

Preface

Trading agents have become a prominent application area in Artificial Intelligence because of their potential benefits in electronic commerce, and because they present a stiff challenge to models of rational decision-making. A wide variety of trading scenarios and agent approaches have been studied, creating a broad and rich research area. This workshop will focus on the design and evaluation of trading agents. Papers were invited in a variety of related areas, including the following:

- trading agent architectures
- decision-making algorithms with application to trading agents
- theoretical analysis
- empirical evaluations of agent strategies in trading and economic
- negotiation scenarios
- game-theoretic analyses of trading agent performance.

In addition, we will discuss the role and value of competitions in advancing the research agenda in autonomous trading agents. The Supply-Chain Management (SCM) and the Market Design (CAT) games in the annual Trading Agent Competition will be running during the workshop, along with several SCM Challenge events.

The committee would like to acknowledge the contributions of authors and reviewers, and of game designers and agent developers. The papers give a good overview of the state of our understanding in the design and analysis of Trading Agents, and the games are a major force driving our research agenda forward.

– *John Collins (University of Minnesota)*