

PREFACE

One of the main research objectives of computer science is the development of languages suitable for concurrent programming, and of formal methods for their design and implementation.

The EXPRESS workshops aim at a general understanding of the interconnections and relations between formal systems for concurrency and comparing their relative expressive power. These workshops have been held yearly since 1994 and were initially meant as the internal annual meetings of the Human Capital and Mobility Project EXPRESS, financed by the European Community.

The 1997 edition of these workshops, EXPRESS'97, held in Santa Margherita Ligure, Italy, was the first EXPRESS workshop to be open to the scientific community and organized as a conference, with a general call for papers, and various invited speakers from outside the project. The proceedings have been published in Volume 7 of the Electronic Notes in Theoretical Computer Science (<http://www.elsevier.nl/locate/entcs>).

This issue of *Information and Computation* is dedicated to EXPRESS'97 and contains the revised and completed versions of some of the papers presented at the meeting. The contributions of this volume have been selected on the basis of a new and independent reviewing process to meet the standards of *Information and Computation*. Each paper has been reviewed by at least three referees selected worldwide.

We thank all who contributed to the success of EXPRESS'97, in particular the members of the EXPRESS project, the participants, and the EC which provided generous financial support. Furthermore, we thank the authors of the submitted papers and the anonymous referees for their contribution to this volume.

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