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Preface

In the series of the Twente Workshops on Graphs and Combinatorial Optimization that are held biennially at the University of Twente in the Netherlands, the 4th took place on 7–9 June 1995. More than 100 scientists from more than 20 different countries came together to present results from their recent research and discuss the current state-of-the-art.

Following the lead of the 2nd Twente Workshop, which resulted in the special issue of *Discrete Applied Mathematics*, Vol. 51, Nos. 1–2 (1994), we invited the participants and other interested researchers to submit original research articles that reflect the topics and central issues of the 4th Twente Workshop. The contributions were refereed and collected into the present proceedings volume.

At best, a research article will not be the final word on a topic but stimulate further research and open up paths leading to more comprehensive answers to fundamental questions. We, as guest editors of the present special issue of *Discrete Applied Mathematics*, hope that its readers will find the results reported here interesting and beneficial for their own work.

Last but not least, we want to take this opportunity to thank the many referees for their cooperative effort and constructive criticism, without which this volume would not have been possible.

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