

**FOREWORD TO THE SPECIAL ISSUE DEDICATED TO THE
TWELFTH “*JOURNÉES MONTOISES D’INFORMATIQUE
THÉORIQUE*”**

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This volume of Theoretical Informatics and Applications is dedicated to the sixteenth “Journées Montoises d’Informatique Théorique” (Mons Theoretical Computer Science Days).

This special issue of Theoretical Informatics and Applications is dedicated to the sixteenth conference “*Journées Montoises d’Informatique Théorique*” (Mons Theoretical Computer Science Days) which was held at the University of Liège in Belgium from 6th to 10th September 2016.

The conference was organized in Liège for the second time. Last edition in Liège dates back to 2004. Previous editions of this conference took place in Mons 1990, 1992, 1994, 1998, 2008, in Rouen 1991, in Bordeaux 1993, Marseille 1995, Marne-La-Vallée 2000, Montpellier 2002, Liège 2004, Rennes 2006, Amiens 2010, Louvain-la-Neuve 2012 and Nancy 2014.

Around 50 participants from Austria, Belgium, Canada, China, Czech Republic, Finland, France, India, Italy, Japan, Portugal, Russia, The Netherlands and USA were attending the meeting and discussing about the main topics of the conference: combinatorics on words, automata theory and formal languages theory and their relationship with other topics like number theory, model-checking, logical aspects, theory of semigroups, game theory, algorithmic aspects, etc.

After the conference, participants were invited to submit full research papers for this special issue. Each paper has been refereed using high scientific standards by two independent referees.

We would like to thank the invited speakers: Valérie Berthé, Thomas Brihaye, Yves Crama, Clemens Heuberger, Alexander Okhotin, Samuel Petite and Svetlana Puzynina, but also all the participants and the anonymous referees who made possible this event and special issue. We also thank our main sponsors: European Science Foundation (through the COFUND Marie Curie program), FNRS (Belgian Science Funds for Research), the University of Liège and the governmental agency Wallonie-Bruxelles International.

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