

1. Record Nr.	UNISA996466100003316
Titolo	Computer Aided Systems Theory - EUROCAST 2007 [[electronic resource] ] : 11th International Conference on Computer Aided Systems Theory, Las Palmas de Gran Canaria, Spain, February 12-16, 2007, Revised Selected Papers // edited by Roberto Moreno Díaz, Franz Pichler, Alexis Quesada Arencibia
Pubbl/distr/stampa	Berlin, Heidelberg : , : Springer Berlin Heidelberg : , : Imprint : Springer, , 2007
ISBN	3-540-75867-4
Edizione	[1st ed. 2007.]
Descrizione fisica	1 online resource (XXXVIII, 1236 p.)
Collana	Theoretical Computer Science and General Issues, , 2512-2029 ; ; 4739
Classificazione	004 MSR 580f SS 4800
Disciplina	620.00285
Soggetti	Computer-aided engineering Computer simulation Pattern recognition systems Artificial intelligence Computer science Microprocessors Computer architecture Computer-Aided Engineering (CAD, CAE) and Design Computer Modelling Automated Pattern Recognition Artificial Intelligence Computer Science Logic and Foundations of Programming Processor Architectures
Lingua di pubblicazione	Inglese
Formato	Materiale a stampa
Livello bibliografico	Monografia
Note generali	Bibliographic Level Mode of Issuance: Monograph
Nota di bibliografia	Includes bibliographical references and index.
Nota di contenuto	Systems Theory and Simulation: Formal Approaches -- Computation and Simulation in Modelling Biological Systems -- Intelligent Information Processing -- Computers in Education -- Grid Computing -- Applied Formal Verification -- Cellular Automata -- Computer

Vision -- Heuristic Problem Solving -- Signal Processing Architectures  
-- Robotics and Robotic Soccer -- Cybercars and Intelligent Vehicles --  
Artificial Intelligence Components.

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## Sommario/riassunto

The concept of CAST as Computer Aided Systems Theory was introduced by F. Pichler in the late 1980s to encompass computer-theoretical and practical developments as tools for problem-solving in system science. It was thought of as the third of three components (the other two being CAD and CAM) that together provide a complete picture of the path from computer and systems sciences to practical developments in science and engineering. Franz Pichler, of the University of Linz, organized the first CAST workshop in April 1988, which demonstrated the acceptance of the concepts by the scientific and technical community. Next, the University of Las Palmas de Gran Canaria joined the University of Linz to organize the first international meeting on CAST (Las Palmas, February 1989), under the name EUROCAST 1989. This proved to be a very successful gathering of systems theorists, computer scientists and engineers from Europe, North America and Japan. It was agreed that EUROCAST international conferences would be organized every two years. Thus, successive EUROCAST meetings have taken place in Krems (1991), Las Palmas (1993), Innsbruck (1995), Las Palmas (1997), Vienna (1999), Las Palmas (2001), Las Palmas (2003) and Las Palmas (2005), in addition to an extra- European CAST Conference in Ottawa in 1994. Selected papers from those meetings were published in Springer's Lecture Notes in Computer Science series, as numbers 410, 585, 763, 1030, 1333, 1798, 2178, 2809 and 3643, and in several special issues of the international journal Cybernetics and Systems.

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