

Preface

The Workshop “From Objects to Agents” (WOA) is the reference event for Italian researchers active in the Agents and Multi-Agent Systems research domain. It has been held every year since 2000, and this year WOA reaches its 25-year anniversary. For this special occasion, the workshop has been held in a very exclusive location the Forte di Bard in Valle d’Aosta.

The workshop took place from 8th to 10th July, during which 22 original papers have been presented. To commemorate the anniversary, the workshop has also included a Dissemination Track inviting papers recently appeared on international conferences and journals: 10 papers were presented in this track. Overall, more than 50 researchers from all Italy have attended the workshop.

The “Fabio Bellifemine” keynote speech was given by Amit Chopra (Lancaster University), who discussed the topic “Communication Meaning: Why Multiagent Abstractions Are Foundational to Software Systems Research”. In his discussion, the speaker started from a thorny question for the WOA community: After three decades of work on enabling flexible interactions between agents, has the research on the agent-based paradigm failed to mature in software engineering solutions actually used outside the academic world? The speaker shed a light on a possible solution to realize the promise of modeling meaning in interaction protocols, and how this addresses thorny, longstanding problems in systems, including in fields such as networks, distributed systems, and programming languages. These advances put multiagent abstractions at the heart of systems research and raise deep and novel research questions.

This volume, published by CEUR-WS, collects the 22 original papers.

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