

Preface

Social intelligence is a general term at the intersection between different disciplines including philosophy, social science—sociology, economics, legal science, psychology, etc.—and computer science. Broadly speaking, social intelligence is the capacity to understand others and to act rationally and emotionally in relations with others. This is an ability that not only human but also artificial agents have, as modelled in artificial intelligence and agent-based research in particular.

The interactions between philosophy, social sciences and computer science around social intelligence are manifold, and many concepts and theories from social science have found their way into artificial intelligence and agent-based research. In the latter, coordination and cooperation between largely independent, autonomous computational entities are modelled. Conversely, logical and computational models and their implementations have been used in the social sciences to help improve simulations, hypotheses and theories. Among the most prominent subjects at the interface are action and agency, communicative interaction, group attitudes, socio-technical epistemology and social coordination. In computer science, these concepts from social science are sometimes deployed at a more metaphorical level rather than in the form of rigorous implementations of the genuine concepts and their corresponding theories. Equally, the computer models used in social science are not always convincing.

The European Conference on Social Intelligence (ECSI-2014) is intended to provide a productive meeting ground for researchers from the above fields. ECSI-2014 was held in Barcelona on November 2-4, 2014 as part of the activities of the European Network for Social Intelligence (SINTELNET, 2011-2014). The aim of SINTELNET is to identify challenges and opportunities for cross-disciplinary collaboration, to provide guidelines for research and policy-making and to kindle partnerships among participants around the topic of social intelligence.

The present volume includes the final versions of the papers that have been selected by the program committee out of 49 submissions for presentation at the conference. Each of the papers was carefully reviewed by up to four PC members. The conference moreover featured the following keynote talks:

- Cristiano Castelfranchi (ISTC-CNR Rome) “Intelligence vs. Self-organization in an Hybrid Society”
- Christian List (LSE London) “Reason-based Rationalization”
- Mel Slater (ICREA - University of Barcelona and University College London) “Perceptual and Behavioural Consequences of Virtual Embodiment”

We would like to thank the authors who contributed to the workshop with their papers and presentations. We would also like to thank the members of the Program Committee for their work.

October 27, 2014
Toulouse

Andreas Herzig
Emiliano Lorini