Conference Reports

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This section is compiled from reports of recent events sponsored or run in cooperation with ACM SIGAI. In general these reports were written and submitted by the conference organisers.

The International Conference on Image Processing and Vision Engineering (IMPROVE 2021)

Online 04/28-30/21
https://improve.scitevents.org/?y=2021

IMPROVE is a comprehensive conference of academic and technical nature, focused on image processing and computer vision practical applications. It aims at bringing together researchers, engineers and practitioners working either in fundamental areas of image processing, developing new methods and techniques, including innovative machine learning approaches, as well as multimedia communications technology and applications of image processing and artificial vision in diverse areas.

IMPROVE 2021 was held via Online Streaming, from 28 to 30 of April, 2021. It was sponsored by the Institute for Systems and Technologies of Information, Control and Communication (INSTICC).

IMPROVE 2021 was also organized in cooperation with the ACM SIGAI - ACM Special Interest Group on Artificial Intelligence, and the ACM Special Interest Group on Multimedia Systems.

IMPROVE received 27 paper submissions from 14 countries. To evaluate each submission, a double-blind paper review was performed by the Program Committee. After a stringent selection process, 22% of the papers were published and presented as full papers, i.e. completed work (12 pages/25’ oral presentation).

Four invited talks were delivered by internationally distinguished speakers, namely:

- Matthias Niessner, Technical University of Munich, Germany
- Luisa Verdoliva, University of Naples Federico II, Italy
- Federico Tombari, Google and Technical University of Munich (TUM),
- Sotirios A. Tsaftaris, University of Edinburgh, United Kingdom

The 23rd International Conference on Enterprise Information Systems (ICEIS 2021)

Online 04/26028/21
https://iceis.scitevents.org/?y=2021

The purpose of the International Conference on Enterprise Information Systems (ICEIS) is to bring together researchers, engineers and practitioners interested in the advances and business applications of information systems. Six simultaneous tracks were held, covering different aspects of Enterprise Information Systems Applications, including Enterprise Database Technology, Systems Integration, Artificial Intelligence, Decision Support Systems, Information Systems Analysis and Specification, Internet Computing, Electronic Commerce, Human Factors and Enterprise Architecture.

ICEIS 2021 was held via Online Streaming, from 26 to 28 of April, 2021. It was sponsored by the Institute for Systems and Technologies of Information, Control and Communication (INSTICC).

ICEIS 2021 was also organized in cooperation with the ACM SIGAI - ACM Special Interest Group on Artificial Intelligence, the ACM Special Interest Group on Management Information Systems, the IEICE Special Interest Group on Software Enterprise Modelling, the Institute of Engineering and Management, and the Association for the Advancement of Artificial Intelligence.

ICEIS received 241 paper submissions from
42 countries. To evaluate each submission, a double-blind paper review was performed by the Program Committee. After a stringent selection process, 24.48% of the papers were published and presented as full papers, i.e. completed work (12 pages/25’ oral presentation).

Five invited talks were delivered by internationally distinguished speakers, namely:

• Jan Recker, University of Hamburg, Germany
• Stefan Kramer, Johannes Gutenberg - Universität Mainz, Germany
• Panos Markopoulos, Eindhoven University of Technology, Netherlands
• Eric Prevost, Oracle, United States
• John Grundy, Monash University, Australia

AAAI/ACM Conference on AI, Ethics and Society (AIES-21)
Online 05/19-21/21
https://www.aies-conference.com/2021/

The 2021 AAAI/ACM Conference on AI, Ethics, and Society (AIES’21) was held online over three days, 19-21 May 2021.

Over the last few years, the world has awoken to the power that we have vested—often without thought or care—in the people and systems that collect, aggregate, analyse, and act on our data. At the same time, AI systems promise new ways to empower individuals and collectives to change society from the bottom up. International organisations, governments, universities, corporations, and philanthropists have recognised the urgent need to bring all of our intellectual tools to bear on charting a course through this uncertain new territory. Earlier iterations of this conference and others have seen the first fruits of these calls to action, as programs for research have been set out in many fields relevant to AI, Ethics, and Society.

The early days of shaking us awake are done: we now know, well, that we are increasingly reliant on AI systems that are radically changing the world around us, for better and worse. The next step is to chart a course forward, both by deepening our diagnosis of where we are now, and by developing new goals, models, and technical and regulatory systems to shape the future of AI and society toward how we collectively intend our societies to look.

To achieve these twin objectives—a richer understanding of where we are now, and technical and sociotechnical paths forward—we must draw on insights from across disciplines. AIES is convened each year by program co-chairs from Computer Science, Law and Policy, the Social Sciences, and Philosophy. Our goal is to encourage talented scholars in these and related fields to submit their best work related to the morality, law, and political economy of data and AI.

We received 278 papers, submitted for double-blind reviewing by a selection from the 110 members of our Program Committee. Our goal was for each paper to receive three reviews, and we were largely successful in achieving this goal. The reviews were discussed by the reviewers and the Program Chairs, and we ended up accepting 106 (38%) of the submitted papers for poster presentation. Of these, 27 (9.7% of submissions) were also accepted for oral presentation.

We selected the Hopin online conference platform for the conference, in part because it provided better facilities for attendance by people with disabilities than the alternatives.

We had 415 registrations from 29 countries around the world. We chose the schedule of sessions, not by the usual utilitarian maximization of convenience for the greatest number, but by a somewhat Rawlsian effort to improve the situation of those most disadvantaged by time zone.

The three AIES’21 keynote speakers and the titles of their talks, were:

• Timnit Gebru, Moving beyond the Fairness Rhetoric in AI
• Ifeoma Ajunwa, A Veil of Ignorance for Automated Decision-Making
• Arvind Narayanan, The ethics of datasets: moving forward requires stepping back

The AIES’21 Proceedings is in the ACM Digital Library, at https://dl.acm.org/doi/proceedings/10.1145/3461702

The organizing institutions for AIES’21 were
the Association for the Advancement of Artificial Intelligence (AAAI), the Association for Computing Machinery (ACM), and the ACM Special Interest Group on Artificial Intelligence (SIGAI). We are grateful for sponsorship from DeepMind Ethics & Society, from Founders Pledge (the Survival and Flourishing Fund (SFF)), and from Facebook.

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