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Computing and Combinatorics

Third Annual International Conference COCOON '97 Shanghai, China, August 20-22, 1997 Proceedings



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Preface

The abstracts and papers in this volume were presented at the Third Annual International Computing and Combinatorics Conference, on August 20-22, 1997, in Shanghai, China. The topics cover most aspects of theoretical computer science and combinatorics pertaining to computing. The conference was held in cooperation with the Chinese Academy of Sciences, Fudan University, China Computer Federation, Shanghai Computer Society, and the Chinese Association of Discrete Mathematics.

The 53 regular papers were selected from 106 submissions by an international program committee consisting of Sanjeev Arora, Paul Beame, Marshall Bern, Siuwing Cheng, Maxime Crochemore, Josep Díaz, Xin He, Wenlian Hsu, Yoshihide Igarashi, Tao Jiang (co-chair), Richard Karp, Sam Kim, Ker-I Ko, Kojiro Kobayashi, D.T. Lee (co-chair), Rajeev Motwani, Ian Munro, Maurice Nivat, Shang-Hua Teng, Les Valiant, Paul Vitányi, Jie Wang, Mihalis Yannakakis, and Hong Zhu.

The authors of these papers come from the following countries and regions: Australia, Canada, China (including Taiwan), France, Germany, Italy, Hong Kong, Japan, Korea, Hungary, Latvia, New Zealand, Singapore, Spain, The Netherlands, UK, and USA. Every submitted paper was reviewed by three program committee members. Many of these papers represent reports of continuing research, and it is expected that most of them will appear in a more polished and complete form in scientific journals. In addition to the regular papers, two program committee members (Paul Vitányi and Shang-Hua Teng) were invited to present plenary lectures on their research programs.

The Hao Wang Award was inaugurated this year to honor the paper(s) judged by the program committee to have the greatest scientific merit. The recipient of the first Hao Wang Award is "Resolution of Hartmanis' Conjecture for NL-hard Sparse Sets" by Jin-Yi Cai and D. Sivakumar.

We wish to thank all who have made this meeting possible: the authors for submitting papers, the program committee members and referees for their excellent work in reviewing the papers, the sponsors, the local organizers, and Springer for their support and assistance. We are especially grateful to the conference organizing committee members Dingzhu Du, Ming Li, and Hong Zhu for their organizational work, David Karger and Samuel A. Rebelsky for their advice on the ACM SIGACT electronic submissions system, Daniel D. Sleator for his program committee assistance software, and Dan Trottier and Yufang Hua for their technical support.

August 1997

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