

Report on Third Workshop on Fairness, Accountability, Transparency, Ethics and Society on the Web (FATES 2021)

Colocated with the Web Conference (WWW 2021)

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Virtual Conference

Due to COVID-19, the Web Conference and all associated workshops were held as virtual events. The session for FATES2021 occurred on April 12 from 1:30-5 PM Central Europe Time. We had 4 long papers, 1 short paper and 1 discussion paper. Lucy Vasserman from Jigsaw/Google gave a keynote address, "AI Principles in Identifying Toxicity in Online Conversation". Videos of the majority of presentations are available from the [FATES website \(http://fates.isti.cnr.it\)](http://fates.isti.cnr.it). Several presenters asked that their videos not be posted.

Submission/Review

We received 8 proposals for full, short and discussion papers. We evaluated them regarding relevance, quality, and novelty, selecting 6 papers: 4 full, 1 short and 1 discussion (the discussion papers did not appear in the proceedings) for an acceptance rate of 66%.

We had a substantially lower number of submissions (8 vs. 20) in 2021 than the year before. This seemed to be a common experience for other similar workshops. It is hard to know if it is due to COVID or other factors. In 2022, FATES is shifting from a workshop to a special track at the Web Conference, [WebForGood](#). We have actively involved organizers of other similar workshops in the PC. It may return to a workshop in subsequent years.

Statistics were as follows.

Submission Type	Reviewed	Accepted	Acceptance rate
Full Technical Papers	5	4	80%
Short Technical Papers	2	1	50%
Discussion Papers	1	1	100%
Overall	8	6	75%

The five full and short technical papers were published as part of the Proceedings of International World Wide Web Conference (WWW'21) and are available in the [ACM Digital Library](#). The discussion paper is not included in the proceedings.

Papers

The titles of the full papers are:

- *Fairness beyond “equal”: The Diversity Searcher as a tool to detect and enhance the representation of socio-political actors in news media*, Bettina Berendt (TU Berlin and KU Leuven), Özgür Karadeniz, Stefan Mertens and Leen d’Haenens (KU LEuven)
- *Characterizing and Comparing COVID-19 Misinformation Across Languages, Countries and Platforms*, Golshan Madraki, Isabella Grasso, Jacqueline Ojala, Yu Liu and Jeanna Matthews (Clarkson University)

- *Automating Fairness Configurations for Machine Learning*, Haipei Sun, Yiding Yang, Yanying Li, Huihui Liu, Xinchao Wang and Wendy Hui Wang (Stevens Institute of technology)
- *Political Polarization and Platform Migration: A Study of Parler and Twitter Usage by United States of America Congress Members*, Jacqueline Otala, Gillian Kurtic, Isabella Grasso, Jeanna Matthews, Yu Liu and Golshan Madraki (Clarkson University)

The title of the short paper is:

- *Auditing source diversity bias in video search results using virtual agents*, Aleksandra Urman (University of Bern & University of Zurich) , Mykola Makhortykh (University of Bern) and Roberto Ulloa (GESIS – Leibniz Institute for the Social Sciences)

The title of the discussion paper is:

- *Exploring Racial Bias in Classifiers for Face Recognition* Jaeju An (Eulji University) , Bosung Yang (Ajou University, Jeongho Kim, Simon S. Woo and Geonwoo Park (Sungkyunkwan University)

Organizing Committee

Jeanna Matthews | Clarkson University, USA

Chiara Renso | ISTI – CNR, Italy

Reviewers

Virgilio Almeida | Federal University of Minas Gerais, Brazil | Berkman Klein Center for Internet and Society, USA

Ricardo Baeza-Yates | Northeastern University, USA | Universitat Pompeu Fabra (Spain) | Universidad de Chile (Chile)

Bettina Berendt | Univ. of Leuven, Belgium & TU-Berlin University, Germany

Heloisa Candello | IBM Research, Brazil

Diogo Cortiz | Ceweb.br at Brazilian Network Information Center (NIC.br) and PUC São Paulo, Brazil

Josep Domingo-Ferrer | Rovira i Virgili University, Catalonia

Jean Garcia-Gathright | Spotify, USA

Maysa Malfiza Garcia de Macedo | IBM Research, Brazil

Eduardo Graells | Barcelona Supercomputing Center, Universidad del Desarrollo, Chile

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