

Preface

This volume contains the proceedings of the *12th International Conference on Rewriting Techniques and Applications* (RTA 2001), which was held May 22-24, 2001 at Utrecht University in The Netherlands. RTA is the major forum for the presentation of research on all aspects of rewriting. Previous RTA conferences were held in Dijon (1985), Bordeaux (1987), Chapel Hill (1989), Como (1991), Montreal (1993), Kaiserslautern (1995), Rutgers (1996), Sitges (1997), Tsukuba (1998), Trento (1999), and Norwich (2000).

There were 55 submissions from Argentina ($\frac{2}{3}$), Australia (1), France ($12\frac{2}{3}$), Germany ($11\frac{2}{3}$), Israel ($1\frac{1}{3}$), Italy (2), Japan ($8\frac{1}{2}$), The Netherlands (6), Slovakia ($\frac{1}{3}$), Spain (4), UK ($2\frac{5}{6}$), USA (3), and Venezuela (1), of which the program committee selected 23 regular papers and 2 system descriptions for presentation. In addition, there were invited talks by Arvind (Rewriting the Rules for Chip Design), Henk Barendregt (Computing and Proving), and Michael Rusinowitch (Rewriting for Deduction and Verification).

The program committee awarded the *best paper* prize to Jens R. Woinowski for his paper *A Normal Form for Church-Rosser Language Systems*. In this paper the surprising and important result is shown that all Church-Rosser languages can be defined by string rewrite rules of the form $uvw \rightarrow uxw$ with v being nonempty and x having a maximum length of one.

Many people helped to make RTA 2001 a success. I am grateful to the members of the program committee and the external referees for reviewing the submissions and maintaining the high standards of the RTA conferences. It is a particular pleasure to thank Vincent van Oostrom and the other members of the local organizing committee for organizing an excellent conference in a rather short period. Finally, I thank the organizers of the four events that collocated with RTA 2001 for making the conference even more attractive:

- 4th International Workshop on Explicit Substitutions: Theory and Applications to Programs and Proofs (Pierre Lescanne),
- 5th International Workshop on Termination (Nachum Dershowitz),
- International Workshop on Reduction Strategies in Rewriting and Programming (Bernhard Gramlich and Salvador Lucas),
- IFIP Working Group 1.6 on Term Rewriting (Claude Kirchner).

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List of Referees

| | | |
|-------------------|-----------------------|------------------------|
| Yohji Akama | Eric Goubault | Yoshikatsu Ohta |
| Thomas Arts | Jean Goubault-Larrecq | Peter Ølveczky |
| Jürgen Avenhaus | Bernhard Gramlich | Vincent van Oostrom |
| Steffen van Bakel | Stefano Guerrini | Adriano Peron |
| Franco Barbanera | Pál Gyenizse | Jorge Sousa Pinto |
| László Bernátsky | Chris Hankin | Adolfo Piperno |
| Gavin Bierman | Michael Hanus | François Pottier |
| Stefan Blom | Thérèse Hardin | Femke van Raamsdonk |
| Roel Bloo | Dieter Hofbauer | Christophe Ringeissen |
| Gerhard Buntrock | Markus Holzer | Albert Rubio |
| Wei Ngan Chin | Maria Huber | Michael Rusinowitch |
| Adam Cichon | Benedetto Intrigila | Kai Salomaa |
| Manuel Clavel | Jean-Pierre Jouannaud | Andrea Sattler-Klein |
| Evelyne Contejean | Fairouz Kamareddine | Manfred Schmidt-Schauß |
| Mario Coppo | Yoshinobu Kawabe | Marco Schorlemmer |
| Andrea Corradini | Richard Kennaway | Aleksy Schubert |
| Roberto Di Cosmo | Delia Kesner | Carsten Schürmann |
| Dan Dougherty | Felix Klaedtke | Helmut Seidl |
| Frank Drewes | Yves Lafont | Paula Severi |
| Catherine Dubois | François Lamarche | Mark-Oliver Stehr |
| Irène Durand | Ingo Lepper | Magnus Steinby |
| Steven Eker | Pierre Lescanne | Georg Struth |
| Maribel Fernández | Jordi Levy | Taro Suzuki |
| Wan Fokkink | Ugo de'Liguoro | Ralf Treinen |
| Zoltán Fülöp | Luigi Liquori | Marisa Venturini Zilli |
| Philippa Gardner | Markus Lohrey | Laurent Vigneron |
| Simon Gay | Salvador Lucas | Fer-Jan de Vries |
| Neil Ghani | Klaus Madlener | Uwe Waldmann |
| Robert Giegerich | Luis Mandel | Andreas Weiermann |
| Jürgen Giesl | Claude Marché | Benjamin Werner |
| Isabelle Gnaedig | Maurice Margenstern | Hans Zantema |
| Guillem Godoy | Gundula Niemann | |