

## Foreword

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Published online: 17 April 2009  
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This special issue contains selected papers whose preliminary versions were presented at the 18th Annual ACM Symposium on Parallelism on Algorithms and Architectures (SPAA), held in Cambridge, Massachusetts, from July 30 to August 2, 2006. The conference included papers addressing parallelism in computing at a remarkably broad range of scales, from the atomic scale (quantum computation) through hardware (multicore architectures), up to the global scale of peer-to-peer networks and other wide-area distributed systems. This breadth is reflected in the seven papers that we, the guest editors, chose to invite for this special issue.

The authors of these papers were invited to prepare full versions of their SPAA contributions, which were then refereed according to the usual standards of *Theory of Computing Systems*. We thank the authors for contributing their work, the referees for ensuring the high quality of the material presented here, and the Editor-in-Chief for his very valuable assistance with the process of assembling the special issue.

Guest Editors

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