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Special Issue on Parallel Symbolic Computation Foreword of the Guest Editor

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The interplay between parallelism and symbolic computation poses inspiring scientific challenges, which deserve much focused attention. However, there has not yet been a dedicated forum, and this special issue addresses the need. It is also expected that further progress can be made through the interaction between parallel symbolic algorithm designers and parallel high-level language designers. This special issue is intended to provide a framework for establishing this fruitful dialogue.

The scope of this issue includes algorithms, languages, and software systems in all areas of parallel symbolic computation where parallelism is interpreted broadly to include concurrent, distributive, cooperative schemes, etc. In particular, the following five sub-areas have been reflected: parallel computer algebra, parallel computer arithmetic, parallel automated deduction, parallel functional languages, parallel constraint/logic languages.

This special issue grew out of papers originally presented at the First International Symposium on Parallel Symbolic Computation PASCOS'94 (the proceedings by World Scientific) held at RISC-Linz (Castle Hagenberg), Austria, during September 26–28, 1994.

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