

# Preface

Recent highly visible and impactful applications of AI have resulted in tremendously increased public and commercial interest in AI. This interest is spurring large investments in the development of further applications of AI. Many of these applications, like autonomous cars and drones, personal assistants on mobile devices, and increased robotic automation of factories, have the potential to create major changes in society. As a result there has also been growing concern over the potential negative impacts of AI.

These developments inspired the theme of IJCAI-2017: Autonomy and AI. The aim of this year's theme is to further debate and analysis of the limits and safeguards that must be established in order to ensure that AI research is used in a manner that best contributes towards a more just and prosperous society.

This year we received a record number of 2540 papers, accepting 660 (26%). All papers had an oral presentation and were also displayed as posters at the conference venue so as to facilitate better one-to-one interactions with the authors. Each paper received at least three reviews with most (80%) receiving four or more reviews. Every paper was monitored by one Senior Program Committee Member and one Area Chair. The Program Committee consisted of 44 Area Chairs, 384 Senior Program Committee Members, 1123 Program Committee Members and 392 Review Assistants. That is, a total of 1945 researchers made careful and rigorous reviews, discussed the papers and came to a recommendation on acceptance. Authors had the opportunity to provide feedback to their reviews. This feedback was analysed by the reviewing team at discussion time. Senior Program Committee Members wrote a metareview for each paper and the program chair consulted with all the area chairs to reach final decisions.

A number of new features in the review process were introduced. Reviewers were asked to upload their own papers into the Toronto Paper Matching System (TPMS, <http://papermatching.cs.toronto.edu>) and 80% of them did it. At submission deadline we computed the matching degrees between reviewers' papers and the submitted papers: 2.8M degrees. For those that uploaded their papers into TPMS the matching degrees were shown to help in the paper bidding process. This was considered useful or very useful by 71% of the reviewers. 74% of the reviewers were satisfied or very satisfied with the papers assigned to them. Differently from previous editions, this Year, Senior Program Committee members reviewed papers. This was done with the purpose of making a better use of the expertise of the more experienced researchers and to have more informed discussions. Finally, reviewers performed a peer-assessment of the reviews that gave extra information to Area Chairs in order to make final recommendations.

We received 58 papers for the Track on autonomy and AI and accepted 12 covering different philosophical, ethical, legal and technical aspects. These papers were presented in special sessions with an open debate at the end. We also include in these proceedings abridged versions of previously published papers in major AI Journals (JAIR and AIJ) that had never been exposed in a major conference, and of the best papers of many specialised conferences on AI.

We had seven outstanding invited speakers, partly or totally touching upon Autonomy and the social benefits of AI: Georg Gottlob, Marti Hearst, Rong Jin, Ugo Pagallo, Joelle Pineau, Stuart Russell, and Tuomas Sandholm. Talks by the 2017 Computer and Thoughts Award winner Devi Parikh, and the 2017 John McCarthy Award winner Dan Roth were also featured.

A conference the size and scope of IJCAI-2017 requires tremendous effort from many people, to whom we are very thankful. First of all, the authors, who submitted the best of their work to this conference. IJCAI is such an outstanding conference thanks to the high respect that the whole community has on it. Second, the program committee members, that made an effort to cope with the deadlines, the heavy load of work, and the extra effort required by the several new features introduced this Year. Third, all the people that helped in the different stages of the review process. Francisco Cruz (aka Tito) and Marc Pujol who led the production of a new paper submission system for the proceedings, performing paper formatting quality control and giving professional feedback to authors. Francisco Cruz, Marc Pujol and Xavier Ferrer led the programming of a new user-friendly software to build the scientific program. Many others have helped in different phases of the process: Anna Enciso with multiple tedious clerical tasks; Thomas Preuss giving technical support on ConfMaster, sometimes at midnight and on weekends; Laurent Charlin making it easy to integrate TPMS in the process; Blai Bonet customising his software to allocate papers to reviewers, also over a weekend and under pressure; Jordi Levy and Mateu Villaret codifying the paper-to-session allocation as a SAT problem and solving it.

In addition to those whose work made the content of the conference possible, many worked to make the operation of the conference possible. The local arrangements committee (LAC) did a tremendous job for which we are very thankful. The LAC was co-chaired by Chengqi Zhang, Toby Walsh and Andy Song who all worked tirelessly to make IJCAI-2017 happen. Other members of the LAC included Michael Georgeff, Abdul Sattar Ling Chen, Yang Yu, Kai Qin, Truyen Tran, Tianqing Zhu, Ke Deng, Ping Yu, Christoph Bergmeir, Sebastian Sardina, Christian Guttmann, Jeffery Chan, and Guodong Long. We thank them all. Finally, last but by no means least we would like to thank Vesna Sabljakovic-Fritz, Executive Secretary for IJCAI, without

whom we would not have even known where to start!

Organising IJCAI-2017 has been a great experience that we are very grateful to have had, and we hope that the conference will be a great experience for everyone who participates.

- Carles Sierra (Program Chair)
- Fahiem Bacchus (Conference Chair)

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 Deguang Kong (Yahoo Research)  
 Sébastien Konieczny (CRIL, CNRS, Université d'Artois)  
 Roman Kontchakov (Birkbeck, University of London)  
 Richard Korf (University of California, Los Angeles, Computer Science Department)  
 Frederic Koriche (CRIL U. Artois, CRIL U. Artois)  
 Andrew Koster (IIIA-CSIC, Universidad Autónoma de Barcelona)  
 Lars Kotthoff (University of British Columbia)  
 Manolis Koubarakis (National and Kapodistrian University of Athens, Dept. of Informatics and Telecommunications)  
 Panagiotis Kouvaros (Imperial College London)  
 Zornitsa Kozareva (Amazon)

Martin Kronegger (Johannes Kepler University Linz, Austria, TU Wien, Austria)  
 Louwe B. Kuijter (University of Liverpool)  
 Akshat Kumar (Singapore Management University)  
 Clemens Kupke (University of Strathclyde)  
 Ondrej Kuzelka (Cardiff University, School of Computer Science and Informatics)  
 Ville Kyrki (Aalto University)  
 Maria Kyropoulou (University of Oxford)  
 Christophe Labreuche (Thales Reserach & Technology)  
 Bruno Lacerda (University of Birmingham)  
 Martin Lackner (University of Oxford)  
 Jean-Marie Lagniez (CRIL, University of Artois)  
 Sylvain Lagrue (Université d'Artois, CRIL - UMR 8188 CNRS)  
 Kiran Lakkaraju (Sandia National Labs)  
 Luis Lamb (Federal University of Rio Grande do Sul)  
 Xiangyuan Lan (Hong Kong Baptist University, Department of Computer Science)  
 Marc Lanctot (DeepMind)  
 Helge Langseth (Norwegian University of Science and Technology, Department of Computer and Information Science)  
 Frédéric Lardeux (University of Angers)  
 Pedro Larranaga (Techinal University of Madrid)  
 Jey Han Lau (IBM Research)  
 Niklas Lavesson (Blekinge Institute of Technology)  
 Jonathan Lawry (University of Bristol, Engineering Mathematics)  
 Tiep Le (New Mexico State University)  
 Daniel Le Berre (Université d'Artois, CNRS)  
 Hoel Le Capitaine (University of Nantes)  
 Christophe Lecoutre (University of Artois, CRIL)  
 Freddy Lecue (INRIA, Accenture Tech Labs)  
 Fabrice Lefèvre (Univ. Avignon, LIA-CERI)  
 Iolanda Leite (KTH)  
 Joao Leite (Universidade NOVA de Lisboa, NOVA LINCS)  
 Levi Lelis (Universidade Federal de Viçosa)  
 Domenico Lembo (Sapienza università di Roma)  
 Philippe Leray (University of Nantes)  
 Julien Lesca (Paris Dauphine University, LAMSADE)  
 Joshua Letchford (Sandia National Laboratories)  
 Omer Lev (University of Toronto)  
 Yoad Lewenberg (The Henrew University of Jerusalem)  
 Olivier Lhomme (IBM France)  
 Jundong Li (Arizona State University, Arizona State University)  
 Cheng-Te Li (National Cheng Kung University)  
 Ping Li (Hangzhou Dianzi University, National University of Singapore)  
 Wenye Li (The Chinese University of Hong Kong (Shenzhen), School of Science and Engineering)  
 Zechao Li (Nanjing University of Science and Technology)  
 Bo Li (University of Michigan)  
 Jun Li (Northeastern University)  
 Sheng Li (Northeastern University)  
 Boyang Li (Disney Research)  
 Sanjiang Li (University of Technology Sydney)  
 Bin Li (Wuhan University)

Qiudan Li (Institute of Automation, Chinese Academy of Sciences)  
 Wu-Jun Li (Nanjing University)  
 Heng-Chao Li (Southwest Jiaotong University, School of Information Science & Technology)  
 Nan Li (Alibaba Group)  
 Shuai Li (University of Cambridge)  
 Zhenghua Li (Soochow University)  
 Yuanyuan Li (National Institute of Environmental Health Sciences, National Institutes of Health)  
 Yingming Li (Zhejiang University)  
 Binyang Li (University of International Relations)  
 Hongyang Li (The Chinese University of Hong Kong)  
 Guozheng Li (China Academy of Chinese Medical Science)  
 Yingzhen Li (University of Cambridge)  
 Xi Li (Zhejiang University)  
 Xin Li (Adelphic Inc., Temple University)  
 Xiaodan Liang (Carnegie Mellon University)  
 Chen Liang (Northwestern University, Google)  
 Vera Liao (IBM Research)  
 Beishui Liao (Zhejiang University)  
 Henry Lieberman (MIT, Ccomputer Science & AI Lab)  
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 Christopher Lin (University of Washington)  
 Jianzhe Lin (University of British Columbia)  
 Marius Lindauer (University of Freiburg)  
 Nir Lipovetzky (University of Melbourne)  
 Marco Lippi (University of Modena and Reggio Emilia)  
 Francesca Alessandra Lisi (Università degli Studi di Bari "Aldo Moro", Dipartimento di Informatica)  
 Viliam Lisý (Czech Technical University in Prague)  
 Xinwang Liu (National University of Defense Technology, National Laboratory for Parallel and Distributed Processing, School of Computer)  
 Miao Liu (IBM)  
 Bo Liu (Auburn University)  
 Risheng Liu (Dalian University of Technology)  
 Li-Ping Liu (Columbia University, Tufts University)  
 Weifeng Liu (China University of Petroleum (East China))  
 Lin Liu (University of South Australia)  
 Siyuan Liu (Penn State University)  
 Yang Liu (Tsinghua University)  
 Siyuan Liu (Penn State University)  
 Yunlong Liu (Xiamen University)  
 Jialu Liu (Google)  
 Tengfei Liu (Alipay)  
 Meng Liu (Peking University, Key Laboratory of Machine Perception (MOE), School of Electronics Engineering and Computer Science)  
 Yongmei Liu (Sun Yat-sen University, Department of Computer Science)  
 Yong Liu (Institute of High Performance Computing)  
 Qi Liu (University of Science and Technology of China)  
 Fangfang Liu (Shanghai University)  
 Kefei Liu (Indiana University School of Medicine)  
 Xu-Ying Liu (Southeast University)  
 Alberto Lluç Lafuente (Technical University of Denmark)  
 David Lo (Singapore Management University)  
 Brian Logan (University of Nottingham, School of Computer Science)  
 Guodong Long (University of Technology Sydney)  
 Mingsheng Long (Tsinghua University)  
 Dominique Longin (CNRS - Université Paul Sabatier, IRIT - LILaC)  
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 Xavier Lorca (Ecole des Mines de Nantes)  
 Emiliano Lorini (IRIT-CNRS, Toulouse University)  
 Samir Loudni (University of Caen Normandie)  
 Amy Loutfi (Department of Science and Technology, Örebro University)  
 Bryan Kian Hsiang Low (National University of Singapore)  
 Daniel Lowd (University of Oregon, Dept. of Computer and Information Science)  
 Eneldo Loza Mencia (Technische Universität Darmstadt, Knowledge Engineering Group)  
 Wei Lu (Singapore University of Technology and Design)  
 Yijie Lu (City University of Hong Kong)  
 Zhiwu Lu (Renmin University of China)  
 Peter Lucas (Leiden University, Leiden Institute for Advanced Computer Science)  
 Zhigang Luo (National University of Defense Technology, China)  
 Emil Lupu (Imperial College London)  
 Mitja Lustrek (Jozef Stefan Institute, Department of Intelligent Systems)  
 Shaohu Lv (National University of Defense Technology, National Key Lab of Parallel and Distributed Computing)  
 Qiang Ma (Yahoo! Inc.)  
 Xiaojuan Ma (Hong Kong University of Science and Technology)  
 Wenjun Ma (South China Normal University, School of Computer Science)  
 Zhanyu Ma (BUPT-Beijing University of Posts and Telecommunications)  
 Marlos C. Machado (University of Alberta)  
 Takatori Maehara (RIKEN Center for Advanced Intelligence Project, Shizuoka University)  
 Michael Maher (Reasoning Research Institute)  
 Jean-Guy Mailly (Paris Descartes University, LIPADE)  
 Enrico Malizia (University of Oxford)  
 Fragkiskos Malliaros (University of California, San Diego)  
 Brandon Malone (University Hospital Heidelberg)  
 Giuseppe Manco (Institute of High Performance Computing and Networks)  
 Lawrence Mandow (Universidad de Málaga)  
 Francesca Mangili (IDSIA - USI, SUPSI)  
 Silviu Maniu (Université Paris-Sud)  
 Marco Manna (University of Calabria)  
 Qi Mao (HERE Company)  
 Marco Maratea (University of Genoa)  
 Radu Marinescu (IBM Research)  
 Vangelis Markakis (Athens University of Economics and Business)  
 María Vanina Martínez (Institute for Computer Science and Engineering (ICIC) CONICE - UNS)  
 Bruno Martins (University of Lisbon, Instituto Superior Técnico and

INESC-ID)  
Zoltan-Csaba Marton (German Aerospace Center (DLR), Institute of Robotics and Mechatronics)  
Viviana Mascardi (University of Genova)  
Stewart Massie (Robert Gordon University)  
Nicholas Mattei (IBM Research)  
Robert Mattmüller (University of Freiburg)  
Denis Maua (Universidade de São Paulo, Institute of Mathematics and Statistics)  
Brice Mayag (University Paris Dauphine)  
Michael Mayo (University of Waikato)  
Kevin McAreevey (Queen's University Belfast, School of Electronics, Electrical Engineering and Computer Science)  
Lee McCluskey (University of Huddersfield)  
Fiona McNeill (Heriot-Watt University, School of Mathematical and Computing Sciences)  
Deepak Mehta (United Technologies Research Centre Ireland)  
Franziska Meier (Max-Planck Institute for Intelligent Systems)  
Stefano Melacci (QuestIT)  
Francisco Melo (Universidad Católica de Chile, Chile)  
Carlos Mencía (University of Oviedo, Department of Computer Science)  
João Pedro Carvalho Leal Mendes-Moreira (University of Porto, LI-AAD - INESC TEC)  
Felipe Meneguzzi (Pontifical Catholic University of Rio Grande do Sul)  
Xiangfu Meng (Liaoning Technical University)  
Stefan Mengel (CNRS CRIL)  
Jerome Mengin (Université de Toulouse, Institut de Recherche en Informatique de Toulouse)  
Fabio Mercorio (University of Milan Bicocca, Department of Statistics and Quantitative Methods)  
Tekin Mericli (Carnegie Mellon University, National Robotics Engineering Center)  
Luis Merino (Universidad Pablo de Olavide)  
John-Jules Meyer (Utrecht University, Alan Turing Institute Almere)  
Roberto Micalizio (University of Turin)  
Jakub Michaliszyn (University of Wrocław)  
Claude Michel (University of Nice-Sophia Antipolis)  
Andrea Micheli (Fondazione Bruno Kessler)  
Brian Milch (Google Inc.)  
Alessandra Mileo (Dublin City University, INSIGHT Centre for Data Analytics)  
Rob Miller (University College London)  
Tim Miller (University of Melbourne)  
Martin Mladenov (TU Dortmund University)  
Joseph Modayil (DeepMind)  
Cristian Molinaro (University of Calabria)  
Marco Montali (Free University of Bozen-Bolzano, KRDB Research Centre for Knowledge and Data)  
Angelo Montanari (University of Udine, Department of Mathematics, Computer Science, and Physics)  
Deshen Moodley (University of Cape Town, Centre for Artificial Intelligence Research)  
Il Chul Moon (KAIST)  
Javier Morales (University of Oxford)  
Plinio Moreno (University of Lisbon - Instituto Superior Tecnico, Instituto de Sistemas e Robotica)  
Michael Morin (University of Toronto)  
Paul Morris (NASA Ames Research Center)  
Hala Mostafa (United Technologies Research Center)  
Boris Motik (University of Oxford)  
Bradford Mott (North Carolina State University, Department of Computer Science)  
Kedian Mu (Peking University)  
Stephen Muggleton (Imperial College London)  
Philippe Muller (University of Toulouse)  
Aniello Murano (Università di Napoli Federico II)  
Ana C. Murillo (Universidad de Zaragoza, Spain)  
Nysret Musliu (TU Wien)  
Mohamed Nadif (University of Paris Descartes)  
Toshiaki Nakazawa (Japan Science and Technology Agency)  
Amedeo Napoli (LORIA, (CNRS - Inria - Université de Lorraine))  
Luis Gustavo Nardin (University of Idaho)  
Nina Narodytska (Samsung Research America)  
Erickson Nascimento (Federal University of Minas Gerais)  
Sriaram Natarajan (Indiana University, Indiana University)  
Swaprava Nath (Carnegie Mellon University)  
Abhaya Nayak (Macquarie University, Department of Computing)  
Samba Ndojh Ndiaye (Université Lyon 1, LIRIS)  
Gergely Neu (Pompeu Fabra University)  
Frank Neumann (The University of Adelaide)  
Mahakim Newton (Griffith University, Australia)  
Vien Ngo (University of Stuttgart, Machine Learning and Robotics)  
Feiping Nie (Northwestern Polytechnical University)  
Mathias Niepert (NEC Labs Europe)  
Peter Nightingale (University of St Andrews, School of Computer Science)  
Zhendong Niu (Beijing Institute of Technology)  
Alexandre Niveau (Normandie Univ, GREYC)  
Richard Nock (Data61, the Australian National University and the University of Sydney)  
Peter Novak (Delft University of Technology, Science [&] Technology B.V.)  
Ann Nowe (VUB Artificial Intelligence Lab, Belgium)  
Tim Oates (UMBC, University of Maryland Baltimore County)  
Svetlana Obratzsova (Nanyang Technological University)  
Oliver Obst (Western Sydney University, Centre for Research in Mathematics)  
Angelo Oddi (CNR - National Research Council of Italy)  
Nir Ofek (Ben Gurion University)  
Dimitri Ognibene (UPF)  
Emilia Oikarinen (Finnish Institute of Occupational Health)  
Brian O'Neill (Western New England University)  
Sebastian Ordyniak (TU Wien, Faculty of Computer Science, Algorithms and Complexity group)  
Joel Oren (Wattpad Inc.)  
Nir Oren (University of Aberdeen)  
Andrea Orlandini (National Research Council of Italy (CNR-ISTC))  
Magdalena Ortiz (TU Wien, Institute of Information Systems)



Sascha Ossowski (University Rey Juan Carlos)  
Lionel Ott (The University of Sydney)  
Dantong Ouyang (Jilin University)  
Meltem Ozturk (Universite paris dauphine, lamsade)  
Pinar Öztürk (Norwegian University of Science and Technology, Department of Computer and Information Science)  
Julian Padget (University of Bath, University of Bath)  
Ana Paiva (INESC-ID, Instituto Superior Técnico, University of Lisbon)  
George Paliouras (National Centre for Scientific Research "Demokritos", Institute of Informatics and Telecommunications)  
Shirui Pan (University of Technology Sydney)  
Weike Pan (Shenzhen University)  
Yinghui Pan (Jiangxi University of Finance and Economics)  
Amit Kumar Pandey (SoftBank Robotics (Formerly Aldebaran Robotics))  
Guansong Pang (University of Technology Sydney)  
Alexandre Papadopoulos (Université Pierre et Marie Curie (Paris 6), LIP6, Sony CSL)  
Diego Pardo (ETH Zürich, Agile and Dexterous Robotics Lab)  
Bryan Pardo (Northwestern University)  
Seong-Bae Park (Kyungpook National University, School of Computer Science and Engineering)  
Ioannis Partalas (Expedia)  
Viviana Patti (University of Turin, Computer Science Department)  
Terry Payne (University of Liverpool, Department of Computer Science)  
Federico Pecora (Örebro University)  
Rafael Penaloza (Free University of Bozen-Bolzano)  
Ruggero Pensa (University of Turin, Department of Computer Science)  
Giuseppe Perelli (University of Oxford, University of Oxford)  
Mario Perez (University of Seville)  
Patrice Perny (LIP6)  
Laurent Perron (Google)  
Laurent Perrussel (Université de Toulouse, IRIT)  
Thierry Petit (Worcester Polytechnic Institute)  
Ron Patrick (Heriot-Watt University, Department of Computer Science)  
Chiara Piacentini (University of Toronto, Department of Mechanical and Industrial Engineering)  
Gauthier Picard (MINES Saint-Etienne, Laboratoire Hubert Curien UMR CNRS 5516)  
Andreas Pieris (University of Edinburgh)  
Wang Pinghui (Xi'an Jiaotong University)  
Ramon Pino-Perez (Universidad de Los Andes, Centro Interdisciplinario de Lógica y Álgebra)  
Gianvito Pio (University of Bari Aldo Moro)  
Bilal Piot (Univ. Lille, DeepMind)  
Matteo Pirotta (INRIA, Politecnico di Milano)  
Marc Plantevit (University of Lyon, LIRIS - CNRS)  
Antonella Poggi (Sapienza University of Rome)  
Gleb Polevoy (University of Amsterdam, Delft University of Technology)  
Maria Polukarov (University of Southampton)  
Denis Ponomaryov (A.P. Ershov Institute of Informatics Systems, Novosibirsk State University)  
Enrico Pontelli (New Mexico State University)  
Soujanya Poria (Nanyang Technological University)  
Nico Potyka (University of Osnabrück, Institute of Cognitive Science)  
Henri Prade (University of Toulouse, IRIT)  
Cédric Pralet (ONERA)  
Frederic Precioso (Universite Cote d'Azur, Laboratoire I3S - UMR 7271 UNS-CNRS)  
Radu-Emil Precup (Politehnica University of Timisoara)  
Steve Prestwich (University College Cork)  
Alberto Pretto (Sapienza University of Rome, Department of Computer, Control, and Management Engineering)  
Patrick Prosser (University of Glasgow, School of Computing Science)  
David Pynadath (University of Southern California, Institute for Creative Technologies)  
Guilin Qi (Southeast University)  
Xueming Qian (Xi'an Jiaotong University)  
Alberto Quattrini Li (University of South Carolina)  
Goran Radanovic (Harvard University)  
Daniele P. Radicioni (University of Turin, Computer Science Department)  
Liva Ralaivola (LIF, Université Aix-Marseille, CNRS)  
Miquel Ramirez (University of Melbourne, Department of Computer and Information Sciences)  
Karinne Ramirez-Amaro (Technical University of Munich, Institute for Cognitive Systems, Department of Electrical and Computer Engineering)  
Jan Ramon (INRIA-Lille)  
Silvio Ranise (Fondazione Bruno Kessler)  
Riccardo Rasconi (Institute of Cognitive Sciences and Technologies - CNR)  
Balaraman Ravindran (Indian Institute of Technology Madras, Indian Institute of Technology Madras)  
Juan A. Recio García (University Complutense)  
Chris Reed (University of Dundee, Centre for Argument Technology)  
Maurício Reis (Universidade da Madeira)  
Fenghui Ren (University of wollongong)  
Chuan-Xian Ren (Sun Yat-sen University)  
Jean-Michel Renders (Xerox Research Centre Europe)  
Gavin Rens (University of Cape Town, Centre for Artificial Intelligence Research)  
Jochen Renz (Australian National University)  
Achim Rettinger (Karlsruhe Institute of Technology)  
Kate Revoreda (Federal University of the State of Rio de Janeiro, Graduate Program in Informatics)  
Anja Rey (TU Dortmund, Fakultät für Informatik)  
Ricardo Ribeiro (Instituto Universitário de Lisboa (ISCTE-IUL), INESC-ID Lisboa)  
Pedro Ribeiro (University of Porto, Computer Science Department)  
Francesco Ricca (Department of Mathematics and Computer Science)

Giuseppe Riccardi (University of Trento)  
 Patricia Riddle (University of Auckland, Department of Computer Science)  
 Fabrizio Riguzzi (Università di Ferrara, Dipartimento di Matematica e Informatica)  
 Régis Riveret (DATA61, Commonwealth Scientific and Industrial Research Organisation)  
 Mark Roberts (Naval Research Laboratory)  
 Valentin Robu (Heriot-Watt University, Edinburgh)  
 Odinaldo Rodrigues (King's College London, Department of Informatics)  
 Camino Rodriguez-Vela (University of Oviedo, Department of Computing)  
 Diederik Roijers (Vrije Universiteit Brussel, Belgium)  
 Nicoleta Rogovschi (Paris Descartes University)  
 Riccardo Rosati (Sapienza Università di Roma)  
 Ariel Rosenfeld (Bar-Ilan University)  
 Benjamin Rosman (Council for Scientific and Industrial Research, Mobile Intelligent Autonomous Systems)  
 Silvia Rossi (University of Naples Federico II)  
 Roberto Rossi (University of Edinburgh)  
 Julien Rossit (Université Sorbonne Paris Cité, LIPaDe)  
 Michael Rovatsos (University of Edinburgh)  
 Marco Roveri (Fondazione Bruno Kessler)  
 Jonathan Rowe (North Carolina State University)  
 Lamber Royackers (Eindhoven University of Technology)  
 Sasha Rubin (University of Naples, Federico II)  
 Sebastian Rudolph (TU Dresden)  
 Michel Rueher (University of Nice Sophia Antipolis, CNRS)  
 Wheeler Ruml (University of New Hampshire)  
 Alessandra Russo (Imperial College London)  
 Zalila-Wenkstern Rym (University of Texas at Dallas)  
 Krzysztof Rządca (University of Warsaw)  
 Jordi Sabater-Mir (CSIC, IIIA)  
 David Sabel (Goethe University Frankfurt)  
 Orkunt Sabuncu (TED University)  
 Abdallah Saffidine (University of New South Wales)  
 Chiaki Sakama (Wakayama University, Department of Computer Science)  
 Amirali Salehi-Abari (University of Toronto, University of Waterloo)  
 Victor Sanchez-Anguix (Coventry University)  
 Antonio Sanchez-Ruiz (Universidad Complutense de Madrid)  
 Francesco Santini (University of Perugia)  
 David Sarne (Bar-Ilan University)  
 Hiroaki Sasaki (Nara Institute of Science and Technology)  
 Taisuke Sato (National Institute of Advanced Industrial Science and Technology (AIST) JAPAN)  
 Enrico Scala (Australian National University)  
 Christian Scheible (University of Stuttgart, Insitute for Natural Language Processing)  
 Silvia Schiaffino (ISISTAN (CONICET - UNCPBA))  
 Stefan Schiffer (RWTH Aachen University, Knowledge-Based Systems Group)  
 François Schnitzler (Technicolor)  
 Marco Schorlemmer (IIIA-CSIC)  
 Carl Schultz (University of Munster)  
 Dirk Schulz (Fraunhofer Society, Institute for Communication, Information Processing and Ergonomics)  
 François Schwarzenhuber (Ecole Normale Supérieure de Rennes)  
 Christoph Schwering (The University of New South Wales, School of Computer Science and Engineering)  
 Nicolas Schwind (National Institute of Advanced Industrial Science and Technology)  
 Luís Seabra Lopes (Universidade de Aveiro, IEETA/DETI)  
 Laura Sebastia (Universitat Politècnica de Valencia)  
 Pascale Sébillot (IRISA / INSA Rennes)  
 Konstantinos Sechidis (University of Manchester, School of Computer Science)  
 Meinolf Sellmann (IBM)  
 Joao Sequeira (Instituto Superior Técnico / Institute for Systems and Robotics, University of Lisbon)  
 Luciano Serafini (Fondazione Bruno Kessler)  
 Ivan Serina (University of Brescia)  
 Mathieu Serrurier (université Paul Sabatier)  
 Khaled Shaalan (The British University in Dubai, Cairo University)  
 Nisarg Shah (University of Toronto)  
 Fanhua Shang (The Chinese University of Hong Kong)  
 Ming Shao (University of Massachusetts Dartmouth)  
 Bin Shao (Microsoft Research Asia)  
 Guni Sharon (The University of Texas at Austin)  
 Jianbing Shen (University of California, Los Angeles)  
 Yi-Dong Shen (Chinese Academy of Sciences)  
 Huawei Shen (Institute of Computing Technology, Chinese Academy of Sciences)  
 Yinghuan Shi (Nanjing University)  
 Si Si (Google Research)  
 Marius Silaghi (Florida Institute of Technology)  
 Viviane Silva (IBM Research Brazil)  
 Gerardo Simari (Universidad Nacional del Sur, CONICET)  
 Mantas Simkus (TU Wien, Institute of Information Systems)  
 Laurent Simon (LaBRI / University of Bordeaux, LaBRI / University of Bordeaux)  
 Jivko Sinapov (University of Texas at Austin)  
 Dharendra Singh (RMIT University)  
 Munindar Singh (NCSU)  
 Oskar Skibski (University of Warsaw)  
 Piotr Skowron (University of Oxford, University of Oxford)  
 Marija Slavkovic (University of Bergen)  
 Stephen F. Smith (Carnegie Mellon University, The Robotics Institute)  
 Adam Smith (UC Santa Cruz, Computational Media)  
 Marta Soare (Aalto University, Helsinki Institute of Information and Technology (HIIT))  
 Carlos Soares (Universidade do Porto, INESC TEC)  
 Eric Sodomka (Facebook)  
 Harold Soh (National University of Singapore)  
 Leeb-Kiat Soh (University of Nebraska-Lincoln, USA)  
 Dongjin Song (NEC Labs America)  
 Daniel Sonntag (DFKI)  
 Rok Susic (Stanford University)

Axel Soto (University of Manchester)  
 Ricardo Sousa (INESCTEC/LIAAD)  
 Mudhakar Srivatsa (IBM TJ Watson Research Center)  
 Jörg Stückler (RWTH Aachen University)  
 Kostas Stergiou (University of Western Macedonia, Department of Informatics and Telecommunications Engineering)  
 Roni Stern (Ben Gurion University of the Negev)  
 Christian Straßer (Ruhr-University Bochum)  
 Hannes Strass (Leipzig University, Computer Science Institute)  
 Heiner Stuckenschmidt (University of Mannheim)  
 Peng Su (Dali University)  
 Enrique Sucar (INAOE)  
 Mahito Sugiyama (Osaka University)  
 Yizhou Sun (UCLA)  
 Ke Sun (King Abdullah University of Science and Technology)  
 Xinghai Sun (Baidu Research)  
 Baochen Sun (Microsoft AI and Research Group)  
 Yu Sun (Yahoo! Inc)  
 Ranjini Swaminathan (Texas Tech University, Climate Science Center)  
 Samarth Swarup (Virginia Tech)  
 Guido Tack (Monash University, Faculty of Information Technology)  
 Nimrod Talmon (Weizmann Institute of Science)  
 Alireza Tamaddoni-Nezhad (Imperial College London)  
 Shulong Tan (Baidu Research)  
 Xiaoyang Tan (Nanjing University of Aeronautics and Astronautics)  
 Ke Tang (University of Science and Technology of China)  
 Yi Tang (Yunnan Minzu University)  
 Jian Tang (University of Michigan)  
 Jing Tang (Teesside University)  
 Duyu Tang (microsoft research)  
 Florent Teichteil-Koenigsbuch (Airbus Group Innovations)  
 Alexandre Termier (University of Rennes 1, IRISA lab)  
 Andrea G. B. Tettamanzi (Université Nice Sophia Antipolis, I3S Laboratory)  
 Philippe Thomas (German Research Center for Artificial Intelligence)  
 Michael Thomazo (Inria, LIX - Ecole Polytechnique)  
 Yingjie Tian (University of Chinese Academy of Sciences, University of Chinese Academy of Sciences)  
 Qing Tian (Nanjing University of Information Science & Technology)  
 Kai Ming Ting (Federation University)  
 Julian Togelius (New York University)  
 David Toman (University of Waterloo, Cheriton School of Computer Science)  
 Alice Toniolo (University of St Andrews, School of Computer Science)  
 Luís Torgo (University of Porto)  
 Alvaro Torralba (Saarland University, Saarland University Campus)  
 Antonio Torralba (Massachusetts Institute of Technology, USA)  
 Alejandro Torreño (Universitat Politècnica de València)  
 Jose Torres Jimenez (CINVESTAV Tamaulipas)  
 Paolo Torrioni (University of Bologna, Department of Computer Science and Engineering)  
 Gianluca Torta (Università di Torino, Dipartimento di Informatica)  
 Long Tran-Thanh (University of Southampton)  
 Tomas Trescak (Western Sydney University)  
 Felipe Trevizan (NICTA, Australian National University)  
 Allan Tucker (Brunel University London)  
 Marco Turchi (Fondazione Bruno Kessler)  
 Anni-Yasmin Turhan (TU Dresden, Institute for Theoretical Computer Science)  
 Paolo Turrini (Imperial College London)  
 Iddo Tzameret (Royal Holloway, University of London)  
 Nikolaos Tziortziotis (Ecole Polytechnique, Computer Science Laboratory (LIX))  
 Federico Ulliana (Montpellier University)  
 Tommaso Urli (CSIRO Data61, Australian National University)  
 Satya Gautam Vadlamudi (Capillary Technologies)  
 Rafael Valencia (Carnegie Mellon University, Robotics Institute)  
 Rick Valenzano (University of Toronto)  
 Mauro Vallati (University of Huddersfield)  
 Petko Valtchev (University of Quebec in Montreal, CS department)  
 Peter van beek (University of Waterloo)  
 Linda van der Gaag (Utrecht University, Department of Information and Computing Sciences)  
 Leon van der Torre (University of Luxembourg)  
 Jan Van Haaren (SciSports, KU Leuven)  
 Herke Van Hoof (McGill University)  
 Martijn van Otterlo (Vrije Universiteit Amsterdam, FEWEB/AAA-data-science)  
 Marc van Zee (University of Luxembourg)  
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# Awards and Distinguished Papers

The IJCAI-17 Award for Research Excellence, the John McCarthy Award and the Computers and Thought Award are awarded by the IJCAI Board of Trustees, upon recommendation by the IJCAI-17 Awards Selection Committee, which consists this year of

- Craig Boutilier, University of Toronto (CANADA) and Google (USA)
- Yolanda Gil, University of Southern California (USA)
- Joelle Pineau, McGill University (CANADA)
- Francesca Rossi, University of Padova (ITALY) and
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The IJCAI Awards Selection Committee receives advice from members of the IJCAI-17 Awards Review Committee, who comment on the accuracy of the nomination material and provide additional information about the nominees. The IJCAI-17 Awards Review Committee is the union of the former Trustees of IJCAI, the IJCAI-17 Advisory Committee, the Program Chairs of the last three IJCAI conferences, and the past recipients of the IJCAI Award for Research Excellence and the IJCAI Distinguished Service Award, with nominees excluded.

## IJCAI-17 Award for Research Excellence:

The Research Excellence award is given to a scientist who has carried out a program of research of consistently high quality throughout an entire career yielding several substantial results. Past recipients of this honor are the most illustrious group of scientists from the field of Artificial Intelligence.

They are: John McCarthy (1985), Allen Newell (1989), Marvin Minsky (1991), Raymond Reiter (1993), Herbert Simon (1995), Aravind Joshi (1997), Judea Pearl (1999), Donald Michie (2001), Nils Nilsson (2003), Geoffrey E. Hinton (2005), Alan Bundy (2007), Victor Lesser (2009), Robert Anthony Kowalski (2011), Hector Levesque (2013), Barbara Grosz (2015), and Michael I. Jordan (2016).

The winner of the 2017 Award for Research Excellence is Andrew Barto, Professor Emeritus, College of Information and Computer Sciences, University of Massachusetts Amherst. Professor Barto is recognized for his groundbreaking and impactful research in both the theory and application of reinforcement learning.

## **IJCAI-17 Computers and Thought Award:**

The Computers and Thought Award is presented at IJCAI conferences to outstanding young scientists in artificial intelligence. The award was established with royalties received from the book, *Computers and Thought*, edited by Edward Feigenbaum and Julian Feldman. It is currently supported by income from IJCAI funds. Past recipients of this honor have been: Terry Winograd (1971), Patrick Winston (1973), Chuck Rieger (1975), Douglas Lenat (1977), David Marr (1979), Gerald Sussman (1981), Tom Mitchell (1983), Hector Levesque (1985), Johan de Kleer (1987), Henry Kautz (1989), Rodney Brooks (1991), Martha Pollack (1991), Hiroaki Kitano (1993), Sarit Kraus (1995), Stuart Russell (1995), Leslie Kaelbling (1997), Nicholas Jennings (1999), Daphne Koller (2001), Tuomas Sandholm (2003), Peter Stone (2007), Carlos Guestrin (2009), Andrew Ng (2009), Vincent Conitzer (2011), Malte Helmert (2011), Kristen Grauman (2013), Ariel Procaccia (2015), and Percy Liang (2016).

The winner of the 2017 IJCAI Computers and Thought Award is Devi Parikh, Assistant Professor at School of Interactive Computing, Georgia Institute of Technology. Professor Parikh is recognized for her contributions at the intersection of words, pictures, and common sense --- from semantic image understanding, to the use of visual attributes for human-machine collaboration and visual abstractions for learning common sense, to enabling humans to interact with visual content via natural language.

## **IJCAI-17 John McCarthy Award:**

The IJCAI John McCarthy Award is intended to recognize established mid-career researchers, typically between fifteen to twenty-five years after obtaining their PhD, that have built up a major track record of research excellence in artificial

intelligence. Nominees of the award will have made significant contributions to the research agenda in their area and will have a first-rate profile of influential research results.

The award is named for John McCarthy (1927-2011), who is widely recognized as one of the founders of the field of artificial intelligence. As well as giving the discipline its name, McCarthy made fundamental contributions of lasting importance to computer science in general and artificial intelligence in particular, including time-sharing operating systems, the LISP programming languages, knowledge representation, common-sense reasoning, and the logicist paradigm in artificial intelligence.

The award was established with the full support and encouragement of the McCarthy family.

Past recipients of this honor have been: Bart Selman (2015) and Moshe Tennenholtz (2016).

The winner of the 2017 John McCarthy Award is Dan Roth, The Beckman Institute, University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign. Professor Roth is recognized for major conceptual and theoretical advances in the modeling of natural language understanding, machine learning and reasoning.

## **Donald E. Walker Distinguished Service Award:**

The IJCAI Distinguished Service Award was established in 1979 by the IJCAI Trustees to honor senior scientists in AI for contributions and service to the field during their careers. Previous recipients have been: Bernard Meltzer (1979), Arthur Samuel (1983), Donald Walker (1989), Woodrow Bledsoe (1991), Daniel G. Bobrow (1993), Wolfgang Bibel (1999), Barbara Grosz (2001), Alan Bundy (2003), Raj Reddy (2005), Ronald J. Brachman (2007), Luigia Carlucci Aiello (2009), Raymond C. Perrault (2011), Wolfgang Wahlster (2013), Anthony G. Cohn (2015), and Erik Sandewall (2016).

At IJCAI-17, the Donald E. Walker Distinguished Service Award will be given to Ramon López de Mántaras, Research Professor of the Spanish National Research Council (CSIC) and Director of the Artificial Intelligence Research Institute of the CSIC. Professor López de Mántaras is recognized for his substantial contributions, as well as his extensive service to the field of Artificial Intelligence throughout his career.

## **Distinguished Papers**

### **Finalists for Distinguished Paper**

Mark Kaminski, Bernardo Cuenca Grau, Egor V. Kostylev, Boris Motik, Ian Horrocks: Foundations of Declarative Data Analysis Using Limit Datalog Programs

Abstract: Motivated by applications in declarative data analysis, we study DatalogZ---an extension of positive Datalog with arithmetic functions over integers. This language is known to be undecidable, so we propose two fragments. In limit DatalogZ predicates are axiomatised to keep minimal/maximal numeric values, allowing us to show that fact

entailment is  $\text{coNExpTime}$ -complete in combined, and  $\text{coNP}$ -complete in data complexity. Moreover, an additional stability requirement causes the complexity to drop to  $\text{ExpTime}$  and  $\text{PTime}$ , respectively. Finally, we show that stable  $\text{DataLogZ}$  can express many useful data analysis tasks, and so our results provide a sound foundation for the development of advanced information systems.

Frédéric Koriche, Sylvain Lagrue, Éric Piette, Sébastien Tabary: Constraint-Based Symmetry Detection in General Game Playing

Abstract: Symmetry detection is a promising approach for reducing the search tree of games. In General Game Playing (GGP), where any game is compactly represented by a set of rules in the Game Description Language (GDL), the state-of-the-art methods for symmetry detection rely on a rule graph associated with the GDL description of the game. Though such rule-based symmetry detection methods can be applied to various tree search algorithms, they cover only a limited number of symmetries which are apparent in the GDL description. In this paper, we develop an alternative approach to symmetry detection in stochastic games that exploits constraint programming techniques. The minimax optimization problem in a GDL game is cast as a stochastic constraint satisfaction problem (SCSP), which can be viewed as a sequence of one-stage SCSPs. Minimax symmetries are inferred according to their microstructure complement of these one-stage constraint networks. Based on a theoretical analysis of this approach, we experimentally show on various games that the recent stochastic constraint solver MAC-UCB, coupled with constraint-based symmetry detection, significantly outperforms the standard Monte Carlo Tree Search algorithms, coupled with rule-based symmetry detection. This constraint-driven approach is also validated by the excellent results obtained by our player during the last GGP competition.

Yong Luo, Yonggang Wen, Tongliang Liu, Dacheng Tao: General Heterogeneous Transfer Distance Metric Learning via Knowledge Fragments Transfer

Abstract: Transfer learning aims to improve the performance of target learning task by leveraging information (or transferring knowledge) from other related tasks. Recently, transfer distance metric learning (TDML) has attracted lots of interests, but most of these methods assume that feature representations for the source and target learning tasks are the same. Hence, they are not suitable for the applications, in which the data are from heterogeneous domains (feature spaces, modalities and even semantics). Although some existing heterogeneous transfer learning (HTL) approaches are able to handle such domains, they lack flexibility in real-world applications, and the learned transformations are often restricted to be linear. We therefore develop a general and flexible heterogeneous TDML (HTDML) framework based on the knowledge fragment transfer strategy. In the proposed HTDML, any (linear or nonlinear) distance metric learning al-

gorithms can be employed to learn the source metric beforehand. Then a set of knowledge fragments are extracted from the pre-learned source metric to help target metric learning. In addition, either linear or nonlinear distance metric can be learned for the target domain. Extensive experiments on both scene classification and object recognition demonstrate superiority of the proposed method.

### Finalists for Distinguished Student Paper

Chaoyue Wang, Chaohui Wang, Chang Xu, Dacheng Tao: Tag Disentangled Generative Adversarial Network for Object Image Re-rendering

Abstract: In this paper, we propose a principled Tag Disentangled Generative Adversarial Networks (TD-GAN) for re-rendering new images for the object of interest from a single image of it by specifying multiple scene properties (such as viewpoint, illumination, expression, etc.). The whole framework consists of a disentangling network, a generative network, a tag mapping net, and a discriminative network, which are trained jointly based on a given set of images that are completely/partially tagged (i.e., supervised/semi-supervised setting). Given an input image, the disentangling network extracts disentangled and interpretable representations, which are then used to generate images by the generative network. In order to boost the quality of disentangled representations, the tag mapping net is integrated to explore the consistency between the image and its tags. Furthermore, the discriminative network is introduced to implement the adversarial training strategy for generating more realistic images. Experiments on two challenging datasets demonstrate the state-of-the-art performance of the proposed framework in the problem of interest.

Wei-Cheng Chang, Chun-Liang Li, Yiming Yang, Barnabas Póczos: Data-driven Random Fourier Features using Stein Effect

Abstract: Large-scale kernel approximation is an important problem in machine learning research. Approaches using random Fourier features have become increasingly popular, where kernel approximation is treated as empirical mean estimation via Monte Carlo (MC) or Quasi-Monte Carlo (QMC) integration. A limitation of the current approaches is that all the features receive an equal weight summing to 1. In this paper, we propose a novel shrinkage estimator from "Stein effect", which provides a data-driven weighting strategy for random features and enjoys theoretical justifications in terms of lowering the empirical risk. We further present an efficient randomized algorithm for large-scale applications of the proposed method. Our empirical results on six benchmark data sets demonstrate the advantageous performance of this approach over representative baselines in both kernel approximation and supervised learning tasks.

Yanyu Xu, Nianyi Li, Junru Wu, Jingyi Yu, Shenghua Gao: Beyond Universal Saliency: Personalized Saliency Prediction

with Multi-task CNN

Abstract: Saliency detection is a long standing problem in computer vision. Tremendous efforts have been focused on exploring a universal saliency model across users despite their differences in gender, race, age, etc. Yet recent psychology studies suggest that saliency is highly specific than universal: individuals exhibit heterogeneous gaze patterns when viewing an identical scene containing multiple salient objects.

In this paper, we first show that such heterogeneity is common and critical for reliable saliency prediction. Our study also produces the first database of personalized saliency maps (PSMs). We model PSM based on universal saliency map (USM) shared by different participants and adopt a multi-task CNN framework to estimate the discrepancy between PSM and USM. Comprehensive experiments demonstrate that our new PSM model and prediction scheme are effective and reliable.

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This volume contains the proceedings of the twenty-sixth IJCAI conference. The locations and times of all 26 IJCAI conferences are as follows:

- 26 IJCAI-17: Melbourne, Australia (August 19-25)
- 25 IJCAI-16: New York, USA (July 9-15)
- 24 IJCAI-15: Buenos Aires, Argentina (July 25--31)
- 23 IJCAI-13: Beijing, China (August 3--9)
- 22 IJCAI-11: Barcelona, Catalonia, Spain (July 16--22)
- 21 IJCAI-09: Pasadena, California, USA (July 11--17)
- 20 IJCAI-07: Hyderabad, India (January 6--12)
- 19 IJCAI-05: Edinburgh, Scotland (July 30--August 5)
- 18 IJCAI-03: Acapulco, Mexico (August 9--15)
- 17 IJCAI-01: Seattle, Washington, USA (August 4--10)
- 16 IJCAI-99: Stockholm, Sweden (July 31--August 6)
- 15 IJCAI-97: Nagoya, Japan (August 23--29)
- 14 IJCAI-95: Montreal, Canada (August 20--25)
- 13 IJCAI-93: Chambéry, France (August 28--September 3)
- 12 IJCAI-91: Sydney, Australia (August 24--30)
- 11 IJCAI-89: Detroit, Michigan, USA (August 20--26)
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- 4 IJCAI-75: Tbilisi, Georgia, USSR (September 3--8)
- 3 IJCAI-73: Stanford, California, USA (August 20--23)
- 2 IJCAI-71: London, UK (September 1--3)
- 1 IJCAI-69: Washington, D.C., USA (May 7--9)