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FOREWORD

This volume contains papers selected for the presentation at the Symposium on Mathematical Foundations of Computer Science - MFCS '78 held in Zakopane, September 4-8, 1978.

The Symposium is 7th in the series of annual MFCS symposia organized alternately in Poland (every even year) and Czechoslovakia (every odd year) with the aim to promote and stimulate the mathematical approach to computer science.

Since the theoretical computer science has become a very large area nowadays the Organizing Committee has decided to select the following topics of preference:

- the theory of programs and programming languages,
- the theory of concurrency,
- the theory of data bases.

The contributed papers have been selected from about 80 full draft papers by the following Program Committee: J.W. de Bakker (Amsterdam), H.J. Genrich (Bonn), J. Gruska (Bratislava), P. Hajek (Prague), K. Indermark (Aachen), B. Mayoh (Aarhus), R. Milner (Edinburgh), Z. Pawlak (Warsaw), H. Rasiowa (Warsaw), A. Salwicki (Warsaw), P. Starke (Berlin), B.A. Trakhtenbrot

(Novosibirsk), W.M. Turski (Warsaw), J. Winkowski (Warsaw). The activity of this Committee and of the cooperating referees was a great help in completing the final program. This help is highly appreciated by the organizers.

The Symposium has been organized by the Institute of Computer Science of the Polish Academy of Sciences with the following Organizing Committee: A. Blikle (symposium chairman), P. Dembiński, E. Ginter, C. Góral, W. Kwasowiec, J. Leszczyński, W. Lipski, Jr., J. Małuszyński, A. Mazurkiewicz, J. Winkowski (program chairman).

The organizers wish to express their thanks to the Program Committee, to all of those who contributed to the symposium program, and to Springer-Verlag without whose help the present volume could not be completed.

Józef Winkowski

Warsaw, June 1978

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* Manuscript received too late to be placed correctly in the alphabetical listing.