Preface

The AAECC symposium was started in June 1983 by Alain Poli (Toulouse), who, together with Roger Desq, Daniel Lazard, and Paul Camion, organized the first conference. The meaning of the acronym AAECC changed from "Applied Algebra and Error Correcting Codes" to "Applied Algebra, Algebraic Algorithms, and Error Correcting Codes." One reason for this was the increasing importance of complexity, particularly for decoding algorithms. During the AAECC-12 symposium the conference committee decided to enforce the theory and practice of the coding side as well as the cryptographic aspects. Algebra was conserved, as in the past, but was slightly more oriented to algebraic geometry codes, finite fields, complexity, polynomials, and graphs.

For AAECC-15 the main subjects covered were:

- Block codes.
- Algebra and codes: rings, fields, AG codes.
- Cryptography.
- Sequences.
- Algorithms, decoding algorithms.
- Algebra: constructions in algebra, Galois groups, differential algebra, polynomials.

The talks of the six invited speakers characterized the aims of AAECC-15:

- P. Sole ("Public Key Cryptosystems Based on Rings").
- S. Lin ("Combinatorics Low Density Parity Check Codes").
- J. Stern ("Cryptography and the Methodology of Provable Security").
- D. Costello ("Graph-Based Convolutional LDPC Codes").
- I. Shparlinsky ("Dynamical Systems Generated by Rational Functions").
- A. Lauder ("Algorithms for Multivariate Polynomials over Finite Fields").

Except for AAECC-1 (published in the journal Discrete Mathematics, 56, 1985) and AAECC-7 (Discrete Mathematics, 33, 1991), the proceedings of all the symposia have been published in Springer-Verlag's Lecture Notes in Computer Science series (vols. 228, 229, 307, 356, 357, 508, 673, 948, 1255, 1719, 2227). It is the policy of AAECC to maintain a high scientific standard. This has been made possible thanks to the many referees involved. Each submitted paper was evaluated by at least two international researchers.

AAECC-15 received 40 submissions; 25 were selected for publication in these proceedings while 8 additional works were contributed to the symposium as oral presentations.

The symposium was organized by Marc Fossorier, Tom Høholdt, and Alain Poli, with the help of the 'Centre Baudis' in Toulouse.

February 2003   M. Fossorier, T. Høholdt, A. Poli

Organization

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Local Arrangements:	Marie-Claude Gennero, Geneviève Cluzel (Univ. of Toulouse, France)

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