The First Virtual Conference on Neural Information Processing Systems (NeurIPS) Drives Engagement on the Research and Science of AI and ML

2020 Virtual format due to COVID-19 Pandemic features an extensive global agenda and growth in attendance over previous years

San Diego, California, December 7, 2020 — The 2020 Conference on Neural Information Processing Systems (NeurIPS), one of the premier gatherings in artificial intelligence and machine learning, is anticipating more than 20,000 virtual participants at this year's virtual conference, to be held December 6th – 12th. The NeurIPS Organizing Committee has taken extraordinary steps to ensure the global success of this year's virtual event. A full agenda can be found by visiting the NeurIPS conference schedule page.

The annual meeting aims to foster the exchange of research on neural information processing systems from biological, technological, mathematical, and theoretical perspectives. Over the course of the week, participants can virtually join the Expo, where top industry sponsors give talks, panels and demos that are of academic interest; tutorials, which cover current lines of inquiry; affinity group meetings; the opening talk; general sessions, which include talks, posters and demonstrations; and workshops, smaller meetings providing opportunities for less formal discussions on cutting-edge topics.

The Organizing Committee for this year's conference is led by General Chair Hugo Larochelle, a research scientist at Google Brain and Program Chair Marc'Aurelio Ranzato from Facebook AI Research. The Organizing Committee program co-chairs are Raia Hadsell, DeepMind; Maria Florina Balcan, Carnegie Mellon University; and Hsuan-Tien Lin, National Taiwan University.

This year's program will feature up to 7 tracks of core content, 60 workshops, and 16 tutorials. 9,467 papers were submitted for consideration by the program committee. The 1,898 that were accepted will be presented during poster sessions.

Awards

- **Best Paper Award:**
  - "Language Models are Few-Shot Learners"
  - Authors: Tom Brown, Benjamin Mann, Nick Ryder, Melanie Subbiah, Jared Kaplan, Prafulla Dhariwal, Arvind Neelakantan, Pranav Shyam, Girish Sastry,

Amanda Askell, Sandhini Agarwal, Ariel Herbert-Voss, Gretchen Krueger, Tom Henighan, Rewon Child, Aditya Ramesh, Daniel M. Ziegler, Jeffrey Wu, Clemens Winter, Christopher Hesse, Mark Chen, Eric Sigler, Mateusz Litwin, Scott Gray, Benjamin Chess, Jack Clark, Christopher Berner, Sam McCandlish, Alec Radford, Ilya Sutskever, Dario Amodei
    - Institution: OpenAI
- **Best Paper Award:**
    - "No-Regret Learning Dynamics for Extensive-Form Correlated Equilibrium"
    - Authors: Andrea Celli (Polimi), Alberto Marchesi (Polimi), Gabriele Farina (CM) and Nicola Gatti (Polimi)
    - Institutions: Politecnico di Milano and Carnegie Mellon University
- **Best Paper Award:**
    - "Improved guarantees and a multiple-descent curve for Column Subset Selection and the Nystrom method"
    - Authors: Michał Dereziński, Rajiv Khanna, Michael W. Mahoney
    - Institution: University of California, Berkeley
- **Test-of-Time Award:**
    - Hogwild: A Lock-Free Approach to Parallelizing Stochastic Gradient Descent (NeurIPS 2011)
    - Authors: Benjamin Recht, Christopher Re, Stephen Wright, Feng Niu
    - Institution: University of Wisconsin-Madison (at the time)

About the Conference on Neural Information Processing Systems

For 34 years, the Neural Information Processing Systems conference has been held at various locations around the world. The conference is organized by the Neural Information Processing Systems Foundation, a non-profit corporation whose purpose is to foster insights into solving difficult problems by bringing together researchers from biological, psychological, technological, mathematical, and theoretical areas of science and engineering. The 2020 NeurIPS is the first to be held virtually, in response to the COVID-19 Pandemic.

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