

DNA Computing

Biomolecular computing is an interdisciplinary field that draws together molecular biology, chemistry, physics, computer science, and mathematics. DNA nanotechnology and molecular biology are key relevant experimental areas, where knowledge increases with each passing year. The annual international meeting on DNA-based computation has been an exciting forum where scientists of different backgrounds who share a common interest in biomolecular computing meet and discuss their latest results.

The central goal of this conference is to bring together experimentalists and theoreticians whose insights can calibrate each other's approaches. DNA7, The Seventh International Meeting on DNA Based Computers, was held at The University of South Florida in Tampa, FL, USA, June 10–13, 2001. The organizers sought to attract the most significant centre research, with the highest impact on the development of the discipline. The meeting had 93 registered participants from 14 countries around the world. The program committee received 44 abstracts, from which 26 papers were presented at the meeting, and included in this volume. In addition to these papers, the Program Committee chose 9 additional papers from the poster presentations, and their revised versions have been added to this volume. As is now a tradition, four tutorials were presented on the first day of the meeting. The morning started with general tutorials by Erik Winfree (Caltech) and Junghuei Chen (University of Delaware), designed to bridge between their respective areas of expertise, computer science and molecular biology. More specialized tutorials on encoding DNA sequences and on non-standard DNA motifs and interactions were given in the afternoon by Anne Condon (University of British Columbia) and Nadrian C. Seeman (New York University), respectively.

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