

# Preface

This volume contains the papers presented at the 21st International Conference on Implementation and Application of Automata (CIAA 2016) organized by the Department of Computer Science at Yonsei University during July 19–22, 2016, in Seoul, Republic of Korea.

The CIAA conference series is a major international venue for the dissemination of new results in the implementation, application, and theory of automata. The previous 20 conferences were held in various locations all around the globe: Umeå (2015), Giessen (2014), Halifax (2013), Porto (2012), Blois (2011), Winnipeg (2010), Sydney (2009), San Francisco (2008), Prague (2007), Taipei (2006), Nice (2005), Kingston (2004), Santa Barbara (2003), Tours (2002), Pretoria (2001), London Ontario (2000), Potsdam (WIA 1999), Rouen (WIA 1998), London Ontario (WIA 1997 and WIA 1996). As for its predecessors, the theme of CIAA 2016 was the implementation of automata and applications in related fields. The topics of the presented papers include characterizations of automata, computing distances between strings and languages, implementations of automata and experiments, enhanced regular expressions, and complexity analysis.

There were 49 submissions from 34 different countries: Argentina, Australia, Belgium, Canada, China, Colombia, Czech Republic, Denmark, Finland, France, Germany, Hungary, India, Iran, Italy, Japan, Republic of Korea, Latvia, New Zealand, Poland, Portugal, Qatar, Russia, Singapore, Slovakia, South Africa, Spain, Sweden, Taiwan, Thailand, Tunisia, Turkey, the UK, and the USA. Each submission was reviewed by at least three reviewers and thoroughly discussed by the Program Committee (PC). The committee decided to accept 26 papers for oral presentation. The program also includes three invited talks by Oscar H. Ibarra, Bakhadyr Khoussainov, and Ahyoung Sung.

It is a pleasure for the PC chairs to thank the members of the PC and the external reviewers for reviewing the papers and participating in the selection process and helping to maintain the high standard of the CIAA conferences. We are especially grateful to all the invited speakers and all authors of submitted papers for making CIAA 2016 a scientific success. We appreciate the help of the EasyChair conference system for making our work of organizing CIAA 2016 much easier.

We would furthermore like to thank the editorial staff at Springer, and in particular Alfred Hofmann and Anna Kramer, for their guidance and help during the process of publishing this volume. Last but not least, we are grateful to the conference sponsors for their generous financial support and the local Organizing Committee members, Da-Jung Cho, Shin-Dong Kang, Guen-Hae Kim, and Hwee Kim, for their help.

We are all looking forward to CIAA 2017 at Université Paris-Est Marne-la-Vallée, Paris, in France.

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