PROCEEDINGS OF THE FOURTEENTH ANNUAL ACM-SIAM SYMPOSIUM ON DISCRETE ALGORITHMS

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Association for Computing Machinery — New York

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This symposium was sponsored by the ACM Special Interest Group on Algorithms and Computation Theory and the SIAM Activity Group on Discrete Mathematics.

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PREFACE

The papers in this volume were presented at the Fourteenth Annual ACM-SIAM Symposium on Discrete Algorithms, held January 12–14, 2003, in Baltimore, Maryland. The Symposium was jointly sponsored by the SIAM Activity Group on Discrete Mathematics and by SIGACT, the ACM Special Interest Group on Algorithms and Computation Theory.

In response to the Call for Papers, 331 Long Form abstracts and 77 Short Form Abstracts were submitted. The program committee met "electronically" from July 9 to August 25, 2002, and accepted 92 Long Form abstracts and 20 Short Form abstracts. The decisions were based on originality, technical contribution, and relevance. The submissions were not formally refereed, although every attempt was made to verify the main claims. In addition to the program committee members, many additional reviewers contributed to this effort. It is expected that most of the accepted papers will appear in more complete form in scientific journals.

The program committee would like to thank all the authors who submitted papers for consideration. The committee also thanks Connie Young and Sara Murphy of the SIAM office for their enthusiastic and prompt handling of queries to SIAM.

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In Memoriam

Steven Seiden
July 13, 1967 – June 11, 2002

The theoretical computer science community mourns the tragic loss of Steve Seiden, who died on June 11, 2002, when he was hit by an oncoming truck while cycling.

Steve Seiden grew up in Virginia and moved to California in 1985 to attend the University of California, Irvine as an undergraduate majoring in Information and Computer Science. After graduating, Steve worked in the Irvine area and then decided to return to UCI for his Ph.D. in 1991. His Ph.D. advisors were Dan Hirschberg and Sandy Irani. Steve's thesis focused on randomized algorithms for the online metrical task systems problem and online scheduling. After receiving his Ph.D. in 1997, Steve took a postdoctoral fellowship at the Technical University in Graz, Austria, working with Gerhard Woeginger, and then another at the Max-Planck-Institute for Computer Science in Saarbrücken, Germany. In 1999, Steve joined the faculty of the Computer Science Department at Louisiana State University.

Steve was a very productive researcher both as a student and after his graduation. It is remarkable that in his short career he worked with such an extensive list of colleagues—a testament to how much he enjoyed sharing the process of solving problems with his fellow researchers. This is in addition to a number of important results he obtained on his own. Steve's work was characterized by an impressive technical expertise. He attacked difficult problems and often made significant progress on them. He was also a champion of the use of computational methods in finding proofs. His papers focus primarily on online algorithms for bin packing, scheduling, server systems, and task systems. Among his most noteworthy results is the best known upper bound for online bin packing to date.

Steve took up cycling when he was an undergraduate at UC Irvine and had been an avid cyclist ever since. He rode for the UC Irvine Cycling Team and enjoyed racing even after his student days. Besides computer science and cycling, Steve had many hobbies and interests, among them cooking, gardening, and traveling.

Steve married Tracey Rovello in 1997. Tracey was eight months pregnant with their first child at the time of his death and gave birth the day after his accident to Steven Benjamin Richard Seiden.

Steve had a gentle unassuming nature and was fondly regarded by everyone who knew him. He clearly took great pleasure in his work and in his life. Steve will be greatly missed in our community as a fellow researcher and as a friend.

Session 12C