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PREFACE

ICALP 88 is the 15th International Colloquium on Automata, Languages and Programming in a series of meetings sponsored by the European Association for Theoretical Computer Science (EATCS). It is a broadly based conference covering all aspects of Theoretical Computer Science including topics like Computability, Automata, Formal Languages, Analysis of Algorithms, Computational Complexity, Data Types and Data Structures, Theory of Data Bases and Knowledge Bases, Semantics of Programming Languages, Program Specification, Transformation and Verification, Foundations of Logic Programming, Theory of Logical Design and Layout, Parallel and Distributed Computation, Theory of Concurrency, Symbolic and Algebraic Computation, Term Rewriting Systems, Cryptography, Theory of Robotics.

ICALP 88 was held at the campus of the Tampere University of Technology from July 11 to July 15, 1988. The organizing committee consisted of T. Lepistö, P. Järvinen, R. Kurki-Suonio, K. Ruohonen, K.-J. Räihä, M. Tienari, T. Granroth, P. Kaila and E. Hirvonen.

The program committee selected 46 papers from 195 extended abstracts and draft papers submitted. Each submitted paper was evaluated by at least four members of the program committee. The final selection was made during a two-day selection meeting in which the following program committee members participated: S. Abramsky, G. Ausiello, J. Díaz, J. Gruska, W. Kuich, J. van Leeuwen, M. Nivat, J. Paredaens, A. Paz, A. Salomaa, S. Skyum, E. Ukkonen and D. Wood. It is a pleasure to thank all those who have submitted papers for consideration, the members of the program committee for their help in the evaluation of the papers and the many who assisted in this process.

We also gratefully acknowledge all the institutions and corporations which supported this conference.

Finally, we would like to thank K.-J. Räihä, K. Ruohonen and P. Kaila, who did a beautiful job in all organizational matters related to the conference.

July 1988

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Pepper,P.
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Rem,M.
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Rosenberg,A.
Ron,E.
Rozenberg,G.
Rovan,B.
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Rusinowitch,M.
Ruzicka,P.
Ryslinková,J.
Sadler,M.
Salomaa,K.
Saltor,F.
Sassano,A.
Schäffer,A.
Schmerl
Schmidt,E.M.
Schmidt,G.
Schmidt,U.
Schöning,U.
Schor,B.
Schwartzbach,M.
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Silberman,G.M.
de Simone,R.
Smolka,G.
Smyth,M.
van de Snepscheut,J.L.A.
Soisalon-Soininen,E.
Soria,M.
Staunstrup,J.
Steinby,M.
Steyaert,J.-M.
Streicher
Sturc,J.
Sturtivant,C.
Subramanian,A.
Sykora,O.
Talamo,M.
Tamminen,M.
Taubner,D.
Thomsen,B.
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Torras,J.
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Vickers,S.
Vitanyi,P.M.B.
Volger
Vornberger,O.
Vyskoc,J.
van der Weide,Th.P.
Widmayer,P.
Wiederman,J.
Wilhelm,R.
Wirsing,M.
Yannakakis,M.
Yu,S.
Zaks,S.
Zucker,J.

TABLE OF CONTENTS

Aggarwal A., Chandra A.K.
Communication complexity of PRAMs
(Preliminary Version) 1

Albert L., Fages F.
Average Case Complexity Analysis of the RETE multi-pattern
match algorithm 18

Arnborg S., Lagergren J., Seese D.
Problems easy for tree-decomposable graphs
(Extended Abstract) 38

Back R.J.R. , Kurki-Suonio R.
Serializability in distributed systems with handshaking 52

Bajaj C., Kim M.-S.
Algorithms for planar geometric models 67

Benedek G.M., Itai A.
Nonuniform learnability 82

Berstel J., Reutenauer C.
Zeta functions of recognizable languages 93

Bodlaender H.L.
Dynamic programming on graphs with bounded treewidth 105

Chang J.H., Ibarra O.H., Palis M.A.
Efficient simulations of simple models of parallel
computation by time-bounded ATM's and space-bounded TM's 119

Cole R., Salowe J., Steiger W.L., Szemerédi E.
Optimal slope selection 133

Cori R., Métivier Y.
Approximation of a trace, asynchronous automata and the ordering of events in a distributed system 147

Culik II K.
New techniques for proving the decidability of equivalence problems (Invited lecture) 162

Diekert V.
Transitive orientations, Möbius functions, and complete semi-Thue systems for free partially commutative monoids 176

Dietzfelbinger M., Maass W.
The complexity of matrix transposition on one-tape off-line Turing machines with output tape 188

Edelsbrunner H.
Geometric structures in computational geometry (Invited lecture) 201

Edelsbrunner H., Guibas L., Pach J., Pollack R, Seidel R., Sharir M.
Arrangements of curves in the plane - topology, combinatorics, and algorithms 214

Eppstein D.
Reset sequences for finite automata with application to design of parts orienters 230

Flajolet P., Gardy D., Thimonier L.
Random allocations and probabilistic languages 239

Gruska J.
Systolic architectures, systems and computations (Invited lecture) 254

Hartmanis J.
New developments in structural complexity theory (Invited lecture) 271

Kirchner C., Kirchner H., Meseguer J.
Operational semantics of OBJ-3 287

Kirschenhofer P., Prodinger H., Szpankowski W.
Do we really need to balance Patricia tries (Extended Abstract) 302

Kok J.N., Rutten J.J.M.M.
Contractions in comparing concurrency semantics 317

Kruskal C.P., Rudolph L., Snir M.
A complexity theory of efficient parallel algorithms (Extended Abstract) 333

Kucera L., Marchetti-Spaccamela A., Protasi M.
On the learnability of DNF formulae 347

Lautemann C.
Efficient algorithms on context-free graph languages 362

Lengauer T., Wanke E.
Efficient analysis of graph properties on context-free graph languages (Extended Abstract) 379

Lingas A., Syslo M.M.
A Polynomial-time algorithm for subgraph isomorphism of two-connected series-parallel graphs 394

Mehlhorn K., Yap C.-K.
Constructive Hopf's theorem: or how to untangle closed planar curves 410

Niemi V.
Maximal dense intervals of grammar forms 424

Panangaden P., Stark E.W.
Computations, residuals, and the power of indeterminacy 439

Rajasekaran S., Reif J.H.
Nested annealing: A provable improvement to simulated annealing 455

Ramesh R., Ramakrishnan I.V.
Nonlinear pattern matching in trees 473

Renji Tao
Invertibility of linear finite automata over a ring 489

Rohnert H.
Moving discs between polygons 502

Rudich S., Berman L.
Optimal circuits and transitive automorphism groups 516

Schäfer J.
A Kleene-Presburgerian approach to linear production systems 525

Simon K.
On minimum flow and transitive reduction 535

Spehner J.-C.
La reconnaissance des facteurs d'un langage fini dans un texte en temps linéaire 547

Straubing H., Thérien D., Thomas W.
Regular languages defined with generalized quantifiers 561

Tamassia R.
A dynamic data structure for planar graph embedding (Extended Abstract) 576

Tang S., Book R.V.
Separating polynomial-time Turing and truth-table reductions by tally sets (Preliminary Report) 591

Tel G.
Assertional verification of a timer-based protocol 600

Thatte S.
Type inference with partial types 615

Thiagarajan P.S.
Some behavioural aspects of net theory
(Invited lecture) 630

Turakainen P.
The equivalence of DGSM replications on Q-rational languages
is decidable 654

Vazirani V.V., Yannakakis M.
Pfaffian orientations, 0/1 permanents, and even cycles in
directed graphs 667

Wagner K.W.
On restricting the access to an NP-oracle 682

Watanabe O.
On $\leq^{P}_{1\text{-tt}}$ Sparseness and nondeterministic complexity classes
(Extended Abstract) 697

Weijland W.P.
Semantics for logic programs without occur check 710

You J.-H.
Outer narrowing for equational theories based on
constructors 727