

RoboCup-98 Paris

The Second Robot World Cup Soccer Games and Conferences

4 - 8 July, 1998

La Cite des Sciences et de l'Industrie, Paris

The Second Robot World Cup (RoboCup-98 Paris) will be held at La Cite des Sciences et de l'Industrie, Paris during 4 - 8 July, 1998. This is a scientific forum to foster robotic and artificial intelligence research using soccer, authorized by The RoboCup Federation (Bern, Switzerland). The RoboCup Federation is the principal international administrative organization on robot soccer and related scientific, educational, and industrial activities.

Organizers and Sponsors

Organized by:

The Univeriste de Paris VI (Pierre et Marie Curie)

Centre National de Reserche Scientifique (CNRS),

Supported by:

La Cite des Sciences et de l'Industrie (La Cite),

Centre de Robotique Integree d'Ile de France (CRIIF),

European Community (EC),

Nihon Keizai Shimbun Inc.

RoboCup World Wide Sponsors:

Sony Corporation,

NAMCO Ltd.,

SUNX Limited

Official Supplier:

Molten Corporation (balls for the middle size league)

RoboCup-98 Paris Overview

RoboCup-98 Paris is the Second Robot World Cup Soccer Games and Conferences. The first Robot World Cup was held in August 1997 at Nagoya, in conjunction with the International Joint Conference on Artificial Intelligence 1997 (IJCAI-97), and was attended by over 50 participant teams (32 simulator teams, 4 small-size robot teams, and 5 middle-size robot teams), with over 7,000 spectators, and world media. Since then, RoboCup has been recognized as one of the most important activities in robotics and artificial intelligence research. The dramatic increase in number of participating teams for RoboCup-98 Paris signifies the excitement of the community. RoboCup-98 Paris will have over 80 teams (nearly 40 simulator teams, 12 small size robot teams, 16 middle size robot teams, 3 legged robot teams) and many other related exhibitions and technical presentations (nearly 100 papers are to be presented).

RoboCup is not just for the teams who compete in each of the leagues. This year there is an exhibition of RoboCup-related technologies which are not directly related to competing teams. For example, the RoboCup Commentator Exhibition demonstrates a number of systems which automatically generate soccer commentary for simulation league games. It They understand what is going on in the game, analyze the performance of each player, create hypothesis on interesting topics to provide comments on, and generate fluent commentary in different languages. The applications of such a technology are enormous, for example, in internet broadcast. The future of Robotics and AI technologies can also be seen at RoboCup, such as Sony's legged robots and Honda's humanoid robot. Sony will organize a special demonstration as a part of RoboCup Technical Exhibition Program, where their legged robot will be demonstrated. Honda will be showing a video presentation of their recent progress with their ground breaking humanoid robot which was first demonstrated last year.

For more details, please visit our web site: <http://www.robocup.org/>

Or contact:

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Participants for RoboCup-98 Paris

(As of June 1, 1998 Subject to change)

Simulator League

AT-Humboldt-97: Humboldt University of Berlin, Germany World Champion 97
AT-Humboldt-98: Humboldt University of Berlin, Germany 1998 Version of AT-humboldt97
Andhill-98: Tomohito Andou (NEC Corporation) Finalist of RoboCup-97 and Winner of RoboCup Japan Open 98
Linköping Lizard: Linköping University, Sweden
Stockholm Univ., Sweden
Chalmers University of Technology, Gothenburg Sweden
University of Oulu, Finland
University of Leuven, Belgium
Univeristy of Amsterdam, The Netherland
Chemnitz University of Technology, Germany
University of Ulm, Germany
DFKI GmbH / Universitat des Saarlandes, Germany
Munich University of Technology, Germany
Dresden University of Technology, Germany
Mainz Rolling Brains: University of Mainz, Germany.
University of Karlsruhe, Germany
Politecnico di Milano - Dipartimento di Elettronica e Informazione, Italy
University of Bologna, Italy
LAI: Universidad Carlos III de Madrid, Spain
ISocRob: ISR/IST, Tech. Univ. of Lisbon, Portugal
Cambridge University, UK
Laboratory LIP6, Universite Paris 6, France
IMAG, Albert Bonniot institute, France
ENSEA (Ecole Nationale de l'electronique et de ses applications), France
PaSo-Team: The University of Padua, Italy,
University of Bologna, Italy
Technical University of Cluj-Napoca, Romania
Institute of Computer Science, Polish Academy of Science, Poland
Warsaw Technical University, Poland

CMUnited: Carnegie Mellon University, USA
UBC_Dynamo2: University of British Columbia, Canada.
ISIS: Information Science Institute/University of Southern California, USA
University of Massachusetts, Amherst, USA
Dartmouth College New Hampshire, USA
University of Texas at Austin, USA
Darwin United: Carnegie Mellon University, USA
Universidade Federal Santa Catarina - UFSC, Brazil
The Korea: Solvit Inc., South Korea
Waseda University, Japan
Chubu University, Japan
Toyoashi University of Technology, Japan
Chukyo University, Japan
Nagoya Institute of Technology, Japan
Tokyo University of Agriculture and Technology, Japan

Small-Size Robot League

CMUnited: Carnegie Mellon University, USA World Champion 97
IXS: IXS Research, Japan
Faculdade de Engenharia da Universidade do Porto, Portugal
I-SPACE: Utsunomiya Univ. and Univ. of Tokyo, Japan.
Computer Laboratory, Cambridge University, UK
J-Star98: J-Star Robot Soccer Team, Tokyo, Japan
Universite Paris-6, Paris, France
MIME-IA: Universite Paris-8, France
VUB AI-lab team, Brussel
RoboRoos: University of Queensland, Australia
University of Western Australia

Middle-Size Robot League

Dreamteam: ISI / University of Southern California, USA World Champion 97
Osaka University, Japan World Champion 97
Ullanta Performance Robotics, U.S.A.
RMIT Raiders II: Royal Melbourne Institute of Technology (RMIT), Australia

The Deakin Black Knights: Deakin University, Australia
Yale University, USA
University of Ulm, Germany
CS Freiburg: Institut fuer Informatik, Albert-Ludwigs-Universitaet, Germany,
FGBV: Munich University of Technology, Germany
University of Tuebingen, Germany
GMD-SET, St. Augustin, Germany
ART --- Azzurra Robot Team: RoboCup-Italia Project --- The Italian National Team
ISocRob: ISR/IST, Tech. Univ. of Lisbon, Portugal
Universite Paris-6, Laboratoire Robotique de Paris, France
REAL MAGICOL: Colombia-France Cooperation. Universidad del Valle - Grupo PAyRA -
Colombia, Universite d'Evry Val d'Essonne - LaMI - France, and Colciencias
Sharif Univ of Tech, Tehran, IRAN
Uttori United: Utsunomiya University, Toyo University and Institute of Physical and
Chemical Research (RIKEN),
NAIST-RoboCup: Nara Advanced Institute for Science and Technology, Japan

Exhibitions

Full Set Small Size Robot League

(Up to 11 Small-Size Robots on the Middle Size League Field)

- CMUnited, Carnegie Mellon University
- VUB AI-lab, Brussel
- J-Star-IXS, Japan

Legged Robot Games and Exhibitions

- Carnegie Mellon University, USA
- Paris-VI, France
- Osaka University, Japan

RoboCup Commentator Exhibition

- Sony Computer Science Laboratory
- DFKI, Germany
- ElectroTechnical Laboratory, Japan

Sony Legged Robot Exhibition

Robot Half-Time Show

The Self-Made Man and the Moon, Ullanta Performance Robotics

Honda Humanoid Robot Video Presentation

University of Aarhus LEGO Robot Football Demonstration

Webots RoboCup Simulator Exhibition

Schedule

July 2 – 3 : Technical Workshops and Robot Team Set Up / Training

July 4 – 8 : Preliminary rounds and Finals : Public Access 10h-18h

(Sunday 10h-19h, Closed on Monday for public)

July 9 : Post-Competition Workshop (at Paris-VI)

Location

**La Cite des Sciences et de l'Industrie
30, avenue Corentin-Cariou, 75019 Paris**

Access by Car: Peripherique Nord, exit Porte de la Villette

Access by Metro: Porte de la Villette

Phone: 01 40 05 80 00

The RoboCup Federation --- The Robot World Cup Initiative

RoboCup, The Robot World Cup Initiative, was launched to promote state-of-the-art in robotics and AI research, as well as providing a platform for integrated project-oriented education. It has encouraged international joint projects involving over 20 countries and nearly 1,000 researchers. While RoboCup Federation (established in Bern, Switzerland, as a non-profit organization, with operational headquarter in Tokyo, Japan) itself does not have a research group of its own, each of the participant laboratories and corporations advance toward the common goal. The main function of the RoboCup Federation is to organize annual conferences and competitions, and to foster technical exchange among researchers.

One of the effective ways to promote engineering research, apart from specific application developments, is to set a significant long term goal. When significant social impact is achieved by accomplishing such a goal, the goal is referred to as a grand challenge project. Building a robot to play soccer itself does not generate significant social and economic impact, but the accomplishment will certainly considered a major achievement in the field. We call this kind of project a landmark project. RoboCup is a landmark project .

Our ultimate goal is:

By the mid-21st century, a team of fully autonomous humanoid robot soccer players shall win a game of soccer, complying with the official rules of the FIFA, against the winner of the most recent World Cup.

This goal may sound overly ambitious given the state-of-the-art technology today. Nevertheless, we believe it is important that such a long term goal is to be claimed and identified and pursued. It took only 50 years from the Wright Brother's first aircraft flight to Apollo mission to send man to the moon and safely return them to earth. Also, it took only 50 years, from the invention of the digital computer to the Deep Blue, which beat a human champion at chess. We recognize, however, that building humanoid soccer players requires an equally long period and extensive efforts of a broad range of researchers, and the goal will not be met in the near future. Nevertheless, we believe the goal should be pursued, and we have identified this as the RoboCup challenge. In order to accomplish the mission, a broad range of technologies has to be developed and we believe they will be applied to various social and industrial applications.

Future RoboCup

RoboCup Pacific Rim Series 98 Singapore, Nov. 22-27, 1998

In conjunction with the Pacific Rim International Conference on Artificial Intelligence (PRICAI-98).

RoboCup-1999 Stockholm, July 31-August 6, 1998

In conjunction with International Joint Conference on Artificial Intelligence (IJCAI-99)

RoboCup-2000

The announcement will be made soon. **Berlin** (with the Berlin Festival) and **Melbourne** (with the Olympic Game) are possible candidates.

RoboCup-2001 Seattle (tentative), late August, 2001.

In conjunction with International Joint Conference on Artificial Intelligence (IJCAI-2001)

RoboCup-2002 Japan (city to be announced)

In conjunction with World Cup 2002 Korea-Japan

Other RoboCup events will be announced soon.

Please visit, <http://www.robocup.org/> for up-to-date information.