

PC Chairs' Preface

PAKDD 2016 is the 20th conference of the Pacific Asia Conference series on Knowledge Discovery and Data Mining. For the first time, the conference is being held in New Zealand. The conference provides a forum for researchers and practitioners to present and discuss new research results and practical applications.

There were 307 papers submitted to PAKDD 2016 and they underwent a rigorous double blind review process. Each paper was reviewed by three Program Committee (PC) members and meta-reviewed by one Senior Program Committee (SPC) member who also conducted discussions with the reviewers. The Program Chairs then considered the recommendations from SPC members, looked into each paper and its reviews, to make final paper selections. At the end, 91 papers were selected for the conference program and proceedings, resulting in an acceptance rate below 30 %, among which 39 papers were assigned as long presentation and 52 papers were assigned as regular presentation. The review process was supported by the Microsoft CMT system.

The conference started with a day of five high-quality workshops and five tutorials. During the next three days, the Technical Program included 19 paper presentation sessions covering various subjects of knowledge discovery and data mining, a data mining contest, and three keynote talks by world-renowned experts.

We would like to thank all the Program Committee members and external reviewers for their hard work to provide timely and comprehensive reviews and recommendations, which were crucial to the final paper selection and production of a high-quality Technical Program. We would also like to express our sincere thanks to Huiping Cao and Jinyan Li together with the individual Workshop Chairs for organizing the workshop program; Hisashi Kashima and Leman Akoglu together with the individual tutorial speakers for arranging the tutorial program; Ruili Wang for compiling all the accepted papers and for working with the Springer team to produce these proceedings.

We hope that participants in the conference in Auckland, as well as subsequent readers of the proceedings, will find the technical program of PAKDD 2016 to be both inspiring and rewarding.

February 2016

James Bailey
Latifur Khan
Takashi Washio

General Chairs' Preface

It is our great pleasure to welcome you to the 20th Conference of the Pacific Asia Conference series on Knowledge Discovery and Data Mining. PAKDD has successfully brought together researchers and developers since 1997, with the purpose of identifying challenging problems facing the development of advanced knowledge discovery. The 20th edition of PAKDD continues this tradition.

We are delighted to present three outstanding keynote speakers: Naren Ramakrishnan from Virginia Tech, Mark Sagar from The University of Auckland, and Svetha Venkatesh from Deakin University.

We are grateful to the many authors who submitted their work to the PAKDD technical program. The Program Committee was led by James Bailey, Latifur Khan and Takashi Washio. A report on the paper selection process appears in the PC Chairs' Preface.

We also thank the other Chairs in the organization team: Muhammad Asif Naeem for running the Contest; David Tse Jung Huang for publicizing to attract submissions and managing the website; Ranjini Swaminathan for handling the registration process and Yun Sing Koh and Ranjini Swaminathan for the local arrangements ensuring the conference runs smoothly.

We are grateful to the sponsors of the conference, Auckland Tourism Events and Economic Development, and BECA, for their generous sponsorship and support, and the PAKDD Steering Committee for its guidance and Best Paper Award, Student Travel Award and Early Career Research Award sponsorship. We would also like to express our gratitude to The University of Auckland for hosting and organizing this conference. Last but not least, our sincere thanks go to all the local team members and volunteer helpers for their hard work to make the event possible. We hope you enjoy PAKDD 2016 and your time in Auckland, New Zealand.

Gillian Dobbie
Joshua Zhexue Huang

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