DESCRIPTION

*Theoretical Computer Science* is mathematical and abstract in spirit, but it derives its motivation from practical and everyday computation. Its aim is to understand the nature of computation and, as a consequence of this understanding, provide more efficient methodologies. All papers introducing or studying mathematical, logic and formal concepts and methods are welcome, provided that their motivation is clearly drawn from the field of computing.

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Papers published in *Theoretical Computer Science* are grouped in three sections according to their nature. The first section `Algorithms, automata, complexity and games' is devoted to the study of algorithms and their complexity using analytical, combinatorial or probabilistic methods. It includes the whole field of abstract complexity (i.e. all the results about the hierarchies that can be defined using Turing machines), the whole field of automata and language theory (including automata on infinite words and infinitary languages), the whole field of geometrical (graphic) applications and the whole field of measurement of system performance using statistical methods.

The second section, `Logic, semantics and theory of programming', is devoted to formal methods to check properties of programs or implement formally described languages; it contains all papers dealing with semantics of sequential and parallel programming languages. All formal methods treating these problems are published in this section, including rewriting techniques, abstract data types, automatic theorem proving, calculi such as SCP or CCS, Petri nets, new logic calculi and developments in categorical methods.

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Researchers in the Theoretical Aspects of Computer Science.

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Introduction
Theoretical Computer Science is mathematical and abstract in spirit, but it derives its motivation from practical and everyday computation. All papers introducing or studying mathematical, logic and formal concepts and methods are welcome, provided that their motivation is clearly drawn from the field of computing.

Papers published in Theoretical Computer Science are grouped in three sections according to their nature. *Algorithms, automata, complexity and games*, or TCS-A, is devoted to the study of algorithms and their complexity using analytical, combinatorial or probabilistic methods. *Logic, semantics and theory of programming*, or TCS-B, is devoted to formal methods to check properties of programs or implement formally described languages and contains all papers dealing with semantics of sequential and parallel programming languages. *Natural Computing*, or TCS-C, is devoted to the study of computing occurring in nature and computing inspired by nature. This section is focused on the theoretical aspects of natural computing with clear relevance to computing. Among others, it will contain papers dealing with the theoretical issues in evolutionary computing, neural networks, molecular computing, and quantum computing. Any queries about submissions and peer review should be addressed to the TCS editorial office: tcs@elsevier.com.

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Those that meet the minimum criteria are passed on to a Handling Editor who is a member of the Editorial Board with expertise in the subject area of the submission, where the screening process repeats. Those that pass this stage are passed on to at least two experts for review.

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- Fits the scope of Theoretical Computer Science
- Is clearly presented, including linguistic quality
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