

Preface

RoboCup 2001, the Fifth Robot World Cup Soccer Games and Conferences, was held from August 2–10, 2001, at the Washington State Convention and Trade Center in Seattle, USA. Like the previous international RoboCup events – RoboCup 97 in Nagoya, Japan; RoboCup 98 in Paris, France; RoboCup 99 in Stockholm, Sweden; and RoboCup 2000 in Melbourne, Australia – RoboCup 2001 included a symposium as well as several robotic competitions. Both parts, the symposium and the tournaments, are documented in this book.

The symposium received over 80 submissions of which 18 were selected for full presentation, i.e., a talk at the symposium and a 10-page contribution to this book, and 40 were selected as posters, i.e., a poster presentation at the symposium and a 6-page contribution to this book. Among the full presentations, five were selected as finalists for the Scientific and the Engineering Challenge Awards. These five papers are presented separately in the second chapter of this book. The Scientific Challenge Award went to the contribution “A Control Method for Humanoid Biped Walking with Limited Torque” by Fuminori Yamasaki, Ken Endo, Minoru Asada, and Hiroaki Kitano. The Engineering Challenge Award was given to the paper “A Fast Vision System for Middle Size Robots in RoboCup” by M. Jamzad, B.S. Sadjad, V.S. Mirrokni, M. Kazemi, R. Ghorbani, A. Foroughnassiraei, H. Chitsaz, and A. Heydarnoori. The symposium also featured an invited talk by Prof. Takanishi from Waseda University on “Humanoid Robots in the 21st Century”.

The RoboCup tournaments were organized in five leagues, namely Soccer Simulation, Small-Size Robot (F180), Mid-Size Robot (F2000), Sony Legged Robot, and Rescue Simulation. The results of all games are listed in an overview article at the very beginning of this book. Information about each team is found in its team description paper. The team descriptions, that are grouped by league, serve to catalog the full range of researchers and approaches within RoboCup.

The next international RoboCup events will be held in Fukuoka, Japan (2002) and in Padua, Italy (2003).

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