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Preface

This special issue of *Discrete Mathematics* contains papers presented at the 2000 Combinatorial and Computational Mathematics Center (Com²MaC) Conference on Association Schemes, Codes and Designs held at Pohang University of Science and Technology (POSTECH), Pohang, South Korea, during 3–7 July 2000. The aim of the conference was to bring together students and experts on algebraic combinatorics. It was intended to cover recent developments in the theory of association schemes, graphs, codes, designs and related areas of mathematics as well as their applications. The rich mathematical problems arising from the study of these various areas are the subject of this special issue, which represents part of the work presented at the conference.

Our conference was part of a major effort on the part of Com²MaC to promote and support high-quality research within the fields of combinatorial and computational mathematics. Our deepest gratitude goes to the director, Jin-Ho Kwak, and the steering committee of Com²MaC for the generous support of this conference. The editors sincerely thank Sungpyo Hong and Hyun Kwang Kim, in the organizing committee, and all other members and staffs of the center who have helped in the planning of the conference, and in doing the day-to-day work which was needed for holding the conference.

We would also like to acknowledge the Korean Science and Engineering Foundation, POSTECH, and the Mathematics Department of POSTECH, for their financial support. Without their support, holding a conference of this magnitude would have been difficult, and, of course, the present collection of articles would not have been realized.

Our special thanks go to the plenary speakers for the conference: Andries Brouwer, Chris Godsil, Suk-Geun Hwang, Alexander A. Ivanov, Michio Ozeki, Vera Pless, Cheryl E. Praeger, Jack H. van Lint, Walter Wallis, and Zhe-Xian Wan. Their assistance and presence really helped make this conference a great success. Last, but not the least, we extend our thanks to the large number of participants who took part in the conference. The support and encouragement offered by them was enormous and contributed a great deal towards the success of the conference.

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