

## Introduction

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This special issue grew out of the *IEEE International Conference on Information Reuse and Integration (IRI)*, July 13–15, 2008. Two keynote lectures and 84 refereed papers were presented at this conference.

The program committee selected 84 peer-reviewed papers (72 regular papers and 12 short papers), from a field of 169 papers submitted from 32 countries for presentation at technical sessions and publication in the conference proceedings. All of the papers were reviewed by at least three members of the International Program Committee. The authors of the 21 papers considered most innovative and original in terms of computing and information technologies were invited to submit “*substantially extended and updated manuscripts with additional original computational materials based on their most recent research*” for possible publication in this issue. Each submitted extended manuscript was rigorously reviewed by three to seven

reviewers using the journal’s review form. The seven manuscripts included in this special issue have successfully passed through the journal’s rigorous review process.

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