

# Preface

This volume contains the papers presented at SWAT 2004, the 9th Scandinavian Workshop on Algorithm Theory, which was held on July 8–10, 2004, at the Louisiana Museum of Modern Art in Humlebæk on the Øresund coast north of Copenhagen. The SWAT workshop, in reality a full-fledged conference, has been held biennially since 1988 and rotates among the five Nordic countries, Denmark, Finland, Iceland, Norway, and Sweden. The previous meetings took place in Halmstad (1988), Bergen (1990), Helsinki (1992), Århus (1994), Reykjavik (1996), Stockholm (1998), Bergen (2000), and Turku (2002). SWAT alternates with the Workshop on Algorithms and Data Structures (WADS), held in odd-numbered years.

The call for papers invited contributions on all aspects of algorithm theory. A total of 121 submissions was received — an overall SWAT high. These underwent thorough reviewing, and the program committee met in Copenhagen on March 20–21, 2004, and selected 40 papers for presentation at the conference. The program committee was impressed with the quality of the submissions and, given the constraints imposed by the choice of conference venue and duration, had to make some tough decisions. The scientific program was enriched by invited presentations by Gerth Stølting Brodal (University of Aarhus) and Charles E. Leiserson (Massachusetts Institute of Technology).

Two satellite events were held immediately before SWAT 2004: the Workshop on On-Line Algorithms (OLA 2004), organized by members of the Department of Mathematics and Computer Science at the University of Southern Denmark, and the Summer School on Experimental Algorithmics, organized by the Performance Engineering Laboratory in the Department of Computing at the University of Copenhagen. More information about SWAT 2004 and its satellite events is available at the conference web site <http://swat.diku.dk/>.

We thank all of the many persons whose efforts contributed to making SWAT 2004 a success. These include the members of the steering, program, and organizing committees, the invited speakers, the authors who submitted papers, the numerous referees who assisted the program committee, and the support staff at the conference. Our special thanks go to Frank Kammer (University of Augsburg), who maintained the submission server, and Sebastian Berg and his associates (Less is more ApS), who implemented and hosted the web-based conference shop. We also thank our institutional and industrial sponsors for their support.

May 2004

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Jyrki Katajainen

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Algorithm Theory - SWAT 2004

9th Scandinavian Workshop on Algorithm Theory,

Humlebaek, Denmark, July 8-10, 2004, Proceedings

Hagerup, T.; Katajainen, J. (Eds.)

2004, XII, 512 p., Softcover

ISBN: 978-3-540-22339-9