Wierzbicki

Trust and Fairness in Open, Distributed Systems

This book is an attempt to bring closer the greater vision of the development of Social Informatics. Social Informatics can be de?ned as a discipline of informatics that studies how information systems can realize social goals, use social concepts, or become sources of information about social phenomena. All of these research directions are present in this book: fairness is a social goal; trust is a social concept; and much of this book bases on the study of traces of Internet auctions (used also to drive social simulations) that are a rich source of information about social phenomena. The book has been written for an audience of graduate students working in the area of informatics and the social sciences, in an attempt to bridge the gap between the two disciplines. Because of this, the book avoids the use of excessive mathematical formalism, especially in Chapter 2 that attempts to summarize the theoretical basis of the two disciplines of trust and fa- ness management. Readers are usually directed to quoted literature for the purpose of studying mathematical proofs of the cited theorems.
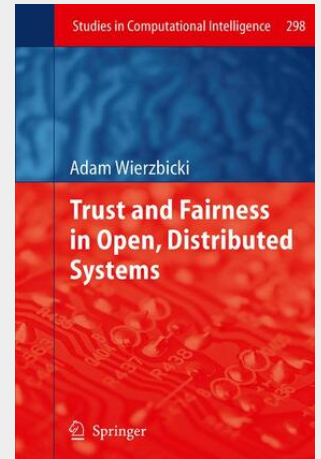
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