

FOCS 2017 Preface

The papers in these proceedings were presented at the 58th Annual IEEE Symposium on Foundations of Computer Science, which was held October 15-17, 2017 in Berkeley, California. The conference was sponsored by the IEEE Computer Society Technical Committee on Mathematical Foundations of Computing, in cooperation with the ACM Special Interest Group on Algorithms and Computation Theory (SIGACT).

The call for papers sought original research papers in all areas of the theory of computation; 323 submissions were received. Following a period of online discussion, the program committee met at Caltech in Pasadena, CA during June 23-25, 2017, and selected 90 of the submissions for presentation at the conference, with four pairs of those papers sharing joint talk slots. In keeping with longstanding convention, the papers appearing at the conference were not formally refereed, and it is expected that full versions of most of these papers will be published in peer-reviewed journals.

I would like to thank all of the (over 700) authors who submitted their work to the conference, including the authors of many excellent papers that were ultimately not accepted. I am grateful to the program committee for the time and energy they devoted to the hard work of evaluating a large number of submissions in a relatively short period of time. This task would not have been possible without the invaluable input of over 540 external reviewers, listed below, who provided their expert opinions. They deserve our gratitude. I would also like to thank the general chair, Rafail Ostrovsky, the local arrangements co-chairs, Andrew Jan, Prasad Raghavendra, and Luca Trevisan, and the workshop and tutorials co-chairs, James R. Lee and Aleksander Mądry for their role in organizing the conference, and Caltech for hosting the program committee meeting. Finally, I thank Randall Bilof of the IEEE Computer Society for his help in the production of these proceedings.

On behalf of all the committee members, welcome to the conference!

Chris Umans

FOCS 2017 Program Committee Chair