

## ICTCS 09 FOREWORD

ICTCS is the conference of Italian chapter of EATCS; its aim is to promote original research in all aspects of Theoretical Computer Science encouraging cooperation between the Italian and the international community. The 1st ICTCS conference was started in Pisa in 1972, since 1989 ICTCS was held every three years and then since 2001 every other year.

The 11th Italian Conference on Theoretical Computer Science (ICTCS 09) was held in Cremona, in September 28–30, 2009. It was hosted by Cremona Campus of Politecnico di Milano.

According to the decision of Italian Chapter Assembly meeting of September 2008 ICTCS 09 had a different format with respect to the previous ones. The main features of the new format were the introduction of special well-focused sections introduced by an invited lecture, parallel sections where it was possible to present original contributions as well as works in progress selected by a light referee process, no formal Conference proceedings. ICTCS 09 aimed essentially at being a forum of exchange of ideas and at providing an environment for junior researchers to gain experience in presenting their work, to broaden their outlook on the subject, and to benefit from contact with established researchers.

Invited speakers were R. Gorrieri (Bologna), A. de Luca (Napoli) and F. Luccio (Pisa) who represented the main areas of Italian research in theoretical computer science. From the 40 submissions the Committee selected 34 abstracts for the presentation.

Some authors of original contributions presented at ICTCS 09 (a mix of young and experienced researchers) were invited by the Scientific Committee to submit a journal version of their paper. The papers of the authors which answered the call, after a regular referee process, have been collected in this volume.

We would like to thank professor C. Choffrut for accepting of publishing this special issue, the referees who did the (not light) referee process of these papers, the invited speakers of the ICTCS 09 for their inspiring lectures. We also would like to thank the staff of Cremona Campus for the help before and during the Conference and the Departments of Mathematics and of Electronics and Computer Science of Politecnico di Milano for the support.

The Scientific Committee

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