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Preface

This conference, ASIAN'97, is the third in a series of Asian Computing Science Conferences promoted to provide a world-class academic computer science forum for the regional research community. The inaugural conference was held in 1995 at the Asian Institute of Technology (AIT), Bangkok, Thailand in partnership with INRIA, France, and UNU/IIST, Macau. The logistic support for the series has been provided by these three partners ever since. The second conference was held in 1996 in Singapore, organized by the National University of Singapore (NUS). Their proceedings were published as Lecture Notes in Computer Science 1023 and 1179, respectively.

The basic strategy of the conference series has been (1) to select themes to provide a varying focus for the otherwise general conference on computing science and (2) to have eminent invited speakers. The themes of focus for this year are: Programming Languages and Compilation Technology, Formal Reasoning and Constraints, Real-Time Computing, and Network/Mobile Computing. Our keynote speaker is Michael Rabin (Harvard University and The Hebrew University of Jerusalem). The invited speakers are Nicholas Ayache (INRIA, Sophia Antipolis), and Randal R. Bryant (Carnegie Mellon University).

We received 94 submissions, a majority of them electronically, from 25 countries. Country-wise breakdown of papers is as follows: *Asia*: China (2), India (8), Israel (2), Japan (20), Korea (1), Macau (1), Malaysia (2), Philippines (1), Singapore (2), Taiwan (4), and Thailand (2). *Other Countries*: Australia (9), Belgium (1), Brazil (1), Canada (7), Finland (1), France (6), Germany (7), Italy (4), The Netherlands (1), Norway (3), Russia (1), UK (3), USA (4), Yugoslavia (1). The review process was conducted electronically over the Net. Almost all papers had three or more reviews. The program committee meeting was conducted electronically over a period of 10 days after circulating a summary of the reviews to all the PC members. The majority of the program committee members actively participated in the review process looking into the comments/suggestions of the reviewers, and made fresh reviews as and when needed. Finally, the program committee selected 24 regular papers and 10 poster papers.

We thank our keynote speaker and invited speakers for accepting our invitation to give talks and contribute papers or extended abstracts. The referees and the program committee members deserve a great deal of gratitude for their careful attention and response often at very short notice.

We are once again indebted to the main partners of the series, AIT, INRIA, and UNU/IIST. Our home departments Tata Institute of Fundamental Research (India) and Waseda University (Japan) provided valuable support. The support of the European Commission and NTT (Japan) is being requested. Organization of the conference has been coordinated by Kanchana Kanchanasut of AIT and Roland H. C. Yap of NUS through active support of the International Centre for Integrated Mountain Development (ICIMOD, Nepal), the Computer Association

of Nepal, AIT Alumni Association Nepal Chapter, and the National University of Singapore. Thanks go to Alfred Hofmann of Springer-Verlag and his staff for bringing out the proceedings in time for the conference.

September 1997

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