

Preface

The 21st Italian Conference on Theoretical Computer Science (ICTCS 2020) was held online on September 14–16, 2020, hosted by the University of Salerno. ICTCS 2020 was supposed to be held in Ischia (Italy) but due to the worldwide evolution of COVID-19, it was moved online. ICTCS is the annual conference of the Italian Chapter of the European Association for Theoretical Computer Science (IC-EATCS). The purpose of the meeting is to foster the cross-fertilization of ideas stemming from different areas of theoretical computer science. In particular, ICTCS provides an ideal environment where junior researchers and PhD students can meet senior researchers. The topics of interest include, but are not limited to, the following: agents, algorithms, argumentation, automata theory, complexity theory, computational logic, computational social choice, concurrency theory, cryptography, discrete mathematics, distributed computing, dynamical systems, formal methods, game theory, graph theory, knowledge representation, languages, model checking, process algebras, quantum computing, rewriting systems, security and trust, semantics, specification and verification, systems biology, theorem proving, type theory.

ICTCS 2020 received 35 submissions (23 regular papers and 12 communications), of which 29 were accepted for presentation at the conference and then published on <http://ceur-ws.org/> (18 regular papers and 11 communications). Each submission was assessed by at least 3 reviewers, for a total of 58 reviewers (29 program committee members plus 29 additional reviewers) producing 105 reviews overall. The authors of the accepted contributions mostly came from Italy. Foreign authors came from India (7), Germany (3), Spain (1), South Africa (1), Turkey (1), UK (2), Switzerland (2), France (2). ICTCS 2020 was attended by 72 people.

In addition to the invited talks given by Paolo Boldi (University of Milano) and Paolo Ferragina (University of Pisa) the conference included the IC-EATCS annual meeting, the award ceremony for the IC-EATCS best young researcher Pietro Sala (who gave an invited talk too), the IC-EATCS best PhD thesis by Nikos Parotsidis, and the best MSc thesis by Alessio Mazzetto. Finally, on the second day there was a panel on GRIN ed Informatica teorica (the Italian group of Informatics and the theoretical computer science), chaired by Angelo Montanari (University of Udine, president of IC-EATCS), with panelists Tiziana Calamoneri (Sapienza University of Rome), Paolo Ciancarini (University of Bologna) and Pierpaolo Degano (University of Pisa). The organizing team was formed by Gennaro Cordasco (University della Campania “L. Vanvitelli”), Luisa Gargano (University of Salerno) and Adele A. Rescigno (University of Salerno).

We wish to thank the program committee members, the additional reviewers, the invited speakers, the authors, and all the participants. Special thanks go to Angelo Montanari for his suggestions during the organization of the conference, the Department of Computer Science at the University of Salerno and the University of Salerno for the financial support.

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Gennaro Cordasco, Luisa Gargano and Adele A. Rescigno