

Message from TPC Chairs

Welcome to COMSNETS 2021! The technical program this year consists of 38 contributed papers, interspersed with 9 invited papers/talks from leading researchers across the world. As in past years, all the submissions will be published digitally in the IEEE Xplore library as the proceedings of COMSNETS. In addition, selected best papers from COMSNETS 2021 will be invited for submission of their significant extended versions at a special issue in Elsevier Ad Hoc Networks journal. A number of travel grants have also been made possible through a SIGCOMM Grant, the Lalitha and Ravindra Nath Foundation, and the COMSNETS association. COMSNETS 2021 received 142 submissions from authors located in 24 different countries of which 125 were sent for review. The final program was chosen through a rigorous review process that involved nearly 124 TPC members from academia and industry from all over the world who provided peer reviews for these submissions. All papers were sent to at least three reviewers, and conflicts were resolved by appointing additional referees wherever necessary. The whole process was mentored by the TPC chairs. Finally, we accepted 38 papers as regular papers for oral presentation. Additionally, a few borderline papers have been forwarded to the poster chairs for poster acceptance. We are grateful to all TPC members for their tremendous effort in helping us put together a strong technical program.

The accepted papers have been divided into 11 sessions covering a wide range of topics in communications and networking. Besides the main program, the conference includes 5 workshops on related topics of Cybersecurity and Blockchains, Machine Intelligence in Networked Data Systems, Last-mile Challenges and Standardization Opportunities in Smart Infrastructure, Intelligent Transportation Systems, and Networked Healthcare Technologies. The main conference also features three cutting edge panels on Cybersecurity Challenges for the Post Covid Era, Use Cases and Usage Scenarios: The Catalysts for New Technology Adoption by Vertical Industries, and AI/ML Transforming Next Generation Networks: Use Case Opportunity and Challenges. The program also includes 4 technical tutorials, engaging poster and demonstration sessions as well as a Graduate forum.

We would like to thank the COMSNETS Steering Committee for giving us the opportunity to serve as TPC Co-Chairs for this conference. Finally, we hope you enjoy the virtual conference. We hope to have a physical event in 2022 and look forward to welcoming you in Bengaluru in person for the next edition.

Sincerely,



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