PC Chair Report on FSCD 2020

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FSCD General Assembly, Virtual meeting, July 3, 2020

Program Committee

- PC members distributed over countries, topics and gender

- 35 members from 16 countries: Austria (1), Brasil (1), France (5), Germany (2), Iceland (1), Italy (2), Japan (2), Netherlands (2), Poland (1), Portugal (1), Serbia (1), Slovenia (1), Spain (1), Sweden (1), UK (3), USA (10)

M. Alpuente, Technical U. of Valencia, Spain
S. Alves, U. of Porto, Portugal
A. Bauer, U. of Ljubljana, Slovenia
M. P. Bonacina, U. degli studi di Verona, Italy
P.-L. Curien, CNRS - U. of Paris Diderot, France
P. Dybjer, Chalmers U. of Technology, Sweden
U. De'Liguoro, U. of Torino, Italy
M. Fernández, King's College London, UK
M. Gaboardi, Boston U. USA
D. Ghica, U. of Birmingham, UK
S. Ghilezan, U. of Novi Sad, Serbia
J. Giesl, RWTH Aachen U. Germany
S. Guerrini, U. of Paris 13, France
R. Harper, Carnegie Mellon U. USA
M. Hasegawa, Kyoto U. Japan
N. Hirokawa, JAIST, Japan
P. Johann, Appalachian State U. USA

O. Kammar, U. of Edinburgh, UK
D. Kesner, U. of Paris Diderot, France
C. Kop, Radboud U. NL
O. Laurent, CNRS - ENS Lyon, France
D. Licata, Wesleyan U. USA
A. Middeldorp, U. of Innsbruck, Austria
J. Mitchell, Stanford U. USA
K. Nakata, SAP Potsdam, Germany
M. Pagani, U. of Paris Diderot, France
E. Pimentel, F. U. Rio Grande do Norte, Brasil
F. van Raamsdonk VU Amsterdam, NL
G. Rosu, U. of Illinois, USA
A. Sabry, Indiana U. USA
A. Stump, U. of Iowa, USA
P. Urzyczyn, U. of Warsaw, Poland
T. Uustalu, Reykjavik U. Iceland
S. Zdancewic, U. of Pennsylvania, USA

- 11 females

Call for papers and calendar

- **Regular research papers.**
  15 pages (main content) + 5 pages (appendix) + n (bibliography)
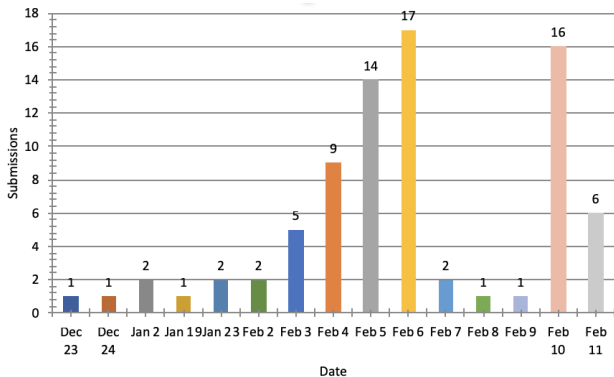
- **System description.**
  15 pages (main content) + n (bibliography) + archive of the code + webpage

- **Final version.** 16 pages (main content) + 5 pages (appendix) + n (bibliography)

- **Schedule**

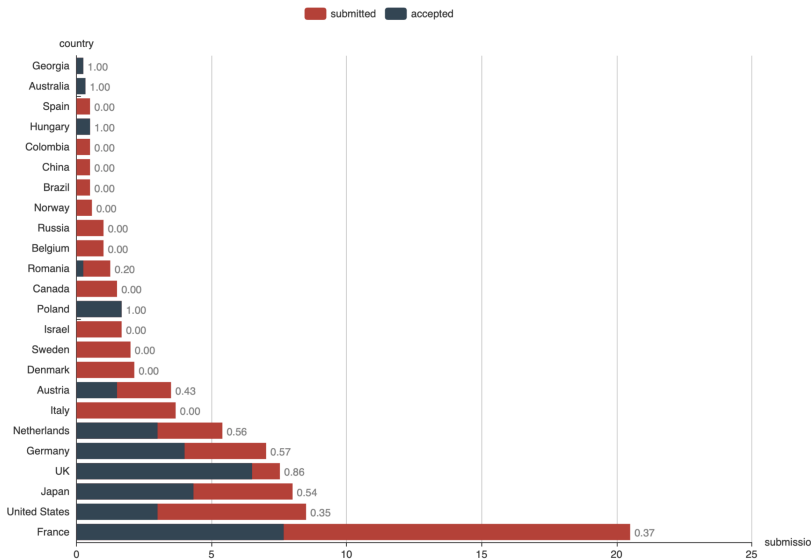|			
Abstract:	February ~~6~~ 10	Rebuttal:	March ~~27-29~~ 28-30
Submission:	February ~~9~~ 13	Notification:	April 13
Final version:	~~April 27~~ May 4		

Submissions by date

- ▶ 40 more abstract submissions
- ▶ 26 actual papers (13 did not come through)
- ▶ 1 was withdrawn
- ▶ 12 were accepted

Submissions

	FSCD2016	FSCD2017	FSCD2018	FSCD2019	FSCD2020
Abstracts	100	98	81	77	101
Sub.	82	77	65	70	82
Sub. (reg)	77	74	62	69	75
Sub. (sys)	5	3	3	1	7
Accept.	32	29	27	30	33
Accept. (reg)	28	29	26	29	28
Accept. (sys)	4	0	1	1	5
Accept. rate (reg)	36%	39%	42%	42%	37%
Accept. rate (tot)	39%	37%	42%	42%	40%
Reviews	262	232	200	212	253
Ext. reviewers	114	105	108	105	95

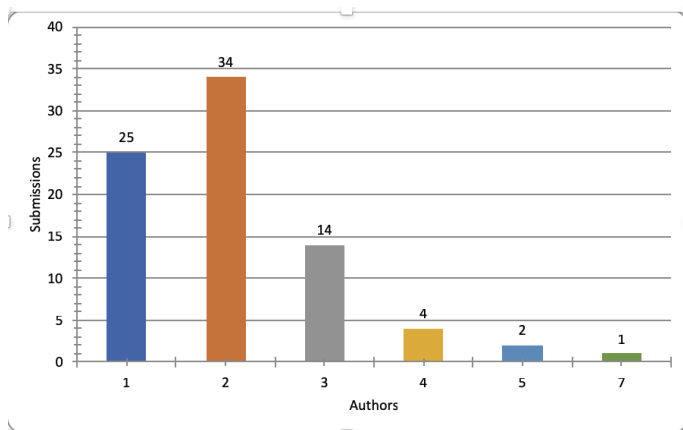▶ Only 81% of the abstracts were finally submitted, compared to the 90% in 2019

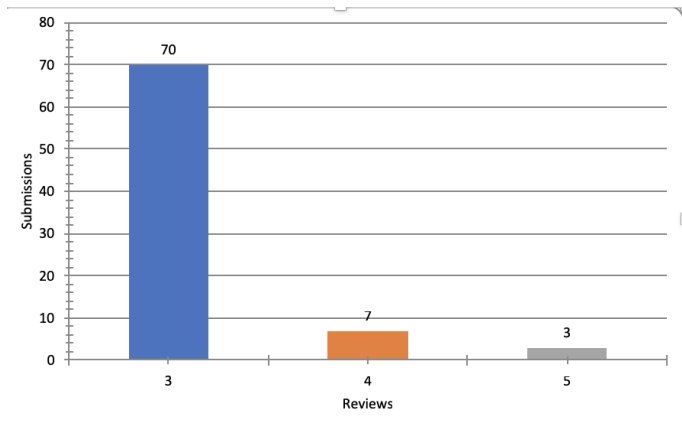# Number of Submissions and Acceptance Rate by Country

Authors by country

country	authors	submitted	accepted	accept. rate	PC members
Australia	1	0,33	0,33	1	0
Austria	8	3,5	1,5	0,43	1
Belgium	2	1	0	0	0
Brazil	1	0,5	0	0	1
Canada	3	1,5	0	0	0
China	1	0,5	0	0	0
Colombia	1	0,5	0	0	0
Denmark	4	2,14	0	0	0
France	32	20,5	7,67	0,37	5
Georgia	1	0,25	0,25	1	0
Germany	16	7,02	4	0,57	2
Hungary	1	0,5	0,5	1	0
Iceland	0	0	0	0	1
Israel	4	1,67	0	0	0
Italy	6	3,67	0	0	2
Japan	17	8	4,33	0,54	2
Netherlands	9	5,4	3	0,56	2
Norway	4	0,57	0	0	0
Poland	4	1,67	1,67	1	1
Portugal	0	0	0	0	1
Romania	3	1,25	0,25	0,2	0
Russia	1	1	0	0	0
Serbia	0	0	0	0	1
Slovenia	0	0	0	0	1
Spain	1	0,5	0	0	1
Sweden	3	2	0	0	1
United Kingdom	16	7,53	6,5	0,86	3
United States	14	8,5	3	0,35	10

Number of Authors per Submission

- ▶ France (10), USA (3), NL (3), the remaining one were from Japan, Germany, Austria, Italy, UK, Sweden, Russia, and Denmark.

- ▶ 6 of the single-author papers got accepted

Number of Reviews per Submission

The reviewing process took place over a period of eight weeks.

Rebuttal

- Limit of 1200 words

- Only 5 submissions did not have a rebuttal :
  - Clear accept: Accept, Accept, Accept
    Accept, Accept, Weak Accept

  - Clear reject: Reject, Reject, Weak Reject (2)
    Reject, Reject, Reject

- Very lively discussions: 535 comments; 92 reviews were modified, sometimes by modifying the scores; all submissions were discussed, at least by the PC members involved.

- The discussion ran from April 1 until April 13 (a bit too short!)

- We accepted 28 regular papers and 5 system description papers.

- One paper submitted as a research paper was accepted as a system description

Best Paper Awards by junior researchers

- At least one author is a junior researcher, i.e. either a student or whose PhD award date is less than three years from the first day of the meeting

- Other authors should declare to the PC Chair that at least 50% of contribution is made by the junior researcher(s).

- Among the eligible ones, those that had an average score in Easychair greater than or equal to 1.6 out of 2.0 were selected. That resulted in 7 candidates, which included a single-authored paper, one with all junior authors and a system description

- In consultation with the SC chair, it was decided to give two Best Paper Awards

- During the process, many PC members expressed the difficulty in comparing a single junior authored paper with a paper co-authored with an established researcher.

Best Paper Award by junior researchers

A vote resulted in the papers written by junior researchers only

▶ Efficient Full Higher-Order Unification.
  Petar Vukmirović, Alexander Bentkamp and Visa Nummelin.

▶ Undecidability of Semi-unification on a Napkin.
  Andrej Dudenhefner.

The award came with € 600

- ▶ Since the system description paper received also a good number of votes, we introduced the Best System Description Award by junior researchers

- ▶ We had 2 candidates, and one of them was selected with a vote

Resource-Aware Session Types with Arithmetic Refinements.
Ankush Das (co-authored with Frank Pfenning).

Proceedings

- The Proceedings are published as volume 167 of Leibniz Center for Informatics (LIPics) and available online at

  `https://drops.dagstuhl.de/opus/portals/lipics/index.php?semnr=16152`

- Since 2016 LIPIcs has improved a lot. In 2016 Delia and Brigitte had to enter all the metadata of the proceedings by hand.

- Excellent support from Michael Wagner and Michael Didas

- A LMCS (Logical Methods in Computer Science) special issue for the best papers of FSCD 2020 is planned with Delia Kesner as co-editor

Program - Invited Speakers

- Started with 87 suggested names

- PC picked 4 names from that list, taking into consideration distribution of topics, gender, and country.

- The list of nominees with at least 4 votes (9 names) was then passed along to the Steering Committee for their comments and suggestions

- A vote led to
    - René Thiemann (FSCD-IJCAR).
      Certifying Termination Proofs: From Term Rewriting to SMT Solving and Back

    - Simona Ronchi della Rocca.
      A foundational lambda calculus for probabilistic computation

    - Andrew Pitts. Quotients in Dependent Type Theory

    - Brigitte Pientka. A Modal Analysis of Metaprogramming

  The invited speakers also contributed two papers, which went through a light reviewing process.

Thanks to:

- Delia Kesner

- Sandra Alves, Publicity Chair

- Stefano Guerrini, Conference Chair

- Giulio Manzonetto, Workshops chair

- Steering committee

- Program Committee and external reviewers

- Invited speakers

- Authors of submitted papers

- All virtual participants of the conference