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Preface

The Pacific-Asia Conference on Knowledge Discovery and Data Mining (PAKDD) is a leading international conference in the area of data mining and knowledge discovery. It provides an international forum for researchers and industry practitioners to share their new ideas, original research results and practical development experiences from all KDD-related areas including data mining, data warehousing, machine learning, databases, statistics, knowledge acquisition and automatic scientific discovery, data visualization, causality induction, and knowledge-based systems. This year's conference (PAKDD 2005) was the ninth of the PAKDD series, and carried the tradition in providing high-quality technical programs to facilitate research in knowledge discovery and data mining. It was held in Hanoi, Vietnam at the Melia Hotel, 18–20 May 2005.

We are pleased to provide some statistics about PAKDD 2005. This year we received 327 submissions (a 37% increase over PAKDD 2004), which is the highest number of submissions since the first PAKDD in 1997) from 28 countries/regions: Australia (33), Austria (1), Belgium (2), Canada (11), China (91), Switzerland (2), France (9), Finland (1), Germany (5), Hong Kong (11), Indonesia (1), India (2), Italy (2), Japan (21), Korea (51), Malaysia (1), Macau (1), New Zealand (3), Poland (4), Pakistan (1), Portugal (3), Singapore (12), Taiwan (19), Thailand (7), Tunisia (2), UK (5), USA (31), and Vietnam (9). The submitted papers went through a rigorous reviewing process. Each submission was reviewed by at least two reviewers, and most of them by three or four reviewers. The Program Committee members were deeply involved in a highly engaging selection process with discussions among reviewers, and, when necessary, additional expert reviews were sought. As a result, the PAKDD 2005 Program Committee accepted for publication and oral presentation 48 regular papers and 49 short papers, representing 14.6% and 14.9% acceptance rates, respectively. The PAKDD 2005 program also included two workshops ("Knowledge Discovery and Data Management in Biomedical Science" and "Rough Set Techniques in Knowledge Discovery"), and four tutorials ("Graph Mining Techniques and Their Applications," "Rough Set Approach to KDD," "Web Delta Mining: Opportunities and Solutions," and "Advanced Techniques for Information and Image Classification for Knowledge Management and Decision Making").

PAKDD 2005 would not have been possible without the help of many people and organizations. First and foremost, we would like to thank the members of the Steering Committee, the Program Committee and external reviewers for their invaluable contributions. We wish to express our gratitude to:

- Honorary conference chairs: Dang Vu Minh (President of the Vietnamese Academy of Science and Technology, Vietnam) and Hoang Van Phong (Minister of Science and Technology, Vietnam);
- Conference chairs: Hiroshi Motoda (Osaka University, Japan) and Phan Dinh Dieu (Vietnam National University, Hanoi, Vietnam);

- Keynote and invited speakers: Tom Mitchell (Carnegie Mellon University, USA), Nada Lavrac (J. Stefan Institute, Slovenia) and Unna Huh (Information and Communications University, Korea);
- Local organizing committee chairs: Luong Chi Mai (Institute of Information Technology, Hanoi, Vietnam) and Nguyen Ngoc Binh (Hanoi University of Technology, Vietnam);
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- Registration chair: Nguyen Trong Dung, Institute of Information Technology, Hanoi, Vietnam);
- Award selection committee: David Cheung (University of Hong Kong, China), Huan Liu (Arizona State University, USA) and Graham Williams (ATO, Australia);
- Chani Johnson for his tireless effort in supporting Microsoft's Conference Management Tool;
- Workshop organizers: Kenji Satou and Tu Bao Ho (Japan Advanced Institute of Science and Technology, Japan), Marcin S. Szczuka and Nguyen Hung Son (Warsaw University, Poland). Tutorialists: Sharma Chakravarthy (University of Texas at Arlington, USA), Sanjay Madria (University of Missouri-Rolla, USA), Nguyen Hung Son and Marcin S. Szczuka (Warsaw University, Poland) and Parag Kulkarni (Capsilon India, India).
- External reviewers.

We greatly appreciate the financial support from various sponsors: Japan Advanced Institute of Science and Technology (JAIST), Vietnamese Academy of Science and Technology (VAST), Ministry of Science and Technology of Vietnam (MoST), Hanoi University of Technology (HUT), AFOSR/AOARD, IBM and Oracle Vietnam.

Last but not least, we would like to thank all authors, and all conference attendees for their contribution and participation. Without them, we would not have had this conference. We hope all attendees took time to exchange ideas with each other and enjoyed PAKDD 2005.

May 2005 Tu Bao Ho, David Cheung, Huan Liu

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In Loving Memory of Professor Hongjun Lu 1945–2005

Professor Lu was one of the founders of the PAKDD conference series. He played a key leadership role in nurturing and establishing the PAKDD conferences to become a world-recognized forum. He served as the Steering Committee Co-chair (1998–2001), and as Chair (2001–2003) of PAKDD. He was the Program Co-chair of the inaugural PAKDD (1997). He was honored with the inaugural PAKDD Distinguished Contribution Award (2005) for his significant and ongoing contributions in research and services to the advancement of the PAKDD community and series of conferences.

Professor Lu also served in many important and influential positions in the research community. He was elected as a Trustee of the VLDB Endowment in 2000. He was a member of the Advisory Board of ACM SIGMOD (1998–2002). He was an Editor for IEEE Transactions on Knowledge and Data Engineering (TKDE) (1996–2000) and for Knowledge and Information Systems: An International Journal (1998–2001). He has served on the program committees of numerous international conferences in databases.

Professor Lu passed away on March 3 from complications arising from his treatment for cancer. His research has made an impact in many areas, especially in the many important issues related to query processing and optimization, data warehousing and data mining. His long-term contributions through over 200 research publications in scientific journals, conferences and workshop proceedings have provided the foundations for many other researchers, and will be an ongoing contribution to our scientific endeavors for many years to come.

He will always be remembered as a great scholar, researcher, teacher and leader, and as a caring, considerate and compassionate friend to very many.

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