

# Lecture Notes in Computer Science

Edited by G. Goos, J. Hartmanis, and J. van Leeuwen

2420

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Krzysztof Diks Wojciech Rytter (Eds.)

# Mathematical Foundations of Computer Science 2002

27th International Symposium, MFCS 2002  
Warsaw, Poland, August 26-30, 2002  
Proceedings



Springer

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## Cataloging-in-Publication Data applied for

### Die Deutsche Bibliothek - CIP-Einheitsaufnahme

Mathematical foundations of computer science 2002 : 27th international symposium ; proceedings / MFCS 2002, Warsaw, Poland, August 26 - 30, 2002. Krzysztof Diks ; Wojciech Rytter (ed.). - Berlin ; Heidelberg ; New York ; Barcelona ; Hong Kong ; London ; Milan ; Paris ; Tokyo : Springer, 2002 (Lecture notes in computer science ; Vol. 2420)  
ISBN 3-540-44040-2

CR Subject Classification (1998): F, G.2, D.3, I.3, E.1

ISSN 0343-2130

ISBN 3-540-44040-2 Springer-Verlag Berlin Heidelberg New York

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Springer-Verlag Berlin Heidelberg New York,  
a member of BertelsmannSpringer Science+Business Media GmbH

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© Springer-Verlag Berlin Heidelberg 2002  
Printed in Germany

Typesetting: Camera-ready by author, data conversion by Steingraber Satztechnik GmbH, Heidelberg  
Printed on acid-free paper      SPIN: 10873803      06/3142      5 4 3 2 1 0

# Preface

This volume contains papers selected for presentation at the 27th International Symposium on Mathematical Foundations of Computer Science, MFCS 2002, held in Warsaw, Poland, August 26–30, 2002.

MFCS 2002 was organized by the Institute of Informatics of Warsaw University and the Foundation for Information Technology Development. It was supported by the European Association for Theoretical Computer Science. We gratefully acknowledge the support of all these institutions.

The series of MFCS symposia, organized on a rotating basis in the Czech Republic, Poland, and Slovakia, has a well-established tradition. The aim is to encourage high-quality research in all branches of theoretical computer science and bring together specialists who do not usually meet at specialized conferences. The previous meetings took place in: Jablonna, 1972; Štrbské Pleso, 1973; Jadwisin, 1974; Mariánské Lázně, 1975; Gdańsk, 1976; Tatranská Lomnica, 1977; Zakopane, 1978; Olomouc, 1979; Rydzyna, 1980; Štrbské Pleso, 1981; Prague, 1984; Bratislava, 1986; Karlovy Vary, 1988; Porąbka-Kozubnik, 1989; Banská Bystrica, 1990; Kazimierz Dolny, 1991; Prague, 1992; Gdańsk, 1993; Košice, 1994; Prague, 1995; Kraków, 1996; Bratislava, 1997; Brno, 1998; Szklarska Poręba, 1999; Bratislava, 2000; and Mariánské Lázně, 2001.

The MFCS 2002 proceedings consists of five invited papers and 48 contributed papers. We are grateful to all the invited speakers for accepting our invitation and sharing their insights on their research areas. We thank the authors of all submissions for their contribution to the scientific program of the meeting.

The contributed papers were selected by the Program Committee out of a total of 108 submissions. All submissions were evaluated by three members of the committee, with the assistance of referees. After discussions, the final agreement was reached at the selection meeting in Warsaw on April 27, 2002 (the program committee members denoted by \* in the list below took part in the meeting). We thank all the program committee members and referees for their work which contributed to the quality of the meeting. We have tried to make the list of referees as complete and accurate as possible and apologize for all omissions and errors.

Special thanks go to Tomasz Waleń and Łukasz Kowalik who provided a reliable software system used for electronic submissions and reviewing. Finally, we would like to thank Mirosław Kowaluk, the chairman of the organizing committee, for his excellent work.

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# Table of Contents

## Invited Talks

|                                                                                                                    |    |
|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----|
| Global Development via Local Observational Construction Steps . . . . .                                            | 1  |
| <i>Michel Bidoit, Donald Sannella, Andrzej Tarlecki</i>                                                            |    |
| Edge-Colouring Pairs of Binary Trees:<br>Towards a Concise Proof of the Four-Colour Theorem of Planar Maps . . . . | 25 |
| <i>Alan Gibbons, Paul Sant</i>                                                                                     |    |
| Applications of Finite Automata . . . . .                                                                          | 40 |
| <i>Juhani Karhumäki</i>                                                                                            |    |
| Approximability of the Minimum Bisection Problem:<br>An Algorithmic Challenge . . . . .                            | 59 |
| <i>Marek Karpinski</i>                                                                                             |    |
| Low Stretch Spanning Trees . . . . .                                                                               | 68 |
| <i>David Peleg</i>                                                                                                 |    |

## Contributed Talks

|                                                                                                                           |     |
|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----|
| On Radiocoloring Hierarchically Specified Planar Graphs:<br>$\mathcal{PSPACE}$ -Completeness and Approximations . . . . . | 81  |
| <i>Maria I. Andreou, Dimitris A. Fotakis, Sotiris E. Nikolettseas,<br/>Vicky G. Papadopoulou, Paul G. Spirakis</i>        |     |
| Finite Domain Constraint Satisfaction Using Quantum Computation . . . . .                                                 | 93  |
| <i>Ola Angelsmark, Vilhelm Dahllöf, Peter Jonsson</i>                                                                     |     |
| Fast Algorithms with Algebraic Monge Properties . . . . .                                                                 | 104 |
| <i>Wolfgang W. Bein, Peter Brucker, Lawrence L. Larmore,<br/>James K. Park</i>                                            |     |
| Packing Edges in Random Regular Graphs . . . . .                                                                          | 118 |
| <i>Mihalis Beis, William Duckworth, Michele Zito</i>                                                                      |     |
| A Lower Bound Technique for Nondeterministic Graph-Driven<br>Read-Once-Branching Programs and Its Applications . . . . .  | 131 |
| <i>Beate Bollig, Philipp Woelfel</i>                                                                                      |     |
| Matroid Intersections, Polymatroid Inequalities, and Related Problems . . .                                               | 143 |
| <i>Endre Boros, Khaled Elbassioni, Vladimir Gurvich, Leonid Khachiyan</i>                                                 |     |
| Accessibility in Automata on Scattered Linear Orderings . . . . .                                                         | 155 |
| <i>Olivier Carton</i>                                                                                                     |     |

|                                                                                                                                |     |
|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----|
| On Infinite Terms Having a Decidable Monadic Theory . . . . .                                                                  | 165 |
| <i>Didier Caucal</i>                                                                                                           |     |
| A Chomsky-Like Hierarchy of Infinite Graphs . . . . .                                                                          | 177 |
| <i>Didier Caucal, Teodor Knapik</i>                                                                                            |     |
| Competitive Analysis of On-line Stream Merging Algorithms . . . . .                                                            | 188 |
| <i>Wun-Tat Chan, Tak-Wah Lam, Hing-Fung Ting, Prudence W.H. Wong</i>                                                           |     |
| Coloring $k$ -Colorable Semirandom Graphs in Polynomial Expected Time<br>via Semidefinite Programming . . . . .                | 201 |
| <i>Amin Coja-Oghlan</i>                                                                                                        |     |
| On Word Equations in One Variable . . . . .                                                                                    | 212 |
| <i>Robert Dąbrowski, Wojtek Plandowski</i>                                                                                     |     |
| Autoreducibility of Random Sets:<br>A Sharp Bound on the Density of Guessed Bits . . . . .                                     | 221 |
| <i>Todd Ebert, Wolfgang Merkle</i>                                                                                             |     |
| Two-Way Finite State Transducers with Nested Pebbles . . . . .                                                                 | 234 |
| <i>Joost Engelfriet, Sebastian Maneth</i>                                                                                      |     |
| Optimal Non-preemptive Semi-online Scheduling<br>on Two Related Machines . . . . .                                             | 245 |
| <i>Leah Epstein, Lene M. Favrholdt</i>                                                                                         |     |
| More on Weighted Servers or FIFO is Better than LRU . . . . .                                                                  | 257 |
| <i>Leah Epstein, Csanád Imreh, Rob van Stee</i>                                                                                |     |
| On Maximizing the Throughput of Multiprocessor Tasks . . . . .                                                                 | 269 |
| <i>Aleksei V. Fishkin, Guochuan Zhang</i>                                                                                      |     |
| Some Results on Random Unsatisfiable $k$ -Sat Instances<br>and Approximation Algorithms Applied to Random Structures . . . . . | 280 |
| <i>Andreas Goerdt, Tomasz Jurdziński</i>                                                                                       |     |
| Evolutionary Tandem Repeats Using Hamming Distance . . . . .                                                                   | 292 |
| <i>Richard Groult, Martine Léonard, Laurent Mouchard</i>                                                                       |     |
| Subgraph Isomorphism, log-Bounded Fragmentation<br>and Graphs of (Locally) Bounded Treewidth . . . . .                         | 305 |
| <i>MohammadTaghi Hajiaghayi, Naomi Nishimura</i>                                                                               |     |
| Computing Partial Information out of Intractable One –<br>The First Digit of $2^n$ at Base 3 as an Example . . . . .           | 319 |
| <i>Mika Hirvensalo, Juhani Karhumäki</i>                                                                                       |     |
| Algorithms for Computing Small NFAs . . . . .                                                                                  | 328 |
| <i>Lucian Ilie, Sheng Yu</i>                                                                                                   |     |

|                                                                                                                                              |     |
|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----|
| Space-Economical Construction of Index Structures<br>for All Suffixes of a String . . . . .                                                  | 341 |
| <i>Shunsuke Inenaga, Ayumi Shinohara, Masayuki Takeda, Hideo Bannai,<br/>Setsuo Arikawa</i>                                                  |     |
| An Explicit Lower Bound of $5n - o(n)$ for Boolean Circuits . . . . .                                                                        | 353 |
| <i>Kazuo Iwama, Hiroki Morizumi</i>                                                                                                          |     |
| Computational Complexity in the Hyperbolic Plane . . . . .                                                                                   | 365 |
| <i>Chuzo Iwamoto, Takeshi Andou, Kenichi Morita, Katsunobu Imai</i>                                                                          |     |
| On a Mereological System for Relational Software Specifications . . . . .                                                                    | 375 |
| <i>Ryszard Janicki</i>                                                                                                                       |     |
| An Optimal Lower Bound for Resolution with 2-Conjunctions . . . . .                                                                          | 387 |
| <i>Jan Johannsen, N.S. Narayanaswamy</i>                                                                                                     |     |
| Improved Parameterized Algorithms for Planar Dominating Set . . . . .                                                                        | 399 |
| <i>Iyad A. Kanj, Ljubomir Perković</i>                                                                                                       |     |
| Optimal Free Binary Decision Diagrams for Computation of $\text{EAR}_n$ . . . . .                                                            | 411 |
| <i>Jan Kára, Daniel Král'</i>                                                                                                                |     |
| Unification Modulo Associativity and Idempotency Is NP-complete . . . . .                                                                    | 423 |
| <i>Ondřej Klíma</i>                                                                                                                          |     |
| On the Complexity of Semantic Equivalences<br>for Pushdown Automata and BPA . . . . .                                                        | 433 |
| <i>Antonín Kučera, Richard Mayr</i>                                                                                                          |     |
| An Improved Algorithm for the Membership Problem<br>for Extended Regular Expressions . . . . .                                               | 446 |
| <i>Orna Kupferman, Sharon Zuhovitzky</i>                                                                                                     |     |
| Efficient Algorithms for Locating the Length-Constrained Heaviest Segments,<br>with Applications to Biomolecular Sequence Analysis . . . . . | 459 |
| <i>Yaw-Ling Lin, Tao Jiang, Kun-Mao Chao</i>                                                                                                 |     |
| Derivation of Rational Expressions with Multiplicity . . . . .                                                                               | 471 |
| <i>Sylvain Lombardy, Jacques Sakarovitch</i>                                                                                                 |     |
| Hypothesis-Founded Semantics for Datalog Programs with Negation . . . . .                                                                    | 483 |
| <i>Yann Loyer, Nicolas Spyratos</i>                                                                                                          |     |
| On the Problem of Scheduling Flows on Distributed Networks . . . . .                                                                         | 495 |
| <i>Thomas Lücking, Burkhard Monien, Manuel Rode</i>                                                                                          |     |
| Unit Testing for CASL Architectural Specifications . . . . .                                                                                 | 506 |
| <i>Patricia D.L. Machado, Donald Sannella</i>                                                                                                |     |

|                                                                                                     |     |
|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----|
| Symbolic Semantics and Analysis for Crypto-CCS<br>with (Almost) Generic Inference Systems . . . . . | 519 |
| <i>Fabio Martinelli</i>                                                                             |     |
| The Complexity of Tree Multicolorings . . . . .                                                     | 532 |
| <i>Dániel Marx</i>                                                                                  |     |
| On Verifying Fair Lossy Channel Systems . . . . .                                                   | 543 |
| <i>Benoît Masson, Ph. Schnoebelen</i>                                                               |     |
| Parameterized Counting Problems . . . . .                                                           | 556 |
| <i>Catherine McCartin</i>                                                                           |     |
| On the Construction of Effective Random Sets . . . . .                                              | 568 |
| <i>Wolfgang Merkle, Nenad Mihailović</i>                                                            |     |
| On the Structure of the Simulation Order of Proof Systems . . . . .                                 | 581 |
| <i>Jochen Messner</i>                                                                               |     |
| Comorphism-Based Grothendieck Logics . . . . .                                                      | 593 |
| <i>Till Mossakowski</i>                                                                             |     |
| Finite Test-Sets for Overlap-Free Morphisms . . . . .                                               | 605 |
| <i>Gwenael Richomme, Francis Wlazinski</i>                                                          |     |
| Characterizing Simpler Recognizable Sets of Integers . . . . .                                      | 615 |
| <i>Michel Rigo</i>                                                                                  |     |
| Towards a Cardinality Theorem for Finite Automata . . . . .                                         | 625 |
| <i>Till Tantau</i>                                                                                  |     |
| An Approximation Semantics for the Propositional Mu-Calculus . . . . .                              | 637 |
| <i>Roger Villemaire</i>                                                                             |     |
| Author Index . . . . .                                                                              | 651 |