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Guillaume Bourque Nadia El-Mabrouk (Eds.)

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RECOMB 2006 International Workshop, RCG 2006
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Preface

The complexity of genome evolution poses many exciting challenges to developers of mathematical models and algorithms, who have recourse to a spectrum of algorithmic, statistical and mathematical techniques, ranging from exact, heuristic, fixed-parameter and approximation algorithms for problems based on parsimony to probabilistic models, requiring Monte Carlo Markov Chain algorithms for Bayesian analysis.

The annual RECOMB Satellite Workshop on Comparative Genomics (RECOMB Comparative Genomics) is a forum on all aspects and components of this field, ranging from new quantitative discoveries about genome structure and process to theorems on the complexity of computational problems inspired by genome comparison. The informal Steering Committee for this meeting consists of David Sankoff, Jens Lagergren and Aoife McLysaght.

This volume contains the papers presented at the 4th RECOMB Comparative Genomics meeting, which was held in Montreal, Canada, on September 24- 26, 2006. The first three meetings of this series were held in Minneapolis, USA (2003), Bertinoro, Italy (2004) and Dublin, Ireland (2005).

This year, 34 papers were submitted, of which the Program Committee selected 17 for presentation at the meeting and inclusion in these proceedings. Each submission was refereed by at least three members of the Program Committee.

RECOMB Comparative Genomics 2006 had several invited speakers, including: Lars Feuk (The Hospital for Sick Children, Toronto), Tao Jiang (University of California, Riverside), Fiona Brinkman (Simon Fraser University, Burnaby) Liqing Zhang (VirginiaTech, Blacksburg) Thomas J. Hudson (McGill University, Montreal).

In addition to the invited talks and the contributed talks, an important ingredient of the program was the lively poster session.

In closing, we would like to thank all the people who submitted papers and posters and those who attended RECOMB Comparative Genomics 2006 with enthusiasm.

September 2006

Guillaume Bourque and Nadia El-Mabrouk

Organization

RECOMB Comparative Genomics 2006 was organized by the DIRO (Department of Computer Science), the CRM (Centre de Recherches Mathématiques) and the Robert Cedergren Centre at the University of Montreal.

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