

Dear TC15 members,

Welcome to the **March 2021 edition of the TC15 newsletter**. All the chairs of the TC15 hope this newsletter finds you in good health. After several months of absence, this edition provides a lot of interesting information about our community

Some updated Calls for Papers are also included below with information about recent datasets, books and Call for papers.

PhD, post-doctoral positions or young researcher's CV dealing with Graphs could also be included in future newsletters. Do not hesitate to send us (ramel@univ-tours.fr) brief abstracts, we will be pleased to include them in the next TC15 newsletter

Best regards
Jean-Yves Ramel
TC15 newsletter editor

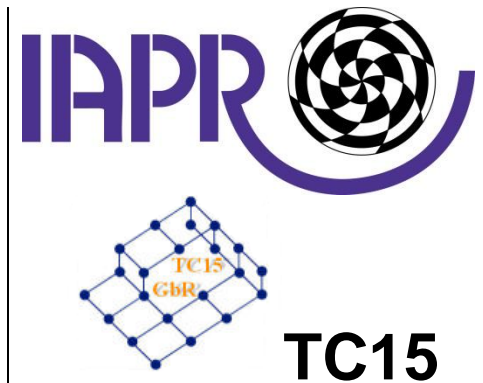


Table of content

- Brief presentation of Donatello Conte, new chair of the TC15
- Declaration of intent of the new chairs and steering committee of TC15
- Call for Goodwil
- New datasets, books or PhD about Graphs
- Upcoming conferences and Call for papers
 - GLESDO 2021
 - DVU 2021

Brief presentation of Donatello Conte, new chair of the TC15



Donatello Conte received his Ph.D. degree in 2006 by a joint supervision between LIRIS laboratory of the INSA of Lyon (France) and MIVIA laboratory of the University of Salerno (Italy). He has been an Assistant Professor from 2006 to 2013, in Italy at the University of Salerno. From 2013 to date, he is Associate Professor at the Computer Science Laboratory of the University of Tours. He is currently head of the Computer Science Department at Polytech Tours School of Engineering.

Currently he is co-head of the RFAI team at the Computer Science Laboratory and he participates, as member and sometimes as local coordinator, to several regional projects on image and video analysis.

His main research fields are: structural pattern recognition (graph matching, graph kernels, combinatorial maps), video analysis (objects detection and tracking, trajectories analysis, behavioral analysis, etc.), and affective computing (emotion recognition, multimodality analysis for affective analysis, physiological measures by video analysis, etc.). He is the author of more than 70 publications and reviewers in the main journals in his research field (PAMI, PR, CVIU, TIP, etc.).

Declaration of intent of the new chairs and steering committee of TC15

Dear TC15 members,

It is with great pleasure to inform you that I have just been appointed as chair of this TC, together with Vincenzo as vice-chair.

Last week we had a fruitful discussion with the steering committee and we talked about actions we will plan to do in next years.

I would like to share with you these points, and ask to give back us your opinion.

1. Extend the community: we are talking about how to attract people to this technical committee. You surely know that graphs are more and more used in many research fields, in particular in machine learning (with deep learning), but also in databases, bioinformatics, and so on. We plan to organize web seminar and invite people from other communities to share ideas around graphs. We discussed about the risk of losing TC15 identity in the great mass of researchers who work on these subjects; But at the same time, to avoid the risk of marginalization, it's also important to deal with these hot topics. Briefly it's a good idea to try to attract more people from other communities, but we will pay attention to keep our identity, and especially export our know-how to other communities.

2. COST Action: we plan to help Benoit Gauzère in mouting COST action to submit for funding to European Research Commission. We think Benoit did a great job last year to propose this European Project, that could not be submitted just for administrative reasons. He is willing to submit this project again and we believe in this initiative and want to help him. We will investigate on how to enforce the connection between our COST project and the IAPR TC15. It may be some support activities from IAPR which could enhance the chance the project to be accepted.

3. Web site and communication: we plan to redesign the website to make it more attractive. We want to open us to social media too, because now online exchanges are more and more usual: so we plan to open some social media accounts, like twitter and others, organize some online events (e.g. web seminar), etc. We discussed with the steering committee also about organization of a summer school on TC15 key topics, or even sharing lectures between research groups. To do this we need people, especially young people, who want to get involved in TC15 activities. We prepared and send you a call for goodwill to ask people to help us contributing to the growth of TC15.

4. GbR workshop: We had a long discussion about GbR workshop. As everyone knows, current situation does not allow to organize physical events, and the situation will remain uncertain for a long time. The discussion was if we have to organize a virtual meeting in 2021 or a physical one in 2022. Both solution have advantages and disadvantages. Furthermore in 2022 there will be a congestion of physically events, we risk not having many submissions. Therefore, we decided to try to organize, exceptionally for this edition, GbR workshop jointly with S+SSPR2022, ideally with a special session devoted to graph-based representation for pattern recognition. I contacted Andrea Torsello, the current TC2 chair, to investigate this possibility. He replies me that he thinks a GbR session within S+SSPR could be arranged, but for the moment they are still in the process of defining the organization of S+SSPR. I will keep you informed of the progress.

I am very excited to begin this term. I hope that we can all work together to keep this community alive. I hope to meet all of you, as soon as possible, in person when things will be better.

Donatello Conte, chair
Vincenzo Carletti, vice-chair

Call for Goodwill

We are calling on the goodwill of anyone who would like to help in the development of TC15 activities. Here you are a list of activities that need your help, but options are not limited to that. And if you have other ideas, do not hesitate to propose them.

- Design and updating of the website
- Creating and maintaining a channel for TC15 in social media like twitter, Instagram, etc.
- Managing one or more open groups to develop the discussion around TC15 topics
- Help in setting up the European COST project led by Benoit Gauzère
- Design and maintaining a repository for graph databases and algorithms

If you are interested to this call, please contact us (Donatello Conte donatello.conte@univ-tours.fr, Vincenzo Carletti vcarletti@unisa.it).

New datasets, books or PhD about Graphs

Pattern Recognition Letters. Special issue on Applications of Graph-based Techniques to Pattern Recognition. Volume 134, June 2020, Edited by Pasquale Foggia, Mario Vento, Cheng-Lin Liu
<https://www.sciencedirect.com/journal/pattern-recognition-letters/vol/134/suppl/C>

Open Graph Benchmark - Benchmark datasets, data loaders and evaluators for graph machine learning
The Open Graph Benchmark (OGB) is a collection of realistic, large-scale, and diverse benchmark datasets for machine learning on graphs. OGB datasets are automatically downloaded, processed, and split using the OGB Data Loader. The model performance can be evaluated using the OGB Evaluator in a unified manner. OGB is a community-driven initiative in active development.
<https://ogb.stanford.edu/kddcup2021/>

Repository for benchmarking graph neural networks - Authors: Dwivedi, Vijay Prakash and Joshi, Chaitanya K and Laurent, Thomas and Bengio, Yoshua and Bresson, Xavier
<https://github.com/graphdeeplearning/benchmarking-gnns>

Upcoming conferences & Call for papers

GLESDO 2021

1st International workshop on Graph Representation Learning for Scanned Document Analysis,
As part of ICDAR conference

<p><i>Important dates</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Workshop paper submission due: May 01, 2021• Workshop paper notifications: June 21, 2021• Camera-ready versions due: July 05, 2021• Workshop: September 05, 2021 (Half-Day) <p><i>Topics</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Deep learning for graph• Probabilistic graphical models for graphs• Graph-based approaches for text mining• Graph-based approaches for spatial component in scanned document	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Graph representation learning for NLP• Graph-based approaches using kernels• Spectral graph clustering• Semi-supervised graph-based methods• Dynamic graph analysis• Information Retrieval and Extraction using Graph-based methods• Knowledge graph for semantic document analysis• ...
---	---

Web site: <https://www.glesdo-icdar2021.ml>

DVU 2021 : DVU-Challenge 2021

Deep Video Understanding - ACM Multimedia Grand Challenge,

<p><i>Important dates</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• DVU development data release: April 19, 2021• Testing dataset release : May 1, 2021• Testing queries release : June 6, 2021• Run submissions due to organizers: July 11, 2021• Paper submission deadline: July 11, 2021• Results released back to participants: TBD<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Notification to authors: TBD• camera-ready submission: TBD• ACM Multimedia dates: October 20 - 24, 2021	<p><i>Topics / Example of challenges:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Multiple choice question answering on part of Knowledge Graph for selected movies.• Possible path analysis between persons / entities of interest in a Knowledge Graph extracted from selected movies.• Fill in the Graph Space - Given a partial graph, systems will be asked to fill in the graph space.• Match between selected scenes and set of scene descriptions written in natural language...
---	---

Web site: <https://sites.google.com/view/dvuchallenge2021/home/call-for-participation>