

Letter from the SIGecom Executive Committee

MICHAL FELDMAN (chair)

Tel Aviv University

and

FEDERICO ECHENIQUE (vice-chair)

UC Berkeley

and

BRENDAN LUCIER (secretary-treasurer)

Microsoft Research New England

As we enter our third year serving as the SIGecom Executive Committee, we continue to be inspired by the remarkable growth, breadth, and energy of the Economics and Computation community. Over the past several years, SIGecom has expanded substantially in size, visibility, and intellectual diversity, and we feel fortunate to help support this evolving community during such an exciting period. Our goals remain to strengthen the foundations of the SIG while continuing to foster interdisciplinary exchange, broaden participation, recognize impactful research, and build structures that help the community thrive as it scales.

At the same time, our community is entering a period of rapid change driven by the growing role of AI in research and scientific practice. These developments raise important questions for our field: Substantive questions about the role of AI in subjects that we study (markets, allocation mechanisms, decision-making, algorithms, etc.), as well as methodological questions. How AI should be used in paper writing and reviewing, how conferences and journals should adapt their processes, how to preserve fairness and trust in evaluation, and more broadly, how to ensure that our research culture continues to encourage creativity, rigor, and genuine scientific contribution. We believe that the economics and computation community is uniquely well positioned to help address many of these challenges. Questions surrounding incentives, strategic behavior, information, marketplaces, and mechanism design are at the core of our field, and they are becoming increasingly central in the AI era. As a community, we hope not only to adapt thoughtfully to these changes, but also to help shape the broader scientific and societal conversation around them.

Our flagship event, the ACM Conference on Economics and Computation (EC), continues to grow in size and diversity.

EC'25 was hosted at Stanford University this past summer, with 927 submissions and 206 accepted papers. The conference featured outstanding work across theory, empirics, and applications. We are grateful to General Chair Ilya Segal, PC Chairs Itai Ashlagi and Aaron Roth, and the many organizers and volunteers who helped make EC'25 a success. The conference was accompanied by a robust workshop program, a special session on highlights beyond EC, along with a virtual preview week that featured the annual mentoring workshop and many high-quality tutorials.

The continued expansion of the conference is tremendously exciting and reflects

Authors' addresses: mfeldman@tauex.tau.ac.il, fede@econ.berkeley.edu, brlucier@microsoft.com

the vitality of the field, but it also raises important questions about how to preserve the quality and character of EC as the community grows. In particular, the increasing submission volume continues to put pressure on both the reviewing process and the conference structure itself. Together with conference organizers, the PC chairs, the advisory committee, and the entire community, we are actively exploring different approaches for addressing these challenges while maintaining the openness, rigor, and sense of community that make EC special. As always, we very much welcome feedback and ideas from the community as we continue thinking about the future evolution of EC.

We look forward to EC’26 this year, to be hosted in Rome, Italy. EC’26 has brought with it a lot of change and exciting challenges that we look forward to sharing with you. One important change is that we are moving to a 5 day conference format. This allows us to increase the conference size in line with increased interest, submissions, and topic diversity. Overall, EC’26 had 1115 submitted papers from which 290 were accepted.

There have also been several changes to the reviewing process, spearheaded by our PC Chairs Alex Teytelboym and Matt Weinberg. First, they welcomed hundreds of new reviewers to EC. This lowered the reviewing load, improved the paper-expertise matching, and brought many new excellent researchers into the EC community, but also required more hands-on structure for the review process. Additionally, they implemented a much narrower and focused author response period, and also asked for more structured engagement from SPCs. Unsurprisingly, AI has also been a point of change in the reviewing process. All submissions were offered a chance to get AI feedback from Refine.Ink, while the PC chairs took exploratory steps to understand how future years might integrate AI effectively into the review process. They were also strict about AI disclosures for both authors and reviewers, and were careful to ensure every paper had truly sufficient expertise/discussion in case of concerns surrounding inappropriate AI usage. This year, EC has added 5 AEA journals (AER, AER:Insights, AEJ: Micro/Applied/EconPolicy) and Quantitative Economics to the forward-to-journal program, bringing the total up to 23 journals.

This is also the first year that the ACM Open program goes fully live for all ACM conferences, including EC. We recognize that this is a meaningful change to the publication process that may introduce new costs for some authors. The SIG is committed to easing this transition and has set aside additional funds to help cover fees this year. We encourage anyone with questions or concerns to reach out.

We are grateful to General Chair Stefano Leonardi, PC Chairs Alex Teytelboym and Matt Weinberg, and the many organizers and volunteers, without whom EC would not be possible.

The SIGecom Winter Meetings have continued to grow into a vibrant forum for focused discussions. The 2026 meeting, co-organized by Rachel Cummings and Inbal Talgam-Cohen, focused on the *interplay of Algorithmic Game Theory, AI, and Law*. Through a combination of invited speakers, contributed talks, and a fireside chat, it explored emergent research topics in the intersection of CS and law during a time when the impact of AI is making the influence of algorithms greater than ever.

We are working with the ACM to build a historical repository for the SIG: ar-



Fig. 1. Left: The SIGecom Executive Committee hard at work. Right: EC'25 plenary session.

tifacts and documents related to the history of SIGecom from its founding to the present day. To this end, **we need your help!** If you have any historical documents about the SIGecom and/or EC, or perspectives on the history of our community, please reach out – we would love to hear from you.

We are pleased to announce a new SIGecom committee to help coordinate nominations from our community to the Communication of the ACM (CACM) Research Highlights section. The committee will be led by Robert Kleinberg and Amy Greenwald, who will work together with the EC PC chairs and the broader community to identify especially strong papers that may be suitable for RH nomination. We encourage members of the community to reach out to them with suggestions for papers that they believe would be exciting and broadly impactful candidates for CACM Research Highlights.

The SIGecom Communications Committee was recently formed to support and expand SIGecom's public-facing communication channels and community resources. The committee consists of Yang Cai (chair), Kira Goldner (social media lead), and Jinzhao Wu (technical lead). Its current activities include maintaining SIGecom webpages; uploading and organizing EC-related videos on YouTube; managing SIGecom's social media presence; and providing technical support for SIGecom's online infrastructure. The committee is also developing new community-facing initiatives, including a centralized repository of EC-related courses and a possible open-problems initiative. The course repository would collect links to publicly available course materials across the field, while the open-problems initiative would make research questions, background, references, and possible directions more visible and accessible to the community. As a crucial part of the SIG's communication efforts, we also want to thank the *SIGecom Exchanges* Editors-in-Chief, Sam Taggart and Nick Arnosti, for all of their hard work.

We'd like to take this opportunity to reinforce our ongoing call for *Special Initiative* proposals. SIGecom has annual discretionary funding available to support community-building efforts such as mentoring programs, inclusion efforts, and other pilot events. Past initiatives have included the annual EC Mentoring Workshop, EC childcare support funding, and the SIGecom Winter Meetings. We encourage members to propose creative new initiatives that further SIGecom's mission.

Finally, we're thankful for the many volunteers who contribute to SIGecom's

success in both visible and behind-the-scenes roles. From SIG award committees, to conference and workshop organizers, to the many editors and reviewers in economics and computation: the SIG could not function without you! As always, we invite members of our community to get involved. Whether you're interested in organizing an event, submitting a nomination for one of our awards, launching a special initiative, or serving in a formal role, we welcome your participation.

We once again thank you for the opportunity to serve.