

Welcome Message

FOCS 2025

The papers collected in these proceedings were selected to appear in the 66th IEEE Symposium on Foundations of Computer Science (FOCS 2025), which was held in Sydney, Australia, on December 14-17, 2025. The program committee selected 137 papers out of 546 submissions to appear in the program. The program also included 2 plenary talks and a day of workshops.

The program committee selected three papers for the Best Paper Award:

Quasipolynomial Bounds for the Corners Theorem

Michael Jaber (University of Texas, Austin), Yang P. Liu (Carnegie Mellon University), Shachar Lovett (University of California, San Diego), Anthony Ostuni (University of California, San Diego) and Mehtaab Sawhney (Columbia University)

Explicit Lossless Vertex Expanders

Jun-Ting Hsieh (Carnegie Mellon University), Alexander Lubotzky (Weizmann), Sidhanth Mohanty (MIT), Assaf Reiner (HUJI), Rachel Yun Zhang (MIT)

Breaking a Long-Standing Barrier: $2-\epsilon$ Approximation for Steiner Forest

Ali Ahmadi (University of Maryland), Iman Gholami (University of Maryland), MohammadTaghi Hajiaghayi (University of Maryland), Peyman Jabbarzade (University of Maryland) and Mohammad Mahdavi (University of Maryland)

The program committee selected two papers to receive the Machtey Award for Best Student Paper:

Obfuscation of Unitary Quantum Programs

Mi-Ying Huang (University of Southern California) and Er-Cheng Tang (University of Washington)

Godel in Cryptography: Effectively Zero Knowledge Proofs for NP with No Interaction, No Setup, and Perfect Soundness

Rahul Ilango (MIT)

We wish to thank the FOCS 2025 program committee for the time, effort and care that they invested into selecting the program. We are also grateful to the General Chair, Clément Canonne, and to the Local Organizers, André van Renssen and William Umboh, who worked tirelessly to organize the conference and the academic and social activities surrounding it. Additional thanks go out to the Finance Chair, Troy Lee, and to the IEEE TCMF Chair and Co-Chair, Ran Canetti and Rocco Servedio.

Program Committee Co-Chairs

Rotem Oshman. *Tel-Aviv University, Israel; New York University, United States*

Ran Raz, *Princeton University, United States*