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Takao Asano Hiroshi Imai D.T. Lee
Shin-ichi Nakano Takeshi Tokuyama (Eds.)

Computing and Combinatorics

5th Annual International Conference, COCOON'99
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Preface

The abstracts and papers in this volume were presented at the Fifth Annual International Computing and Combinatorics Conference (COCOON '99), which was held in Tokyo, Japan from July 26 to 28, 1999. The topics cover most aspects of theoretical computer science and combinatorics pertaining to computing.

In response to the call for papers, 88 high-quality extended abstracts were submitted internationally, of which 46 were selected for presentation by the program committee. Every submitted paper was reviewed by at least three program committee members. Many of these papers represent reports on 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, this volume contains abstracts of two invited plenary talks by Prabhakar Raghavan and Seinosuke Toda. The conference also included a special talk by Kurt Mehlhorn on LEDA (Library of Efficient Data types and Algorithms).

The Hao Wang Award (inaugurated at COCOON '97) is given to honor the paper judged by the program committee to have the greatest scientific merit. The recipients of the Hao Wang Award 1999 were Hiroshi Nagamochi and Toshihide Ibaraki for their paper "An Approximation for Finding a Smallest 2-Edge-Connected Subgraph Containing a Specified Spanning Tree".

We wish to thank all who have made this meeting possible: the authors for submitting papers, the program committee members and external referees for their excellent work in reviewing the papers, the sponsors, the local organizers, ACM SIGACT and the University of Tokyo for handling electronic submissions, and Springer-Verlag for their support and assistance.

July 1999

Takao Asano
Hiroshi Imai
D. T. Lee
Shin-ichi Nakano
Takeshi Tokuyama

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