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Preface

For more than a decade, Foundations of Software Technology and Theoretical Computer Science Conferences have been providing an annual academic computer science forum for the presentation of new results in the topics of current research in India and abroad. This year, there was a total of 125 submitted papers from 14 countries. Each paper was reviewed by at least three reviewers in that particular area. Based on these reviews, the Programme Committee selected 28 papers at the Programme Committee Meeting held on 27–28 July 1992 at the Tata Institute of Fundamental Research, Bombay. In fact, this was the maximum that could be accommodated in three days without parallel sessions; hence, many other good papers had to be omitted. Apart from the attractive conference programme, the conference has started pre-conference workshops. This year, there is a pre-conference workshop on *Approximation Algorithms* organized by V.V. Vazirani (IIT, Delhi).

It is a pleasure to thank the invited speakers, Samson Abramsky, Kurt Mehlhorn and Amir Pnueli for accepting our invitation to give talks and contribute papers or abstracts to the proceedings. The referees deserve a great deal of gratitude for their careful attention and response often at very short notice.

In spite of the economic crunch facing the country, the Tata Institute of Fundamental Research (TIFR) has been generous in providing strong support for organizing the conference. I thank TIFR for the financial and infrastructural support they have been providing over the years for the conference series. I also thank CMC (Hyderabad), IIT (Bombay), IISc (Bangalore) and TRDDC (Pune) for providing partial financial support for the conference.

I thank Paritosh Pandya (TIFR) for his time and help at various stages of the conference. John Barretto (TIFR) provided all the secretarial help. He did a tremendous job and special thanks go to him. I thank the editorial staff of Springer-Verlag, in particular Alfred Hofmann, for all the help and understanding in bringing out the proceedings in time for the conference.

October 1992

R.K. Shyamasundar

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