

Preface

This volume contains the proceedings of the 6th International Provenance and Annotation Workshop (IPAW), held June 7–8, 2016, at The MITRE Corporation in McLean, Virginia, USA. Following the successful inception of ProvenanceWeek in 2014, this year’s installment again co-located the biennial IPAW workshop and the annual Workshop on the Theory and Practice of Provenance (TaPP). Together the two leading provenance workshops anchored ProvenanceWeek 2016, a full week of provenance-related activities that included a shared poster and demonstration session, and the PROV: Three Years Later and Provenance-based Security and Transparent Computing workshops.

This year’s installment of IPAW was able to honor the extraordinary achievements of IPAW’s authors through a best paper award sponsored by Springer. We would like to use this forum to again congratulate Wellington Moreira de Oliveira, Paolo Missier, Kary Ocaña, Daniel de Oliveira and Vanessa Braganholo, the authors of the paper titled “Analyzing Provenance Across Heterogeneous Provenance Graphs” for receiving this award.

This collection constitutes the peer-reviewed papers of IPAW 2016. These include 12 long papers that report in depth on the results of research around provenance and two short papers that discuss tools and services that were presented in the form of a system demonstration. Finally, we have included 14 short papers that were also presented as part of the joint IPAW/TaPP poster session. The final papers, demos, and short papers accompanied by poster presentations were selected from a total of 54 submissions. All full-length research papers received a minimum of three reviews.

The papers of IPAW 2016 provide a glimpse into state-of-the-art research and practice around the automatic capture, representation, and use of provenance. The papers discussing provenance capture exemplify the diversity of applications with provenance needs including operating systems, scripting environments, and distributed environments. While automated provenance capture is necessary for wide-spread provenance collection, analysis and visualization of provenance enable users to understand and make sense of the collected provenance. Several papers focus on this aspect describing tools for visualizing large provenance graphs, for creating understandable natural language descriptions from provenance graphs, and for analyzing provenance across multiple provenance graphs. Provenance itself is meaningless if not used for a concrete purpose. The proceedings also cover papers reporting on real-world use cases of provenance as well as how to model provenance for specific domains.

In closing, we would like to thank the members of the Program Committee for their thoughtful reviews, Dr. Adriane Chapman (local chair) and her team for their excellent organization of IPAW and ProvenanceWeek 2016 at MITRE, and—last not least—the authors and participants for making IPAW the stimulating and successful event that it was.

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