

## Report on AMBN 2015

Cosponsored by JSAI (The Japanese Society for Artificial Intelligence) and AIST (The National Institute of Advanced Industrial Science and Technology), the Second International Workshop on Advanced Methodologies for Bayesian Networks (AMBN 2015) was held as a part of JSAI International Symposia at Raiosha building in Keio University Hiyoshi Campus, Yokohama, Japan during November 16 (Monday) through 18 (Wednesday), 2015, and forty-eight participated the conference.

This time Joe Suzuki (Osaka Univ) and Maomi Ueno (University of Electric Communications) organized the conference and were PC co-Chairs.

<http://ambn2015.bayesnet.org/index.html>

AMBN concerns on learning, inference, causal discovery, and their applications on graphical models such as Bayesian and Markov networks, and the first conference was held in November, 2010 in Tamachi (Tokyo) as a part of JSAI International Symposia.



AMBN 2015 invited six speakers such as Russell Almond (Florida State University, USA) 、 Aapo Hyvarinen (University of Helsinki, Finland) 、 Brandon Malone (Max Planck Institute, Germany) 、 Changhe Yuan (Queens College/CUNY, USA) 、 Cassio P. de Campos

(Queens University, UK) 、 Shohei Shimizu (Osaka university, Japan) and organized seven sessions including three special sessions: Finding an

optimal Bayesian network structure from data, Genome analysis based on Bayesian networks, Causal Discovery.

Twenty six contributed talks were presented and discussed.

In particular, for three invited talks and fifteen contributed talks, the papers are to be published as the Lecture Notes on Lecture Notes on Artificial Intelligence (LNAI, volume number 9505), from Springer in mid January, 2016. The JSAI International Symposia is also to publish a LNAI volume

but the volume of AMBN is independent and separated from it. In particular for AMBN 2015, those papers contained in LNAI were selected before conference when they were submitted and reviewed. The PC consists of twenty six members (nine and seventeen from within Japan and from outside Japan, respectively), and for each submitted paper, at least three PC members reviewed. Besides the scores, they commented about novelty, technical quality, potential impact and significance, and quality of writing.

On the first evening (November 16), Welcome Party was held in Faculty Lounge in the campus, and thirty participated it.



The next AMBN is to be held and organized by Shohei Shimizu (Osaka University) in 2017.

AMBN 2015 sincerely thanks JSAI board members for giving suggestions about organizing the conference, AIST for financially supporting the conference, and Springer Verlag for allowing us to publish a LNAL volume, and all other organizations and individuals.