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Preface

This is the proceedings volume of the International Symposium LATIN'95, Latin American Theoretical INformatics, held in Valparaíso, Chile, April 3–7, 1995.

This event continues the tradition started by LATIN'92, organized at São Paulo, Brazil in April of 1992. The aim of the conference is to provide a high level forum for theoretical computer science research in Latin America, and to promote a strong and healthy interaction with the international scientific community.

Although the LATIN conferences are intended to be comprehensive symposia on the theory of computing, most papers accepted for LATIN'95 fell into the following areas: complexity, cellular automata, networks, symbolic computation, automata theory, formal languages, data structures, graph algorithms, and pattern matching. In response to our call for papers, we received 68 submissions, from 131 authors of 22 different countries. The 38 papers in this volume were selected on the basis of approximately 250 reports filed by the program committee and by our referees. The technical program was enhanced by the talks given by the following invited speakers: Alberto Apostolico (Italy, USA), Josep Díaz (Spain), J.Ian Munro (Canada), Isaac Scherson (USA), and Mike Waterman (USA).

The local arrangements for the conference were handled by the Universidad Técnica Federico Santa María, from Valparaíso, and the program and organizing committee were co-chaired by Ricardo Baeza-Yates and Eric Goles, from the Universidad de Chile, with the cooperation of the Pontificia Universidad Católica de Chile. LATIN'95 was sponsored by CONICYT Chile, Fundación Andes, IFIP SGFCS, Red Iberoamericana de Tecnología de Software (RITOS-CYTED), and UNESCO. Additional support was provided by ACM/SIGACT, CLEI, EATCS, DCC and DIM (U. de Chile), DII (UTFSM), DCC (PUC de Chile), IEEE TCMFC, SCCC, and SBC.

We would like to thank all the individuals and organizations who cooperated with this event and who are too numerous to be mentioned here. In particular, the continued commitment of Springer-Verlag to publish these proceedings in its Lecture Notes in Computer Science series has contributed strongly to the success of this conference.

This second LATIN conference signals the consolidation of this forum as the main Latin American event in theoretical computer science. It is a recognition to the foresight of the people who started this initiative, especially Imre Simon, and we feel confident that the tradition will be continued in many future LATIN conferences.

Santiago, Chile, January 1995

Ricardo Baeza-Yates
Eric Goles
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