[EXTERNAL] ICONIP 2021: Notification for paper 237
Subject:
[EXTERNAL] ICONIP 2021: Notification for paper 237
From:
"ICONIP 2021" <iconip2021@easychair.org>
Date:
26/09/2021, 1:27 am
To:
Massimo Piccardi <Massimo.Piccardi@uts.edu.au>

Dear Massimo Piccardi,

We are pleased to inform you that your paper:

PaperID : 237
Title : A REINFORCEd Variational Autoencoder Topic Model

submitted to the 28th International Conference on Neural Information Processing (ICONIP) of the Asia-Pacific Neural Network Society 2021 has been ACCEPTED for presentation. We cordially invite you to attend the ICONIP 2021 conference on 8 – 12 December 2021 by virtual mode.

Your paper is accepted as a short paper. You will have an oral presentation and publication in the Springer CCIS series proceedings, subject to submission of a camera ready and registration of an author for the conference as shown on the conference registration page. Please be informed that the due date for final registration is on 23 October 2021.

You can find the reviewer comments at the bottom part of this email. Please amend your paper as needed. Kindly note that the normal maximum length is 8 pages, so you may need to shorten your paper, or you may opt to pay additional page charges (please see the conference registration page for information on the charges).

It is mandatory to prepare the camera ready paper as per the instructions listed on https://iconip2021.apnns.org/instruction-for-camera-ready-submissions/

Your camera ready paper and a fully-completed Springer Consent to Publish form need to be submitted through the EasyChair by 12 October 2021.

We sincerely look forward to welcoming you in ICONIP 2021.

Best regards,
Program Co-chairs - ICONIP 2021

SUBMISSION: 237
TITLE: A REINFORCEd Variational Autoencoder Topic Model

---------- REVIEW 1 ----------
SUBMISSION: 237
TITLE: A REINFORCEd Variational Autoencoder Topic Model
AUTHORS: Amit Kumar, Nazanin Esmaili and Massimo Piccardi

---------- What is this paper about, what contributions does it make, what are the main strengths and weaknesses? ----------
This paper proposes a learning algorithm for a topic model using a variational auto-encoder (VAE). The main contribution is to introduce a kind of reinforcement learning model into the VAE. The critical idea looks natural and exciting to the reviewer. The derivation of the loss function is evident. However, the reviewer concerns the hyper-parameter to make a balance of the conventional loss and REINFORCEd loss. At least, the reviewer considers the hyper-parameter value would be adequately determined. It may be a trivial matter since it is true that good results have been achieved with this fixed parameter, but the reviewers consider this to be a sensitive issue.
---------- Detailed comments ----------
Moreover, in equations. (9) and (10), the REINFORCE algorithm derives the empirical loss with a single sample.
The reviewer could not assess the extent to which the predicted loss derived from a single sample deviates from the true expected value. Therefore, it is desirable to have a discussion about this when making revisions.

---------- REVIEW 2 ----------
SUBMISSION: 237
TITLE: A REINFORCEd Variational Autoencoder Topic Model
AUTHORS: Amit Kumar, Nazanin Esmaili and Massimo Piccardi

---------- What is this paper about, what contributions does it make, what are the main strengths and weaknesses? ----------
This paper is well written and organised, it is quite clear in most parts of the paper. However, the paper should provide code for ease of implementation or duplication of the results.
---------- Detailed comments ----------
There are some interesting findings in the paper that could be of interest of the participants. The review needs to be more comprehensive especially the papers published over the last few years. Do add them in for the final paper if it is accepted.