Lecture Notes in Computer Science 721
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John Fitch (Ed.)

Design and Implementation of Symbolic Computation Systems

International Symposium, DISCO '92
Bath, U.K., April 13-15, 1992
Proceedings

Springer-Verlag
Berlin Heidelberg New York
London Paris Tokyo
Hong Kong Barcelona
Budapest

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CR Subject Classification (1991): D.1, D.2.1, D.2.10, D.3, I.1, I.2.2-3, I.2.5, I.3.5-6

ISBN 3-540-57272-4 Springer-Verlag Berlin Heidelberg New York
ISBN 0-387-57272-4 Springer-Verlag New York Berlin Heidelberg

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Printed in Germany

Typesetting: Camera-ready by author
Printing and binding: Druckhaus Beltz, Hemsbach/Bergstr.
45/3140-543210 - Printed on acid-free paper

Preface

DISCO '92 was held from April 13 to 15, 1992, in the ancient city of Bath, England. The actual site was the Newton Park campus of Bath College of Higher Education. Besides the formal lectures dedicated to Design and Implementation issues of Computer Algebra, there were several software demonstrations, and the opportunity for system designers to compare systems. The demonstrations were facilitated by the loan of equipment from the University of Bath and from Codemist Ltd.

The schedule allowed time for discussions after the papers. One general theme which clearly emerged was the need for interconnections between systems, as no one system will have in it all the facilities that the users want. There are the various efforts going on to design such links, but generally in limited contexts (such as the Maple project or the Posso project).

Many people helped in the organisation and running of DISCO '92, but I would like to make a special mention of John Fitch, who did much of the work when, at the last minute, I had other administrative tasks to perform.

July 1993 J. H. Davenport

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