Official Opening and Welcome Reception
- Newsletter September, 7th 2015

The official opening of ECML PKDD 2015 will take place at 17:45 at sala do Arquivo: the larger room of Alfândega, our venue. It will be followed by the invited talk of Pedro Domingos. From 19:00 to 20:00 we will have a welcome reception to give us all the opportunity to chill out and socialize. All participants are invited.

ECML PKDD 2015 in Numbers

1 research track
1 journal track
1 industrial track
1 demo track

3 volumes of LNCS proceedings
2 journal special issues

12 workshops
10 tutorials
2 discovery challenges
1 PhD session

9 plenary invited speakers
16 volunteers
42 organizing chairs
34 area chairs
68 Journal track guest editorial board members
6 industrial track PC senior members

556 registrations overall, including organization, volunteers and exhibitors.

Springer proceedings
483 submissions
131 accepted papers
89 accepted research track papers
11 industrial track papers
14 nectar track papers
17 demo track papers
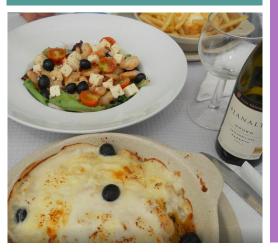4 awards

Journal special issues
189 papers were submitted this year
65 submissions to the Machine Learning Journal
124 submissions to Data Mining and Knowledge Discovery (DAMI)
10 accepted papers to DAMI + 4 papers from 2014
16 accepted papers to ML Journal + 4 papers from 2014

Workshops
108 additional papers have been accepted to our 12 workshops from 130 submissions total

Weather Forecast

Mostly sunny

27° Lo 14°

http://www.accuweather.com/

Restaurants, Bars and Cafés suggestions

O Comercial

"O Comercial" is a hidden gem inside one of the most iconic city landmarks: the Stock Exchange Palace (Palácio da Bolsa). This sophisticated and classy restaurant serves dishes that bring together the traditional flavours of the Portuguese cuisine with modern Mediterranean trends. The neoclassical architecture of this 19th-century Palace, with unusual touches of art nouveau, is coupled with a classy and charming décor surrounded by beautiful antiques and ultra-modern accessories, offering a refined atmosphere with superb views over Vila Nova de Gaia and the Port Wine Cellars. Despite being a trendy restaurant, O Comercial offers several affordable menus with an excellent quality/price relationship and you can enjoy a tasty four-course Executive menu with less than 25 euros (around 15 euros at lunch and 20 euros at dinner).

Address: O Comercial, Palácio da Bolsa, Rua Ferreira Borges, Porto
T: +351 918 838 649

Filha da Mãe Preta

One of the best-known restaurants in the Ribeira area. Enjoy an excellent view over the Douro River at Porto's Ribeira area.
A restaurant serving traditional Portuguese cuisine in Porto. As its specialities, the Filha da Mãe Preta restaurant offers, among others, fried codfish with onion stew, Porto-style tripe or horse mackerels with bean rice.

Address: Cais Ribeira 39/40
4050-510 PORTO
Phone: 220442658

Pedro Domingos

Keynote Talk - 18:00 @ Arquivo

University of Washington
Research Track Invited Speaker

Chair: J. Gama
Room: Arquivo

Talk:
Sum-Product Networks: Deep Models with Tractable Inference

Abstract:
Big data makes it possible in principle to learn very rich probabilistic models, but inference in them is prohibitively expensive. Since inference is typically a subroutine of learning, in practice learning such models is very hard. Sum-product networks (SPNs) are a new model class that squares this circle by providing maximum flexibility while guaranteeing tractability. In contrast to Bayesian networks and Markov random fields, SPNs can remain tractable even in the absence of conditional independence. SPNs are defined recursively: an SPN is either a univariate distribution, a product of SPNs over disjoint variables, or a weighted sum of SPNs over the same variables. It's easy to show that the partition function, all marginals and all conditional MAP states of an SPN can be computed in time linear in its size. SPNs have most tractable distributions as special cases, including hierarchical mixture models, thin junction trees, and nonrecursive probabilistic context-free grammars. I will present generative and discriminative algorithms for learning SPN weights, and an algorithm for learning SPN structure. SPNs have achieved impressive results in a wide variety of domains, including object recognition, image completion, collaborative filtering, and click prediction. Our algorithms can easily learn SPNs with many layers of latent variables, making them arguably the most powerful type of deep learning to date. (Joint work with Rob Gens and Hoifung Poon.)

Bio:
Pedro Domingos is Professor of Computer Science and Engineering at the University of Washington. His research interests are in machine learning, artificial intelligence and data science. He received a PhD in Information and Computer Science from the University of California at Irvine, and is the author or co-author of over 200 technical publications. He is a winner of the SIGKDD Innovation Award, the highest honor in data science. He is a AAAI Fellow, and has received a Sloan Fellowship, an NSF CAREER Award, a Fulbright Scholarship, an IBM Faculty Award, and best paper awards at several leading conferences. He is a member of the editorial board of the Machine Learning journal, co-founder of the International Machine Learning Society, and past associate editor of JAIR. He was program co-chair of KDD-2003 and SRL-2009, and has served on numerous program committees.

Sponsored by: technicolor

Places to visit in Porto

Alfandega Transport and Communications Museum

The Alfandega Transport and Communications Museum of Porto is located within the massive Alfandega Nova building (Alfandega Nova meaning the New Customs House) which dates back to 1860, being geographically situated on the bank of the Duoro River. Despite its past functionality, the building strikes by its neoclassic robustness which would rather call fort the image of a medieval fortress.

At present, the building is, amongst others, home to the Transport and Communications Museum which focuses on providing an insight into the history and development of the means of transport and communications in the world. Thus, the permanent collection of the museum, the so-called O Automovel no Espaco e no Tempo (The Automobile in Space and Time) is one of the chief highlights of the venue, whereas the unchallenged star exhibit refers to the first car which was ever driven in Portugal, a 1895 vehicle brought from Paris.

A visit to the Alfandega Transport and Communications Museum is highly recommened, mostly because the rest of the building is now filled with exhibition spaces and it is often home to cultural, artistic and entertainment-related events.

(Website: http://www.amtc.pt)

Opening hours: tue-fri 10:00-13:00 (last admission 12h00) e 14:00-18:00 (last admission 17:00) sat, sun, holidays 15:00-19:00 (last admission 18:00)
Price: Free for all ECMLPKDD participants that present his/her badge.
Discounts: PortoCard 50% discount

Igreja São Francisco

The city's most important Gothic temple, whose construction began in the fourteenth century. It is one of the most important works of the Baroque, by its gilded interior from the seventeenth and eighteenth centuries. It was the exuberance of its gild carved wood work that led Count Raczinsky to describe it as the 'Church of Gold'. And, overwhelmed, he adds: 'The gild of this church is so beautiful and rich that goes far beyond everything I have seen in Portugal and in the whole world'. It is worth of notice the Tree of Jesse, as well as the catacombs. It is a National Monument since 1910 and World Cultural Heritage by UNESCO since 1996.

(Website: http://www.ordemsaofrancisco.pt)

Opening hours: 09:00-20:00
Price: 3,50€
Discounts: PortoCard , 25% Discount
Distance from the Conference Venue: 600 m
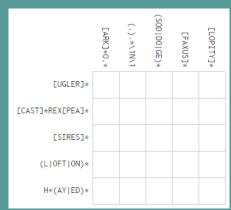
Palácio da Bolsa (Stock Exchange Palace)

A National Monument, the Palácio da Bolsa (Stock Exchange Palace) is the property and headquarters of the Commercial Association of Porto. It was designed by Joaquim da Costa Lima in a neoclassical style in 1842. Situated in the historical centre, it is one of the most visited monuments with the famous Arabian Room being its major highlight.

(Website: http://www.palaciodabolsa.pt)

Opening hours: 09:00-18:30
Price: Single ticket: 7,50€ Student/Senior: 4,00€
Discounts: PortoCard 50% discount,
Distance form the Conference Venue: 650 m

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QUOTE OF THE DAY

"In god we trust, all others must bring data"
— W. Edwards Deming