

## Preface

The 6th Conference on Artificial Intelligence and Natural Language Conference (AINL), held during September 20–23, 2017, in Saint Petersburg, Russia, was organized by the NLP Seminar and ITMO University. Its aim was to (a) bring together experts in the areas of natural language processing, speech technologies, dialogue systems, information retrieval, machine learning, artificial intelligence, and robotics and (b) to create a platform for sharing experience, extending contacts, and searching for possible collaboration. Overall, the conference gathered more than 100 participants.

The review process was challenging. Overall, 35 papers were sent to the conference and only 17 were selected, for an acceptance rate of 48%. In all, 56 researchers from different domains and areas were engaged in the double-blind reviewing process. Each paper received at least three reviews, in many cases there were four reviews.

Beyond regular papers, the proceedings contain six papers about the Russian Paraphrase Detection shared task, which took place at the AINL 2016 conference. These papers followed a slightly different review process and were not anonymized for reviews.

Altogether, 17 papers were presented at the conference, covering a wide range of topics, including social data analysis, dialogue systems, speech processing, information extraction, Web-scale data processing, word embedding, topic modeling, and transfer learning. Most of the presented papers were devoted to analyzing human communication and creating algorithms to perform such analysis. In addition, the conference program included several special talks and events, including tutorials on neural machine translation, deception detection in language, a hackathon for plagiarism detection in Russian texts, an invited talk on the shape of the future of computational science, industry talks and demos, and a poster session.

Many thanks to everybody who submitted papers and gave wonderful talks, and to those who came and participated without publication.

We are indebted to our Program Committee members for their detailed and insightful reviews; we received very positive feedback from our authors even from those whose submissions were rejected.

And last but not the least, we are grateful to our organization team: Anastasia Bodrova, Irina Krylova, Aleksandr Bugrovsky, Natalia Khanzhina, Ksenia Buraya, and Dmitry Granovsky.

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