1 INTRODUCTION

User modeling and personalized recommendations, often enabled by data-rich machine learning, are key enabling technologies that allow intelligent systems to learn from users, adapting their output to users’ needs and preferences. These techniques have become an essential part of systems that help users find relevant content in today’s highly complex, information-rich environments. However, there has been a growing recognition that they raise novel ethical, policy, and legal challenges. It has become apparent that a single-minded focus on the user preferences has obscured other important and beneficial outcomes such systems must be able to deliver. System properties such as fairness, transparency, balance, openness to diversity, and other social welfare considerations, are not captured by typical metrics, based on which data-driven personalized models are optimized.

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FairUMAP 2021 followed a peer review process for paper acceptance. At least two program committee members reviewed each submission. Five papers were accepted for presentation at the online event.

The contributed papers cover a wide range of the FairUMAP scope: Ahnert et al. suggested the FairCeptron framework (available at GITHUB), an approach for studying perceptions of fairness in algorithmic decision making such as in ranking or classification that supports (i) studying human perceptions of fairness and (ii) comparing these human perceptions with measures of algorithmic fairness. Giunchiglia et al. presented an exploratory work in which they put forward the notion of transparency paths, a process by which people document their position, choices and perceptions when developing and/or using algorithmic platforms. Simko et al. presented a position paper about the need for continuous independent auditing for eliminating the spread of misinformation.
especially given the dynamic and evolving communication in these networks. Hu et al. presented a survey of recent XAI studies, looking into the purpose of explanation (how and why explanations are provided), interpretation methods, the context of explanations, their format, their domain, and the stakeholders involved. Finally, Schelenz presents the need for users’ diversity in recommender systems. Her paper connects fairness to the diversity literature in the field of recommender system, specifies the tension between item-side and user-side fairness by revealing a bias in the treatment of user diversity and proposes solutions to mitigate the bias by drawing on Black feminist and critical race theory.

2.1 Program Committee
Alejandro Bellogin (Universidad Autonoma de Madrid); Ludovico Boratto (Eurecat); Pablo Castells (Universidad Autónoma de Madrid); Fausto Giunchiglia (University of Trento); Eelco Herder (Radboud University); Frank Hopfgartner (The University of Sheffield); Toshihiro Kamishima (National Institute of Advanced Industrial Science and Technology (AIST)); Maria Kasinidou (Open University of Cyprus); Pradeep Kumar (Delft University of Technology); Kalia Orphanou (Open University of Cyprus); Yong Zheng (Illinois Institute of Technology)

2.2 Organizing Committee
Bamshad Mobasher is professor of Computer Science and the director of the Center for Web Intelligence at DePaul University in Chicago.

Styliani Kleanthous is a senior researcher in the Cyprus Center for Algorithmic Transparency (CyCAT) Open University of Cyprus and CYENS Centre of Excellence, Cyprus.

Bettina Berendt is a professor in the Faculty of Electrical Engineering and Computer Science at Technische Universität Berlin, Director of the Weizenbaum Institute for the Networked Society, Berlin, and guest professor in the Declarative Languages and Artificial Intelligence Group DTAI of the Department of Computer Science at KU Leuven.

Jahna Otterbacher (Ph.D., University of Michigan at Ann Arbor, USA) founded the Cyprus Center for Algorithmic Transparency in the Faculty of Pure and Applied Sciences Open University of Cyprus, where she is currently Associate Professor. She is also a team leader of the Transparency in Algorithms Group at CYENS Centre of Excellence, Cyprus.

Robin Burke is Professor and Chair of the Department of Information Science at the University of Colorado, Boulder.

Tsvi Kuflik is a professor and former head of the Information Systems Department at the University of Haifa, Israel.

Avital Shulner Tal is a junior researcher and PhD student in the Information Systems Department at the University of Haifa, Israel.