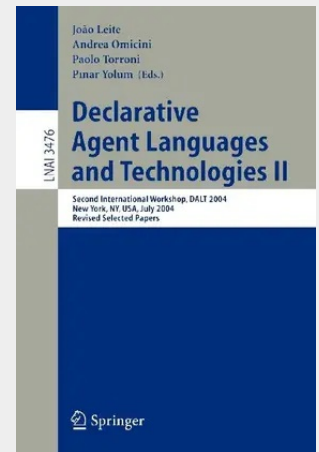


Declarative Agent Languages and Technologies II

Second International Workshop, DALT 2004, New York, NY, USA, July 19, 2004, Revised Selected Papers

The second edition of the workshop on Declarative Agent Languages and Technologies (DALT 2004) was held July 2004 in New York City, and was a great success. We saw a significant increase in both the number of submitted papers and workshop attendees from the first meeting, held July 2003 in Melbourne. Nearly 40 research groups worldwide were motivated to contribute to this event by submitting their most recent research achievements, covering a wide variety of the topics listed in the call for papers. More than 30 top researchers agreed to join the Program Committee, which then collectively faced the hard task of selecting the one-day event program. The fact that research in multi-agent systems is no longer only a novel and promising research horizon at dawn is, in our opinion, the main reason behind DALT's (still short) success story. On the one hand, agent theories and applications are mature enough to model complex domains and scenarios, and to successfully address a wide range of multifaceted problems, thus creating the urge to make the best use of this expressive and versatile paradigm, and also profit from all the important results achieved so far. On the other hand, building multi-agent systems still calls for models and technologies that could ensure system predictability, accommodate flexibility, heterogeneity and openness, and enable system verification.

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