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Preface

The papers in this volume were presented at the 14th Symposium on Fundamentals of Computation Theory.

The symposium was established in 1977 as a biennial event for researchers interested in all aspects of theoretical computer science, in particular in algorithms, complexity, and formal and logical methods. The previous FCT conferences were held in the following cities: Poznań (Poland, 1977), Wendisch-Rietz (Germany, 1979), Szeged (Hungary, 1981), Borgholm (Sweden, 1983), Cottbus (Germany, 1985), Kazan (Russia, 1987), Szeged (Hungary, 1989), Gosen-Berlin (Germany, 1991), Szeged (Hungary, 1993), Dresden (Germany, 1995), Kraków (Poland, 1997), Iasi (Romania, 1999), and Riga (Latvia, 2001).

The FCT conferences are coordinated by the FCT steering committee, which consists of B. Chlebus (Denver/Warsaw), Z. Esik (Szeged), M. Karpinski (Bonn), A. Lingas (Lund), M. Santha (Paris), E. Upfal (Providence), and I. Wegener (Dortmund).

The call for papers sought contributions on original research in all aspects of theoretical computer science including design and analysis of algorithms, abstract data types, approximation algorithms, automata and formal languages, categorical and topological approaches, circuits, computational and structural complexity, circuit and proof theory, computational biology, computational geometry, computer systems theory, concurrency theory, cryptography, domain theory, distributed algorithms and computation, molecular computation, quantum computation and information, granular computation, probabilistic computation, learning theory, rewriting, semantics, logic in computer science, specification, transformation and verification, and algebraic aspects of computer science.

There were 73 papers submitted, of which the majority were very good. Because of the FCT format, the program committee could select only 36 papers for presentation. In addition, invited lectures were presented by Sanjeev Arora (Princeton), George Păun (Romanian Academy), and Christos Papadimitriou (Berkeley).

FCT 2003 was held on August 13–15, 2003, in Malmö, and Andrzej Lingas (Lund University) and Bengt Nilsson (Malmö University College) were, respectively, the program committee and the conference chairs.

We wish to thank all referees who helped to evaluate the papers. We are grateful to Lund University, Malmö University College, and the Swedish Research Council for their support.

Lund, May 2003

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Table of Contents

Approximability 1

Proving Integrality Gaps without Knowing the Linear Program	1
<i>Sanjeev Arora</i>	
An Improved Analysis of Goemans and Williamson's LP-Relaxation for MAX SAT	2
<i>Takao Asano</i>	
Certifying Unsatisfiability of Random $2k$ -SAT Formulas Using Approximation Techniques	15
<i>Amin Coja-Oghlan, Andreas Goerdt, André Lanka, Frank Schädlich</i>	

Approximability 2

Inapproximability Results for Bounded Variants of Optimization Problems	27
<i>Miroslav Chlebík, Janka Chlebíková</i>	
Approximating the Pareto Curve with Local Search for the Bicriteria TSP(1,2) Problem.....	39
<i>Eric Angel, Evripidis Bampis, Laurent Gourvès</i>	
Scheduling to Minimize Max Flow Time: Offline and Online Algorithms	49
<i>Monaldo Mastrolilli</i>	

Algorithms 1

Linear Time Algorithms for Some NP-Complete Problems on (P_5 ,Gem)-Free Graphs	61
<i>Hans Bodlaender, Andreas Brandstädt, Dieter Kratsch, Michaël Rao, Jeremy Spinrad</i>	
Graph Searching, Elimination Trees, and a Generalization of Bandwidth.....	73
<i>Fedor V. Fomin, Pinar Heggernes, Jan Arne Telle</i>	
Constructing Sparse t -Spanners with Small Separators	86
<i>Joachim Gudmundsson</i>	
Composing Equipotent Teams	98
<i>Mark Cieliebak, Stephan Eidenbenz, Aris Pagourtzis</i>	

Algorithms 2

Efficient Algorithms for GCD and Cubic Residuosity in the Ring of Eisenstein Integers	109
<i>Ivan Bjerre Damgård, Gudmund Skovbjerg Frandsen</i>	
An Extended Quadratic Frobenius Primality Test with Average and Worst Case Error Estimates	118
<i>Ivan Bjerre Damgård, Gudmund Skovbjerg Frandsen</i>	
Periodic Multisorting Comparator Networks	132
<i>Marcin Kik</i>	
Fast Periodic Correction Networks	144
<i>Grzegorz Stachowiak</i>	

Networks and Complexity

Games and Networks	157
<i>Christos Papadimitriou</i>	
One-Way Communication Complexity of Symmetric Boolean Functions ..	158
<i>Jan Arpe, Andreas Jakoby, Maciej Liśkiewicz</i>	
Circuits on Cylinders	171
<i>Kristoffer Arnsfelt Hansen, Peter Bro Miltersen, V. Vinay</i>	

Computational Biology

Fast Perfect Phylogeny Haplotype Inference	183
<i>Peter Damaschke</i>	
On Exact and Approximation Algorithms for Distinguishing Substring Selection	195
<i>Jens Gramm, Jiong Guo, Rolf Niedermeier</i>	
Complexity of Approximating Closest Substring Problems	210
<i>Patricia A. Evans, Andrew D. Smith</i>	

Computational Geometry

On Lawson's Oriented Walk in Random Delaunay Triangulations	222
<i>Binhai Zhu</i>	
Competitive Exploration of Rectilinear Polygons	234
<i>Mikael Hammar, Bengt J. Nilsson, Mia Persson</i>	
An Improved Approximation Algorithm for Computing Geometric Shortest Paths	246
<i>Lyudmil Aleksandrov, Anil Maheshwari, Jörg-Rüdiger Sack</i>	

Adaptive and Compact Discretization for Weighted Region Optimal Path Finding	258
<i>Zheng Sun, John H. Reif</i>	

On Boundaries of Highly Visible Spaces and Applications	271
<i>John H. Reif, Zheng Sun</i>	

Computational Models and Complexity

Membrane Computing	284
<i>Gheorghe Păun</i>	

Classical Simulation Complexity of Quantum Machines	296
<i>Farid Ablayev, Aida Gainutdinova</i>	

Using Depth to Capture Average-Case Complexity	303
<i>Luís Antunes, Lance Fortnow, N.V. Vinodchandran</i>	

Structural Complexity

Non-uniform Depth of Polynomial Time and Space Simulations	311
<i>Richard J. Lipton, Anastasios Viglas</i>	

Dimension- and Time-Hierarchies for Small Time Bounds	321
<i>Martin Kutrib</i>	

Baire's Categories on Small Complexity Classes	333
<i>Philippe Moser</i>	

Formal Languages

Operations Preserving Recognizable Languages	343
<i>Jean Berstel, Luc Boasson, Olivier Carton, Bruno Petazzoni, Jean-Éric Pin</i>	

Languages Defined by Generalized Equality Sets	355
<i>Vesa Halava, Tero Harju, Hendrik Jan Hoogeboom, Michel Latteux</i>	

Context-Sensitive Equivalences for Non-interference Based Protocol Analysis	364
<i>Michele Bugliesi, Ambra Ceccato, Sabina Rossi</i>	

On the Exponentiation of Languages	376
<i>Werner Kuich, Klaus W. Wagner</i>	

Kleene's Theorem for Weighted Tree-Automata	387
<i>Christian Pech</i>	

Logic

Weak Cardinality Theorems for First-Order Logic	400
<i>Till Tantau</i>	

Compositionality of Hennessy-Milner Logic through Structural Operational Semantics	412
<i>Wan Fokkink, Rob van Glabbeek, Paulien de Wind</i>	

On a Logical Approach to Estimating Computational Complexity of Potentially Intractable Problems	423
<i>Andrzej Szalas</i>	

Author Index	433
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