

EDITORIAL

This issue contains papers on the topic of the workshop

“Weighted Automata: Theory and Applications”

held at Dresden University of Technology (Germany), March 4–8, 2002.

The goal of the workshop was to highlight the field of weighted automata, ranging from the theory of formal power series to max-plus algebra and applications as e.g. in natural language processing, algebraic optimization of railway networks or digital image processing.

The workshop was attended by 64 participants from 15 countries. Four tutorials were given by

S. Gaubert (INRIA, Paris)	W. Kuich (Vienna)
D. Kozen (Cornell U., Ithaca)	M. Mohri (AT&T, New Jersey)

In addition, ten invited lectures were presented by

S. Bloom (Hoboken, New Jersey)	B. Khoussainov (Auckland)
Z. Ésik (Szeged)	G. H. Olsder (Delft)
Z. Fülöp (Szeged)	I. Petre (Turku)
B. F. Heidergott (Eindhoven)	E. W. Stark (Stony Brook, New York)
J. Karhumäki (Turku)	K. Zimmermann (Prague)

Furthermore, ten talks were selected as contributed communications. After the workshop, a call for papers for a special issue of the *Journal of Automata, Languages, and Combinatorics* on “Weighted Automata: Theory and Applications” was issued. Following a standard refereeing procedure, we were pleased to accept the present 9 papers for this special issue.

Manfred Droste (Dresden)
Heiko Vogler (Dresden)

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