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# Solving Irregularly Structured Problems in Parallel

5th International Symposium, IRREGULAR'98  
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# Preface

The Fifth International Symposium on Solving Irregularly Structured Problems in Parallel (IRREGULAR'98) was scheduled for August 9–11, 1998, in NERSC, Lawrence Berkeley National Laboratory, Berkeley, California, USA.

IRREGULAR focuses on algorithmic, applicational, and system aspects arising in the development of efficient parallel solutions to irregularly structured problems. It aims, in particular, at fostering cooperation among practitioners and theoreticians in the field. *IRREGULAR'98*, is the fifth in the series, after Geneva, Lyon, Santa Barbara, and Paderborn. IRREGULAR was promoted and coordinated by the Symposium Chairs, Afonso Ferreira (ENS Lyon) and José Rolim (Geneva).

This volume contains all contributed papers accepted for presentation at the '98 Symposium, together with abstracts of the invited lectures by Gary Miller (CMU), John Gilbert (Xerox PARC), Keshav Pingali (Cornell), Bruce Hendrickson (Sandia National Laboratory), and M. Valero (Technical U, Barcelona). In addition to the traditional contributed and invited talks, this year IRREGULAR has four mini-symposia: (1) *Principles and Practice of Preconditioned Iterative Methods*, organized by Edmond Chow (Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory), (2) *Mesh Generation*, organized by Kwok Ko (Stanford), (3) *Partitioning and Dynamic Load Balancing*, organized by Andrew Sohn (NJIT), and (4) *Information Retrieval*, organized by Hongyuan Zha (Penn State).

The contributed papers were selected out of several dozen submissions received in response to the call for papers. The selection of the contributed papers was based on originality, quality, and relevance to the symposium. Considerable effort was devoted to the evaluation of the submissions by the program committee and a number of other referees. Extensive feedback was provided to authors as a result, which we hope has proven helpful to them. We wish to thank the program committee and the referees as well as the authors of all submissions.

The final program represents an interesting cross section of research efforts in the area of irregular parallelism. By introducing mini-symposia to the conference, we hope to expand the scope of this conference especially by attracting papers on parallel processing for information organization and internet applications.

IRREGULAR'98 could not have happened without the dedicated work of our local organizers Roberta Boucher and Kare Zukor, from Lawrence Berkeley National Laboratory, whose sponsorship of the symposium is gratefully acknowledged.

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