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# Algorithms – ESA '96

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Barcelona, Spain, September 25-27, 1996  
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## Preface

The 4<sup>th</sup> European Symposium on Algorithms (ESA-96) was held at the facilities of the Universitat Politècnica de Catalunya in Barcelona from the 25th to the 27th of September 1996. The European Symposium on Algorithms covers all research on algorithms and their analysis as it is carried out in the fields of computer science, discrete applied mathematics, operations research, and all other areas of algorithm-oriented research and its applications.

The program committee meeting was attended by H. Attiya (Technion), G. Ausiello (Univ. Roma), R. Baeza-Yates (Univ. Chile), A. Borodin (Toronto U.), J. Díaz (UPC), P. Flajolet (INRIA), M. Goemans (MIT), J. Håstad (RIT), H. Mayr (Univ. München), J. Nešetřil (Charles Univ.), M. Overmars (Univ. Utrecht), P. Spirakis (CTI) and P. Widmayer (ETH). Thanks to all of them for their effort and dedication.

The committee selected 40 papers out of 124 submitted abstracts. These 40 papers together with the abstracts of the two invited lectures by R. Sedgewick (Princeton Univ.) and C. Papadimitriou (UC Berkeley), constitute the present proceedings. We decided to organize the contents of the volume in the same order as they were presented in the meeting, to facilitate the access to the material for the attendants.

We wish to thank all referees who aided in evaluating the papers. The list of the referees is as complete as we can achieve, and we apologize for any possible omissions or errors.

Many thanks are due to the organizing committee of ESA-96 for making possible the symposium. The organizing committee consisted of Conrado Martínez (Chairman), José Balcázar, Ricard Gavaldà, Ferran Hurtado and María José Serna. We also thank Helena Martínez for her help and good pointers.

Barcelona, September 1996

Josep Diaz  
Maria Serna

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