Foreword

The papers contained in this volume were presented at the 11th Annual Symposium on Combinatorial Pattern Matching, held June 21-23, 2000 at the *Université de Montréal*. They were selected from 44 abstracts submitted in response to the call for papers. In addition, there were invited lectures by Andrei Broder (*AltaVista*), Fernando Pereira (*AT&T Research Labs*), and Ian H. Witten (*University of Waikato*).

The symposium was preceded by a two-day summer school set up to attract and train young researchers. The lecturers at the school were Greg Butler, Clement Lam, and Gus Grahne: *BLAST! How do you search sequence databases?*, David Bryant: *Phylogeny*, Raffaele Giancarlo: *Algorithmic aspects of speech recognition*, Nadia El-Mabrouk: *Genome rearrangement*, Laxmi Parida: *Flexible-pattern discovery*, and Ian H. Witten: *Adaptive text mining: inferring structure from sequences*.

Combinatorial Pattern Matching (CPM) addresses issues of searching and matching strings and more complicated patterns such as trees, regular expressions graphs, point sets, and arrays. The goal is to derive non-trivial combinatorial properties of such structures and to exploit these properties in order to achieve superior performance for the corresponding computational problems.

Over recent years a steady flow of high-quality research on this subject has changed a sparse set of isolated results into a fully-fledged area of algorithmics. This area is continuing to grow even further due to the increasing demand for speed and efficiency that comes from important and rapidly expanding applications such as the World Wide Web, computational biology, and multimedia systems, involving requirements for information retrieval, data compression, and pattern recognition. The objective of the annual CPM gatherings is to provide an international forum for research in combinatorial pattern matching and related applications.

The first ten meetings were held in Paris (1990), London (1991), Tucson (1992), Padova (1993), Asilomar (1994), Helsinki (1995), Laguna Beach (1996), Aahrus (1997), Piscataway (1998), and Warwick (1999). After the first meeting, a selection of papers appeared as a special issue of *Theoretical Computer Science* in Volume 92. The proceedings of the third to tenth meetings appeared as volumes 644, 684, 807, 937, 1075, 1264, 1448, and 1645 of the Springer LNCS series.

The general organization and orientation of CPM conferences is coordinated by a steering committee composed of:

The program committee of CPM 2000 consisted of:

Amihood Amir,
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University of Palermo
Dan Gusfield,
University of California, Davis
Monika Henzinger,
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University of Georgia
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University of Haifa
& Polytechnic University
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University of Warsaw
& University of Liverpool
Marie-France Sagot,
Institut Pasteur
Cenk Sahinalp,
Case Western Reserve University
David Sankoff, Co-chair,
Université de Montréal
Jim Storer,
Brandeis University
Esko Ukkonen,
University of Helsinki

The local organizing committee, all from the *Université de Montréal*, consisted of:

Nadia El-Mabrouk
Louis Pelletier
David Sankoff
Sylvain Viart

The conference was supported by the **Centre de recherches mathématiques** of the *Université de Montréal*, in the context of a thematic year on Mathematical Methods in Biology and Medecine (2000-2001).

April 2000

Raffaele Giancarlo
David Sankoff

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