with Claudio Mattutino, technician at the Computer Science Department.

Both events are sponsored by:

- 1) Educatorio della Provvidenza, which hosted the event.
- 2) Fondazione CRT
- 3) Rector of the University of Torino
- 4) European project COST action IC0801 Agreement Technologies
- 5) European project COST action IC0602 Algorithmic Decision Theory

The events took place under the aegis of the Italian Association for the Artificial Intelligence (AI\*IA).

The collection of subscriptions has been carried out by Centro Congressi Internazionale srl Cso Bramante, 58/9 10126 Torino <http://congressifiere.com/> which coordinated the accommodation of more than thirty tutors and invited speakers with the excellent Art Hotel Boston Via Massena 70 – 10128 Torino <http://hotelbostontorino.it/>

EASSS students and most of the MALLOW participants stayed at EDISU residences (Residenza Borsellino and Residenza Lungodora), thanks to the contacts provided by the International Relationships office of the University of Turin, and thanks to the competitive prices in between 20 and 35 euros (17 euros for who stayed for all the 5 days)

The registration costs of both events have been maintained very low: 250 euro for EASSS and 200 euro for MALLOW including wireless internet access, lunches, coffee breaks and facilities for the evening.

### *3. The school and the workshops*

The European summer school on agent systems EASSS has gathered at the University of Torino more than 80 participants, mainly PhD students from Europe (in particular Spain and England), but also some senior researchers. Moreover, about 12 Master students of our Computer Science department, selected on the basis of their curriculum, exploited the possibility to freely participate to the school.

Five grants have been assigned after selection to attendees with outstanding curriculum: the grant covered the registration to the school.

The school consists in 17 courses, 3 supported by the project COST AT, held by 30 lecturers, mainly from France, Germany, Holland and Italy:

1. Andrea Omicini (University of Bologna)
2. Alessandro Ricci (University of Bologna-Cesena)
3. Michele Piunti (ISTC-CNR)
4. Massimo Cossentino (ICAR-CNR, Palermo)
5. Ambra Molesini (University of Bologna)
6. Benjamin Hirsch (DAI-LABOR TU Berlin)
7. Stefan Fricke (DAI-LABOR TU Berlin)
8. Brian Logan (University of Nottingham)
9. Ulle Endriss (University of Amsterdam)
10. Maria Fasli (University of Essex)
11. Nicola Gatti (Politecnico di Milano)
12. Giuseppe Vizzari (University of Milan-Bicocca)
13. Guido Boella (University of Torino)
14. Leon van der Torre (University of Luxembourg)

15. Xavier Parent (University of Luxembourg)
16. Humbert Fiorino (Laboratoire d'Informatique de Grenoble)
17. Damien Pellier (Centre de Recherche en Informatique de Paris5)
18. Cyrille Martin (Laboratoire d'Informatique de Grenoble)
19. Sanjay Modgil (King's college London)
20. Paul Harrenstein (Ludwig-Maximilians-Universität München)
21. Mehdi Dastani (Utrecht University)
22. Stéphane Airiau (University of Amsterdam)
23. Wojtek Jamroga (University of Luxembourg)
24. Koen Hindriks (Delft University of Technology)
25. Joao Leite (New University of Lisbon)
26. Giulia Andrighetto (ISTC-CNR, Rome)
27. Marco Campenni (ISTC-CNR, Rome)
28. Jordi Sabater-Mir (IIIA-CSIC)
29. Laurent Vercoeur (École Nationale Supérieure des Mines de Saint-Étienne)
30. Kuldar Taveter (Tallinn University of Technology, Estonia)

The schedules of the courses are available at: [http://agents2009.di.unito.it/easss\\_courses.html](http://agents2009.di.unito.it/easss_courses.html)

The lecturers slides can be downloaded at: <http://www.di.unito.it/~argo/easss09.pdf>

A student session has been organized in order to let most promising students to present their research work, the students has been selected by a committee composed by students which have participated to previous EASSS editions. For more informations see:

<http://agents009.di.unito.it/studenteses.html>

The workshop MALLOW has been an *international forum* for researchers both from industry and academy about methodologies, theories, tools and applications linked with agent systems (technology used in Artificial Intelligence and Distributed Computation).

Participants were about 70 scientists of agents technology, coming from academic and industrial contexts *European* and *extra-European*, mainly young researchers thanks to the very competitive prices to attend the workshops.

Unfortunately, only a limited number of people attended both EASSS and MALLOW.

MALLOW consists of five workshops, some of them with a many years tradition (like COIN):

1. Agents, Web Services and Ontologies, Integrated Methodologies (MALLOW-AWESOME)
2. Coordination, Organization, Institutions and Norms in Agent Systems in Online Communities (COIN in Online Communities)
3. Formal Approaches to Multi-Agent Systems (FAMAS)
4. LAnguages, methodologies and Development tools for multi-agent systemS (LADS)
5. Multi-Agent Systems and Simulation (MAS&S)

Together with the workshops, thanks to the sponsorships of COST project Action Agreement Technologies, it has been organized a meeting of invited researchers titled: "Argumentation day" (<http://www.di.unito.it/~guido/argumentation.html>).

The workshops have taken place in two parallel sessions, anticipated by a plenary session to present each one.

Various invited speakers at international level have attended MALLOW, first of all Prof. Dov Gabbay from King's College London, one of the leading figures in formal logic, Prof. Alexis Tsoukiàs del LAMSADE, Université Paris Dauphine, Fabio Bellifemine of TILab Turin and Prof. Franco Zambonelli from University of Modena and Reggio Emilia.

The workshops attracted about 50 papers, and the Argumentation Day about 10 presentations. Workshop proceedings have been published online at CEUR and can be freely downloaded at: <http://sunsite.informatik.rwth-aachen.de/Publications/CEUR-WS/Vol-494/> Some of the workshops have scheduled formal post-proceedings to be published on Lectures Notes in Computer Science of Springer or special issue on international journals like IGPL Journal with ISI impact factor.

The program committees of each workshop, composed by experts at international level, coming from both academic and industrial background, have permitted the selection of high quality and innovative contributions.

The event is chronologically connected to the second, by importance order, international conference within Intelligent Agent Technology (IAT) sector, held in Milan 15<sup>th</sup> September. This closeness with respect to similar topics and geographical position has permitted to EASSS and MALLOW to benefit of a unique cultural and work background. In fact, both Italian and international researchers had the possibility with one single trip to attend a large number of events in their research area.

#### *4. Event Impact*

MALLOW has been introduced by the representative of the Rector of University of Turin, Prof. Gianfranco Balbo.

The two events had wide coverage from local media, thanks also to the Press Office of the University of Turin. In particular, we underline a passage on the regional news program of the RAI and an interview published on La Repubblica by Sarah Martinenghi:

1. News on Telesubalpina 31/08/09
2. News on PrimaAntenna 31/08/09
3. News on TG3 Regionale 1/09/09
4. News on Telestudio 7/09/09
5. La Stampa *Intelligenza Artificiale a Torino ricercatori a confronto* 28/08/09
6. Il Sole 24 Ore 28/08/09
7. UniNetwork 28/08/09
8. Torino Cronaca *Intelligenza artificiale Ricercatori a Torino* 29/08/09
9. La Repubblica *A Convegno sotto la Mole gli inventori di super robot* 29/08/09
10. La Stampa *Intelligenza artificiale Ricercatori a Torino* 29/08/09
11. Torino Valley Blog 29/08/09
12. Leggo 31/08/09
13. UniNetwork 04/09/09
14. CAMPUS - CAMPUS ORIENTA *L'intelligenza artificiale protagonista a Torino* 5/09/09
15. Sito ufficiale Regione Piemonte *Intelligenza Artificiale: A Torino Ricercatori a Confronto da Tutto il Mondo* 05/09/09

16. Leggo 7/09/09

17. City Torino Robot, a Torino gli esperti mondiali 7/09/09

The articles can be reached at: <http://www.di.unito.it/~guido/indice.html>

### *5. Activity and Evaluation*

The organization of the two events required two type of activities

*Scientific Management*: preparation and publication of the proceedings volume, contacts with workshops organizers, lecturers and selection of invited speakers.

*Administrative Management*: budget management, sending of call for papers to mailing lists of possible candidates to submit articles, creation of workshop's website, organization of the coffee break, organization of the social dinner and other social events, provide to participants all the material (summer school lectures, notepad, pens, shopper with the logo of the University of Turin, maps of Turin, badge), management of registrations to the workshop, contacts with hotels/residences for the participants accommodation, wireless installation and management in respect of the law.

After EASS summer school, students could give their evaluation to the organization and the attended classes by filling a questionnaire. The results underlined the complete satisfaction of the students on both subjects. An overall evaluation can be given only in the long run, by calculating the number of citations of the presented papers, by the numbers of special issues on journals after the workshops, and also if the Educatorio della Provvidenza will host other scientific events.

EASSS and MALLOW 2010 will be located in Paris (LIP6).