

Preface

This volume contains the papers presented at the 12th Latin American Theoretical Informatics Symposium (LATIN 2016) held during April 11–15, 2016, in Ensenada, Mexico. Previous editions of LATIN took place in Sao Paulo, Brazil (1992), Valparaíso, Chile (1995), Campinas, Brazil (1998), Punta del Este, Uruguay (2000), Cancun, Mexico (2002), Buenos Aires, Argentina (2004), Valdivia, Chile (2006), Buzios, Brazil (2008), Oaxaca, Mexico (2010), Arequipa, Peru (2012), and Montevideo, Uruguay (2014).

The conference received 131 submissions from around the world. Each submission was reviewed by at least three Program Committee members, and carefully evaluated on quality, originality, and relevance to the conference. Committee members wrote the reviews with the help of additional external referees. Based on an extensive electronic discussion, the committee selected 52 papers. In addition to the accepted contributions, the symposium featured distinguished lectures by Jin Akiyama (Tokyo University of Science), Allan Borodin (University of Toronto), José Correa (University of Chile), Alan Frieze (Carnegie Mellon University), and Héctor García-Molina (Stanford University).

The Imre Simon Test-of-Time Award started in 2012 and is given to the authors of the LATIN paper deemed to be most influential among all those published at least ten years prior to the current edition of the conference. Papers published in the LATIN proceedings up to and including 2006 were eligible for the 2016 award. This year the winner was Alistair Sinclair for his paper “Improved Bounds for Mixing Rates of Marked Chains and Multicommodity Flow,” which appeared in LATIN 1992. This year the award was partially supported by Springer.

Many people helped to make LATIN 2016 possible. First, we would like to recognize the outstanding work of the members of the Program Committee. Their commitment contributed to a very detailed discussion on each of the submitted papers. The LATIN Steering Committee offered valuable advice and feedback; the conference benefitted immensely from their knowledge and experience.

The main organizer of the conference was the Centro de Investigación Científica y de Educación Superior de Ensenada (CICESE), located in northern Mexico. The conference was financially supported by CONACyT, CICESE, and the Mexican Mathematical Society. We are grateful for the facilities provided by EasyChair for paper evaluation and the preparation of the volume.

April 2016

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LATIN 2016: Theoretical Informatics

12th Latin American Symposium, Ensenada, Mexico,

April 11-15, 2016, Proceedings

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2016, XXVI, 714 p. 114 illus., Softcover

ISBN: 978-3-662-49528-5