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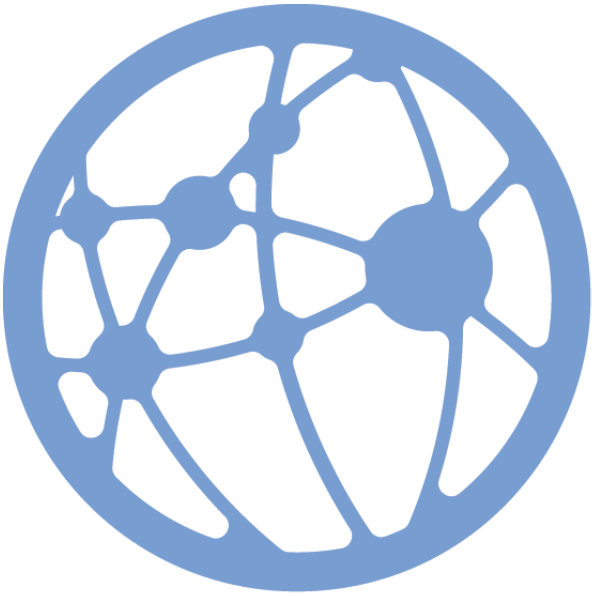

RecSys '22

Proceedings of the Sixteenth ACM Conference on Recommender Systems

Jennifer Golbeck, F. Maxwell Harper, and Vanessa Murdock
General Co-Chairs

Michael Ekstrand and Bracha Shapira
Program Co-Chairs

Justin Basilico, Keld Lundgaard, and Even Oldridge
Industry Co-Chairs

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RecSys 2022 Chairs' Welcome

It is our great pleasure to welcome you to the 16th ACM Conference on Recommender Systems. RecSys 2022 brings together the major international research groups working on recommender systems, along with many of the world's leading companies active in e-commerce and other adjacent domains.

RecSys 2022 is again a hybrid conference. In-person attendees will view talks and network together in Seattle, Washington, a beautiful city known as one of the leading technology centers in the United States. Virtual participants will join using the conference app, the RecSys Hub. This is the third RecSys conference to be held during the COVID-19 pandemic, and we are building on the lessons and uses of technology from the previous two conferences. In particular, we recognize both the emerging desire for the community to connect in person, and the need to prioritize pandemic-era safety. Our hybrid conference format allows the conference to provide in-person networking and discussion, while also building an extensive collection of online videos and other materials that will engage the community even after the conference winds down. Our aim is to provide many opportunities for in-person attendees to reunite with old friends and form new connections, along with an excellent hybrid program and set of online resources that will serve a global audience.

Our dedicated organizing committee has put together an excellent program, featuring 2 keynotes, 39 technical papers, 3 reproducibility papers, 15 industry talks, 16 industry posters, 6 demonstrations, 13 late-breaking results, 9 doctoral symposium presentations, 8 tutorials, 15 workshops, and the RecSys Challenge.

Our research paper program is the result of a rigorous reviewing process and the volunteer work of 69 senior and 150 regular program committee members. Almost all papers were reviewed by a senior PC member and 2–3 regular PC members and meta-reviewed by 1 senior member, providing a total of 1,111 reviews. As a way to acknowledge the great amount of work from our committee, we are again awarding "outstanding reviewer awards", which were first introduced in 2018. This year we received 242 submissions; of these 1 was withdrawn, 10 were desk-rejected, and the rest underwent peer-review. The program committee selected 39 papers for the program (17% acceptance). We look forward to announcing the best paper awards.

Our industry program focuses on significant real-world challenges facing industrial practitioners, and practical solutions to those challenges. The program features a rich set of talks from Booking.com, Deeplab, Meta AI, Netflix, Outbrain, Peloton, Pinterest, SEEK, Shopify, Shutterstock, Spotify, UBER, Wayfair, Zalando, and ZDF/Accso. This year's industry program selected 15 out of 52 submitted proposals (29% acceptance). Acceptance decisions were made considering technical strength, topic freshness and general community interest. Thanks to the continued interest in industry applications RecSys had a record number of industry submissions (up 50% from last year and 2.6x from two years ago). As a result, in addition to the talks we will have 15 industry posters from Amazon, Apple, Commonwealth Bank of Australia, CyberAgent, Deezer, Farfetch, NVIDIA, Outbrain, Stitch Fix, Zemanta, and Zillow Group.

RecSys 2022 is home to several additional types of contributions. We are hosting a new session,

the Women in RecSys Journal Paper of the Year Awards, to present top recommender systems journal articles authored by women, to highlight the contributions of women to recommender systems research. We are continuing the Reproducibility Track, established in 2020, in order to strengthen the scientific rigor of research results by publishing papers that repeat and analyze prior work. Nine doctoral students are participating in this year's Doctoral Symposium to receive mentoring and research feedback. The full technical program, which also includes Demos and Late-Breaking Results, will host daily poster sessions to facilitate learning, conversations, and connections.

This year we feature two keynote speakers. **Catherine d'Ignazio** is an Assistant Professor in the Department of Urban Science and Planning at MIT, and the author of *Data Feminism* (with Lauren F. Klein). She directs the Data + Feminism Lab at MIT, which focuses on using data science to promote gender and racial equity. Her talk will introduce the principles of data feminism and give a first-person report from a large project where she (together with Silvana Fumega and Helena Suárez Val) work with activist groups producing data to challenge gender-related violence against women across the Americas. **Mor Naaman** is a Professor of Information Science at Cornell Tech, leading a research group focusing on the intersection of technology, media and democracy. His keynote will discuss how AI language recommendations and other types of AI involvement in human communication affect our communication, our interpersonal connections (including how we trust one another), and our language.

Our workshops and tutorials showcase a wide range of interests and expertise in the RecSys community. The workshop program is an attractive mix of new and returning workshops. The RecSys Challenge, which will run alongside the workshops, attracted a range of submissions on this year's data related to fashion recommendations. The tutorials program features a range of modern topics that are led by a mix of academic and industry presenters. Tutorials are being presented in person, but will be available for later viewing on the RecSys Hub.

RecSys 2022 continues to strive towards accessibility, inclusion, and diversity. We have continued initiatives introduced last year that reduce registration fees for attendees in developing countries, and to provide need-based financial grants. We have continued to broaden the program of events for women in RecSys, this year adding an outstanding journal article award. Finally, we have adopted a perspective that COVID-era safety at an academic conference as an accessibility issue — where we strive for a safe experience to make the conference welcoming to all attendees. Although any in-person gathering in 2022 entails some risk, we are adopting best practices such as mask-wearing to the fullest extent.

Throughout the conference, there will be opportunities for in-person attendees to reconnect with old friends, to network, and to make new friends. In addition to poster sessions at each break, there will always be opportunities to visit sponsor booths to learn more about what a recommender systems career looks like at different companies around the world. We also highly recommend that attendees find friends (new or old) to visit a food truck or one of several excellent local coffee shops.

This year's conference is truly a product of our vibrant and supportive community. We are particularly grateful to our sponsors whose generous contributions have helped to make this conference

a success. A hybrid conference means that a lot of additional work was done by all committee members, to make sure the physical and virtual components are well integrated and organized. We would like to thank our vast cohort of amazing volunteers, and all the members of our organizing committee for their generosity, initiative, and dedication to bring about this conference.

Jennifer Golbeck, F. Maxwell Harper, and Vanessa Murdock
General Co-Chairs

Michael Ekstrand and Bracha Shapira
Program Co-Chairs

Justin Basilico, Keld Lundgaard, and Even Oldridge
Industry Co-Chairs

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