

Closing Remarks from AI-SS 2026 Chair and Co-Chair

[Hongmei \(Mary\) He](#), University of Salford, UK

[Shujun Li](#), University of Kent, UK



Award Winners



Best Paper Award

- goes to ...



Best Student Paper Award

- goes to ...



Acknowledgments

All of you – authors and participants!

- Some photos from the Workshop

The keynote speaker

- **Speaker:** [Professor Aad van Moorsel](#), Chair in Decentralised Systems & Head of School, School of Computer Science, University of Birmingham, UK
- **Title:** The Uneasy Marriage of AI and Dependability
- **Abstract:**
 - In this presentation, the speaker will discuss the relation between designing traditional dependable, fault-tolerant computer systems and enhancing the robustness of modern-day AI-based services. On the one hand, AI mechanisms such as ensembles and reject option have direct counterparts in hardware and software dependability, even though their motivation, justification and implementation are quite different. On the other hand, AI shifts the emphasis to a new type of faults that are hard to identify and, in the case of Generative AI, underspecified. The speaker will reflect on how to bridge between the world of dependability and AI, and provide a number of ways forward to design highly dependable AI-based systems.



The panellists

- Panellists:

- [Ali Hessami](#), Director of R&D and AI, Vega Systems, UK; Chair of IEEE UK and Ireland Society on Social Implications of Technology (SSIT) Chapter
- [Gareth Howells](#), Professor of Cyber Security, University of Essex, UK; Founder, Director and CTO, Metrarc Ltd, UK
- [Carl Shaw](#), Codaship, UK
- [Harish Vundavalli](#), Senior Technical Architect, Strategic Education, Inc., USA



- Title:

- Towards Dependable and Secure AI for Critical Systems

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30. Matthew Cockayne, Keele University, UK (additional reviewer)

Sponsors

- [Institute of Cyber Security for Society \(iCSS\)](#), University of Kent, UK
- [Association of British Chinese Professors \(ABCP\)](#) (mainly via its Specialty Committee on AI and Cyber Security)
- [CRANE AI-Cyber SIG \(Special Interest Group on AI and Cyber Security\)](#)



Other supporting bodies

- [IEEE UK and Ireland Section](#)
- [IEEE UK and Ireland Communications Chapter](#)
- [IEEE UK and Ireland Computational Intelligence Chapter](#)
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- **Finance Chair and Local Arrangements Chair:** Caroline Hames, University of Kent, UK
- And others



The Future of AI-SS

- We will discuss with the AI-SS organising committee, sponsors and supporting organisations and the wider research community on if AI-SS should be turned into an annual workshop.
 - There is already a major conference [IEEE SaTML \(IEEE Conference on Secure and Trustworthy Machine Learning\)](#) (since 2023), one major workshop [AISec \(ACM Workshop on Artificial Intelligence and Security\)](#) @ ACM CCS (since 2008), and one workshop [SECAI \(Workshop on Security and Artificial Intelligence\)](#) @ ESORCIS (since 2023?).
- Consider making AI-SS socio-technical and interdisciplinary to be unique?
 - This can be in the context of a new learned society in cyber security research being established in the UK, being led by AI-SS Co-Chair Shujun Li.
- Or co-locate AI-SS at one or more other top (AI/cyber security) conferences?
 - E.g., EuroS&P has not had an established workshop on this topic.
- A Steering Committee will be needed to oversee the Workshop series.

Planning a Post-AI-SS/EDCC Tour in Kent?

A self-organised local tour?

- Local tourist information for Canterbury:
 - <https://www.canterbury.co.uk/>
 - <https://canterburymuseums.co.uk/the-beaney/visitor-information/>

visit **CANTERBURY**



Other famous places @ Kent

- [White Cliffs of Dover](#) + [Dover Castle](#): 30-40 minutes by car or train from Canterbury



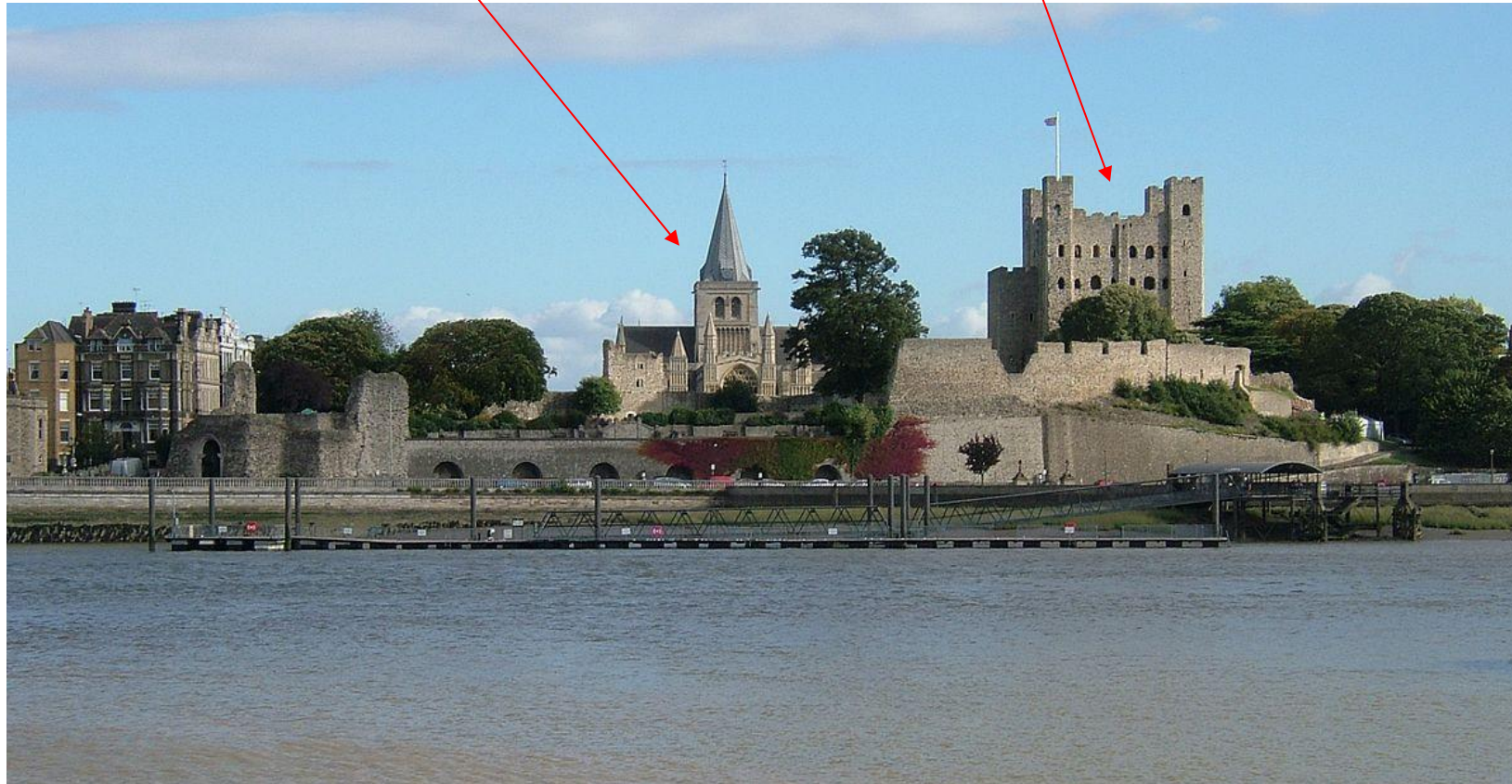
Other famous places @ Kent

- [Leeds Castle](#): ~30 minutes by car from Canterbury



Other famous places @ Kent

- [Rochester Cathedral](#) + [Rochester Castle](#): ~40 minutes by car from Canterbury



Hope to see you again at AI-SS 2027 or
elsewhere!

