

## NON-CLASSICAL MODELS OF AUTOMATA AND APPLICATIONS III

### PREFACE

Many non-classical models of automata are natural objects of theoretical computer science. They are studied from different points of view in various areas, both as theoretical concepts and as formal models for applications. A deeper and interdisciplinary coverage of this particular area may lead to new insights and substantial progress. The Third Workshop on *Non-Classical Models of Automata and Applications* (NCMA 2011) was organized in order to bring together researchers working on different aspects of various variants of non-classical models of automata to exchange and develop novel ideas.

The first Workshop on Non-Classical Models of Automata and Applications took place in Wrocław, Poland, organized as a satellite event of the International Symposium on Fundamentals of Computation Theory (FCT), on August 31st and September 1st, 2009. The Second Workshop on Non-Classical Models of Automata and Applications (NCMA 2010) took place in Jena, Germany, on August 23rd and 24th, 2010. It was organized as a satellite event of the Eleventh International Conference on Membrane Computing (CMC 11). Finally, the Third Workshop on Non-Classical Models of Automata and Applications (NCMA 2011) was organized as an independent event. It took place in Milano, Italy, on July 18th and 19th, 2011. The third workshop was again a scientifically valuable event with very interesting discussions, stimulating new investigations and scientific co-operations in the field of (non-classical) models of automata and applications.

NCMA 2011 was sponsored by the Dipartimento di Scienze dell'Informazione and Dipartimento di Informatica e Comunicazione, Università degli Studi di Milano. The conference was held in the main historical building of the Università degli Studi di Milano. Special thanks go to the invited speakers Andris Ambainis (University of Riga, Latvia) and Viliam Geffert (University of Košice, Slovakia) for accepting our invitation and presenting their recent results at NCMA 2011.

In addition to the invited contributions, papers were submitted by a total of 32 authors from 11 different countries. From these submissions, on the basis

of three referee reports each, the Program Committee selected 12 papers. We thank the members of the Program Committee for their excellent work in making this selection:

Christian Choffrut (Université Paris Diderot, France), Erzsébet Csuhaj-Varjú (Academy of Sciences, Hungary), Mark Daley (University of Western Ontario, Canada), Jerome Durand-Lose (Université d'Orléans, France), Rusins Freivalds (University of Riga, Latvia), Rudolf Freund (Technische Universität Wien, Austria), Mika Hirvensalo (University of Turku, Finland), Markus Holzer (Universität Giessen, Germany), Andreas Malcher (Universität Giessen, Germany), Carlo Mereghetti (Università degli Studi di Milano, Italy), Nelma Moreira (University of Porto, Portugal), Hidenosuke Nishio (University of Kyoto, Japan), Marion Oswald (Technische Universität Wien, Austria), Friedrich Otto (Universität Kassel, Germany), Beatrice Palano (Università degli Studi di Milano, Italy), Giovanni Pighizzini (Università degli Studi di Milano, Italy), Kai Salomaa (Queen's University, Canada), Bianca Truthe (Universität Magdeburg, Germany).

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The authors of selected papers were invited to submit substantially enhanced versions of their papers to this special issue. Each paper was reviewed independently by two experts, and, if necessary, revised by the authors. We are grateful to all the authors for their contributions and to all the referees for their reports and efforts. We would also like to express our thanks to Christian Choffrut, the Editor-in-Chief of the journal, and to the editorial staff of 'RAIRO-Theoretical Informatics and Applications' for their support.

### Special issue editors

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