

Editorial

We bring the second issue of the fourteenth volume of the **Progress in Machines and Systems** with the following papers.

In the opening paper, “**Deciding Well-Specification in Population Protocols via Presburger Arithmetic and Petri Net Theory,**” the authors presented a well-specification problem for population protocols, a model of distributed computation by anonymous, finite-state agents. They proved decidability by characterizing well-specification through the existence of a witness.

In the following paper, “**Flipping the Script: Transitioning a Flipped and Team-Based CS1 Course to Online Learning During a Pandemic,**” the authors outlined the transition of a large CS1 course at Reykjavik University from face-to-face to online instruction during the COVID-19 pandemic. The survey showed that student satisfaction remained high and comparable to the previous in-person year, with 74.1% of students pleased with the course.

In the last paper, “**TechTeach in Action: A Case Study on Gamified, Online Programming Education During the Pandemic,**” the authors presented a case study applying the TechTeach methodology—a student-centered, gamified, blended-learning approach. The study involved students and aimed to assess whether TechTeach could be effectively adapted to 100% online instruction. The findings support its potential for fostering motivation, innovation, and entrepreneurship in distance education.

We hope that these papers generate interest among the readers.

Editors