

IJCAR 2020 Conference Chair Report

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IJCAR Business Meeting

A quick history

- ▶ 2018: we placed the bid for IJCAR + FSCD in Paris in 2020
- ▶ Mid 2019: ITP (re-)joined IJCAR for one more tour
- ▶ Late 2019: Petri Nets also decided to join, and we became the **Summer of Logic and Verification 2020**
- ▶ Later 2019: 24 workshops and events joined us!
- ▶ Very late 2019: SARS-CoV-19 jumped to humans from other animals; this has made many people very angry and has been widely regarded as a bad move.
- ▶ March 2020: We had to cancel all our plans
- ▶ Early April 2020: 5 workshops decided to cancel / postpone
- ▶ Late April 2020: IJCAR + FSCD SCs settle on virtual meeting on Zoom (despite all caveats)
- ▶ Now: we're here

Support Acknowledgement

Part 1

- ▶ CNRS and LIPN, Université Sorbonne Paris 13
- ▶ LIX, École polytechnique, Institut polytechnique de Paris

Based on this seed funding we had applied (and received) a number of other grants. Unfortunately, all these grants backed out as soon as we entered the Covid-19 shutdown.

Part 2

- ▶ The Automated Reasoning Group of Amazon Web Services gave us very generous support
 - ▶ We could make registrations free to everyone at IJCAR-FSCD and all affiliated workshops
 - ▶ Check them out, they're a pretty cool bunch!
- ▶ Tezos: promised some support in case we need it

Affiliated Workshops

15 workshops kept the faith

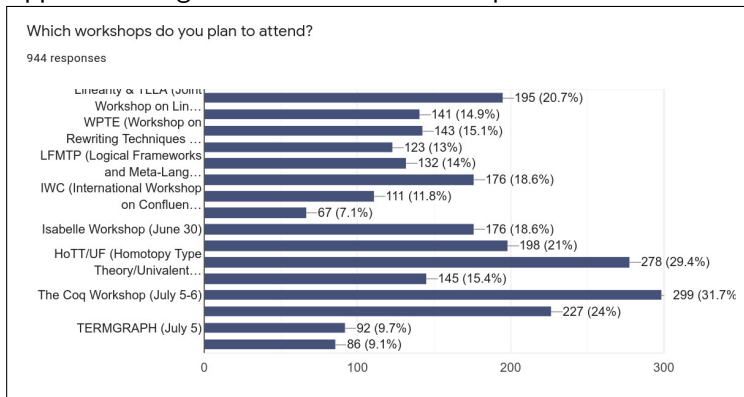
- ▶ Linearity & TLLA (Joint Workshop on Linearity and Trends in Linear Logic and Applications, June 29-30)
- ▶ UNIF (Workshop on Unification, June 29)
- ▶ WPTE (Workshop on Rewriting Techniques for Program Transformations and Evaluation, June 29)
- ▶ Proof Ground (June 29)
- ▶ LFMTTP (Logical Frameworks and Meta-Languages: Theory and Practice, June 29)
- ▶ WiL (Women in Logic, June 30)
- ▶ IWC (International Workshop on Confluence, June 30)
- ▶ IFIP WG 1.6 (June 30)
- ▶ Isabelle Workshop (June 30)
- ▶ PAAR (Practical Aspects of Automated Reasoning, June 30)
- ▶ HoTT/UF (Homotopy Type Theory/Univalent Foundations, July 5-6)
- ▶ GeoCat (Geometric and Categorical Structures for Computation and Deduction, July 5-6)
- ▶ The Coq Workshop (July 5-6)
- ▶ SMT (Satisfiability Modulo Theories, July 5-6)
- ▶ TERMGRAPH (July 5)

Affiliated Events

- ▶ CASC-J10 (The CADE ATP Systems Competition)
- ▶ Termination and Complexity Competition 2020

Participation

- ▶ 858 registrants as of 2020-07-02 00:00:00 UTC+2
- ▶ Approx 950 registrations to the workshops



- ▶ This has got to be some kind of record, right?

Service Acknowledgement

Once we had to back out of our event management contract, we were left with the problem of managing everything by ourselves!

- ▶ **THIS IS NOT FUN!**
- ▶ **Google** really saved our hinds:
 - ▶ **Forms + Sheets**: registration and registrant management
 - ▶ **Youtube**: live streaming and recording
- ▶ **Zoom** (paid): platform for meetings and webinars
 - ▶ Video stream quality, noise cancellation: pretty good
 - ▶ Customer service: *execrable*
- ▶ **FileRun**: File-server (virtual)
 - ▶ Absolutely essential to provide to such large meetings
- ▶ **Easychair** (paid): common license for all conferences and workshops. You all know Easychair.
- ▶ **FFmpeg** and **Blender**: transcoding all submitted videos to a consistent bitrate MP4

Soapboxing

- ▶ Please let's just have virtual participation *as an additional offering* for all events in the future
 - ▶ Let's not make participation in scientific meetings contingent on wasting (largely taxpayer) money and polluting the planet
 - ▶ In-person participants still get to enjoy all the benefits of meeting other people
- ▶ Let's rethink conference registration and participation
 - ▶ A free or very low cost virtual offering is great!
 - ▶ Recording talks is great!
Guarantees an ever growing audience
- ▶ Let's rethink conference talks modes as well
 - ▶ Having the option of pre-recorded talks is great!
 - ▶ Preparing a pre-recorded talk lets you say exactly what you wanted to say, nothing more or less
 - ▶ The ability to speak extemporaneously in English is an arbitrary skill that has no correlation to the ability to do good science