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Abstract

This deliverable complements D6.2 (*Agenda/material for Summer School*), and serves as an archive of the instructional materials from the CyCAT Winter School. The School is a key planned activity within the dissemination plan of CyCAT and is under WP2.

Keyword(s): Winter School, Instructional Materials

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1. Executive Summary

As described in the CyCAT DoA, the Winter School (initially planned as a summer school but re-framed in light of the COVID-19 pandemic) was designed and conducted in collaboration with the advanced partner institutions, as well as two invited guest speakers, Prof. Joanna J. Bryson (Hertie School of Governance, GERMANY) and Ms. Casey Dugan (manager of the AI Experience Lab at IBM Research in Cambridge, USA). In addition to providing an archive of the materials used during the School, this document shall also provide information about the number of participants reached. It will also document some reflections upon the experience of conducting such collaborative, international events in the virtual setting.

2. The FATE in AI Winter School: Summary and Reflection

The Winter School on [Fairness, Accountability, Transparency and Ethics \(FATE\) in AI](#) took place between Monday the 11th of January, and Friday the 15th of January 2021. As previously described in D6.2 (Agenda/material for Summer School), a website was established for the school early on, detailing the mission, its intended audience and the final program (shown in Figure 1). Interested individuals were invited to pre-register and were sent the link (URL) to join the session. The Winter School was hosted on the teaching platform of the Open University of Cyprus, which offered CyCAT complementary access and technical support during the event.

Monday (11/1)	Tuesday (12/1)	Wednesday (13/1)	Thursday (14/1)	Friday (15/1)
AI Ethics	Diversity and the CyCAT Framework	Algorithmic Transparency tools	FATE Education and Awareness	STSE Project Meetings
13.00 - 13.30 Welcome and CyCAT Presentation Jahna Ottebacher	13.00 - 13.30 Diversity, Bias and Related Issues Fausto Giunchiglia	13.00 - 14.00 Keynote Speech Casey Dugan	13.00 - 14.00 Perceptions of Young Developers on Algorithmic Fairness, Transparency & Accountability Styliani Kleanthous	13.00 - 13.15 Introduction Styliani Kleanthous 13.15 - 14.15 STSE Projects Presentation Team Leaders
13.30 - 14.30 AI Ethics Michael Rovatsos	13.30 - 14.30 End Users' Perception of Algorithmic Fairness Tsvi Kuflik & Avital Shulner Tal	14.00 - 14.30 Virtual Coffee Break	14.00 - 14.30 Virtual Coffee Break	14.15 - 14.30 Virtual Coffee Break
14.30 - 15.30 Virtual Coffee Break Bingo!	14.30 - 15.00 Virtual Coffee Break	14.30 - 15.00 A practical session with Casey Dugan	14.30 - 16.30 CyCAT Design and Evaluation Workshops	14.30 - 15.30 Breakout Rooms for Workgroups
15.30 - 16.30 Keynote Speech Joanna Bryson	15.00 - 16.00 Bias in Data and Algorithmic Systems: Problems, Solutions & Stakeholders Jahna Ottebacher	15.00 - 16.00 Bias and Transparency of Web Search Engines Frank Hopfgartner & Jo Bates		
16.30 - 17.30 Q&A Panel with J. Bryson & M. Rovatsos <u>Moderator:</u> Frank Hopfgartner	16.00 - 17.00 Q&A Panel with F. Guinchiglia, J. Ottebacher and T. Kuflik <u>Moderator:</u> Michael Rovatsos	16.00 - 17.00 Q&A Panel with C. Dugan and F. Hopfgartner <u>Moderator:</u> Styliani Kleanthous	16.00 - 16.30 Closing Jahna Ottebacher	15.30 - 16.00 Closing Jahna Ottebacher

Figure 1: Final program of the CyCAT FATE Winter School.

2.1 Participants

In total, 135 participants pre-registered for the event, representing 16 different countries within Europe, North and South America, and Asia (see Figure 2). Not surprisingly, the majority of participants were in an academic role, although there were several from industry (see Table 1). As expected, it is likely that not all participants turned up for the School; on most days, there were between 40 and 65 people online at once.

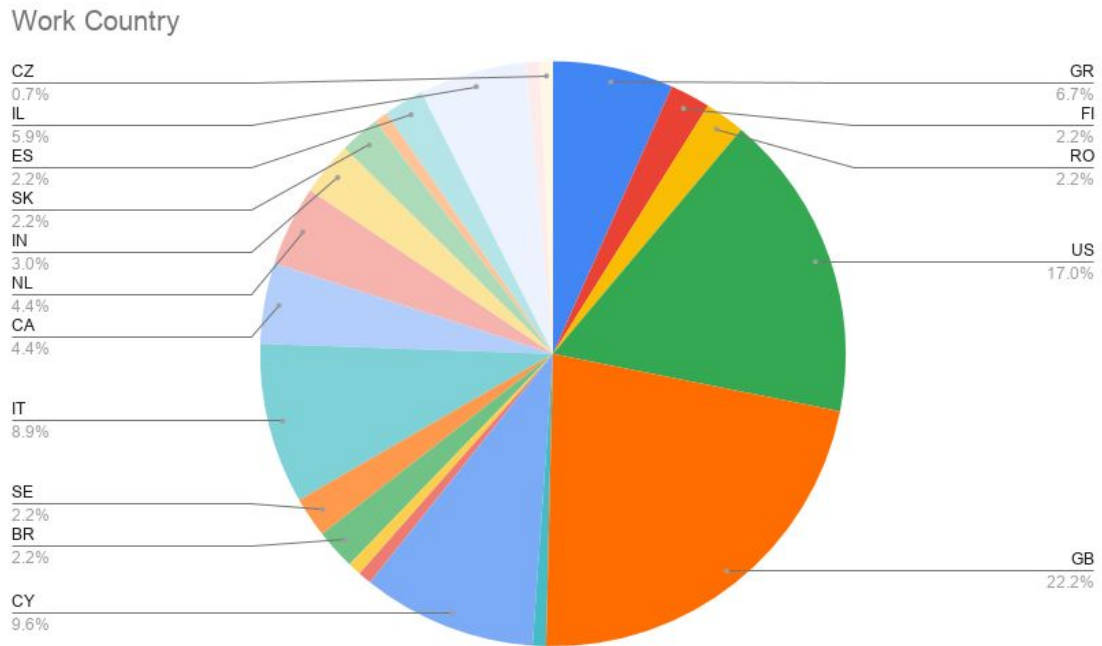


Figure 2: Country in which the pre-registered participants worked.

University / academic	112
Industry	14
Government	2
Non-government agency	1
Other / N/A	6
TOTAL	135

Table 1: Institutional affiliations of the pre-registered participants.

2.2 Post-event questionnaire

Given the large number of participants, as well as the excitement that participants demonstrated during the School, the Consortium conducted a short post-event questionnaire in order to explore

the possibilities for repeating this event in the future. In particular, for the OUC, conducting such short-term, targeted “schools” online, could represent a new educational model / format that could be institutionalized. Although only 13 responses were obtained, they provided insights on why participants were drawn to the School, as well as aspects that the organizers should consider for planning future events.

First, it must be said that all CyCAT partner countries were in a lockdown situation during the Winter School. Of the 13 responses to the questionnaire, most participants were as well, with only three indicating that they were not in a lockdown. Thus, the timing of the event likely helped to boost participation. Most participants learned of the Winter School through a professor or a colleague (61%), while none learned through the OUC’s web and social media. This demonstrates the necessity of having strong, international networks in order to disseminate news of planned events. It is also an indication that the OUC may need to increase efforts to reach an international and non-Greek speaking audience.

How did you learn about our Winter School? (Check all that apply.)

13 responses

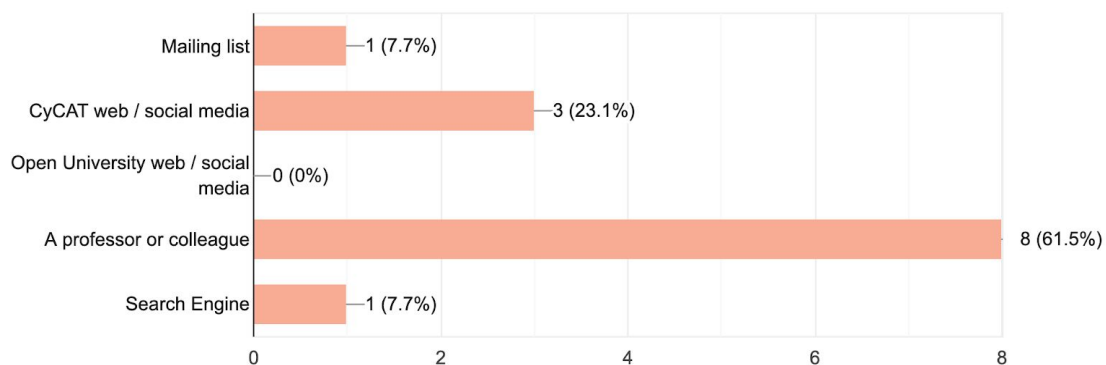


Figure 3: How the participants learned about the CyCAT Winter School.

As expected, based on our observations of activity on the platform over the week, the number of participants fell over time. As shown in Figure 4, most respondents were in attendance during the first three days of the School. Of the 13 questionnaire respondents, four were participating in a collaborative STSE project. (As detailed in Figure 1, Friday was devoted to the projects.) The lesson learned here is that shorter events may be more effective, as without a doubt, it is tiring to be online every day (even for just a few hours, as was the case for our School).

Which day(s) of the School did you attend ?

13 responses

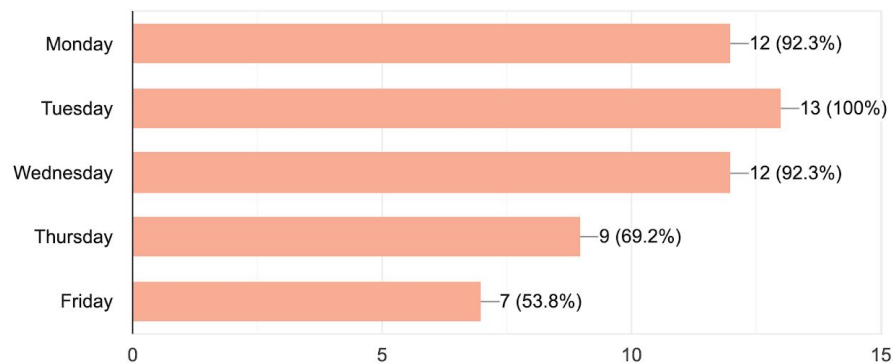


Figure 4: Day(s) of the Winter School attended by the respondents.

We also asked respondents to indicate what aspects of the School they liked the best, and what they liked the least. The most notable observation about these free-text responses, is that the open and online format seemed to be a double-edged sword. On the one hand, people appreciated the chance to participate remotely and to meet people from around the world. But on the other hand, they reported missing the face-to-face contact, which is understandable. Several responses also mentioned that participants regretted having to miss sessions because they were teaching / had classes and/or other responsibilities. Thus, in planning future events, organizers should try to find a way to encourage participants to stay for all sessions, although this is likely difficult.

Would you be likely to participate in a future School with a similar format (i.e., one week of lectures/activities + a hands-on project and final presentation), if you were offered 10 ECTS?

6 responses

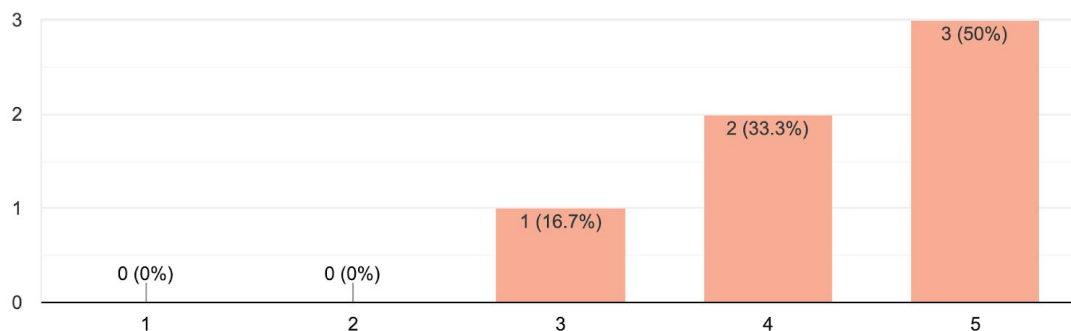


Figure 5: Likelihood of participating in a future School for course credit.

In terms of thinking about future events, all of the respondents indicated that they would be “likely” (2) or “very likely” (11) to participate in a future School organized by CyCAT. The

student respondents (6) all indicated that they would like to have the chance to participate in a future School, through which they would be awarded 10 ECTS (see Figure 5). However, when asked what they would consider to be “a reasonable fee for the above course,” the responses were quite varied, ranging from free, to 500 euro.

Similarly, the non-student participants also indicated that they were keen to see future initiatives by CyCAT / OUC. Regarding the willingness to pay, there seemed to be a sentiment that online events and schools should be inexpensive (although not free - ranging from 100 to 200 euro) but that a face-to-face school might charge around 1.500 euro.

3. Instructional Materials

All of the instructional materials were [uploaded to the program](#) on the Winter School website, such that participants could download each speaker’s presentation slides before the respective session. (See the link to “Slides” to the right of each speaker’s name.)

In addition, all of the presentations were recorded after obtaining permission from the speakers. The videos have been edited and shared via the CyCAT YouTube Channel, where a [Winter School playlist](#) was created. (Note that we have also provided a link to each video from [the program](#) on the Winter School website.)