12th International Conference on Fun with Algorithms

FUN 2024, June 4–8, 2024, Island of La Maddalena, Sardinia, Italy

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ACM Classification 2012
Theory of computation → Design and analysis of algorithms

ISBN 978-3-95977-314-0

Published online and open access by
Schloss Dagstuhl – Leibniz-Zentrum für Informatik GmbH, Dagstuhl Publishing, Saarbrücken/Wadern, Germany. Online available at https://www.dagstuhl.de/dagpub/978-3-95977-314-0.

Publication date
June, 2024

Bibliographic information published by the Deutsche Nationalbibliothek
The Deutsche Nationalbibliothek lists this publication in the Deutsche Nationalbibliografie; detailed bibliographic data are available in the Internet at https://portal.dnb.de.

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Digital Object Identifier: 10.4230/LIPIcs.FUN.2024.0

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ISSN 1868-8969

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Preface

FUN with Algorithms is dedicated to the use, design, and analysis of algorithms and data structures, focusing on results that provide amusing, witty, yet original and scientifically profound contributions to the area. Donald Knuth's famous quote captures this spirit nicely: *"... pleasure has probably been the main goal all along. But I hesitate to admit it, because computer scientists want to maintain their image as hard-working individuals who deserve high salaries. Sooner or later, society will realize that certain kinds of hard work are in fact admirable, even though they are more fun than just about anything else".*

The previous FUNs were held in Elba Island, Italy; in Castiglioncello, Tuscany, Italy; in Ischia Island, Italy; in San Servolo Island, Venice, Italy; in Lipari Island, Sicily, Italy; in La Maddalena Island, Sardinia, Italy; and in Island of Favignana, Sicily, Italy. Special issues of Theoretical Computer Science, Discrete Applied Mathematics, and Theory of Computing Systems were dedicated to them.

This volume contains the papers that will be presented at the 12th International Conference on Fun with Algorithms 2024, that will take place on June 4–8, 2024, on La Maddalena Island, Italy. The call for papers attracted 69 submissions from all over the world, addressing a wide variety of topics. These were reviewed by 18 Program Committee members. After a careful reviewing process and a thorough discussion, the committee decided to accept 31 papers. Extended versions of selected papers will appear in a special issue. This year, FUN will also host 4 talks in the Computer Science Salon des Refusés. This special track aims to be a "salon" in two senses of the word: First, "salon" as an exhibition of ideas in Computer Science that in their infancy were rejected from a major venue but later proven to be highly influential, and second "salon" as a meeting of convivial people getting together to share both amusement and learning. Finally, the program features invited talks by Paolo Ferragina and John Iacono.

We thank our invited speakers, Paolo Ferragina and John Iacono, all authors who submitted their work to FUN 2024, all Program Committee members for their expert assessments and the ensuing discussions, and all external reviewers for their kind assistance. We used EasyChair (http://www.easychair.org/), that greatly facilitated the entire preparation of the conference, for handling submissions, reviews, the selection of papers, and the production of this volume. Warm thanks also go to Michael Wagner and the LIPIcs team for carefully overseeing the proceedings' publication in the LIPIcs series. Finally, we appreciate the financial support from Università di Pisa under the "PRA – Progetti di Ricerca di Ateneo" (Institutional Research Grants) – Project no. PRA_2022_81.

April, 2024

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Andrei Z. Broder
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12th International Conference on Fun with Algorithms (FUN 2024).
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