Welcome to the 2007 IEEE International Symposium on Data Mining and Information Retrieval (DMIR-07) and to the beautiful Niagara Falls, Canada.

Indexing, retrieval, management and mining of abundant text data on the Web or digital library have become very important nowadays. The large number of text documents and the lack of formal structure in the natural-language narrative make the text search and processing very difficult, thus it is essential to develop efficient and effective text searching, retrieval and mining techniques from this ever-expanding collection of text data. Recently data mining has been successfully applied to a number of information retrieval tasks, such as statistical inference, machine learning, text classification, collaborative filtering, and text clustering. In these applications, data mining models are able to assist the process of information retrieval more efficiently and effectively. These include providing information retrieval process patterns that are found by the data mining models. Industry practitioners have experienced that using data mining techniques in information retrieval results in clear benefits and enhance information retrieval. Many large enterprises are believed to have been using data mining techniques in their online businesses. Many of the ranking systems in information retrieval also gain performance benefits when adopting certain data mining techniques.

The goal of DMIR-07 is to encourage researchers and practitioners who are active in the areas of data mining and information retrieval to address some of these challenges, help cross fertilization of ideas, and provide a common forum for the exchange of ideas in an informal environment.

The Symposium has attracted 58 submissions from 15 countries, including contributions from government laboratories, research institutes, and universities. After a thorough reviewing process by the 60-member Program Committee, 22 high-quality papers have been selected for presentation at the Symposium and publication in the Conference Proceedings.

We would like to express our sincere gratitude to the members of the Program Committee for their efforts, the IEEE Computer Society for sponsoring the Symposium, and the IEEE 21st International Conference on Advanced Information Networking and Applications (AINA-07) for hosting the Symposium. Most importantly, we thank all the authors for their submissions and contributions to the Symposium.

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