

Paolo Turrini

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Bio. Paolo Turrini is an Associate Professor in the Department of Computer Science at the University of Warwick and a Fellow of the Alan Turing Institute, the UK centre for AI and Data Science. In 2011 he received his PhD in Computer Science from the University of Utrecht with a thesis on logic and games. He was then a Marie Curie COFUND fellow at the University of Luxembourg (2011-2013), a Marie Curie Intra European Fellow (2013-2015) and an Imperial College Research Fellow (2015-2017) at Imperial College London. He joined Warwick as an Assistant Professor in 2017, where he became Associate Professor in 2020. He is particularly interested in computational models of social influence and its role in collective decisions.

Involvement. At AAMAS Paolo Turrini published 10 papers and 1 extended abstract, participating in the conference since 2010. In 2013 he started serving as a PC member and in 2021 and 2022 he served as a Senior PC Member. In 2022 he was co-recipient of the Best Senior PC Member Award. He was Scholarship co-Chair for AAMAS 2021 and AAMAS 2022.

Agenda.

Excellence. Improving the quality of the conference contributions is a priority, making AAMAS, unequivocally, a top AI conference and the top conference for multi-agent research. Paolo intends to push for a better coordination with sister conferences (e.g., currently the deadline is squeezed in between AAAI and IJCAI), and for attracting MAS researchers that do not look at AAMAS as the go-to conference (e.g., the multi-agent learning community), with targeted tracks accompanied by the recruitment of top quality reviewers for those tracks. Improving scientific output is a MAS problem. He is strongly in favour of the employment of paper allocation and selection mechanisms that promote originality, significance and rigour of multi-agent systems research, leading a workgroup to analyse how the current ones are failing and how they can be improved.

Community. The latest editions, with the restrictions to face to face activities, have put a strain on the AAMAS community. Paolo will advocate a more energetic use of scholarships to foster participation, with special focus on students and under-represented groups. He will also advocate for the use of hybrid conferencing to reduce travel costs and widen participation. Finally, Paolo supports the creation of a volunteer network for a safe workspace, inspired by – and, ideally, in coordination with – other areas of Computer Science (e.g., the SafeToC community <https://safetoc.org/>).