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Volume Editors

Torben Hagerup
Universität Augsburg, Institut für Informatik
86135 Augsburg, Germany
E-mail: hagerup@informatik.uni-augsburg.de

Jyrki Katajainen
University of Copenhagen, Department of Computing
Universitetsparken 1, 2100 Copenhagen East, Denmark
E-mail: jyrki@diku.dk

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Preface

This volume contains the papers presented at SWAT 2004, the 9th Scandinavian Workshop on Algorithm Theory, which was held on July 8–10, 2004, at the Louisiana Museum of Modern Art in Humlebæk on the Øresund coast north of Copenhagen. The SWAT workshop, in reality a full-fledged conference, has been held biennially since 1988 and rotates among the five Nordic countries, Denmark, Finland, Iceland, Norway, and Sweden. The previous meetings took place in Halmstad (1988), Bergen (1990), Helsinki (1992), Århus (1994), Reykjavik (1996), Stockholm (1998), Bergen (2000), and Turku (2002). SWAT alternates with the Workshop on Algorithms and Data Structures (WADS), held in odd-numbered years.

The call for papers invited contributions on all aspects of algorithm theory. A total of 121 submissions was received — an overall SWAT high. These underwent thorough reviewing, and the program committee met in Copenhagen on March 20–21, 2004, and selected 40 papers for presentation at the conference. The program committee was impressed with the quality of the submissions and, given the constraints imposed by the choice of conference venue and duration, had to make some tough decisions. The scientific program was enriched by invited presentations by Gerth Stølting Brodal (University of Aarhus) and Charles E. Leiserson (Massachusetts Institute of Technology).

Two satellite events were held immediately before SWAT 2004: the Workshop on On-Line Algorithms (OLA 2004), organized by members of the Department of Mathematics and Computer Science at the University of Southern Denmark, and the Summer School on Experimental Algorithmics, organized by the Performance Engineering Laboratory in the Department of Computing at the University of Copenhagen. More information about SWAT 2004 and its satellite events is available at the conference web site <http://swat.diku.dk/>.

We thank all of the many persons whose efforts contributed to making SWAT 2004 a success. These include the members of the steering, program, and organizing committees, the invited speakers, the authors who submitted papers, the numerous referees who assisted the program committee, and the support staff at the conference. Our special thanks go to Frank Kammer (University of Augsburg), who maintained the submission server, and Sebastian Berg and his associates (Less is more ApS), who implemented and hosted the web-based conference shop. We also thank our institutional and industrial sponsors for their support.

May 2004

Torben Hagerup
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Table of Contents

Invited Contributions

Design and Analysis of Dynamic Multithreaded Algorithms	1
<i>Charles E. Leiserson</i>	
Cache-Oblivious Algorithms and Data Structures	3
<i>Gerth Stølting Brodal</i>	

Refereed Contributions

Getting the Best Response for Your Erg	14
<i>Kirk Pruhs, Patchrawat Uthaisombut, Gerhard Woeginger</i>	
Auctions with Budget Constraints	26
<i>Nir Andelman, Yishay Mansour</i>	
Tight Approximability Results for Test Set Problems in Bioinformatics	39
<i>Piotr Berman, Bhaskar DasGupta, Ming-Yang Kao</i>	
Robust Subgraphs for Trees and Paths.....	51
<i>Refael Hassin, Danny Segev</i>	
Collective Tree Spanners of Graphs.....	64
<i>Feodor F. Dragan, Chenyu Yan, Irina Lomonosov</i>	
Optimally Competitive List Batching	77
<i>Wolfgang W. Bein, Leah Epstein, Lawrence L. Larmore, John Noga</i>	
The Relative Worst Order Ratio Applied to Seat Reservation	90
<i>Joan Boyar, Paul Medvedev</i>	
Online Maintenance of k -Medians and k -Covers on a Line	102
<i>Rudolf Fleischer, Mordecai J. Golin, Zhang Yan</i>	
Matching Polyhedral Terrains Using Overlays of Envelopes	114
<i>Vladlen Koltun, Carola Wenk</i>	
Independent Set of Intersection Graphs of Convex Objects in 2D.....	127
<i>Pankaj K. Agarwal, Nabil H. Mustafa</i>	
Maximizing the Area of Overlap of Two Unions of Disks Under Rigid Motion	138
<i>Mark de Berg, Sergio Cabello, Panos Giannopoulos, Christian Knauer, René van Oostrum, Remco C. Velthkamp</i>	

Construction of the Nearest Neighbor Embracing Graph of a Point Set	150
<i>M.Y. Chan, Danny Chen, Francis Y.L. Chin, Cao An Wang</i>	
Connectivity of Graphs Under Edge Flips	161
<i>Norbert Zeh</i>	
Improvement of Nemhauser-Trotter Theorem and Its Applications in Parametrized Complexity	174
<i>Miroslav Chlebík, Janka Chlebíková</i>	
A Simple Linear-Time Modular Decomposition Algorithm for Graphs, Using Order Extension	187
<i>Michel Habib, Fabien de Montgolfier, Christophe Paul</i>	
Railway Delay Management: Exploring Its Algorithmic Complexity	199
<i>Michael Gatto, Björn Glaus, Riko Jacob, Leon Peeters, Peter Widmayer</i>	
Layered Heaps	212
<i>Amr Elmasry</i>	
Melding Priority Queues	223
<i>Ran Mendelson, Robert E. Tarjan, Mikkel Thorup, Uri Zwick</i>	
An Algorithm for Cyclic Edge Connectivity of Cubic Graphs	236
<i>Zdeněk Dvořák, Jan Kára, Daniel Král', Ondřej Pangrác</i>	
Subexponential-Time Framework for Optimal Embeddings of Graphs in Integer Lattices	248
<i>Anders Dessmark, Andrzej Lingas, Eva-Marta Lundell</i>	
New Algorithms for Enumerating All Maximal Cliques	260
<i>Kazuhisa Makino, Takeaki Uno</i>	
The Multi-multiway Cut Problem	273
<i>Adi Avidor, Michael Langberg</i>	
The Bottleneck Problem with Minimum Quantity Commitments	285
<i>Andrew Lim, Zhou Xu</i>	
All-Norm Approximation for Scheduling on Identical Machines	298
<i>Yossi Azar, Shai Taub</i>	
Approximation Algorithms for the General Max-min Resource Sharing Problem: Faster and Simpler	311
<i>Klaus Jansen</i>	
Approximation Schemes for the Crane Scheduling Problem	323
<i>Andrew Lim, Brian Rodrigues, Zhou Xu</i>	

Improved Approximation Algorithms for the Single-Sink Buy-at-Bulk Network Design Problems	336
<i>Raja Jothi, Balaji Raghavachari</i>	
A $(2 - c^{\frac{\log N}{N}})$ -Approximation Algorithm for the Stable Marriage Problem	349
<i>Kazuo Iwama, Shuichi Miyazaki, Kazuya Okamoto</i>	
Maximizing the Number of Packed Rectangles	362
<i>Klaus Jansen, Guochuan Zhang</i>	
Two Space Saving Tricks for Linear Time LCP Array Computation	372
<i>Giovanni Manzini</i>	
Fully-Dynamic All-Pairs Shortest Paths: Faster and Allowing Negative Cycles	384
<i>Mikkel Thorup</i>	
Faster Deterministic Gossiping in Directed Ad Hoc Radio Networks	397
<i>Leszek Gąsieniec, Tomasz Radzik, Qin Xin</i>	
Online Scheduling of Splittable Tasks in Peer-to-Peer Networks	408
<i>Leah Epstein, Rob van Stee</i>	
The Optimal Online Algorithms for Minimizing Maximum Lateness	420
<i>Patchrawat Uthaisombut</i>	
Power Assignment in Radio Networks with Two Power Levels	431
<i>Paz Carmi, Matthew J. Katz</i>	
Pointed Binary Encompassing Trees	442
<i>Michael Hoffmann, Bettina Speckmann, Csaba D. Tóth</i>	
On Geometric Structure of Global Roundings for Graphs and Range Spaces	455
<i>Tetsuo Asano, Naoki Katoh, Hisao Tamaki, Takeshi Tokuyama</i>	
External Connected Components	468
<i>Jop F. Sibeyn</i>	
Cache-Oblivious Data Structures and Algorithms for Undirected Breadth-First Search and Shortest Paths	480
<i>Gerth Stølting Brodal, Rolf Fagerberg, Ulrich Meyer, Norbert Zeh</i>	
Simplified External Memory Algorithms for Planar DAGs	493
<i>Lars Arge, Laura Toma</i>	
Author Index	505