# Preface

This volume contains the proceedings of the 14th Annual International Symposium on Algorithms and Computation (ISAAC 2003), held in Kyoto, Japan, 15–17 December 2003. In the past, it was held in Tokyo (1990), Taipei (1991), Nagoya (1992), Hong Kong (1993), Beijing (1994), Cairns (1995), Osaka (1996), Singapore (1997), Taejon (1998), Chennai (1999), Taipei (2000), Christchurch (2001), and Vancouver (2002).

ISAAC is an annual international symposium that covers the very wide range of topics in algorithms and computation. The main purpose of the symposium is to provide a forum for researchers working in algorithms and the theory of computation where they can exchange ideas in this active research community.

In response to our call for papers, we received unexpectedly many submissions, 207 papers. The task of selecting the papers in this volume was done by our program committee and referees. After a thorough review process, the committee selected 73 papers. The selection was done on the basis of originality and relevance to the field of algorithms and computation. We hope all accepted papers will eventually appear in scientific journals in more polished forms.

The best paper award was given for "On the Geometric Dilation of Finite Point Sets" to Annette Ebbers-Baumann, Ansgar Grüne and Rolf Klein. Two eminent invited speakers, Prof. Andrew Chi-Chih Yao of Princeton University and Prof. Takao Nishizeki of Tohoku University, contributed to this proceedings.

It is impossible to organize such a successful program without the help of many individuals. I would like to express my appreciation to the authors of the submitted papers, and to the program committee members and external referees for their excellent work. We would also like to thank the members of the organizing committee, Kazuo Iwama, Hiro Ito, Takashi Horiyama, Hiroyoshi Miwa, and Shuichi Miyazaki, for their tremendous work in making ISAAC 2003 a successful conference. Finally, we thank our sponsors for their assistance and support.

August 2003
Toshihide Ibaraki
Naoki Katoh
Hirotaka Ono

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