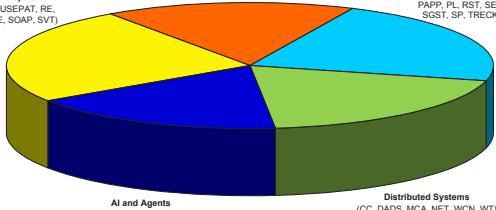


# 2016 Symposium on Applied Computing

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PAPP, PL, RST, SEC,  
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## Main Menu



**Committee**



**Sponsor**



**Chair Messages**



**Keynote Speakers**



**Tutorials**



Association for  
Computing Machinery

*Advancing Computing as a Science & Profession*

**Pisa, Italy**  
**April 4-8, 2016**



**Table of Contents**



**Keyword Index**



**Author Index**



**Reviewer Index**

# **The 31<sup>st</sup> Annual ACM Symposium on Applied Computing**

Pisa, Italy  
April 4-8, 2016

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## **Message from the Symposium Chairs**

**Sascha Ossowski**  
*Conference Chair*

**Giorgio Buttazzo**  
*Conference Vice-Chair*

**Alessio Bechini**  
*Conference Vice-Chair*

On behalf of the Organizing Committee, we welcome you to the 31st Annual ACM Symposium on Applied Computing (SAC 2016), jointly hosted by University of Pisa and Scuola Superiore S. Anna, both in Pisa, Italy. For more than three decades this international forum has been dedicated to computer scientists, engineers, and practitioners for the purpose of presenting their research findings and results in various areas of applied computing. The organizing committee is grateful for your participation in this exciting international event. We hope that this conference proves interesting and beneficial for all of you. The Symposium on Applied Computing is sponsored by the ACM Special Interest Group on Applied Computing (SIGAPP), whose mission is to further the interests of computing professionals engaged in the design and development of new computing applications, interdisciplinary applications areas, and applied research. This conference is dedicated to the study of applied computing research of real-world problems. In addition, this event provides an avenue to discuss and exchange new ideas in the wide spectrum of applied computing areas. We all recognize the importance of updating the latest developments and research in our current areas of expertise.

SAC 2016 offers Technical Tracks and Poster Sessions. The success of the conference can be attributed to the substantial contribution of dedicated Track Chairs and Co-Chairs. Each track maintains a program committee and a set of highly qualified reviewers. We wish to thank the Track Chairs, Co-Chairs, Committee Members and participating reviewers for their hard work and effort to make SAC 2016 a high quality conference. We also thank our invited keynote speakers, Dr. John Mylopoulos (University of Toronto, Canada, and University of Trento, Italy) and Dr. Marco Conti (Institute of Informatics and Telematics, Italian National Council for Research, Pisa, Italy) for sharing their knowledge and expertise with SAC 2016 attendees. Most of all, we would like to especially thank the authors and presenters for sharing their experience with the rest of us, and all attendees for joining us in Pisa, Italy this year.

The local organizing committee has been a major contributor to the success of the SAC 2016 conference. Our gratitude goes to the Local Arrangement Chair Dr. Ettore Ricciardi, ISTI-CNR, Pisa, Italy. We extend our thanks to the Publication Chair, Dr. John Kim, Utica College, Utica, New York, USA, for his tremendous effort in putting together the conference proceedings, to the Posters Chair, Dr. Chih-Cheng Hung, Kennesaw University, Marietta, Georgia, USA, for his hard work to make a successful Poster Program, and to the Tutorials Chair Dr. Francesco Marcelloni, University of Pisa, Pisa, Italy, for arranging an exciting set of Tutorials. A big “thank you” also goes to Dr. Hossain Shahriar, Kennesaw University, Marietta, Georgia, USA, for organising the Student Research Competition, as well as to Dr. Hisham Haddad, Kennesaw University, Marietta, Georgia, USA, for simultaneously playing the roles of treasurer, registrar and webmaster (and many more). Special thanks to our Program Co-Chairs: Dr. Jiman Hong, Soongsil University, Seoul, Korea, and Dr. Maria Lencastre, University of Pernambuco, Recife, Pernambuco, Brazil for coordinating and bringing together an excellent Technical Program.

Again, we welcome you to SAC 2016 in the beautiful city of Pisa, Italy. We hope you enjoy the SAC 2016 conference and your stay in Italy. Next year, we invite you to participate in SAC 2017 to be held in Marrakech, Morocco. The conference will be hosted jointly by the University of Quebec at Montreal, Canada, University Cadi Ayyad of Marrakech, Morocco, the National School in Engineering (EMI) in Rabat, Morocco, and the National School of Applied Sciences (ENSA) in Kenitra, Morocco.

## Message from the Program Chairs

Jiman Hong

*Soongsil University  
Seoul, South Korea*

Maria Lencastre

*University of Pernambuco  
Recife, Pernambuco, Brazil*

Welcome to the 31st International Symposium on Applied Computing (SAC 2016). For the past 30 years, SAC has become a major international venue for computing researchers and applied practitioners to convene and share ideas on recent developments in a variety of applied areas of information technology. The success of SAC has been the consolidation of a wide range of applied areas into specialized modules called Tracks. Each of the Tracks is then organized and administered by experts in the respective areas by instituting program committees, carrying out blind reviews according to the ACM guidelines, and finally selecting the highly qualified papers for the Track. Since its inception eight years ago, the Poster Sessions at SAC have become a tradition, and this year again the Poster will be an integral part of the Technical Program at SAC 2016.

The open Call for Track Proposals and after prescreening the proposals, 37 Tracks were finally accepted for SAC 2016. The prescreening and selections were made based on the success of those Tracks in the previous SACs as well as targeting new and emerging areas. The Call for Papers for these Tracks attracted 1047 final paper submissions from 58 different countries. The submitted papers underwent the blind review process and 252 submissions were finally accepted as full papers for inclusion in the Conference Proceedings and presentation during the Symposium. The final acceptance rate for SAC 2016 is 24.07% for the overall track. In addition to the accepted full papers, 111 submissions that received high enough review scores were accepted as poster papers for the Posters program. The Student Research Competition (SRC) program, sponsored by Microsoft Research, is designed to provide graduate students the opportunity to meet and exchange ideas with researchers and practitioners in their areas of interest. 47 submissions received and finally 22 papers were accepted for the SRC program.

The Technical Program of SAC 2016 is made possible through the hard work of many people from the scientific community who have volunteered and committed many hours to make it a success. Much credit goes to all Track Chairs for making SAC 2016 Technical Sessions a huge success. Some of the popular Tracks had an unprecedented submissions and having three blind reviews for each paper was certainly a major challenge. Once again this year, we follow the previous years' tradition in organizing various tracks into five different themes. The Symposium Proceedings and the technical presentations are focused around these themes to form a series of related track sessions. On behalf of the entire SAC 2016 Organizing Committee, we congratulate all the authors for having their papers accepted in their respective Tracks, and we wish to thank all of those who made this year's technical program a great success. Specifically, we wish to thank the speakers, posters chair, track chairs, reviewers, technical program committee members, session chairs, presenters, and all the attendees. We also wish to convey our special thanks to the local organizing committee lead by Dr. Giorgio Buttazzo from Scuola Superiore Sant'Anna, Pisa, Italy, Dr. Alessio Bechini from Scuola Superiore Sant'Anna, Pisa, Italy, Dr. Francesco Marcelloni from University of Pisa, Pisa, Italy, and Dr. Ettore Ricciardi from ISTI-CNR, Pisa, Italy. We wish you all a pleasant stay in Pisa, hope you have a great time at SAC 2016, and you will have the opportunity to share and exchange your ideas and foster new collaborations. We would also like to take this opportunity to convey to you the news that the 32nd International Symposium on Applied Computing (SAC 2017) will be held in the historic city of Marrakech, Morocco, which was declared a UNESCO World Heritage Site. We hope to see you all at SAC 2017.

# **Keynote Presentation: The Requirements Problem in Software Engineering**

**John Mylopoulos**

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## **ABSTRACT**

The requirements problem is the problem of deriving a specification consisting of functions and quality constraints that along with a set of domain assumptions satisfy a given set of requirements. We present several formulations of the requirements problem to account for changing requirements, adaptive software design and the next release problem. In each case, we discuss the tractability of algorithms that search spaces of alternatives to find Pareto-optimal solutions to the problem. This is joint work with many colleagues and students, including Roberto Sebastiani, Paolo Giorgini, Fatma Aydemir, Chi Mai Nguyen (UniTN), Neil Ernst (CMU), Alex Borgida (Rutgers) and Ivan Jureta (Namur).

## **BIOGRAPHY**

Dr. John Mylopoulos holds a professor emeritus position at the Universities of Toronto and Trento. He earned a PhD degree from Princeton University in 1970 and joined the faculty of the Department of Computer Science at the University of Toronto the same year. His research interests include conceptual modelling, requirements engineering, data semantics and knowledge management. Mylopoulos is a fellow of the Association for the Advancement of Artificial Intelligence (AAAI) and the Royal Society of Canada (Academy of Applied Sciences). He has served as programme/general chair of international conferences in Artificial Intelligence, Databases and Software Engineering, including IJCAI (1991), Requirements Engineering (1997, 2011), and VLDB (2004). Mylopoulos is currently leading a project titled "Lucretius: Foundations for Software Evolution", funded by an advanced grant from the European Research Council.

# **Keynote Presentation: From MANET to People-centric Computing and Communications**

**Marco Conti**

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*National Research Council (CNR)*

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## **ABSTRACT**

In this talk, we first discuss the evolution of the multi-hop ad hoc networking paradigm from MANET to the emerging people-centric networking, where personal mobile devices link the cyber-world with the physical world. People-centric networking leads immediately to emerging localized communication and computing services that are tightly coupled with people and their devices (e.g., mobile data offloading, opportunistic computing, etc.). In the second part of the talk, we discuss how the human behavior (e.g., human social organization) and its cognitive constraints can affect computing and communications in the cyber-physical world. Specifically, we show how embedding models of human behavior into information dissemination protocols can optimize information diffusion.

## **BIOGRAPHY**

Dr. Marco Conti is a Research Director of the Italian National Research Council (CNR) and, currently, he is the Director of the CNR Department of Engineering, ICT and Technologies for Energy and Transportation. He has published in journals and conference proceedings more than 350 research papers related to design, modelling, and experimentation of computer networks, future Internet, social networks and pervasive computing systems. He co-authored the books: "Metropolitan Area Networks (MANs): Architectures, Protocols and Performance Evaluation" (Springer 1997) and "Online Social Networks: Human Cognitive Constraints in Facebook and Twitter Personal Graphs" (Elsevier, 2015), and he is co-editor of the books: "Mobile Ad hoc networking: the cutting edge technologies," (IEEE-Wiley 2013), "Mobile Ad Hoc Networking" (IEEE-Wiley 2004), and Mobile Ad Hoc Networks: from Theory to Reality (Nova Science Publishers 2007). He is Editor-in-Chief of Elsevier *Computer Communications* journal and Associate Editor-in-Chief of Elsevier *Pervasive and Mobile Computing* journal. He received the best paper award at several conferences, including IFIP TC6 Networking 2011 and IEEE WoWMoM 2013. He served as TPC chair for several major conferences -- including IFIP Networking 2002, IEEE WoWMoM 2005, IEEE PerCom 2006, and ACM MobiHoc 2006 -- and he was general chair (among many others) for IEEE WoWMoM 2006, IEEE MASS 2007 and IEEE PerCom 2010. He is the founder of successful conference and workshop series, such as *ACM RealMAN*, *IEEE AOC*, *ACM MobiOpp*, and *IFIP/IEEE SustainIT*.

# Tutorial Presentation: Multimedia Information Retrieval on a Very Large Scale

**Giuseppe Amato**

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**Fabrizio Falchi**

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**Claudio Gennaro**

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## ABSTRACT

The tutorial first gives an overview of the most popular and effective visual features for content based retrieval: global visual descriptors, local visual descriptors, and deep/CNN features. Then, it introduces techniques able execute feature based similarity retrieval very efficiently, in datasets containing hundred millions images, with limited computing and storage resources. Similarity search is a difficult task because efficient techniques to process database or text queries cannot be applied here. Therefore in the last decades researcher have investigated techniques for executing similarity search efficiently and in a scalable way. The tutorial introduces state of the art techniques for similarity searching, as for instance LSH and permutation based methods. Finally, the tutorial discusses how the above concepts can be put in practice using Open Source solutions. It introduces the OpenCV library, which offers various tools for image analysis and feature extraction. It also discusses how Lucene, an open source text retrieval engine, can be easily used to index and search for visual information.

## BIOGRAPHY

**Giuseppe Amato** graduated in Computer Science at the University of Pisa, Italy, in 1992 and was awarded a PhD in Computer Science at the University of Dortmund, Germany, in 2002. His main research interests are content-based retrieval of multimedia documents, access methods for similarity search of multimedia documents. He has participated in several EC and national funded research actions in the area of multimedia information retrieval.

**Fabrizio Falchi** has a Ph.D. in Information Engineering from University of Pisa (Italy), and a Ph.D. in Informatics from Faculty of Informatics of Masaryk University of Brno (Czech Republic). He also received an M.B.A. from Scuola Superiore Sant'Anna in Pisa. His research interests include similarity search, distributed indexes, multimedia information retrieval, computer vision, peer-to-peer systems. He has participated in several EC and National research projects.

**Claudio Gennaro** received the "Laurea" degree in Electronic Engineering from the University of Pisa, Italy, in 1994 and Master Degree in Information Technology at CEFRIEL of Milan. He received PhD Degree in Computer Engineering and Automatica in 1999 from Politecnico di Milano. His main interests are: Access Structures for Multimedia Retrieval, Digital Libraries, Model of Metadata for Audio/Video. Claudio Gennaro has had considerable previous experience in participation of European projects.

## ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

This tutorial was partially supported by EAGLE, Europeana network of Ancient Greek and Latin Epigraphy, co-founded by the European Commission, CIPICT-PSP.2012.2.1 - Europeana and creativity, Grant Agreement n. 325122.

# **Tutorial Presentation: Mining (Streams of) Networked Data**

**Michelangelo Ceci**

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**João Gama**

*LIAAD-INESC  
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## **ABSTRACT**

Networks have become ubiquitous in several social, economics and scientific fields, ranging from the Internet to social sciences, biology, epidemiology, geography, communication systems, finance and many others. For this reason, several data mining approaches, specifically designed for tackling predictive and descriptive tasks for network data, have been proposed. In this tutorial, from one side, we intend to introduce the various forms of autocorrelation in network data and present the challenges that they pose to traditional data mining algorithms. To this aim, we will discuss different approaches that allow us to consider network autocorrelation either explicitly (with new heuristics) or implicitly (leveraging collective and semi-supervised/transductive learning which exploit the smoothness assumption). From the other side, we aim to provide the audience with a survey and a comparison of different problems arising when facing with networked data that evolve over time. The challenges in mining high speed network streams, require new algorithms. In this tutorial, we will present algorithms based on different window models and sampling strategies for networked streaming data. We will present methods to track the evolution of communities, identifying major events in these communities. The tutorial will conclude with a review of some practical applications of the presented methods in the areas of functional genomics, sensor networks, social networks, telecommunications, CRM, etc.

## **BIOGRAPHY**

Michelangelo Ceci received a "Laurea" degree from the University of Bari in 2001. In 2005 he received his Ph.D. degree in Computer Science from the same University. Currently, he is associate professor at the University of Bari. His main research interests are in data mining and machine learning from complex and networked data. He was a visiting researcher at the University of Bristol (U.K.) and at the JSI (SLO). He has published more than 140 papers in refereed journals and conferences. He is member of the editorial boards of: IJSNM, IJDSN, IJDATS and JAIS. He has been the program co-chair of five workshops, the organizing committee chair of SEBD 2007, member of the editorial committee of "Intelligenza Artificiale" and member of the guest editorial board of the ECMLPKDD 2014-2016 journal tracks. He is Co-Chair of DS 2016 and ECMLPKDD 2017.

João Gama received his Licenciado degree from the Fac. of Engineering of the University of Porto, Portugal. In 2000 he received his Ph.D. degree in Computer Science from the Faculty of Sciences of the same University. Currently, he is Associate Professor at the Faculty of Economy and senior researcher at LIAAD - INESC Porto. He authored more than 200 papers in areas of machine learning, data streams and adaptive learning systems. He is a member of the editorial board of international journals including ML, DMKD, TKDE, NGC, and IDA. He served as Co-chair of ECML 2005, DS 2009, ADMA09, IDA 2011, ECMLPKDD 2015 and a series of Workshops on KDDS and Knowledge Discovery from Sensor Data with ACM SIGKDD. He is author of a recent book on Knowledge Discovery from Data Streams.

# **Tutorial Presentation: Secure and Reliable Mobile Applications: Challenges and Approaches**

**Hossain Shahriar**

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## **ABSTRACT**

An increasing number of mobile applications are being developed to meet various needs of end users including SMS messaging, social networking, and game playing. It has been estimated that the revenues from mobile applications are expected to rise globally from \$68Bn in 2013 to \$143Bn in 2016. Android has become the leading smartphone Operating System in the world and currently occupying more than 50% of the global market share of smartphone. Unfortunately, this emerging area is not free from security and reliability issues.

Many of developed mobile applications contain vulnerabilities that may be exploited to cause unwanted actions. Reports find that 92% of Android's top 500 popular applications are vulnerable to some extent of security or privacy risk. Malware on a smartphone can make a phone partially or fully unusable, cause unwanted billing, or steal contact information stored in a phonebook. Further, benign applications may contain vulnerabilities due to the lack of developer knowledge and malware applications can exploit the known vulnerabilities by providing malicious inputs. Android applications may suffer from resource leakage. Particularly, memory leak can occur when users navigate applications in devices through screen rotation and pressing of built-in buttons leading to the crash of applications.

This tutorial is intended to provide a basic overview of Android applications, malware engineering, classification of malware, and mitigation approaches. We also explore content leakage vulnerability that may lead to security breaches and memory leakage that may cause an application to crash. The tutorial consists of three major parts. In the first part, we provide an overview of built in security features of Android followed by a set of common malware types. We then provide an overview of recent development to combat against malware. In the second part, we introduce the content leakage vulnerability in android applications. We show examples of best programming practices to reduce the exposure of content leakage issue. In the third part, we address the memory leak issue. We discuss future research directions. The discussion would argue that existing tools can address the challenge for building reliable and secure applications partially.

## **BIOGRAPHY**

Dr. Hossain Shahriar is currently an Assistant Professor of Information Technology Department at Kennesaw State University, Georgia, USA. His research interests include software, web and mobile application security, malware analysis, mitigation of vulnerabilities based on information theory, risk analysis based on metrics. Dr. Shahriar has published over 50 peer reviewed journals, conference papers and book chapters. He served as Program Chair in SIN 2016, Workshop Co-Chair in SIN 2015, Fast Abstract Chair in IEEE COMPSAC 2015, and PC member in international conferences such as ACM SAC, SIN, and COMPSAC. Dr. Shahriar is currently a member of the ACM, SIGAPP, and IEEE.

# Tutorial Presentation: Development of Correct-by-Construction Functional Parallel Programs

Frédéric Loulergue

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## ABSTRACT

With the current generalization of parallel architectures and increasing requirement of parallel computation arises the concern of applying formal methods, which allow specifications of parallel and distributed programs to be precisely stated and the conformance of an implementation to be verified using mathematical techniques. However, the complexity of parallel programs, compared to sequential ones, makes them more error-prone and difficult to verify. This calls for a strongly structured form of parallelism, which should not only be equipped with an abstraction or model that conceals much of the complexity of parallel computation, but also provides systematic way of developing such parallelism from specifications for practically nontrivial examples.

Program calculation is a kind of program transformation based on the theory of constructive algorithms. An efficient program is derived step-by-step through a sequence of transformations that preserve the meaning and hence the correctness. With suitable data-structures, program calculation can be used for writing parallel programs.

The SyDPaCC system is a set of libraries for the proof assistant Coq (<http://coq.inria.fr>) that allows to write naive (i.e. inefficient) functional programs then to transform them into efficient versions that could be automatically parallelized within the framework before being extracted from Coq to code in the functional language OCaml plus calls to the parallel functional programming library Bulk Synchronous Parallel ML. The tutorial is an introduction both to Coq (ACM Software System Award in 2013} and the SyDPaCC system for the systematic development of *correct and verified parallel programs*.

## BIOGRAPHY

Frédéric Loulergue obtained his PhD in Computer Science from the University of Orléans in 2000 and his Habilitation in Computer Science from Université Paris Val-de-Marne in 2004. He is currently a full professor at Université d'Orléans. His research interests are the practical and formal aspects of the design, implementation and application, in particular to large-scale data-intensive software, of structured parallel programming languages and libraries. He co-organized the series of international workshop on High-Level Parallel Programming and Applications (HLPP) between 2003 and 2010 and is now a member of its steering committee. In 2004, he created the series of international workshops on Practical Aspects of High-Level Parallel Programming (PAPP), and he has (co)-organized several PAPP workshops since then. He is a member of the editorial board of Scalable Computing: Practice and Experience, and Technique et Science Informatiques. He is currently the head of the Logic Modelling and Verification (LMV) research team at LIFO.

# Tutorial Presentation: Context in Recommender Systems

**Yong Zheng**  
*DePaul University*  
*Chicago, USA*  
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## ABSTRACT

Recommender system (RS) is able to alleviate the information overload problem and assist user's decision makings by recommending appropriate information to the end users. It has been widely applied in several applications, such as Amazon.com, Facebook, Netflix, etc. Context-aware recommender system (CARS) is a novel type of RS trying to adapt their recommendations to users' specific contextual situations, such as time and location. Accordingly, recommendation algorithms in CARS additionally take contexts into consideration, in contrast to the traditional recommendation approaches. Researchers believe that recommendations cannot stand alone without considering contexts, since users' preferences are always changing from contexts to contexts. For example, you may choose a romantic movie to watch with partner, but probably a cartoon if you are going to watch with kids.

There are two typical recommendation tasks involved when context is taken into account in RS: one is context-aware recommendation (CAR) and another one is context recommendation (CR). The basic research problems and challenges in CAR include context identification and selection, context incorporation and adaptation, context evaluation and interpretation, where CAR aims to recommend items to users by adapting to contextual information, e.g., which movies are appropriate to be recommended for John to watch *with his girlfriend?* By contrast, CR is a novel research direction emerged recently, and it will help suggest appropriate contexts for the users to consume the item to maximize user experience, e.g., which could be the best contexts (e.g., time, location, companion, emotional state, etc) for John to watch the movie "Titanic"?

In this half-day tutorial, the background and corresponding algorithms in recommender systems will be given at the beginning as the preliminary introduction. Afterwards, a comprehensive overview on those two recommendation tasks - CAR and CR, will be introduced to the audience. In addition, an open-source context-aware recommendation library, named as CARSKit, will also be introduced in order to show the ease of configuring and evaluating context-aware recommendation algorithms by this toolkit. By the end, we will further discuss the research problems and challenges in context recommendation.

## BIOGRAPHY

Yong Zheng got his B.S. and M.S. degree in computer science in China, and he will obtain his PhD degree from DePaul University in 2016. His research interests lie in multi-disciplinary areas, including artificial intelligence, data mining and machine learning, information retrieval and recommender systems, etc. Over the past few years, his research focused on recommender systems, especially the development of context-aware recommender systems. He has published more than 40 peer-reviewed publications in related academic conferences, journals and book chapters. In addition, he served program committee member and reviewer for several academic journals, such as ACM Transactions on Information Systems (TOIS), ACM Transactions on the Web (TWeb), User Modeling and User-Adapted Interaction (UMUAI), and well-recognized international conferences, such as WWW, ACM RecSys, ACM IUI, ACM SAC, UMAP, ICWSM, and so forth.

# Tutorial Presentation: Towards the Internet of Relevant Things. The IEEE 802.15.4e Standard

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## ABSTRACT

The Internet of Things (IoT) will completely change the way we live and work. In near future, billions of smart objects will be connected to the Internet, paving the way for a large number of innovative services in different application domains including smart cities, smart buildings, factory automation, e-health, etc. In many of such domains, applications have stringent requirements in terms of communication reliability, timeliness, scalability, and energy efficiency. To address the needs of such critical applications, the IEEE has recently released the 802.15.4e amendment that extends the original 802.15.4-2006 standard. By combining time slotted access with multi-channel communication and frequency hopping, the new 802.15.4e MAC protocols can provide highly-reliable, time-bounded, and low-power communication. Also, they can easily support multi-hop mesh networks. This tutorial will present the opportunities offered by the new standard in the perspective of the Internet of Things. Specifically, it will start with a description of the IEEE 802.15.4 standard to highlight the main reasons that limit its adoption in critical scenarios. Then, the improvements introduced by 802.15.4e will be discussed, with focus on the main MAC protocols (i.e., TSCH, DSME). For each considered MAC protocol, a description of its specific features will be provided and potential application domains will be identified. The tutorial will also include a survey of the main research activities on 802.15.4e networks. Special attention will be devoted to issues arising from the integration of 802.15.4e within the IoT framework.

## BIOGRAPHY

**Giuseppe Anastasi** is Full Professor and Associate Head at the Department of Information Engineering of the University of Pisa, Italy. He is also the director of the Smart Cities National Lab, supported by CINI (Italian University Consortium for Informatics). He directs the executive Master in Smart Cities, a post-graduate specialization program organized by the University of Pisa in cooperation with the Italian National Research Council (CNR). His scientific interests include Distributed and P2P Systems, Internet of Things, Pervasive Computing, Sustainable Computing, and ICT for Smart Cities. He has published about 130 research papers in the area of computer networking and pervasive computing, gathering more than 4500 citations. Dr. Anastasi is Associate Editor of Sustainable Computing (SUSCOM) and Area Editor of Pervasive and Mobile Computing (PMC). He has been the co-founder of a number of successful international workshops and conferences. Currently, he is a member of the Board of Directors of the Italian National University Consortium for Informatics (CINI). Dr. Anastasi received the M.Sc. degree in Electronics Engineering, and the Ph.D. degree in Computer Engineering, from the University of Pisa, in 1990 and 1995, respectively.

**Simone Brienza** received his B.S. and M.S. degrees in Computer Engineering from the University of Pisa, in 2008 and 2012, respectively. Currently, he is a Ph.d. candidate at the Department of Information Engineering of the University of Pisa. His research concerns IEEE 802.15.4 and 802.15.4e WSNs.

**Domenico De Guglielmo** is a Postdoctoral Researcher in the Department of Information Engineering at the University of Pisa. His research interests are in the field of WSNs and Internet of Things.

# Table of Contents

Scroll to the title and select a **Blue** link to open a paper. After viewing the paper, use the bookmarks to the left to return to the beginning of the Table of Contents.

---

---

<b>Symposium Organizing Committee</b> .....	iii
<b>Sponsoring SIG Information</b> .....	iv
<b>Track Chairs</b> .....	v
<b>Message from the Symposium Chairs</b> .....	x
<b>Message from the Program Chairs</b> .....	xi
<b>Abstracts for Keynote Presentations</b> .....	xii
<b>Abstracts for Tutorial Presentations</b> .....	xiv

## **Volume I: Artificial Intelligence and Agents, Distributed Systems, and Information Systems**

### **Computational Biology and Bioinformatics Track**

**Track Co-Chairs:** Paola Lecca, University of Trento, Italy  
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<b>Parallel Approximate Steady-State Analysis of Large Probabilistic Boolean Networks</b> .....	1
<i>Andrzej Mizera, University of Luxembourg, Luxembourg</i>	
<i>Jun Pang, University of Luxembourg, Luxembourg</i>	
<i>Qixia Yuan, University of Luxembourg, Luxembourg</i>	

<b>Discovering Disease-Associated Drugs using Web Crawl Data</b> .....	9
<i>Hyunjin Kim, Yonsei University, South Korea</i>	
<i>Sanghyun Park, Yonsei University, South Korea</i>	

<b>IDO: Inferring Describable Disease-Gene Relationships using Opinion Sentences</b> .....	15
<i>Jeongwoo Kim, Yonsei University, South Korea</i>	
<i>Youngmi Yoon, Gachon University, South Korea</i>	
<i>Sanghyun Park, Yonsei University, South Korea</i>	

<b>Discovering Discriminative Graph Patterns from Gene Expression Data</b> .....	23
<i>Fabio Fassetti, University of Calabria, Italia</i>	
<i>Simona E. Rombo, University of Palermo, Italia</i>	
<i>Cristina Serrao, University of Calabria, Italia</i>	

<b>A Framework for Virtual Screening .....</b>	31
<i>Vinicius Rosa Seus, Universidade Federal do Rio Grande, Brazil</i>	
<i>Lande Silva Jr., Universidade Federal do Rio Grande, Brazil</i>	
<i>Jorge Gomes, Universidade Federal do Rio Grande, Brazil</i>	
<i>Pedro E.A. da Silva, Universidade Federal do Rio Grande, Brazil</i>	
<i>Adriano V. Werhli, Universidade Federal do Rio Grande, Brazil</i>	
<i>Karina S. Machado, Universidade Federal do Rio Grande, Brazil</i>	
<i>Nubia Prates, Universidade Federal do Rio Grande, Brazil</i>	
<i>Nilo Zanata, Universidade Federal do Rio Grande, Brazil</i>	
 <b>Poster Papers</b>	
<b>A Method for Obtaining Rich Data from PubMed using SVM .....</b>	37
<i>Junbum Cha, Yonsei University, South Korea</i>	
<i>Jeongwoo Kim, Yonsei University, South Korea</i>	
<i>Yunku Yeu, Yonsei University, South Korea</i>	
<i>Sanghyun Park, Yonsei University, South Korea</i>	
<b>Identification of Dynamical Biological Systems based on Mixed-Effect Models .....</b>	40
<i>Levy Batista, CRAN, CYBERnano, France</i>	
<i>Thierry Bastogne, CRAN, INRIA BIGS, CYBERnano, France</i>	
<i>El Hadi Djermoune, CRAN, France</i>	
<b>Extensive Assessment of Metrics on RNA Secondary Structures and Relative Ensembles .....</b>	44
<i>Marco Barsacchi, University of Florence, Italy</i>	
<i>Andrea Baù, University of Pisa, Italy</i>	
<i>Alessio Bechini, University of Pisa, Italy</i>	
 <b>Computational Intelligence and Video &amp; Image Analysis Track</b>	
<b>Track Co-Chairs:</b>	Agostinho Rosa, University of Lisbon, Portugal
	Yin-Fu Huang, National Yunlin University of Science and Technology, Taiwan
<b>Track Editorial .....</b>	48
<b>Unveiling Smoke in Social Images with the SmokeBlock Approach .....</b>	49
<i>Mirela T. Cazzolato, University of Sao Paulo, Brazil</i>	
<i>Marcos V.N. Bedo, University of Sao Paulo, Brazil</i>	
<i>Alceu F. Costa, University of Sao Paulo, Brazil</i>	
<i>Jessica Andressa de Souza, University of Sao Paulo, Brazil</i>	
<i>Caetano Traina Jr., University of Sao Paulo, Brazil</i>	
<i>Jose F. Rodrigues-Jr., University of Sao Paulo, Brazil</i>	
<i>Agma J.M. Traina, University of Sao Paulo, Brazil</i>	
<b>Multiscale Convulsive Blind Source Separation in Wavelet Transform Domain .....</b>	55
<i>Jamel Hattay, University of Tunis, Tunisia</i>	
<i>Samir Belaid, University of Monastir, Tunisia</i>	
<i>Wady Naanaa, University of Monastir, Tunisia</i>	
<i>Taoufik Aguili, University of Tunis, Tunisia</i>	
<b>An Image Analysis Framework for Effective Classification of Seed Damages .....</b>	61
<i>Douglas F. Pereira, Federal University of Technology, Brazil</i>	
<i>Priscila T.M. Saito, Federal University of Technology, Brazil</i>	
<i>Pedro H. Bugatti, Federal University of Technology, Brazil</i>	

<b>A Graph Theory-Based Online Keywords Model for Image Semantic Extraction .....</b>	67
<i>Jing Wang, University of Huddersfield, UK</i>	
<i>Zhijie Xu, University of Huddersfield, UK</i>	

<b>Beyond Data: Contextual Information Fusion for Cyber Security Analytics .....</b>	73
<i>Ahmed Aleroud, Yarmouk University, Jordan</i>	
<i>George Karabatis, University of Maryland, Baltimore County, USA</i>	

## **Poster Papers**

<b>Video Similarity Search by using Compact Representations .....</b>	80
<i>Henrique Batista da Silva, Universidade Federal de Minas Gerais, Brazil</i>	
<i>Raquel Pereira de Almeida, Pontifical Catholic University of Minas Gerais, Brazil</i>	
<i>Gabriel Barbosa da Fonseca, Pontifical Catholic University of Minas Gerais, Brazil</i>	
<i>Carlos Caetano, Pontifical Catholic University of Minas Gerais, Brazil</i>	
<i>Dario Vieira, EFREI, France</i>	
<i>Zenilton K. Gonçalves do Patrocínio Jr., Pontifical Catholic University of Minas Gerais, Brazil</i>	
<i>Arnaldo de Albuquerque Araújo, Universidade Federal de Minas Gerais, Brazil</i>	
<i>Silvio Jamil F. Guimarães, Pontifical Catholic University of Minas Gerais, Brazil</i>	

<b>Lung Nodule Classification based on Shape Distributions .....</b>	84
<i>Valéria P.M. Fernandes, Federal University of Maranhão, Brazil</i>	
<i>Rodrigo F.A. Kanehisa, Federal University of Maranhão, Brazil</i>	
<i>Geraldo Braz Junior, Federal University of Maranhão, Brazil</i>	
<i>Aristófanes C. Silva, Federal University of Maranhão, Brazil</i>	
<i>Anselmo C. de Paiva, Federal University of Maranhão, Brazil</i>	

## **Evolutionary Computation Track**

**Track Co-Chairs:** Raúl Giráldez, Pablo de Olavide University, Spain  
Beatriz Pontes, University of Seville, Spain

<b>Track Editorial .....</b>	87
------------------------------	----

<b>Solving Many-Objective Problems using Targeted Search Directions .....</b>	89
<i>Maha Elarbi, University of Tunis, Tunisia</i>	
<i>Slim Bechikh, University of Tunis, Tunisia</i>	
<i>Lamjed Ben Said, University of Tunis, Tunisia</i>	
<i>Chih-Cheng Hung, Kennesaw State University, USA</i>	

<b>Active Learning Approaches for Learning Regular Expressions with Genetic Programming .....</b>	97
<i>Alberto Bartoli, DIA, University of Trieste, Italy</i>	
<i>Andrea De Lorenzo, DIA, University of Trieste, Italy</i>	
<i>Eric Medvet, DIA, University of Trieste, Italy</i>	
<i>Fabiano Tarlao, DIA, University of Trieste, Italy</i>	

<b>An Improved <math>\lambda</math>-Linear Genetic Programming Evaluated in Solving the Santa Fe Ant Trail Problem .....</b>	103
<i>Léo F.D.P. Sotto, Universidade Federal de São Paulo, Brazil</i>	
<i>Vinícius V. de Melo, Universidade Federal de São Paulo, Brazil</i>	
<i>Márcio P. Basgalupp, Universidade Federal de São Paulo, Brazil</i>	

## **Poster Papers**

<b>On Convergence of Conventional and Meta-Heuristic Methods for Security-Constrained OPF Analysis .....</b>	109
<i>Jagadeesh Gunda, University of Edinburgh, UK</i>	
<i>Sasa Djokic, University of Edinburgh, UK</i>	
<i>Roberto Langella, Second University of Naples, Italy</i>	
<i>Alfredo Testa, Second University of Naples, Italy</i>	

<b>Medoid-Based Data Clustering with Estimation of Distribution Algorithms .....</b>	112
<i>Henry E.L. Cagnini, Pontifical Catholic University of Rio Grande do Sul, Brazil</i>	
<i>Rodrigo C. Barros, Pontifical Catholic University of Rio Grande do Sul, Brazil</i>	
<i>Christian V. Quevedo, Pontifical Catholic University of Rio Grande do Sul, Brazil</i>	
<i>Márcio P. Basgalupp, Universidade Federal de São Paulo, Brazil</i>	

## **Student Research Competition Paper**

<b>Student Research Abstract: Evolutionary Reinforcement Learning based Search Optimization .....</b>	116
<i>Deblina Bhattacharjee, Kyungpook National University, South Korea</i>	

## **Healthcare Track**

<b>Track Co-Chairs:</b>	Cecilia Laschi, Scuola Superiore Sant'Anna, Italy
	Arianna Menciassi, Scuola Superiore Sant'Anna, Italy

<b>Track Editorial .....</b>	118
------------------------------	-----

<b>Privacy-Enabled Remote Health Monitoring Applications for Resource Constrained Wearable Devices .....</b>	119
<i>Davy Preuveneers, iMinds-DistriNet-KU Leuven, Belgium</i>	
<i>Wouter Joosen, iMinds-DistriNet-KU Leuven, Belgium</i>	

<b>A Situation-Aware Pervasive Approach for Assessing Therapeutic Goals in Healthcare Environment .....</b>	125
---	-----

<i>Joao Lopes, Federal University of Rio Grande do Sul, Brazil</i>	
<i>Rodrigo Souza, Federal University of Rio Grande do Sul, Brazil</i>	
<i>Claudio Geyer, Federal University of Rio Grande do Sul, Brazil</i>	
<i>Alexandre Souza, Federal University of Pelotas, Brazil</i>	
<i>Patricia Davet, Federal University of Pelotas, Brazil</i>	
<i>Ana Pernas, Federal University of Pelotas, Brazil</i>	
<i>Adenauer Yamin, Federal University of Pelotas, Brazil</i>	

<b>Mind the Tracker You Wear – A Security Analysis of Wearable Health Trackers .....</b>	131
<i>Rohit Goyal, Technical University of Denmark, Denmark</i>	
<i>Nicola Dragoni, Technical University of Denmark, Denmark</i>	
<i>Angelo Spognardi, Technical University of Denmark, Denmark</i>	

<b>Testing for Mobile E-Health Interventions .....</b>	137
<i>Fiemke Griffioen-Both, Utrecht University, The Netherlands</i>	
<i>Sandor Spruit, Utrecht University, The Netherlands</i>	
<i>Siska Fitrianie, Utrecht University, The Netherlands</i>	
<i>Robbert Jan Beun, Utrecht University, The Netherlands</i>	
<i>Jaap Lancee, University of Amsterdam, The Netherlands</i>	

## **Towards Automatic Induction of Abnormal Behavioral Patterns for Recognizing Mild Cognitive Impairment ..... 143**

*Zaffar Haider Janjua, University of Milano, Italy*

*Daniele Riboni, University of Cagliari, Italy*

*Claudio Bettini, University of Milano, Italy*

## **Haptic Interaction Objective Evaluation in Needle Insertion Task Simulation ..... 149**

*Cléber Gimenez Corrêa, Escola Politécnica da Universidade de São Paulo, Brazil*

*Daniel M. Tokunaga, Escola Politécnica da Universidade de São Paulo, Brazil*

*Edith Ranzini, Pontifícia Universidade Católica de São Paulo, Brazil*

*Fátima L.S. Nunes, University of São Paulo, Brazil*

*Romero Tori, Escola Politécnica da Universidade de São Paulo, Brazil*

## **A Movement Activity Recognition Pervasive System for Patient Monitoring in Ambient Assisted Living ..... 155**

*José Daniel Pereira Ribeiro Filho, Universidade Federal do Maranhão, Brazil*

*Francisco José da Silva e Silva, Universidade Federal do Maranhão, Brazil*

*Luciano Reis Coutinho, Universidade Federal do Maranhão, Brazil*

*Berto de Tácia Pereira Gomes, Universidade Federal do Maranhão, Brazil*

*Markus Endler, Pontifical Catholic University of Rio de Janeiro, Brazil*

## **Poster Papers**

### **A Novel EEG-Based Emotion Recognition Approach for E-Healthcare Applications ..... 162**

*Mouhannad Ali, Alpen-Adria University, Austria*

*Fadi Al Machot, Alpen-Adria University, Austria*

*Ahmad Haj Mosa, Alpen-Adria University, Austria*

*Kyandoghere Kyamakya, Alpen-Adria University, Austria*

## **Student Research Competition Paper**

### **Student Research Abstract: A Web Tool for Medical Topic Modeling ..... 165**

*Lukas Huber, UMIT, Austria*

## **Smart Human Computer Interaction Track**

**Track Co-Chairs:** Soon Ki Jung, Kyungpook National University, South Korea

Anand Paul, Kyungpook National University, South Korea

Ganesh Kumar P., Anna University, India

### **Understanding Player Perceptions of RegnaTales: A Mobile Game for Teaching Social Problem Solving Skills ..... 167**

*Yoon Phaiq Ooi, University of Basel, Switzerland*

*Dion Hoe-Lian Goh, Nanyang Technological University, Singapore*

*Elisa D. Mekler, University of Basel, Switzerland*

*Alexandre N. Tuch, University of Basel, Switzerland*

*Jillian Boon, Institute of Mental Health, Singapore*

*Rebecca P. Ang, Nanyang Technological University, Singapore*

*Daniel Fung, Institute of Mental Health, Singapore*

*Jens Gaab, University of Basel, Switzerland*

### **A Comparative Evaluation of Interaction Models for the Design of Interactive Systems ..... 173**

*Anna Beatriz Marques, Universidade Federal do Amazonas, Brazil*

*Simone D.J. Barbosa, Pontifical Catholic University of Rio de Janeiro, Brazil*

*Tayana Conte, Universidade Federal do Amazonas, Brazil*

<b>Accessibility Evaluation of Rich Internet Applications Interface Components for Mobile Screen Readers .....</b>	181
<i>Lucas Pedroso Carvalho, Universidade Federal de Lavras, Brazil</i>	
<i>Lucas Pereira Ferreira, Universidade Federal de Lavras, Brazil</i>	
<i>André Pimenta Freire, Universidade Federal de Lavras, Brazil</i>	
<b>Multimodal Human Attention Detection for Reading .....</b>	187
<i>Jiajia Li, The Hong Kong Polytechnic University, Hong Kong</i>	
<i>Grace Ngai, The Hong Kong Polytechnic University, Hong Kong</i>	
<i>Hong Va Leong, The Hong Kong Polytechnic University, Hong Kong</i>	
<i>Stephen Chan, The Hong Kong Polytechnic University, Hong Kong</i>	
<b>VCloud: Adding Interactivity to Word Clouds for Knowledge Exploration in Large Unstructured Texts .....</b>	193
<i>Wallace Lira, Simon Fraser University, Canada</i>	
<i>Fernando Gama, Vale Institute of Technology, Brazil</i>	
<i>Hivana Barbosa, Vale Institute of Technology, Brazil</i>	
<i>Ronnie Alves, LIRMM, Brazil</i>	
<i>Cleidson de Souza, Vale Institute of Technology, Brazil</i>	
<b>Poster Papers</b>	
<b>From Storyboard to Software: User Evaluation of an Information Literacy Game .....</b>	199
<i>Yan Ru Guo, Nanyang Technological University, Singapore</i>	
<i>Dion Hoe-Lian Goh, Nanyang Technological University, Singapore</i>	
<b>User-Friendly Spreadsheet Querying: An Empirical Study .....</b>	202
<i>Rui Pereira, HASLab/INESC Tec, Universidade do Minho, Portugal</i>	
<i>João Saraiva, HASLab/INESC Tec, Universidade do Minho, Portugal</i>	
<i>Jácome Cunha, Universidade Nova de Lisboa, Portugal</i>	
<i>João Paulo Fernandes, Universidade da Beira Interior, Portugal</i>	
<b>STRATUS: A Questionnaire for Strategic Usability Assessment .....</b>	205
<i>Suzanne Kieffer, Université Catholique de Louvain, Belgium</i>	
<i>Jean Vanderdonckt, Université Catholique de Louvain, Belgium</i>	
<b>Usability Heuristics and Accessibility Guidelines: A Comparison of Heuristic Evaluation and WCAG .....</b>	213
<i>Andreia R. Casare, University of Campinas, Brazil</i>	
<i>Celmar G. da Silva, University of Campinas, Brazil</i>	
<i>Paulo S. Martins, University of Campinas, Brazil</i>	
<i>Regina L.O. Moraes, University of Campinas, Brazil</i>	
<b>Student Research Competition Paper</b>	
<b>Student Research Abstract: Social Element of Big Data Analytics: Integrating Social Network with the Internet of Things .....</b>	216
<i>Awais Ahamad, Kyungpook National University, South Korea</i>	

## **Intelligent and Interactive Learning Environments Track**

**Track Co-Chairs:** Seiji Isotani, University of São Paulo, Brazil  
Ig Ibert Bittencourt, Federal University of Alagoas, Brazil  
Riichiro Mizoguchi, JAIST, Japan  
Julita Vassileva, University of Saskatchewan, Canada

**Track Editorial** ..... 218

**A Crowdsensing Approach for Mobile Learning in Acoustics and Noise Monitoring** ..... 219

*Marco Zappatore, University of Salento, Italy*  
*Antonella Longo, University of Salento, Italy*  
*Mario A. Bochicchio, University of Salento, Italy*  
*Daniele Zappatore, University of Salento, Italy*  
*Alessandro A. Morrone, University of Salento, Italy*  
*Gianluca De Mitri, University of Salento, Italy*

**An Interactive Approach for the Teaching of Virtual Memory using Open Educational Resources** ..... 225

*Carlos E.A. Cacho, Institute of Mathematics and Computer Science, University of São Paulo, Brazil*  
*Paulo S.L. Souza, Institute of Mathematics and Computer Science, University of São Paulo, Brazil*  
*Sarita M. Bruschi, Institute of Mathematics and Computer Science, University of São Paulo, Brazil*  
*Ellen F. Barbosa, Institute of Mathematics and Computer Science, University of São Paulo, Brazil*  
*Fernando Tiosso, Institute of Mathematics and Computer Science, University of São Paulo, Brazil*

**Design and Usability of a Braille-Based Mobile Audiogame Environment** ..... 232

*Maria C.C. Araújo, Federal University of Ceará, Brazil*  
*Antônio R.S. Silva, Federal Institute of Ceará, Brazil*  
*Ticianne G.R. Darin, Federal University of Ceará, Brazil*  
*Everardo L. Castro, Federal University of Ceará, Brazil*  
*Rossana M.C. Andrade, Federal University of Ceará, Brazil*  
*Ernesto T. de Lima, Federal University of Ceará, Brazil*  
*Jaime Sánchez, University of Chile, Chile*  
*José Aires de C. Filho, Federal University of Ceará, Brazil*  
*Windson Viana, Federal University of Ceará, Brazil*

**Mobile Phone Text Messaging to Increase Student Participation: An Experience in a Blended Course** ..... 239

*Edgar Marçal, Universidade Federal do Ceará, Brazil*  
*Rossana Andrade, Universidade Federal do Ceará, Brazil*  
*Windson Viana, Universidade Federal do Ceará, Brazil*  
*Eduardo Junqueira, Universidade Federal do Ceará, Brazil*  
*Rosemeiry Melo, Universidade Federal do Ceará, Brazil*

## **Intelligent Robotics and Multi-Agent Systems Track**

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Christopher D. Kiekintveld, University of Texas at El Paso, United States  
M. Ani Hsieh, Drexel University, United States

**Track Editorial** ..... 246

**Learning Relational Probabilistic Action Models for Online Planning with Decision Forests** ..... 248

*Lenz Belzner, Ludwig-Maximilians-Universität, Germany*  
*Alexander Neitz, Ludwig-Maximilians-Universität, Germany*

**Time-Adaptive Cross Entropy Planning** ..... 254

*Lenz Belzner, Ludwig-Maximilians-Universität, Germany*

<b>A Tale of Many Explanations: Towards an Explanation Generation System for Robots .....</b>	260
<i>Mohan Sridharan, University of Auckland, New Zealand</i>	
<i>Ben Meadows, University of Auckland, New Zealand</i>	
<i>Zenon Colaco, University of Auckland, New Zealand</i>	
<b>The Next Frontier: Combining Information Gain and Distance Cost for Decentralized Multi-Robot Exploration .....</b>	268
<i>Rafael Gonçalves Colares, Universidade Federal de Minas Gerais, Brazil</i>	
<i>Luiz Chaimowicz, Universidade Federal de Minas Gerais, Brazil</i>	
<b>Towards Collective Manipulation Without Inter-Agent Communication .....</b>	275
<i>Siamak G. Faal, Worcester Polytechnic Institute, USA</i>	
<i>Shadi Tasdighi Kalat, Worcester Polytechnic Institute, USA</i>	
<i>Cagdas D. Onal, Worcester Polytechnic Institute, USA</i>	
<b>Poster Papers</b>	
<b>Extensible Collaborative Autonomy using GAMS .....</b>	281
<i>Anton Dukeman, Vanderbilt University, USA</i>	
<i>Julie A. Adams, Vanderbilt University, USA</i>	
<i>James Edmondson, Carnegie Mellon University, USA</i>	
<b>Human-Agent Teamwork: What is Predictability, Why is It Important? .....</b>	284
<i>Sebastian Ahrndt, Technische Universität Berlin, Germany</i>	
<i>Johannes Fähndrich, Technische Universität Berlin, Germany</i>	
<i>Sahin Albayrak, Technische Universität Berlin, Germany</i>	
<b>A Modular Hybrid Localization Approach for Mobile Robots Combining Local Grid Maps and Natural Landmarks .....</b>	287
<i>Florian Mirus, Fraunhofer Institute for Manufacturing Engineering and Automation IPA, Germany</i>	
<i>Frank Slomian, Fraunhofer Institute for Manufacturing Engineering and Automation IPA, Germany</i>	
<i>Stefan Dörr, Fraunhofer Institute for Manufacturing Engineering and Automation IPA, Germany</i>	
<i>Felipe Garcia Lopez, Fraunhofer Institute for Manufacturing Engineering and Automation IPA, Germany</i>	
<i>Matthias Gruhler, Fraunhofer Institute for Manufacturing Engineering and Automation IPA, Germany</i>	
<i>Jürgen Pfadt, Fraunhofer Institute for Manufacturing Engineering and Automation IPA, Germany</i>	
<b>Neuro Computing and Deep Learning and Continuous-Time Computing Track</b>	
<b>Track Co-Chairs:</b>	
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Stefan Ulbrich, Technical University of Munich, Germany	
Paul Levi, Technical University of Munich, Germany	
<b>Track Editorial .....</b>	291
<b>Learning to be Efficient: Algorithms for Training Low-Latency, Low-Compute Deep Spiking Neural Networks .....</b>	293
<i>Daniel Neil, Institute of Neuroinformatics, Switzerland</i>	
<i>Michael Pfeiffer, Institute of Neuroinformatics, Switzerland</i>	
<i>Shih-Chii Liu, Institute of Neuroinformatics, Switzerland</i>	

<b>Similarity Analysis of Neuronal Activation Patterns .....</b>	299
<i>Eugenio de Carvalho Saraiva, Federal University of Campina Grande, Brazil</i>	
<i>Herman Martins Gomes, Federal University of Campina Grande, Brazil</i>	

## **Poster Papers**

<b>An Automatic Method for Multiple Sclerosis Lesion Detection in Fluid Attenuated Inversion Recovery Magnetic Resonance Images .....</b>	305
<i>Pedro Costa Klein, Pontifícia Universidade Católica do Rio Grande do Sul, Brazil</i>	
<i>Ricardo Bernardi Soder, Pontifícia Universidade Católica do Rio Grande do Sul, Brazil</i>	
<i>Jefferson Becker, Pontifícia Universidade Católica do Rio Grande do Sul, Brazil</i>	
<i>Alexandre Rosa Franco, Pontifícia Universidade Católica do Rio Grande do Sul, Brazil</i>	
<i>Marcio Sarroglia Pinho, Pontifícia Universidade Católica do Rio Grande do Sul, Brazil</i>	
<b>Petri Nets for Modelling and Analysing a Complex System Related to Alzheimer's Disease .....</b>	309
<i>Safae Cherdal, Mohammed V University of Rabat, Morocco</i>	
<i>Salma Mouline, Mohammed V University of Rabat, Morocco</i>	

## **Student Research Competition Paper**

<b>Student Research Abstract: Modeling the Cerebellum, from Neurons to Healthy and Pathological Behaviors .....</b>	313
<i>Alberto Antonietti, Politecnico di Milano, Italy</i>	

## **The Semantic Web and Applications Track**

<b>Track Co-Chairs:</b>	Soon Ae Chun, City University of New York, United States
	Hyoil Han, Marshall University, United States
	Sangsoo Sung, Google Inc., United States

<b>Measuring Semantic Distance for Linked Open Data-Enabled Recommender Systems .....</b>	315
<i>Guangyuan Piao, National University of Ireland, Galway, Ireland</i>	
<i>John G. Breslin, National University of Ireland, Galway, Ireland</i>	

<b>An Ontology Pattern Language for Service Modeling .....</b>	321
<i>Ricardo A. Falbo, Federal University of Espírito Santo, Brazil</i>	
<i>Glaice K. Quirino, Federal University of Espírito Santo, Brazil</i>	
<i>Julio C. Nardi, Federal Institute of Espírito Santo, Brazil</i>	
<i>Monalessa P. Barcellos, Federal University of Espírito Santo, Brazil</i>	
<i>Giancarlo Guizzardi, Federal University of Espírito Santo, Brazil</i>	
<i>Nicola Guarino, Institute of Cognitive Sciences and Technologies, Italy</i>	
<i>Antonella Longo, University of Salento, Italy</i>	
<i>Barbara Livieri, University of Salento, Italy</i>	

<b>Leveraging the Schema in Latent Factor Models for Knowledge Graph Completion .....</b>	327
<i>Pasquale Minervini, Università degli Studi di Bari Aldo Moro, Italy</i>	
<i>Claudia d'Amato, Università degli Studi di Bari Aldo Moro, Italy</i>	
<i>Nicola Fanizzi, Università degli Studi di Bari Aldo Moro, Italy</i>	
<i>Floriana Esposito, Università degli Studi di Bari Aldo Moro, Italy</i>	

<b>Ontology Enrichment by Discovering Multi-Relational Association Rules from Ontological Knowledge Bases .....</b>	333
<i>Claudia d'Amato, University of Bari, Italy</i>	
<i>Steffen Staab, University of Koblenz-Landau, Germany</i>	
<i>Andrea G.B. Tettamanzi, University of Nice Sophia Antipolis, France</i>	
<i>Tran Duc Minh, University of Nice Sophia Antipolis, France</i>	
<i>Fabien Gandon, INRIA Sophia Antipolis, France</i>	
<b>Gold Standard based Evaluation of Ontology Learning Techniques .....</b>	339
<i>Hela Sfar, ENSI, Tunisia</i>	
<i>Anja Habacha Chaibi, ENSI, Tunisia</i>	
<i>Amel Bouzeghoub, Telecom SudParis, France</i>	
<i>Henda Ben Ghezala, ENSI, Tunisia</i>	
<b>GoAAL: An Ontology for Goal-Oriented Development of AAL Environments .....</b>	347
<i>Marco Cameranesi, Università Politecnica delle Marche, Italy</i>	
<i>Claudia Diamantini, Università Politecnica delle Marche, Italy</i>	
<i>Domenico Potena, Università Politecnica delle Marche, Italy</i>	
<i>Emanuele Storti, Università Politecnica delle Marche, Italy</i>	
<b>A 2-Phase Frame-Based Knowledge Extraction Framework .....</b>	354
<i>Francesco Corcoglioniti, Fondazione Bruno Kessler, Italy</i>	
<i>Marco Rospocher, Fondazione Bruno Kessler, Italy</i>	
<i>Alessio Palmero Aprosio, Fondazione Bruno Kessler, Italy</i>	
<b>SECF: Improving SPARQL Querying Performance with Proactive Fetching and Caching .....</b>	362
<i>Wei Emma Zhang, The University of Adelaide, Australia</i>	
<i>Quan Z. Sheng, The University of Adelaide, Australia</i>	
<i>Yongrui Qin, The University of Adelaide, Australia</i>	
<i>Lina Yao, The University of Adelaide, Australia</i>	
<i>Ali Shemshadi, The University of Adelaide, Australia</i>	
<i>Kerry Taylor, Australian National University, Australia</i>	
<b>Poster Papers</b>	
<b>A Bootstrapping Method for Extracting Attribute Names with Keys from the Web .....</b>	368
<i>Yoshinori Hijikata, Osaka University, Japan</i>	
<i>Shintaro Nomura, Osaka University, Japan</i>	
<i>Fumitaka Nakane, Osaka University, Japan</i>	
<i>Shogo Nishida, Osaka University, Japan</i>	
<b>Automatic Semantic Service Composition Aiming at Increasing End-Users' Accessibility .....</b>	372
<i>Nikolaos Kaklanis, Information Technologies Institute, Greece</i>	
<i>Ageliki Konstadinidou, Information Technologies Institute, Greece</i>	
<i>Konstantinos Votis, Information Technologies Institute, Greece</i>	
<i>Dimitrios Tzovaras, Information Technologies Institute, Greece</i>	
<b>Student Research Competition Paper</b>	
<b>Student Research Abstract: Exploiting the Semantic Similarity of Interests in a Semantic Interest Graph for Social Recommendations .....</b>	375
<i>Guangyuan Piao, National University of Ireland, Galway, Ireland</i>	

## **Cloud Computing Track**

**Track Co-Chairs:** Fernando De la Prieta, University of Salamanca, Spain  
S.D Madhu Kumar, National Institute of Technology Calicut, India

<b>Track Editorial .....</b>	377
<b>Monitoring of Cloud Computing Environments: Concepts, Solutions, Trends, and Future Directions .....</b> 378	
<i>Guilherme da Cunha Rodrigues, Federal University of Rio Grande do Sul, Brazil</i>	
<i>Rodrigo N. Calheiros, The University of Melbourne, Australia</i>	
<i>Vinícius Tavares Guimarães, Federal University of Rio Grande do Sul, Brazil</i>	
<i>Glederson Lessa dos Santos, Federal University of Rio Grande do Sul, Brazil</i>	
<i>Márcio Barbosa de Carvalho, Federal University of Rio Grande do Sul, Brazil</i>	
<i>Lisandro Zambenedetti Granville, Federal University of Rio Grande do Sul, Brazil</i>	
<i>Liane Margarida Rockenbach Tarouco, Federal University of Rio Grande do Sul, Brazil</i>	
<i>Rajkumar Buyya, The University of Melbourne, Australia</i>	
<b>Supporting Media Workflows on an Advanced Cloud Object Store Platform .....</b> 384	
<i>Maurizio Montagnuolo, Rai - Radiotelevisione Italiana Spa, Italy</i>	
<i>Alberto Messina, Rai - Radiotelevisione Italiana Spa, Italy</i>	
<i>Elliot K. Kolodner, IBM Research - Haifa, Israel</i>	
<i>Doron Chen, IBM Research - Haifa, Israel</i>	
<i>Eran Rom, IBM Research - Haifa, Israel</i>	
<i>Kalman Meth, IBM Research - Haifa, Israel</i>	
<i>Paula Ta-Shma, IBM Research - Haifa, Israel</i>	
<b>Elastic Provisioning for Cloud Databases with Uncertainty Management .....</b> 390	
<i>Victor A.E. Farias, Federal University of Ceará, Brazil</i>	
<i>Flávio R.C. Sousa, Federal University of Ceará, Brazil</i>	
<i>José G.R. Maia, Federal University of Ceará, Brazil</i>	
<i>João P.P. Gomes, Federal University of Ceará, Brazil</i>	
<i>Javam C. Machado, Federal University of Ceará, Brazil</i>	
<b>Securing Integration of Cloud Services in Cross-Domain Distributed Environments .....</b> 398	
<i>Bojan Suzic, Graz University of Technology, Austria</i>	
<b>Hadoop Energy Consumption Reduction with Hybrid HDFS .....</b> 406	
<i>Ivanilton Polato, Federal University of Technology - Paraná, Brazil</i>	
<i>Denilson Barbosa, University of Alberta, Canada</i>	
<i>Abram Hindle, University of Alberta, Canada</i>	
<i>Fabio Kon, University of São Paulo, Brazil</i>	
<b>An Architecture for Providing Elasticity based on Autonomic Computing Concepts .....</b> 412	
<i>Emanuel F. Coutinho, Federal University of Ceará, Brazil</i>	
<i>Paulo A.L. Rego, Federal University of Ceará, Brazil</i>	
<i>Danielo G. Gomes, Federal University of Ceará, Brazil</i>	
<i>José Neuman de Souza, Federal University of Ceará, Brazil</i>	
<b>Performance-Aware Server Consolidation with Adjustable Interference Levels .....</b> 420	
<i>Luis Carlos Jersak, Pontifical Catholic University of Rio Grande do Sul, Brazil</i>	
<i>Tiago Coelho Ferreto, Pontifical Catholic University of Rio Grande do Sul, Brazil</i>	

<b>On the Usability of Shortest Remaining Time First Policy in Shared Hadoop Clusters .....</b>	426
<i>Nathanaël Cheriere, ENS Rennes, France</i>	
<i>Pierre Donat-Bouillud, ENS Rennes, France</i>	
<i>Shadi Ibrahim, Inria, Rennes Bretagne Atlantique Research Center, France</i>	
<i>Matthieu Simonin, Inria, Rennes Bretagne Atlantique Research Center, France</i>	
<b>Scalable and Manageable Customization of Workflows in Multi-Tenant SaaS Offerings .....</b>	432
<i>Majid Makki, KU Leuven, Belgium</i>	
<i>Dimitri Van Landuyt, KU Leuven, Belgium</i>	
<i>Stefan Walraven, KU Leuven, Belgium</i>	
<i>Wouter Joosen, KU Leuven, Belgium</i>	
<b>A Certification Framework for Cloud-Based Services .....</b>	440
<i>M. Anisetti, Università degli Studi di Milano, Italy</i>	
<i>C.A. Ardagna, Università degli Studi di Milano, Italy</i>	
<i>F. Gaudenzi, Università degli Studi di Milano, Italy</i>	
<i>E. Damiani, Etisalat British Telecom Innovation Center Khalifa University of Science, Technology and Research Abu Dhabi, UAE</i>	
<b>NCaaS: Network Configuration as a Service in SDN-Driven Cloud Architectures .....</b>	448
<i>Maha Shamseddine, American University of Beirut, Lebanon</i>	
<i>Imad Elhajj, American University of Beirut, Lebanon</i>	
<i>Ali Chehab, American University of Beirut, Lebanon</i>	
<i>Ayman Kayssi, American University of Beirut, Lebanon</i>	
<i>Wassim Itani, Beirut Arab University, Lebanon</i>	
<b>Evaluating the Elasticity of Multimedia Applications in a Cloud Computing Environment using Network Metrics .....</b>	455
<i>Emanuel F. Coutinho, Federal University of Ceará, Brazil</i>	
<i>Paulo A.L. Rego, Federal University of Ceará, Brazil</i>	
<i>José Neuman de Souza, Federal University of Ceará, Brazil</i>	
<b>An Enhanced Biomorphic Model for Cloud Scaling .....</b>	462
<i>Gyorgi Stoykov, Oslo and Akershus University College, Norway</i>	
<i>Anis Yazidi, Oslo and Akershus University College, Norway</i>	
<b>Poster Papers</b>	
<b>Inventory Theory Applied to Cost Optimization in Cloud Computing .....</b>	470
<i>Andrea Nodari, Imperial College, UK</i>	
<i>Jukka K. Nurminen, Aalto University, Finland</i>	
<i>Christian Frühwirth, Nordcloud Oy, Finland</i>	
<b>Dynamic Partitioning of Physical Memory Among Virtual Machines [ASMI:Architectural Support for Memory Isolation] .....</b>	474
<i>Jithin R, NIT Calicut, India</i>	
<i>Priya Chandran, NIT Calicut, India</i>	
<b>A Plug-and-Work Tool for Cloud System Reconfiguration with Single Command .....</b>	477
<i>Ruey-Kai Sheu, Tunghai University, Taiwan</i>	
<i>Shyan-Ming Yuan, National Chiao Tung University, Taiwan</i>	
<i>Xiao-Long Liu, National Chiao Tung University, Taiwan</i>	
<i>Po-Yu Chung, National Chiao Tung University, Taiwan</i>	

<b>Reliable Modeling of CPU usage in an Office Worker Environment .....</b>	480
<i>Hugo Lewi Hammer, Oslo and Akershus University College of Applied Sciences, Norway</i>	
<i>Anis Yazidi, Oslo and Akershus University College of Applied Sciences, Norway</i>	
<i>Kyrre Begnum, Oslo and Akershus University College of Applied Sciences, Norway</i>	
<b>PaaS Dependability Integration Architecture based on Cloud Brokering .....</b>	484
<i>Wiem Abderrahim, Carthage University, Tunisia</i>	
<i>Zied Choukair, Carthage University, Tunisia</i>	
<b>Student Research Competition Paper</b>	
<b>Student Research Abstract: Towards Workload-Aware Fine-Grained Control over Cloud Resources .....</b>	488
<i>Amjad Ullah, University of Stirling, UK</i>	
<b>Dependable and Adaptive Distributed Systems Track</b>	
<b>Track Co-Chairs:</b>	
Karl M. Goeschka, UAS Technikum Vienna, Austria	
Rui Oliveira, Universidade do Minho, Portugal	
Peter Pietzuch, Imperial College London, UK	
Giovanni Russello, University of Auckland, New Zealand	
<b>Track Editorial .....</b>	490
<b>Stretching Multi-Ring Paxos .....</b>	492
<i>Samuel Benz, University of Lugano, Switzerland</i>	
<i>Leandro Pacheco de Sousa, University of Lugano, Switzerland</i>	
<i>Fernando Pedone, University of Lugano, Switzerland</i>	
<b>Planning the Transformation of Overlays .....</b>	500
<i>Young Yoon, Hongik University, South Korea</i>	
<i>Nathan Robinson, University of Toronto, Canada</i>	
<i>Vinod Muthusamy, IBM T.J. Watson Research Center, USA</i>	
<i>Sheila McIlraith, University of Toronto, Canada</i>	
<i>Hans-Arno Jacobsen, University of Toronto, Canada</i>	
<b>NATCloud: Cloud-Assisted NAT-Traversal Service .....</b>	508
<i>Hanna Kavalionak, CNR-ISTI, Italy</i>	
<i>Amir H. Payberah, Swedish Institute of Computer Science, Sweden</i>	
<i>Alberto Montresor, University of Trento, Italy</i>	
<i>Jim Dowling, Swedish Institute of Computer Science, Sweden</i>	
<b>Dynamic Adaptation of Geo-Replicated CRDTs .....</b>	514
<i>Carlos Bartolomeu, INESC-ID, Instituto Superior Tecnico, Universidade de Lisboa, Portugal</i>	
<i>Manuel Bravo, INESC-ID, Instituto Superior Tecnico, Universidade de Lisboa, Portugal</i>	
<i>Luis Rodrigues, INESC-ID, Instituto Superior Tecnico, Universidade de Lisboa, Portugal</i>	
<b>Monitoring Service Level Workload and Adapting Highly Available Applications .....</b>	522
<i>Mehran Khan, Concordia University, Canada</i>	
<i>Ferhat Khendek, Concordia University, Canada</i>	
<i>Maria Toeroe, Ericsson Inc., Canada</i>	

## **Poster Papers**

<b>A Multi-Criteria Ranking of Security Countermeasures .....</b>	530
<i>Nicola Nostro, ResilTech Srl, Italy</i>	
<i>Ilaria Matteucci, Institute of Informatics and Telematics of CNR, Italy</i>	
<i>Andrea Ceccarelli, University of Florence, Italy</i>	
<i>Francesco Santini, University of Perugia, Italy</i>	
<i>Felicità Di Giandomenico, ISTI - CNR, Italy</i>	
<i>Fabio Martinelli, Institute of Informatics and Telematics of CNR, Italy</i>	
<i>Andrea Bondavalli, University of Florence, Italy</i>	
<b>Analysis of Checkpointing Overhead in Parallel State Machine Replication .....</b>	534
<i>Odorico M. Mendizabal, Universidade Federal do Rio Grande, Brazil</i>	
<i>Fernando Luís Dotti, Pontifícia Universidade Católica do Rio Grande do Sul, Brazil</i>	
<i>Fernando Pedone, University of Lugano, Switzerland</i>	
<b>Deadlock Models in Distributed Computation: Foundations, Design, and Computational Complexity .....</b>	538
<i>Valmir Carneiro Barbosa, Universidade Federal do Rio de Janeiro, Brazil</i>	
<i>Alan Diégo A. Carneiro, Universidade Federal Fluminense, Brazil</i>	
<i>Fábio Protti, Universidade Federal Fluminense, Brazil</i>	
<i>Uéverton S. Souza, Universidade Federal Fluminense, Brazil</i>	
<b>Virtualization Technologies for the Big Data Environment .....</b>	542
<i>Aymen Jlassi, University François-Rabelais of Tours, France</i>	
<i>Patrick Martineau, University François-Rabelais of Tours, France</i>	
<b>Mobile Computing and Applications Track</b>	
<b>Track Co-Chairs:</b> Hong Va Leong, Hong Kong Polytechnic University, Hong Kong	
Alvin Chan, Singapore Institute of Technology, Singapore	
<b>Toward Accurate Energy-Efficient Cellular Network: Switching Off Excessive Carriers based on Traffic Profiling .....</b>	546
<i>Bin Cao, Zhejiang University of Technology, China</i>	
<i>Jing Fan, Zhejiang University of Technology, China</i>	
<i>Mingxuan Yuan, Huawei Noah's Ark Lab, Hong Kong</i>	
<i>Yanhua Li, Worcester Polytechnic Institute, USA</i>	
<b>Automated Semantic Trajectory Annotation with Indoor Point-of-Interest Visits in Urban Areas .....</b>	552
<i>Victor De Graaff, University of Twente, The Netherlands</i>	
<i>Rolf A. De By, University of Twente, The Netherlands</i>	
<i>Maurice Van Keulen, University of Twente, The Netherlands</i>	
<b>Context-Aware Daily Activity Summarization with Adaptive Transmission .....</b>	560
<i>Chung-Kuang Chou, National Taiwan University, Taiwan</i>	
<i>Chia-Chih Lin, National Taiwan University, Taiwan</i>	
<i>Ming-Syan Chen, National Taiwan University, Taiwan</i>	
<b>Mobile Platform Support for Remote Music Play .....</b>	566
<i>Hochul Lee, Hanyang University, South Korea</i>	
<i>Jaehun Lee, Hanyang University, South Korea</i>	
<i>Hyuck Han, Dongduk Women's University, South Korea</i>	
<i>Sooyong Kang, Hanyang University, South Korea</i>	

<b>Virtual Running of Vehicle Trajectories for Automatic Map Generation .....</b>	572
<i>Jinkwan Park, Pusan National University, South Korea</i>	
<i>Taeyong Kim, Pusan National University, South Korea</i>	
<i>Bokuk Park, Pusan National University, South Korea</i>	
<i>Hwan-Gue Cho, Pusan National University, South Korea</i>	
<b>Insights into Rooted and Non-Rooted Android Mobile Devices with Behavior Analytics .....</b>	580
<i>Yun Shen, Symantec Research Labs, Ireland</i>	
<i>Nathan Evans, Symantec Research Labs, USA</i>	
<i>Azzedine Benamer, Symantec Research Labs, USA</i>	
<b>Real-Time Counting of Moving Objects in Complex Environments .....</b>	588
<i>Alfredo Cuzzocrea, University of Trieste and ICAR-CNR, Italy</i>	
<i>Enzo Mumolo, University of Trieste, Italy</i>	
<i>Alessandro Moro, Chuo University, Japan</i>	
<b>Voronoi Maps: An Approach to Individual-Based Environmental Exposure Estimation .....</b>	596
<i>Wan D. Bae, University of Wisconsin - Stout, USA</i>	
<i>Shayma Alkobaisi, United Arab Emirates University, UAE</i>	
<i>Wade Meyers, Colorado School of Mines, USA</i>	
<i>Sada Narayanappa, Microsoft, USA</i>	
<i>Petr Vojtěchovský, University of Denver, USA</i>	
<b>Navigating Visually Impaired Travelers in a Large Train Station using Smartphone and Bluetooth Low Energy .....</b>	604
<i>Jee-Eun Kim, The University of Tokyo, Japan</i>	
<i>Masahiro Bessho, The University of Tokyo, Japan</i>	
<i>Shinsuke Kobayashi, YRP Ubiquitous Networking Laboratory, Japan</i>	
<i>Noboru Koshizuka, The University of Tokyo, Japan</i>	
<i>Ken Sakamura, The University of Tokyo, Japan</i>	
<b>A Sensor Cloud Architecture for Healthcare Applications .....</b>	612
<i>Mohamed Jacem Guezguez, University of Carthage, Tunisia</i>	
<i>Slim Rekhis, University of Carthage, Tunisia</i>	
<i>Noureddine Boudriga, University of Carthage, Tunisia</i>	
<b>Poster Papers</b>	
<b>An Android Application for Head Tracking .....</b>	618
<i>Massimiliano Benedetto, University of Pisa, Italy</i>	
<i>Alessio Gagliardi, University of Pisa, Italy</i>	
<i>Pasquale Buonocunto, Scuola Superiore Sant'Anna, Italy</i>	
<i>Giorgio Buttazzo, Scuola Superiore Sant'Anna, Italy</i>	
<b>A Crowdsourcing Game-Theoretic Intrusion Detection and Rating System .....</b>	622
<i>Farah Saab, American University of Beirut, Lebanon</i>	
<i>Imad Elhajj, American University of Beirut, Lebanon</i>	
<i>Ayman Kayssi, American University of Beirut, Lebanon</i>	
<i>Ali Chehab, American University of Beirut, Lebanon</i>	
<b>Towards a Component Infrastructure for Cyber-Physical Systems .....</b>	626
<i>Marcio E.F. Maia, Federal University of Ceará, Brazil</i>	
<i>Rossana M.C. Andrade, Federal University of Ceará, Brazil</i>	
<i>Windson Viana, Federal University of Ceará, Brazil</i>	

## **Student Research Competition Paper**

**Student Research Abstract: A Mobile News Reader that Turns News Consumption into a Game .....** 629  
*Catherine Sotirakou, University of Athens, Greece*

**Student Research Abstract: A Data Driven Context Aware Activity Recognition System .....** 631  
*Piyush Rai Saxena, Marquette University, USA*

**Student Research Abstract: Context-Driven Mobile Apps Management and Recommendation .....** 633  
*Yong Zheng, DePaul University, USA*

## **Networking Track**

**Track Co-Chairs:** Mario M. Freire, University of Beira Interior, Portugal  
Marilia Curado, University of Coimbra, Portugal  
Manuela Pereira, University of Beira Interior, Portugal  
Teresa Vazão, University of Lisboa, Portugal

**Track Editorial .....** 635

**Prioritizing Deadline-Constrained Data Flows in Cloud Datacenter Networks .....** 636  
*Maurice Khabbaz, Notre-Dame University, Lebanon  
Khaled Shaban, Qatar University, Qatar  
Chadi Assi, Concordia University, Canada  
Long Qu, Qatar University, Qatar*

**LoSeRO: A Locality Sensitive Routing Protocol in Opportunistic Networks .....** 644  
*Gianpiero Costantino, Institute of Informatics and Telematics of CNR, Italy  
Rajib Ranjan Maiti, Institute of Informatics and Telematics of CNR, Italy  
Fabio Martinelli, Institute of Informatics and Telematics of CNR, Italy  
Paolo Santi, Institute of Informatics and Telematics of CNR, Italy*

**Available Bandwidth Measurement in Software Defined Networks .....** 651  
*Péter Megyesi, Budapest University of Technology and Economics, Hungary  
Alessio Botta, University of Napoli Federico II, Italy  
Giuseppe Aceto, University of Napoli Federico II, Italy  
Antonio Pescapè, University of Napoli Federico II, Italy  
Sándor Molnár, Budapest University of Technology and Economics, Hungary*

**Policy based Security Architecture for Software Defined Networks .....** 658  
*Kallol Krishna Karmakar, Macquarie University, Australia  
Vijay Varadharajan, Macquarie University, Australia  
Udaya Tupakula, Macquarie University, Australia  
Michael Hitchens, Macquarie University, Australia*

**Circuit-Switched Translucent Optical Networks Planning with User Level QoS .....** 664  
*André Soares, Federal University of Piauí, Brazil  
Alexandre Fontinele, Federal University of Piauí, Brazil  
Gilvan Durães, Federal Institute Baiano, Brazil  
William Giozza, University of Brasília, Brazil  
José Roberto Amazonas, University of São Paulo, Brazil*

## **Poster Papers**

<b>PLIERS: A Popularity-Based Recommender System for Content Dissemination in Online Social Networks .....</b>	671
<i>Valerio Arnaboldi, Institute of Informatics and Telematics of CNR, Italy</i>	
<i>Mattia Giovanni Campana, Institute of Informatics and Telematics of CNR, Italy</i>	
<i>Franca Delmastro, Institute of Informatics and Telematics of CNR, Italy</i>	
<i>Elena Pagani, Università degli Studi di Milano, Italy</i>	
 <b>Wireless Communications and Networking Track</b>	
<b>Track Co-Chairs:</b> Dongkyun Kim, Kyungpook National University, South Korea	
Wei Wang, San Diego State University, United States	
<b>Track Editorial .....</b>	674
<b>Cooperative Localisation with Hybrid Inertial Navigation System/Pedestrian Dead Reckoning Tracking for GPS-Denied Environments .....</b>	675
<i>Panagiotis Agis Oikonomou-Filandras, University College London, UK</i>	
<i>Kai-Kit Wong, University College London, UK</i>	
<i>Zhongbin Zheng, East China Institute of Telecommunications, China</i>	
<i>Yangyang Zhang, Kuang-Chi Institute of Advanced Technology, China</i>	
<b>A Scalable Multiagent Approach for Channel Assignment in Wireless Networks .....</b>	682
<i>T.L. Monteiro, DAINF - Federal Technological University of Parana, Brazil</i>	
<i>M.E. Pellenz, PPGIa - Pontifical Catholic University of Parana, Brazil</i>	
<i>E. Jamhour, PPGIa - Pontifical Catholic University of Parana, Brazil</i>	
<i>M.C. Penna, PPGIa - Pontifical Catholic University of Parana, Brazil</i>	
<i>F. Enembreck, PPGIa - Pontifical Catholic University of Parana, Brazil</i>	
<i>R.D. Souza, CPGEI - Federal Technological University of Parana, Brazil</i>	
<b>A Joint User Association and Load Balancing Scheme for Wireless LANs Supporting Multicast Transmission .....</b>	688
<i>Made Harta Dwijaksara, Seoul National University, South Korea</i>	
<i>Wha Sook Jeon, Seoul National University, South Korea</i>	
<i>Dong Geun Jeong, Hankuk University of Foreign Studies, South Korea</i>	
<b>Comparative Study of Routing Strategies in Software Defined Networking .....</b>	696
<i>Sahrish Khan, COMSATS Institute of Information Technology, Pakistan</i>	
<i>Abdul Wahid, COMSATS Institute of Information Technology, Pakistan</i>	
<i>Sadaf Tanvir, COMSATS Institute of Information Technology, Pakistan</i>	
<b>On Best Drone Tour Plans for Data Collection in Wireless Sensor Network .....</b>	703
<i>Rone Ilidio da Silva, Federal University of Sao Joao del-Rei, Brazil</i>	
<i>Mario A. Nascimento, University of Alberta, Canada</i>	
<b>E-ProbT: A New Approach to Mitigate the Broadcast Storm Problem in VANETs .....</b>	709
<i>Daniel Sucupira Lima, Universidade Estadual do Ceará, Brazil</i>	
<i>Joaquim Celestino Júnior, Universidade Estadual do Ceará, Brazil</i>	
<b>Analytical Study of Anycast Asynchronous MAC Protocols for Wireless Sensor Networks .....</b>	716
<i>Tales Heimfarth, Federal University of Lavras, Brazil</i>	
<i>João Carlos Giacomin, Federal University of Lavras, Brazil</i>	
<i>João Paulo de Araújo, Federal University of Lavras, Brazil</i>	
<i>Edison Pignaton de Freitas, Federal University of Rio Grande do Sul, Brazil</i>	

<b>Interest Forwarding in Vehicular Information Centric Networks: A Survey .....</b>	724
<i>Muhammad Azfar Yaqub, Kyungpook National University, South Korea</i>	
<i>Syed Hassan Ahmed, Kyungpook National University, South Korea</i>	
<i>Safdar H. Bouk, Kyungpook National University, South Korea</i>	
<i>Dongkyun Kim, Kyungpook National University, South Korea</i>	

## **Poster Papers**

<b>An Adaptive Hole-Bypassing Algorithm for Wireless Sensor Networks .....</b>	730
<i>Khaled Hadi, Kuwait University, Kuwait</i>	

<b>Limited Space Oriented Optimized Storage Protocol in Autonomous Mobile Cloud .....</b>	734
<i>Bo Cui, Inner Mongolia University, China</i>	
<i>Ru Li, Inner Mongolia University, China</i>	
<i>Jing Liu, Inner Mongolia University, China</i>	
<i>Yujun Zhang, Chinese Academy of Sciences, China</i>	
<i>Zhongcheng Li, Chinese Academy of Sciences, China</i>	

<b>DS-MMAC: Dynamic Schedule based MAC for Mobile Wireless Sensor Network .....</b>	738
<i>Sreejith V, BITS-Pilani, India</i>	
<i>Suriyadeepan R, BITS-Pilani, India</i>	
<i>Anupama K.R., BITS-Pilani, India</i>	
<i>Lucy J. Gudino, BITS-Pilani, India</i>	

<b>Development of an O2O (Offline to Online) Application Case based on Person Wide Web Platform .....</b>	742
<i>Sunju Ha, Hannam University, South Korea</i>	
<i>Jisup Yoon, Hannam University, South Korea</i>	
<i>Seongbae Eun, Hannam University, South Korea</i>	
<i>Sun-sup So, Gongju University, South Korea</i>	
<i>Jinman Jung, Hannam University, South Korea</i>	
<i>Young-Sun Yun, Hannam University, South Korea</i>	

## **Student Research Competition Paper**

<b>Student Research Abstract: Internet of Things-Based Smart Classroom Environment .....</b>	746
<i>Amir Atabekov, Kennesaw State University, USA</i>	

## **Web Technologies Track**

<b>Track Co-Chairs:</b>	Angelo Di Iorio, University of Bologna, Italy
	Davide Rossi, University of Bologna, Italy
	Cristian Mateos, UNICEN University, Argentina

<b>Track Editorial .....</b>	748
------------------------------	-----

<b>Who Likes Me More? Analysing Entity-Centric Language-Specific bias in Multilingual Wikipedia .....</b>	750
<i>Yiwei Zhou, University of Warwick, UK</i>	
<i>Elena Demidova, L3S Research Center, Germany</i>	
<i>Alexandra I. Cristea, University of Warwick, UK</i>	

<b>Rich Cloud-Based Web Applications with CloudBrowser 2.0 .....</b>	758
<i>Xiaozhong Pan, Virginia Tech, USA</i>	
<i>Godmar Back, Virginia Tech, USA</i>	

<b>Automatic Identification of Drop-Down Menu Widgets using Mutation Observers and Visibility Changes .....</b>	766
<i>Willian Massami Watanabe, Universidade Tecnológica Federal do Paraná, Brazil</i>	
<i>Renata Pontin de Mattos Fortes, University of São Paulo, Brazil</i>	
<b>Duplicate Detection in Web Shops using LSH to Reduce the Number of Computations .....</b>	772
<i>Iris van Dam, Erasmus University Rotterdam, The Netherlands</i>	
<i>Gerhard van Ginkel, Erasmus University Rotterdam, The Netherlands</i>	
<i>Wim Kuipers, Erasmus University Rotterdam, The Netherlands</i>	
<i>Nikki Nijenhuis, Erasmus University Rotterdam, The Netherlands</i>	
<i>Damir Vandic, Erasmus University Rotterdam, The Netherlands</i>	
<i>Flavius Frasincar, Erasmus University Rotterdam, The Netherlands</i>	
<b>Job Recommendation in AskStory: Experiences, Methods, and Evaluation .....</b>	780
<i>Yeon-Chang Lee, Hanyang University, South Korea</i>	
<i>Jiwon Hong, Hanyang University, South Korea</i>	
<i>Sang-Wook Kim, Hanyang University, South Korea</i>	
<b>Supporting Adaptation of Web Applications to the Mobile Environment with Automated Usability Evaluation .....</b>	787
<i>Luiz F. Gonçalves, Federal University of Itajubá, Brazil</i>	
<i>Leandro G. Vasconcelos, National Institute for Space Research, Brazil</i>	
<i>Ethan V. Munson, University Wisconsin-Milwaukee, USA</i>	
<i>Laércio A. Baldochi, Federal University of Itajubá, Brazil</i>	
<b>Automatic Performance Space Exploration of Web Applications using Genetic Algorithms .....</b>	795
<i>Tanvir Ahmad, Åbo Akademi University, Finland</i>	
<i>Dragos Truscan, Åbo Akademi University, Finland</i>	
<b>Object Injection Vulnerability Discovery based on Latent Semantic Indexing .....</b>	801
<i>Hossain Shahriar, Kennesaw State University, USA</i>	
<i>Hisham Haddad, Kennesaw State University, USA</i>	
<b>Poster Papers</b>	
<b>MorphingAssist: Seamless Transformation from Keywords to Structured Queries .....</b>	808
<i>Yui Yasunaga, University of Tsukuba, Japan</i>	
<i>Atsuyuki Morishima, University of Tsukuba, Japan</i>	
<b>Simultaneous Editing of JSON Objects via Operational Transformation .....</b>	812
<i>Tim Jungnickel, Technische Universität Berlin, Germany</i>	
<i>Tobias Herb, Technische Universität Berlin, Germany</i>	
<b>Controlling the Elasticity of Web Applications on Cloud Computing .....</b>	816
<i>Michel Albonico, Universidade Tecnológica Federal do Paraná and Mines Nantes, Brazil/France</i>	
<i>Jean-Marie Mottu, University of Nantes, France</i>	
<i>Gerson Sunyé, University of Nantes, France</i>	
<b>Analyzing Crowdsourced Promotion Effects in Online Social Networks .....</b>	820
<i>Hee-Jeong Kim, Hanyang University, South Korea</i>	
<i>Dong-Kyu Chae, Hanyang University, South Korea</i>	
<i>Sang-Wook Kim, Hanyang University, South Korea</i>	
<i>Jongwuk Lee, Hankuk University of Foreign Studies, South Korea</i>	

## Data Mining Track

**Track Co-Chairs:** Hasan Jamil, University of Idaho, United States  
Stefan Kramer, Johannes Gutenberg University - Mainz, Germany  
Raymond Wong, University of New South Wales, Australia

<b>PatchWork: A Scalable Density-Grid Clustering Algorithm .....</b>	824
<i>Frank Gouineau, Computer Research Institute of Montreal, Canada</i>	
<i>Tom Landry, Computer Research Institute of Montreal, Canada</i>	
<i>Thomas Triplet, Computer Research Institute of Montreal, Canada</i>	
<b>A Robust Density-Based Clustering Algorithm for Multi-Manifold Structure .....</b>	832
<i>Jianpeng Zhang, Eindhoven University of Technology, The Netherlands</i>	
<i>Mykola Pechenizkiy, Eindhoven University of Technology, The Netherlands</i>	
<i>Yulong Pei, Eindhoven University of Technology, The Netherlands</i>	
<i>Julia Efremova, Eindhoven University of Technology, The Netherlands</i>	
<b>Mining Structured Petri Nets for the Visualization of Process Behavior .....</b>	839
<i>Javier De San Pedro, Universitat Politecnica de Catalunya, Spain</i>	
<i>Jordi Cortadella, Universitat Politecnica de Catalunya, Spain</i>	
<b>Interactive Generic Learning Method (IGLM): A New Approach to Interactive Short Text Classification .....</b>	847
<i>Ameni Bouaziz, University of Nice Sophia Antipolis, France</i>	
<i>Célia da Costa Pereira, University of Nice Sophia Antipolis, France</i>	
<i>Christel Dartigues-Pallez, University of Nice Sophia Antipolis, France</i>	
<i>Frédéric Precioso, University of Nice Sophia Antipolis, France</i>	
<b>Language-Independent Multi-Document Text Summarization with Document-Specific Word Associations .....</b>	853
<i>Oskar Gross, University of Helsinki, Finland</i>	
<i>Antoine Doucet, University of La Rochelle, France</i>	
<i>Hannu Toivonen, University of Helsinki, Finland</i>	
<b>Efficient Algorithms for Mining Recent Weighted Frequent Itemsets in Temporal Transactional Databases .....</b>	861
<i>Jerry Chun-Wei Lin, Harbin Institute of Technology Shenzhen Graduate School, China</i>	
<i>Wensheng Gan, Harbin Institute of Technology Shenzhen Graduate School, China</i>	
<i>Philippe Fournier-Viger, Harbin Institute of Technology Shenzhen Graduate School, China</i>	
<i>Tzung-Pei Hong, National University of Kaohsiung, Taiwan</i>	
<b>Redundancy Reduction: Does it Help Associative Classifiers? .....</b>	867
<i>Luiza Antonie, University of Guelph, Canada</i>	
<i>Osmar R. Zaïane, University of Alberta, Canada</i>	
<i>Robert C. Holte, University of Alberta, Canada</i>	
<b>On Structure Preserving Sampling and Approximate Partitioning of Graphs .....</b>	875
<i>Wouter van Heeswijk, Eindhoven University of Technology, The Netherlands</i>	
<i>George H.L. Fletcher, Eindhoven University of Technology, The Netherlands</i>	
<i>Mykola Pechenizkiy, Eindhoven University of Technology, The Netherlands</i>	
<b>Trading Off Accuracy for Efficiency by Randomized Greedy Warping .....</b>	883
<i>Atif Raza, Johannes Gutenberg-Universität Mainz, Germany</i>	
<i>Jörg Wicker, Johannes Gutenberg-Universität Mainz, Germany</i>	
<i>Stefan Kramer, Johannes Gutenberg-Universität Mainz, Germany</i>	

## **Poster Papers**

- An Optimization Method of Extreme Learning Machine for Regression .....** 891  
*Xiao-jian Ding, Science and Technology on Information Systems, China*  
*Xiao-guang Liu, Science and Technology on Information Systems, China*  
*Xin Xu, Science and Technology on Information Systems, China*

- LayerFolding: Discovering Creative Links in Word Association Networks .....** 894  
*Ping Xiao, University of Helsinki, Finland*  
*Hannu Toivonen, University of Helsinki, Finland*

- Efficient Closed High-Utility Itemset Mining .....** 898  
*Philippe Fournier-Viger, Harbin Institute of Technology Shenzhen Graduate School, China*  
*Souleymane Zida, University of Moncton, Canada*  
*Jerry Chun-Wei Lin, Harbin Institute of Technology Shenzhen Graduate School, China*  
*Cheng-Wei Wu, National Chiao Tung University, Taiwan*  
*Vincent S. Tseng, National Chiao Tung University, Taiwan*

- A Methodology for Selecting the Most Suitable Cluster Validation Internal Indices .....** 901  
*Caroline Tomasin, Universidade Federal do Rio Grande, Brazil*  
*Leonardo Emmendorfer, Universidade Federal do Rio Grande, Brazil*  
*Eduardo N. Borges, Universidade Federal do Rio Grande, Brazil*  
*Karina Machado, Universidade Federal do Rio Grande, Brazil*

- Clustering Nodes with Attributes via Graph Alignment .....** 904  
*Dimitrios Rafailidis, Aristotle University of Thessaloniki, Greece*

## **Student Research Competition Paper**

- Student Research Abstract: An Efficient and Effective Link-Based Similarity Measure in Social and Information Networks .....** 908  
*Masoud Reyhani Hamedani, Hanyang University, South Korea*

## **Data Streams Track**

- Track Co-Chairs:** Albert Bifet, Université Paris-Saclay, France  
Pedro P. Rodrigues, Universidade do Porto, Portugal  
João Gama, University of Porto, Portugal

- A Support Vector based Approach for Classification Beyond the Learned Label Space in Data Streams .....** 910  
*Poorya ZareMoodi, Sharif University of Technology, Iran*  
*Sajjad Kamali Siahroudi, Sharif University of Technology, Iran*  
*Hamid Beigy, Sharif University of Technology, Iran*

- Real Time Streaming Pattern Detection for eCommerce .....** 916  
*William Braik, Bordeaux University, France*  
*Floréal Morandat, Bordeaux University, France*  
*Jean-Rémy Falleri, Bordeaux University, France*  
*Xavier Blanc, Bordeaux University, France*

- Sampling Massive Streaming Call Graphs .....** 923  
*Shazia Tabassum, University of Porto, Portugal*  
*João Gama, University of Porto, Portugal*

<b>Fast Adaptive Stacking of Ensembles .....</b>	929
<i>Isvani Frias-Blanco, University of Granma, Cuba</i>	
<i>Alberto Verdecia-Cabrera, University of Granma, Cuba</i>	
<i>Agustín Ortiz-Díaz, University of Granma, Cuba</i>	
<i>Andre Carvalho, University of São Paulo, Brazil</i>	
<b>Wavelet Transform based Vehicle Detection from Sensors for Bridge Weigh-In-Motion .....</b>	935
<i>Juan Alegre-Sanahuja, National Institute of Informatics, Japan</i>	
<i>Wei Lu, National Institute of Informatics, Japan</i>	
<i>Atsuhiro Takasu, National Institute of Informatics, Japan</i>	
<b>Poster Papers</b>	
<b>Eventually Consistent Cardinality Estimation with Applications in BioData Mining .....</b>	941
<i>Georgios Drakopoulos, University of Patras, Greece</i>	
<i>Stavros Kontopoulos, University of Patras, Greece</i>	
<i>Christos Makris, University of Patras, Greece</i>	
<b>DOBRO: A Prediction Error Correcting Robot Under Drifts .....</b>	945
<i>Alexandr Maslov, Eindhoven University of Technology, The Netherlands</i>	
<i>Hoang Thanh Lam, IBM Research, Dublin, Ireland</i>	
<i>Mykola Pechenizkiy, Eindhoven University of Technology, The Netherlands</i>	
<i>Eric Bouillet, IBM Research, Dublin, Ireland</i>	
<i>Tommi Kärkkäinen, University of Jyväskylä, Finland</i>	
<b>Clustering Data Streams using a Forgetful Neural Model .....</b>	949
<i>Douglas O. Cardoso, Universidade Federal do Rio de Janeiro, Brazil</i>	
<i>Felipe França, Universidade Federal do Rio de Janeiro, Brazil</i>	
<i>João Gama, Universidade do Porto, Portugal</i>	
<b>Deferral Classification of Evolving Temporal Dependent Data Streams .....</b>	952
<i>Michael Mayo, University of Waikato, New Zealand</i>	
<i>Albert Bifet, LTCI, CNRS, Télécom ParisTech, France</i>	
<b>A New Time Series Classification Approach based on Recurrence Quantification Analysis and Gabor Filter .....</b>	955
<i>Angelo Silva, Faculdade de Computação, Brazil</i>	
<i>Renato Ishii, Faculdade de Computação, Brazil</i>	
<b>Student Research Competition Paper</b>	
<b>Student Research Abstract: Advances in Network-Based Ensemble Classifiers for Evolving Data Streams .....</b>	958
<i>Heitor Murilo Gomes, Pontifícia Universidade Católica do Paraná, Brazil</i>	

## **Database Theory, Technology and Applications Track**

**Track Co-Chairs:** Ramzi A. Haraty, Lebanese American University, Lebanon  
Apostolos N. Papadopoulos, Aristotle University, Greece  
Junping Sun, Nova Southeastern University, United States

<b>Track Editorial</b> .....	960
------------------------------	-----

<b>Improving SQL Query Performance on Embedded Devices using Pre-Compilation</b> .....	961
--	-----

*Graeme Douglas, University of British Columbia, Canada  
Ramon Lawrence, University of British Columbia, Canada*

<b>Take Me to SSD: A Hybrid Block-Selection Method on HDFS based on Storage Type</b> .....	965
--	-----

*Minkyung Kim, Yonsei University, South Korea  
Mincheol Shin, Yonsei University, South Korea  
Sanghyun Park, Yonsei University, South Korea*

<b>Efficient Algorithms for Processing Preference Queries</b> .....	972
---	-----

*Marcos Roberto Ribeiro, Federal University of Uberlândia and Federal Institute of Minas Gerais, Brazil  
Fabiola Souza F. Pereira, Federal University of Uberlândia, Brazil  
Vinícius Vitor S. Dias, Federal University of Minas Gerais, Brazil*

<b>Data Producer Catalogs for the Web of Things: A Study on NoSQL Solutions</b> .....	980
---	-----

*Alberto Trindade Tavares, Federal University of Pernambuco, Brazil  
Marcelo Iury de Sousa Oliveira, Federal Rural University of Pernambuco, Brazil  
Bernadette Farias Lóscio, Federal University of Pernambuco, Brazil*

<b>ClusMAM: Fast and Effective Unsupervised Clustering of Large Complex Datasets using Metric Access Methods</b> .....	986
--	-----

*Jessica A. de Souza, University of São Paulo, Brazil  
Mirela T. Cazzolato, University of São Paulo, Brazil  
Agma J.M. Traina, University of São Paulo, Brazil*

<b>OLAP Analysis of Multidimensional Tweet Streams for Supporting Advanced Analytics</b> .....	992
--	-----

*Alfredo Cuzzocrea, University of Trieste and ICAR-CNR, Italy  
Carmen De Maio, University of Salerno, Italy  
Giuseppe Fenza, University of Salerno, Italy  
Vincenzo Loia, University of Salerno, Italy  
Mimmo Parente, University of Salerno, Italy*

<b>Optimizing Hash Partitioning for Solid State Drives</b> .....	1000
--	------

*Mincheol Shin, Yonsei University, South Korea  
Hongchan Roh, Yonsei University, South Korea  
Wonmook Jung, LG Electronics, South Korea  
Sanghyun Park, Yonsei University, South Korea*

## **Poster Papers**

<b>Converting Spatiotemporal Data Among Multiple Granularity Systems</b> .....	1008
--	------

*Muhao Chen, University of California Los Angeles, USA  
Shi Gao, University of California Los Angeles, USA  
Jingheng Zhou, Fudan University, China  
X. Sean Wang, Fudan University, China*

## **Student Research Competition Paper**

**Student Research Abstract: A Methodology for Estimating Execution Times of IO Traces in SSDs ... 1011**  
*Yoonsuk Kang, Hanyang University, South Korea*

### **Information Access and Retrieval Track**

**Track Co-Chairs:** Gabriella Pasi, Università degli Studi di Milano Bicocca, Italy  
Gloria Bordogna, CNR IREA Consiglio Nazionale delle Ricerche, Italy

**Track Editorial** ..... 1013

**SPARQL Extensions with Preferences: A Survey** ..... 1015

*Olivier Pivert, University of Rennes 1, France  
Olfa Slama, University of Rennes 1, France  
Virginie Thion, University of Rennes 1, France*

**Modeling Clicks using Document Popularity** ..... 1021

*Xenophon Evangelopoulos, University of Patras, Greece  
Christos Makris, University of Patras, Greece*

**Feeling Lucky? Multi-Armed Bandits for Ordering Judgements in Pooling-Based Evaluation** ..... 1027

*David E. Losada, Universidad de Santiago de Compostela, Spain  
Javier Parapar, University of A Coruña, Spain  
Álvaro Barreiro, University of A Coruña, Spain*

**Direct Measurement of Training Query Quality for Learning to Rank** ..... 1035

*Qingli Ma, University of Chinese Academy of Sciences, China  
Ben He, University of Chinese Academy of Sciences, China  
Jungang Xu, University of Chinese Academy of Sciences, China*

**Aggregating Semantic Information Nuggets for Answering Clinical Queries** ..... 1041

*Eya Znaidi, Institut de Recherche en Informatique de Toulouse, France  
Lynda Tamine, Institut de Recherche en Informatique de Toulouse, France  
Chiraz Latiri, Université de Tunis, Tunisia*

**IT Company Atlas Upper Franconia: A Practical Application of Expert Search Techniques** ..... 1048

*Daniel Blank, University of Bamberg, Germany  
Sebastian Boosz, University of Bamberg, Germany  
Andreas Henrich, University of Bamberg, Germany*

**Proximity Relevance Model for Query Expansion** ..... 1054

*Liana Ermakova, Institut de Recherche en Informatique de Toulouse, France  
Josiane Mothe, Institut de Recherche en Informatique de Toulouse, France  
Elena Nikitina, Perm State National Research University, Russia*

**Modeling Trust and Distrust Information in Recommender Systems via**

**Joint Matrix Factorization with Signed Graphs** ..... 1060

*Dimitrios Rafailidis, Aristotle University of Thessaloniki, Greece*

**How do Users Handle Inconsistent Information? The Effect of Search Expertise** ..... 1066

*Kazutoshi Umemoto, Kyoto University, Japan  
Takehiro Yamamoto, Kyoto University, Japan  
Katsumi Tanaka, Kyoto University, Japan*

## **Poster Papers**

<b>Leveraging MPEG-21 User Description for Interoperable Recommender Systems .....</b>	1072
<i>Sabino Metta, Rai - Radiotelevisione Italiana Spa, Italy</i>	
<i>Paolo Casagrande, Rai - Radiotelevisione Italiana Spa, Italy</i>	
<i>Alberto Messina, Rai - Radiotelevisione Italiana Spa, Italy</i>	
<i>Maurizio Montagnuolo, Rai - Radiotelevisione Italiana Spa, Italy</i>	
<i>Francesco Russo, Rai - Radiotelevisione Italiana Spa, Italy</i>	
<b>ADORES: A Diversity-Oriented Online Recommender System .....</b>	1075
<i>Max Chevalier, Université de Toulouse, France</i>	
<i>Damien Dudognon, Overblog, France</i>	
<i>Josiane Mothe, Université de Toulouse, France</i>	

<b>Opinion Retrieval in Twitter using Stylistic Variations .....</b>	1077
<i>Anastasia Giachanou, Università della Svizzera Italiana, Switzerland</i>	
<i>Fabio Crestani, Università della Svizzera Italiana, Switzerland</i>	

<b>Exploiting Different Users' Interactions for Profiles Enrichment in Recommender Systems .....</b>	1080
<i>Arthur F. da Costa, University of São Paulo, Brazil</i>	
<i>Rafael D. Martins, University of São Paulo, Brazil</i>	
<i>Marcelo G. Manzato, University of São Paulo, Brazil</i>	
<i>Ricardo J.G.B. Campello, University of São Paulo, Brazil</i>	

<b>Towards Spreadsheet Integration using Entity Identification Driven by a Spatial-Temporal Model .....</b>	1083
<i>Ramoza Ahsan, Worcester Polytechnic Institute, USA</i>	
<i>Rodica Neamtu, Worcester Polytechnic Institute, USA</i>	
<i>Elke Rundensteiner, Worcester Polytechnic Institute, USA</i>	

## **Student Research Competition Paper**

<b>Student Research Abstract: Text Retrieval System based on a New Representation of Data and Semantic Relationships between Terms .....</b>	1086
<i>Nesrine Ksentini, University of Sfax, Tunisia</i>	

## **Social Network and Media Analysis Track**

Track Co-Chairs: Sang-Wook Kim, Hanyang University, South Korea

<b>Track Editorial .....</b>	1088
------------------------------	------

<b>A Community Detection Technique for Research Collaboration Networks based on Frequent Collaborators Cores .....</b>	1090
<i>Miloš Savić, University of Novi Sad, Serbia</i>	
<i>Mirjana Ivanović, University of Novi Sad, Serbia</i>	
<i>Bojana Dimić Surla, University of Novi Sad, Serbia</i>	

<b>Estimating Topical Volume in Social Media Streams .....</b>	1096
<i>Praveen Bommannavar, Twitter, USA</i>	
<i>Jimmy Lin, University of Waterloo, Canada</i>	
<i>Anand Rajaraman, Stanford University, USA</i>	

<b>SimRank and Its Variants in Academic Literature Data: Measures and Evaluation .....</b>	1102
<i>Masoud Reyhani Hamedani, Hanyang University, South Korea</i>	
<i>Sang-Wook Kim, Hanyang University, South Korea</i>	

<b>Pick the Right Team and make a Blockbuster: A Social Analysis through Movie History .....</b>	1108
<i>Wladston Viana, Universidade Federal de Minas Gerais, Brazil</i>	
<i>Ana Paula Couto da Silva, Universidade Federal de Minas Gerais, Brazil</i>	
<i>Mirella M. Moro, Universidade Federal de Minas Gerais, Brazil</i>	
<b>The Anatomy of Online Deception: What Makes Automated Text Convincing? .....</b>	1115
<i>Richard M. Everett, University of Oxford, UK</i>	
<i>Jason R.C. Nurse, University of Oxford, UK</i>	
<i>Arnaud Erola, University of Oxford, UK</i>	
<b>Personalized Time-Aware Outdoor Activity Recommendation System .....</b>	1121
<i>Shakiba Rahimiaghdam, Middle East Technical University, Turkey</i>	
<i>Pinar Karagöz, Middle East Technical University, Turkey</i>	
<i>Alev Mutlu, Kocaeli University, Turkey</i>	
<b>From Discussion to Wisdom: Web Resource Recommendation for Hyperlinks in Stack Overflow .....</b>	1127
<i>Jing Li, Nanyang Technological University, Singapore</i>	
<i>Zhenchang Xing, Nanyang Technological University, Singapore</i>	
<i>Deheng Ye, Nanyang Technological University, Singapore</i>	
<i>Xuejiao Zhao, Nanyang Technological University, Singapore</i>	
<b>Clique Covering of Large Real-World Networks .....</b>	1134
<i>Alessio Conte, University of Pisa, Italy</i>	
<i>Roberto Grossi, University of Pisa, Italy</i>	
<i>Andrea Marino, University of Pisa, Italy</i>	
<b>An Evaluation of Machine Translation for Multilingual Sentence-Level Sentiment Analysis .....</b>	1140
<i>Matheus Araújo, Federal University of Minas Gerais, Brazil</i>	
<i>Julio Reis, Federal University of Minas Gerais, Brazil</i>	
<i>Adriano Pereira, Federal University of Minas Gerais, Brazil</i>	
<i>Fabrício Benevenuto, Federal University of Minas Gerais, Brazil</i>	
<b>Opinion Retrieval in Twitter: Is Proximity Effective? .....</b>	1146
<i>Anastasia Giachanou, Università della Svizzera Italiana, Switzerland</i>	
<i>Fabio Crestani, Università della Svizzera Italiana, Switzerland</i>	
<b>Inferring Semantic Interest Profiles from Twitter Followees: Does Twitter Know Better than Your Friends? .....</b>	1152
<i>Christoph Besel, University of Passau, Germany</i>	
<i>Jörg Schütterer, University of Passau, Germany</i>	
<i>Michael Granitzer, University of Passau, Germany</i>	
<b>On the Combination of "Off-the-Shelf" Sentiment Analysis Methods .....</b>	1158
<i>Pollyanna Gonçalves, Federal University of Minas Gerais, Brazil</i>	
<i>Daniel Hasan Dalip, Federal University of Minas Gerais, Brazil</i>	
<i>Helen Costa, Federal University of Ouro Preto, Brazil</i>	
<i>Marcos André Gonçalves, Federal University of Minas Gerais, Brazil</i>	
<i>Fabrício Benevenuto, Federal University of Minas Gerais, Brazil</i>	

## **Poster Papers**

<b>Communication Overload Management through Social Interactions Clustering .....</b>	1166
<i>Juan Antonio Lossio-Ventura, University of Montpellier, France</i>	
<i>Hakim Hacid, Zayed University, UAE</i>	
<i>Mathieu Roche, CIRAD, France</i>	
<i>Pascal Poncelet, University of Montpellier, France</i>	
<b>Dynamic Mapping of Dense Geo-Tweets and Web Pages based on Spatio-Temporal Analysis .....</b>	1170
<i>Yuanyuan Wang, Nagoya University, Japan</i>	
<i>Goki Yasui, Kyoto Sangyo University, Japan</i>	
<i>Yukiko Kawai, Kyoto Sangyo University, Japan</i>	
<i>Toyokazu Akiyama, Kyoto Sangyo University, Japan</i>	
<i>Kazutoshi Sumiya, Kwansei Gakuen University, Japan</i>	
<i>Yoshiharu Ishikawa, Nagoya University, Japan</i>	
<b>Improving Classification of Tweets using Word-Word Co-Occurrence Information from a Large External Corpus .....</b>	1174
<i>Hugo Lewi Hammer, Oslo and Akershus University College of Applied Sciences, Norway</i>	
<i>Anis Yazidi, Oslo and Akershus University College of Applied Sciences, Norway</i>	
<i>Aleksander Bai, Oslo and Akershus University College of Applied Sciences, Norway</i>	
<i>Paal Engelstad, Oslo and Akershus University College of Applied Sciences, Norway</i>	
<b>Enhanced Community Detection in Social Networks using Active Spectral Clustering .....</b>	1178
<i>Sarah Habashi, Alexandria University, Egypt</i>	
<i>Nagia M. Ghanem, Alexandria University, Egypt</i>	
<i>Mohamed A. Ismail, Alexandria University, Egypt</i>	
<b>News Recommendation based on Tweets for Understanding of Opinion Variation and Events .....</b>	1182
<i>Douglas Rehem, Federal University of Rio de Janeiro, Brazil</i>	
<i>Jonice Oliveira, Federal University of Rio de Janeiro, Brazil</i>	
<i>Tiago França, Universidade Federal Rural do Rio de Janeiro, Brazil</i>	
<i>Walkir Brito, Federal University of Rio de Janeiro, Brazil</i>	
<i>Claudia Motta, Federal University of Rio de Janeiro, Brazil</i>	
<b>Impact of Offline Events on Online Link Creation: A Case Study on Events Advertised on Facebook .....</b>	1186
<i>Azadeh Esfandyari, Università degli Studi di Milano, Italy</i>	
<i>Matteo Zignani, Università degli Studi di Milano, Italy</i>	
<i>Sabrina Gaito, Università degli Studi di Milano, Italy</i>	
<i>Gian Paolo Rossi, Università degli Studi di Milano, Italy</i>	
<b>Student Research Competition Paper</b>	
<b>Student Research Abstract: Analyzing the Effect of Brand Building Activities on Brand Image using Topic Modeling Techniques .....</b>	1189
<i>Kapil Kaushik, Indian Institute of Management Indore, India</i>	

# **Volume II: Software Design and Development, and System Software and Security**

## **Enterprise Application Development and Design Track**

Track Co-Chairs: Tomas Cerny, Czech Technical University in Prague, Czech Republic

<b>Track Editorial .....</b>	1191
------------------------------	------

<b>On Security Level Usage in Context-Aware Role-Based Access Control .....</b>	1192
---	------

*Michal Trnka, Czech Technical University in Prague, Czech Republic*

*Tomas Cerny, Czech Technical University in Prague, Czech Republic*

<b>Automated Development of Constraint-Driven Web Applications .....</b>	1196
--	------

*Mario Luca Bernardi, Giustino Fortunato University, Italy*

*Marta Cimitile, Unitelma Sapienza University, Italy*

*Fabrizio Maria Maggi, University of Tartu, Estonia*

<b>Dynamically Reconfigurable Trust Policies for Untrustworthy Third-Party Components .....</b>	1204
---	------

*Kiev Gama, Universidade Federal de Pernambuco, Brazil*

*Didier Donsez, University of Grenoble, France*

## **Poster Papers**

<b>Method for Decomposition of Monolithic Enterprise Applications .....</b>	1210
---	------

*Solvita Berzisa, Riga Technical University, Latvia*

*Inese Polaka, Riga Technical University, Latvia*

*Inese Supulniece, Riga Technical University, Latvia*

*Janis Grabis, Riga Technical University, Latvia*

*Edgars Ozolins, Visma Enterprise, Latvia*

*Egils Meiers, Visma Enterprise, Latvia*

<b>Goal Achievement Analysis based on LTL Checking and Decision Tree for Improvements of PAIS .....</b>	1214
---	------

*Hiroki Horita, The University of Electro-Communications, Japan*

*Hideaki Hirayama, The University of Electro-Communications, Japan*

*Yasuyuki Tahara, The University of Electro-Communications, Japan*

*Akihiko Ohsuga, The University of Electro-Communications, Japan*

## **Multicore Software Engineering, Performance, Applications and Tools Track**

Track Co-Chairs: Tomas Vojnar, Brno University of Technology, Czech Republic

<b>Track Editorial .....</b>	1217
------------------------------	------

<b>An Operational Semantics of Cache Coherent Multicore Architectures .....</b>	1219
---	------

*Shiji Bijo, University of Oslo, Norway*

*Einar Broch Johnsen, University of Oslo, Norway*

*Ka I Pun, University of Oslo, Norway*

*S. Lizeth Tapia Tarifa, University of Oslo, Norway*



<b>Usability of Requirements Techniques: A Systematic Literature Review .....</b>	1270
<i>Denise Bombonatti, IBM Brazil, Brazil</i>	
<i>Catarina Gralha, Universidade NOVA de Lisboa, Portugal</i>	
<i>Ana Moreira, Universidade NOVA de Lisboa, Portugal</i>	
<i>João Araújo, Universidade NOVA de Lisboa, Portugal</i>	
<i>Miguel Goulão, Universidade NOVA de Lisboa, Portugal</i>	

<b>Eliciting Accessibility Requirements an Approach based on the NFR Framework .....</b>	1276
<i>Romeu Oliveira, Federal University of Rio Grande do Norte, Brazil</i>	
<i>Lyrene Silva, Federal University of Rio Grande do Norte, Brazil</i>	
<i>Julio Cesar Sampaio P. Leite, Catholic University of Rio de Janeiro, Brazil</i>	
<i>Ana Moreira, Universidade NOVA de Lisboa, Portugal</i>	

<b>Collaborative Requirements Elicitation in a European Research Project .....</b>	1282
<i>Guglielmo De Angelis, CNR-IASI, Italy</i>	
<i>Alessio Ferrari, CNR-ISTI, Italy</i>	
<i>Stefania Gnesi, CNR-ISTI, Italy</i>	
<i>Andrea Polini, University of Camerino, Italy</i>	

<b>Impacts of Agile Requirements Documentation Debt on Software Projects: A Retrospective Study ...</b>	1290
<i>Thiago Souto Mendes, Federal Institute of Bahia and Federal University of Bahia, Brazil</i>	
<i>Henrique Frota Soares, Salvador University, Brazil</i>	
<i>Mário André de F. Farias, Federal Institute of Sergipe and Federal University of Bahia, Brazil</i>	
<i>Marcos Kalinowski, Fluminense Federal University, Brazil</i>	
<i>Manoel Mendonça, Fraunhofer Proj. Center at UFBA, Brazil</i>	
<i>Rodrigo Oliveira Spinola, UFBA and Salvador University, Brazil</i>	

## **Poster Papers**

<b>Quality-Centric Feature Model Configuration using Goal Models .....</b>	1296
<i>Mahdi Noorian, University of New Brunswick, Canada</i>	
<i>Ebrahim Bagheri, Ryerson University, Canada</i>	
<i>Weichang Du, University of New Brunswick, Canada</i>	

## **Software Architecture: Theory, Technology and Applications Track**

**Track Co-Chairs:** Diego Perez-Palacin, Politecnico di Milano, Italy  
Patrizia Scandurra, University of Bergamo, Italy

<b>Track Editorial .....</b>	1300
------------------------------	------

<b>ArchFeature: Integrating Features into Product Line Architecture .....</b>	1302
<i>Gharib Gharibi, University of Missouri - Kansas City, USA</i>	
<i>Yongjie Zheng, University of Missouri - Kansas City, USA</i>	

<b>Exploring the Combination of Software Visualization and Data Clustering in the Software Architecture Recovery Process .....</b>	1309
<i>Renato Paiva, University of Brasília, Brazil</i>	
<i>Genaina N. Rodrigues, University of Brasília, Brazil</i>	
<i>Rodrigo Bonifácio, University of Brasília, Brazil</i>	
<i>Marcelo Ladeira, University of Brasília, Brazil</i>	

<b>SAMSON: Self-Adaptive Middleware for Wireless Sensor Networks .....</b>	1315
<i>Jesus M.T. Portocarrero, Federal University of Rio de Janeiro, Brazil</i>	
<i>Flávia C. Delicato, Federal University of Rio de Janeiro, Brazil</i>	
<i>Paulo F. Pires, Federal University of Rio de Janeiro, Brazil</i>	
<i>Taniro C. Rodrigues, Federal University of Rio Grande do Norte, Brazil</i>	
<i>Thais V. Batista, Federal University of Rio Grande do Norte, Brazil</i>	
<b>Case-Based Reasoning and Knowledge-Graph based Metamodel for Runtime Adaptive Architectural Modeling .....</b>	1323
<i>Marina Mongiello, Politecnico di Bari, Italy</i>	
<i>Tommaso Di Noia, Politecnico di Bari, Italy</i>	
<i>Francesco Nocera, Politecnico di Bari, Italy</i>	
<i>Eugenio Di Sciascio, Politecnico di Bari, Italy</i>	
<b>Squirrel: Architecture Driven Resource Management .....</b>	1329
<i>Inti Gonzalez-Herrera, University of Rennes 1 - IRISA, France</i>	
<i>Johann Bourcier, University of Rennes 1 - IRISA, France</i>	
<i>Walter Rudametkin, University of Lille - INRIA, France</i>	
<i>Olivier Barais, University of Rennes 1 - IRISA, France</i>	
<i>Francois Fouquet, University of Luxembourg, Luxembourg</i>	
<b>Deepening the Separation of Concerns in the Implementation of Multimedia Systems .....</b>	1337
<i>Marcio Ferreira Moreno, IBM Research, Brazil</i>	
<i>Rodrigo Santos, Pontifical Catholic University of Rio de Janeiro, Brazil</i>	
<i>Guilherme Lima, Pontifical Catholic University of Rio de Janeiro, Brazil</i>	
<i>Marcelo Moreno, Universidade Federal de Juiz de Fora, Brazil</i>	
<i>Luiz F. Soares, Pontifical Catholic University of Rio de Janeiro, Brazil</i>	
<b>Poster Papers</b>	
<b>Towards a (De)composable Workflow Architecture to Define Data Collection Policies .....</b>	1344
<i>Cyril Cecchinel, Université Nice Sophia-Antipolis, France</i>	
<i>Sébastien Mosser, Université Nice Sophia-Antipolis, France</i>	
<i>Philippe Collet, Université Nice Sophia-Antipolis, France</i>	
<b>Tool Support for Evaluating Architectural Debt of an Existing System: An Experience Report .....</b>	1347
<i>Francesca Arcelli Fontana, University of Milano-Bicocca, Italy</i>	
<i>Riccardo Roveda, University of Milano-Bicocca, Italy</i>	
<i>Marco Zanoni, University of Milano-Bicocca, Italy</i>	
<b>From Product Architectures to a Managed Automotive Software Product Line Architecture .....</b>	1350
<i>Benjamin Cool, Clausthal University of Technology, Germany</i>	
<i>Christoph Knieke, Clausthal University of Technology, Germany</i>	
<i>Andreas Rausch, Clausthal University of Technology, Germany</i>	
<i>Mirco Schindler, Clausthal University of Technology, Germany</i>	
<i>Arthur Strasser, Clausthal University of Technology, Germany</i>	
<i>Martin Vogel, Clausthal University of Technology, Germany</i>	
<i>Oliver Brox, Volkswagen AG, Germany</i>	
<i>Stefanie Jauns-Seyfried, Volkswagen AG, Germany</i>	
<b>A Taxonomy for Architectural Stability .....</b>	1354
<i>Maria Salama, University of Birmingham, UK</i>	
<i>Rami Bahsoon, University of Birmingham, UK</i>	

<b>Decoupled Concurrency: A Self-Adaptive Software Architecture for Programming Multicores .....</b>	1358
<i>Tai Nguyen, Washington State University, USA</i>	
<i>Xinghui Zhao, Washington State University, USA</i>	

## **Student Research Competition Paper**

<b>Student Research Abstract: Fuzzy Ontology-Driven Web-Based Framework for Supporting Architectural Design .....</b>	1361
<i>Francesco Nocera, Polytechnic University of Bari, Italy</i>	

## **Software Engineering Track**

<b>Track Co-Chairs:</b>	Eunjee Song, Baylor University, United States
	Byungjeong Lee, University of Seoul, South Korea

<b>Track Editorial .....</b>	1363
------------------------------	------

<b>Toward Improving Ability to Repair Bugs Automatically – A Patch Candidate Location Mechanism using Code Similarity .....</b>	1364
<i>Haruki Yokoyama, Osaka University, Japan</i>	
<i>Yoshiki Higo, Osaka University, Japan</i>	
<i>Keisuke Hotta, Osaka University, Japan</i>	
<i>Takafumi Ohta, Osaka University, Japan</i>	
<i>Kozo Okano, Osaka University, Japan</i>	
<i>Shinji Kusumoto, Osaka University, Japan</i>	

<b>BPMiner: Mining Developers' Behavior Patterns from Screen-Captured Task Videos .....</b>	1371
<i>Jing Li, Nanyang Technological University, Singapore</i>	
<i>Lingfeng Bao, Zhejiang University, China</i>	
<i>Zhenchang Xing, Nanyang Technological University, Singapore</i>	
<i>Xinyu Wang, Zhejiang University, China</i>	
<i>Bo Zhou, Zhejiang University, China</i>	

<b>Software-Specific Part-of-Speech Tagging: An Experimental Study on Stack Overflow .....</b>	1378
<i>Deheng Ye, Nanyang Technological University, Singapore</i>	
<i>Zhenchang Xing, Nanyang Technological University, Singapore</i>	
<i>Jing Li, Nanyang Technological University, Singapore</i>	
<i>Nachiket Kapre, Nanyang Technological University, Singapore</i>	

<b>Automated Memory Leak Fixing on Value-Flow Slices for C Programs .....</b>	1386
<i>Hua Yan, University of New South Wales, Australia</i>	
<i>Yulei Sui, University of New South Wales, Australia</i>	
<i>Shiping Chen, CSIRO, Australia</i>	
<i>Jingling Xue, University of New South Wales, Australia</i>	

<b>Checking Linearizability with Fine-Grained Traces .....</b>	1394
<i>Zhenyue Long, Guangdong Power Grid Co. Ltd., China</i>	
<i>Yu Zhang, Chinese Academy of Sciences, Jilin University, China</i>	

<b>Optimization of Feature Interactions for Automotive Combustion Engines .....</b>	1401
<i>Dominik Wagner, Robert Bosch AG, Austria</i>	
<i>Hermann Kaindl, Technische Universität Wien, Austria</i>	
<i>Sven Dominka, Robert Bosch AG, Austria</i>	
<i>Michael Dübner, Robert Bosch AG, Austria</i>	

<b>A Methodology Towards the Adaptization of Legacy Systems using Agent-Oriented Software Engineering .....</b>	1407
<i>Francois Wavresky, Ajou University, South Korea</i>	
<i>Seok-Won Lee, Ajou University, South Korea</i>	
<b>Evaluating and Comparing Complexity, Coupling and a New Proposed Set of Coupling Metrics in Cross-Project Vulnerability Prediction .....</b>	1415
<i>Sara Moshtari, Shiraz University, Iran</i>	
<i>Ashkan Sami, Shiraz University, Iran</i>	
<b>Students' and Professionals' Perceptions of Test-Driven Development: A Focus Group Study .....</b>	1422
<i>Giuseppe Scanniello, University of Basilicata, Italy</i>	
<i>Simone Romano, University of Basilicata, Italy</i>	
<i>Davide Fucci, University of Oulu Graduate School, Finland</i>	
<i>Burak Turhan, University of Oulu Graduate School, Finland</i>	
<i>Natalia Juristo, Universidad Politécnica de Madrid, Spain</i>	
<b>Simple Function Points for Effort Estimation: A Further Assessment .....</b>	1428
<i>Filomena Ferrucci, Università degli Studi di Salerno, Italy</i>	
<i>Carmine Gravino, Università degli Studi di Salerno, Italy</i>	
<i>Luigi Lavazza, Università degli Studi dell'Insubria, Italy</i>	
<b>An Empirical Study on the Effect of Programming Languages on Productivity .....</b>	1434
<i>Luigi Lavazza, Università degli Studi dell'Insubria, Italy</i>	
<i>Sandro Morasca, Università degli Studi dell'Insubria, Italy</i>	
<i>Davide Tosi, Università degli Studi dell'Insubria, Italy</i>	
<b>Automated Procedure Clustering for Reverse Engineering PL/SQL Programs .....</b>	1440
<i>Metin Altunışık, Turkcell Technology, Turkey</i>	
<i>Hasan Sözer, Ozyegin University, Turkey</i>	
<b>EMF-REST: Generation of RESTful APIs from Models .....</b>	1446
<i>Hamza Ed-douibi, Universitat Oberta de Catalunya, Spain</i>	
<i>Javier Luis Cánovas Izquierdo, Universitat Oberta de Catalunya, Spain</i>	
<i>Abel Gómez, Universidad de Zaragoza, Spain</i>	
<i>Massimo Tisi, AtlanMod team (Inria, Mines Nantes, LINA), France</i>	
<i>Jordi Cabot, ICREA - UOC, Spain</i>	
<b>Software Testing in a Scientific Research Group .....</b>	1454
<i>Matthew Patrick, University of Cambridge, UK</i>	
<i>James Elderfield, University of Cambridge, UK</i>	
<i>Richard O.J.H. Stutt, University of Cambridge, UK</i>	
<i>Andrew Rice, University of Cambridge, UK</i>	
<i>Christopher A. Gilligan, University of Cambridge, UK</i>	
<b>Towards a Generic Framework for Automating Extensive Analysis of Android Applications .....</b>	1460
<i>Li Li, University of Luxembourg, Luxembourg</i>	
<i>Daoyuan Li, University of Luxembourg, Luxembourg</i>	
<i>Alexandre Bartel, Technical University of Darmstadt, Germany</i>	
<i>Tegawendé F. Bissyandé, University of Luxembourg, Luxembourg</i>	
<i>Jacques Klein, University of Luxembourg, Luxembourg</i>	
<i>Yves Le Traon, University of Luxembourg, Luxembourg</i>	

<b>Similarity Management of 'Cloned and Owned' Variants .....</b>	1466
<i>Thomas Schmorleiz, University of Koblenz-Landau, Germany</i>	
<i>Ralf Lämmel, University of Koblenz-Landau, Germany</i>	
<b>A Systematic Mapping Study on Mining Software Repositories .....</b>	1472
<i>Mário André de Freitas Farias, Federal Institute of Sergipe and Federal University of Bahia, Brazil</i>	
<i>Renato Novais, Fraunhofer Project Center at UFBA and Federal Institute of Bahia, Brazil</i>	
<i>Methanias Colaço Jr., Federal University of Sergipe, Brazil</i>	
<i>Luís Paulo da Silva Carvalho, Federal Institute of Bahia, Brazil</i>	
<i>Manoel Mendonça, Federal University of Bahia, Brazil</i>	
<i>Rodrigo Oliveira Spinola, Fraunhofer Project Center at UFBA and Salvador University, Brazil</i>	
<b>Architectural Clones: Toward Tactical Code Reuse .....</b>	1480
<i>Daniel E. Krutz, Rochester Institute of Technology, USA</i>	
<i>Mehdi Mirakhorl, Rochester Institute of Technology, USA</i>	
<b>A Meta-Learning Framework for Algorithm Recommendation in Software Fault Prediction .....</b>	1486
<i>Silvia N. das Dôres, Pontifical Catholic University of Rio Grande do Sul, Brazil</i>	
<i>Luciano Alves, Pontifical Catholic University of Rio Grande do Sul, Brazil</i>	
<i>Duncan D. Ruiz, Pontifical Catholic University of Rio Grande do Sul, Brazil</i>	
<i>Rodrigo C. Barros, Pontifical Catholic University of Rio Grande do Sul, Brazil</i>	
<b>Improving the Quality of Code Snippets in Stack Overflow .....</b>	1492
<i>Mohammad Reza Tavakoli, Sharif University of Technology, Iran</i>	
<i>Abbas Heydarnoori, Sharif University of Technology, Iran</i>	
<i>Mohammad Ghafari, Politecnico di Milano, Italy</i>	
<b>Reverse Engineering: A European IPR Perspective .....</b>	1498
<i>Paolo Ciancarini, University of Bologna, Italy</i>	
<i>Daniel Russo, University of Bologna, Italy</i>	
<i>Alberto Sillitti, Center for Applied Software Engineering, Italy</i>	
<i>Giancarlo Succi, Innopolis University, Russia</i>	
<b>Integrating Feature-Based Implementation Approaches using a Common Graph-Based Representation .....</b>	1504
<i>Benjamin Behringer, University of Luxembourg, Luxembourg</i>	
<i>Steffen Rothkugel, University of Luxembourg, Luxembourg</i>	
<b>Is Code Cloning in Games Really Different? .....</b>	1512
<i>Farouq Al-omari, University of Saskatchewan, Canada</i>	
<i>Chanchal K. Roy, University of Saskatchewan, Canada</i>	
<b>Integrated Analysis of Exception Flows and Handler Actions in Java Libraries: An Empirical Study .....</b>	1520
<i>Demóstenes Sena, Federal University of Rio Grande do Norte, Brazil</i>	
<i>Roberta Coelho, Federal University of Rio Grande do Norte, Brazil</i>	
<i>Uirá Kulesza, Federal University of Rio Grande do Norte, Brazil</i>	
<b>Model-Based Replay Testing for Event-Driven Software .....</b>	1527
<i>Shakaiba Majeed, Hanyang University, South Korea</i>	
<i>Minsoo Ryu, Hanyang University, South Korea</i>	

## **Poster Papers**

<b>Characterizing Non-Deadlock Concurrency Bug Fixes in Open-Source Java Programs .....</b>	1534
<i>Misun Yu, Electronics and Telecommunications Research Institute, South Korea</i>	
<i>Yu-Seung Ma, Electronics and Telecommunications Research Institute, South Korea</i>	
<i>Doo-Hwan Bae, Korea Advanced Institute of Science and Technology, South Korea</i>	
<b>A Graph-Based Approach to Detect Unreachable Methods in Java Software .....</b>	1538
<i>Simone Romano, University of Basilicata, Italy</i>	
<i>Giuseppe Scanniello, University of Basilicata, Italy</i>	
<i>Carlo Sartiani, University of Basilicata, Italy</i>	
<i>Michele Risi, University of Salerno, Italy</i>	
<b>Automatic Formal Specification Generation of APIs by Mining Unit Tests .....</b>	1542
<i>Otmar M. Pereira Junior, Pontifical Catholic University of Minas Gerais, Brazil</i>	
<i>Wladimir C. Brandão, Pontifical Catholic University of Minas Gerais, Brazil</i>	
<i>Mark Alan J. Song, Pontifical Catholic University of Minas Gerais, Brazil</i>	
<b>Consistency Checks of Design Specifications against Requirements using Graph-Based Linguistic Analysis .....</b>	1546
<i>Kai Niklas, Talanx Systeme AG, Germany</i>	
<i>Stefan Gärtner, Leibniz Universität Hannover, Germany</i>	
<i>Kurt Schneider, Leibniz Universität Hannover, Germany</i>	
<b>Empirical Investigation of Fault Predictors in Context of Class Membership Probability Estimation .....</b>	1550
<i>Shahid Hussain, City University of Hong Kong, Hong Kong</i>	
<i>Arif Ali Khan, City University of Hong Kong, Hong Kong</i>	
<i>Kwabena Ebo Bennin, City University of Hong Kong, Hong Kong</i>	
<b>A Review and Comparison of Methods for Determining the Best Analogies in Analogy-Based Software Effort Estimation .....</b>	1554
<i>Bodin Chinthanet, Kasetsart University, Thailand</i>	
<i>Passakorn Phannachitta, Nara Institute of Science and Technology, Japan</i>	
<i>Yasutaka Kamei, Kyushu University, Japan</i>	
<i>Pattara Leelaprute, Kasetsart University, Thailand</i>	
<i>Arnon Rungsawang, Kasetsart University, Thailand</i>	
<i>Naoyasu Ubayashi, Kyushu University, Japan</i>	
<i>Kenichi Matsumoto, Nara Institute of Science and Technology, Japan</i>	
<b>Evaluating the use of a General-Purpose Benchmark Suite for Domain-Specific SMT-Solving .....</b>	1558
<i>Andrew Healy, Maynooth University, Ireland</i>	
<i>Rosemary Monahan, Maynooth University, Ireland</i>	
<i>James F. Power, Maynooth University, Ireland</i>	
<b>A Formal Modeling and Analysis Framework for Software Product Line of Preemptive Real-Time Systems .....</b>	1562
<i>Jin Hyun Kim, INRIA/IRISA, France</i>	
<i>Axel Legay, INRIA/IRISA, France</i>	
<i>Louis-Marie Traonouez, INRIA/IRISA, France</i>	
<i>Mathieu Acher, University of Rennes 1, France</i>	
<i>Sungwon Kang, KAIST, South Korea</i>	

<b>Testability and Software Performance: A Systematic Mapping Study .....</b>	1566
<i>Mohammad Mahdi Hassan, Karlstad University, Sweden</i>	
<i>Wasif Afzal, Mälardalen University, Sweden</i>	
<i>Birgitta Lindström, University of Skövde, Sweden</i>	
<i>Syed Muhammad Ali Shah, Swedish Institute of Computer Science, Sweden</i>	
<i>Sten F. Andler, University of Skövde, Sweden</i>	
<i>Martin Blom, Karlstad University, Sweden</i>	
<b>Detecting Indirect Conflicts between Access Control Policies .....</b>	1570
<i>Laura Costa Sarkis, Universidade Federal do Acre, Brazil</i>	
<i>Viviane Torres da Silva, IBM Research, Brazil</i>	
<i>Christiano Braga, Universidade Federal Fluminense, Brazil</i>	
<b>Deriving UML-Based Specifications of Inter-Component Interactions from Runtime Tests .....</b>	1573
<i>Thorsten Haendler, Vienna University of Economics and Business, Austria</i>	
<i>Stefan Sobernig, Vienna University of Economics and Business, Austria</i>	
<i>Mark Strembeck, Vienna University of Economics and Business, Austria</i>	
<b>A Representation Structure for Software Process Tailoring based on BPMN High-Level Operations .....</b>	1576
<i>Raquel M. Pillat, Federal University of Rio de Janeiro, Brazil</i>	
<i>Toacy C. Oliveira, Federal University of Rio de Janeiro, Brazil</i>	
<b>Student Research Competition Paper</b>	
<b>Student Research Abstract: A Framework for Assisting Software Process Improvement Program in Global Software Development .....</b>	1580
<i>Arif Ali Khan, City University of Hong Kong, Hong Kong</i>	
<b>Student Research Abstract: Introspection of the Virtual Machines with System Calls Monitoring .....</b>	1582
<i>Natalia Fursova, Novgorod State University, Russia</i>	
<b>Student Research Abstract: Threshold Analysis of Design Metrics to Detect Design Flaws .....</b>	1584
<i>Shahid Hussain, City University of Hong Kong, Hong Kong</i>	
<b>Student Research Abstract: MDE as Service, Overview and Research Progress .....</b>	1586
<i>Fábio Paulo Basso, Federal University of Rio de Janeiro, Brazil</i>	
<b>Service-Oriented Architecture and Programming Track</b>	
<b>Track Co-Chairs:</b>	
Maurice ter Beek, ISTI-CNR, Italy	
Hernán Melgratti, University of Buenos Aires, Argentina	
Hugo Torres Vieira, IMT Lucca, Italy	
<b>Track Editorial .....</b>	1588
<b>Improving QoS Delivered by WS-BPEL Scenario Adaptation through Service Execution Parallelization .....</b>	1590
<i>Dionisis Margaris, University of Athens, Greece</i>	
<i>Costas Vassilakis, University of the Peloponnese, Greece</i>	
<i>Panagiotis Georgiadis, University of Athens, Greece</i>	

<b>QoS-Aware Adaptation for Complex Event Service .....</b>	1597
<i>Feng Gao, National University of Ireland, Galway, Ireland</i>	
<i>Muhammad Intizar Ali, National University of Ireland, Galway, Ireland</i>	
<i>Edward Curry, National University of Ireland, Galway, Ireland</i>	
<i>Alessandra Mileo, National University of Ireland, Galway, Ireland</i>	
<b>Service Functional Testing Automation with Intelligent Scheduling and Planning .....</b>	1605
<i>Lom Messan Hillah, Université Paris Ouest, and Sorbonne Universités,</i>	
<i>UPMC Univ. Paris 06, CNRS, LIP6 UMR7606, France</i>	
<i>Ariele-Paolo Maesano, Simple Engineering France, France</i>	
<i>Libero Maesano, Simple Engineering France, France</i>	
<i>Fabio De Rosa, Simple Engineering France, France</i>	
<i>Fabrice Kordon, Sorbonne Universités, UPMC Univ. Paris 06, CNRS, LIP6 UMR7606, France</i>	
<i>Pierre-Henri Wuillemin, Sorbonne Universités, UPMC Univ. Paris 06, CNRS, LIP6 UMR7606, France</i>	
<b>JxActinium: A Runtime Manager for Secure REST-Ful CoAP Applications Working over JXTA .....</b>	1611
<i>Filippo Battaglia, University of Catania, Italy</i>	
<i>Giancarlo Iannizzotto, University of Messina, Italy</i>	
<i>Lucia Lo Bello, University of Catania, Italy</i>	
<b>Software Verification and Testing Track</b>	
<b>Track Co-Chairs:</b>	Mercedes G. Merayo, University Complutense of Madrid, Spain
	Gwen Salaün, Grenoble INP, France
<b>Track Editorial .....</b>	1619
<b>Dead Variable Analysis for Multi-Threaded Heap Manipulating Programs .....</b>	1620
<i>Pavel Jančík, Charles University in Prague, Czech Republic</i>	
<i>Jan Kofroň, Charles University in Prague, Czech Republic</i>	
<b>Predictive Runtime Enforcement .....</b>	1628
<i>Srinivas Pinisetty, Aalto University, Finland</i>	
<i>Viorel Preoteasa, Aalto University, Finland</i>	
<i>Stavros Tripakis, Aalto University, University of California, Berkeley, Finland</i>	
<i>Thierry Jéron, INRIA Rennes - Bretagne Atlantique, France</i>	
<i>Yliès Falcone, Université Grenoble Alpes, France</i>	
<i>Hervé Marchand, INRIA Rennes - Bretagne Atlantique, France</i>	
<b>Time Optimal Reachability Analysis using Swarm Verification .....</b>	1634
<i>Zhengkui Zhang, Aalborg University, Denmark</i>	
<i>Brian Nielsen, Aalborg University, Denmark</i>	
<i>Kim G. Larsen, Aalborg University, Denmark</i>	
<b>Testing Access Control Policies against Intended Access Rights .....</b>	1641
<i>Antonia Bertolino, CNR-ISTI, Italy</i>	
<i>Said Daoudagh, CNR-ISTI, Italy</i>	
<i>Francesca Lonetti, CNR-ISTI, Italy</i>	
<i>Eda Marchetti, CNR-ISTI, Italy</i>	

<b>Verifying CUDA Programs using SMT-Based Context-Bounded Model Checking</b>	1648
<i>Phillipe Pereira, Federal University of Amazonas, Brazil</i>	
<i>Higo Albuquerque, Federal University of Amazonas, Brazil</i>	
<i>Hendrio Marques, Federal University of Amazonas, Brazil</i>	
<i>Isabela Silva, Federal University of Amazonas, Brazil</i>	
<i>Celso Carvalho, Federal University of Amazonas, Brazil</i>	
<i>Lucas Cordeiro, Federal University of Amazonas, Brazil</i>	
<i>Vanessa Santos, Federal University of Amazonas, Brazil</i>	
<i>Ricardo Ferreira, Federal University of Viçosa, Brazil</i>	
<b>Reducing Locating Sequences for Testing from Finite State Machines</b>	1654
<i>Guy Vincent Jourdan, University of Ottawa, Canada</i>	
<i>Hasan Ural, University of Ottawa, Canada</i>	
<i>Hüsnü Yenigün, Sabancı University, Turkey</i>	
<b>Performance Testing Modeling: An Empirical Evaluation of DSL and UML-Based Approaches</b>	1660
<i>Maicon Bernardino, Pontifical Catholic University of Rio Grande do Sul, Brazil</i>	
<i>Elder M. Rodrigues, Pontifical Catholic University of Rio Grande do Sul, Brazil</i>	
<i>Avelino F. Zorzo, Pontifical Catholic University of Rio Grande do Sul, Brazil</i>	
<b>How Bit-Vector Logic Can Help Improve the Verification of LTL Specifications over Infinite Domains</b>	1666
<i>Luciano Baresi, Politecnico di Milano, Italy</i>	
<i>Mohammad Mehdi Pourhashem Kallehbasti, Politecnico di Milano, Italy</i>	
<i>Matteo Rossi, Politecnico di Milano, Italy</i>	
<b>Termination Analysis of Floating-Point Programs using Parameterizable Rational Approximations</b>	1674
<i>Fonenantsoa Maurica, Université de La Réunion, France</i>	
<i>Frédéric Mesnard, Université de La Réunion, France</i>	
<i>Étienne Payet, Université de La Réunion, France</i>	
<b>Some Classes of Finite State Machines with Polynomial Length of Distinguishing Test Cases</b>	1680
<i>Hüsnü Yenigün, Sabancı University, Turkey</i>	
<i>Nina Yevtushenko, Tomsk State University, Russia</i>	
<i>Natalia Kushik, Tomsk State University, Russia</i>	
<b>Session Types for Communicating Systems in Event-B</b>	1686
<i>Carlos Olarte, Universidade Federal do Rio Grande do Norte, Brazil</i>	
<i>Camilo Rueda, Pontificia Universidad Javeriana-Cali, Colombia</i>	
<b>Invariant Generation for Linearizability Proofs</b>	1694
<i>Graeme Smith, The University of Queensland, Australia</i>	
<i>John Derrick, University of Sheffield, UK</i>	
<b>Formal Modeling and Analysis of RAMP Transaction Systems</b>	1700
<i>Si Liu, University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign, USA</i>	
<i>Peter Csaba Ölveczky, University of Oslo, Norway</i>	
<i>Muntasir Raihan Rahman, University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign, USA</i>	
<i>Jatin Ganhotra, University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign, USA</i>	
<i>Indranil Gupta, University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign, USA</i>	
<i>José Meseguer, University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign, USA</i>	

## **Student Research Competition Paper**

**Student Research Abstract: Towards a Combinatorial Approach for Undiscounted MDPs .....** 1708  
*Vahid Hashemi, Max Planck Institute for Informatics, Germany*

### **Embedded Systems Track**

**Track Co-Chairs:** Marco Di Natale, Scuola Superiore S. Anna, Italy  
Li-Pin Chang, National Chiao-Tung University, Taiwan

**Balanced Loop Retiming to Effectively Architect STT-RAM-Based Hybrid Cache for VLIW Processors .....** 1710

*Keni Qiu, Capital Normal University, China*  
*Weigong Zhang, Capital Normal University, China*  
*Xiaoqiang Wu, Guangdong Electronics Industry Institute, China*  
*Xiaoyan Zhu, Capital Normal University, China*  
*Jing Wang, Capital Normal University, China*  
*Yuanchao Xu, Capital Normal University, China*  
*Chun Jason Xue, City University of Hong Kong, Hong Kong*

**Co-Cap: Energy-Efficient Cooperative CPU-GPU Frequency Capping for Mobile Games .....** 1717

*Jurn-Gyu Park, University of California, Irvine, USA*  
*Chen-Ying Hsieh, University of California, Irvine, USA*  
*Nikil Dutt, University of California, Irvine, USA*  
*Sung-Soo Lim, Kookmin University, South Korea*

**ARTE: Arduino Real-Time Extension for Programming Multitasking Applications .....** 1724

*Pasquale Buonocunto, Scuola Superiore Sant'Anna, Italy*  
*Alessandro Biondi, Scuola Superiore Sant'Anna, Italy*  
*Marco Pagani, Scuola Superiore Sant'Anna, Italy*  
*Mauro Marinoni, Scuola Superiore Sant'Anna, Italy*  
*Giorgio Buttazzo, Scuola Superiore Sant'Anna, Italy*

**A Low Power STT-RAM based Register File for GPGPUs .....** 1732

*Ehsan Atoofian, Lakehead University, Canada*

**Static Energy Efficient Cache Reconfiguration for Dynamic NUCA in Tiled CMPs .....** 1739

*Shounak Chakraborty, Indian Institute of Technology Guwahati, India*  
*Shirshendu Das, Indian Institute of Technology Guwahati, India*  
*Hemangee K. Kapoor, Indian Institute of Technology Guwahati, India*

**Dynamic Associativity Enabled DNUCA to Improve Block Localisation in Tiled CMPs .....** 1745

*Shirshendu Das, Indian Institute of Information Technology Guwahati, India*  
*Hemangee K. Kapoor, Indian Institute of Technology Guwahati, India*

**Probabilistic Analysis of Bufferless Pipelines of Real-Time Tasks .....** 1751

*Luca Abeni, University of Trento, Italy*  
*Daniele Fontanelli, University of Trento, Italy*  
*Luigi Palopoli, University of Trento, Italy*  
*Bernardo Villalba Frias, University of Trento, Italy*

<b>FIDE – An FMI Integrated Development Environment .....</b>	1759
<i>Fabio Cremona, University of California, Berkeley, and Scuola Superiore Sant'Anna, USA</i>	
<i>Marten Lohstroh, University of California, Berkeley, USA</i>	
<i>Stavros Tripakis, University of California, Berkeley, and Aalto University, USA</i>	
<i>Christopher Brooks, University of California, Berkeley, USA</i>	
<i>Edward A. Lee, University of California, Berkeley, USA</i>	

## Poster Papers

<b>Scheduling Algorithm Considering Response Time for Mixed Tasks on Multiprocessor Systems .....</b>	1767
<i>Chin-Fu Kuo, National University of Kaohsiung, Taiwan</i>	
<i>Yu-Hao Huang, National University of Kaohsiung, Taiwan</i>	
<i>Yung-Feng Lu, National Taichung University of Science and Technology, Taiwan</i>	
<i>Shih-Chun Chou, Institute for Information Industry, Taiwan</i>	

<b>Combined Data Caching and Delayed Parity Update in RAID with SSD Cache .....</b>	1771
<i>Sophal Minh, University of Seoul, South Korea</i>	
<i>Donghee Lee, University of Seoul, South Korea</i>	

<b>Parity Management Scheme for a Hybrid-Storage RAID .....</b>	1774
<i>Jen-Wei Hsieh, National Taiwan University of Science and Technology, Taiwan</i>	
<i>Che-Jen Su, National Taiwan University of Science and Technology, Taiwan</i>	

<b>Safety Analysis Generation from Prototyping Models for Transportation Systems .....</b>	1777
<i>Jean Godot, FAAR Industry, France</i>	
<i>Sebastien Saudrais, ESTACA'Lab, France</i>	
<i>Adil Alif, FAAR Industry, France</i>	
<i>Bertrand Barbedette, ESTACA'Lab, France</i>	
<i>Cherif Larouci, ESTACA'Lab, France</i>	

<b>Software for Embedded Systems: A Quality Assessment based on Improved ODC Taxonomy .....</b>	1780
<i>Nuno Silva, University of Coimbra, Portugal</i>	
<i>Marco Vieira, University of Coimbra, Portugal</i>	

## Object Oriented Programming Languages and Systems Track

Track Co-Chairs: Davide Ancona, Universita` di Genova, Italy

<b>Structured Gotos are (Slightly) Harmful .....</b>	1784
<i>Eli Sennesh, Technion, Israel</i>	
<i>Yossi Gil, Technion, Israel</i>	

<b>Embedding Goal-Directed Evaluation through Transformation .....</b>	1790
<i>Peter Mills, University of Idaho, USA</i>	
<i>Clinton Jeffery, University of Idaho, USA</i>	

<b>Optimizing Record Data Structures in Racket .....</b>	1798
<i>Tobias Pape, University of Potsdam, Germany</i>	
<i>Vasily Kirilichev, University of Potsdam, Germany</i>	
<i>Robert Hirschfeld, University of Potsdam, Germany</i>	

<b>From Atomic Variables to Data-Centric Concurrency Control .....</b>	1806
<i>Hervé Paulino, NOVA University of Lisbon, Portugal</i>	
<i>Daniel Parreira, NOVA University of Lisbon, Portugal</i>	
<i>Nuno Delgado, NOVA University of Lisbon, Portugal</i>	
<i>António Ravara, NOVA University of Lisbon, Portugal</i>	
<i>Ana Matos, University of Lisbon, Portugal</i>	
 <b>Poster Papers</b>	
<b>On the Criteria for Prioritizing Code Anomalies to Identify Architectural Problems .....</b>	1812
<i>Santiago Vidal, ISISTAN-CONICET, Argentina</i>	
<i>Everton Guimaraes, UNIFOR, Brazil</i>	
<i>Willian Oizumi, Pontifical Catholic University of Rio de Janeiro, Brazil</i>	
<i>Alessandro Garcia, Pontifical Catholic University of Rio de Janeiro, Brazil</i>	
<i>Andrés Díaz Pace, ISISTAN-CONICET, Argentina</i>	
<i>Claudia Marcos, ISISTAN-CIC, Argentina</i>	
<b>Using Field Access Frequency to Optimize Layout of Objects in the JVM .....</b>	1815
<i>Taees Eimouri, University of New Brunswick, Canada</i>	
<i>Kenneth B. Kent, University of New Brunswick, Canada</i>	
<i>Aleksandar Micic, IBM, Canada</i>	
<i>Karl Taylor, IBM, Canada</i>	
<b>Initialize-and-Catch .....</b>	1819
<i>Paola Giannini, Università del Piemonte, Italy</i>	
<i>Marco Servetto, Victoria University of Wellington, New Zealand</i>	
<i>Elena Zucca, Universita' di Genova, Italy</i>	
 <b>Operating Systems Track</b>	
<b>Track Co-Chairs:</b> Bongjae Kim, Korea Electronics Technology Institute, South Korea	
George Hamer, South Dakota State University, United States	
<b>Track Editorial .....</b>	1823
<b>i-RAID: A Novel Redundant Storage Architecture for Improving Reliability, Performance, and Life-Span of Solid-State Disk Systems .....</b>	1824
<i>Mingyang Wang, University of Cincinnati, USA</i>	
<i>Yiming Hu, University of Cincinnati, USA</i>	
<b>mmapcopy: Efficient Memory Footprint Reduction using Application Knowledge .....</b>	1832
<i>Ingo Korb, Technical University of Dortmund, Germany</i>	
<i>Helena Kotthaus, Technical University of Dortmund, Germany</i>	
<i>Peter Marwedel, Technical University of Dortmund, Germany</i>	
<b>OS-Level Virtualization for Industrial Automation Systems: Are We There Yet? .....</b>	1838
<i>Alexandru Moga, ABB Corporate Research, Switzerland</i>	
<i>Thanikesan Sivanthi, ABB Corporate Research, Switzerland</i>	
<i>Carsten Franke, ABB Corporate Research, Switzerland</i>	
<b>Load-Aware Scheduling for Heterogeneous Multi-Core Systems .....</b>	1844
<i>Mohannad Nabelsee, Technische Universität Berlin, Germany</i>	
<i>Anselm Busse, Technische Universität Berlin, Germany</i>	
<i>Helge Parzy jegla, Rostock University, Germany</i>	
<i>Gero Mühl, Rostock University, Germany</i>	

<b>Improving I/O Performance of NVMe SSD on Virtual Machines .....</b>	1852
<i>Jungkil Kim, Samsung Electronics Co., Ltd., South Korea</i>	
<i>Sungyong Ahn, Samsung Electronics Co., Ltd., South Korea</i>	
<i>Kwanghyun La, Samsung Electronics Co., Ltd., South Korea</i>	
<i>Wooseok Chang, Samsung Electronics Co., Ltd., South Korea</i>	
<b>Testing Device Drivers against Hardware Failures in Real Environments .....</b>	1858
<i>Satoru Takekoshi, University of Tsukuba, Japan</i>	
<i>Takahiro Shinagawa, The University of Tokyo, Japan</i>	
<i>Kazuhiko Kato, University of Tsukuba, Japan</i>	
<b>Collaborative Processing of Data-Intensive Algorithms with CPU, Intelligent SSD, and GPU .....</b>	1865
<i>Yong-Yeon Jo, Hanyang University, South Korea</i>	
<i>SungWoo Cho, Hanyang University, South Korea</i>	
<i>Sang-Wook Kim, Hanyang University, South Korea</i>	
<i>Hyunok Oh, Hanyang University, South Korea</i>	
<b>Analysis of Micro-Architecture Resources Interference on Multicore NUMA Systems .....</b>	1871
<i>Haecheon Kim, Dankook University, South Korea</i>	
<i>Seungmin Lim, Dankook University, South Korea</i>	
<i>Junkee Yoon, Dankook University, South Korea</i>	
<i>Seungjae Baek, Dankook University, South Korea</i>	
<i>Jongmoo Choi, Dankook University, South Korea</i>	
<i>Seongje Cho, Dankook University, South Korea</i>	
<b>Multicore CPU Reclaiming: Parallel or Sequential? .....</b>	1877
<i>Luca Abeni, University of Trento, Italy</i>	
<i>Giuseppe Lipari, University of Lille 1, France</i>	
<i>Andrea Parri, Scuola Superiore Sant'Anna, Italy</i>	
<i>Youcheng Sun, Scuola Superiore Sant'Anna, Italy</i>	
<b>Plate: Persistent Memory Management for Nonvolatile Main Memory .....</b>	1885
<i>Toshihiro Yamauchi, Okayama University, Japan</i>	
<i>Yuta Yamamoto, Okayama University, Japan</i>	
<i>Kengo Nagai, Okayama University, Japan</i>	
<i>Tsukasa Matono, Kyushu University, Japan</i>	
<i>Shinji Inamoto, Kyusyu University, Japan</i>	
<i>Masaya Ichikawa, Kyushu University, Japan</i>	
<i>Masataka Goto, Kyushu University, Japan</i>	
<i>Hideo Taniguchi, Okayama University, Japan</i>	
<b>Poster Papers</b>	
<b>zf-FTL: A Zero-Free Flash Translation Layer .....</b>	1893
<i>Dongwook Kim, Hanyang University, South Korea</i>	
<i>Sooyong Kang, Hanyang University, South Korea</i>	
<b>Virtual Machine Scheduling based on Task Characteristic .....</b>	1897
<i>Taegyu Hwang, Soongsil University, South Korea</i>	
<i>Kisu Kim, Soongsil University, South Korea</i>	
<i>Jeonghwan Lee, Soongsil University, South Korea</i>	
<i>Jiman Hong, Soongsil University, South Korea</i>	
<i>Dongwan Shin, New Mexico Tech, USA</i>	

<b>NKE – An Embedded Nanokernel for Educational Purpose .....</b>	1900
<i>Celso M. da Costa, State University of Rio Grande do Sul, Brazil</i>	
<i>Cassio Brasil, State University of Rio Grande do Sul, Brazil</i>	
<i>Leonardo L. Silva, State University of Rio Grande do Sul, Brazil</i>	
<i>Lucas Murliky, State University of Rio Grande do Sul, Brazil</i>	
<i>João Leonardo Fragoso, State University of Rio Grande do Sul, Brazil</i>	
<i>Guilherme Debom, State University of Rio Grande do Sul, Brazil</i>	
<i>Rivalino Matias Jr., Federal University of Uberlandia, Brazil</i>	
<i>Aline Fracalossi, State University of Rio Grande do Sul, Brazil</i>	
<i>Margrit Reni Krug, University of Vale do Rio dos Sinos, Brazil</i>	

<b>Virtual Machine Halt .....</b>	1903
<i>Simão Reis, University of Aveiro, Portugal</i>	
<i>André Zúquete, University of Aveiro, Portugal</i>	
<i>José Vieira, University of Aveiro, Portugal</i>	

## Practical Aspects of High-Level Parallel Programming Track

Track Co-Chairs: Frédéric Loulergue, Université d'Orléans, France

<b>Transforming Javascript Event-Loop into a Pipeline .....</b>	1906
<i>Etienne Brodu, Université de Lyon, France</i>	
<i>Stéphane Frénot, Université de Lyon, France</i>	
<i>Frédéric Oblé, Worldline, France</i>	

<b>Distributed Graph Processing: An Approach based on Overlay Composition .....</b>	1912
<i>Emanuele Carlini, ISTI-CNR, Italy</i>	
<i>Patrizio Dazzi, ISTI-CNR, Italy</i>	
<i>Alessandro Lulli, University of Pisa, Italy</i>	
<i>Laura Ricci, University of Pisa, Italy</i>	

## Poster Papers

<b>Sharing Memory in Modern Distributed Applications .....</b>	1918
<i>Claudio Scordino, Evidence Srl, Italy</i>	
<i>Bruno Morelli, Evidence Srl, Italy</i>	

<b>Derivation of Parallel-Efficient Structural Recursive Functions from Declarative Graph Queries .....</b>	1922
<i>Chong Li, National Institute of Informatics, Japan</i>	
<i>Le-Duc Tung, SOKENDAI, Japan</i>	
<i>Xiaodong Meng, Shanghai Jiao Tong University, China</i>	
<i>Zhenjiang Hu, National Institute of Informatics, Japan</i>	

## Programming Languages Track

Track Co-Chairs: Marjan Mernik, University of Maribor, Slovenia  
Barrett Bryant, University of North Texas, United States

<b>Track Editorial .....</b>	1926
------------------------------	------

<b>Using CSP for Coordinating Undo-Based Collaborative Applications .....</b>	1928
<i>Asma Cherif, Umm al-Qura University, Saudi Arabia</i>	
<i>Abdessamad Imine, Loria University, France</i>	

<b>Integrating Lua into C for Embedding Lua Interpreters in a C Application .....</b>	1936
<i>Akira Tanimura, The University of Electro-communications, Japan</i>	
<i>Hideya Iwasaki, The University of Electro-communications, Japan</i>	
<b>A Performant Scheme Interpreter in asm.js .....</b>	1944
<i>Noah Van Es, Vrije Universiteit Brussel, Belgium</i>	
<i>Jens Nicolay, Vrije Universiteit Brussel, Belgium</i>	
<i>Quentin Steevenart, Vrije Universiteit Brussel, Belgium</i>	
<i>Theo D'Hondt, Vrije Universiteit Brussel, Belgium</i>	
<i>Coen De Roover, Vrije Universiteit Brussel, Belgium</i>	
<b>Stella: A Python-Based Domain-Specific Language for Simulations .....</b>	1952
<i>David Mohr, University of New Mexico, USA</i>	
<i>Darko Stefanovic, University of New Mexico, USA</i>	
<b>A Parsing Machine for Parsing Expression Grammars with Labeled Failures .....</b>	1960
<i>Sérgio Medeiros, Federal University of Rio Grande do Norte, Brazil</i>	
<i>Fabio Mascarenhas, Universidade Federal do Rio de Janeiro, Brazil</i>	
<b>Wodel: A Domain-Specific Language for Model Mutation .....</b>	1968
<i>Pablo Gómez-Abajo, Universidad Autónoma de Madrid, Spain</i>	
<i>Esther Guerra, Universidad Autónoma de Madrid, Spain</i>	
<i>Juan de Lara, Universidad Autónoma de Madrid, Spain</i>	
<b>Integrating Regular Expressions and SNOBOL Patterns into String Scanning: A Unifying Approach ....</b>	1974
<i>Clinton Jeffery, University of Idaho, USA</i>	
<i>Phillip Thomas, National Library of Medicine, USA</i>	
<i>Sudarshan Gaikaiwari, Yelp, USA</i>	
<i>John Goetsche, University of Idaho, USA</i>	
<b>An Embedded Domain Specific Language for Distributed Memory Transactions in Java .....</b>	1980
<i>Jeronimo da Cunha Ramos, Federal University of Pelotas, Brazil</i>	
<i>André Rauber Du Bois, Federal University of Pelotas, Brazil</i>	
<i>Mauricio Lima Pilla, Federal University of Pelotas, Brazil</i>	
<b>An Object Model for a Dynamic Mixin based Language .....</b>	1986
<i>Eden Burton, McMaster University, Canada</i>	
<i>Emil Sekerinski, McMaster University, Canada</i>	
<b>Poster Papers</b>	
<b>Automated Adaptation via Quantitative Partial Model Checking .....</b>	1993
<i>Stefano Bistarelli, Università di Perugia, Italy</i>	
<i>Francesco Santini, Università di Perugia, Italy</i>	
<i>Fabio Martinelli, Institute of Informatics and Telematics of CNR, Italy</i>	
<i>Ilaria Matteucci, Institute of Informatics and Telematics of CNR, Italy</i>	
<b>Principles for Reuse in Formal Language Tools .....</b>	1997
<i>Luís Diogo Couto, Aarhus University, Denmark</i>	
<i>Peter W.V. Tran-Jørgensen, Aarhus University, Denmark</i>	
<i>Kenneth Lausdahl, Aarhus University, Denmark</i>	

**Maintainability of Functional Reactive Programs in a Telecom Server Software .....** 2001*Klervie Toczé, Ericsson AB, Sweden**Maria Vasilevskaya, Linköping University, Sweden**Patrik Sandahl, Ericsson AB, Sweden**Simin Nadjm-Tehrani, Linköping University, Sweden***Futex based Locks for C11's Generic Atomics (Extended Abstract) .....** 2004*Jens Gustedt, INRIA, France***A DSL for Executable 'How To' Manuals .....** 2007*Marcel Heinz, University of Koblenz-Landau, Germany**Philipp Helsper, University of Koblenz-Landau, Germany**Ralf Lämmel, University of Koblenz-Landau, Germany**Tobias M. Schmidt, University of Koblenz-Landau, Germany***Extensible Modules for JavaScript .....** 2010*Florent Marchand de Kerchove, ASCOLA (Mines Nantes, Inria, LINA), France**Jacques Noyé, ASCOLA (Mines Nantes, Inria, LINA), France**Mario Südholt, ASCOLA (Mines Nantes, Inria, LINA), France***Reliable Software Technologies and Communication Middleware Track****Track Co-Chairs:** Marisol García-Valls, Universidad Carlos III de Madrid, Spain

Aniruddha Gokhale, Vanderbilt University, United States

Paolo Bellavista, Università di Bologna, Italy

**Track Editorial .....** 2013**Scalable Monitoring and Dependable Job Scheduling Support for Multi-Domain Grid Infrastructures ....** 2015*Marcello Cinque, Università di Napoli Federico II, Italy**Antonio Corradi, University of Bologna, Italy**Luca Foschini, University of Bologna, Italy**Flavio Frattini, Università di Napoli Federico II, Italy**Javier Povedano-Molina, Universidad de Granada, Spain***Exploiting User Feedback for Online Filtering in Event-Based Systems .....** 2021*Fabio Petroni, Sapienza University of Rome, Italy**Leonardo Querzoni, Sapienza University of Rome, Italy**Roberto Beraldì, Sapienza University of Rome, Italy**Mario Paolucci, Institute of Cognitive Sciences and Technologies, CNR, Italy***Poster Papers****Adjusting Middleware Knobs to Suit CPS Domains .....** 2027*Marisol García-Valls, Universidad Carlos III de Madrid, Spain**Cristian Calva-Urrego, Universidad Carlos III de Madrid, Spain**Alejandro Alonso, Universidad Politécnica de Madrid, Spain**Juan A. de la Puente, Universidad Politécnica de Madrid, Spain*

## **Computer Security Track**

**Track Co-Chairs:** Giampaolo Bella, Università di Catania, Italy  
Sergio Maffei, Imperial College London, UK

<b>Track Editorial</b> .....	2031
<b>Slick: An Intrusion Detection System for Virtualized Storage Devices</b> .....	2033
<i>Andrei Bacs, Vrije Universiteit Amsterdam, The Netherlands</i>	
<i>Cristiano Giuffrida, Vrije Universiteit Amsterdam, The Netherlands</i>	
<i>Bernhard Grill, Technische Universität Wien, Austria</i>	
<i>Herbert Bos, Vrije Universiteit Amsterdam, The Netherlands</i>	
<b>Implementing a Secure Abstract Machine</b> .....	2041
<i>Adriaan Larmuseau, Uppsala University, Sweden</i>	
<i>Marco Patrignani, iMinds-Distrinet, KU Leuven, Belgium</i>	
<i>Dave Clarke, Uppsala University, Sweden</i>	
<b>Enhancing Android Permission through Usage Control: A BYOD Use-Case</b> .....	2049
<i>Fabio Martinelli, Institute of Informatics and Telematics of CNR, Italy</i>	
<i>Paolo Mori, Institute of Informatics and Telematics of CNR, Italy</i>	
<i>Andrea Saracino, Institute of Informatics and Telematics of CNR, Italy</i>	
<b>Out-of-Band Discovery and Evaluation for Tor Hidden Services</b> .....	2057
<i>Kang Li, Chinese Academy of Sciences, China</i>	
<i>Peipeng Liu, Chinese Academy of Sciences, China</i>	
<i>Qingfeng Tan, Chinese Academy of Sciences, China</i>	
<i>Jinqiao Shi, Chinese Academy of Sciences, China</i>	
<i>Yue Gao, Chinese Academy of Sciences, China</i>	
<i>Xuebin Wang, Chinese Academy of Sciences, China</i>	
<b>Reading Between the Fields: Practical, Effective Intrusion Detection for Industrial Control Systems</b> .....	2063
<i>Ömer Yuksel, Eindhoven University of Technology, The Netherlands</i>	
<i>Jerry den Hartog, Eindhoven University of Technology, The Netherlands</i>	
<i>Sandro Etalle, Eindhoven Univ. of Technology, Univ. of Twente, SecurityMatters BV, The Netherlands</i>	
<b>Implementation-Level Analysis of the JavaScript Helios Voting Client</b> .....	2071
<i>Michael Backes, Saarland University, Germany</i>	
<i>Christian Hammer, Saarland University, Germany</i>	
<i>David Pfaff, Saarland University, Germany</i>	
<i>Malte Skoruppa, Saarland University, Germany</i>	
<b>Accurate Spear Phishing Campaign Attribution and Early Detection</b> .....	2079
<i>Yufei Han, Symantec Research Labs, France</i>	
<i>Yun Shen, Symantec Research Labs, Ireland</i>	
<b>MalFlow: Identification of C&amp;C Servers through Host-Based Data Flow Profiling</b> .....	2087
<i>Tobias Wüchner, Technische Universität München, Germany</i>	
<i>Martín Ochoa, Singapore University of Technology and Design, Singapore</i>	
<i>Mojdeh Golagha, Technische Universität München, Germany</i>	
<i>Gaurav Srivastava, Technische Universität München, Germany</i>	
<i>Thomas Schreck, Siemens CERT, Germany</i>	
<i>Alexander Pretschner, Technische Universität München, Germany</i>	

**An Automated Approach for Testing the Security of Web Applications against Chained Attacks** ..... 2095  
*Alberto Calvi, Università degli Studi di Verona, Italy*  
*Luca Viganò, King's College London, UK*

**Ensuring Endpoint Authenticity in WebRTC Peer-to-Peer Communication** ..... 2103  
*Willem De Groef, iMinds-Distrinet, KU Leuven, Belgium*  
*Deepak Subramanian, CentraleSupélec, France*  
*Martin Johns, SAP SE, Germany*  
*Frank Piessens, iMinds-Distrinet, KU Leuven, Belgium*  
*Lieven Desmet, iMinds-Distrinet, KU Leuven, Belgium*

## **Student Research Competition Paper**

**Student Research Abstract: A 3D-Cellular Automata based Pseudo-Random Number Generator** ..... 2111  
*Rosemary Koikara, Kyungpook National University, South Korea*

## **Smart Grid and Smart Technologies Track**

**Track Co-Chairs:** Gail-Joon Ahn, Arizona State University, United States  
Seong-Je Cho, Dankook University, South Korea  
Dongwan Shin, New Mexico Tech, United States

**Sensor Network based Solar Forecasting using a Local Vector Autoregressive Ridge Framework** ..... 2113  
*Jin Xu, Stony Brook University, USA*  
*Shinjae Yoo, Brookhaven National Lab, USA*  
*John Heiser, Brookhaven National Lab, USA*  
*Paul Kalb, Brookhaven National Lab, USA*

**Near Real-Time Electric Load Approximation in Low Voltage Cables of Smart Grids with Models@run.time** ..... 2119  
*Thomas Hartmann, University of Luxembourg, Luxembourg*  
*Assaad Moawad, University of Luxembourg, Luxembourg*  
*Francois Fouquet, University of Luxembourg, Luxembourg*  
*Yves Reckinger, Creos Luxembourg S.A., Luxembourg*  
*Jacques Klein, University of Luxembourg, Luxembourg*  
*Yves Le Traon, University of Luxembourg, Luxembourg*

**Tailor your Curves after your Costume: Supply-Following Demand in Smart Grids through the Adwords Problem** ..... 2127  
*Giorgos Georgiadis, Chalmers University of Technology, Sweden*  
*Iosif Salem, Chalmers University of Technology, Sweden*  
*Marina Papatriantafilou, Chalmers University of Technology, Sweden*

**BayesForSG: A Bayesian Model for Forecasting Thermal Load in Smart Grids** ..... 2135  
*Rohan Nanda, Luleå University of Technology, Sweden*  
*Saguna Saguna, Luleå University of Technology, Sweden*  
*Karan Mitra, Luleå University of Technology, Sweden*  
*Christer Åhlund, Luleå University of Technology, Sweden*

## **Poster Papers**

**Cascading Attacks against Smart Grid using Control Command Disaggregation and Services** ..... 2142  
*Byungho Min, Macquarie University, Australia*  
*Vijay Varadharajan, Macquarie University, Australia*

**Real-World User Flexibility of Energy Consumption: Two-Stage Generative Model Construction .... 2148***Nasrin Sadeghianpourhamami, Ghent University - iMinds, Belgium**Matthias Strobbe, Ghent University - iMinds, Belgium**Chris Develder, Ghent University - iMinds, Belgium***Solving the Environmental Economic Dispatch Problem with Prohibited Operating Zones in Microgrids using NSGA-II and TOPSIS ..... 2154***Marco Cococcioni, University of Pisa, Italy**Beatrice Lazzarini, University of Pisa, Italy**Francesco Marcelloni, University of Pisa, Italy**Francesco Pistolesi, University of Pisa, Italy***Software Platforms Track****Track Co-Chairs:** Jinman Jung, Hannam University, South Korea  
Jun Huang, Chongqing University of Post & Telecommunications, China**Track Editorial ..... 2158****Evaluation of Smart Scheduling Technologies: Static versus Dynamic Approaches ..... 2159***Shaza Hanif, Sharjah, UAE**Shahab ud Din, Higher Colleges of Technology, UAE***Experimental Approach: Two-Stage Spectrum Sensing using GNU Radio and USRP to Detect Primary User's Signal ..... 2165***Yanxiao Zhao, South Dakota School of Mines and Technology, USA**Jems Pradhan, South Dakota School of Mines and Technology, USA**Guodong Wang, South Dakota School of Mines and Technology, USA**Jun Huang, South Dakota School of Mines and Technology, USA***Optimized Multilayer Perceptron using Dynamic Learning Rate based Microwave****Tomography Breast Cancer Screening ..... 2171***Chulwoo Pack, South Dakota State University, USA**Sung Shin, South Dakota State University, USA**Hyung-do Choi, Radio Technology and Telecommunications Research, South Korea**Soon Ik Jeon, Radio Technology and Telecommunications Research, South Korea**John Kim, Utica College, USA***Poster Papers****Similarity Measurement with Combination of Mesh Distance Fourier Transform and Global Features in 2D Binary Image ..... 2176***Ravi Kasaudhan, South Dakota State University, USA**Sung Y. Shin, South Dakota State University, USA**Soon Ik Jeon, Telecommunications Research Institute, South Korea**Seong Ho Son, Telecommunications Research Institute, South Korea***An Efficient Hadoop Data Replication Method Design for Heterogeneous Clusters ..... 2182***Daeshin Park, Soongsil University, South Korea**Kiwook Kang, Soongsil University, South Korea**Jiman Hong, Soongsil University, South Korea**Yookun Cho, Seoul National University, South Korea*

<b>Delay-Based Scheduling to Enhance Fairness in a Virtual Machine Environment .....</b>	2185
<i>Donghee Min, Soongsil University, South Korea</i>	
<i>Seonguk Lee, Soongsil University, South Korea</i>	
<i>Gibeom Byeon, Soongsil University, South Korea</i>	
<i>Jiman Hong, Soongsil University, South Korea</i>	

## **Trust, Reputation, Evidence and other Collaboration Know-How Track**

<b>Track Co-Chairs:</b>	Ronald Petrlík, Saarland University, Germany
	Jean-Marc Seigneur, University of Geneva, Switzerland

<b>Track Editorial .....</b>	2188
------------------------------	------

<b>Defining Measurements for Analyzing Information Security Risk Reports in the Telecommunications Sector .....</b>	2189
---	------

<i>Yves Le Bray, Luxembourg Institute of Science and Technology, Luxembourg</i>	
<i>Nicolas Mayer, Luxembourg Institute of Science and Technology, Luxembourg</i>	
<i>Jocelyn Aubert, Luxembourg Institute of Science and Technology, Luxembourg</i>	

<b>Solving Sybil Attacks using Evolutionary Game Theory .....</b>	2195
---	------

<i>Farah Saab, American University of Beirut, Lebanon</i>	
<i>Ayman Kayssi, American University of Beirut, Lebanon</i>	
<i>Imad Elhajj, American University of Beirut, Lebanon</i>	
<i>Ali Chehab, American University of Beirut, Lebanon</i>	

<b>Feasibility Study of Context-Awareness Device Comfort Calculation Methods and their Application to Comfort-Based Access Control .....</b>	2202
--	------

<i>Jingjing Guo, Xidian University, China</i>	
<i>Christian D. Jensen, Denmark Technical University, Denmark</i>	
<i>Jianfeng Ma, Xidian University, China</i>	

# Keyword Index

Scroll to the keyword and select a **Blue** link to open a paper. After viewing the paper, use the bookmarks to the left to return to the beginning of the Keyword Index.

---

## A

ABC Model .....	9
Abstract Syntax Trees .....	1997
Academic Literature Data .....	1102
Access Control .....	119, 2202
Access Control Policy .....	1570
Access Control Rights .....	1641
Accessibility .....	213
Accessibility .....	1276
Active Learning .....	1178
Active Semi-Supervised Community Detection .....	1178
Active Spectral Clustering .....	1178
Activity Correlations .....	1121
Actor Model .....	1244
Actors .....	1358
Adaptation .....	1590
Adaptive .....	514
Adaptive Architecture .....	1323
Adaptive Distinguishability .....	1680
Adaptive Transmission .....	560
Adaptization .....	1407
Adjustable Interference Levels .....	420
Adjustment .....	522
ADOPT .....	682
Advanced Algorithms .....	588
Advanced Analytics .....	992
Agentification .....	1407
Agile Requirements .....	1290
Algorithm .....	552, 1134
Algorithm Recommendation .....	1486
Algorithms .....	293
Alignment .....	904
Alpha Shapes .....	84
Alzheimer's Disease .....	309
Ambient Assisted Living .....	155, 347
Analogy-Based Effort Estimation .....	1554
Analytical Model .....	716
And/Or graphs .....	538
Android .....	1460, 2049
Android Application .....	618

Annotation .....	1466
Annotations .....	1504
Anomaly Detection .....	2063
Answer Consistency .....	1066
Answer Set Prolog .....	260
Anycast .....	716
Aperiodic Jobs .....	1767
APKPLER .....	1460
App Market .....	622
App Rating .....	622
Application Security .....	2049
Approximation .....	1674
Architectural Debt .....	1347
Architectural Problems .....	1812
Architectural Smells .....	1347
Architectural Violations .....	1347
Architecture .....	1480
Architecture Adaptation .....	1329
Architecture Assessment .....	1347
Architecture Design .....	560, 1354
Architecture Evaluation .....	1354
Architecture Evolution .....	1350
Architecture Quality Measures .....	1350
Arduino .....	961, 1724
ARIA .....	181, 766
Artificial Neural Network .....	2171
ASM.js .....	1944
Association Rules .....	867
Associative Classifiers .....	867
Atomics .....	2004
Attribute Name Extraction .....	368
Attributed Graphs .....	904
Audiogames .....	232
Auto Scaling .....	477
AutoDock Vina .....	31
Automata .....	1628
Automated Adaptation .....	1993
Automated Planning .....	500
Automated Program Repair .....	1364
Automated Test Case Generation .....	1527
Automatic Identification of Widgets .....	766
Automatic Programming .....	103
Automotive .....	1350
Automotive Software .....	1401
Autonomic Computing .....	412
Autonomous Mobile Cloud .....	734
Autonomous Robotic Systems .....	287
Available Bandwidth .....	651

## B

Bandwidth Saving .....	560
Base-Pair Distance .....	44
Bayesian Network .....	2135
Bayesian Statistics .....	480
BDI Agent .....	1407
Benchmark Evaluation .....	1558
Benchmarks .....	542
Beta Reputation .....	2021
Big Data .....	426, 542, 824
BioData Mining .....	941
Bioinformatics .....	37
Biological Networks .....	23
Biomedical Text Mining .....	9
Biomorphic Model .....	462
Bisimulation .....	875, 2041
Bit-Vector Logic .....	1666
Blended Learning .....	239
Block Migration .....	1745
Blog .....	1075
Bluetooth Low Energy .....	604, 618
Bootstrapping .....	368
Bounded Satisfiability Checking .....	1666
BPaaS .....	432
BPBMN .....	1576
BPBMN 2.0 .....	432
Braille .....	232
Broadcast Storm .....	709
Browser Extension .....	1127
Bug Fix .....	1534
Bug Fixing .....	1364, 1386
Business Process Customization .....	432
BYOD .....	2049

## C

C Library .....	2004
C Programming Language .....	2004
C++ .....	1918
Cache Coherence .....	1219
Cache Power Consumption .....	1739
Caches .....	1903
Caching .....	362
Campaign Attribution .....	2079
CAP Theorem .....	941
Cardinality Estimation .....	941, 1096
Cascade Attack .....	2142
Catalog .....	980
Category Taxonomy .....	1152

CCN .....	724
Cell Biology .....	40
Certification-Aware Cloud Engineering .....	440
Chained Attacks .....	2095
Channel Assignment .....	682
Checking Sequences .....	1654
Checkpointing .....	534
Classification .....	61, 162, 883, 910, 929, 952, 955, 1174, 1780, 2171
Classification and Identification .....	1083
Classifier Ensemble .....	929
Classifiers .....	1550
Click Models .....	1021
Clinical Queries .....	1041
Clique .....	1134
Clone and Own .....	1466
Closed Itemset Mining .....	898
Cloud .....	390, 522
Cloud Accessibility Services .....	372
Cloud Broker .....	484
Cloud Computing .....	378, 398, 412, 448, 455, 477, 542, 612, 816, 1611, 1700
Cloud Provisioning .....	470
Cloud Scaling .....	462
Cluster Analysis .....	832
Cluster Evaluation .....	901
Clustering .....	824, 839, 949
COAP .....	1611
Code Anomalies .....	1812
Code Generation .....	1196
Code Reuse .....	801
Code Similarity .....	1364
Cognitive Architecture .....	260
Cognitive Behavior Therapy .....	137
Coherence .....	894
Collaboration .....	812
Collaborative Applications, .....	1928
Collaborative Filtering .....	2021
Collaborative Processing .....	1865
Collective Manipulation .....	275
Command and Control Server Detection .....	2087
Command Disaggregation .....	2142
Communicating Systems .....	1686
Communication Security .....	2103
Community Detection .....	1090
Company Search .....	1048
Comparative Evaluation .....	173
Comparison .....	2159
Complex Datasets .....	986
Complex Event Service .....	1597

Complexity .....	1680
Complexity Measures .....	1784
Complexity Metrics .....	1415
Component Interaction .....	1573
Component-Based Architecture .....	1573
Component-Based Development .....	626
Component-Based Platform .....	1204
Components .....	1329
Compositional Approach .....	1504
Computational Complexity .....	538
Computational Science .....	1454
Computational Storage .....	384
Computer Aided Diagnosis System .....	2171
Computer Vision .....	49
Concept Drift .....	929
Concept-Evolution .....	910
Concurrency .....	1358
Concurrency Bug .....	1534
Concurrency Control .....	1806, 1871
Concurrency Errors .....	1251
Concurrent Object .....	1394
Concurrent Systems .....	534, 1686
Configuration Process .....	1296
Conflict Checker .....	1570
Conflict Detection .....	1570
Conflict Rules .....	1570
Conformance Checking .....	1214
Consistency .....	492
Consistency Check .....	1546
Consistency Maintenance .....	812
Constraint Optimization .....	1401
Constraint Satisfaction Problem (CSP) .....	1928
Containers .....	1838
Content Centric Access .....	384
Content Dissemination .....	671
Content ranking .....	1182
Context .....	73
Context Processing .....	125
Context-Aware .....	2202
Context-Aware Security .....	1192
Contextual Information .....	73
Continuous States, Actions and Time .....	254
Control-Case Study .....	205
Control-Flow Constructs .....	1784
Controllability .....	816
Conventional and Meta-Heuristic Methods .....	109
Convulsive Blind Source Separation; .....	55
Cooperation without Communication .....	275

Cooperative Localization .....	675
Cooperative Scheduling .....	1244
Coordination .....	268
Copyright .....	1498
Correction .....	945
Correctness Proofs .....	1694
Correctness Properties .....	1219
Correlation Analysis .....	44
Correlations .....	205
Co-Simulation .....	1759
Cost Optimization .....	470
Coupling Metrics .....	1415
CPU Reclaiming .....	1877
CPU Usage .....	480
CRDTs .....	514
Critical Systems .....	1780
Cross Entropy Optimization .....	254
Cross-Domain Recommender Systems .....	1072
Cross-Layer Protocol .....	716
Cross-Media User Communication .....	1170
Cross-Project .....	1415
Crowdsourcing .....	622, 820
Crowdturfing .....	820
CUDA .....	1648
Cyber-Physical Systems .....	626, 2027

## D

Data Clustering .....	112, 1309
Data Copy Maintenance .....	734
Data Integration .....	1083
Data Locality .....	2182
Data Loss Rate .....	734
Data Mining .....	73, 904, 952
Data Placement .....	2182
Data Reduction .....	1893
Data Replication .....	2182
Data Security .....	398
Data Stream .....	910, 929
Data Streaming .....	935
Data Streams .....	923, 949, 952
Data Structures .....	80, 1798
Data Warehouse .....	219
Database .....	390, 961
Database Applications .....	904
Databases .....	1015
Datacenter .....	636
Data-Centric .....	1806
Dead Code .....	1538

Dead Variable Analysis .....	1620
Dead Variable Reduction .....	1620
Deadline .....	636
Deadlock .....	538
Decentralized Control .....	275
Deception .....	1115
Decision Forest .....	248
Declarative Processes .....	1196
Decomposition .....	89, 1210
Deep Networks .....	293
Defect .....	1780
Delay-constrained Scheduling .....	2185
Delayed Parity Update .....	1771
Demand Response .....	2148
Density Peaks .....	832
Dependability .....	484, 1204, 1777, 2015
Description Logics .....	333
Design .....	1900
Design by Contract .....	1819
Design Specification .....	1546
Desktop-to-Mobile Adaptation .....	787
Detection .....	945
Developers .....	1371
Device Comfort .....	2202
Device Driver .....	1858
Dialog Model .....	173
Digital Game-Based Learning .....	199
Digital Signal Processing .....	162
Discussion Threads .....	1127
Disease .....	15
Disease-Associated Genes .....	9
Disk-Based RAID .....	1771
Dissemination .....	709
Distance Learning .....	239
Distributed Algorithms .....	508
Distributed Computing .....	1634, 1922
Distributed Constraint Optimization .....	682
Distributed Processing .....	1225
Distributed Shared Memory .....	1918
Distributed Systems .....	538, 1980
District Heating System .....	2135
Diversity .....	1075
DIVINE .....	1238
DNUCA .....	1739, 1745
Document Adjudication .....	1027
Document Classification .....	37
Documentation Debt .....	1290
Domain Analysis .....	2007

Domain Specific Language .....	1936
Domain Specific Search Solutions .....	1048
Domain-Specific Language .....	1660, 2007
Domain-Specific Languages .....	1446, 1952, 1968
Drift .....	945
Drone .....	703
Drop-Down Menu Widget .....	766
Duplicate Detection .....	772
Duplication Avoidance .....	1832
Dynamic Analyses .....	2010
Dynamic Analysis .....	1251
Dynamic Associativity Management .....	1745
Dynamic Binding .....	2010
Dynamic Model .....	847
Dynamic TDMA .....	738
Dynamic Virtual Sensors .....	612
Dynamic Voltage and Frequency Scaling .....	1717
Dynamic-k .....	1554

## E

Early Detection .....	2079
Early Diagnosis of MCI .....	143
Eclipse Plugin .....	1492
Edge Clique Cover .....	1134
Education .....	225, 1900, 1968
Effort Estimation .....	1428
e-Health .....	137, 143
E-healthcare .....	162
Elasticity .....	390, 412, 455, 522, 816
Elasticity States .....	816
Electric Load Prediction .....	2119
Electroencephalogram (EEG) .....	162
Electronic Voting .....	2071
Elicitation .....	1276
EM Algorithm .....	40
Embedded .....	961
Embedded Devices .....	131
EMF .....	1446
Empirical Software Engineering .....	1472
Empirical Study .....	867, 1428, 1520
Empirical Validation .....	202
Emulation .....	651
Energy Consumption .....	406
Enterprise .....	1075
Enterprise Application .....	1210
Entity Extraction .....	97
Entity-Centric Graph .....	750
Environmental Economic Dispatch .....	2154

Environmental Exposure .....	596
e-Recruitment Sites .....	780
Error Reporting .....	1960
Estimation of Distribution Algorithms .....	112
European Union .....	1498
Evaluation .....	1021, 1027, 2159
Evaluation Criteria .....	1554
Event Streams .....	916
Event-B .....	1686
Event-Driven Software Systems .....	1527
Events Evolution Analysis .....	1186
Evidence .....	1566
Evidence-Based Language Design .....	1784
Evolutionary Algorithms .....	89
Evolutionary Computation .....	112
Evolutionary Game Theory .....	2195
Evolutionary Stable Strategies .....	2195
EW2P Strategy .....	861
EWMA .....	709
Exception Handling .....	1520
Exceptions .....	1819
Experience Report .....	1282
Experiential Learning .....	219
Experiment .....	1660
Experimental Evaluation .....	875
Experimental Testbed .....	738
Experimentation .....	1115
Expert Evaluation .....	2001
Expert Search .....	1048
Expertise Retrieval .....	1048
Explanation Generation .....	260
Explicit-State Model Checking .....	1620
Exponential Smoothing .....	362
Exposome .....	596
Extended Metadata Object .....	384
Extensibility .....	1997, 2010
Extensible Modeling .....	1302
Extreme Learning Machine .....	891

## F

Facial Features .....	187
Factoid Question .....	1066
Factor analysis .....	299
False Data Injection .....	2142
Fault Management .....	484
Fault Predictors .....	1550
Fault Tolerance .....	484, 492, 534
Featherweight Java .....	1819

Feature Abstraction .....	847
Feature Extraction .....	49, 955
Feature Interaction .....	1401
Feature Model .....	1296, 1562
Feature Selection .....	1174, 1401
Feature-Oriented Development .....	1986
Feature-Oriented Software Product Lines .....	1504
Field Access Frequency .....	1815
Field Reordering .....	1815
File Sharing .....	566
Filtering .....	2176
Finite State Machines .....	1654
First-order Linear Temporal Logic .....	1666
FIVERR .....	820
Fixed-k .....	1554
FLAIR .....	305
Flash Memory .....	1774
Flash Storage Devices .....	1000
Flash Translation Layer .....	1893
Flexibility .....	2148
Floating-point arithmetic .....	1674
Flow .....	636
Flow Programming .....	1906
Fly-Out Menus .....	766
Focus Group .....	1422
Forcasting .....	2135
Foreign Function Interface .....	2041
Formal Analysis .....	1700, 1997
Formal Methods .....	1562, 1674, 1694, 2095
Formal Semantics .....	1219
Formal Verification .....	1666
Fourier Descriptors .....	2176
Frame Detection .....	354
Frequent Collaborators .....	1090
Frequent Pattern Mining .....	898
FTL .....	1824
Fun/Enjoyment .....	167
Function Points .....	1428, 1434
Functional Mock-Up Interface (FMI) .....	1759
Functional Reactive Programming .....	2001
Functional Size Measurement .....	1428
Futex .....	2004
Future Directions on Cloud Monitoring .....	378

## G

Game Clones .....	1512
Game Evaluation .....	167
Game Theory .....	622, 709

Gastritis .....	193
GBraille .....	232
Gene .....	15
Gene Expression Data .....	23
Gene Regulatory Network .....	1
Generalised Process Algebra .....	1993
Generative Model .....	2148
Generators .....	1790
Genetic Algorithms .....	795, 2154
GenProg .....	1364
Geo-Casting .....	644
Geographic Information System .....	572
Geometric Unmixing Algorithm .....	55
Geo-Tagged Tweets .....	1170
Gini Impurity .....	248
Global Features, Local Features .....	2176
Glue Code .....	1936
GNU Radio .....	2165
Goal Model .....	1296
GP GPU .....	1732
GPS .....	552
GPS Data Analysis .....	572
GPU .....	1225, 1865
GPU Computing .....	1255
GPU Kernels .....	1648
Granular Comparison .....	1008
Granularity Conversion .....	1008
Graph Clustering .....	904
Graph Partitioning .....	875
Graph Processing .....	1912
Graph Queries .....	1922
Graph Sampling .....	875
Graph Streams .....	923
Graphical Model .....	67
Grid Computing .....	2015

## H

Hadamard Transformation .....	1255
Hadoop .....	406, 426, 824, 965, 2182
Haptic Human-Computer Interaction .....	149
Hardware-Assisted Virtualization .....	474
Hash Join .....	1000
Hash Partitioning .....	1000
Haskell .....	2001
HCI .....	213
HCI Data .....	1371
HDD .....	965
HDFS .....	406

Head Tracking .....	618
Health .....	119
Health Data Acquisition .....	125
Health Monitoring .....	155
Healthcare Application .....	612
Heterogeneity .....	1844
Heterogeneous .....	1865
Heterogeneous Computing .....	1225
Heterogeneous Multi-Core Platform .....	1717
Heuristic Guidance .....	260
Heuristics .....	1251, 1680
Hidden Markov Model .....	480
Hidden Services .....	2057
Hierarchical Clustering .....	772
High Availability .....	500, 522
High-Recall Filtering .....	1096
High-Throughput .....	534
Hole Problem .....	730
Host-Based Data Flow Analysis .....	2087
Hotness .....	1815
Human Attention Level .....	187
Human Factors .....	1115
Human Movement Activity Recognition .....	155
Human Perception .....	149
Human Trajectories .....	644
Human-Aware Planning .....	284
Human-Behaviour Models .....	284
Human-Robot Collaboration .....	260
Hybrid Approach .....	780
Hybrid Cache .....	1710
Hybrid Storage .....	406, 1771
Hyperhomocysteineimia .....	309
Hyperlinks .....	1127

## I

Object Injection Vulnerability .....	801
ICN .....	724
Icon .....	1974
Identity Management .....	2103
IDS .....	622
Image Analysis .....	61
Image Processing .....	61
Image Segmentation .....	61
Image Semantic .....	67
Implementation .....	1798
Importance Sampling .....	254
Improved Code Snippets .....	1492
Incident Response .....	2087

Indirect Association .....	894
Indirect Conflict .....	1570
Individual-Based Healthcare .....	596
Indoor Navigation .....	604
Industrial Automation Systems .....	1838
Industrial Case Study .....	1440
Industrial Control Systems .....	2063
Information Extraction .....	97, 368
Information Filtering .....	1060
Information Flow Control .....	2071
Information Fusion .....	73
Information Literacy .....	199
Information Retrieval .....	801, 1035, 1054
Information Search and Retrieval .....	1060
Information Search from Text .....	1035
Information Security .....	2189
Information Visualization .....	193
INS .....	675
Instrumentation .....	1460
Integrated Exploration .....	268
Integration Platforms .....	398
Intelligent Agents .....	281
Intelligent Techniques .....	588
Interaction Model .....	173
Interaction Project .....	173
Interest Forwarding .....	724
Interface Model .....	787
Intermedia Synchronization .....	1337
Internal Parallelism of flashSSDs .....	1000
Internet of Things .....	980, 1597
Interoperability .....	1790
Interoperable Recommendation Engines .....	1072
Interpreters .....	1944
Intrusion Detection .....	73, 2063
Invariants .....	1694
Invasive software .....	2041
Inventory Theory .....	470
IPR .....	1498
IR Systems .....	1048
ISBSG Data Set .....	1434
Item Popularity .....	671
Itemset Mining .....	898

## J

Java .....	1980
Java Language .....	1806
Java Libraries .....	1520
Java PathFinder .....	1620

Javascript .....	1611, 1906, 1944, 2010, 2071
Job Matching .....	780
Job Recommendation .....	780
Joint Activities .....	284
JSON .....	812
JVM .....	1815
JXTA .....	1611

## K

KJ Method .....	1282
Knowledge and Wisdom .....	1127
Knowledge Discovery .....	333
Knowledge Discovery from Twitter Data .....	992
Knowledge Extraction .....	354, 1378
Knowledge Graph .....	1323
Knowledge Graphs .....	327
Knowledge Integration .....	1072

## L

Language Design .....	1819, 1986
Language Implementation .....	1986
Language Independent .....	853
Language interoperability .....	1936
Language Model .....	1054
Language-Specific Bais .....	750
Large Graph Metrics .....	941
Large Network .....	1134
Lasso Regression .....	1174
Last Level Cache .....	1745
Latency .....	636
Latent Semantic Analysis .....	801
Leakage Power .....	1739
Learning .....	847
Learning to Rank .....	1035
LeavO Cache .....	1771
Lesion Detection .....	305
Lineairzability .....	1394
Linear Genetic Programming .....	103
Linear Regression .....	901
Linearizability .....	1694
Linearization .....	1674
Linguistic Analysis .....	1546
Linguistic Hyponym Trees .....	67
Linguistic Point of View .....	750
Link Prediction .....	327
Linked Data .....	315
Linux .....	1918
Literate Programming .....	2007

Literature-Based Discovery .....	9
LLVM .....	1238
Load Balancing .....	508, 688
Load Classification .....	1844
Local Minimum Problem .....	730
Local Vector Autoregressive (LVAR) .....	2113
Locality-Sensitive Hashing .....	772
Locating Sequences .....	1654
Location Based .....	742
Location-Based Service .....	1170
Logic Integration .....	1666
Logic Programming .....	347
Loop Retiming .....	1710
LTE software .....	2001
Lung Nodule .....	84

## M

MAC Protocol .....	716
Machine Learning .....	97, 143, 293, 327, 952, 1158, 1486, 2079, 2135
Maintainability .....	2001
Maintenance and Evolution .....	1546
Malware .....	2087
Management .....	378
Manifold Distance .....	832
Many-Objective Optimization .....	89
MapReduce .....	426, 916
Markov Chain model .....	795
Markov Chains .....	1
Master Algorithm .....	1759
Matrix Factorization .....	1060
MDA .....	1196
Measurement .....	2189
Media Analysis .....	992
Media Sharing .....	566
Media Streaming .....	566
Media Workflows .....	384
Medical Information Retrieval .....	1041
Memory and Time Efficiency .....	898
Memory Leaks .....	1386
Memory Management .....	1871, 1885
Memory Protection .....	2041
Mental Health .....	167
Metadata Standards .....	1072
Meta-Learning .....	1486
Methodology .....	1777
Metric Access Methods .....	986
Metrics .....	412, 455, 1550
Micro Architecture .....	1871

Micro Conversation .....	1166
Microwave Tomography .....	2171
Middleware .....	1315, 2027
Mid-Level Representation .....	80
Minimum Bounding Rectangle .....	2176
Mining Software Repositories .....	1378
Mining Software Repository .....	1472
Mixed Effects Models .....	40
Mixed Task Set .....	1767
Mixin .....	1986
Mobile App .....	167
Mobile Application .....	560
Mobile Application Testing .....	137
Mobile Crowd-Sensing .....	219
Mobile Device .....	2202
Mobile Devices .....	644, 2049
Mobile Learning .....	219, 239
Mobile MAC .....	738
Mobile Nodes .....	738
Mobile Phone Messages .....	239
Mobile Platform .....	566
Mobile Sensors .....	596
Mobile Sink .....	703
Mobile Web Accessibility .....	181
Mobile-Game .....	232
Mobility .....	675
Model based Reinforcement Learning .....	248
Model Checking .....	1238, 1562, 1648, 1700
Model Driven Development .....	1196
Model Mutation .....	1968
Model-Based Assessment .....	530
Model-Based Testing .....	1527, 1654, 2095
Model-Driven Engineering .....	1446, 1968, 2119
Model-Driven Querying .....	202
Model-Driven Web Engineering .....	1446
Modelling Complex Systems .....	309
Models of Information Access and Retrieval. ....	1083
Models@run.time .....	2119
Modulation .....	2165
Module Clustering .....	1440
MOF .....	1196
Molecular Docking .....	31
Monitor Synthesis .....	1628
Monitoring .....	378, 522, 1628, 2015
Monoid Algebraic Structures .....	1993
Mouse Dynamics .....	187
Movie Network .....	1108
Moving Objects .....	588

MPEG-21 User Description .....	1072
MPOR .....	1648
MRI .....	305
Multi-Agent Systems .....	281
Multi-Armed Bandits .....	1027
Multicast .....	688
Multicore .....	1231
Multi-Core .....	1844
Multicore Architecture .....	1871
Multicore Architectures .....	1219
Multicore Compiler Techniques .....	1225
Multicore Processor .....	1244
Multielectrode Arrays .....	299
Multi-Granularity Models .....	1008
Multilingual Wikipedia .....	750
Multimedia Application .....	455
Multimedia Indexing .....	986
Multimodal Interaction .....	187
Multi-Objective Optimization .....	2154
Multi-Paradigm .....	1790
Multiple Interactions .....	1080
Multiple Languages .....	1140
Multiple Sclerosis .....	305
Multiprocess Implementation .....	758
Multiprocessor .....	1767
Multiprocessor Scheduling .....	1877
Multi-Relational Semantic Association Rules .....	333
Multiscale Analysis .....	55
Multitasking Application .....	1724
Multi-Tenancy .....	432
MUTE .....	1542
Mutli-Agent System .....	1407
Mutli-Robot .....	268

## N

Named Entity Disambiguation .....	1152
Nanokernel .....	1900
Nat-Traversal .....	508
Natural Language Processing .....	354, 853, 1378
Nature Inspired Computing .....	462
NDN .....	724
Network Analysis .....	15
Network as a Service .....	448
Network Measurement .....	651
Network Optimisation .....	448
Neural Networks .....	949
Neuronal Activation Patterns .....	299
NFR Framework .....	1276

Nielsen's Heuristics .....	213
Node.js, CoffeeScript .....	758
Noise Monitoring .....	219
Non Functional Properties .....	1566
Nondeterministic Finite State Machine (FSM) .....	1680
Non-Disruptive Runtime Transformation .....	500
Non-Volatile Main memory .....	1885
NoSQL .....	980
Novel Class Detection .....	910
Novel Web Application Frameworks .....	758
Novelty .....	894
NUMA System .....	1871
NVM .....	1824

## O

O2O Application .....	742
Object Layout Optimization .....	1815
Object Model .....	1986
Objective Evaluation .....	149
Object-Oriented .....	1210
Object-Oriented Programming .....	1918
Observable Behaviour .....	1219
ODC .....	1780
Offline Events .....	1186
OLAP .....	992
Online .....	945
On-Line Analytics .....	941
Online Friendships .....	1186
Online Learning .....	929
Online Planning .....	254
Online Scheduling .....	2127
Online Search .....	1371
Online Search Engine .....	67
Online Social Network .....	1186
Online Social Networks .....	671, 820
Ontology .....	339, 347
Ontology Disambiguation .....	339
Ontology Engineering .....	321
Ontology Evaluation .....	339
Ontology Pattern Extraction .....	321
Ontology Pattern Language .....	321
Ontology Patterns .....	321
Open Educational Resources .....	225
Open Source Games .....	1512
OpenFlow .....	651, 658
Openmp .....	1231
Operating System .....	1858, 1885
Operating Systems .....	1900

Operational Transformation .....	812, 1928
Opinion Retrieval .....	1077, 1146
Opportunistic Networks .....	644
Optimal Power Flow Analysis .....	109
Optimization .....	891, 1798, 1944
OS-Level Record Mechanism .....	1527
OS-Level Virtualization .....	1838
Overlay Network .....	500, 1912

## P

Packet Scheduling .....	2185
PageRank .....	2057
Parallel Algorithm .....	1244
Parallel Computing .....	1
Parallel Processing .....	1225
Parallelization .....	1590
Parsers .....	1960
Parsing Expression Grammars .....	1960
Parsing Machine .....	1960
Partial Disclosure .....	1993
Partial Model Checking .....	1993
Partial Order Reduction .....	1238
Partial Parity Buffer .....	1774
Partial Parity Cache .....	1774
Particle Swarm Optimization .....	109
Part-of-Speech Tagging .....	1378
Pattern Detection .....	916
Pattern Matching .....	1974
Pattern Mining .....	23
Pattern Recognition .....	84, 162
PauTa criterion .....	832
PCM .....	1824
Pedagogical Playability Heuristics .....	199
Peer-to-Peer .....	508
Performance .....	406, 492, 1550, 1732, 1852, 2171
Performance Analysis .....	412, 455
Performance Awareness .....	1844
Performance Engineering .....	1558
Performance Evaluation .....	1337, 1590
Performance Exploration .....	795
Performance Interference .....	420
Performance Testing .....	795, 1660
Persistent Mechanism .....	1885
Person Wide Web .....	742
Personalization .....	671
Pervasive and Mobile Computing .....	155
Pervasive Computing .....	131
Pervasive Healthcare .....	125

Petri Net .....	839
Petri Nets .....	309
pFabric .....	636
PL/SQL Programs .....	1440
Planning .....	268, 664, 2159
Plug-and-Work .....	477
Point-of-Interest .....	552
Policy based Architecture .....	658
Pooling .....	1027
Power .....	1258, 1732
Power Management Policies .....	1717
Power Supply Networks .....	109
Power-Law Distribution .....	832
POX .....	658
Predictability .....	284
Prediction .....	480, 945, 1628
Predictive Model Learning .....	248
Preference Queries .....	1015
Preferences .....	972
Primary User .....	2165
Principle Component Analysis .....	362
Priority Inversion .....	2185
Privacy .....	119, 131
Privileged Instructions .....	1903
Probabilistic Analysis .....	1751
Probabilistic Boolean Networks .....	1
Probabilistic C++ .....	1238
Process Aware Information System .....	1214
Process Discovery .....	839
Process Isolation .....	1337
Process Mining .....	839, 1214
Process Modeling .....	1214, 1576
Product Line Architecture .....	1302
Program Transformation .....	1790
Programmability .....	1358
Programming by Examples .....	97
Programming Framework .....	1912
Programming Language Composition .....	1936
Programming Languages .....	1434, 1968
Promotion .....	820
Prototyping Model .....	1777
Provisioning .....	390
Proximity .....	1146
Pseudo Relevance Feedback .....	1054
Ptolemy II .....	1759
Public Transit .....	604
Publish/Subscribe .....	2021

PWW .....	742
Python .....	1952

## Q

Q\A Websites .....	1492
Qualitative Investigation .....	1422
Quality .....	1354
Quality of Service .....	1590, 1597
Quantitative Process Algebra .....	530
Quantitative Security .....	530
Quantum Computing .....	1255
Quantum Fourier Transformation .....	1255
Quantum Simulation .....	1255
Query .....	961
Query Execution .....	1000
Query Expansion .....	1054
Query Language .....	972
Query Languages .....	808
Query Suggestion .....	362
Questionnaire .....	205
Quick Emulator .....	1852
Quincunx Sampling .....	55

## R

RAID .....	1774, 1824
Random Forest .....	847
Randomization .....	883
Ranking .....	1021
RDF .....	1015
RDF Knowledge Graph .....	354
Real-Time .....	824, 935
Real-Time Algorithms .....	588
Real-Time Applications .....	1838
Real-Time Monitoring .....	2119
Real-Time Operating System .....	1724
Real-Time Operating Systems .....	1877
Real-Time Scheduling .....	1877
Real-Time Spiking Networks .....	293
Real-Time Systems .....	1562, 1751
Real-World Network .....	1134
Reasoning .....	347
Recency Constraint .....	861
Recognition of Abnormal Behaviors .....	143
Recommender System .....	315, 780, 1080
Recommender Systems .....	1060, 1075, 1182, 1492, 2195
Reconfiguration .....	477
Recurrence Plot .....	955
Reddit .....	1115

Refactoring .....	1231
Reference Point-Based Dominance .....	89
Refinement .....	1694
Register file .....	1732
Regression .....	891
Regular Expressions .....	1974
Regulation .....	2189
Relational Algebra .....	972
Relational Learning .....	248
Relationship .....	15
Relevance Assessments .....	1027
Reliability .....	492, 1858
Remote Method Invocation (RMI) .....	758
Remote Music Play .....	566
Replicator Dynamics .....	2195
Representation Learning .....	327
Requirement Prioritization .....	1296
Requirements Elicitation .....	1282
Requirements Engineering .....	1258, 1276, 1546
Requirements Engineering Approach .....	1270
Requirements Specification .....	1282
Research Collaboration Networks .....	1090
Reservoir Sampling .....	923
Resource Allocation .....	470, 2127
Resource Management .....	477, 1329
Resource Reservations .....	1751, 1877
Resources Consumption .....	542
Response Time .....	1767, 1897
REST .....	1446, 1611
Retrieval Effectiveness .....	1035
Retrospective .....	1264
Retrospective Study .....	1290
Reuse .....	1480, 1997
Reverse Engineering .....	1440, 1498
Rewriting Logic .....	1700
Rich Internet Applications .....	181
Ridge Regularization .....	2113
Risk Management .....	2189
RNA Metrics .....	44
RNA Secondary Structure .....	44
RNA Structures Ensembles .....	44
Road Map Generation .....	572
Robot Localization, Mapping and Navigation .....	287
Robotic Autonomy .....	281
Robotics .....	275
Robust Systems .....	1520
Role-Based Access Control .....	1192
Routing .....	696

Routing Protocol .....	644
Rule Induction .....	143
Run-Time .....	1918
Runtime Enforcement .....	1628
Run-Time Environments .....	2041
Runtime Modeling .....	1323
RWA .....	664

## S

Safety Analysis Generation .....	1777
Sample based Planning .....	254
Sampling .....	923
Satisfaction .....	1066
Scalability .....	492, 2015
Scenario-Based Runtime Tests .....	1573
Scheduling .....	426, 1231, 1844, 1865, 1897, 2015, 2159
Scheme .....	1944
Scientific Simulations .....	1952
Scientific Software .....	1454
Scoping Study .....	1264
Screen Reader Users .....	181
Screen-Captured Video .....	1371
SDN .....	696
SDN Application .....	658
SDN Security .....	658
Search Engines .....	2057
Search Expertise .....	1066
Secondary Study .....	1472
Secondary User .....	2165
Secure Cloud .....	474
Secure VM .....	474
Security .....	109, 119, 131, 1192, 2142
Security Analysis .....	2103
Security Certification .....	440
Security Countermeasures .....	530
Security Levels .....	1192
Security Testing .....	1641, 2095, 49
Selective Undo .....	1928
Self-Adaptation .....	626
Self-Adaptive Algorithm .....	508
Self-Adaptive Systems .....	1315
Semantic Distance .....	339
Semantic Interest Profile .....	1152
Semantic Network .....	853
Semantic Query Representation .....	1041
Semantic Relatedness .....	894
Semantic Web .....	333
Semantic Web Mining .....	327

Semiring .....	530
Semi-Structured Document .....	368
Semi-Supervised Clustering .....	1178
Semi-Supervised Learning .....	299
Sensitive Instructions .....	1903
Sensor Cloud .....	612
Sensor Data .....	935
Sensor Network .....	1344, 2113
Sensor Networks .....	730
Sensors .....	347
Sentiment Analysis .....	750, 1140, 1158
Separation of Concerns .....	1337, 1358
Serious Game .....	167
Server Consolidation .....	420
Server-Centric .....	758
Service Adaptation .....	1597
Service Composition .....	372, 398
Service Ontology .....	321, 372
Service Synthesizer .....	372
Service Testing .....	1605
Session Types .....	1686
Shape Distribution .....	84
ShareJS .....	812
Short Text Classification .....	847
Signed Graphs .....	1060
Similarity .....	1102, 2176
Similarity Analysis .....	299
Similarity Measure .....	315, 772
Simple Function Points .....	1428
SimRank .....	1102
SimRank Problems .....	1102
SimRank Variants .....	1102
Simulation .....	1759
Situation Awareness .....	125, 155
SLAM .....	268
Sleep Decision of AP .....	688
Sliding Window Model .....	949
Small and Medium Enterprises .....	1258
Smart .....	2159
Smart City .....	1597
Smart Grid .....	2119, 2127, 2135, 2142, 2148
Smart Microgrids .....	2154
Smartphone .....	552, 618
Smartphone Application .....	604, 742
Smoke Detection .....	49
SNOBOL .....	1974
Social Advertising .....	1182
Social and Service Robotics .....	287

Social Bots .....	1115
Social Media .....	49
Social Media Analytics .....	992
Social Network .....	1244
Social Network Analysis .....	1108
Social Network Model .....	1108
Social Networks .....	1140, 1182
Social Networks Mining .....	1166
Soft Real-Time .....	1751
Soft Security .....	2202
Software Analytics .....	1378
Software Architecture .....	1344, 1354, 1440
Software Architecture Modeling and Tool Support .....	1302
Software Architecture Recovery .....	1309
Software Clones .....	1512
Software Clustering .....	1210
Software Defect Prediction .....	1784
Software Defined Networking .....	696
Software Defined Networks .....	448, 651
Software Deployment .....	2007
Software Development .....	1371
Software Development Productivity .....	1434
Software Ecosystem .....	1258
Software Effort Estimation .....	1554
Software Engineering .....	1454, 1498
Software Erosion .....	1350
Software Evolution .....	1407, 1538
Software Fault Prediction .....	1486
Software Maintenance .....	1534, 1538, 1812
Software Model-Checking .....	1394
Software Performance .....	1566
Software Process Tailoring .....	1576
Software Product Line .....	1296, 1302, 1562
Software Product Line Engineering .....	1466
Software Product Lines .....	1350
Software Product Management .....	1258
Software Profiling .....	1558
Software Quality .....	1486
Software Reuse .....	1344
Software Security .....	1415
Software Testability .....	1566
Software Testing .....	1454
Software Testing and Debugging .....	137
Software Variability .....	1466
Software Variants .....	1466
Software Verification .....	1558, 1648
Software Visualization .....	1309
Solar Forecast .....	2113

Solid State Drive .....	1893
Solid State Driver .....	1852
Source Code Analysis .....	1364
Soybean Seeds .....	61
Space Saving Algorithm .....	923
Spark .....	824
SPARQL .....	1015
SPARQL Query .....	362
SPARQL Rules .....	354
Spatio-Temporal Analysis .....	1170
Spatiotemporal Data .....	1008
Spatio-Temporal Modeling .....	2113
Spreadsheets .....	202
Spear Phishing .....	2079
Specification Mining .....	1542
Spectrum Sensing .....	2165
Spiking Neural Networks .....	293
Spreading Activation .....	1152
SQL .....	961
SQL Extension .....	972
SQL-on-HADOOP .....	965
SRTF .....	426
SSD .....	965, 1774, 1824, 1865
SSD Cache .....	1771
Stability .....	1354
Stack Overflow .....	1492
State Identification .....	1654
State Machine Replication .....	534
State Matching .....	1620
State Space Traversal .....	1251
Static Analysis .....	1251, 1460, 1520
Static Approach .....	1538
Static Code Metrics .....	1784
Statistical Analysis .....	1434
Statistical Methods .....	588
Steady-State Analysis .....	1
STM Solvers .....	1558
STORAGE I/O .....	965
Storage Level Intrusion Detection .....	2033
Storage Service .....	734
Storage System .....	514
Storlets .....	384
Strategic Usability Assessment .....	205
Structural Recursion .....	1922
Structured Data .....	808
Structured Documents .....	1504
STT-RAM .....	1710, 1732
Student Participation .....	239

Stylistic Variations .....	1077
Success Prediction .....	1108
Support Vector .....	910
Survey .....	2007
Survivability .....	664
Swarm Robotics .....	275
Swarm Verification .....	1634
SWRL .....	333
Sybil Attack .....	2195
Symposium on Applied Computing .....	1264
Syntax .....	1960
System Call .....	1832
System Combination .....	1008
System Emulators .....	1903
System Identification .....	40
Systematic Literature Review .....	1270
Systematic Mapping Study .....	1264, 1472, 1566
Systems Biology .....	309

## T

Tactic .....	1480
Tactical Clone .....	1480
Tag-Based Recommender Systems .....	671
Task Analysis .....	787
Taxonomy .....	1780
Teaching .....	1900
Teamwork .....	284
Technical Debt .....	1290
Telecommunications .....	2189
Temporal Database .....	861
Temporal Dependence .....	952
Temporal Logic .....	1214
Term Proximity .....	1054
Termination Analysis .....	1674
Test Automation .....	1605
Test Case .....	1680
Test Case Generation .....	1641
Test Driven Development .....	1422
Test Generation .....	1605
Test Last Development .....	1422
Test Prioritization .....	1605
Test Scheduling, and Planning .....	1605
Test-Execution Viewpoint .....	1573
Testing .....	440, 1394
Testing Framework .....	1641
Text Mining .....	37, 853
Text Summarization .....	853
Text Visualization .....	193

Text-Mining .....	15
Textual Querying .....	202
Texture Analysis .....	955
Thematic Analysis Template .....	1422
Therapeutic Goals .....	125
Tiled CMP .....	1739, 1745
Time Dependency .....	480
Time Optimal Reachability .....	1634
Time Series .....	883, 955
Time-Aware Activity Recommendation .....	1121
Timed Automata .....	1634
Tool Development .....	1302
Tool Experimentation .....	1347
Tool Support .....	1997
Topological Features .....	1108
Topology Reconfiguration .....	500
Tor .....	2057
Touch Interaction .....	787
Tour Plan .....	703
Traffic Data Analysis .....	935
Training and Education .....	1454
Trajectory Analysis .....	552
Trajectory Uncertainty .....	596
Transaction Systems .....	1700
Transactional Memory .....	1980
Translation Rules .....	1922
Translator .....	1936
Translucent Optical Network .....	664
Transportation .....	1777
Trends .....	1264
Trends on Cloud Monitoring .....	378
Trust in Cloud Services .....	484
Twitter .....	1077, 1096, 1146, 1174, 1182
Twitter Profile .....	1152
Typed Calculus .....	1819

## U

UAV .....	703
Ubiquitous and Mobile Computing .....	137
UML Components and Interactions .....	1573
Uncertainty .....	390
Unicon .....	1790, 1974
Unit Tests Mining .....	1542
Unreachable Methods .....	1538
Unsupervised Data Clustering Detection .....	986
Unsupervised Index Structure .....	986
Unsupervised Learning .....	2087
UPPAAL .....	1634

Urban Computing .....	935
Usability .....	213, 1270
Usability Evaluation .....	787
Usability Maturity Model .....	205
Usage Analysis .....	1798
Usage Control .....	2049
User Association .....	688
User Behavior Analysis .....	1066
User Evaluation .....	199
User Interaction .....	97
User Preference Detection .....	2021
User Profiling .....	2021
User Stories .....	1290
User-Based Collaborative Filtering .....	1121
User's Profile Enrichment .....	1080
Utility Mining .....	898

## V

Validation and Verification .....	1394
Validation Criteria .....	901
Value-Flow Analysis .....	1386
VANETs .....	709, 724
Variability .....	1504
Vehicle Trajectory .....	572
Verification .....	1686
Video Similarity Search .....	80
Virtual Keyboards .....	232
Virtual Machine Environment .....	2185
Virtual Machines .....	1798, 1903
Virtual Memory .....	225, 1832
Virtual Networks .....	448
Virtual Screening .....	31
Virtual Storage Intrusion Detection .....	2033
Virtualization .....	420, 542, 1838, 1852, 1858
Virtualization Security .....	474
Virtualized Datacenters .....	420
Visual Analytics .....	193
Visual Descriptors .....	80
Visual Impairment .....	604
Visual Querying .....	202
Visualization .....	839
Visually Impaired Users .....	181
VLIW Processors .....	1710
VM Isolation .....	474
Vulnerability Prediction .....	1415
Vulnerability Scanners .....	2071

## **W**

Wait-For Graphs .....	538
Wavelet Transform .....	55
Way Shutdown .....	1739
WCAG .....	213
Wearable Device .....	560
Wearable Health Trackers .....	131
Web .....	368, 1906
Web Accessibility .....	766
Web Application .....	801, 816
Web Application Security .....	2071, 2103
Web Applications .....	2095
Web Crawl Data .....	9
Web of Things .....	980
Web Pages .....	1170
Web Protocols .....	398
Web Resource Recommendation .....	1127
Web Search .....	808, 1021, 1035
Web Shop Products .....	772
WebRTC .....	2103
Web-Services .....	372
Weighted Frequent Itemsets .....	861
Weka .....	1550
White Matter Hyperintensities .....	305
Wiki .....	1282
Wireless Networks .....	682
Wireless Sensor Network .....	703, 716, 738
Wireless Sensor Networks .....	612, 1315
WiSARD .....	949
WLANS .....	688
Word Association Network .....	894
Word Clouds .....	193
Word-Word Co-Occurrence .....	1174
Workflow-Based SaaS .....	432
WS-BPEL .....	1590

## **X**

XACML Language .....	1641
Xen .....	1897

## **Z**

Zero Page Elimination .....	1893
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# Author Index

Scroll to the author and select a **Blue** link to open a paper. After viewing the paper, use the bookmarks to the left to return to the beginning of the Author Index.

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## A

Abderrahim, Wiem .....	484
Abeni, Luca .....	1751, 1877
Aceto, Giuseppe .....	651
Acher, Mathieu .....	1562
Adams, Julie A. ....	281
Afzal, Wasif .....	1566
Aguili, Taoufik .....	55
Ahamad, Awais .....	216
Ahlund, Christer .....	2135
Ahmad, Tanwir .....	795
Ahmed, Syed Hassan .....	724
Ahn, Sungyong .....	1852
Ahrndt, Sebastian .....	284
Ahsan, Ramoza .....	1083
Aires de C. Filho, José .....	232
Akiyama, Toyokazu .....	1170
Al Machot, Fadi .....	162
Albayrak, Sahin .....	284
Albonico, Michel .....	816
Albuquerque, Higo .....	1648
Alegre-Sanahuja, Juan .....	935
Aleroud, Ahmed .....	73
Ali, Mouhannad .....	162
Ali, Muhammad Intizar .....	1597
Aliakbary, Sadegh .....	1244
Alif, Adil .....	1777
Alkobaisi, Shayma .....	596
Almeida, Rubens H.P. de .....	1225
Al-omari, Farouq .....	1512
Alonso, Alejandro .....	2027
Altınışık, Metin .....	1440
Alves, Carina .....	1258
Alves, Luciano .....	1486
Alves, Ronnie .....	193
Amazonas, José Roberto .....	664
Andler, Sten F. ....	1566
Andrade, Rossana M.C. ....	232, 239, 626
Ang, Rebecca P. ....	167
Anisetti, M. ....	440

Antonie, Luiza .....	867
Antonietti, Alberto .....	313
Araújo, João .....	1270
Araújo, Maria C.C. ....	232
Araújo, Matheus .....	1140
Arcelli Fontana, Francesca .....	1347
Ardagna, C.A. ....	440
Arnaboldi, Valerio .....	671
Assi, Chadi .....	636
Atabekov, Amir .....	746
Atoofian, Ehsan .....	1732
Aubert, Jocelyn .....	2189
Avila, Anderson Braga de .....	1255
Azadbakht, Keyvan .....	1244

## B

Back, Godmar .....	758
Backes, Michael .....	2071
Bacs, Andrei .....	2033
Bae, Doo-Hwan .....	1534
Bae, Wan D. ....	596
Baek, Seungjae .....	1871
Bagheri, Ebrahim .....	1296
Bahsoon, Rami .....	1354
Bai, Aleksander .....	1174
Baldochi, Laércio A. ....	787
Bao, Lingfeng .....	1371
Barais, Olivier .....	1329
Barbedette, Bertrand .....	1777
Barbosa da Fonseca, Gabriel .....	80
Barbosa de Carvalho, Márcio .....	378
Barbosa, Denilson .....	406
Barbosa, Ellen F. ....	225
Barbosa, Hivana .....	193
Barbosa, Simone D.J. ....	173
Barbosa, Valmir Carneiro .....	538
Barcellos, Monalessa P. ....	321
Baresi, Luciano .....	1666
Barnat, Jiří .....	1238
Barreiro, Álvaro .....	1027
Barros, Rodrigo C. ....	112, 1486
Barsacchi, Marco .....	44
Bartel, Alexandre .....	1460
Bartoli, Alberto .....	97
Bartolomeu, Carlos .....	514
Basgalupp, Márcio P. ....	103, 112
Basso, Fábio Paulo .....	1586
Bastogne, Thierry .....	40

Batista da Silva, Henrique .....	80
Batista, Levy .....	40
Batista, Thais V. ....	1315
Battaglia, Filippo .....	1611
Baù, Andrea .....	44
Bechikh, Slim .....	89
Bechini, Alessio .....	44
Becker, Jefferson .....	305
Bedo, Marcos V.N. ....	49
Begnum, Kyrre .....	480
Behringer, Benjamin .....	1504
Beigy, Hamid .....	910
Belaid, Samir .....	55
Belzner, Lenz .....	248, 254
Ben Ghezala, Henda .....	339
Ben Said, Lamjed .....	89
Benameur, Azzedine .....	580
Benedetto, Massimiliano .....	618
Benevenuto, Fabrício .....	1140, 1158
Bennin, Kwabena Ebo .....	1550
Benz, Samuel .....	492
Beraldí, Roberto .....	2021
Bernardi Soder, Ricardo .....	305
Bernardi, Mario Luca .....	1196
Bernardino, Maicon .....	1660
Bertolino, Antonia .....	1641
Berzisa, Solvita .....	1210
Besel, Christoph .....	1152
Bessho, Masahiro .....	604
Bettini, Claudio .....	143
Beun, Robbert Jan .....	137
Bezirgiannis, Nikolaos .....	1244
Bhattacharjee, Deblina .....	116
Bifet, Albert .....	952
Bijo, Shiji .....	1219
Biondi, Alessandro .....	1724
Bissyandé, Tegawendé F. ....	1460
Bistarelli, Stefano .....	1993
Blanc, Xavier .....	916
Blank, Daniel .....	1048
Blom, Martin .....	1566
Bochicchio, Mario A. ....	219
Bombonatti, Denise .....	1270
Bommannavar, Praveen .....	1096
Bondavalli, Andrea .....	530
Bonifácio, Rodrigo .....	1309
Boon, Jillian .....	167
Boosz, Sebastian .....	1048

Borges, Eduardo N.	901
Bos, Herbert	2033
Botta, Alessio	651
Bouaziz, Ameni	847
Boudriga, Noureddine	612
Bouillet, Eric	945
Bouk, Safdar H.	724
Bourcier, Johann	1329
Bouzeghoub, Amel	339
Braga, Christiano	1570
Braik, William	916
Brandão, Wladimir C.	1542
Brasil, Cassio	1900
Bravo, Manuel	514
Braz Junior, Geraldo	84
Breslin, John G.	315
Brito, Walkir	1182
Brizzi, Filippo	1231
Brodu, Etienne	1906
Brooks, Christopher	1759
Brox, Oliver	1350
Bruschi, Sarita M.	225
Bugatti, Pedro H.	61
Buonocunto, Pasquale	618, 1724
Burton, Eden	1986
Busse, Anselm	1844
Buttazzo, Giorgio	618, 1231, 1724
Buyya, Rajkumar	378
Byeon, Gibeom	2185

## C

Cabot, Jordi	1446
Cacho, Carlos E.A.	225
Caetano, Carlos	80
Cagnini, Henry E.L.	112
Calheiros, Rodrigo N.	378
Calva-Urrego, Cristian	2027
Calvi, Alberto	2095
Cameranesi, Marco	347
Campana, Mattia Giovanni	671
Campello, Ricardo J.G.B.	1080
Cánoyas Izquierdo, Javier Luis	1446
Cao, Bin	546
Cardoso, Douglas O.	949
Carlini, Emanuele	1912
Carneiro, Alan Diêgo A.	538
Carvalho, Andre	929
Carvalho, Celso	1648

Carvalho, Lucas Pedroso .....	181
Carvalho, Luís Paulo da Silva .....	1472
Casagranda, Paolo .....	1072
Casare, Andreia R. ....	213
Castro, Everardo L. ....	232
Castro, Jaelson .....	1264
Cazzolato, Mirela T. ....	49, 986
Ceccarelli, Andrea .....	530
Cecchinel, Cyril .....	1344
Celestino Júnior, Joaquim .....	709
Černá, Ivana .....	1238
Cerny, Tomas .....	1192
Cha, Junbum .....	37
Chae, Dong-Kyu .....	820
Chaimowicz, Luiz .....	268
Chakraborty, Shounak .....	1739
Chan, Stephen .....	187
Chandran, Priya .....	474
Chang, Wooseok .....	1852
Chehab, Ali .....	448, 622, 2195
Chen, Doron .....	384
Chen, Ming-Syan .....	560
Chen, Muhaoo .....	1008
Chen, Shiping .....	1386
Cherdal, Safae .....	309
Cheriere, Nathanaël .....	426
Cherif, Asma .....	1928
Chevalier, Max .....	1075
Chinthanet, Bodin .....	1554
Cho, Hwan-Gue .....	572
Cho, Seongje .....	1871
Cho, SungWoo .....	1865
Cho, Yookun .....	2182
Choi, Hyung-do .....	2171
Choi, Jongmoo .....	1871
Chou, Chung-Kuang .....	560
Chou, Shih-Chun .....	1767
Choukair, Zied .....	484
Chung, Po-Yu .....	477
Ciancarini, Paolo .....	1498
Cimitile, Marta .....	1196
Cinque, Marcello .....	2015
Clarke, Dave .....	2041
Cococcioni, Marco .....	2154
Coelho Ferreto, Tiago .....	420
Coelho, Roberta .....	1520
Colaço Jr., Methanias .....	1472
Colaco, Zenon .....	260

Colares, Rafael Gonçalves .....	268
Collet, Philippe .....	1344
Conte, Alessio .....	1134
Conte, Tayana .....	173
Cool, Benjamin .....	1350
Corcoglioniti, Francesco .....	354
Cordeiro, Lucas .....	1648
Corradi, Antonio .....	2015
Cortadella, Jordi .....	839
Costa Klein, Pedro .....	305
Costa, Alceu F. ....	49
Costa, Helen .....	1158
Costantino, Gianpiero .....	644
Coutinho, Emanuel F. ....	412, 455
Coutinho, Luciano Reis .....	155
Couto da Silva, Ana Paula .....	1108
Couto, Luís Diogo .....	1997
Cremona, Fabio .....	1759
Crestani, Fabio .....	1077, 1146
Cristea, Alexandra I. ....	750
Cui, Bo .....	734
Cunha, Jácome .....	202
Curry, Edward .....	1597
Cuzzocrea, Alfredo .....	588, 992

## D

da Costa Pereira, Célia .....	847
da Costa, Arthur F. ....	1080
da Costa, Celso M. ....	1900
da Cunha Ramos, Jeronimo .....	1980
da Cunha Rodrigues, Guilherme .....	378
da Silva, Celmar G. ....	213
da Silva, Pedro E.A. ....	31
da Silva, Viviane Torres .....	1570
Dabisias, Giacomo .....	1231
Dalip, Daniel Hasan .....	1158
d'Amato, Claudia .....	327, 333
Damiani, E. ....	440
Daoudagh, Said .....	1641
Darin, Ticianne G.R. ....	232
Dartigues-Pallez, Christel .....	847
das Dôres, Silvia N. ....	1486
Das, Shirshendu .....	1739, 1745
Davet, Patricia .....	125
Dazzi, Patrizio .....	1912
de Albuquerque Araújo, Arnaldo .....	80
De Angelis, Guglielmo .....	1282
de Araujo, João Paulo .....	716

de Boer, Frank S.	1244
De By, Rolf A.	552
de Freitas, Edison Pignaton	716
De Graaff, Victor	552
De Groef, Willem	2103
de la Puente, Juan A.	2027
de Lara, Juan	1968
de Lima, Ernesto T.	232
De Lorenzo, Andrea	97
De Maio, Carmen	992
de Melo, Vinícius V.	103
De Mitri, Gianluca	219
de Paiva, Anselmo C.	84
De Roover, Coen	1944
De Rosa, Fabio	1605
De San Pedro, Javier	839
de Sousa Oliveira, Marcelo Iury	980
de Souza, Cleidson	193
de Souza, Jessica A.	49, 986
Debom, Guilherme	1900
Delgado, Nuno	1806
Delicato, Flávia C.	1315
Delmastro, Franca	671
Demidova, Elena	750
den Hartog, Jerry	2063
Derrick, John	1694
Desmet, Lieven	2103
Develder, Chris	2148
D'Hondt, Theo	1944
Di Giandomenico, Felicita	530
Di Noia, Tommaso	1323
Di Sciascio, Eugenio	1323
Diamantini, Claudia	347
Dias, Vinícius Vitor S.	972
Díaz Pace, Andrés	1812
Dimić Surla, Bojana	1090
Ding, Xiao-jian	891
Djermoune, El Hadi	40
Djokic, Sasa	109
Dominka, Sven	1401
Donat-Bouillud, Pierre	426
Donsez, Didier	1204
Dörr, Stefan	287
Dotti, Fernando Luís	534
Doucet, Antoine	853
Douglas, Graeme	961
Dowling, Jim	508
Dragoni, Nicola	131

Drakopoulos, Georgios .....	941
Du, Weichang .....	1296
Dübner, Michael .....	1401
Duc Minh, Tran .....	333
Dudognon, Damien .....	1075
Dukeman, Anton .....	281
Durães, Gilvan .....	664
Dutt, Nikil .....	1717
Dwijaksara, Made Harta .....	688

## E

Ed-douibi, Hamza .....	1446
Edmondson, James .....	281
Efremova, Julia .....	832
Eimouri, Taees .....	1815
Elarbi, Maha .....	89
Elderfield, James .....	1454
Elhajj, Imad .....	448, 622, 2195
Emmendorfer, Leonardo .....	901
Endler, Markus .....	155
Enembreck, F. ....	682
Engelstad, Paal .....	1174
Ermakova, Liana .....	1054
Erola, Arnau .....	1115
Esfandyari, Azadeh .....	1186
Esposito, Floriana .....	327
Etalle, Sandro .....	2063
Eun, Seongbae .....	742
Evangelopoulos, Xenophon .....	1021
Evans, Nathan .....	580
Everett, Richard M. ....	1115

## F

Faal, Siamak G. ....	275
Fähndrich, Johannes .....	284
Falbo, Ricardo A. ....	321
Falcone, Yliès .....	1628
Falleri, Jean-Rémy .....	916
Fan, Jing .....	546
Fanizzi, Nicola .....	327
Farias Lóscio, Bernadette .....	980
Farias, Mário André de F. ....	1290, 1472
Farias, Victor A.E. ....	390
Fassetti, Fabio .....	23
Fenza, Giuseppe .....	992
Fernandes, João Paulo .....	202
Fernandes, Valéria P.M. ....	84

Ferrari, Alessio .....	1282
Ferreira, Lucas Pereira .....	181
Ferreira, Ricardo .....	1648
Ferrucci, Filomena .....	1428
Figueiredo, Bruno .....	1264
Fitrianie, Siska .....	137
Fletcher, George H.L. ....	875
Fontanelli, Daniele .....	1751
Fontinele, Alexandre .....	664
Fortes, Renata Pontin de Mattos .....	766
Foschini, Luca .....	2015
Fouquet, Francois .....	1329, 2119
Fournier-Viger, Philippe .....	861, 898
Fracalossi, Aline .....	1900
Fragoso, João Leonardo .....	1900
França, Felipe .....	949, 1225
França, Tiago .....	1182
Franke, Carsten .....	1838
Frasincar, Flavius .....	772
Frattini, Flavio .....	2015
Freire, André Pimenta .....	181
Frénot, Stéphane .....	1906
Frías-Blanco, Isvani .....	929
Frühwirth, Christian .....	470
Fucci, Davide .....	1422
Fung, Daniel .....	167
Fursova, Natalia .....	1582

## G

Gaab, Jens .....	167
Gagliardi, Alessio .....	618
Gaikaiwari, Sudarshan .....	1974
Gaito, Sabrina .....	1186
Gama, Fernando .....	193
Gama, João .....	923, 949
Gama, Kiev .....	1204
Gan, Wensheng .....	861
Gandon, Fabien .....	333
Ganhota, Jatin .....	1700
Gao, Feng .....	1597
Gao, Shi .....	1008
Gao, Yue .....	2057
Garcia Lopez, Felipe .....	287
Garcia, Alessandro .....	1812
García-Valls, Marisol .....	2027
Gärtner, Stefan .....	1546
Gaudenzi, F. ....	440
Georgiadis, Giorgos .....	2127

Georgiadis, Panagiotis .....	1590
Geyer, Claudio .....	125
Ghafari, Mohammad .....	1492
Ghanem, Nagia M. ....	1178
Gharibi, Gharib .....	1302
Giachanou, Anastasia .....	1077, 1146
Giacomin, João Carlos .....	716
Giannini, Paola .....	1819
Gil, Yossi .....	1784
Gilligan, Christopher A. ....	1454
Gimenez Corrêa, Cléber .....	149
Giozzi, William .....	664
Giuffrida, Cristiano .....	2033
Gnesi, Stefania .....	1282
Godot, Jean .....	1777
Goetsche, John .....	1974
Goh, Dion Hoe-Lian .....	167, 199
Golagha, Mojdeh .....	2087
Gomes, Berto de Tácio Pereira .....	155
Gomes, Danielo G. ....	412
Gomes, Heitor Murilo .....	958
Gomes, Herman Martins .....	299
Gomes, João P.P. ....	390
Gomes, Jorge .....	31
Gómez, Abel .....	1446
Gómez-Abajo, Pablo .....	1968
Gonçalves do Patrocínio Jr., Zenilton K. ....	80
Gonçalves, Enyo .....	1264
Gonçalves, Luiz F. ....	787
Gonçalves, Marcos André .....	1158
Gonçalves, Pollyanna .....	1158
Gonzalez-Herrera, Inti .....	1329
Goto, Masataka .....	1885
Gouineau, Frank .....	824
Goulão, Miguel .....	1270
Goyal, Rohit .....	131
Grabis, Janis .....	1210
Gralha, Catarina .....	1270
Granitzer, Michael .....	1152
Gravino, Carmine .....	1428
Griffioen-Both, Fiemke .....	137
Grill, Bernhard .....	2033
Gross, Oskar .....	853
Grossi, Roberto .....	1134
Gruhler, Matthias .....	287
Guarino, Nicola .....	321
Gudino, Lucy J. ....	738
Guerra, Esther .....	1968

Guezguez, Mohamed Jacem .....	612
Guimaraes, Everton .....	1812
Guizzardi, Giancarlo .....	321
Gunda, Jagadeesh .....	109
Guo, Jingjing .....	2202
Guo, Yan Ru .....	199
Gupta, Indranil .....	1700
Gustedt, Jens .....	2004

## H

Ha, Sunju .....	742
Habacha Chaibi, Anja .....	339
Habashi, Sarah .....	1178
Hacid, Hakim .....	1166
Haddad, Hisham .....	801
Hadi, Khaled .....	730
Haendler, Thorsten .....	1573
Haj Mosa, Ahmad .....	162
Hammer, Christian .....	2071
Hammer, Hugo Lewi .....	480, 1174
Han, Hyuck .....	566
Han, Yufei .....	2079
Hanif, Shaza .....	2159
Hartmann, Thomas .....	2119
Hashemi, Vahid .....	1708
Hassan, Mohammad Mahdi .....	1566
Hattay, Jamel .....	55
He, Ben .....	1035
Healy, Andrew .....	1558
Heimfarth, Tales .....	716
Heinz, Marcel .....	2007
Heiser, John .....	2113
Helsper, Philipp .....	2007
Henrich, Andreas .....	1048
Herb, Tobias .....	812
Heydarnoori, Abbas .....	1492
Higo, Yoshiki .....	1364
Hijikata, Yoshinori .....	368
Hillah, Lom Messan .....	1605
Hindle, Abram .....	406
Hirayama, Hideaki .....	1214
Hirschfeld, Robert .....	1798
Hitchens, Michael .....	658
Holanda, Ana .....	1264
Holte, Robert C. .....	867
Hong, Jiman .....	1897, 2182, 2185, 780
Hong, Tzung-Pei .....	861
Horita, Hiroki .....	1214

Hotta, Keisuke .....	1364
Hsieh, Chen-Ying .....	1717
Hsieh, Jen-Wei .....	1774
Hu, Yiming .....	1824
Hu, Zhenjiang .....	1922
Huang, Jun .....	2165
Huang, Yu-Hao .....	1767
Huber, Lukas .....	165
Hung, Chih-Cheng .....	89
Hussain, Shahid .....	1550, 1584
Hwang, Taegyu .....	1897

## I

Iannizzotto, Giancarlo .....	1611
Ibrahim, Shadi .....	426
Ichikawa, Masaya .....	1885
Imine, Abdessamad .....	1928
Inamoto, Shinji .....	1885
Ishii, Renato .....	955
Ishikawa, Yoshiharu .....	1170
Ismail, Mohamed A. ....	1178
Itani, Wassim .....	448
Ivanović, Mirjana .....	1090
Iwasaki, Hideya .....	1936

## J

Jacobsen, Hans-Arno .....	500
Jamhour, E. ....	682
Jamil F. Guimarães, Silvio .....	80
Jančík, Pavel .....	1620
Janjua, Zaffar Haider .....	143
Jauns-Seyfried, Stefanie .....	1350
Jeffery, Clinton .....	1790, 1974
Jensen, Christian D. ....	2202
Jeon, Soon Ik .....	2171, 2176
Jeon, Wha Sook .....	688
Jeong, Dong Geun .....	688
Jérón, Thierry .....	1628
Jersak, Luis Carlos .....	420
Jlassi, Aymen .....	542
Jo, Yong-Yeon .....	1865
Johns, Martin .....	2103
Johnsen, Einar Broch .....	1219
Joosen, Wouter .....	119, 432
Jourdan, Guy Vincent .....	1654
Jung, Jinman .....	742
Jung, Wonmook .....	1000

Jungnickel, Tim .....	<b>812</b>
Junqueira, Eduardo .....	<b>239</b>
Juristo, Natalia .....	<b>1422</b>

## K

K.R., Anupama .....	<b>738</b>
Kaindl, Hermann .....	<b>1401</b>
Kaklanis, Nikolaos .....	<b>372</b>
Kalb, Paul .....	<b>2113</b>
Kalinowski, Marcos .....	<b>1290</b>
Kamali Siahroudi, Sajjad .....	<b>910</b>
Kamei, Yasutaka .....	<b>1554</b>
Kanehisa, Rodrigo F.A. ....	<b>84</b>
Kang, Kiwook .....	<b>2182</b>
Kang, Sooyong .....	<b>566, 1893</b>
Kang, Sungwon .....	<b>1562</b>
Kang, Yoonsuk .....	<b>1011</b>
Kapoor, Hemangee K. ....	<b>1739, 1745</b>
Kapre, Nachiket .....	<b>1378</b>
Karabatis, George .....	<b>73</b>
Karagöz, Pınar .....	<b>1121</b>
Kärkkäinen, Tommi .....	<b>945</b>
Karmakar, Kallol Krishna .....	<b>658</b>
Kasaudhan, Ravi .....	<b>2176</b>
Kato, Kazuhiko .....	<b>1858</b>
Kaushik, Kapil .....	<b>1189</b>
Kavalionak, Hanna .....	<b>508</b>
Kawai, Yukiko .....	<b>1170</b>
Kayssi, Ayman .....	<b>448, 622, 2195</b>
Kent, Kenneth B. ....	<b>1815</b>
Khabbaz, Maurice .....	<b>636</b>
Khan, Arif Ali .....	<b>1550, 1580</b>
Khan, Mehran .....	<b>522</b>
Khan, Sahrish .....	<b>696</b>
Khendek, Ferhat .....	<b>522</b>
Kieffer, Suzanne .....	<b>205</b>
Kim, Dongkyun .....	<b>724</b>
Kim, Dongwook .....	<b>1893</b>
Kim, Haecheon .....	<b>1871</b>
Kim, Hee-Jeong .....	<b>820</b>
Kim, Hyunjin .....	<b>9</b>
Kim, Jee-Eun .....	<b>604</b>
Kim, Jeongwoo .....	<b>15, 37</b>
Kim, Jin Hyun .....	<b>1562</b>
Kim, John .....	<b>2171</b>
Kim, Jungkil .....	<b>1852</b>
Kim, Kisoo .....	<b>1897</b>
Kim, Minkyung .....	<b>965</b>

Kim, Sang-Wook .....	780, 820, 1102, 1865
Kim, Taeyong .....	572
Kirilichev, Vasily .....	1798
Klein, Jacques .....	1460, 2119
Knieke, Christoph .....	1350
Kobayashi, Shinsuke .....	604
Kofroň, Jan .....	1620
Koikara, Rosemary .....	2111
Kolodner, Elliot K. ....	384
Kon, Fabio .....	406
Konstadinidou, Ageliki .....	372
Kontopoulos, Stavros .....	941
Korb, Ingo .....	1832
Kordon, Fabrice .....	1605
Koshizuka, Noboru .....	604
Kotthaus, Helena .....	1832
Kramer, Stefan .....	883
Krug, Margrit Reni .....	1900
Krutz, Daniel E. ....	1480
Ksentini, Nesrine .....	1086
Kuipers, Wim .....	772
Kulesza, Uirá .....	1520
Kuo, Chin-Fu .....	1767
Kushik, Natalia .....	1680
Kusumoto, Shinji .....	1364
Kyamakya, Kyandoghere .....	162

## L

La, Kwanghyun .....	1852
Ladeira, Marcelo .....	1309
Lämmel, Ralf .....	1466, 2007
Lancee, Jaap .....	137
Landry, Tom .....	824
Langella, Roberto .....	109
Larmuseau, Adriaan .....	2041
Larouci, Cherif .....	1777
Larsen, Kim G. ....	1634
Latiri, Chiraz .....	1041
Lausdahl, Kenneth .....	1997
Lavazza, Luigi .....	1428, 1434
Lawrence, Ramon .....	961
Lazzerini, Beatrice .....	2154
Le Bray, Yves .....	2189
Le Traon, Yves .....	1460, 2119
Lee, Donghee .....	1771
Lee, Edward A. ....	1759
Lee, Hochul .....	566
Lee, Jaehun .....	566

Lee, Jeonghwan .....	1897
Lee, Jongwuk .....	820
Lee, Seok-Won .....	1407
Lee, Seonguk .....	2185
Lee, Yeon-Chang .....	780
Leelaprute, Pattara .....	1554
Legay, Axel .....	1562
Leite, Julio Cesar Sampaio P. ....	1276
Leong, Hong Va .....	187
Lessa dos Santos, Glederson .....	378
Li, Chong .....	1922
Li, Daoyuan .....	1460
Li, Jiajia .....	187
Li, Jing .....	1127, 1371, 1378
Li, Kang .....	2057
Li, Li .....	1460
Li, Ru .....	734
Li, Yanhua .....	546
Li, Zhongcheng .....	734
Lim, Seungmin .....	1871
Lim, Sung-Soo .....	1717
Lima, Guilherme .....	1337
Lin, Chia-Chih .....	560
Lin, Jerry Chun-Wei .....	861, 898
Lin, Jimmy .....	1096
Lindström, Birgitta .....	1566
Lipari, Giuseppe .....	1877
Lira, Wallace .....	193
Liu, Jing .....	734
Liu, Peipeng .....	2057
Liu, Shih-Chii .....	293
Liu, Si .....	1700
Liu, Xiao-guang .....	891
Liu, Xiao-Long .....	477
Livieri, Barbara .....	321
Lo Bello, Lucia .....	1611
Lohstroh, Marten .....	1759
Loia, Vincenzo .....	992
Lonetti, Francesca .....	1641
Long, Zhenyue .....	1394
Longo, Antonella .....	219, 321
Lopes, Joao .....	125
Losada, David E. ....	1027
Lossio-Ventura, Juan Antonio .....	1166
Lu, Wei .....	935
Lu, Yung-Feng .....	1767
Lulli, Alessandro .....	1912

# M

Ma, Jianfeng .....	2202
Ma, Qingli .....	1035
Ma, Yu-Seung .....	1534
Machado, Javam C. ....	390
Machado, Karina .....	31, 901
Maesano, Ariele-Paolo .....	1605
Maesano, Libero .....	1605
Maggi, Fabrizio Maria .....	1196
Maia, José G.R. ....	390
Maia, Marcio E.F. ....	626
Majeed, Shakaiba .....	1527
Makki, Majid .....	432
Makris, Christos .....	941, 1021
Manzato, Marcelo G. ....	1080
Marçal, Edgar .....	239
Marcelloni, Francesco .....	2154
Marchand de Kerchove, Florent .....	2010
Marchand, Hervé .....	1628
Marchetti, Eda .....	1641
Marcos, Claudia .....	1812
Margarida Rockenbach Tarouco, Liane .....	378
Margaris, Dionisis .....	1590
Marino, Andrea .....	1134
Marinoni, Mauro .....	1724
Marques, Anna Beatriz .....	173
Marques, Hendrio .....	1648
Martineau, Patrick .....	542
Martinelli, Fabio .....	530, 644, 1993, 2049
Martins, Paulo S. ....	213
Martins, Rafael D. ....	1080
Marwedel, Peter .....	1832
Mascarenhas, Fabio .....	1960
Maslov, Alexandr .....	945
Matias Jr., Rivalino .....	1900
Matono, Tsukasa .....	1885
Matos, Ana .....	1806
Matsumoto, Kenichi .....	1554
Matteucci, Ilaria .....	530, 1993
Maurica, Fonenantsoa .....	1674
Mayer, Nicolas .....	2189
Mayo, Michael .....	952
McIlraith, Sheila .....	500
Meadows, Ben .....	260
Medeiros, Sérgio .....	1960
Medvet, Eric .....	97
Megyesi, Péter .....	651
Meiers, Egils .....	1210

Mekler, Elisa D.	167
Mello Junior, Rui R.	1225
Melo, Rosemeiry	239
Mendes, Thiago Souto	1290
Mendizabal, Odorico M.	534
Mendonça, Manoel	1290, 1472
Meng, Xiaodong	1922
Meseguer, José	1700
Mesnard, Frédéric	1674
Messina, Alberto	384, 1072
Meth, Kalman	384
Metta, Sabino	1072
Meyers, Wade	596
Micic, Aleksandar	1815
Mileo, Alessandra	1597
Mills, Peter	1790
Min, Byungho	2142
Min, Donghee	2185
Minervini, Pasquale	327
Minh, Sophal	1771
Mirakhori, Mehdi	1480
Mirus, Florian	287
Mitra, Karan	2135
Mizera, Andrzej	1
Moawad, Assaad	2119
Moga, Alexandru	1838
Mohr, David	1952
Molnár, Sándor	651
Monahan, Rosemary	1558
Mongiello, Marina	1323
Montagnuolo, Maurizio	384, 1072
Monteiro, T.L.	682
Montresor, Alberto	508
Moraes, Regina L.O.	213
Morandat, Floréal	916
Morasca, Sandro	1434
Moreira, Ana	1270, 1276
Morelli, Bruno	1918
Moreno, Marcelo	1337
Moreno, Marcio Ferreira	1337
Mori, Paolo	2049
Morishima, Atsuyuki	808
Moro, Alessandro	588
Moro, Mirella M.	1108
Morrone, Alessandro A.	219
Moshtari, Sara	1415
Mosser, Sébastien	1344
Mothe, Josiane	1054, 1075

Motta, Claudia .....	1182
Mottu, Jean-Marie .....	816
Mouline, Salma .....	309
Mühl, Gero .....	1844
Mumolo, Enzo .....	588
Munson, Ethan V. ....	787
Murlíky, Lucas .....	1900
Muthusamy, Vinod .....	500
Mutlu, Alev .....	1121

## N

Naanaa, Wady .....	55
Nabelsee, Mohannad .....	1844
Nadjm-Tehrani, Simin .....	2001
Nagai, Kengo .....	1885
Nakane, Fumitaka .....	368
Nanda, Rohan .....	2135
Narayanappa, Sada .....	596
Nardi, Julio C. ....	321
Nascimento, Mario A. ....	703
Neamtu, Rodica .....	1083
Neil, Daniel .....	293
Neitz, Alexander .....	248
Ngai, Grace .....	187
Nguyen, Tai .....	1358
Nicolay, Jens .....	1944
Nielsen, Brian .....	1634
Nijenhuis, Nikki .....	772
Nikitina, Elena .....	1054
Niklas, Kai .....	1546
Nishida, Shogo .....	368
Nocera, Francesco .....	1323, 1361
Nodari, Andrea .....	470
Nomura, Shintaro .....	368
Noorian, Mahdi .....	1296
Nostro, Nicola .....	530
Novais, Renato .....	1472
Noyé, Jacques .....	2010
Nunes, Fátima L.S. ....	149
Nurminen, Jukka K. ....	470
Nurse, Jason R.C. ....	1115

## O

Oblé, Frédéric .....	1906
Ochoa, Martín .....	2087
Oh, Hyunok .....	1865
Ohsuga, Akihiko .....	1214

Ohta, Takafumi .....	1364
Oikonomou-Filandras, Panagiotis Agis .....	675
Oizumi, Willian .....	1812
Okano, Kozo .....	1364
Olarte, Carlos .....	1686
Oliveira Spínola, Rodrigo .....	1472
Oliveira, Jonice .....	1182
Oliveira, Romeu .....	1276
Oliveira, Toacy C. ....	1576
Ölveczky, Peter Csaba .....	1700
Onal, Cagdas D. ....	275
Ooi, Yoon Phaik .....	167
Ortiz-Díaz, Agustín .....	929
Ozolins, Edgars .....	1210

## P

Pacheco de Sousa, Leandro .....	492
Pack, Chulwoo .....	2171
Pagani, Elena .....	671
Pagani, Marco .....	1724
Paillard, Gabriel A.L. ....	1225
Paiva, Renato .....	1309
Palmero Aprosio, Alessio .....	354
Palopoli, Luigi .....	1751
Pan, Xiaozhong .....	758
Pang, Jun .....	1
Paolucci, Mario .....	2021
Papatriantafilou, Marina .....	2127
Pape, Tobias .....	1798
Parapar, Javier .....	1027
Parente, Mimmo .....	992
Parizek, Pavel .....	1251
Park, Bokuk .....	572
Park, Daeshin .....	2182
Park, Jinkwan .....	572
Park, Jurn-Gyu .....	1717
Park, Sanghyun .....	9, 15, 37, 965, 1000
Parreira, Daniel .....	1806
Parri, Andrea .....	1877
Parzy jegla, Helge .....	1844
Patrick, Matthew .....	1454
Patrignani, Marco .....	2041
Paulino, Hervé .....	1806
Payberah, Amir H. ....	508
Payet, Étienne .....	1674
Pechenizkiy, Mykola .....	832, 875, 945
Pedone, Fernando .....	492, 534
Pei, Yulong .....	832

Pellenz, M.E. ....	682
Penna, M.C. ....	682
Pereira de Almeida, Raquel .....	80
Pereira Junior, Otmar M. ....	1542
Pereira, Adriano .....	1140
Pereira, Douglas F. ....	61
Pereira, Fabiola Souza F. ....	972
Pereira, Phillippe .....	1648
Pereira, Rui .....	202
Pernas, Ana .....	125
Pescapè, Antonio .....	651
Petroni, Fabio .....	2021
Pfadt, Jürgen .....	287
Pfaff, David .....	2071
Pfeiffer, Michael .....	293
Phannachitta, Passakorn .....	1554
Piao, Guangyuan .....	315, 375
Piessens, Frank .....	2103
Pilla, Mauricio Lima .....	1255, 1980
Pillat, Raquel M. ....	1576
Pinisetty, Srinivas .....	1628
Pires, Paulo F. ....	1315
Pistolesi, Francesco .....	2154
Pivert, Olivier .....	1015
Polaka, Inese .....	1210
Polato, Ivanilton .....	406
Polini, Andrea .....	1282
Poncelet, Pascal .....	1166
Portocarrero, Jesus M.T. ....	1315
Potena, Domenico .....	347
Pourhashem Kallehbasti, Mohammad Mehdi .....	1666
Povedano-Molina, Javier .....	2015
Power, James F. ....	1558
Pradhan, Jems .....	2165
Prates, Nubia .....	31
Precioso, Frédéric .....	847
Preoteasa, Viorel .....	1628
Pretschner, Alexander .....	2087
Preuveneers, Davy .....	119
Protti, Fábio .....	538
Pun, Ka I .....	1219

## Q

Qin, Yongrui .....	362
Qiu, Keni .....	1710
Qu, Long .....	636
Querzoni, Leonardo .....	2021

Quevedo, Christian V.	112
Quirino, Glaice K.	321

## R

R, Jithin	474
R, Suriyadeepan	738
Rafailidis, Dimitrios	904, 1060
Rahimiaghdam, Shakiba	1121
Rahman, Muntasir Raihan	1700
Rajaraman, Anand	1096
Ranjan Maiti, Rajib	644
Ranzini, Edith	149
Rauber Du Bois, André	1980
Rausch, Andreas	1350
Ravara, António	1806
Raza, Atif	883
Reckinger, Yves	2119
Rego, Paulo A.L.	412, 455
Rehem, Douglas	1182
Reis, Julio	1140
Reis, Simão	1903
Reiser, Renata Hax Sander	1255
Rekhis, Slim	612
Reyhani Hamedani, Masoud	908, 1102
Ribeiro Filho, José Daniel Pereira	155
Ribeiro, Marcos Roberto	972
Riboni, Daniele	143
Ricci, Laura	1912
Rice, Andrew	1454
Risi, Michele	1538
Robinson, Nathan	500
Roche, Mathieu	1166
Ročkai, Petr	1238
Rodrigues, Elder M.	1660
Rodrigues, Genaina N.	1309
Rodrigues, Luis	514
Rodrigues, Taniro C.	1315
Rodrigues-Jr., Jose F.	49
Roh, Hongchan	1000
Rom, Eran	384
Romano, Simone	1422, 1538
Rombo, Simona E.	23
Rosa Franco, Alexandre	305
Rospocher, Marco	354
Rossi, Gian Paolo	1186
Rossi, Matteo	1666
Rothkugel, Steffen	1504
Roveda, Riccardo	1347

Roy, Chanchal K.	1512
Rudametkin, Walter	1329
Rueda, Camilo	1686
Ruffaldi, Emanuele	1231
Ruiz, Duncan D.	1486
Rundensteiner, Elke	1083
Rungsawang, Arnon	1554
Russo, Daniel	1498
Russo, Francesco	1072
Ryu, Minsoo	1527

## S

Saab, Farah	622, 2195
Sadeghianpourhamami, Nasrin	2148
Saguna, Saguna	2135
Saito, Priscila T.M.	61
Sakamura, Ken	604
Salama, Maria	1354
Salem, Iosif	2127
Sami, Ashkan	1415
Sánchez, Jaime	232
Sandahl, Patrik	2001
Santi, Paolo	644
Santini, Francesco	530, 1993
Santos, Rodrigo	1337
Santos, Vanessa	1648
Saracino, Andrea	2049
Saraiva, Eugênio de Carvalho	299
Saraiva, João	202
Sarkis, Laura Costa	1570
Sarroglia Pinho, Marcio	305
Sartiani, Carlo	1538
Saudrais, Sébastien	1777
Savić, Miloš	1090
Saxena, Piyush Rai	631
Scanniello, Giuseppe	1422, 1538
Schindler, Mirco	1350
Schlötterer, Jörg	1152
Schmidt, Tobias M.	2007
Schmorleiz, Thomas	1466
Schneider, Kurt	1546
Schreck, Thomas	2087
Scordino, Claudio	1918
Sekerinski, Emil	1986
Sena, Demóstenes	1520
Sennesh, Eli	1784
Serrao, Cristina	23
Servetto, Marco	1819

Seus, Vinicius Rosa .....	31
Sfar, Hela .....	339
Shaban, Khaled .....	636
Shah, Syed Muhammad Ali .....	1566
Shahriar, Hossain .....	801
Shamseddine, Maha .....	448
Shemshadi, Ali .....	362
Shen, Yun .....	580, 2079
Sheng, Quan Z. ....	362
Sheu, Ruey-Kai .....	477
Shi, Jinqiao .....	2057
Shin, Dongwan .....	1897
Shin, Mincheol .....	965, 1000
Shin, Sung .....	2171, 2176
Shinagawa, Takahiro .....	1858
Sillitti, Alberto .....	1498
Silva Jr., Lande .....	31
Silva, Angelo .....	955
Silva, Antônio R.S. ....	232
Silva, Aristófanes C. ....	84
Silva, Francisco José da Silva e .....	155
Silva, Isabela .....	1648
Silva, Leonardo L. ....	1900
Silva, Lyrrene .....	1276
Silva, Nuno .....	1780
Silva, Rone Ilidio da .....	703
Simonin, Matthieu .....	426
Sivanthi, Thanikesavan .....	1838
Skoruppa, Malte .....	2071
Slama, Olfa .....	1015
Slomian, Frank .....	287
Smith, Graeme .....	1694
So, Sun-sup .....	742
Soares, André .....	664
Soares, Henrique Frota .....	1290
Soares, Luiz F. ....	1337
Sobernig, Stefan .....	1573
Son, Seong Ho .....	2176
Song, Mark Alan J. ....	1542
Sotirakou, Catherine .....	629
Sotto, Léo F.D.P. ....	103
Sousa, Flávio R.C. ....	390
Souza, Alexandre .....	125
Souza, José Neuman de .....	412, 455
Souza, Paulo S.L. ....	225
Souza, R.D. ....	682
Souza, Rodrigo .....	125
Souza, Uéverton S. ....	538

Sözer, Hasan .....	1440
Spínola, Rodrigo Oliveira .....	1290
Spognardi, Angelo .....	131
Spruit, Sandor .....	137
Sridharan, Mohan .....	260
Srivastava, Gaurav .....	2087
Staab, Steffen .....	333
Stefanovic, Darko .....	1952
Stievenart, Quentin .....	1944
Štill, Vladimír .....	1238
Storti, Emanuele .....	347
Stoykov, Gyorgi .....	462
Strasser, Arthur .....	1350
Strembeck, Mark .....	1573
Strobbe, Matthias .....	2148
Stutt, Richard O.J.H. .....	1454
Su, Che-Jen .....	1774
Subramanian, Deepak .....	2103
Succi, Giancarlo .....	1498
Sucupira Lima, Daniel .....	709
Südholt, Mario .....	2010
Sui, Yulei .....	1386
Sumiya, Kazutoshi .....	1170
Sun, Youcheng .....	1877
Sunyé, Gerson .....	816
Supulniece, Inese .....	1210
Suzic, Bojan .....	398

## T

Tabassum, Shazia .....	923
Tahara, Yasuyuki .....	1214
Takasu, Atsuhiro .....	935
Takekoshi, Satoru .....	1858
Tamine, Lynda .....	1041
Tan, Qingfeng .....	2057
Tanaka, Katsumi .....	1066
Taniguchi, Hideo .....	1885
Tanimura, Akira .....	1936
Tanvir, Sadaf .....	696
Tapia Tarifa, S. Lizeth .....	1219
Tarlao, Fabiano .....	97
Tasdighi Kalat, Shadi .....	275
Ta-Shma, Paula .....	384
Tavakoli, Mohammad Reza .....	1492
Tavares Guimarães, Vinícius .....	378
Taylor, Karl .....	1815
Taylor, Kerry .....	362
Testa, Alfredo .....	109

Tettamanzi, Andrea G.B.	333
Thanh Lam, Hoang	945
Thion, Virginie	1015
Thomas, Phillip	1974
Tiosso, Fernando	225
Tisi, Massimo	1446
Toczé, Klervie	2001
Toeroe, Maria	522
Toivonen, Hannu	853, 894
Tokunaga, Daniel M.	149
Tomasini, Caroline	901
Tori, Romero	149
Tosi, Davide	1434
Traina Jr., Caetano	49
Traina, Agma J.M.	49, 986
Tran-Jørgensen, Peter W.V.	1997
Traonouez, Louis-Marie	1562
Trindade Tavares, Alberto	980
Tripakis, Stavros	1628, 1759
Triplet, Thomas	824
Trnka, Michal	1192
Truscan, Dragos	795
Tseng, Vincent S.	898
Tuch, Alexandre N.	167
Tung, Le-Duc	1922
Tupakula, Udaya	658
Turhan, Burak	1422
Tzovaras, Dimitrios	372

## U

Ubayashi, Naoyasu	1554
ud Din, Shahab	2159
Ullah, Amjad	488
Umemoto, Kazutoshi	1066
Ural, Hasan	1654

## V

V, Sreejith	738
Valença, George	1258
van Dam, Iris	772
Van Es, Noah	1944
van Ginkel, Gerhard	772
van Heeswijk, Wouter	875
Van Keulen, Maurice	552
Van Landuyt, Dimitri	432
Vanderdonckt, Jean	205
Vandic, Damir	772

Varadharajan, Vijay .....	<b>658</b> , 2142
Vasconcelos, Leandro G. ....	<b>787</b>
Vasilevskaya, Maria .....	<b>2001</b>
Vassilakis, Costas .....	<b>1590</b>
Verdecia-Cabrera, Alberto .....	<b>929</b>
Viana, Windson .....	<b>232</b> , <b>239</b> , 626
Viana, Wladston .....	<b>1108</b>
Vidal, Santiago .....	<b>1812</b>
Vieira, Dario .....	<b>80</b>
Vieira, José .....	<b>1903</b>
Vieira, Marco .....	<b>1780</b>
Viganò, Luca .....	<b>2095</b>
Vilela, Jéssyka .....	<b>1264</b>
Villalba Frias, Bernardo .....	<b>1751</b>
Vogel, Martin .....	<b>1350</b>
Vojtěchovský, Petr .....	<b>596</b>
Votis, Konstantinos .....	<b>372</b>

## W

Wagner, Dominik .....	<b>1401</b>
Wahid, Abdul .....	<b>696</b>
Walraven, Stefan .....	<b>432</b>
Wang, Guodong .....	<b>2165</b>
Wang, Jing .....	<b>67</b> , <b>1710</b>
Wang, Mingyang .....	<b>1824</b>
Wang, X. Sean .....	<b>1008</b>
Wang, Xinyu .....	<b>1371</b>
Wang, Xuebin .....	<b>2057</b>
Wang, Yuanyuan .....	<b>1170</b>
Watanabe, Willian Massami .....	<b>766</b>
Wavresky, Francois .....	<b>1407</b>
Werhli, Adriano V. ....	<b>31</b>
Wicker, Jörg .....	<b>883</b>
Wong, Kai-Kit .....	<b>675</b>
Wu, Cheng-Wei .....	<b>898</b>
Wu, Xiaoqiang .....	<b>1710</b>
Wüchner, Tobias .....	<b>2087</b>
Wuillemin, Pierre-Henri .....	<b>1605</b>

## X

Xiao, Ping .....	<b>894</b>
Xing, Zhenchang .....	<b>1127</b> , <b>1371</b> , <b>1378</b>
Xu, Jin .....	<b>2113</b>
Xu, Jungang .....	<b>1035</b>
Xu, Xin .....	<b>891</b>
Xu, Yuanchao .....	<b>1710</b>
Xu, Zhijie .....	<b>67</b>

Xue, Chun Jason .....	1710
Xue, Jingling .....	1386

## Y

Yamamoto, Takehiro .....	1066
Yamamoto, Yuta .....	1885
Yamauchi, Toshihiro .....	1885
Yamin, Adenauer .....	125, 1255
Yan, Hua .....	1386
Yao, Lina .....	362
Yaqub, Muhammad Azfar .....	724
Yasui, Goki .....	1170
Yasunaga, Yui .....	808
Yazidi, Anis .....	462, 480, 1174
Ye, Deheng .....	1127, 1378
Yenigün, Hüsnü .....	1654, 1680
Yeu, Yunku .....	37
Yevtushenko, Nina .....	1680
Yokoyama, Haruki .....	1364
Yoo, Shinjae .....	2113
Yoon, Jisup .....	742
Yoon, Junkee .....	1871
Yoon, Young .....	500
Yoon, Youngmi .....	15
Yu, Misun .....	1534
Yuan, Mingxuan .....	546
Yuan, Qixia .....	1
Yuan, Shyan-Ming .....	477
Yüksel, Ömer .....	2063
Yun, Young-Sun .....	742

## Z

Zaijane, Osmar R. ....	867
Zákopčanová, Kristína .....	1238
Zambenedetti Granville, Lisandro .....	378
Zanata, Nilo .....	31
Zanoni, Marco .....	1347
Zappatore, Daniele .....	219
Zappatore, Marco .....	219
ZareMoodi, Poorya .....	910
Zhang, Jianpeng .....	832
Zhang, Wei Emma .....	362
Zhang, Weigong .....	1710
Zhang, Yangyang .....	675
Zhang, Yu .....	1394
Zhang, Yujun .....	734
Zhang, Zhengkui .....	1634

Zhao, Xinghui .....	1358
Zhao, Xuejiao .....	1127
Zhao, Yanxiao .....	2165
Zheng, Yong .....	633
Zheng, Yongjie .....	1302
Zheng, Zhongbin .....	675
Zhou, Bo .....	1371
Zhou, Jingheng .....	1008
Zhou, Yiwei .....	750
Zhu, Xiaoyan .....	1710
Zida, Souleymane .....	898
Zignani, Matteo .....	1186
Znайди, Ея .....	1041
Zorzo, Avelino F. ....	1660
Zucca, Elena .....	1819
Zúquete, André .....	1903

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## A

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## **EDITORIAL MESSAGE**

### **Special Track on the Computational Intelligence and Video & Image Analysis**

*Agostinho Rosa, LaSEEB - ISR – IST, Portugal*

*Yin-Fu Huang, National Yunlin University of Science and Technology, Taiwan*

The special track on the Computational Intelligence and Video & Image Analysis (CIVIA) is a forum for engineers, researchers and practitioners throughout the world to share technical ideas and experiences related to the implementation and applications of Computational Intelligence, to Video & Image Analysis, and even to Systems Biology & BioMedicine. Many conferences have been dedicated to Evolutionary Computing (ICEC, GECCO, PPSN, etc), Video & Image Analysis (ICCIAR, ICIAP, ICASSP, IJCAI, etc) and Systems Biology & BioMedical Engineering (ICSB, RECOMB, BME, etc), but they don't offer much on the blending of Computational Logic, Boolean Satisfiability and Soft Computing tools to address practical applications of Image Analysis and Bio Systems Modeling and Simulations. Thus, the research papers involved with applying computational intelligence techniques to video and image analyses would be welcome no matter how theoretical they are, should they have practical applications.

Totally, we have 24 submissions for the CIVIA track. To keep the acceptance rate less than 25% for the regular papers, we only accept 5 full papers. By the way, 2 poster papers are accepted for the poster section. In summary, including posters, we have 29% (7/24) acceptance rate for the CIVIA track.

The accepted oral or poster papers are involved in different subfields, including fingerprint matching, image analysis, graphical model, feature extraction, wavelet transform, information fusion, video similarity search and pattern recognition. These subfields are all related to the topics or themes of the CIVIA track.

Finally, we would like to thank all reviewers for their efforts in reviewing these papers. These reviewers consist of the program committee members and some professionals. Without their hard work, we could not complete this review process.

## **EDITORIAL MESSAGE**

### **Special Track on Applications of Evolutionary Computation**

*Raúl Giráldez Rojo, Pablo de Olavide University, Spain*

*Beatriz Pontes Balanza, University of Seville, Spain*

The “Applications of Evolutionary Computation” (EC) track aims at providing a forum for ideas, research, development activities, and particularly for applications generated by academics and practitioners in evolutionary computation and closely related areas.

The EC Track addresses techniques and applications of Genetic Algorithms, Evolution Strategies, Evolutionary Programming, Genetic Programming, Simulated Annealing, Ant Colony Optimization and other related techniques. Of particular interest are the applications of these techniques to computationally difficult combinatorial problems.

In response to the call for papers, 11 articles were submitted to the EC track for SAC 2016. All submissions were peer reviewed by at least three program committee members. The program committee selected three full articles and three poster papers for inclusion in the proceeding. The accepted papers covered a wide range of research topics and novel applications of Evolutionary Computation.

In their papers, Alberto Bartoli, Andrea De Lorenzo, Eric Medvet and Fabiano Tarlao have considered in their paper the long-standing problem of the automatic generation of regular expressions for text extraction, using state-of-the-art learner based on Genetic Programming. The presented framework is attractive because it is the system, not the user, which digs out the data in search of the samples most suitable to the specific learning task. Maha Elarbi, Slim Bechikh, Lamjed Ben Said and Chih-Cheng Hung propose a decomposition-based dominance relation called TSD-dominance (Targeted Search Directions based dominance) to deal with the so called many-objective optimization problems. The dominance relation creates a strict partial order on the set of Pareto-equivalent solutions using a set of well-distributed reference points. The TSD-dominance is used to substitute the Pareto dominance in NSGA-II. The resulting multiobjective evolutionary algorithm, called TSD-NSGA-II, provides competitive and better results when compared with three recently proposed decomposition-based algorithms on commonly used benchmark problems involving up to twenty objectives. Leo Sotto, Vinicius Melo and Marcio Basgalupp propose a variation of the LGP algorithm, and shows this proposal improves other staste-of-art methods in solving the Ant Trail Problem. Starting with an LGP based only on effective macro and micro-mutations, their approach consists in extending the way in which the individuals are chosen for reproduction.

In their works accepted as posters, Jagadeesh Gunda, Sasa Djokic, Roberto Langella and Alfredo Testa analyse and compare conventional and meta-heuristic methods for security-constrained OPF studies, showing that meta-heuristic methods can be used when conventional methods fail to converge and/or to provide a global optimum solution. Rodrigo Barros, Márcio Basgalupp, Christian Quevedo and Henry Cagnini introduce Clus-EDA, an univariate estimation of distribution algorithm (EDA), to define cluster prototypes, combining the EDA approach with an efficient clustering internal validity criterion. A very simple and efficiente encoding is proposed to evolve through the solution space using the univariate probabilistic model.

The success of this year EC track is due to the hard work and effort of many people. We would like to thank the members of the conference organizing committee for their great support. We thank the members of the Program Committee for their timely evaluation of the submitted papers.

We hope that you enjoy attending the EC track and that you find in its sessions and proceeding a challenging resource for your present and future research work.

## **EDITORIAL MESSAGE**

### **Special Track on Healthcare (HEALTH): a growing scenario for applied computing**

*Cecilia Laschi, The BioRobotics Institute, Scuola Superiore Sant'Anna, Pisa, Italy  
Arianna Menciassi, The BioRobotics Institute, Scuola Superiore Sant'Anna, Pisa, Italy*

The wide spread of smart computing devices and embedded systems, together with the advances in MEMS and wearable sensors, are opening up new scenarios for healthcare. Health can be monitored on the patient, as well as some forms of treatment can be administered and managed remotely from the clinical centers. These systems for wearable health monitoring and tele-healthcare are intended to improve the healthcare service, by improving the monitoring and treatment opportunities and reducing costs, at the same time. New challenges and opportunities thus emerge for applied computing, for processing the large amounts of personal data, for providing medical doctors with effective information, for increasing the person's safety, for providing medical treatments at home. The aim of the ACM Symposium on Applied Computing (SAC) Track on HealthCare is to gather innovative work related to the application of computational techniques to healthcare, as well as systems for tele-health.

The track received a total of 32 submissions and the selection was very tough. A large number of reviewers were involved, who worked hard on the evaluations, to let us come up with 7 submissions accepted as papers, 1 poster, and 1 SCR. Many good submissions, therefore, regrettably could not be accepted for inclusion in the conference.

The healthcare scenarios offers a variety of challenges to applied computing and a variety of opportunities for application of new computing tools and methods. The papers accepted reflect such variety and span from patients' monitoring to identify early signs of pathologies as well as the effects of therapy, to the assessment of eHealth tools themselves, to privacy and security issues in wearable medical devices, to haptic interaction in medical procedures, like needle insertion. The posters, too, reflect the variety of health applications for applied computing. They present intelligent systems like a game-based approach to monitor Parkinson's disease motor symptoms, an EEG-based emotion recognition system, an ontology-driven adaptive system for patient treatment management, or a comparative study of methods for cardiovascular dysautonomias diagnosis, up to real-time computing techniques for molecular circuits. The SRC selected presents a web tool for medical topic modeling.

We feel deeply indebted to the reviewers who gave their valuable contribution, coping with the large number of submissions and with the time constraints. We wish to warmly thank them and let them know that their work has been greatly appreciated.

## EDITORIAL MESSAGE

### Special Track on Intelligent and Interactive Learning Environments (IIIE)

*Seiji Isotani, University of São Paulo, Brazil*

*Ig Ibert Bittencourt, Federal University of Alagoas, Brazil*

*Rüichiro Mizoguchi, Japan Advanced Institute of Science and Technology, Japan*

*Julita Vassileva, University of Saskatchewan, Canada*

With the advent of powerful computing technologies, including the World Wide Web (WWW), computer-based learning environments have become more intelligent, flexible, mobile and ubiquitous. Computers, TVs, mobile phones, games, consoles, and other technologies can be transformed into smart learning environments with great potential to help students.

The expectation is that intelligent, interactive and innovative learning environments will eventually enable the realization of **AAAL – Anytime, Anywhere, Anybody Learning**, using most of the WWW resources and collecting inputs from the real world to create better and more personalized learning environments. Such expectation is consistent with that of the advancement of the WWW itself. Such trends facilitate the use of WWW content and resources as knowledge that can be interpreted by computers and learned by people. It is also expected that new technologies will emerge that will enable students with special needs and students in developing countries and rural areas to learn effectively even in the harshest of conditions, making the best use of teachers' and students' time and effort. To achieve AAAL there is a need to find ways to integrate major advances in artificial intelligence, computer vision, data mining, human-computer interaction and other sub-areas of Computer Science with advances in the Learning Sciences and Engineering in order to leverage the development of smart learning environments.

The aim of this track on intelligent, interactive and innovative learning environments is to bring together researchers and practitioners from academia, industry and schools to think together and share their visions of the next generation of educational technologies that will meet students' needs in the 21st century. We are particularly interested in technological advances that can be applied to leverage current learning systems on architectural, technological and philosophical levels.

The topics of interest include, but are not limited to:

- Architectures and frameworks for intelligent learning environments
- Tools and languages to support learning design
- AI in Education (Data mining, distributed systems, intelligent authoring/tutoring systems, etc)
- (Social) Semantic Web technologies and linked data for education
- Intelligent tools for Computer-Supported Collaborative Learning
- User modeling, adaptation and personalization
- Mobile and ubiquitous computing for learning
- Games and Gamification in Education
- Intelligent/interactive learning environments applied to specific domains
- Culturally-aware systems
- MOOCs (Massive Open Online Course)

## **EDITORIAL MESSAGE**

### **Special Track on Intelligent Robotics and Multi-Agent Systems**

*Rui P. Rocha, ISR – University of Coimbra, Portugal*

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#### **Foreword**

The special track on Intelligent Robotics and Multi-Agent Systems (IRMAS) focuses on all aspects of intelligent robotics and multi-agent systems (MAS) including related areas and applications. Its primary goal is to exploit synergies between robotics and artificial intelligence (AI), more precisely between intelligent robotics and MAS, and bring together researchers from both fields. For many years, robotics and AI researchers have worked separately, both fields have matured enormously, and today there is a growing interest in getting the two research fields together. Many in robotics believe that the focus in the near future should be adding capabilities to robots that lie at the core of AI research. Reciprocally, AI researchers aim at embedding their techniques in physical robots that can perceive, reason and act in real, dynamic environments.

We invited papers to address the research topics covered by this track through a call for papers distributed in worldwide mailing lists on robotics and AI and in private mailing lists of the Programm Committee (PC) members. The accepted papers cover important topics of this track, both on intelligent robotics and MAS. In this second edition, there were 21 papers submitted from Europe (10), South America (6), USA (2), Middle East (1), Africa (1), and Oceania (1). After a rigorous blind peer review process by 77 PC members, 5 regular papers and 3 poster papers were accepted for the conference, resulting in an overall acceptance rate of 38%.

#### **Acknowledgment**

Many people contributed to the success of this track. First of all, we would like to thank to all members of the international PC for their efforts in attracting quality papers and in providing thoughtful reviews on time. The PC members are listed here in alphabetical order:

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We also want to thank all the authors who contributed to the SAC 2016 IRMAS track. Finally, we offer special thanks to the SAC 2016 Organizing Committee and the ACM SIGAPP.

## About the Track Chairs

**Rui P. Rocha** is an assistant professor in the Department of Electrical and Computer Engineering and a senior researcher in the AP4ISR team of ISR at the University of Coimbra, Portugal. His main research interests are cooperative multi-robot systems, human-robot cooperation, distributed control, and autonomous robots.

**Christopher D. Kiekintveld** is an assistant professor in computer science at the University of Texas at El Paso, TX, USA. His main research area is multi-agent systems and he has been especially interested in how to predict and react to the behavior of other intelligent agents in both cooperative and adversarial settings.

**M. Ani Hsieh** is an associate professor in the Mechanical Engineering and Mechanics Department and the Director of the Robotics Program at Drexel University. Her current research work focuses on bridging the gap between statistical physics, nonlinear dynamics and control, and distributed multi-agent robotic systems.

## **EDITORIAL MESSAGE**

### **Special Track on NeuroComputing & Deep Learning and Continuos- Time Computing (NC&DLCC)**

**Cecilia Laschi**, *The BioRobotics Institute, Scuola Superiore Sant'Anna, Italy*

**Egidio Falotico**, *The BioRobotics Institute, Scuola Superiore Sant'Anna, Italy*

**Marc-Oliver Gewaltig**, *École Polytechnique Fédérale de Lausanne, Switzerland*

**Florian Röhrbein**, *Technical University of Munich, Germany*

**Paul Levi**, *Research Center for Information Technology, Germany*

**Stefan Ulbrich**, *Research Center for Information Technology, Germany*

**Davide Zambrano**, *Centrum Wiskunde & Informatica, the Netherlands*

**Sander Bohte**, *Centrum Wiskunde & Informatica, the Netherlands*

#### **Introduction**

The development of computational models of the nervous system and neural processes has risen at a rapid pace. Developing neuro-inspired computing paradigms that mimic nervous system function fosters our model understanding of the biological system and targets technical applications in artificial systems. Nowadays, combined efforts in the fields of the neuroscience and computer science in interdisciplinary research projects like the Human Brain Project enable the simulation of biological spiking neural networks with millions of neurons.

Deep Learning in artificial neural networks represents a remarkable step toward this direction. Current state-of-the-art AI in the form of deep neural networks has recently demonstrated breakthrough performance in various AI-cognitive tasks, from image and speech recognition to natural language generation and playing ATARI games. In order to deal with the complexity and scaling of such networks, a new generation of appropriate tool is needed to simulate the neural network in real-time. This track presents innovative works related to the application of computational techniques for the brain simulation, as well as neural modelling and brain-based learning paradigms to address the hard challenges of replicating features of the human intelligence.

## **Statistics**

The NC&DLCC track received 9 regular paper submissions whose 2 have been accepted as full-length paper, 2 as posters, 3 have been rejected and 2 have been withdrawn. The acceptance rate is 28.5% for full-length paper; it grows to 57.1% considering also posters.

The NC&DLCC track received also 2 SRC submissions (only 1 has been accepted).

## **Paper Description**

The accepted papers focus on different aspects of the proposed track topics. The first paper presents the relationship between neuronal activation patterns of specific brain areas resulting from sensorial experiences. This work shows several factors affecting neuronal activations. In this context, authors analyzed the levels of similarity between neuronal activation patterns using a semisupervised method and data acquired from microelectrode arrays implanted on specific brain areas of rats, during an experiment of tactile exploration of four classes of physical objects in the dark. The analysis allows to make further steps in neuronal coding of brain signals.

The second paper demonstrates how deep Spiking Neural Networks (SNNs) can be trained to be more efficient with respect to standard deep Artificial Neural Networks (ANNs). According to the authors, in SNN efficiency can be improved either by reducing the number of spikes or by increasing the speed of classification, both with a fixed level of accuracy (98%). The authors trained a deep ANN with Rectified Linear Units (ReLUs) on the MNIST benchmark, and then they converted it in a SNN with Integrate-and-Fire units. Several algorithms have been applied – and compared – to improve efficiency. Results demonstrate that in most of the cases SNNs performs equally compared to ANNs, but with few operations and less latency (time from input presentation).

The papers accepted as posters are related to other important aspects of neural computing. Two of them focus on detection and estimation of impairments and brain lesion applied to magnetic resonance brain images. The other work accepted as poster intends to extend usual discrete event system specifications to parallel simulations and pseudorandom number generators in the context of a spiking neural network.

## **Acknowledgment**

The track chairs would like to thank all the reviewers for their valuable contribution in the revision of the submissions.

## EDITORIAL MESSAGE

### **Special Track on Cloud Computing**

**S.D Madhu Kumar, NIT Calicut, India**

**Priya Chandran, NIT Calicut, India**

**Fernando De La Prieta, University of Salamanca, Spain**

*Cloud Computing* continues to remain the computing paradigm of the decade. Cloud computing has already proved its potential in meeting the challenges of increased data storage and processing demands of compute intensive and data intensive applications. The leading companies in the IT sector have already chosen clouds as their platform for offering their services. The academia has also shown keen interest in this hot area with an abundance of funded research projects at the leading universities across the globe.

This track on Cloud Computing, organized for the sixth time at ACM SAC, had been started with the intention of providing a forum for presenting research on various aspects of cloud computing. This year the main focus of the track was on *Recent developments in Cloud services, Application and Platforms, Infrastructure, Security and Privacy in clouds*. The response to the track was overwhelming. We received high quality papers from more than 24 countries spanning six continents, contributing a total of 51 submissions. The review process was very competitive with each paper receiving at least three reviews, and finally 13 full papers and five poster papers were selected for the track, bringing the acceptance rate to 25.5% for full papers.

The selected papers deal with a wide variety of cloud computing issues including those listed below:

1. Hadoop Energy Consumption Reduction with Hybrid HDFS
2. A Certification Framework for Cloud-based Services
3. Elastic Provisioning for Cloud Databases with Uncertainty Management
4. Performance-aware Server Consolidation with Adjustable Interference Levels.
5. Monitoring of Cloud Computing Environments
6. Media Workflows on Advanced Cloud Object Store Platforms
7. Securing Integration of Cloud Services in Cross-Domain Distributed Environments
8. Providing Elasticity Based on Autonomic Computing
9. Shortest Remaining Time First Policy in Shared Hadoop Clusters
10. Scalable and Manageable Customization of Workflows in Multi-Tenant SaaS Offerings
11. Network Configuration as a Service in SDN-Driven Cloud Architectures

We thank all the authors who submitted valuable papers to this track. We are grateful to the members of the Program Committee and to the additional reviewers. Without their support, the organization of the track's sessions would not have been possible. We also express our gratitude to organizations that made this track happen, namely the ACM Special Interest Group on Applied Computing (SIGAPP), National Institute of Technology Calicut, India and University of Salamanca, Spain. We are grateful to the Symposium Program Chairs for their help in all aspects of the organization of this track.

We are certain that issues pertaining to cloud computing offer rich opportunities for research and this track on Cloud Computing will continue to be a success in future editions of ACM SAC.

## EDITORIAL MESSAGE

### Special Track on Dependable and Adaptive Distributed Systems

**Karl M. Goeschka**, UAS Technikum Vienna, Austria

**Rui Oliveira**, Universidade do Minho, Portugal

**Peter Pietzuch**, Imperial College London, United Kingdom

**Giovanni Russello**, University of Auckland, New Zealand

#### Introduction

While computing is provided by the cloud and services increasingly pervade our daily lives, dependability is no longer restricted to mission or safety critical applications, but rather becomes a cornerstone of the information society. Unfortunately, heterogeneous, large-scale, and dynamic software systems that typically run continuously, often tend to become inert, brittle, and vulnerable after a while. The key problem is that the most innovative systems and applications are the ones that also suffer most from a significant decrease in dependability when compared to traditional critical systems, where dependability and security are fairly well understood as complementary concepts and a variety of proven methods and techniques is available today. In accordance with Laprie we call this effect the *dependability gap*, which is widened in front of us between demand and supply of dependability, and we can see this trend further fueled by the demand for resource awareness (including green computing) and increasing cost pressure.

Among technical factors of dependability, *software development* methods, tools, and techniques contribute to dependability, as defects in software products and services may lead to failure and also provide typical access for malicious attacks. In addition, there is a wide variety of *fault tolerance* techniques available, including persistence provided by *databases*, replication, group communication, transaction monitors, reliable *middleware*, *cloud* infrastructures, and trustworthy *service-oriented architectures* with explicit control of quality of service properties. Furthermore, *adaptiveness* is envisaged in order to react to observed, or act upon expected changes of the system itself, the context/environment (e.g., resource variability or failure/threat scenarios) or users' needs and expectations. Provided without explicit user intervention, this is also termed autonomous behavior or self-properties, and often involves monitoring, diagnosis (analysis, interpretation), and reconfiguration (repair). In particular, adaptation is also a means to achieve dependability in a computing infrastructure with dynamically varying structure and properties.

#### Statistics

This year, we received 20 submissions, from which 5 could be accepted after being reviewed by five to seven members of the program committee. The resulting acceptance rate is 25%.

#### Acknowledgements

We would like to thank our program committee members for their support, their timely reviews and the numerous suggestions for improvements of particular papers.

## Overview of the Sessions and Papers

The DADS track provides a forum for scientists and engineers in academia and industry for their latest research findings on selected topics in dependable and adaptive distributed systems. In particular, the following papers comprise this track:

1. **Stretching Multi-Ring Paxos**  
*Samuel Benz, Leandro Pacheco de Sousa and Fernando Pedone*
2. **Dynamic Adaptation of Geo-Replicated CRDTs**  
*Carlos Bartolomeu, Manuel Bravo and Luis Rodrigues*
3. **NATCloud: Cloud-Assisted NAT-Traversal Service**  
*Hanna Kavalionak, Amir H. Payberah, Alberto Montresor and Jim Dowling*
4. **Planning the Transformation of Overlays**  
*Young Yoon, Nathan Robinson, Vinod Muthusamy, Sheila McIlraith and Hans-Arno Jacobsen*
5. **Monitoring Service Level Workload and Adapting Highly Available Applications**  
*Mehran Khan, Ferhat Khendek and Maria Toeroe*

In addition, four posters have been accepted:

6. **An Adaptive Multi-Criteria Ranking of Security Countermeasures**  
*Nicola Nostro, Ilaria Matteucci, Francesco Santini, Andrea Ceccarelli, Felicita Di Giandomenico, Fabio Martinelli and Andrea Bondavalli*
7. **Virtualization Technologies for the Big Data Environment**  
*Aymen JLASSI and Patrick MARTINEAU*
8. **Analysis of Checkpointing Overhead in Parallel State Machine Replication**  
*Odorico Mendizabal, Fernando Dotti and Fernando Pedone*
9. **Deadlock Models in Distributed Computation: Foundations, Design, and Computational Complexity**  
*Valmir Barbosa, Alan Carneiro, Fabio Protti and Uevertton Souza*

## **EDITORIAL MESSAGE**

### **Special Track on Networking (NET)**

***Mário M. Freire, University of Beira Interior, Portugal***

***Marília Curado, University of Coimbra, Portugal***

***Manuela Pereira, University of Beira Interior, Portugal***

***Teresa Vazão, INESC ID/IST, University of Lisboa, Portugal***

On behalf of the Program Committee of the Track on Networking of the 31st Annual ACM Symposium on Applied Computing (ACM SAC 2016), it is our great pleasure to welcome you to the ACM SAC 2016, held from April 4 to April 8, 2016, in Pisa, Italy. In recent years, significant advances in computer networks, applications and services have been made throughout the world. This track aims to be a forum for scientists, engineers and practitioners, in academia and industry, to share new ideas, experiences and results, and to present their latest findings in different aspects of computer networking.

In response to the call for papers, a total of 18 submissions were received, from which five were carefully selected for oral presentation in a technical session and one was selected as short paper for poster presentation. Each paper was peer reviewed, through a double-blind process, by at least three members of the Program Committee or additional reviewers. The set of papers accepted for this track covers a variety of research topics, which are of current interest, such as cloud datacenter networks, software defined networks, opportunistic networks and online social networks.

We thank all the authors who submitted valuable papers to this track. We are grateful to the members of the Program Committee and to the additional reviewers. Without their support, the organization of such high-quality track session would not have been possible. We are also indebted to many individuals and organizations that made this track happen, namely ACM Special Interest Group on Applied Computing (SIGAPP), University of Pisa (Italy), Microsoft Research, University of Beira Interior (Portugal), University of Coimbra (Portugal) and University of Lisboa (Portugal). Last but not least, we are grateful to the members of the Organizing Committee for their help in all aspects of the organization of this track.

We hope that you enjoy the ACM Symposium on Applied Computing and, in particular, the Track on Networking, in Pisa, Italy, if you attend it and that you find it a useful forum for the exchange of ideas, results and recent findings.

## **EDITORIAL MESSAGE**

### **Special Track on Selected Area of Wireless Communications and Networking (WCN)**

*Dongkyun Kim, Kyungpook National University, Republic of Korea.*

*Wei Wang, San Diego State University, California, USA.*

#### **Introduction:**

Research on Wireless communications and networking has reformed our daily lives in multiple ways. The need of communicating anytime, anywhere brought us many new wireless and networking technologies, including cellular networks (3G/4G/5G), ad-hoc networks, sensor networks, WiMAX, etc. The invention of these technologies has created a new paradigm of research and developments. In particular, the past decade has seen a significant surge of research activities in wireless communications and networking. While a number of their applications and services have been introduced, the demands for new applications still exist, requiring technical challenges. Accordingly, a great number of individuals, researchers, academics are searching for new novel ideas and improving the performance of existing techniques/methodologies proposed for wireless communications and networking. This special track aims to bring together researchers, academics, individuals working on selected areas of wireless communications and networking to share their new ideas, latest findings and results.

#### **Track Statistics:**

The WCN track, started in 2014, is reaching its 3rd edition this year. This edition has confirmed the interest of both researchers and practitioners in the track topics. 36 paper submissions were received from countries as diverse as Algeria, Belgium, Brazil, Italy, Japan, New Zealand, Portugal, South Korea, Spain, United Kingdom, Pakistan, and the USA. Submitted papers were reviewed by a Program Committee of 51 members, granting 3 extensive reviews per submission on average. The WCN track keeps high quality and it is evident from its acceptance ratio, 8 of the submitted papers have been accepted as full papers (acceptance rate: 22%) whereas 4 of them have been accepted as posters.

#### **Description of Accepted Papers:**

This year, we received papers of very interesting wireless communication topics varying from wireless cloud infrastructure and applications, vehicle communications, performance evaluation, indoor localization, low power low latency medium access control to security issues. Also, new emerging fields are also introduced in this track such as Software Defined Networks and Information Centric Networks.

#### **Acknowledgement:**

First of all, the track chairs thank all the authors and researchers, who submitted their valuable work in this track. Many congrats to those authors who got their work accepted this year. The track chairs would like to thank the TPC and reviewers for handling review of the papers in this track. This track would not be successful without the diligent contribution and high quality and timely reviews from the reviewers and the TPC.

## **EDITORIAL MESSAGE**

### **Special Track on Web Technologies**

*Angelo Di Iorio, University of Bologna, Italy*  
*Cristian Mateos, UNICEN University, Argentina*  
*Davide Rossi, University of Bologna, Italy*

Undoubtedly, the World Wide Web is relentlessly changing. The advent of HTML 5.0, the increasing importance of AJAX and client-side scripting, the inception of Web-accessible APIs and services, the huge popularity of mobile devices, the explosion of Web-based Social Networks as well as the advent of the Federated Social Web, and the new frontiers of Semantic Web are only some examples of this general trend.

Web applications are progressively evolving into rich and flexible environments where users not only can perform individual activities such as easily access documents, publish content, listen to music, watch videos, draw pictures, and play directly via browser, but also interact/collaborate between each other. Nowadays, this class of ubiquitous software systems seem to be here to stay. Then, novel approaches and techniques, new tools and frameworks are needed to address the inherent complexity of these applications.

The Web Technologies track aims at tracking this continuous evolution by bringing together researchers and practitioners, from industry and academia, working on practical and foundational aspects of Web technologies, as well as other technologies that in the Web have found new and unexpected application fields.

The Web Technologies track, started in 2007, reaches this year its 10th edition. This edition has confirmed the interest of both researchers and practitioners in the track topics. 30 paper submissions have been received from countries as diverse as Brazil, Estonia, Finland, France, Germany, India, Italy, Japan, the Netherlands, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Sweden, United Arab Emirates, United Kingdom, and the USA. Submitted papers have been reviewed by a Program Committee of 37 members, granting at least 3 extensive reviews per submission; 8 of the submitted papers have been accepted as full papers (for an acceptance rate of about 27%) whereas 4 have been accepted as posters.

In the opinion of the track chairs, these numbers together with the quality of the submissions, mark a success for the 10th edition of the ACM SAC track on Web Technologies. The quality of the contributions presented in this proceeding is surely due to the talent and inspiration of our authors -to whom we would like to extend our thanks for their interest in the track- but also to the hard work of the members of the program committee that we would hereby like to thank as well:

Laercio Baldochi — Universidade Federal de Itajubá, Brazil  
Gioele Barabucci — Università di Bologna, Italy  
Marco Brambilla — Politecnico di Milano, Italy

Hwan-Gue Cho — Pusan National University, South Korea  
Chin-Wan Chung — Korea Advanced Institute of Science and Technology, South Korea  
Marco Crasso — IBM Research, Argentina  
Flávia Delicato — UFRN, Brazil  
Enrico Francesconi — ITTIG - CNR, Italy  
Flavius Frasincar — Erasmus University Rotterdam, the Netherlands  
Martin Gaedke — Chemnitz University of Technology, Germany  
Martín Garriga — Universidad Nacional del Comahue, Argentina  
Daniela Godoy — ISISTAN Research Institute - CONICET, Argentina  
Celso Hirata — Instituto Tecnológico de Aeronáutica, Brazil  
Irena Holubova (Mlynkova) — Charles University, Czech Republic  
Jerónimo Irazábal — IBM & Universidad Nacional de la Plata, Argentina  
Yuh-Jzer Joung — National Taiwan University, Taiwan  
Sang-Wook Kim — Hanyang University, South Korea  
In-Young Ko — Korea Advanced Institute of Science and Technology, South Korea  
Chin-Laung Lei — Department of Electrical Engineering, National Taiwan University, Taiwan  
Tim A. Majchrzak — University of Münster, Germany  
Tommi Mikkonen — Tampere University of Technology, Finland  
Tatsuo Nakajima — Department of Computer Science, Waseda University, Japan  
Okubo Shinjuku-ku, Tokyo, Japan  
Amedeo Napoli — LORIA, France  
Andrea Nuzzolese — STLab - CNR, Italy  
Silvio Peroni — Università di Bologna, Italy  
Maria da Graça Pimentel — Universidade de São Paulo, Brazil  
Paulo Pires — Universidade Federal do Rio Grande do Norte, Brazil  
Francesco Poggi — Università di Bologna, Italy  
Taniro Rodrigues — UFRN, Brazil  
Stéphane Sire — Oppidoc, France  
Florian Skopik — AIT Austrian Institute of Technology, Austria  
Olga Streibel — Freie Universität Berlin, Germany  
Cesar Teixeira — Universidade Federal de São Carlos, Brazil  
Manolis Tzagarakis — University of Patras, Greece  
Fabio Vitali — Università di Bologna, Italy  
Guandong Xu — University of Technology Sydney, Australia  
Alejandro Zunino — ISISTAN Research Institute - CONICET, Argentina

Special thanks also go to the ACM SAC 2016 Conference Chairs and Program Chairs for their support and guidance.

*Angelo Di Iorio  
Cristian Mateos  
Davide Rossi*

## **EDITORIAL MESSAGE**

### **Special Track on Database Theory, Technology, and Applications**

*Ramzi A. Haraty, Lebanese American University, Lebanon*

*Apostolos N. Papadopoulos, Aristotle University, Greece*

*Junping Sun, Nova Southeastern University, USA*

The world nowadays revolves around dealing with data presented in various formats. So it is inevitable that researchers focus on advancing the state of managing information. From here, the importance of database technology ranks amongst the hottest areas of research, taking into account the consistent need for faster query processing as well as for managing huge amounts of data. This year the track has received many papers covering different areas of databases.

A total of 25 papers were submitted to the Database Theory, Technology, and Applications track. The track received papers from many countries – from Asia, Australia, Europe, North America, and South America – making this track a forum to share technical ideas and experiences relating to implementation and application of database theory and technology and to exchange ideas among international researchers in the area of database systems. Each paper was sent out to at least three reviewers. The selection process was more difficult this year, because the acceptance ratio for regular papers was 28%. More specifically, among the 25 submitted papers only 7 papers have been selected as regular papers. In addition, 1 paper has been selected for presentation in the poster session.

The selected papers cover a wide range of topics including: multi-way join processing over data streams, queries over web services, XML data management, query languages, similarity query processing in software repositories.

We would like to take this opportunity to thank the colleagues who worked very hard to make ACM SAC 2016 possible. Our special thanks go to all the authors and referees who all contributed to the success of DTTA track. We look forward to your participation and cooperation in the upcoming ACM SAC 2017.

## **EDITORIAL MESSAGE**

### **Special Track on Information Access and Retrieval**

**Gloria Bordogna, Consiglio Nazionale delle Ricerche – CNR IREA**

**Gabriella Pasi, Università degli Studi di Milano Bicocca – DISCo**

The special Track on Information Access and Retrieval (IAR) was first organized within the ACM International Symposium on Applied Computing in 2002, to the main aim of allowing researchers and practitioners in the IR field to present their experiences in the middle of the theory-practice spectrum of Information Retrieval and Information Filtering, where many successful applications lie.

Information Retrieval and Information Filtering are not easy tasks as testified by the huge research literature published on scientific journals and in international conferences since many decades.

Especially with the diffusion of the Web and Search Engines, Information Retrieval and Information Filtering tasks need to cope with several issues related to the widespread and pervasive diffusion of huge amounts of etherogeneous user generated contents of distinct nature and format (videos, images, maps, audio, texts), of distinct genre and topics (geographic information, products' and organizations' descriptions, scientific research documentations, news, messages in social networks, etc.), and from etherogenous sources (universities, governmental institutions, private companies, and individuals). Moreover, the importance of taking into account the intentions, aims and characteristics of both the authors and the users searching for information brings to considering the context in which the search is carried out. The multiple dimensions of both the documents and the searcher should be modeled and taken into account for designing effective systems for information access, so as to be able to compute a multi-dimensional relevance exploiting several indicators and properties, such as topicality, location, trust, reputation, freshness, etc., all contributing to define the relevance of documents to personal information needs.

Nowadays, the research concerned with defining effective systems for information access spans over several hot topics, such as text mining, user modelling, personalized topic detection and tracking, geographic information retrieval and sharing, knowledge discovery and mining, etc. Information access technologies, and in particular IR, are currently being used in many different application contexts that go far beyond the initial scope of their design.

This year the special track is in its fifteen edition in the context of SAC, and it includes 9 full papers (with an acceptance rate of 25%), five poster papers, and one SRC paper. Each paper was peer reviewed by at least 3 members of the Program Committee. Our gratitude goes to the members of the Program Committee (listed in these proceedings): their help has been invaluable help carrying out a high quality selection process.

The papers cover different topics. Two of them address the issue of IR systems' evaluation: the paper titled "*Feeling Lucky? Multi-armed Bandits for Ordering Judgements in Pooling-based Evaluation*" authored by David E. Losada, Javier Parapar and Alvaro Barreiro tackles the problem of forming a pool of relevant judgements by casting document judgements as a multi-armed bandit problem, while the paper "*How do Users Handle Inconsistent Information? The Effect of Search Expertise*" authored by Kazutoshi Umemoto, Takehiro Yamamoto and Katsumi Tanaka investigates how inconsistent answers impact

search behavior of users in presence or absence of search expertise, and it provides indications for designing more effective systems by making users aware of the existence of inconsistent answers.

The paper titled “*Direct Measurement of Training Query Quality for Learning to Rank*” authored by Qingli Ma, Ben He and Jungang Xu deals with the problem of learning to rank by modeling the query quality.

The paper “*Proximity Relevance Model for Query Expansion*” authored by Liana Ermakova, Josiane Mothe and Elena Nikitina proposes a method query expansion in the framework of language models by capturing the proximity in terms of sentences rather than tokens.

The paper titled “*Modeling Clicks using Document Popularity*” authored by Xenophon Evangelopoulos and Christos Makris presents a novel click model based on a Bayesian network for estimating document relevance from click-through data.

The paper “*Modeling Trust and Distrust Information in Recommender Systems via Joint Matrix Factorization with Signed Graphs*” authored by Dimitrios Rafailidis defines a recommendation algorithm by incorporating the users' trust and distrust social relationships to compute the clusters of similar users using a spectral clustering approach for signed graphs.

The paper titled “*Aggregating Semantic Information Nuggets for Answering Clinical Queries*” authored by Eya Znaidi, Lynda Tamine and Chiraz Latiri faces the application of IR techniques for answering clinical queries formulated within the Evidence Based Medicine framework.

Another application paper is the one titled “*IT Atlas (Region Name Omitted): A Practical Application of Expert Search Techniques*” authored by Daniel Blank, Sebastian Boosz and Andreas Henrich; in this paper expert search techniques are applied to provide a search engine of companies (instead of documents) on the Web in order to create an Atlas of IT companies.

Finally, the paper titled “*SPARQL Extensions with Preferences: a Survey*” authored by Olivier Pivert, Olfa Slama and Virginie Thion provides a survey of proposals made in the Semantic Web context to query RDF databases in a flexible way by allowing the expression of preferences.

1<sup>st</sup> December 2015

Gloria Bordogna and Gabriella Pasi

## **EDITORIAL MESSAGE**

### **Special Track on Social Network and Media Analysis (SONAMA)**

*Sang-Wook Kim, Hanyang University, Korea*

With the advent of social network services such as Twitter, Facebook, Tumbler, and Google+, the research on social network and media analysis has been greatly advanced. In recent years, the interactions among people, sharing of knowledge and experiences, community activities in social network services increase greatly, which would make the research on social networks more important. Furthermore, as social media contents within social network services are rapidly being produced and consumed, the social media contents now account for the majority of content published on the world wide web. Social media is differentiated from traditional media in many aspects such as its frequency, quality, usability, immediacy, and permanence, which leads to significant potential to the social media analysis research.

The ACM SAC has been an important venue for the past 30 years, attracting computer scientists, computer engineers, software engineers, and application developers from around the world. The Social Network and Media Analysis (SONAMA) track of ACM SAC will provide a forum that brings together researchers and practitioners for exploring technologies, issues, experiences, and applications with a specific focus on the recent research trends and industrial needs in the related fields. Since social network and media analysis encompasses a variety of highly cross-disciplinary research issues, the SONAMA will foster collaborations and exchange of ideas and experiences among researchers working in various fields such as computer science, linguistics, statistics, sociology, geography, economics, and business.

This year, the third of the SONAMA track, we received a total of 49 submissions of high-quality papers from all over the world. The review process was very competitive with each paper receiving at least three reviews. We accepted 12 papers for oral presentations and 6 papers for poster presentations. We would like to thank all the authors who submitted their inspiring contributions to our track. Also, we sincerely appreciate our program committee members listed below who devoted their invaluable time and efforts for reviewing the submissions. Without their help, our track program could not be made so successful. Finally, we would like to give special thanks to program co-chairs Maria Lencastre and Jiman Hong for their nice guidance and support. We look forward to seeing all of you in Pisa, Italy.

#### **Program Committee Members**

Albert Au Yeung	Axon Labs Ltd., Hong Kong
Ladjel Bellatreche	National Engin. School for Mechanics and Aerotechnics, France
Cui Bin	Peking University, China
Seong Je Cho	Dankook University, Korea
WanSup Cho	ChungBuk National Univerisy, Korea
Freddy Chong-Tat Chua	Singapore Management University, Singapore
Robson L. F. Cordeiro	University of São Paulo, Brazil
Alfredo Cuzzocrea	University of Calabria, Italy
Sheng Gao	BUPT, China
Dominic Heutelbeck	Forschungsinst. fur Telekommunikatione, Germany

Yoshinori Hijikata	Osaka University, Japan
Shu Huang	Microsoft, USA
Mirjana Ivanovic	University of Novi Sad, Serbia
Jamil Hasan	University of Idaho
Min-Hee Jang	Carnegie Mellon University, USA
Jason J. Jung	Yeungnam University, Korea
Carlos Alberto Kamienski	Federal University of ABC, Brazil
U Kang	KAIST, Korea
Pinar Karagoz	Middle East Technical University, Turkey
Kyoji Kawagoe	Ritsumeikan University, Japan
Hyoungshick Kim	Sungkyunkwan University, Korea
Hyunchul Kim	Sangmyung University, Korea
Chulyun Kim	Gachon University, Korea
Min-Soo Kim	Daegu Gyeongbuk Institute of Science & Technology, Korea
Younghoon Kim	Seoul National University, Korea
Junghoon Lee	Cheju National University, Korea
Kyumin Lee	Utah State University, USA
Jongwuk Lee	Pennsylvania State University, USA
Sang-Chul Lee	Hanyang University, Korea
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Eva Zangerle	University of Innsbruck, Austria
Xiangliang Zhang	King Abdullah University of Science and Tech., Saudi Arabia
Ming Zhou	Microsoft Research Asia, China

## **EDITORIAL MESSAGE**

### **Special Track on Enterprise Application Development and Design**

*Tomas Cerny, Czech Technial University in Prague, Czech Republic*

*Karel Cemus, Czech Technial University in Prague, Czech Republic*

#### **Introduction:**

The objective of EADD track is to provide researchers and software architects the opportunity to present their observations, experiences and research in the area of production-level enterprise applications. The aim of integrate academic research and industry level research, introduce the best practices, state of the art and mostly production level experience impacting the development, design, maintenance, scalability and other software quality attributes.

#### **Statistics:**

Accepted papers 3/14

Accepted Posters 2/14

Acceptance rate 21%

#### **Descriptions:**

Accepted papers and posters are in the theme of metamodeling/metaprogramming, code transformation, generative approaches, security consideration in enterprise application design, and security of third party components. Furthermore, there are works on decision making, social process monitoring, application component decomposition, or SSD drive involvement in enterprise application design.

#### **Acknowledgment:**

We like to acknowledge all track committes and reviewers. Thank you very much for your hard work.

## EDITORIAL MESSAGE

### Special Track on Multicore Software Engineering, Performance, Applications, and Tools (MUSEPAT)

*Tomáš Vojnar, FIT, Brno University of Technology, Czech Republic*

MUSEPAT has grown out of the successful series of IWMSE and PADTAD workshops and merges these two communities into a single and broader forum. In 2013, it was organized as a standalone conference; in 2015, it appeared as a SAC technical track for the first time.

The MUSEPAT track of SAC'16 addresses development challenges in multicore parallel systems. It brings together software engineering researchers, applied computer scientists, computer engineers and application developers. Multicore challenges covered at MUSEPAT include specification, design, programming models, programming techniques, testing, analysis, debugging and applications. The conference track addresses parallelism in a broad range of contexts: manycore CPUs and GPUs, clusters, distributed systems, mobile devices, client-servers and desktops.

The topics of interest of MUSEPAT cover the following areas:

- Software engineering for multicore (CPU or GPU) and heterogeneous systems.
- Specification and modeling of multicore systems.
- Programming models, languages, compiler techniques and development tools for multicore.
- Parallel and distributed testing and debugging including noise-based testing, cloud testing.
- Evolving sequential software to leverage multicore and manycore hardware.
- Performance and optimization of multicore software.
- Domain- and platform-specific multicore software issues (e.g., issues in scientific computing).
- Construction and validation challenges of specific modeling paradigm such as mapReduce and openMP.

MUSEPAT 2016 has attracted 20 submissions. Each of them was reviewed by at least three reviewers. After the reviews and a quite lively discussion, 5 submissions were accepted as full papers and 2 submissions appear in the form of posters.

The program committee of MUSEPAT 2016 consisted of the following researchers:

- Jeremy S. Bradbury, University of Ontario Institute of Technology, Canada
- Ricardo J. Dias, Universidade Nova de Lisboa, Portugal
- Eitan Farchi, IBM Haifa Research Laboratory, Israel
- Klaus Havelund, NASA Jet Propulsion Laboratory, USA
- Jiri Jaros, Brno University of Technology, Czech Republic
- Jörg Keller, University of Hagen, Germany
- Jeff Lei, University of Texas at Arlington, USA
- João Lourenço, Universidade Nova de Lisboa, Portugal
- Raymond Namyst, LaBRI, University of Bordeaux, France
- Shiva Nejati, University of Luxembourg, Luxembourg
- John Owens, University of California, Davis, USA
- Victor Pankratius, MIT, USA

- Michael Philippse, University of Erlangen-Nuremberg, Germany
- Christian Prehofer, fortiss München, Germany
- Shmuel Ur, University of Bristol, UK
- Jan Vitek, Northeastern University, USA
- Tomáš Vojnar, Brno University of Technology, Czech Republic (chair)

Apart from the PC members, a number of external reviewers has also participated on the reviews. I would like to thank all of them very much for their hard work.

Further, special thanks go to the steering committee of MUSEPAT, consisting of J.S. Bradbury (who also maintained the web page of MUSEPAT), E. Farchi, and J. Lourenco, for their continuous support in the organization of MUSEPAT 2016.

Brno, December 8, 2015

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URL: <http://www.fit.vutbr.cz/~vojnar>

# **EDITORIAL MESSAGE**

## **Special Track on**

### **Software Architecture: Theory, Technology, and Applications (SA-TTA)**

***Diego Perez-Palacin, DEIB, Politecnico di Milano, Italy***  
***Patrizia Scandurra, DIGIP, University of Bergamo, Italy***

#### **Introduction**

It is our great pleasure to welcome you to the Fourth Edition of the track *Software Architecture: Theory, Technology, and Applications (SA-TTA 2016)* as part of the 31st ACM/SIGAPP Symposium on Applied Computing (SAC).

The goal of the track SA-TTA is to bring together researchers, practitioners and educators having the common objective of transforming *Software Architecture* into a mature discipline leveraging on both solid scientific foundations and validated engineering methodologies and tools. The main focus of SA-TTA is in *Applied Software Architecture*, namely a special emphasis is put on practical engineering concerns, experiences in tools development, and software architecture case studies. SA-TTA is focused broadly on how to address functional requirements and quality characteristics in the design, maintenance, and adaptation and evolution of software architectures through the support of automated techniques and tools. Of special interest are architecture description languages, formalisms, techniques, methodologies, tools, and runtime environments that support these activities, possibly exploiting model-driven engineering principles. A special emphasis is put also on technical aspects of software architectures development for specific class of software systems and application domains.

We are confident that you will find the program stimulating and that it will provide you with many new ideas and insights. Welcome to city of Pisa, and many thanks for your participation!

#### **Statistics**

The call for papers attracted research paper submissions from Europe, Brazil, Africa, and USA. Totally, we had 24 high quality papers. According to a strict acceptance rate of 25%, the program committee accepted 6 full research papers and 5 contributions as posters.

#### **Description of accepted papers**

Altogether there are interdisciplinary research contributions covering a variety of topics related to: software architectures deployment management, feature integration into Product Line architectures, architectures for multimedia systems, modeling adaptive software architectures, development of architectures for Wireless Sensor Networks and software architecture recovery.

#### **Acknowledgments**

We thank all authors who wrote articles for this track helping us to make it a success. We also thank the program committee members and all reviewers for their evaluations and critiques of manuscripts:

**Program committee members:**

- Yamine Ait-Ameur - IRIT/ENSEEIHT, France
- Oliver Barais - INRIA, France
- Antonia Bertolino - Italian National Research Council CNR, Italy
- Georg Buchgeher - SCCH GmbH Hagenberg, Austria
- Rafael Capilla - Rey Juan Carlos University, Madrid, Spain
- Ivica Crnkovic - MDU, Sweden
- Giovanna Dimarzo Sereguendo - CUI Université Genève, Carouge Switzerland
- Naranker Dulay - Imperial College London, UK
- Sam Guinea - Politecnico di Milano, Italy
- Kenneth Johnson - Auckland University of Technology, New Zealand
- Rick Kazman - ITM, University of Hawaii, United States
- Eva Kühn - Vienna University of Technology, Austria
- Chan-gun Lee - Chung-Ang University, Korea
- Jihyun Lee - Daejeon University, Korea
- Marin Litoiu - York University, Canada
- Antonia Lopes - University of Lisbon, Portugal
- Hernan Melgratti - University of Buenos Aires, Argentina
- José Javier Merseguer - University of Saragoza, Spain
- Henry Muccini - University of L'Aquila, Italy
- Ileana Ober - IRIT/University of Toulouse
- Flavio Oquendo - IRISA, University of South Brittany, France
- Hongyu Pei-Breivold - ABB Corporate Research, Västerås, Svezia
- Pasqualina Potena - FBK ICT DAS, University of Trento, Italy
- Elvinia Riccobene - University of Milan, Italy
- Ella Roubstova - Open Universiteit Nederland
- Antonino Sabetta - SAP Research, France
- Lionel Seinturier - Univ. Lille & IUF - LIFL & Inria ADAM
- Romina Spalazzese - Malmö University, Sweden
- Maria Spichkova - RMIT University, Melbourne, AUSTRALIA
- Shuai Wang - Simula Labs, OSLO, Norway
- Danny Weijns - University of Linnaeus, Sweden
- Liming Zhu - National ICT Australia

**Additional reviewers:**

- Roxana Holom
- Thomas Hamboeck
- Vesna Sesum-Cavic
- Matthias Schwayer
- Milena Guessi
- Everton Cavalcante
- Christian Roldan
- Lucas Oliveira

## **EDITORIAL MESSAGE**

### **Special Track on Software Engineering**

*Eunjee Song, Baylor University, Waco, USA*  
*Byungjeong Lee, University of Seoul, Seoul, Korea*

A special track on Software Engineering (SE Track) aims to be a forum for scientists, engineers and practitioners, in academia and industry to share new ideas, experiences and results, and to present their latest findings in any aspects of Software Engineering. SE Track emphasizes the design, implementation, management and applications of Software Engineering.

The Call for Papers for SE Track attracted 100 final paper submissions from 30 different countries. The submitted papers underwent the blind review process and 25 papers were finally accepted as full papers for inclusion in the Conference Proceedings and presentation during the Symposium. The final acceptance rate for SE Track is 25%. In addition to the accepted full papers, 12 papers that received high enough review scores were accepted as short papers for the Poster Program. The Student Research Competition (SRC) program is designed to provide graduate students the opportunity to meet and exchange ideas with researchers and practitioners. Finally 4 papers were accepted for the SRC program in SE Track.

This year SE Track is divided into five sessions: related presentations in Software Process, Design Patterns, Metrics and Measurement, Maintenance, Open-Source Projects, V&V, Testing, Formal Methods, Quality, and Software Product Lines will be associated to one session, so as to promote sharing and discussion of ideas through the whole audience of a topic. Please check the program schedule for details.

On behalf of the entire SAC 2016 Organizing Committee, we congratulate all the authors for having their papers accepted in the SE Track. We are grateful to the members of the Program Committee and to the additional reviewers. Without their support, the organization of such high-quality track sessions would not be possible. We also wish to convey our special thanks to the SAC 2016 symposium's main organizers, especially Program Chairs, Jiman Hong and Maria Lencastre, for their continuous help and advice and Publication Chair, John Kim, and Poster Chair, Chih-Cheng Hung, for their invaluable support.

Last but not least, we thank you for attending the conference on behalf of the Software Engineering Track and hope that you enjoy the program we have prepared for you.

## EDITORIAL MESSAGE

# Special Track on Service-Oriented Architectures and Programming (SOAP)

*Maurice H. ter Beek, ISTI-CNR, Pisa, Italy*

*Hernán Melgratti, University of Buenos Aires, Argentina*

*Hugo Torres Vieira, IMT Lucca, Italy*

The SOAP track aims at bringing together researchers and practitioners having the common objective of transforming Service-Oriented Programming (SOP) into a mature discipline with both solid scientific foundations and mature software engineering development methodologies supported by dedicated tools. From the foundational point of view, many attempts to use formal methods for specification and verification in this setting have been made. Session correlation, service types, contract theories, and communication patterns are only a few examples of the aspects that have been investigated. Moreover, several formal models based upon automata, Petri nets and algebraic approaches have been developed. However, most of these approaches concentrate only on a few features of service-oriented systems in isolation, and a comprehensive approach is still lacking.

From the engineering point of view, there are open issues at many levels. Among others, at the system design level, both traditional approaches based on UML and approaches taking inspiration from Business Process Modelling, e.g. BPMN, are used. At the composition level, orchestration and choreography are continuously being improved both formally and practically, with an evident need for their integration in the development process. At the description and discovery level, there are two separate communities pushing respectively the semantic approach (like ontologies and OWL) and the syntactic one (like WSDL). In particular, the role of discovery engines and protocols is not clear. In this respect, adopted standards are still missing. UDDI looked to be a good candidate, but it is no longer pushed by the main corporations, and its wide adoption seems difficult. Furthermore, a recent implementation platform, the so-called REST services, is emerging and competing with classic Web Services. Finally, features like Quality of Service, security, and dependability need to be taken seriously into account.

SOAP in particular encouraged submissions on what SOP still needs in order to achieve the above goals.

The PC of SOAP 2016 was formed by:

- |                       |  |
|-----------------------|--|
| • Farhad Arbab        | Leiden University and CWI, Amsterdam, NL |
| • Luís Barbosa        | University of Minho, Braga, PT           |
| • Massimo Bartoletti  | Università di Cagliari, IT               |
| • Maurice H. ter Beek | ISTI-CNR, Pisa, IT (co-chair)            |
| • Marcello M. Bersani | Politecnico di Milano, IT                |
| • Laura Bocchi        | University of Kent, UK                   |
| • Roberto Bruni       | Università di Pisa, IT                   |
| • Marco Carbone       | IT University of Copenhagen, DK          |
| • Romain Demangeon    | Université Pierre et Marie Curie, FR     |
| • Schahram Dustdar    | Vienna University of Technology, AT      |
| • Alessandra Gorla    | IMDEA Software Institute, Madrid, ES     |

- Vasileios Koutavas Trinity College Dublin, IE
- Alberto Lluch Lafuente Technical University of Denmark, DK
- Manuel Mazzara Innopolis University, RU
- Hernán Melgratti University of Buenos Aires, AR (co-chair)
- Nicola Mezzetti University of Trento, IT
- Corrado Moiso Telecom Italia, IT
- Alberto Núñez Universidad Complutense de Madrid, ES
- Jorge A. Perez University of Groningen, NL
- Gustavo Petri Purdue University, USA
- António Ravara New University of Lisbon, PT
- Steve Ross-Talbot Cognizant Technology Solutions, UK
- Gwen Salaün Inria Grenoble - Rhône-Alpes, FR
- Francesco Tiezzi Università di Camerino, IT
- Hugo Torres Vieira IMT Lucca, IT (co-chair)
- Emilio Tuosto University of Leicester, UK
- Massimo Vecchio Università degli Studi eCampus, IT
- Peter Wong Travelex, UK
- Yongluan Zhou University of Southern Denmark, DK

SOAP 2016 received a total of 16 submissions. Each submission was reviewed by at least 4 PC members, the vast majority even by 5 PC members. All papers were subject to an animated general discussion among the PC members (with over 100 posts in the message boards). In the end, the PC decided to select only the following four papers for an oral presentation at the conference (an acceptance rate of 25%):

- JxActinium: a runtime manager for secure REST-ful COAP applications working over JXTA  
by Filippo Battaglia, Giancarlo Iannizzotto, and Lucia Lo Bello
- Improving QoS Delivered by WS-BPEL Scenario Adaptation through Service Execution Parallelization  
by Dionisis Margaris, Costas Vassilakis, and Panagiotis Georgiadis
- QoS-aware Adaptation for Complex Event Service  
by Feng Gao, Muhammad Ali, Edward Curry, and Alessandra Mileo
- Service functional testing automation with intelligent scheduling and planning  
by Lom Messan Hillah, Ariele-Paolo Maesano, Libero Maesano, Fabio De Rosa, Fabrice Kordon, and Pierre-Henri Wuillemin

We would like to thank the PC members, and a few external reviewers, for their detailed reports and the stimulating discussions during the reviewing phase; the authors of submitted papers, the session chairs and the attendees, for contributing to the success of the event; the providers of the START system, which was used to manage the submissions; and in particular all the organizers of SAC 2016, for their invitation to organize this track and for all their excellent assistance and support.

## **EDITORIAL MESSAGE**

### **Special Track on Software Verification and Testing**

*Mercedes G. Merayo, University Complutense of Madrid, Spain*

*Gwen Salaün, Grenoble INP, Inria, LIG, France*

The Software Verification and Testing track aims at contributing to the challenge of improving the usability of formal methods in software engineering. The track covers areas such as formal methods for verification and testing, based on theorem proving, model checking, static analysis, and run-time verification.

We received 56 submissions. After a careful reviewing process, the Programme Committee accepted 13 regular papers. Therefore, the acceptance rate of the conference stayed close to 23%.

Several people contributed to the success of SVT 2016. We would like to thank the Programme Committee, and the additional reviewers, for their work on selecting the papers. Finally, we would like to thank all of you, who, as authors and participants, are helping us to assure the quality of this excellent event. We hope you will find the track's programme useful, interesting and challenging.

## **EDITORIAL MESSAGE**

### **Special Track on Operating Systems (OS)**

*Bongjae Kim, Korea Electronics Technology Institute, Korea*

*George Hamer, South Dakota State University, USA*

The purpose of Operating Systems track is to bring together researchers, designers, and developers who are interested in methodologies for the design and analysis of operating systems and/or applications that are highly adaptive to user needs. In recent years, we have noticed a tremendous growth on the demands for highly-efficient operating systems in various fields. At the same time, adaptive applications have also become more and more complex, and it imposes new challenging issues never faced before in this application field. It is thus clear that nowadays the development and design of operating systems must rely, even more than in the recent past, on specific solutions both in the hardware and in the software components. Moreover, the needs to timely tackle changes in the market pushes toward the employment of methodologies to shorten the development time and to drive the evolution of existing products. The solutions to new problems emerging in this setting call for a joint effort from the academics and industry.

The designs of high-performance operating systems and adaptive applications must take into account a wide variety of constraints: Performance, code size, real-time performance, maintainability, energy efficiency, and scalability. This track provides a forum for the presentation of high-quality, original research covering all aspects of operating systems and adaptive applications design, analysis, implementation, evaluation, and case-studies. Solutions might be proposed at different levels of abstractions, making use of an assortment of tools and methodologies. Researchers and practitioners would have a chance to propose new ideas and to compare experimentations. The focus of this track is on the application of both novel and well-known techniques to the operating systems and adaptive applications development.

In this year, a total of 39 submissions were received around the world. Each paper was reviewed by more than 3 blind reviewers and provided careful and thoughtful reviews on which the selection process was based. The reviewing process was done by the technical program committee and additional reviewers. Over the 39 submissions, 10 papers were accepted as full papers, and 4 papers were accepted as poster papers after a rigorous reviewing process. Many excellent papers could not be accepted because of the conference policy in this year.

We would like to thank all of the authors who contributed to the ACM SAC 2016 OS Track. We also like to thank all of the reviewers for their hard and on-time work. Finally, we give special thanks to the SAC organizing committee, who believes in the potential of the OS Track, as well as to the ACM SIGAPP.

# **EDITORIAL MESSAGE**

## **Special Track on Programming Languages**

*Marjan Mernik, University of Maribor, Slovenia*

*Barrett R. Bryant, University of North Texas, USA*

### 1. Objectives of the track

The Programming Languages (PL) Track provides researchers and practitioners with a forum to present their ideas and experience in designing new programming concepts and implementing programming languages. It includes the topics of Compiling Techniques, Domain-Specific Languages, Formal Semantics and Syntax, Garbage Collection, Language Design and Implementation, Languages for Modeling, Model-Driven Development and Model Transformation, New Programming Language Ideas and Concepts, New Programming Paradigms, Practical Experiences with Programming Languages, Program Analysis and Verification, Program Generation and Transformation, Programming Languages from All Paradigms (Agent-Oriented, Aspect-Oriented, Functional, Logic, Object-Oriented, etc.), and Visual Programming Languages.

### 2. Statistical information

This year the track was expanded to include papers from the Coordination Models, Languages and Applications Track, chaired by Francesco Tiezzi (University of Camerino, Italy) and Mirko Viroli (University of Bologna, Italy). For the combined track, thirty-eight papers were originally submitted from eighteen different countries: Belgium, Brazil, Canada, Czech Republic, Denmark, Finland, France, Germany, Italy, Japan, Kuwait, Portugal, Saudi Arabia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Tunisia, and the United States. Among those, nine regular papers were selected for an acceptance rate of 23.7% as well as six posters. The combined Track Program Committee had 52 members: Vasco Amaral (Universidade Nova de Lisboa, Portugal), Farhad Arbab (CWI, Netherlands), Jacob Beal (BBN, USA), Roberto da Silva Bigonha (Universidade Federal de Minas Gerais, Brazil), Olivier Boissier (EMSE, France), Walter Cazzola (University of Milan, Italy), Ferruccio Damiani (University of Turin, Italy), Igor Dejanović (University of Novi Sad, Serbia), Wolfgang De Meuter (Vrije Universiteit Brussel, Belgium), Rocco De Nicola (Institute for Advanced Studies Lucca, Italy), Giovanna Dimarzo Serugendo (University of Geneva, Switzerland), Tom Dinkelaker (Ericsson, Germany), Schahram Dustdar (Technical University of Vienna, Austria), Johan Fabry (University of Chile, Chile), Jose Luis Fernandez-Marquez (CSIC, Spain), José Fiadeiro (Royal Holloway University of London, UK), Sebastian Guenter (Senacor Technologies AG, Germany), Pedro Henriques (University of Minho, Portugal), Nigel Horspool (University of Victoria, Canada), Zoltán Horváth (Eötvös Loránd University, Hungary), Raymond Hu (Imperial College London, UK), Hiroshi Inoue (IBM Research, Japan), Jan Janousek (Czech Technical University, Czech Republic), Christine Julien (University of Texas, USA), Geylani Kardas (Ege University, Turkey), Eva Kühn (Technical University of Vienna, Austria), Hung La (Rutgers University, USA), Hans-Wolfgang Loidl (Heriot-Watt University, UK), Michele Loreti (University of Florence, Italy), Emanuela Merelli (University of Camerino, Italy), Marino Miculan (University of Udine, Italy), Flemming Nielsen (Technical University of Denmark, Denmark), Andrea Omicini (University of Bologna, Italy), Manuel Oriol (ABB Corporate Research, Switzerland), Nikolaos Papaspyrou (National Technical University of Athens, Greece), Marco Patrignani (University of Leuven, Belgium), Peter Pirkelbauer (University of Alabama at Birmingham, USA), Enrico Pontelli (New Mexico State University, USA), António Porto (University of Porto, Portugal), Rosario Pugliese (University of Florence, Italy), Antonio Ravara (Universidade Nova de Lisboa, Portugal), Alessandro Ricci (University of Bologna, Italy), Vladimir Safonov (St. Petersburg University, Russia), Ulrik Pagh Schultz (University of Southern Denmark, Denmark), Marjan Sirjani (Reykjavík University, Iceland), Boštjan Slivnik (University of Ljubljana, Slovenia), Yasuyuki Tahara (National Institute of

Informatics, Japan), George Wells (Rhodes University, South Africa), Paweł T. Wojciechowski, Poznań University of Technology, Poland), Jingling Xue (University of New South Wales, Australia), Wuu Yang (National Chiao-Tung University, Taiwan), and Franco Zambonelli (University of Modena and Reggio Emilia, Italy).

### 3. The contributed papers

Full papers:

1. Clinton Jeffery, Phillip Thomas, Sudarshan Gaikaiwari, John Goettsche. Integrating Regular Expressions and SNOBOL Patterns into String Scanning: a Unifying Approach.
2. Sérgio Medeiros, Fabio Mascarenhas. A Parsing Machine for Parsing Expression Grammars with Labeled Failures.
3. David Mohr, Darko Stefanovic. Stella: A Python-based Domain-Specific Language for Simulations.
4. Jerônimo da Cunha Ramos, André Rauber Du Bois, Mauricio Lima Pilla. An Embedded Domain Specific Language for Distributed Memory Transactions in Java \*.
5. Pablo Gómez-Abajo, Esther Guerra, Juan de Lara. Wodel: A Domain-Specific Language for Model Mutation.
6. Akira Tanimura, Hideya Iwasaki. Integrating Lua into C for Embedding Lua Interpreters in a C Application.
7. Noah Van Es, Jens Nicolay, Quentin Stievenart, Theo D'Hondt, Coen De Roover. A Performant Scheme Interpreter in asm.js.
8. Eden Burton, Emil Sekerinski. An Object Model for a Dynamic Mixin Based Language.
9. Asma Cherif, Abdessamad Imine. Using CSP for Coordinating Undo-Based Collaborative Applications.

Posters:

1. Luís Diogo Couto, Peter W. V. Tran-Jørgensen, Kenneth Lausdahl. Principles for Reuse in Formal Language Tools.
2. Marcel Heinz, Philipp Helsper, Ralf Lämmel, Tobias M. Schmidt. A DSL for Executable ‘How To’ Manuals.
3. Florent Marchand de Kerchove, Jacques Noyé, Mario Südholt. Extensible Modules for JavaScript.
4. Klervie Toczé, Maria Vasilevskaya, Patrik Sandahl, Simin Nadjm-Tehrani. Maintainability of Functional Reactive Programs in a Telecom Server Software.
5. Jens Gustedt. Futex Based Locks for C11’s Generic Atomics.
6. Stefano Bistarelli, Francesco Santini, Fabio Martinelli, Ilaria Matteucci. Automated Adaptation via Quantitative Partial Model Checking.

### Acknowledgements

We would like to thank all authors for their valuable contributions. We also thank the program committee members who voluntarily supported us to recruit good papers and review the papers.

## EDITORIAL MESSAGE

### Special Track on Reliable Software Technologies and Communication Middleware (RST)

*Marisol García-Valls, Universidad Carlos III de Madrid, Spain*

*Aniruddha Gokhale, Vanderbilt University, USA*

*Paolo Bellavista, Università di Bologna, Italy*

The world of high-end distributed/parallel systems and applications is, in general, paying increasing attention to the problems related to quality of service, determination of temporal behavior and response of the proposed software platform solutions, interactivity, and performance of the communication layer. Emergent highly complex domains such as cyber-physical systems and smart environments/homes/cities require the availability of reliable software infrastructures that are able to support their inherent timing requirements; in these solutions the role of middleware is a key and central one.

In addition, future solutions will be particularly challenging when dealing with large-scale open deployment environments and their associated scalability issues. Novel and relevant application domains push for evolution and disruptive research; only to mention a few, middleware solutions for datacenter resource management optimization for quality-aware online stream processing of big data flows, energy-aware middleware for resource management in smart city/smart grid deployment environments, and middleware for cloud-hosted cyber-physical systems with strict requirements on latency and reliability.

With this idea in mind, the ACM SAC Track on Reliable Software Technologies and Communication Middleware (RST) focuses on the design of distributed reliable systems that must take into account the selection and evaluation of interaction models, software technology choices, temporal requirements, resource efficiency, performance, scalability, and coordination. RST 2016 is the first edition of a desired sustained effort to attract researchers, practitioners, designers, and developers of distributed software systems that have special requirements of reliability and time-sensitivity. The main topics of the papers submitted to this edition of RST have dealt with: reliable and time-sensitive distribution models; performance of distributed applications; cloud computing advances for cyber-physical systems and mobile cloud computing; middleware for the efficient integration of cyber-physical systems and the cloud; reactive stream processing and on-line processing of big data flows; efficient integration with the run-time support, e.g., operating system and virtualization technology; quality of service aware middleware for data center resource management; interaction models such as publish/subscribe or event-based; programming models and languages; efficient and context-aware server-side management of smart city data; and scalability in city-wide deployment scenarios.

In its first edition, RST track has attracted ten high-quality submissions. From this number, two full papers and one poster paper have been accepted. The acceptance rate for the track has been 20% for full papers, which is generally lower than the overall SAC acceptance rate. More specifically about the received submissions and accepted papers, all the received manuscripts covered at least three of the topics mentioned in the call for papers, being well centered on the themes of greatest interest for our specific venue (no out-of-scope submission). Based on the acceptance results, we have decided to organize the RST track into a single session with two full papers and one poster paper (with a shorter presentation time slot). The first full paper, titled ‘Exploiting User Feedback for Online Filtering in Event-based

Systems”, by Fabio Petroni, Leonardo Querzoni, Roberto Beraldì, and Mario Paolucci addresses the open technical challenge of automatically filtering the data injected in event-based systems based on monitored user feedback; the aim is to be able to efficiently deliver to consumers only content they are actually interested in, by run-time filtering that exploits continuous profiling of both producers and consumers, and then profile matching with the newly generated data in the examined event stream. The second full paper “Scalable Monitoring and Dependable Job Scheduling Support for Multi-domain Grid Infrastructures” by Marcello Cinque, Antonio Corradi, Luca Foschini, Flavio Frattini, and Javier Povedano-Molina, instead, focuses on grid management and in particular proposes a completely distributed and highly efficient management infrastructure for the dissemination of monitoring data and troubleshooting of job execution failures in large-scale and multi-domain Grid environments; the paper also provides significant contributions in reporting experimental results of the original proposal when challenged in a real deployment and when compared with other Grid management systems in the literature. Finally, “Adjusting middleware knobs to suit CPS domains” by Marisol García-Valls, Cristian Calva Urrego, Alejandro Alonso, and Juan A. de la Puente is the accepted poster paper and describes an original software platform that employs middleware technology as the communication backbone to support dynamic and timely execution of distributed processes, being based over a predictable layer with guaranteed quality of service.

A programme committee of twenty seven members has been put together with outstanding top quality researchers in the related areas, who have provided high quality feedback to authors to improve their contributions. We are most grateful to each and every member of the programme committee of RST for their kind support, timely reviews, and gentle collaboration to start RST track within SAC.

Kyongho An	RTI, USA	Takayuki Kuroda	NEC, Japan
Roberto Baldoni	Università di la Sapienza, Italy	Cong Liu	University of Texas Dallas, USA
Ken Birman	Cornell University, USA	Juan López Soler	University of Granada, Spain
Gordon Blair	University Lancaster, UK	Pedro J. Marrón	Universität Duisburg-Essen, Germany
Cristian Borcea	New Jersey Institute of Technology, USA	Willian Otte	Vanderbilt University, USA
Jian-nong Cao	Hong Kong PolyU, Hong Kong	Karthik Pattabiraman	University of British Columbia, Canada
Mauro Caporuscio	Linnaeus University, Sweden	Leonardo Querzoni	Università di Roma La Sapienza, Italy
Antonio Cassimiro	Universidade de Lisboa, Portugal	Binoy Ravindran	Virginia Tech, USA
Abhishek Dubey	Vanderbilt University, USA	Anders Ravn	Aalborg University, Denmark
Paul Ezhilchelvan	Newcastle University, UK	Stefano Russo	University of Naples, Italy
Nikolaos Georgantas	Inria, France	Valerio Schiavoni	University Neuchâtel, Switzerland
Akram Hakiri	LAAS CNRS, France	Michael Wahler	ABB, Switzerland
Joe Hoffert	Indiana Wesleyan University, USA	Tomofumi Yuki	Inria, France
Ruediger Kapitza	Technische Universität Braunschweig, Germany		

We do hope that this track will be of considerable interest to the ACM SAC audience, highlighting the potential of reliable software technologies and communication middleware under different perspectives, technical viewpoints, and applicability angulations. We believe that this small set of accepted papers can anyway provide the interested readers with a fresh sample of some open and relevant technical challenges in the field, of general importance and of wide applicability. Enjoy your reading!

And, most important, welcome to ACM SAC, to our RST Track, and to an enjoyable and fruitful conference event held this year in the beautiful Pisa.

Marisol García-Valls, Aniruddha Gokhale, and Paolo Bellavista

RST Track Chairs, ACM SAC 2016

## EDITORIAL MESSAGE

### **Special Track on Computer Security (SEC)**

*Giampaolo Bella, Università di Catania, Italy*

*Sergio Maffeis, Imperial College London, UK*

As chairs of the Computer Security track, we are pleased to welcome you to its fifteenth edition at the ACM Symposium on Applied Computing. The Program Committee for this track, as in past years, is composed of eminent representatives from both industry and academia, and this year is yet longer than before in order to cope with the submission rate and corresponding review load. Here is the list of members of this year's committee, in alphabetical order:

- Karthikeyan Bhargavan (INRIA, France)
- Denis Butin (TU Darmstadt, Germany)
- Cormac Callanan (Aconite Internet Solutions, Ireland)
- Lorenzo Cavallaro (Royal Holloway University of London, UK)
- Nicholas Carlini (University of California, Berkeley, USA)
- Véronique Cortier (CNRS, Loria, France)
- Philippe De Ryck (KU Leuven, Belgium)
- Lieven Desmet (KU Leuven, Belgium)
- Adam Doupé (Arizona State University, USA)
- Dario Fiore (IMDEA Software Institute, Spain)
- Flavio Garcia (University of Birmingham, UK)
- Rosario Giustolisi (SICS Swedish ICT)
- Dieter Gollmann (TU Hamburg, Germany)
- Pekka Jappinen (Lappeenranta University of Technology, Finland)
- Limin Jia (Carnegie Mellon University, USA)
- Martin Johns (SAP Research, Germany)
- Sokratis K Katsikas (University of Piraeus, Greece)
- Matteo Maffei (Saarland University, Germany)
- Marius Minea (Politehnica University of Timisoara, Romania)
- Chris Mitchell (Royal Holloway University of London, UK)
- Chris Novakovic (Imperial College London, UK)
- David Nowak (CNRS & Lille 1 University, France)
- Kenneth Radke (Queensland University of Technology, Australia)
- Tamara Rezk (Inria, France)
- William Robertson (Northeastern University, USA)
- Andrei Sabelfeld (Chalmers University of Technology, Sweden)
- Hossain Shahriar (Kennesaw State University, USA)
- Haya Shulman (TU Darmstadt, Germany)
- Deian Stefan (UC San Diego and GitStar, USA)
- Ruoyu Wang (UC Santa Barbara, USA)

This year we received 58 submissions, as usual from virtually everywhere in the world. The review process, which also involved a number of qualified delegates, was double-blind in the sense that the paper authors were kept anonymous from the reviewers. Each paper received at least 3 reviews, and all papers and reviews were ultimately discussed in depth by the entire Program Committee. As a result of this scientifically thrilling process, papers were marked either for acceptance or for rejection. In the end, only 10 papers were accepted, defining a selective acceptance rate just above

17%. We are therefore confident of the high quality of the published material, and remain indebted to the reviewers for their thorough work.

Here is this edition's programme:

- Bacs et al. demonstrate an intrusion detection system for virtualized storage devices. Experimental results confirm it effective at enhancing the security of virtualized servers, while imposing minor performance and production overhead.
- Larmuseau et al. implement a secure abstract state machine for the ML language. The machine has the feature of preserving the abstractions of ML in possibly malicious, low-level contexts.
- Martinelli et al. enhance the Android permission system through a Usage Control-based framework. It allows employees to write policies that are continuously enforced while BYOD applications are running.
- Li et al. introduce an out-of-band approach to discover Tor hidden services. It is found to be simpler and more lightweight than traditional approaches: using multiple search engines with specific keywords.
- Yuksel et al. focus on intrusion detection for industrial control systems networks and advance an innovative, practical and semantics-aware framework for anomaly detection. It minimises the false-positive rate.
- Backes et al. perform an automated security analysis of the actual JavaScript implementation of the Helios voting client. A sequence of program transformations makes the code amenable to existing static analysis techniques.
- Han and Shen introduce four categories of email profiling features that capture various characteristics of spear phishing email. The system is demonstrated to suffer a very minor false-positive rate.
- Wuchner et al. tackle the problem of identifying malicious domains. They propose an approach that automatically estimates the risk associated with a domain upon the basis of the data flow induced when communicating with it.
- Calvi and Viganò face the issue of chained attacks over web applications. They advance an automated model-based approach to test their security.
- De Groef et al. work over a new technology stack that enables real-time communication on the Web. They identify three novel attacks against endpoint authenticity, and discuss defensive strategies.

## About the track chairs

Giampaolo Bella is Associate Professor at the University of Catania, doing teaching and research in Computer Security and Formal Methods. He has chaired the Computer Security track at ACM SAC since its inception. After his Ph.D. from Cambridge University, he was a research associate at TU Munich, Cambridge University, and a senior researcher at SAP Research France. He has recently been developing formal approaches and methodologies to studying the security problem as a socio-technical, trans-disciplinary one.

Sergio Maffeis is a lecturer in Computer Security at Imperial College London. His research straddles web security, formal methods, and programming languages. Recent contributions include automated testing of browser security policies, defensive cryptography in the browser, security analysis of social sing-on and encrypted cloud storage, and defining formal, executable semantics for JavaScript and PHP. Maffeis received his PhD from Imperial and has been a visiting researcher at INRIA, Stanford, UCSC, and Microsoft Research.

## **EDITORIAL MESSAGE**

### **Special Track on Software Platform**

*Jinman Jung, Hannam University, Korea*

*Jun Huang, Chongqing University of Posts and Telecom, China*

The software platforms are in a constant state of change with new devices and technologies introduced almost every day. As a result, software platform developers and researchers continue to evolve software technologies that are used for increasing mobile conversions and enhancing relationships among users. The structure of software systems involves working with a wide variety of software platforms and technologies range from embedded devices and smartphones on the low end, to enterprise and distributed systems on the high end. Many research questions remain open from limited battery to remote access control, interaction with external devices, assurance in quality of service, context-aware adaptation to the environment, interface modeling or other issues (security and privacy problems) that are obstacles to thrive software platform technologies. This track aims to share research results and experiences in Software Platforms field with researchers and developers, the track addresses all of these research issues related to software platforms. This track has received 24 submissions from different countries around the world. Each paper has underwent a blind review process by three members of the track Technical Program Committee (TPC), and 3 regular full papers and 3 poster papers have been accepted for publications in the proceedings of the conference. The regular papers accepted by this track include:

- Evaluation of Smart Scheduling Technologies: Static versus Dynamic Approaches
- Experimental Approach: Two-stage Spectrum Sensing Using GNU Radio and USRP to Detect Primary User's Signal
- Optimized Multilayer Perceptron using Dynamic Learning Rate Based Microwave Tomography Breast Cancer Screening

The ACM SAC 2015 Software Platform track was chaired by Drs. Jinman Jung, and Jun Huang, who wish to thank all the TPC members for their valuable time and technical input for running such an excellent track. Without their support and contributions, this track would not be successful. The special thanks will be given to the Drs. Jiman Hong and Maria Lencastre for their leadership and superb work to organize the SAC conference. Finally, the track chairs would like to thank all the authors who contributed to this track.

December 2015,  
Dr. Jinman Jung  
Dr. Jun Huang

Track Chairs, Software Platform

## **EDITORIAL MESSAGE**

### **Special Track on Trust, Reputation, Evidence and other Collaboration Know-how (TRECK)**

*Jean-Marc Seigneur, University of Geneva, Switzerland*

*Ronald Petrlík, Saarland University, Germany*

Computational trust and online reputation services have reached the mass market. Traditional business intelligence tools have even prominently added e-reputation features to promote their solution. The TRECK track in Pisa, Italy, will surely foster exciting collaborations and technology transfers, especially for the growing realm of mobile applications and online services related to this ACM SAC track.

The trustcomp online community (<http://tech.groups.yahoo.com/group/trustcomp/> and <http://www.trustcomp.org>) has been set up for the participants of the track and every person working in a field related to TRECK since mid-2004. The trustcomp mailing list now counts more than 290 members composed of a panel of experts from both the academic and the industrial world, with competences from various fields such as security, risk management, business intelligence, Web marketing, human computer interface (HCI).

We would like to thank all the authors for submitting their paper contributions to the ACM SAC'16 TRECK track. We are grateful to the many external reviewers for their time and hard work to select the best full papers. Many thanks to the SAC organizing committee, who believes in the potential of the TRECK track, as well as to the ACM SIGAPP!