Jiannong Cao
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Francis Lau (Eds.)

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Preface

Welcome to the proceedings of the 2nd International Symposium on Parallel and Distributed Processing and Applications (ISPA 2004) which was held in Hong Kong, China, 13–15 December, 2004.

With the advance of computer networks and hardware technology, parallel and distributed processing has become a key technology which plays an important part in determining future research and development activities in many academic and industrial branches. It provides a means to solve computationally intensive problems by improving processing speed. It is also the only viable approach to building highly reliable and inherently distributed applications. ISPA 2004 provided a forum for scientists and engineers in academia and industry to exchange and discuss their experiences, new ideas, research results, and applications about all aspects of parallel and distributed computing.

There was a very large number of paper submissions (361) from 26 countries and regions, including not only Asia and the Pacific, but also Europe and North America. All submissions were reviewed by at least three program or technical committee members or external reviewers. It was extremely difficult to select the presentations for the conference because there were so many excellent and interesting submissions. In order to allocate as many papers as possible and keep the high quality of the conference, we finally decided to accept 78 regular papers and 38 short papers for oral technical presentations. We believe that all of these papers and topics not only provide novel ideas, new results, work in progress and state-of-the-art techniques in this field, but also stimulate the future research activities in the area of parallel and distributed computing with applications.

The exciting program for this conference was the result of the hard and excellent work of many others, such as program vice-chairs, external reviewers, and program and technical committee members. We would like to express our sincere appreciation to all authors for their valuable contributions and to all program and technical committee members and external reviewers for their cooperation in completing the program under a very tight schedule.

October 2004

Jiannong Cao, Laurence T. Yang
Minyi Guo, Francis C.M. Lau

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