

Conference on Learning Theory 2016: Preface

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These proceedings contain the 63 papers accepted to and presented at the 29th Conference on Learning Theory (COLT), held in New York, USA on June 23-26, 2016. These papers were selected by the program committee with additional help from external expert reviewers from 199 submissions. Of the 63 papers, 18 were given a 20-minute presentation, the remaining 45 a 10-minute presentation.

These proceedings also contain the 6 submissions to the Open Problems session. Selection of the submissions was handled by the Open Problem Chair, Shai Shalev-Shwartz.

In addition to the papers and open problems published in these proceedings, the conference program also included two invited talks: “Randomized Algorithms in Linear Algebra” by Ravi Kannan (Microsoft Research), and “Testing properties of distributions over big domains” by Ronitt Rubinfeld (MIT and Tel-Aviv University).

The paper “Multi-scale Exploration of Convex Functions and Bandit Convex Optimization” by Sébastien Bubeck and Ronen Eldan received the Best Paper Award, and the paper “Provably Manipulation-resistant Reputation Systems” by Paul Christiano received the Best Student Paper Award.

The local arrangements chairs were Daniel Hsu and Satyen Kale, and the publication chair was Ohad Shamir. We would like to express our gratitude to the entire program committee and to the external reviewers for their invaluable contributions to the success of conference.

Finally, we would like to thank our generous sponsors: Two Sigma; Engineers Gate; Microsoft; Baidu Research; Facebook, Columbia University Data Science Institute; Google; Amazon; and Springer’s Machine Learning Journal.

Vitaly Feldman and Alexander Rakhlin

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