

## FOCS 2020 Preface

The papers in these proceedings were presented at the 61st Annual IEEE Symposium on the Foundations of Computer Science, which was held on November 16-19, 2020, through a virtual format. The conference is sponsored by the IEEE Computer Society Technical Committee on Mathematical Foundations of Computing.

The call for papers sought original research papers in all areas of the theory of computation. The program committee met via video conference in a series of meetings during the period June 22-29 following an intensive period of electronic discussion. Of the 399 submissions, the committee selected 127 for presentation at the conference. Following long-standing tradition, the papers at the conference have not been formally refereed, and it is expected that extended versions of most of these papers will be published in peer-reviewed journals.

I would like to thank all authors who submitted papers. I'm grateful to the program committee members, listed on a separate page, for the major effort they put into evaluating many submissions within a relatively short period. Thanks also to the over 650 external reviewers, listed on a separate page, for their expert opinions. I'm also grateful to the other organizers of the conference: the general chair, Yuval Rabani, who gave me much advice, and the local arrangements co-chairs, Kamesh Munagala and Debmalya Panigrahi, who assisted with many tasks related to the technical program. I owe a special thanks to previous STOC/FOCS chairs David Zuckerman and Ronitt Rubinfeld who were both very generous with their time and assistance. In addition, I would like to thank numerous other FOCS/STOC/SODA chairs for their advice, including Avrim Blum, Toni Pitassi, Chris Umans, Timothy Chan, Shuchi Chawla, and Edit Cohen. I am also grateful to Nicole Immorlica and Shuchi Chawla who were very helpful in advising me on running the online program committee meetings. Finally, I would like to thank Shai Halevi for providing and supporting the Websubrev server, and Lisa O'Conner and Patrick Kellenberger of the IEEE Computer Society for helping in the production of this volume.

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**FOCS 2020 Program Committee Chair**