Preface

This volume contains the papers selected for presentation at the Thirteenth Annual International Symposium on Algorithms and Computation (ISAAC 2002) to be held in Vancouver, Canada on November 21-23, 2002. This is the first time that ISAAC has ventured into North America, as it is traditionally held in the Asia-Pacific region.

ISAAC is an annual international symposium that covers the very broad areas of algorithms and computing in general. The scope of this symposium includes both theoretical and applied research from these fields. The main aim of the symposium is to promote the exchange of ideas in this active research community. The specific themes targeted for ISAAC 2002 were Computational Geometry, Algorithms and Data Structures, Approximation Algorithms, Randomized Algorithms, Graph Drawing and Graph Algorithms, Combinatorial Optimization, Computational Biology, Computational Finance, Cryptography, and Parallel and Distributed Computing.

In response to our call for papers, we received close to 160 submissions. The challenging task of selecting the papers for presentation was performed by the members of our program committee, their support staff, and referees. All of them deserve special thanks for their hard work in the difficult task of selecting a mere 54 papers from the high-quality submissions. Unfortunately, due to the time constraints imposed by a three-day conference, we were forced to turn away many excellent papers.

John Iacono will receive the traditional *best paper award* for his paper entitled *Key Independent Optimality*. Our three invited speakers are Luc Devroye from McGill University who will speak on *Random Tries*, János Pach from New York University who will speak on *Monotone Drawings of Planar Graphs*, and Nicholas Pippenger from the University of British Columbia who will speak on the *Expected Acceptance Counts for Finite Automata with Almost Uniform Input*.

No conference can succeed without exceptional local organization. For the often overlooked and thankless task of finding a suitable venue and banquet location, dealing with the logistics of registration, organizing lunches and coffee, etc., we would like to thank the the organizing committee, Nadja Rence, and Olga Stachova for all their efforts above and beyond the call of duty. We thank our sponsors Simon Fraser University, the Pacific Institute of Mathematical Sciences, the institute for Mathematics of Information Technology and Complex Systems, and Bajai Inc. for their generous support. Finally, we thank all the authors and participants. We hope this edition of ISAAC will be a success.

August 2002 Prosenjit Bose
Pat Morin

Organization

Organizing Committee

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Referees

Jochen Alber   Therese Biedl
Richard Anstee   Patricia Bouyer
François Anton   Alex Brodsky
Petra Berenbrink   David Bryant
Anne Berry   Claude Crepeau

Henri Darmon

Will Evans

Paolo Ferragina

Tom Friedetzky

Leszek Gasieniec

Daya Ram Gaur

Dhrubajyoti Goswami

Joachim Gudmundsson

Hovhannes Harutyunyan

Laurie Hendren

Lisa Higham

Dawei Hong

Tsan-sheng Hsu

John Iacono

Klaus Jansen

Juha Kaerkkainen

Michael Kaufmann

Rohit Khandekar

Ralf Klasing

Hirotada Kobayashi

Ekkehard Koehler

Jan Kratochvil

Matthias Krause

Ramesh Krishnamurti

Dietrich Kuske

Stefan Langerman

PeiZong Lee

Hon Fung Li

Chi-Jen Lu

Hsueh-I Lu

Wei-Fu Lu

Cris Moore

Jaroslav Opatrny

Andrzej Proskuroski

Pavel Pudlak

Jaikumar Radhakrishnan

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Jan Arne Telle

Pascal Tesson

Mikkel Thorup

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Heribert Vollmer

Alan Wagner

René Weiskircher

Anthony Whitehead

Gerhard Woeginger

David Wood

17 additional anonymous referees

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