

## EDITORIAL MESSAGE

# Special Track on Recommender Systems: Theory, User Interactions and Applications

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The Track on Recommender Systems: Theory, User Interactions and Applications at ACM/SIGAPP Symposium on Applied Computing (ACM SAC) 2018 provides a dedicated forum to researchers in the area of recommender systems (RecSys) and user modeling, as well as other applied computing areas, for discussing the open research problems, solid solutions, latest challenges, novel applications and innovative research approaches in RecSys. The development of RecSys promotes various research topics, such as user interaction and interfaces, algorithm design and evaluations, computational efficiency, and recommendation explanations. As one of applied sciences, the field of recommender systems attracts experts and receives contributions from multidisciplinary areas. This track was hosted in ACM SAC in the year of 2013, 2014 and 2017 previously. And this is the 4<sup>th</sup> time to have a track on recommender systems associated with the ACM SAC.

The submissions and the selected papers from our track deal with a wide variety of recommender system issues including (not limited to) the topics as follows:

- **Recommender Systems**

- Conversational recommender systems

- Context-aware/Trust-based/Group/Social/Mobile and multi-channel recommenders

- Recommendation explanation

- New recommender applications

- Data mining and machine learning for development

- Novel paradigms, Theoretical foundations

- Preference elicitation

- Privacy and security issues in recommender systems

- Recommendation algorithms, Algorithm scalability, Evaluation metrics and studies

- Semantic technologies for recommendation

- **User modeling in Recommender Systems**

- User interface design

- User-adaptive interaction and personalization

- Empirical user studies

- Explanations in recommender systems

- User behavior analytics and user modeling

- User-centric studies and evaluations in recommender systems

- Privacy and security issues in recommender systems

- Recommender systems based on users' psychological characteristics, such as personality and emotion

This year, we received 37 valid submissions – 33 long papers and 4 short papers. The review process was very competitive with each paper receiving at least three reviews, and finally 8 long papers and 2 short papers were selected for the track, bringing the acceptance rate to 24% for long papers. We give oral presentations to the accepted long submissions, while the short papers will be presented as posters in the ACM SAC 2018.

This year, our track is featured with 23 program committee members who are the experts in the area of recommender systems. They work hard to provide valuable reviews or feedbacks to the submissions in our track. We provide the list of program committee members below.

- Alejandro Bellogin, Universidad Autónoma de Madrid, Spain
- Shlomo Berkovsky, Data61, CSIRO, Australia
- Derek Bridge, Insight Centre for Data Analytics, Ireland
- Robin Burke, DePaul University, USA
- Ivan Cantador, Universidad Autónoma de Madrid, Spain
- Liang Dong, Google, Inc, USA
- Zhenhua Dong, Huawei, Inc, China
- Mehdi Elahi, Free University of Bozen, Italy
- Jonathan Gemmell, DePaul University, USA
- Guibing Guo, Northeastern University, China
- Dietmar Jannach, TU Dortmund, Germany
- Bart Knijnenburg, Clemson University, USA
- Andrej Košir, University of Ljubljana, Slovenia
- Pasquale Lops, University of Bari Aldo Moro, Italy
- Cataldo Musto, University of Bari Aldo Moro, Italy
- Weike Pan, Shenzhen University, China
- Shaghayegh Sahebi, University at Albany, SUNY, USA
- Alan Said, University of Skovde, Sweden
- Zhu Sun, Nanyang Technological University, Singapore
- Marko Tkalcić, Free University of Bozen, Italy
- Jie Yang, Delft University of Technology, Netherlands
- Tong Yu, Carnegie Mellon University, USA
- Yong Zhuang, Carnegie Mellon University, USA

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. We believe this track will continue to be a success in the future editions of ACM SAC.

### **Track Chairs**

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