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A. Finkel M. Jantzen (Eds.)

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Series Editors

Gerhard Goos
Universität Karlsruhe
Postfach 69 80
Vincenz-Priessnitz-Straße 1
W-7500 Karlsruhe, FRG

Juris Hartmanis
Department of Computer Science
Cornell University
5148 Upson Hall
Ithaca, NY 14853, USA

Volume Editors

Alain Finkel
ENS Cachan, LIFAC
61, Avenue du President Wilson, 94235 Cachan, France

Matthias Jantzen
Fachbereich Informaik, Universität Hamburg
Rothenbaumchaussee 67/69, W-2000 Hamburg 13, FRG

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Foreword

The annual Symposium on Theoretical Aspects of Computer Science (STACS) is held each year, alternatively in France and Germany. STACS is organized jointly by the Special Interest Group for Fundamental Computer Science of the Association Française des Sciences et Technologies de l'Information et des Systèmes (AFCET) and the Special Interest Group for Theoretical Computer Science of the Gesellschaft für Informatik (GI).

STACS 92, the ninth of this series, was held in Cachan, February 13-15. It was preceded by symposia at Hamburg (1991), Rouen (1990), Paderborn (1989), Bordeaux (1988), Passau (1987), Orsay (1986), Saarbrücken (1985), and Paris (1984); the proceedings of these symposia are published Lecture Notes in Computer Science Volumes 480, 415, 349, 294, 247, 210, 182 and 166 respectively.

The large number of 179 submitted papers, their scientific quality and relevance for the symposium once again proved the importance of STACS for many areas of theoretical computer science.

The time schedule of the symposium allowed for acceptance of only 44 of the submitted papers and made parallel sessions unavoidable. Therefore, the selection was very difficult and many good papers had to be rejected. Each submitted paper was sent to four Program Committee members, who were often assisted by other competent referees. The members of the Program Committee are as follows:

<u>H. Alt</u> (Berlin)	<u>M. Jantzen</u> (Hamburg, co-chairman)
<u>A. Arnold</u> (Bordeaux)	<u>A. Pnueli</u> (Rehovot)
<u>D. Beauquier</u> (Paris)	<u>D. Seese</u> (Duisburg)
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<u>M. Cosnard</u> (Lyon)	<u>P. Vitanyi</u> (Amsterdam)
<u>A. Finkel</u> (Cachan, chairman)	<u>I. Wegener</u> (Dortmund)

Those who attended the meeting are underlined. All evaluations arrived on time for this selection meeting.

We would like to express our gratitude to all members of the Program Committee, in particular to those who made the final selection, and to all referees who assisted them. The list of the referees is as complete as we can achieve, and we apologize for any possible omissions or errors. Moreover we would like to thank all those who submitted papers to this symposium. STACS 92 offered three invited talks which opened each day of the symposium:

M.C. Gaudel (Univ. Paris-Orsay): Structuring and Modularizing Algebraic Specifications: the PLUSS Specification Language, Evolutions and Perspectives
T. Hagerup (MPI Informatik): The Log-Star Revolution
I. SIMON (Univ. de Sao Paulo): Compression and Entropy

A number of software systems were presented which showed the possibilities of applying theoretical results to software construction as well as providing a help for doing research.

Except for systems, the papers in this volume are printed in the order of presentation and thus grouped into sessions, most of which are thematic.

We gratefully acknowledge all the institutions and corporations who have supported this conference:

Aérospatiale, Bull, C³, CNET, CNRS, Dassault, DRED, DRET, ENS Cachan, IBM, INRIA, MACIF, Matra, MRT, PRC-Programmation, SLIGOS, Université de Picardie, Université Paris-Orsay.

Last but not least, we wish to express our gratitude to the members of the Organizing Committee:

P. Estraillier (Paris), A. Finkel (Cachan), A. Petit (Orsay), L. Petrucci (Evry), B. Rozoy (Orsay), V. Ségaut (AFCET, Paris)

Paris, December 1991

Alain Finkel
Matthias Jantzen

List of Referees

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BEST	E	FORTNOW	M
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BLOEMER	J	FROUGNY	C
BLOK	W	GABARRO	J
BOASSON	L	GASTALDO	M
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