Message from the Workshop Co-Chairs

The 15th IEEE International Conference on Data Mining (IEEE ICDM 2015) has solicited workshops on topics related to new research directions and novel applications of data mining. The goal of the ICDM workshops program (IEEE ICDMW) is to identify grand challenges in data mining, to explore the possible paths to address these urgent problems, and to solicit broad participation from the data mining community and other relevant research communities.

IEEE ICDMW 2015 was held on the 14th of November 2015 in Atlantic City, New Jersey, USA and was immediately followed by IEEE ICDM 2015. This year, we have received 48 workshop proposals, among which 34 workshops were tentatively accepted after review; based on paper submission, registration results, and merging of workshops, we ended up with 27 accepted workshops. The final ICDMW program consisted of 13 full-day workshops and 14 half-day workshops. Overall, the ICDMW received 491 submissions, among which 231 papers were accepted, with an acceptance rate of about 47%. The competitive acceptance rates have resulted in the high-quality and exciting ICDMW proceedings.

IEEE ICDMW 2015 covered many new research and application areas as well as fundamental data mining topics. The traditional and fundamental disciplines included spatio-temporal data mining, high-dimensional data mining, optimization, data integration, data privacy, information fusion, transfer learning, representation learning, etc. Emerging disciplines included behavior analysis and modeling, network mining, sentiment analysis, social network/media mining, mobility analysis, visualization and mining, and big data mining. IEEE ICDMW 2015 provided discussion forums for exciting applications including data mining in health, bioinformatics, education, intelligence, safety and security, astronomy, etc.

Many people worked together in organizing IEEE ICDMW 2015. We would like to thank all colleagues who submitted the high-quality workshop proposals. The workshop organizers are the key to the success of the ICDMW program. We thank all of them for their tremendous effort in putting together 27 exciting workshops in the final program.

In addition to the regular workshop program, ICDM each year has a tradition to include a set of highly qualified demonstration papers. These demonstrations showcase working prototypes of solutions that address problems using data mining algorithms. The ICDM 2015 Demonstration Session provided researchers and practitioners an exciting and interactive forum to review working prototypes of such solutions leading to exchange of ideas and advancing the field of data mining. This year 18 out of 38 submissions were selected to the demonstrations track. The accepted demonstrations clearly showcase the increasing impact of our field in a variety of domains ranging from viral marketing and healthcare analytics to energy use monitoring. Corresponding papers describing the demonstrations have been published in the ICDM 2015 Workshop Proceedings. We thank Hanghang Tong and B. Aditya Prakash for organizing this event.

The Data Mining Contest is an integral part of the IEEE ICDM conference and provides an opportunity for teams of scientists and domain experts to compete in order to develop data mining techniques for real-world applications. This year’s competition is to make individual user connections across a variety of digital devices using the device usage data and a set of fabricated non-personally-identifiable IDs. Around 340 teams consisting of 407 data mining researchers in total have participated in this competition this year. By the deadline date, the competition has received a total of 2355 solutions. Authors of the top submissions presented their work at the
workshop held in conjunction with the main conference on November 14th, 2015. The top 3 submissions were recognized and also provided with monetary awards. We thank Chandan Reddy and Takashi Washio for organizing this event.

This is the 5th year for the IEEE ICDM to feature a PhD forum. The forum is meant to offer an environment for students to exchange their ideas and experiences with peers and to get constructive feedback from senior researchers in data mining and related areas. The forum is particularly aimed at PhD students in the early stages of their career and graduate students planning to pursue their research in a PhD program. The 2015 edition of the PhD forum received 57 submissions, 23 of which were accepted, spanning various topics of data mining and work in related fields including databases, artificial intelligence, statistics, information retrieval, multimedia and the Web. The credits for organizing this year's PhD forum go to the 55 program committee members who provided high quality review comments and the PhD forum Co-Chairs Dr. Leman Akoglu and Dr. Wei Ding.

As Workshop Chairs, we would like to thank the Steering Committee Chair Xindong Wu, for his advice and leadership. We would also like to thank General Co-Chairs Alexander Tuzhilin and Hui Xiong and the Local Co-Chairs Fei Wang, Farid Razack and Panagiotis Karras for their thoughtful local arrangement. Furthermore, we would like to thank the Program Co-Chairs Charu Aggarwal and Zhi-Hua Zhou for their substantial contribution to the organization of the conference. In addition, we would like to thank the Web Chair Keli Xiao for his effort on the conference web presence and the Publicity Chairs Gyorgy Simon, Wenjun Zhou and Min-Ling Zhang for helping us to distribute the call for workshop proposals. Finally, special thanks go to Juzhen Dong for his exemplary performance on the workshop conference site administration and to Chuanren Liu for her tremendous help on the workshop paper registration. Thank you all for making IEEE ICDMW 2015 a success!

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