Welcome to the proceedings of the 7th Chinese Conference on Pattern Recognition (CCPR 2016), which was held in Chengdu! Over the past decade, CCPR had been hosted by Beijing (2007, 2008, and 2012), Nanjing (2009), Chongqing (2010), and Changsha (2014) with great success. After the emergence of the Asian Conference on Pattern Recognition (ACPR) in 2011, CCPR and ACPR started being held on alternating years since 2012, making CCPR a biennial conference ever since.

Today, pattern recognition is applied in an increasing number of research domains such as autonomic understanding of vision, speech, language, and text. The recent innovative developments in big data, robotics, and multimodal interface have forced the area of pattern recognition to face both new opportunities and unprecedented challenges. Furthermore, like other flourishing new techniques, including deep learning and brain-like computation, we believe that pattern recognition will certainly exhibit greater-than-ever advances in the future. With the aim of promoting the research and technical innovation in relevant fields domestically and internationally, the fundamental objective of CCPR is defined as providing a premier forum for researchers and practitioners from academia, industry, and government to share their ideas, research results, and experiences. The selected papers included in the proceedings not only address challenging issues in various aspects of pattern recognition but also synthesize contributions from related disciplines that illuminate the state of the art.

This year, CCPR received 199 submissions, all of which are written in English. After a thorough reviewing process, 121 papers were selected for presentation as full papers, resulting in an acceptance rate of 60.53 %. An additional nine papers concerning emotion recognition were included. We are grateful to Prof. Mu-ming Poo from the Chinese Academy of Sciences, Prof. Mark S. Nixon from the University of Southampton, and Prof. Matthew Turk from the University of California for giving keynote speeches at CCPR 2016.

The high-quality program would not have been possible without the authors who chose CCPR 2016 as a venue for their publications. We are also very grateful to the members of Program Committee and Organizing Committee, who made a tremendous effort in soliciting and selecting research papers with a balance of high quality, new ideas, and new applications. We appreciate Springer for publishing these proceedings; and we are particularly thankful to Celine (Lanlan) Chang, Leonie Kunz, and Jane Li from Springer for their effort and patience in collecting and editing these proceedings.

We sincerely hope that you enjoy reading and benefit from the proceedings of CCPR 2016.

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