



EurAI Bulletin #1, 2018

News from the IJCAI-ECAI 2018

The conference will take place on July 13-19, 2018 in Stockholm, Sweden.

Prof. Yann LeCun, Chief AI Scientist Facebook, and Prof. Max Tegmark, MIT, are among the speakers at IJCAI-ECAI 2018, the premier international gathering of researchers in artificial intelligence.

The special theme of IJCAI-ECAI-18 is the evolution of the contours of AI. This Artificial Intelligence event is expected to be one of the largest gatherings of all scientific AI events held previously with thousands of AI researchers coming to Stockholm, July 13-19, 2018.

The speakers at IJCAI-ECAI-18 will present some of the most significant contributions and advancements in Artificial Intelligence, Machine Learning, Autonomous Agents and other topics related to AI.

The huge interest in the conference is significant for the numbers of papers. More than 800 papers have been accepted.

Many of the invited speakers will also give an "easier to understand" presentation for a lay audience.

There will also be an opportunity to obtain more hands-on-knowledge with Artificial Intelligence products and services at the exhibition where many global industry companies such as Alibaba, Tencent, Baidu, Adobe, IBM, Tieto and Microsoft will exhibit their latest technology.

"With the current explosive interest in AI and its applications, it will be an exciting forum to present and hear about cutting-edge research in AI," says Jérôme Lang, Senior Scientist at Université Paris-Dauphine and the Program Chair of the conference.

List of speakers

The list of speakers consists of some of the most acknowledged researchers in artificial intelligence, including:

Yann LeCun, Facebook AI Research lab and New York University

Max Tegmark, Massachusetts Institute of Technology

Jean-Francois Bonnefon, Toulouse School of Economics

Joyce Chai, Michigan State University

Hector Geffner, Universitat Pompeu Fabra

Nicole Immorlica, Microsoft Research New England

Danica Kragic Jensfelt, Royal Institute of Technology, KTH

Josh Tenenbaum, Massachusetts Institute of Technology

(Visit conference page for presentation of the keynote speakers, <http://www.ijcai-18.org/>).

IJCAI 2018 Awards

Awards from IJCAI, the International Joint Conference on Artificial Intelligence, are among the highest recognitions any AI researcher may receive. The winners of The IJCAI

Computer and Thought Award, the Research Excellence Award, and the John McCarthy Award will be presented at the conference.

The winner of the 2018 Award for Research Excellence is Professor Jitrenda Malik, Arthur J. Chick Professor of EECS at the University of California at Berkeley.

The winner of the 2018 IJCAI Computers and Thought Award is Assistant Professor Stefano Ermon, at the Department of Computer Science, Fellow, Woods Institute for the Environment, Stanford University

The winner of the 2018 John McCarthy Award is Professor Milind Tambe, Helen N. and Emmett H. Jones Professor in Engineering and Professor of Computer Science & Industrial and Systems Engineering Departments of the University of South California.

Further information

For further information on the conference, please contact:

Jeffrey S. Rosenschein, Conference Chair
The Rachel and Selim Benin School of Computer Science
and Engineering
The Hebrew University of Jerusalem
The Edmond J. Safra Campus
Jerusalem 91904 Israel
jeff@cs.huji.ac.il

Jérôme Lang, Program Chair
LAMSADE, CNRS
PSL Research University, Université Paris-Dauphine
75775 Paris Cedex 16, France
lang@lamsade.dauphine.fr

Fredrik Heintz, Local Arrangements Committee Chair
Department of Computer Science
Linköping University
581 83 Linköping, Sweden
fredrik.heintz@liu.se

ACAI 2018

The Advanced Course on AI (ACAI) is a specialized course in Artificial Intelligence sponsored by EurAI. The 2018 edition will be in Ferrara, Italy on August 27th - 31st 2018, save the date!

The theme of the 2018 ACAI School is Statistical Relational Artificial Intelligence (StarAI).

StarAI is an emerging area that combines logical (or relational) AI and probabilistic (or statistical) AI.

Relational AI deals very effectively with complex domains involving many and even a varying number of entities connected by complex relationships, while statistical AI manages well the uncertainty that derives from incomplete and noisy descriptions of the domains. Both fields achieved significant successes over the last thirty years but evolved largely independently until about fifteen years ago, when the potential originating from their combination started to emerge. Statistical Relational Learning (SRL) was proposed for exploiting relational

descriptions in statistical machine learning methods from the field of graphical models. Meanwhile, the scope of SRL was significantly advanced in StarAI to cover all forms of reasoning and models of AI. StarAI is nowadays an ample area encompassing many and diverse approaches.

The school includes courses on foundations of relational and statistical AI together with advanced courses on the new StarAI approaches and applications. The talks will provide theoretical background, practical examples and real applications where StarAI can play a role. Hands-on classes will be also organized where the main StarAI techniques will be applied to 'small' examples.

The list of confirmed lectures is:

Luc De Raedt: Probabilistic Programming
Paolo Frasconi: Kernels and deep networks for structured data
Sebastian Riedel: Differentiable Program Interpreters
Artur d'Avila Garcez: Neural-symbolic learning
Marco Lippi: Applications of Statistical Relational Artificial Intelligence
Sriraam Natarajan: Human-in-the-loop Statistical Relational Learning
Mathias Niepert and Alberto García Durán: Multi-Modal Neural Link Prediction
Kristian Kersting: Lifted Statistical Machine Learning
Fabrizio Riguzzi: Probabilistic Inductive Logic Programming
Vibhav Gogate: Lifted Systematic Search and Sampling
David Poole: TBA

Up to date information can be found at the event website
<http://acai2018.unife.it/>.

ACAI 2018 is part of the Relational Artificial Intelligence Days 2018 (RAID 2018, <http://raid2018.unife.it/>), which will be held in Ferrara, Italy, on August 27th 2018 - September 4th 2018. RAID includes, besides ACAI 2018, also:
- PLP 2018: 5th Workshop on Probabilistic Logic Programming, September 1st 2018, <http://stoics.org.uk/plp/plp2018/> ;
- ILP 2018: 28th International Conference on Inductive Logic Programming, September 2nd - 4th 2018, <http://ilp2018.unife.it/>.

ACAI Organizers

Kristian Kersting, TU Darmstadt, Germany
Marco Lippi, University of Modena and Reggio Emilia, Italy
Sriraam Natarajan, University of Texas at Dallas, USA
Fabrizio Riguzzi, University of Ferrara, Italy

The European Artificial Intelligence Landscape Workshop

In January 2018, the European Commission in cooperation with the European Association for Artificial Intelligence (EurAI) organised a workshop to take stock of the current state of the field of artificial intelligence (AI) in Europe, and to

identify opportunities for pan-European collaboration, capitalising on European strengths in AI.

No less than 20 countries were represented. The participants' presentations and contributions have produced an initial overview of the European AI landscape, covering the academic, industrial, and funding ecosystems, governmental initiatives, and suggestions for the way forward.

Note that this is not an exhaustive survey, only a starting point, gathering inputs from countries which could be represented at the workshop.

The final report from the workshop, the presentations made by representatives of each member state, and two overview presentations, can all be found here:

<https://ec.europa.eu/digital-single-market/en/news/european-artificial-intelligence-landscape>

Please direct any queries in relation to this event and the follow-up to Barry O'Sullivan at barry.osullivan@insight-centre.org

Request for Proposals to Host IJCAI-ECAI-2022

International Joint Conferences on Artificial Intelligence (IJCAI) Organization hereby invites proposals to host the 31st International Joint Conference on Artificial Intelligence to be held jointly with ECAI (IJCAI-ECAI-2022). IJCAI-ECAI-22 will be held in July or August 2022 in Europe. These proposals will be evaluated by the IJCAI Board of Trustees. The final selection of the IJCAI-ECAI-22 site will be made at the IJCAI-ECAI-18-Executive Committee Meeting at IJCAI-ECAI-18 conference in Stockholm, Sweden in July 2018. The IJCAI conferences are the premier international conferences in Artificial Intelligence, having been held in major world centers since 1969. Until 2015, our conferences were held every two years. In the recent past, IJCAI-11 was held in Barcelona, Spain, IJCAI-13 was held in Beijing, China, IJCAI-15 was held in Buenos Aires, Argentina, IJCAI-16 was held in New York City, NY, USA and IJCAI-17 was held in Merlbourne, Australia.

Please see <http://ijcai.org> for more information.

Because of the size and complexity of IJCAI conferences, it is necessary to plan some years ahead. Due to the multifaceted nature of the conference, it is important for cities that would like to host IJCAI-ECAI-2022 to submit final proposals by June 15, 2018.

The proposal should be short but provide sufficient details on the:

- Local AI organization, potential organizing committee and its Chair, and the primary contact person who will interact with IJCAI
- Detailed budget estimates (including break-even figures) as a function of the expected number of participants, budget template is available from IJCAI Executive Secretary
- Monetary support that the local committee expects to raise through various sponsorships (public and private)
- Logistics (flights and local transportation, etc), weather, etc
- Potential conference/workshop&tutorial venues, accommodations (hotels, student housing, etc) and their impact on the budget

A detailed list of required site information, a set of budget categories, and a list of

selection criteria used to judge site proposals, are available from the Executive Secretary.

Proposals will be evaluated in relation to a number of site selection criteria:

1. National, regional, and local AI community support.
2. National, regional, and local government and industry support, especially financial.
3. Appropriateness of proposed dates.
4. Adequacy of conference and exhibit facilities for the anticipated number of registrants (currently around 2500).
5. Adequacy of residence accommodations and food services in a range of price categories and proximity to the conference facilities.
6. Adequacy of budget projections.
7. Accessibility, attractiveness, and desirability of proposed site.
8. Balance with regard to the geographical distribution of previous conferences.

This call is open to European AI societies/groups, only!

***** Bids from Convention Centers, Tourism Bureaus and/or PCO's will NOT be considered!*****

Proposals and inquiries should be sent to the [IJCAI Executive Secretary](#) by June 15, 2018. Communication by email is preferred. If necessary, proposals could be mailed to the address below.

Vesna Sabljakovic-Fritz

IJCAI Executive Secretary

Vienna University of Technology

Institute of Discrete Mathematics and Geometry E104

Wiedner Hauptstr. 8-10

A-1040 Vienna

Austria

Fax: +43-1-58801-18492

Please allow 24 hours for electronic receipt confirmation from the IJCAI Secretariat!

AI-related conferences

International Conference on Automated Planning and Scheduling (ICAPS 2018)

Delft, The Netherlands | June 24–29, 2018.

<http://icaps18.icaps-conference.org/>

International Conference on the Integration of Artificial Intelligence and Operations Research in Constraint Programming (CPAIOR 2018)

Delft, The Netherlands | June 26–29, 2018.

<https://sites.google.com/view/cpaior2018>

9th International Joint Conference on Automated Reasoning, IJCAR 2018

Oxford, UK | July 14-17, 2018

<http://www.ijcar2018.org>

Federated Logic Conference, FLoC 2018

Oxford, UK | July 6-19, 2018

<http://www.floc2018.org>

24th International Conference on Principles and Practice of Constraint Programming, CP2018

Lille, France | August 27 to August 31, 2018

<http://cp2018.a4cp.org/>

28th International Conference on Inductive Logic Programming,

Ferrara, Italy | September 2 – 4, 2018

<http://ilp2018.unife.it/>

16th International Conference on Principles of Knowledge Representation and Reasoning, KR 2018

Tampa US | October 30-November 2, 2018

<http://kr2018.org/>

38th SGA I International Conference on Artificial Intelligence, AI-2018

Cambridge, UK | December 11-13, 2018

<http://www.bcs-sgai.org/ai2018/>

Magazines

AI Magazine Vol 39 n. 1

<https://www.aaai.org/ojs/index.php/aimagazine/issue/view/221>

AI Communications - Volume 31, issue 1,2

<https://www.iospress.nl/journal/ai-communications/>

Contact Information

This bulletin is edited by Michela Milano, DISI Università di Bologna

michela.milano@unibo.it.

For advertising AI-related conferences, schools and journal issues, please contact the editor.