#### Preface

This volume contains the refereed proceedings of the 7th International Conference on Analysis of Images, Social Networks, and Texts (AIST 2018)<sup>1</sup>. The previous conferences during 2012–2017 attracted a significant number of data scientists – students, researchers, academics, and engineers working on interdisciplinary data analysis of images, texts, and social networks.

The broad scope of AIST made it an event where researchers from different domains, such as image and text processing, exploiting various data analysis techniques, can meet and exchange ideas. We strongly believe that this may lead to cross-fertilisation of ideas between researchers relying on modern data analysis machinery.

Therefore, AIST brought together all kinds of applications of data mining and machine learning techniques. The conference allowed specialists from different fields to meet each other, present their work, and discuss both theoretical and practical aspects of their data analysis problems. Another important aim of the conference was to stimulate scientists and people from industry to benefit from the knowledge exchange and identify possible grounds for fruitful collaboration.

The conference was held during July 5–7, 2018. The conference was organized in Moscow, the capital of Russia, on the campus of Moscow Polytechnic University  $(MPU)^2$ .

This year, the key topics of AIST were grouped into six tracks:

- 1. General topics of data analysis chaired by Sergei Kuznetsov (Higher School of Economics, Russia) and Amedeo Napoli (LORIA, France);
- 2. Natural Language Processing chaired by Natalia Loukachevitch (Lomonosov Moscow State University, Russia) and Goran Glavaš (University of Mannheim, Mannheim, Germany);
- 3. Social Network Analysis chaired by Vladimir Batagelj (University of Ljubljana, Slovenia) and Olessia Koltsova (Higher School of Economics, Russia);
- 4. Analysis of images and video chaired by Marcello Pelillo (University of Venice, Italy) and Andrey Savchenko (Higher School of Economics, Russia);
- 5. Optimization problems on graphs and network structures chaired by Panos Pardalos (University of Florida, USA) and Michael Khachay (IMM UB RAS and Ural Federal University, Russia);
- 6. Analysis of dynamic behavior through event data chaired by Wil van der Aalst (RWTH Aachen University, Germany) and Irina Lomazova (Higher School of Economics, Russia).

The Programme Committee and the reviewers of the conference included 154 well-known experts in data mining and machine learning, natural language pro-

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> http://aistconf.org/

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> http://mospolytech.ru/?eng

cessing, image processing, social network analysis, and related areas from leading institutions of 32 countries including Argentina, Australia, Austral, Bangladesh, Canada, China, Croatia, Czech Republic, Denmark, Egypt, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, India, Italy, Kazakhstan, Lithuania, Norway, Qatar, Romania, Russia, Slovenia, Spain, Switzerland, Vietnam, Taiwan, Turkey, Ukraine, The Netherlands, UK, and USA. This year we received 107 submissions mostly from Russia but also from Austria, Bangladesh, Finland, Germany, Switzerland, Taiwan, Turkey, Ukraine, USA, and Vietnam.

Out of 107 submissions, only 29 papers were accepted as regular oral papers. Thus, the acceptance rate of this volume was around 36% (not taking into account 26 automatically rejected papers). In order to encourage young practitioners and researchers, we included 28 papers to the supplementary proceedings after their poster presentation at the conference. Each submission was reviewed by at least three reviewers, experts in their fields, in order to supply detailed and helpful comments.

The conference featured several invited talks and an industry session dedicated to current trends and challenges.

The topical opening talk was presented by Rostislav Yavorskiy on "Visualization of Data Science Community in Russia."

The invited talks were:

– Anne Rozinat (Fluxicon), "Process Mining: Discovering Process Maps from Data";

 Goran Glavaš (University of Mannheim), "Cars, Drivers, Vehicles, and Wheels: Specializing Distributional Word Vectors for Lexico-Semantic Relations";

- Gleb Gusev (Yandex and Moscow Institute of Physics and Technology), "Machine Learning Research in Yandex and CatBoost";

– Ekaterina Chernyak of HSE and Sberbank presented a tutorial on "Supervised Methods in Natural Language Processing."

The business speakers also covered a wide variety of topics. We list those invited talks below:

- Iosif Itkin (Exactpro Systems), "The World's Most Valuable Commodity";

- Maksim Balashevich (Santiment), "Crypto assets valuation";

– Ilya Utekhin (the European University at St. Petersburg), "On understanding users for human-centered design";

– Denis Stepanov (JetBrains), "Workshop: Data visualization with datalore.plot in research, education and just for fun";

– Eugeny Malyutin (OK.ru), "Trend detection at OK";

– Oleg Klepikov (Center for Applied Neuroeconomics), "Psychometric behavorial classification of banking clients – a case study";

– Dmitriy Skougarevskiy (the European University at St. Petersburg), "Semantic representation of accident reports to understand the dark figure of crime."

Under a special agreement between the responsible program co-chairs and the proceedings chair, due to its interdisciplinary nature, one paperwas set to a special section on Innovative Systems (outside of the main tracks). We would like to thank the authors for submitting their papers and the members of the Programme Committee for their efforts in providing exhaustive reviews.

According to the Program Chairs taking into account the obtained reviews and presentation quality, the best paper awards were granted to the following papers:

Track 1. General topics of data analysis: "Lookup Lateration: Mapping of Received Signal Strength to Position for Geo-Localization in Outdoor Urban Areas" by Andrey Shestakov, Attila Kertesz-Farkas, Dmitri Shmelkin and Danila Doroshin;

Track 2. Natural language processing: "Learning representations for soft skill matching" by Luiza Sayfullina, Eric Malmi and Juho Kannala;

Track 3. **Social network analysis**: "Organizational networks revisited: Predictors of headquarters-subsidiary relationship perception" by Antonina Milekhina, Valentina Kuskova and Elena Artyukhova;

Track 4. Analysis of Images and Video: "Application of Fully Convolutional Neural Networks to Mapping Industrial Oil Palm Plantations" by Artem Baklanov, Mikhail Khachay and Maxim Pasynkov;

Track 5. **Optimization problems on graphsand network structures**: "Efficient PTAS for the Euclidean CVRP with Time Windows" by Michael Khachay and Yuri Ogorodnikov;

Track 6. Analysis of dynamic behavior through event data: "Neural Approach to the Discovery Problem in Process Mining" by Timofey Shunin, Natalia Zubkova and Sergey Shershakov.

We would also like to express our special gratitude to all the invited speakers and industry representatives.

We deeply thank all the partners and sponsors. Our golden sponsors is Exactpro.

Exactpro, a fully owned subsidiary of the London Stock Exchange Group, specializes in quality assurance for exchanges, investment banks, brokers, and other financial sector organizations. Our special thanks go to Springer for their help, starting from the first conference call to the final version of the proceedings. JetBrains covered important conference expenses while Springer sponsored the best paper awards. Last but not least, we are grateful to the dean of Information Technologies Faculty of MPU, Andrey Phillipovich, and all the organizers, especially to Andrey Novikov and Marina Danshina, and the volunteers, whose endless energy saved us at the most critical stages of the conference preparation.

Here, we would like to mention the Russian word "aist" is more than just a simple abbreviation (in Cyrillic) – it means a "stork." Since it is a wonderful free bird, a symbol of happiness and peace, this stork gave us the inspiration to organize the AIST conference. So we believe that this young and rapidly growing conference will likewise be bringing inspiration to data scientists around the world!

#### ${\it October}~2018$

Wil van der Aalst Vladimir Batagelj Goran Glavaš Dmitry Ignatov Michael Khachay Olessia Koltsova Sergei Kuznetsov Irina Lomazova Natalia Loukachevitch Amedeo Napoli Alexander Panchenko Panos Pardalos Marcello Pelillo Andrey Savchenko

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