

PREFACE

This volume of *Logical Methods in Computer Science* offers selected papers of Track B (“Logic, Semantics, and Programming”) of the 36th *International Colloquium on Automata, Languages and Programming (ICALP)*, held on the island of Rhodes in July 2009. The eight papers that are now published span a wide spectrum of fields:

- Manuel Bodirsky, Peter Jonsson and Timo von Oertzen: *Essential Convexity and Complexity of Semi-Algebraic Constraints*
- Thomas Colcombet: *Regular Cost Functions, Part I: Logic and Algebra over Words*
- Alain Finkel and Jean Goubault-Larrecq: *Forward Analysis for WSTS, Part II: Complete WSTS*
- Noaki Kobayashi and C. -H. Luke Ong: *Complexity of Model Checking Recursion Schemes for Fragments of the Modal Mu-Calculus*
- Lars Kuhtz and Bernd Finkbeiner: *Efficient Parallel Path Checking for Linear-Time Temporal Logic With Past and Bounds*
- Ugo Dal Lago and Simone Martini: *On Constructor Rewrite Systems and the Lambda Calculus*
- Pawel Parys and Igor Walukiewicz: *Weak Alternating Timed Automata*
- Thomas Place and Luc Segoufin: *A Decidable Characterization of Locally Testable Tree Languages*

The authors invested a lot of effort in revising and extending the short communications that were published in the conference proceedings (*Springer Lecture Notes in Computer Science, vol. 5556*). Much work was then spent by the reviewers who contributed considerably to the quality of the papers, in some cases over two rounds of revision. All this took considerable time. I have to thank both, the authors and the reviewers, for their magnificent work which finally led to a volume with papers of the highest standard.

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All articles have already been published in the regular issues of Logical Methods in Computer Science.