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Coding Theory and Applications

Second International Castle Meeting, ICMCTA 2008
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Proceedings

Volume Editor

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Preface

It is a pleasure to welcome you to the proceedings of the second International Castle Meeting on Coding Theory and its Applications, held at La Mota Castle in Medina del Campo. The event provided a forum for the exchange of results and ideas, which we hope will foster future collaboration. The first meeting was held in 1999, and, encouraged by that experience, we now intend to hold the meeting every three years.

Springer kindly accepted to publish the proceedings volume you have in your hands in their LNCS series. The topics were selected to cover some of the areas of research in Coding Theory that are currently receiving the most attention. The program consisted of a mixture of invited and submitted talks, with the focus on quality rather than quantity. A total of 34 papers were submitted to the meeting. After a careful review process conducted by the scientific committee aided by external reviewers, we selected 14 of these for inclusion in the current volume, along with 5 invited papers. The program was further augmented by the remaining invited papers in addition to papers on recent results, printed in a separate volume.

We would like to thank everyone who made this meeting possible by helping with the practical and scientific preparations: the organization committee, the scientific committee, the invited speakers, and the many external reviewers who shall remain anonymous. I would especially like to mention the General Advisor of the meeting, Øyvind Ytrehus. Finally I extend my gratitude to all the authors and participants who contributed to this meeting.

We thank the official institutions that sponsored our efforts: the Proyecto Consolider “Ingenio Mathematica” and the University of Valladolid.

This preface would not be complete without a few words about the special environment provided by the castle that gave its name to the meeting. La Mota Castle was built on the remains of a moorish castle from the 12th century. The current architecture is from the 15th century. In those days, the castle was one of the biggest and most important castles in Europe, located in Medina del Campo, one of the main trade centers of the Spanish Empire. The castle has lodged historical characters like Queen Isabel the Catholic and her daughter Joan the Mad, and its dungeons have provided accommodation for other prominent guests like César Borgia (who managed to escape by use of a file and a rope). We are sure such an atmosphere will generate inspiration for future work on the topics of the meeting and in many other directions.

July 2008

Ángela Barbero

Organization

2ICMCTA 2008 was organized by the University of Valladolid and was held in the Castillo de la Mota in Medina del Campo.

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