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Preface

The Annual International Computing and Combinatorics Conference is a forum for researchers working in the areas of algorithms, theory of computation, computational complexity, and combinatorics related to computing. The papers in this volume were presented at the 17th Annual International Computing and Combinatorics Conference (COCOON 2011), held in the city of Dallas, Texas, USA, during August 14-16, 2011. Previous meetings of this conference were held in Singapore (2002), Big Sky (2003), Jeju Island (2004), Kunming (2005), Taipei (2006), Alberta (2007), Dalian (2008), New York (2009), and NhaTrang (2010).

A total of 136 papers were submitted, of which 54 were accepted for presentation at the conference. We received papers from Austrialia, Brazil, Canada, China, Denmark, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Hong Kong, India, Iran, Israel, Italy, Japan, Korea, Mexico, Norway, Poland, Singapore, Spain, Taiwan, UK, and USA. The papers were evaluated by an international Program Committee consisting of Hee-Kap Ahn, Tatsuya Akutsu, Eric Allender, Zhixiang Chen, Zhi-zhong Chen, Qi Cheng, Ding-Zhu Du, Bin Fu, Xiaofeng Gao, Wen-Lian Hsu, Kazuo Iwama, Iyad Kanj, Neeraj Kayal, Ming-Yang Kao, Donghyun Kim, D. T. Lee, Angsheng Li, Pinyan Lu, Jack Lutz, Mitsunori Ogihara, Hi-rotaka Ono, Desh Ranjan, David Sankoff, Kavitha Telikepalli, Carola Wenk, Boting Yang, Louxin Zhang, and Shengyu Zhang. Each paper was evaluated by at least three Program Committee members, assisted in some cases by external referees. The selection was based on the papers' originality, quality, and relevance to topics of the COCOON 2011. It is expected that most of the accepted papers will appear in a more polished form in scientific journals. In addition to the selected papers, the conference also included one invited presentation by Ryan Williams. The Program Committee selected "Unions of Disjoint NP-complete Sets" by Christian Glaßer, John Hitchcocky, A. Pavan, and Stephen Travers for the Best Paper Award.

We thank all the people who made this meeting possible: the authors for submitting papers, the Program Committee members and external referees for their excellent work, and the invited speaker. Finally, we thank the colleagues at the University of Texas at Dallas for their local arrangements and assistance.

August 2011

Bin Fu
Ding-Zhu Du

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