

Contents

Introduction	3
Allsopp, D.N., Beutement, P., Bradshaw, J.M., Durfee, E.H., Kirton, M., Knoblock, C.A., Suri, N., Tate, A. and Thompson, C.W. "Coalition Agents Experiment: Multi-Agent Co-operation in an International Coalition Setting"	5
Bala, J., Pachowicz, P. and Witham, R.A. "Supporting Coalition Operations of Target Movements Exploration through evolutionary Computation and 3-D Visualization"	21
Barber, K.S. and Martin, C. "Autonomy of Decision-Makers in Coalitions"	22
Bevinakoppa, S., Kumar, D.K., MacGovern, J., Narayan, K. and Hicks, R. "Knowledge-based coalition planning and operations for Medical Applications"	25
Desimone, R. and Charles, D. "Towards an Ontology for Intelligence Analysis and Collection Management"	26
Doran, J. "Agent-Based Modelling for Environmental Coalition Formation"	33
Edwards, G., Kettler, B., Olin, K. and Tsurutani, B. "Agents on the Semantic Object Web: Information Management for Coalition Operations"	42
Fletcher, M. "JACK: A System for Building Holonic Coalitions"	49
Fouse, S., Delgado, R. and Beaton, B. "C-CINC21: Command and Control for the Coalition Commander in the 21 st Century: A Report on the Advanced Concept Technology Demonstration (ACTD)"	61
Hsu, E. "A Group-Oriented Framework for Coalitions"	62
Jelinek, J. "Model Predictive Risk Control of Military Operations"	73
King, G., Heeringa, B., Westbrook, D., Catalano, J. and Cohen, P. "Models of Defeat"	84
Klusck, M. and Gerber, A. "Issues of Dynamic Coalition Formation Among Rational Agents"	91
Linderman, M.H. and Combs, V. "Coalition application of the Joint Battlespace Infosphere (JBI)"	103

Maamar, Z., Labbé, P. and Mansoor, W., “Software Agents for Coalition Forces”	104
Maamar, Z., Labbé, P., Mansoor, W. and Bataineh, E. “Influence in MultiAgent Systems – Application to Coalitions”	117
Marmelstein, R.E. “Force Templates – A Blueprint for Coalition Interaction within an Infosphere”	125
McCraab, M. “Effects-based Coalition Operations: Belief, Framing and Mechanism”	134
Mulvehill, A. and Kral, T. “Requirements for Standards and Commonality with Regard to Knowledge Based Systems for Coalition Operations”	147
Pěchouček, M., Mařík, V. and Bárta, J. “Knowledge Based Approach to OOTW Coalition Formation”	159
Reddy, R., Srinivas, K., Reddy, S.M. and Mikkilineni, R. “Services Based Collaboration/Coalition Networks”	171
Schmorrow, D. “The DARPA Control of Agent Based Systems (CoABS) Program and Challenges for Collaborative Coalitions”	182
Tate, A., Dalton, J. and Stader, J. “I-P ² – Intelligent Process Panels to Support Coalition Operations”	184
Toman, D. and Kos, A. “Advanced 3D Visualization Web Technology and its Use in Military and Intelligence Applications”	191
Ground, L., Kott, A., and Budd, R. “A Knowledge-Based Tool for Planning of Military Operations: the Coalition Perspective”	195

Introduction

The first Knowledge Systems for Coalition Operations (KSCO) meeting was held in Edinburgh in May 1999 and focussed on Knowledge-Based Planning for Coalition Operations. An international working group of interested individuals was formed at that meeting to encourage international collaboration on KSCO. The KSCO-2002 conference is the second in a series of international meetings which aims to bring together practitioners and key decision makers in coalition operation management with researchers from areas of knowledge representation and reasoning, planning, multi-agent systems and related areas in order to exchange experience and ideas, share inspiration and suggest novel concepts. Practitioners benefit from meeting each other and from learning the possibilities of recent research achievements while researchers will get inspiration from each other and links to potential end users of their ideas.

Area of Conference

Topics for discussion include:

- Innovative theory and techniques for coalition formation and support to similar "virtual organisations"
- Applications and requirements for knowledge-based coalition planning and operations management
- Knowledge-based approaches to command and control
- Knowledge-based approaches to coalition logistics
- Knowledge-based approaches to Operations-Other-Than-War - such as peace keeping missions and other humanitarian operations
- Multi-agent systems and the concept of agency in coalitions
- Tools and techniques for knowledge-based simulation and modelling of coalition operations
- Security and maintenance of private information or knowledge in coalition operations
- Autonomous vs. centrally managed coalition operations

KSCO Working Group

Further information on the work of the Knowledge Systems for Coalition Operations working group and the conference series is available at

<http://www.aiai.ed.ac.uk/project/coalition/kSCO/>

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