

Report on the SICSA sponsored event: Data-driven modelling and analysis of complex systems

The School of Computing Science hosted the first workshop on “Data-driven modelling and analysis of complex systems” (DDMACS) on 19 March 2018, organised by Dr Oana Andrei (School of Computing Science, University of Glasgow) and Dr Vashti Galpin (School of Informatics, University of Edinburgh).

The aim of this workshop was to foster a cross-disciplinary community bringing together researchers from SICSA institutions interested in the combined application of data-driven techniques and computational modelling and analysis methods to real world problems. We addressed current challenges and relevant questions, and shared experiences on creating data-driven models amenable to rigorous analysis and verification techniques. The target audience included research students, postdoctoral researchers, and academic staff, who work in the areas of data-driven computational modelling and knowledge management and discovery.

The DDMACS workshop had two invited speakers:

- Dr Leif Azzopardi (Chancellor’s Fellow at the University of Strathclyde, leader of the Interactive Information Retrieval group) talking about “Modelling How People Search”, and
- Prof Jane Hillston FRSE (School of Informatics, University of Edinburgh) talking about “Moment-based Availability Prediction for Bike-Sharing Systems”.

We had five contributed talks given by: Juan Afanador (University of Aberdeen), Anthony Chapman (University of Aberdeen), Tom Dalton (University of St Andrews), Tim Storer (University of Glasgow), Chika Eucharia Ugwuanyi (University of Strathclyde).

All of the talks were well-received, the environment was friendly and stimulated interactions between participants and discussions during and after the presentations. This event was particularly a great opportunity for the four PhD students presenting their current work to receive constructive feedback and stimulate discussions from such a diverse, cross-disciplinary community.

The event was a success with 21 registered participants attending (out of 30 registered on Eventbrite) from 7 Scottish Universities (Aberdeen, Abertay, Edinburgh, Glasgow, Robert Gordon, St Andrews, Strathclyde) and 5 unregistered participants from the School of Computing Science, University of Glasgow.

The website of the workshop is <http://www.dcs.gla.ac.uk/~oandrei/ddmacs18/>