

Dear all participants,

This is an important announcement from LOC of an urgent change in the workshop plan.

Waseda University announced its preventive measure for the spread of Corona virus on Feb. 23, in which all events organized by the university scheduled to take place from now until March 24, 2020 that fall under any of the following will be, in principle, cancelled or postponed.

- Events with a large number of participants (i.e. 30 people or above)
- Events where many senior citizens are expected to attend
- Events that involve close physical contact between participants

Please see <https://www.waseda.jp/top/en/news/73341>.

We have prepared the workshop so far with the attitude that we should not overact to the spread of virus but take reasonable actions. Once the decision of the university is announced, however, it is very difficult to hold a meeting that violates the conditions. After discussing some possibilities among LOC, we have come to the conclusion that we will still have the workshop but with the following changes of the plan:

- (1) participation in the workshop should be limited to the oral presenters. The talks will be broadcast on the internet so that other would-be participants could hear them.
- (2) the oral presenters may give their talks over the internet if they wish to.
- (3) posters will be presented in PDF on the workshop web page so that everyone could see them.

We are sorry for the changes to all who are going to participate in our workshop. It is particularly regrettable to announce them to those who plan to travel from remote places. We should appreciate your kind understanding and cooperation.

We should like to ask all those who will attend the workshop on-site to take an appropriate measure to protect themselves from the infection, such as putting on a surgical mask. We will put some bottles of alcohol-based disinfectant at the entrances to the workshop room. Note that keeping hands clean is one of the most effective protection at the moment. Please be reminded also that if you feel sick, never dare to attend the workshop.

As already announced, the banquet is cancelled. We cannot serve even coffee or cookies.

The details of the internet broadcast will be announced later. We expect some troubles to occur during the workshop, since we are not accustomed to them. We will be hence grateful for your kind understanding.

Best regards,
LOC