

Preface

This volume of Lecture Notes in Computer Science contains the proceedings of the 11th International Conference WORDS 2017 which was organized by the Laboratoire de Combinatoire et d'Informatique Mathématique (LaCIM) and held during September 11–15, 2017, in Montreal, Canada. WORDS is the main conference series devoted to the mathematical theory of words. In particular, the combinatorial, algebraic and algorithmic aspects of words are emphasized. Input may also come from other domains such as theoretical computer science, bioinformatics, digital geometry, symbolic dynamics, numeration systems, text processing, number theory, etc.

The conference WORDS takes place every two years. The first conference of the series was held in Rouen, France in 1997. Since then, the locations of WORDS conferences have been: Rouen, France (1999), Palermo, Italy (2001), Turku, Finland (2003 and 2013), Montreal, Canada (2005), Marseille, France (2007), Salerno, Italy (2009), Prague, Czech Republic (2011), and Kiel, Germany (2015).

For the third time in the history of WORDS, a refereed proceedings volume has been published in the Lecture Notes in Computer Science series of Springer. There were 26 submissions, from 17 countries, and each of them was reviewed by at least two reviewers. The selection process was undertaken by the Program Committee with the help of generous reviewers. From these submissions, 21 papers were selected to be published and presented at WORDS. In addition to the contributed papers, the present volume also includes the abstracts of the lectures given by the five invited speakers:

- Štěpán Holub (Charles University in Prague, Czech Republic): “Commutation and Beyond”.
- Lila Kari (University of Waterloo, Canada): “DNA Words and Languages”.
- Anna Frid (Aix-Marseille University, France): “An Unsolved Problem on Palindromes and Sturmian Words”.
- Volker Diekert (University of Stuttgart, Germany): “Church-Rosser Systems, Codes with Bounded Synchronization Delay and Local Rees Extensions” (with Lukas Fleischer).
- David Clampitt (Ohio State University, USA): “The Role of Combinatorics on Words in Mathematical Music Theory”.

We take this opportunity to warmly thank all the invited speakers and all the authors for their contributions. We are also grateful to all Program Committee members and the additional reviewers for their hard work that led to the selection of papers published in this volume. The reviewing process was facilitated by the EasyChair conference system, created by Andrej Voronkov. Special thanks are due to Alfred Hofmann and Elke Werner and the Lecture Notes in Computer Science team at Springer for having granted us the opportunity to publish this special issue devoted to WORDS 2017 and for their help during the final stage. We are also grateful to the Centre de Recherches Mathématiques (CRM) for its support in the organization of WORDS 2017. Finally,

we are much obliged to a number of collaborators who contributed to the success of the conference: the secretary, Johanne Patoine, and our students, Herman Goulet-Ouellet, Nadia Lafrenière, Mélodie Lapointe and Émile Nadeau. Our warmest thanks for their assistance in the organization of the event.

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Combinatorics on Words

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