

# Foreword

The papers contained in this volume were presented at the 13th Annual Symposium on Combinatorial Pattern Matching, held July 3–5, 2002 at the *Hotel Uminonakamichi*, in Fukuoka, Japan. They were selected from 37 abstracts submitted in response to the call for papers. In addition, there were invited lectures by Shinichi Morishita (*University of Tokyo*) and Hiroki Arimura (*Kyushu University*).

Combinatorial Pattern Matching (CPM) addresses issues of searching and matching strings and more complicated patterns such as trees, regular expressions, graphs, point sets, and arrays, in various formats. The goal is to derive non-trivial combinatorial properties of such structures and to exploit these properties in order to achieve superior performance for the corresponding computational problems. On the other hand, an important goal is to analyze and pinpoint the properties and conditions under which searches cannot be performed efficiently.

Over the past decade a steady flow of high-quality research on this subject has changed a sparse set of isolated results into a full-fledged area of algorithmics. This area is continuing to grow even further due to the increasing demand for speed and efficiency that stems from important applications such as the World Wide Web, computational biology, computer vision, and multimedia systems. These involve requirements for information retrieval in heterogeneous databases, data compression, and pattern recognition. The objective of the annual CPM gathering is to provide an international forum for research in combinatorial pattern matching and related applications.

The first twelve meetings were held in Paris, London, Tucson, Padova, Asilomar, Helsinki, Laguna Beach, Aarhus, Piscataway, Warwick, Montreal, and Jerusalem, over the years 1990-2001. After the first meeting, a selection of papers appeared as a special issue of *Theoretical Computer Science* in volume 92. Selected papers of the 12th meeting will appear in a special issue of *Discrete Applied Mathematics*. The proceedings of the 3rd to 12th meetings appeared as volumes 644, 684, 807, 937, 1075, 1264, 1448, 1645, 1848, and 2089 of the Springer LNCS series.

The general organization and orientation of the CPM conferences is coordinated by a steering committee composed of Alberto Apostolico (*Padova and Purdue*), Maxime Crochemore (*Marne-la-Vallée*), Zvi Galil (*Columbia*), and Udi Manber (*Yahoo!*).

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## Local Organization

Local arrangements were coordinated by Ayumi Shinohara, Kyushu Univ. The conference Web site was created and maintained by Shunsuke Inenaga. Organizational help was provided by Kensuke Baba and Takuya Kida.

## List of Additional Reviewers

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