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# Intelligent Tutoring Systems

11th International Conference, ITS 2012  
Chania, Crete, Greece, June 14-18, 2012  
Proceedings

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## Preface

The 11th International Conference on Intelligent Tutoring Systems, ITS 2012, was organized in Chania, Crete, Greece, during June 14–18, 2012. The Call for Papers is printed here to relate the conference’s motivation and theme:

*The Intelligent Tutoring Systems (ITS) 2012 conference is part of an on-going biannual series of top-flight international conferences (the ITS conference was launched in 1988) on technologies—systems—that enable, support or enhance human learning. This occurs by means of tutoring—in the case of formal learning—and by exposing learners to rich interactive experiences—in the case of learning as a side effect (informal learning). The “intelligence” of these systems stems from the model-based artificial intelligence technologies often exploited to adapt to the learners (e.g., semantic technologies, user modeling) and also from how today’s technologies (e.g., the Web and service-oriented computing methods) facilitate new emergent collective behaviors. These new practices may outperform previously conceivable learning or tutoring scenarios because they modify significantly the power, speed, and focus of participants’ interactions independently from space and time constraints. The highly interdisciplinary ITS conferences bring together researchers in computer science, informatics, and artificial intelligence on the one side (the “hard” sciences); cognitive science, educational psychology, and linguistics on the other (the “soft” sciences).*

*The specific theme of the ITS 2012 conference is co-adaptation between technologies and human learning. There are nowadays two real challenges to be faced by ITS. The main technical challenge is due to the unprecedented speed of innovation that we notice in Information and Communication Technologies (ICT), in particular, the Web. Any technology seems to be volatile, of interest for only a short time span. The educational challenge is a consequence of the technical one. Current educational uses of technologies have to consider the impact of ICT innovation on human practices. In particular, new technologies may modify substantially the classical human learning cycle, which since the nineteenth century was mainly centered on formal teaching institutions such as the schools. Educational games are an example of how instructional practice adapts to innovation; another is the measurable role of emotions in learning.*

*Therefore, our focus for ITS 2012 will be not just on the use of technologies but also the co-adaptation effects. Rapidly evolving technologies entail significant new opportunities and scenarios for learning, thus support the need for analyzing the intersection between new learning practices and innovative technologies to advance both methods and theory for*

*human learning. This approach especially enables “learning by constructing,” in much the same way as the Web Science movement adds to the classical Web technologies. A new design priority has emerged: reasoned analysis of human communities in different interaction contexts before deploying or applying a new infrastructure or application.*

*On the one hand this scientific analysis will guide us to avoid well-known pitfalls, on the other it will teach us lessons not only about how to exploit the potential learning effects of current advanced technologies—the applicative approach—but also how to envision, elicit, estimate, evaluate the potential promising effects of new technologies and settings to be conceptualized, specified and developed within human learning scenarios—the experimental approach. We expect this experimental approach to produce long-term scientific progress both in the hard and in the soft sciences, consolidating at the same time important socio-economic benefits from the new infrastructures and the new applications for human learning.*

As a result of the Call for Papers, we received more than 200 different contributions evaluated by chairs of four different tracks: the Scientific Paper Track (Chairs: Stefano A. Cerri and William J. Clancey), the Young Researcher Track (Chairs: Roger Azevedo and Chad Lane), the Workshop and Tutorial Track (Chairs: Jean Marc Labat and Rose Luckin). One Panel: “The Next Generation: Pedagogical and Technological Innovations for 2030” were organized by the Panel Chairs: Beverly Woolf and Toshio Okamoto.

For the scientific paper track, we provide a summary of the statistics at the end of the preface. In addition, 14 out of 15 Young Researcher Track papers were accepted, five workshops and two tutorials. There have been four outstanding invited speakers whose contributions have been included in the electronic version of the proceedings.

The scientific papers were evaluated with the help of a popular conference management tool, EasyChair, which was an excellent example of co-adaptation: we were impressed by the space of potential variations in the business process definition and management that is available thanks to the online tool. We believe that the “configuration” choices may have a significant impact on the positive quality of the resulting program.

We chose to assign three “junior” reviewers and one “senior” reviewer to each paper in order to delegate as much as possible to a team of four reviewers the difficult selection task. With the help of EasyChair, we carefully checked the fit of the paper’s topics with the reviewer’s selected topics of expertise and avoided conflict of interests due to proximity, historical, or professional relations.

The process was triple blind: reviewers did not know the authors’ names, authors did not know the reviewers’ names, and reviewers did not know the other reviewers’ names. We guided the evaluation process by means of an evaluation form suggesting to accept about 15% of long papers, 15–30% of short papers and 30% of posters. The reviewer’s evaluations naturally respected our suggestions: out of 177 papers, we accepted 134, consisting of 28 long (16%), 50 short

(28%) and 56 posters (32%). In our view, the quality of long papers is excellent, short papers are good papers, and posters present promising work that deserves attention and discussion.

The decision taken by the senior reviewer was respected in almost all cases, with a very limited number of exceptions that always involved raising the rank of the paper. Our conviction is that the reviewers were very critical, but also extremely constructive, which was confirmed by most of the exchanges with the authors after notification of the decision. The authors of the rejected papers also benefited from a careful review process, with feedback that we hope will help them to improve the quality of the presentations.

We can state without any doubt that ITS 2012 was a very selective, high-quality conference, probably the most selective in the domain.

On the one hand, we wished to guarantee a high acceptance rate and therefore participation at the conference. On the other, we wished to reduce the number of parallel tracks and enable papers accepted as short or long to be attended by most of the participants in order to enhance the historical interdisciplinary nature of the conference and the opportunity for a mutual learning experience. We also wished to increase the number of printed pages in the proceedings for each paper. The result has been to allow ten pages for long papers, six for short ones, and two for posters. The Young Researcher Track's 14 papers are also included in the proceedings (three pages).

The classification by topic in the book reflects viewpoints that are necessarily subjective. What appears as a major phenomenon is that the domain of ITS is becoming increasingly intertwined: theory and experiments, analysis and synthesis, planning and diagnosis, representation and understanding, production and consumption, models and applications. It has not been easy to sort the papers according to topics. In the sequencing of papers in the book, we have tried as much as possible to reflect the sequence of papers in the conference sessions.

We thank first of all the authors, then the members of the Program Committee and the external reviewers, the Steering Committee and in particular Claude Frasson and Beverly Woolf, both present, supportive and positive all the time, the local Organizing Committee, finally each and all the other organizers that are listed on the following pages. Such an event would not have been possible without their commitment, professional effort and patience.

April 2012

Stefano A. Cerri  
William J. Clancey  
Giorgios Papadourakis  
Kitty Panourgia

## STATISTICS

## By Topic

Topic	Submissions	Accepted	Acceptance Rate	PC Members
Evaluation, privacy, security and trust in e-learning processes	4	2	0.50	5
Ubiquitous and mobile learning environments	5	4	0.80	33
Ontological modeling, Semantic web technologies and standards for learning	7	4	0.57	30
Non-conventional interactions between artificial intelligence and human learning	8	6	0.75	25
Recommender systems for learning	9	4	0.44	31
Informal learning environments, learning as a side effect of interactions	12	10	0.83	32
Multi-agent and service-oriented architectures for learning and tutoring environments	12	8	0.67	22
Instructional design principles or design patterns for educational environments	21	14	0.67	23
Authoring tools and development methodologies for advanced learning technologies	21	12	0.57	34
Discourse during learning interactions	22	20	0.91	17
Co-adaptation between technologies and human learning	22	13	0.59	26
Virtual pedagogical agents or learning companions	23	17	0.74	37
Collaborative and group learning, communities of practice and social networks	23	18	0.78	49
Simulation-based learning, intelligent (serious) games	33	29	0.88	48
Modeling of motivation, metacognition, and affect aspects of learning	33	23	0.70	38
Empirical studies of learning with technologies, understanding human learning on the Web	35	27	0.77	42

Topic	Submissions	Accepted	Acceptance Rate	PC Members
Domain-specific learning domains, e.g., language, mathematics, reading, science, medicine, military, and industry	36	27	0.75	23
Educational exploitation of data mining and machine learning techniques	38	30	0.79	30
Adaptive support for learning, models of learners, diagnosis and feedback	61	44	0.72	64
Intelligent tutoring	79	62	0.78	66

## By Country

Country	Authors	Submitted papers
Algeria	2	1.00
Australia	10	4.00
Austria	-	-
Brazil	21	8.02
Canada	40	17.54
Costa Rica	1	0.11
Czech Republic	2	1.00
Denmark	1	1.50
Egypt	1	0.33
Finland	1	1.00
France	31	11.53
Germany	12	3.87
Greece	13	4.83
Hong Kong	2	0.20
India	7	4.33
Ireland	-	-
Italy	-	-
Japan	24	9.75

Country	Authors	Submitted papers
Korea, Republic of	-	-
Latvia	1	0.33
Mexico	2	0.67
The Netherlands	9	3.00
New Zealand	8	4.17
Philippines	6	1.06
Portugal	4	1.00
Romania	4	2.67
Saudi Arabia	2	1.33
Singapore	-	-
Slovakia	-	-
Slovenia	6	1.33
Spain	23	6.25
Switzerland	5	0.71
Taiwan	8	2.00
Tunisia	2	1.33
United Kingdom	15	7.08
United States	178	75.04



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Intelligent Support for Exploratory Environments: Exploring, Collaborating, and Learning Together

*Toby Dragon, Sergio Gutierrez Santos, Manolis Mavrikis, and Bruce M. McLaren*

Workshop on Self-Regulated Learning in Educational Technologies (SRL@ET): Supporting, Modelling, Evaluating, and Fostering Metacognition with Computer-Based Learning Environments

*Amali Weerasinghe, Roger Azevedo, Ido Roll, and Ben Du Boulay*

Intelligent Support for Learning in Groups

*Jihie Kim and Rohit Kumar*

Emotion in Games for Learning

*Kostas Karpouzis, Georgios N. Yannakakis, Ana Paiva, and Eva Hudlicka*

Web 2.0 Tools, Methodology, and Services for Enhancing Intelligent Tutoring Systems

*Mohammed Abdel Razek and Claude Frasson*

## Tutorials

Important Relationships in Data: Magnitude and Causality as Flags for What to Focus on

*Joseph Beck (WPI)*

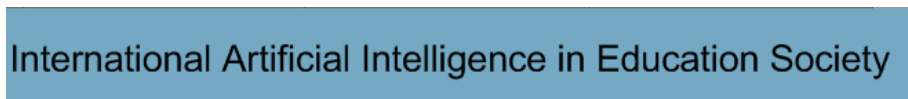
Parameter Fitting for Learner Models

*Tristan Nixon (Carnegie Learning Inc.), Ryan S.J.D. Baker (WPI), Michael Yudelson (CMU), and Zach Pardos (WPI)*



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