

Preface: The 2021 ACM SIGKDD Workshop on Causal Discovery

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Discovering causal relationships is the ultimate goal of many scientific explorations. However, it is not feasible to conduct randomized controlled trials in most cases. Discovering causal relationships in large databases of observational data is therefore very important, but it is also a challenging problem. There has been an increasing interest in discovering causal relationships based on observational data, and in the past few decades, significant contributions have been made to this field by computer scientists. We have seen a diverse group of audiences in our workshop in the last few year. This year, the workshop is held

virtually in conjunction with the 2021 International Conference on Knowledge Discovery and Data Mining (KDD 2021), 14-18 August, 2021, which provides the workshop with the opportunity to attract contributions from the data mining community especially.

The workshop has received 8 high-quality submissions. After a careful review process with each paper being reviewed by 4-5 experts, four papers have been selected for publishing in the *Proceedings of Machine Learning Research*, Volume 150, 2021 and presenting at CD 2021. The workshop features two keynote speeches by Professor Kun Zhang from Carnegie Mellon University and Professor Shohei Shimizu from Shiga University and RIKEN.

We would like to thank all the people who have contributed to the workshop. In particular, we thank all authors who have submitted their papers to CD 2021 and the PC members for their timely and high-quality reviews. It would not be possible for the workshop to succeed without your involvement. We are grateful to KDD 2021 for their support, especially to the workshop chairs for their help and cooperation. We also thank the Series Editors at *Proceedings of Machine Learning Research*, Professor Neil Lawrence and Dr Mark Reid for their help in publishing the workshop proceedings.

Finally, we would like to thank you, the participants of the workshop and the readers of the proceedings. We hope you enjoy the workshop and the papers.

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