

Ming-Yang Kao (Ed.)

Encyclopedia of Algorithms

With 183 Figures and 38 Tables

With 4075 References for Further Reading

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Preface

The *Encyclopedia of Algorithms* aims to provide the researchers, students, and practitioners of algorithmic research with a mechanism to efficiently and accurately find the names, definitions, key results, and further readings of important algorithmic problems.

The work covers a wide range of algorithmic areas, and each algorithmic area is covered by a collection of entries. An encyclopedia entry is an in-depth mini-survey of an algorithmic problem and is written by an expert researcher. The entries for an algorithmic area are compiled by an area editor to survey the representative results in that area and can form the core materials of a course in the area.

The *Encyclopedia* does not use the format of a conventional long survey for several reasons. A conventional survey takes a handful of individuals too much time to write and is difficult to update. An encyclopedia entry contains the same kinds of information as in a conventional survey, but an encyclopedia entry is much shorter and is much easier for readers to absorb and for editors to update. Furthermore, an algorithmic area is surveyed by a collection of entries which together provide a considerable amount of up-to-date information about the area, while the writing and updating of the entries is distributed among multiple authors to speed up the work.

This reference work will be updated on a regular basis and will evolve towards primarily an Internet-based medium to allow timely updates and fast search. If you have feedback regarding a particular entry, please feel free to communicate directly with the author or the area editor of that entry. If you are interested in authoring an entry, please contact a suitable area editor. If you have suggestions on how to improve the Encyclopedia as a whole, please contact me at kao@northwestern.edu.

The credit of the Encyclopedia goes to the area editors, the entry authors, the entry reviewers, and the project editors at Springer, including Jennifer Evans and Jennifer Carlson.

Ming-Yang Kao
Editor-in-Chief

Table of Contents

Abelian Hidden Subgroup Problem	1
<i>1995; Kitaev</i>	
Adaptive Partitions	4
<i>1986; Du, Pan, Shing</i>	
Adwords Pricing	7
<i>2007; Bu, Deng, Qi</i>	
Algorithm DC-Tree for k Servers on Trees	9
<i>1991; Chrobak, Larmore</i>	
Algorithmic Cooling	11
<i>1999; Schulman, Vazirani</i>	
<i>2002; Boykin, Mor, Roychowdhury, Vatan, Vrijen</i>	
Algorithmic Mechanism Design	16
<i>1999; Nisan, Ronen</i>	
Algorithms for Spanners in Weighted Graphs	25
<i>2003; Baswana, Sen</i>	
All Pairs Shortest Paths in Sparse Graphs	28
<i>2004; Pettie</i>	
All Pairs Shortest Paths via Matrix Multiplication	31
<i>2002; Zwick</i>	
Alternative Performance Measures in Online Algorithms	34
<i>2000; Koutsoupias, Papadimitriou</i>	
Analyzing Cache Misses	37
<i>2003; Mehlhorn, Sanders</i>	
Applications of Geometric Spanner Networks	40
<i>2002; Gudmundsson, Levkopoulos, Narasimhan, Smid</i>	
Approximate Dictionaries	43
<i>2002; Buhrman, Miltersen, Radhakrishnan, Venkatesh</i>	
Approximate Regular Expression Matching	46
<i>1995; Wu, Manber, Myers</i>	

Approximate Tandem Repeats	48
2001; Landau, Schmidt, Sokol	
2003; Kolpakov, Kucherov	
Approximating Metric Spaces by Tree Metrics	51
1996; Bartal, Fakcharoenphol, Rao, Talwar	
2004; Bartal, Fakcharoenphol, Rao, Talwar	
Approximations of Bimatrix Nash Equilibria	53
2003; Lipton, Markakis, Mehta	
2006; Daskalakis, Mehta, Papadimitriou	
2006; Kontogiannis, Panagopoulou, Spirakis	
Approximation Schemes for Bin Packing	57
1982; Karmarkar, Karp	
Approximation Schemes for Planar Graph Problems	59
1983; Baker	
1994; Baker	
Arbitrage in Frictional Foreign Exchange Market	62
2003; Cai, Deng	
Arithmetic Coding for Data Compression	65
1994; Howard, Vitter	
Assignment Problem	68
1955; Kuhn	
1957; Munkres	
Asynchronous Consensus Impossibility	70
1985; Fischer, Lynch, Paterson	
Atomic Broadcast	73
1995; Cristian, Aghili, Strong, Dolev	
Attribute-Efficient Learning	77
1987; Littlestone	
Automated Search Tree Generation	78
2004; Gramm, Guo, Hüffner, Niedermeier	
Backtracking Based k-SAT Algorithms	83
2005; Paturi, Pudlák, Saks, Zane	
Best Response Algorithms for Selfish Routing	86
2005; Fotakis, Kontogiannis, Spirakis	
Bidimensionality	88
2004; Demaine, Fomin, Hajiaghayi, Thilikos	
Binary Decision Graph	90
1986; Bryant	

Bin Packing	94
<i>1997; Coffman, Garay, Johnson</i>	
Boosting Textual Compression	97
<i>2005; Ferragina, Giancarlo, Manzini, Sciortino</i>	
Branchwidth of Graphs	101
<i>2003; Fomin, Thilikos</i>	
Broadcasting in Geometric Radio Networks	105
<i>2001; Dessmark, Pelc</i>	
B-trees	108
<i>1972; Bayer, McCreight</i>	
Burrows–Wheeler Transform	112
<i>1994; Burrows, Wheeler</i>	
Byzantine Agreement	116
<i>1980; Pease, Shostak, Lamport</i>	
Cache-Oblivious B-Tree	121
<i>2005; Bender, Demaine, Farach-Colton</i>	
Cache-Oblivious Model	123
<i>1999; Frigo, Leiserson, Prokop, Ramachandran</i>	
Cache-Oblivious Sorting	126
<i>1999; Frigo, Leiserson, Prokop, Ramachandran</i>	
Causal Order, Logical Clocks, State Machine Replication	129
<i>1978; Lamport</i>	
Certificate Complexity and Exact Learning	131
<i>1995; Hellerstein, Piliapakamatt, Raghavan, Wilkins</i>	
Channel Assignment and Routing in Multi-Radio Wireless Mesh Networks	134
<i>2005; Alicherry, Bhatia, Li</i>	
Circuit Partitioning: A Network-Flow-Based Balanced Min-Cut Approach	138
<i>1994; Yang, Wong</i>	
Circuit Placement	143
<i>2000; Caldwell, Kahng, Markov</i>	
<i>2002; Kennings, Markov</i>	
<i>2006; Kennings, Vorwerk</i>	
Circuit Retiming	146
<i>1991; Leiserson, Saxe</i>	
Circuit Retiming: An Incremental Approach	149
<i>2005; Zhou</i>	

Clock Synchronization	152
<i>1994; Patt-Shamir, Rajsbaum</i>	
Closest String and Substring Problems	155
<i>2002; Li, Ma, Wang</i>	
Closest Substring	156
<i>2005; Marx</i>	
Color Coding	158
<i>1995; Alon, Yuster, Zwick</i>	
Communication in Ad Hoc Mobile Networks Using Random Walks	161
<i>2003; Chatzigiannakis, Nikolettseas, Spirakis</i>	
Competitive Auction	165
<i>2001; Goldberg, Hartline, Wright</i>	
<i>2002; Fiat, Goldberg, Hartline, Karlin</i>	
Complexity of Bimatrix Nash Equilibria	166
<i>2006; Chen, Deng</i>	
Complexity of Core	168
<i>2001; Fang, Zhu, Cai, Deng</i>	
Compressed Pattern Matching	171
<i>2003; Kida, Matsumoto, Shibata, Takeda, Shinohara, Arikawa</i>	
Compressed Suffix Array	174
<i>2003; Grossi, Gupta, Vitter</i>	
Compressed Text Indexing	176
<i>2005; Ferragina, Manzini</i>	
Compressing Integer Sequences and Sets	178
<i>2000; Moffat, Stuiver</i>	
Computing Pure Equilibria in the Game of Parallel Links	183
<i>2002; Fotakis, Kontogiannis, Koutsoupias, Mavronicolas, Spirakis</i>	
<i>2003; Even-Dar, Kesselman, Mansour</i>	
<i>2003; Feldman, Gairing, Lücking, Monien, Rode</i>	
Concurrent Programming, Mutual Exclusion	188
<i>1965; Dijkstra</i>	
Connected Dominating Set	191
<i>2003; Cheng, Huang, Li, Wu, Du</i>	
Connectivity and Fault-Tolerance in Random Regular Graphs	195
<i>2000; Nikolettseas, Palem, Spirakis, Yung</i>	
Consensus with Partial Synchrony	198
<i>1988; Dwork, Lynch, Stockmeyer</i>	

Constructing a Galled Phylogenetic Network	202
<i>2006; Jansson, Nguyen, Sung</i>	
CPU Time Pricing	205
<i>2005; Deng, Huang, Li</i>	
Critical Range for Wireless Networks	207
<i>2004; Wan, Yi</i>	
Cryptographic Hardness of Learning	210
<i>1994; Kearns, Valiant</i>	
Cuckoo Hashing	212
<i>2001; Pagh, Rodler</i>	
Data Migration	217
<i>2004; Khuller, Kim, Wan</i>	
Data Reduction for Domination in Graphs	220
<i>2004; Alber, Fellows, Niedermeier</i>	
Decoding Reed–Solomon Codes	222
<i>1999; Guruswami, Sudan</i>	
Decremental All-Pairs Shortest Paths	226
<i>2004; Demetrescu, Italiano</i>	
Degree-Bounded Planar Spanner with Low Weight	228
<i>2005; Song, Li, Wang</i>	
Degree-Bounded Trees	231
<i>1994; Fürer, Raghavachari</i>	
Deterministic Broadcasting in Radio Networks	233
<i>2000; Chrobak, Gąsieniec, Rytter</i>	
Deterministic Searching on the Line	235
<i>1988; Baeza-Yates, Culberson, Rawlins</i>	
Dictionary-Based Data Compression	236
<i>1977; Ziv, Lempel</i>	
Dictionary Matching and Indexing (Exact and with Errors)	240
<i>2004; Cole, Gottlieb, Lewenstein</i>	
Dilation of Geometric Networks	244
<i>2005; Ebberts-Baumann, Grüne, Karpinski, Klein, Kutz, Knauer, Lingas</i>	
Directed Perfect Phylogeny (Binary Characters)	246
<i>1991; Gusfield</i>	
Direct Routing Algorithms	248
<i>2006; Busch, Magdon-Ismail, Mavronicolas, Spirakis</i>	

Distance-Based Phylogeny Reconstruction (Fast-Converging)	251
<i>2003; King, Zhang, Zhou</i>	
Distance-Based Phylogeny Reconstruction (Optimal Radius)	253
<i>1999; Atteson</i>	
<i>2005; Elias, Lagergren</i>	
Distributed Algorithms for Minimum Spanning Trees	256
<i>1983; Gallager, Humblet, Spira</i>	
Distributed Vertex Coloring	258
<i>2004; Finocchi, Panconesi, Silvestri</i>	
Dynamic Trees	260
<i>2005; Tarjan, Werneck</i>	
Edit Distance Under Block Operations	265
<i>2000; Cormode, Paterson, Sahinalp, Vishkin</i>	
<i>2000; Muthukrishnan, Sahinalp</i>	
Efficient Methods for Multiple Sequence Alignment with Guaranteed Error Bounds	267
<i>1993; Gusfield</i>	
Engineering Algorithms for Computational Biology	270
<i>2002; Bader, Moret, Warnow</i>	
Engineering Algorithms for Large Network Applications	272
<i>2002; Schulz, Wagner, Zaroliagis</i>	
Engineering Geometric Algorithms	274
<i>2004; Halperin</i>	
Equivalence Between Priority Queues and Sorting	278
<i>2002; Thorup</i>	
Euclidean Traveling Salesperson Problem	281
<i>1998; Arora</i>	
Exact Algorithms for Dominating Set	284
<i>2005; Fomin, Grandoni, Kratsch</i>	
Exact Algorithms for General CNF SAT	286
<i>1998; Hirsch</i>	
<i>2003; Schuler</i>	
Exact Graph Coloring Using Inclusion–Exclusion	289
<i>2006; Björklund, Husfeldt</i>	
Experimental Methods for Algorithm Analysis	290
<i>2001; McGeoch</i>	
External Sorting and Permuting	291
<i>1988; Aggarwal, Vitter</i>	

Facility Location	299
<i>1997; Shmoys, Tardos, Aardal</i>	
Failure Detectors	304
<i>1996; Chandra, Toueg</i>	
False-Name-Proof Auction	308
<i>2004; Yokoo, Sakurai, Matsubara</i>	
Fast Minimal Triangulation	310
<i>2005; Heggernes, Telle, Villanger</i>	
Fault-Tolerant Quantum Computation	313
<i>1996; Shor, Aharonov, Ben-Or, Kitaev</i>	
Floorplan and Placement	317
<i>1994; Kajitani, Nakatake, Murata, Fujiyoshi</i>	
Flow Time Minimization	320
<i>2001; Becchetti, Leonardi, Marchetti-Spaccamela, Pruhs</i>	
FPGA Technology Mapping	322
<i>1992; Cong, Ding</i>	
Fractional Packing and Covering Problems	326
<i>1991; Plotkin, Shmoys, Tardos</i>	
<i>1995; Plotkin, Shmoys, Tardos</i>	
Fully Dynamic All Pairs Shortest Paths	329
<i>2004; Demetrescu, Italiano</i>	
Fully Dynamic Connectivity	331
<i>2001; Holm, de Lichtenberg, Thorup</i>	
Fully Dynamic Connectivity: Upper and Lower Bounds	332
<i>2000; Thorup</i>	
Fully Dynamic Higher Connectivity	335
<i>1997; Eppstein, Galil, Italiano, Nissenzweig</i>	
Fully Dynamic Higher Connectivity for Planar Graphs	337
<i>1998; Eppstein, Galil, Italiano, Spencer</i>	
Fully Dynamic Minimum Spanning Trees	339
<i>2000; Holm, de Lichtenberg, Thorup</i>	
Fully Dynamic Planarity Testing	342
<i>1999; Galil, Italiano, Sarnak</i>	
Fully Dynamic Transitive Closure	343
<i>1999; King</i>	
Gate Sizing	345
<i>2002; Sundararajan, Sapatnekar, Parhi</i>	

General Equilibrium	347
<i>2002; Deng, Papadimitriou, Safra</i>	
Generalized Steiner Network	349
<i>2001; Jain</i>	
Generalized Two-Server Problem	351
<i>2006; Sitters, Stougie</i>	
Generalized Vickrey Auction	353
<i>1995; Varian</i>	
Geographic Routing	355
<i>2003; Kuhn, Wattenhofer, Zollinger</i>	
Geometric Dilation of Geometric Networks	358
<i>2006; Dumitrescu, Ebbels-Baumann, Grüne, Klein, Knauer, Rote</i>	
Geometric Spanners	360
<i>2002; Gudmundsson, Levkopoulos, Narasimhan</i>	
Gomory–Hu Trees	364
<i>2007; Bhargat, Hariharan, Kavitha, Panigrahi</i>	
Graph Bandwidth	366
<i>1998; Feige</i>	
<i>2000; Feige</i>	
Graph Coloring	368
<i>1994; Karger, Motwani, Sudan</i>	
<i>1998; Karger, Motwani, Sudan</i>	
Graph Connectivity	371
<i>1994; Khuller, Vishkin</i>	
Graph Isomorphism	373
<i>1980; McKay</i>	
Greedy Approximation Algorithms	376
<i>2004; Ruan, Du, Jia, Wu, Li, Ko</i>	
Greedy Set-Cover Algorithms	379
<i>1974–1979, Chvátal, Johnson, Lovász, Stein</i>	
Hamilton Cycles in Random Intersection Graphs	383
<i>2005; Efthymiou, Spirakis</i>	
Hardness of Proper Learning	385
<i>1988; Pitt, Valiant</i>	
High Performance Algorithm Engineering for Large-scale Problems	387
<i>2005; Bader</i>	

Hospitals/Residents Problem	390
<i>1962; Gale, Shapley</i>	
Implementation Challenge for Shortest Paths	395
<i>2006; Demetrescu, Goldberg, Johnson</i>	
Implementation Challenge for TSP Heuristics	398
<i>2002; Johnson, McGeoch</i>	
Implementing Shared Registers in Asynchronous Message-Passing Systems	400
<i>1995; Attiya, Bar-Noy, Dolev</i>	
Incentive Compatible Selection	403
<i>2006; Chen, Deng, Liu</i>	
Independent Sets in Random Intersection Graphs	405
<i>2004; Nikolettseas, Raptopoulos, Spirakis</i>	
Indexed Approximate String Matching	408
<i>2006; Chan, Lam, Sung, Tam, Wong</i>	
Inductive Inference	411
<i>1983; Case, Smith</i>	
I/O-model	413
<i>1988; Aggarwal, Vitter</i>	
Kinetic Data Structures	417
<i>1999; Basch, Guibas, Hershberger</i>	
Knapsack	419
<i>1975; Ibarra, Kim</i>	
Learning with the Aid of an Oracle	423
<i>1996; Bshouty, Cleve, Gavalda, Kannan, Tamon</i>	
Learning Automata	425
<i>2000; Beimel, Bergadano, Bshouty, Kushilevitz, Varricchio</i>	
Learning Constant-Depth Circuits	429
<i>1993; Linial, Mansour, Nisan</i>	
Learning DNF Formulas	431
<i>1997; Jackson</i>	
Learning Heavy Fourier Coefficients of Boolean Functions	434
<i>1989; Goldreich, Levin</i>	
Learning with Malicious Noise	436
<i>1993; Kearns, Li</i>	
Learning Significant Fourier Coefficients over Finite Abelian Groups	438
<i>2003; Akavia, Goldwasser, Safra</i>	

LEDA: a Library of Efficient Algorithms	442
<i>1995; Mehlhorn, Näher</i>	
Leontief Economy Equilibrium	444
<i>2005; Codenotti, Saberi, Varadarajan, Ye</i>	
<i>2005; Ye</i>	
Linearity Testing/Testing Hadamard Codes	446
<i>1990; Blum, Luby, Rubinfeld</i>	
Linearizability	450
<i>1990; Herlihy, Wing</i>	
List Decoding near Capacity: Folded RS Codes	453
<i>2006; Guruswami, Rudra</i>	
List Scheduling	455
<i>1966; Graham</i>	
Load Balancing	457
<i>1994; Azar, Broder, Karlin</i>	
<i>1997; Azar, Kalyanasundaram, Plotkin, Pruhs, Waarts</i>	
Local Alignment (with Affine Gap Weights)	459
<i>1986; Altschul, Erickson</i>	
Local Alignment (with Concave Gap Weights)	461
<i>1988; Miller, Myers</i>	
Local Approximation of Covering and Packing Problems	463
<i>2003–2006; Kuhn, Moscibroda, Nieberg, Wattenhofer</i>	
Local Computation in Unstructured Radio Networks	466
<i>2005; Moscibroda, Wattenhofer</i>	
Local Search Algorithms for kSAT	468
<i>1999; Schöning</i>	
Local Search for K-medians and Facility Location	470
<i>2001; Arya, Garg, Khandekar, Meyerson, Munagala, Pandit</i>	
Lower Bounds for Dynamic Connectivity	473
<i>2004; Pătraşcu, Demaine</i>	
Low Stretch Spanning Trees	477
<i>2005; Elkin, Emek, Spielman, Teng</i>	
LP Decoding	478
<i>2002 and later; Feldman, Karger, Wainwright</i>	
Majority Equilibrium	483
<i>2003; Chen, Deng, Fang, Tian</i>	

Market Games and Content Distribution	485
<i>2005; Mirrokni</i>	
Max Cut	489
<i>1994; Goemans, Williamson</i>	
<i>1995; Goemans, Williamson</i>	
Maximum Agreement Subtree (of 2 Binary Trees)	492
<i>1996; Cole, Hariharan</i>	
Maximum Agreement Subtree (of 3 or More Trees)	495
<i>1995; Farach, Przytycka, Thorup</i>	
Maximum Agreement Supertree	497
<i>2005; Jansson, Ng, Sadakane, Sung</i>	
Maximum Compatible Tree	499
<i>2001; Ganapathy, Warnow</i>	
Maximum-Density Segment	502
<i>1994; Huang</i>	
Maximum Matching	504
<i>2004; Mucha, Sankowski</i>	
Maximum-scoring Segment with Length Restrictions	506
<i>2002; Lin, Jiang, Chao</i>	
Maximum Two-Satisfiability	507
<i>2004; Williams</i>	
Max Leaf Spanning Tree	511
<i>2005; Estivill-Castro, Fellows, Langston, Rosamond</i>	
Metrical Task Systems	514
<i>1992; Borodin, Linial, Saks</i>	
Metric TSP	517
<i>1976; Christofides</i>	
Minimum Bisection	519
<i>1999; Feige, Krauthgamer</i>	
Minimum Congestion Redundant Assignments	522
<i>2002; Fotakis, Spirakis</i>	
Minimum Energy Broadcasting in Wireless Geometric Networks	526
<i>2005; Ambühl</i>	
Minimum Energy Cost Broadcasting in Wireless Networks	528
<i>2001; Wan, Calinescu, Li, Frieder</i>	
Minimum Flow Time	531
<i>1997; Leonardi, Raz</i>	

Minimum Geometric Spanning Trees	533
<i>1999; Krznaric, Levcopoulos, Nilsson</i>	
Minimum k-Connected Geometric Networks	536
<i>2000; Czumaj, Lingas</i>	
Minimum Makespan on Unrelated Machines	539
<i>1990; Lenstra, Shmoys, Tardos</i>	
Minimum Spanning Trees	541
<i>2002; Pettie, Ramachandran</i>	
Minimum Weighted Completion Time	544
<i>1999; Afrati et al.</i>	
Minimum Weight Triangulation	546
<i>1998; Levcopoulos, Krznaric</i>	
Mobile Agents and Exploration	548
<i>1952; Shannon</i>	
Multicommodity Flow, Well-linked Terminals and Routing Problems	551
<i>2005; Chekuri, Khanna, Shepherd</i>	
Multicut	554
<i>1993; Garg, Vazirani, Yannakakis</i>	
<i>1996; Garg, Vazirani, Yannakakis</i>	
Multidimensional Compressed Pattern Matching	556
<i>2003; Amir, Landau, Sokol</i>	
Multidimensional String Matching	559
<i>1999; Kärkkäinen, Ukkonen</i>	
Multi-level Feedback Queues	562
<i>1968; Coffman, Kleinrock</i>	
Multiple Unit Auctions with Budget Constraint	563
<i>2005; Borgs, Chayes, Immorlica, Mahdian, Saberi</i>	
<i>2006; Abrams</i>	
Multiplex PCR for Gap Closing (Whole-genome Assembly)	565
<i>2002; Alon, Beigel, Kasif, Rudich, Sudakov</i>	
Multiway Cut	567
<i>1998; Calinescu, Karloff, Rabani</i>	
Nash Equilibria and Dominant Strategies in Routing	571
<i>2005; Wang, Li, Chu</i>	
Nearest Neighbor Interchange and Related Distances	573
<i>1999; DasGupta, He, Jiang, Li, Tromp, Zhang</i>	

Negative Cycles in Weighted Digraphs	576
<i>1994; Kavvadias, Pantziou, Spirakis, Zaroliagis</i>	
Non-approximability of Bimatrix Nash Equilibria	578
<i>2006; Chen, Deng, Teng</i>	
Non-shared Edges	579
<i>1985; Day</i>	
Nucleolus	581
<i>2006; Deng, Fang, Sun</i>	
Oblivious Routing	585
<i>2002; Räcke</i>	
Obstacle Avoidance Algorithms in Wireless Sensor Networks	588
<i>2007; Powell, Nikolettseas</i>	
$O(\log \log n)$-competitive Binary Search Tree	592
<i>2004; Demaine, Harmon, Iacono, Patrascu</i>	
Online Interval Coloring	594
<i>1981; Kierstead, Trotter</i>	
Online List Update	598
<i>1985; Sleator, Tarjan</i>	
Online Paging and Caching	601
<i>1985–2002; multiple authors</i>	
Optimal Probabilistic Synchronous Byzantine Agreement	604
<i>1988; Feldman, Micali</i>	
Optimal Stable Marriage	606
<i>1987; Irving, Leather, Gusfield</i>	
P2P	611
<i>2001; Stoica, Morris, Karger, Kaashoek, Balakrishnan</i>	
Packet Routing	616
<i>1988; Leighton, Maggs, Rao</i>	
Packet Switching in Multi-Queue Switches	618
<i>2004; Azar, Richter; Albers, Schmidt</i>	
Packet Switching in Single Buffer	621
<i>2003; Bansal, Fleischer, Kimbrel, Mahdian, Schieber, Sviridenko</i>	
PAC Learning	622
<i>1984; Valiant</i>	
PageRank Algorithm	624
<i>1998; Brin, Page</i>	

Paging	625
<i>1985; Sleator, Tarjan, Fiat, Karp, Luby, McGeoch, Sleator, Young</i>	
<i>1991; Sleator, Tarjan; Fiat, Karp, Luby, McGeoch, Sleator, Young</i>	
Parallel Algorithms for Two Processors Precedence Constraint Scheduling	627
<i>2003; Jung, Serna, Spirakis</i>	
Parallel Connectivity and Minimum Spanning Trees	629
<i>2001; Chong, Han, Lam</i>	
Parameterized Algorithms for Drawing Graphs	631
<i>2004; Dujmovic, Whitesides</i>	
Parameterized Matching	635
<i>1993; Baker</i>	
Parameterized SAT	639
<i>2003; Szeider</i>	
Peptide De Novo Sequencing with MS/MS	640
<i>2005; Ma, Zhang, Liang</i>	
Perceptron Algorithm	642
<i>1959; Rosenblatt</i>	
Perfect Phylogeny (Bounded Number of States)	644
<i>1997; Kannan, Warnow</i>	
Perfect Phylogeny Haplotyping	647
<i>2005; Ding, Filkov, Gusfield</i>	
Performance-Driven Clustering	650
<i>1993; Rajaraman, Wong</i>	
Phylogenetic Tree Construction from a Distance Matrix	651
<i>1989; Hein</i>	
Planar Geometric Spanners	653
<i>2005; Bose, Smid, Gudmundsson</i>	
Planarity Testing	656
<i>1976; Booth, Lueker</i>	
Point Pattern Matching	657
<i>2003; Ukkonen, Lemström, Mäkinen</i>	
Position Auction	660
<i>2005; Varian</i>	
Predecessor Search	661
<i>2006; Pătraşcu, Thorup</i>	
Price of Anarchy	665
<i>2005; Koutsoupias</i>	

Price of Anarchy for Machines Models	667
<i>2002; Czumaj, Vöcking</i>	
Probabilistic Data Forwarding in Wireless Sensor Networks	671
<i>2004; Chatzigiannakis, Dimitriou, Nikolettseas, Spirakis</i>	
Quantization of Markov Chains	677
<i>2004; Szegedy</i>	
Quantum Algorithm for Checking Matrix Identities	680
<i>2006; Buhrman, Spalek</i>	
Quantum Algorithm for the Collision Problem	682
<i>1998; Brassard, Hoyer, Tapp</i>	
Quantum Algorithm for the Discrete Logarithm Problem	683
<i>1994; Shor</i>	
Quantum Algorithm for Element Distinctness	686
<i>2004; Ambainis</i>	
Quantum Algorithm for Factoring	689
<i>1994; Shor</i>	
Quantum Algorithm for Finding Triangles	690
<i>2005; Magniez, Santha, Szegedy</i>	
Quantum Algorithm for the Parity Problem	693
<i>1985; Deutsch</i>	
Quantum Algorithms for Class Group of a Number Field	694
<i>2005; Hallgren</i>	
Quantum Algorithm for Search on Grids	696
<i>2005; Ambainis, Kempe, Rivosh</i>	
Quantum Algorithm for Solving the Pell's Equation	698
<i>2002; Hallgren</i>	
Quantum Approximation of the Jones Polynomial	700
<i>2005; Aharonov, Jones, Landau</i>	
Quantum Dense Coding	703
<i>1992; Bennett, Wiesner</i>	
Quantum Error Correction	705
<i>1995; Shor</i>	
Quantum Key Distribution	708
<i>1984; Bennett, Brassard</i>	
<i>1991; Ekert</i>	
Quantum Search	712
<i>1996; Grover</i>	

Quorums	715
<i>1985; Garcia-Molina, Barbara</i>	
Radiocoloring in Planar Graphs	721
<i>2005; Fotakis, Nikolettseas, Papadopoulou, Spirakis</i>	
Randomization in Distributed Computing	723
<i>1996; Chandra</i>	
Randomized Broadcasting in Radio Networks	725
<i>1992; Reuven Bar-Yehuda, Oded Goldreich, Alon Itai</i>	
Randomized Energy Balance Algorithms in Sensor Networks	728
<i>2005; Leone, Nikolettseas, Rolim</i>	
Randomized Gossiping in Radio Networks	731
<i>2001; Chrobak, Gąsieniec, Rytter</i>	
Randomized Minimum Spanning Tree	732
<i>1995; Karger, Klein, Tarjan</i>	
Randomized Parallel Approximations to Max Flow	734
<i>1991; Serna, Spirakis</i>	
Randomized Rounding	737
<i>1987; Raghavan, Thompson</i>	
Randomized Searching on Rays or the Line	740
<i>1993; Kao, Reif, Tate</i>	
Random Planted 3-SAT	742
<i>2003; Flaxman</i>	
Ranked Matching	744
<i>2005; Abraham, Irving, Kavitha, Mehlhorn</i>	
Rank and Select Operations on Binary Strings	748
<i>1974; Elias</i>	
Rate-Monotonic Scheduling	751
<i>1973; Liu, Layland</i>	
Rectilinear Spanning Tree	754
<i>2002; Zhou, Shenoy, Nicholls</i>	
Rectilinear Steiner Tree	757
<i>2004; Zhou</i>	
Registers	761
<i>1986; Lamport, Vitanyi, Awerbuch</i>	
Regular Expression Indexing	764
<i>2002; Chan, Garofalakis, Rastogi</i>	

Regular Expression Matching	768
<i>2004; Navarro, Raffinot</i>	
Reinforcement Learning	771
<i>1992; Watkins</i>	
Renaming	774
<i>1990; Attiya, Bar-Noy, Dolev, Peleg, Reischuk</i>	
RNA Secondary Structure Boltzmann Distribution	777
<i>2005; Miklós, Meyer, Nagy</i>	
RNA Secondary Structure Prediction Including Pseudoknots	780
<i>2004; Lyngsø</i>	
RNA Secondary Structure Prediction by Minimum Free Energy	782
<i>2006; Ogurtsov, Shabalina, Kondrashov, Roytberg</i>	
Robotics	785
<i>1997; (Navigation) Blum, Raghavan, Schieber</i>	
<i>1998; (Exploration) Deng, Kameda, Papadimitriou</i>	
<i>2001; (Localization) Fleischer, Romanik, Schuierer, Trippen</i>	
Robust Geometric Computation	788
<i>2004; Li, Yap</i>	
Routing	791
<i>2003; Azar, Cohen, Fiat, Kaplan, Räcke</i>	
Routing in Geometric Networks	793
<i>2003; Kuhn, Wattenhofer, Zhang, Zollinger</i>	
Routing in Road Networks with Transit Nodes	796
<i>2007; Bast, Funke, Sanders, Schultes</i>	
R-Trees	800
<i>2004; Arge, de Berg, Haverkort, Yi</i>	
Schedulers for Optimistic Rate Based Flow Control	803
<i>2005; Fatourou, Mavronicolas, Spirakis</i>	
Scheduling with Equipartition	806
<i>2000; Edmonds</i>	
Selfish Unsplittable Flows: Algorithms for Pure Equilibria	810
<i>2005; Fotakis, Kontogiannis, Spirakis</i>	
Self-Stabilization	812
<i>1974; Dijkstra</i>	
Separators in Graphs	815
<i>1998; Leighton, Rao</i>	
<i>1999; Leighton, Rao</i>	

Sequential Approximate String Matching	818
<i>2003; Crochemore, Landau, Ziv-Ukelson</i>	
<i>2004; Fredriksson, Navarro</i>	
Sequential Circuit Technology Mapping	820
<i>1998; Pan, Liu</i>	
Sequential Exact String Matching	824
<i>1994; Crochemore, Czumaj, Gąsieniec, Jarominek, Lecroq, Plandowski, Rytter</i>	
Sequential Multiple String Matching	826
<i>1999; Crochemore, Czumaj, Gąsieniec, Lecroq, Plandowski, Rytter</i>	
Set Agreement	829
<i>1993; Chaudhuri</i>	
Set Cover with Almost Consecutive Ones	832
<i>2004; Mecke, Wagner</i>	
Shortest Elapsed Time First Scheduling	834
<i>2003; Bansal, Pruhs</i>	
Shortest Paths Approaches for Timetable Information	837
<i>2004; Pyrga, Schulz, Wagner, Zaroliagis</i>	
Shortest Paths in Planar Graphs with Negative Weight Edges	838
<i>2001; Fakcharoenphol, Rao</i>	
Shortest Vector Problem	841
<i>1982; Lenstra, Lenstra, Lovasz</i>	
Similarity between Compressed Strings	843
<i>2005; Kim, Amir, Landau, Park</i>	
Single-Source Fully Dynamic Reachability	846
<i>2005; Demetrescu, Italiano</i>	
Single-Source Shortest Paths	847
<i>1999; Thorup</i>	
Ski Rental Problem	849
<i>1990; Karlin, Manasse, McGeogh, Owicki</i>	
Slicing Floorplan Orientation	852
<i>1983; Stockmeyer</i>	
Snapshots in Shared Memory	855
<i>1993; Afek, Attiya, Dolev, Gafni, Merritt, Shavit</i>	
Sorting Signed Permutations by Reversal (Reversal Distance)	858
<i>2001; Bader, Moret, Yan</i>	
Sorting Signed Permutations by Reversal (Reversal Sequence)	860
<i>2004; Tannier, Sagot</i>	

Sorting by Transpositions and Reversals (Approximate Ratio 1.5)	863
<i>2004; Hartman, Sharan</i>	
Sparse Graph Spanners	867
<i>2004; Elkin, Peleg</i>	
Sparsest Cut	868
<i>2004; Arora, Rao, Vazirani</i>	
Speed Scaling	870
<i>1995; Yao, Demers, Shenker</i>	
Sphere Packing Problem	871
<i>2001; Chen, Hu, Huang, Li, Xu</i>	
Squares and Repetitions	874
<i>1999; Kolpakov, Kucherov</i>	
Stable Marriage	877
<i>1962; Gale, Shapley</i>	
Stable Marriage and Discrete Convex Analysis	880
<i>2000; Eguchi, Fujishige, Tamura, Fleiner</i>	
Stable Marriage with Ties and Incomplete Lists	883
<i>2007; Iwama, Miyazaki, Yamauchi</i>	
Stable Partition Problem	885
<i>2002; Cechlárová, Hajduková</i>	
Stackelberg Games: The Price of Optimum	888
<i>2006; Kaporis, Spirakis</i>	
Statistical Multiple Alignment	892
<i>2003; Hein, Jensen, Pedersen</i>	
Statistical Query Learning	894
<i>1998; Kearns</i>	
Steiner Forest	897
<i>1995; Agrawal, Klein, Ravi</i>	
Steiner Trees	900
<i>2006; Du, Graham, Pardalos, Wan, Wu, Zhao</i>	
Stochastic Scheduling	904
<i>2001; Glazebrook, Nino-Mora</i>	
String Sorting	907
<i>1997; Bentley, Sedgewick</i>	
Substring Parsimony	910
<i>2001; Blanchette, Schwikowski, Tompa</i>	

Succinct Data Structures for Parentheses Matching	912
<i>2001; Munro, Raman</i>	
Succinct Encoding of Permutations: Applications to Text Indexing	915
<i>2003; Munro, Raman, Raman, Rao</i>	
Suffix Array Construction	919
<i>2006; Kärkkäinen, Sanders, Burkhardt</i>	
Suffix Tree Construction in Hierarchical Memory	922
<i>2000; Farach-Colton, Ferragina, Muthukrishnan</i>	
Suffix Tree Construction in RAM	925
<i>1997; Farach-Colton</i>	
Support Vector Machines	928
<i>1992; Boser, Guyon, Vapnik</i>	
Symbolic Model Checking	932
<i>1990; Burch, Clarke, McMillan, Dill</i>	
Synchronizers, Spanners	935
<i>1985; Awerbuch</i>	
Table Compression	939
<i>2003; Buchsbaum, Fowler, Giancarlo</i>	
Tail Bounds for Occupancy Problems	942
<i>1995; Kamath, Motwani, Palem, Spirakis</i>	
Technology Mapping	944
<i>1987; Keutzer</i>	
Teleportation of Quantum States	947
<i>1993; Bennett, Brassard, Crepeau, Jozsa, Peres, Wootters</i>	
Text Indexing	950
<i>1993; Manber, Myers</i>	
Thresholds of Random k-SAT	954
<i>2002; Kaporis, Kirousis, Lalas</i>	
Topology Approach in Distributed Computing	956
<i>1999; Herlihy Shavit</i>	
Trade-Offs for Dynamic Graph Problems	958
<i>2005; Demetrescu, Italiano</i>	
Traveling Sales Person with Few Inner Points	961
<i>2004; Deineko, Hoffmann, Okamoto, Woeginger</i>	
Tree Compression and Indexing	964
<i>2005; Ferragina, Luccio, Manzini, Muthukrishnan</i>	

Treewidth of Graphs	968
<i>1987; Arnborg, Corneil, Proskurowski</i>	
Truthful Mechanisms for One-Parameter Agents	970
<i>2001; Archer, Tardos</i>	
Truthful Multicast	973
<i>2004; Wang, Li, Wang</i>	
TSP-Based Curve Reconstruction	976
<i>2001; Althaus, Mehlhorn</i>	
Two-Dimensional Pattern Indexing	979
<i>2005; Na, Giancarlo, Park</i>	
Two-Dimensional Scaled Pattern Matching	982
<i>2006; Amir, Chencinski</i>	
Two-Interval Pattern Problems	985
<i>2004; Viallette</i>	
<i>2007; Cheng, Yang, Yuan</i>	
Two-Level Boolean Minimization	989
<i>1956; McCluskey</i>	
Undirected Feedback Vertex Set	995
<i>2005; Dehne, Fellows, Langston, Rosamond, Stevens;</i>	
<i>2005; Guo, Gramm, Hüffner, Niedermeier, Wernicke</i>	
Utilitarian Mechanism Design for Single-Minded Agents	997
<i>2005; Briest, Krysta, Vöcking</i>	
Vertex Cover Kernelization	1003
<i>2004; Abu-Khzam, Collins, Fellows, Langston, Suters, Symons</i>	
Vertex Cover Search Trees	1006
<i>2001; Chen, Kanj, Jia</i>	
Visualization Techniques for Algorithm Engineering	1008
<i>2002; Demetrescu, Finocchi, Italiano, Näher</i>	
Voltage Scheduling	1011
<i>2005; Li, Yao</i>	
Wait-Free Synchronization	1015
<i>1991; Herlihy</i>	
Weighted Connected Dominating Set	1020
<i>2005; Wang, Wang, Li</i>	
Weighted Popular Matchings	1023
<i>2006; Mestre</i>	

Weighted Random Sampling1024
2005; Efraimidis, Spirakis

Well Separated Pair Decomposition1027
2003; Gao, Zhang

Well Separated Pair Decomposition for Unit-Disk Graph1030
1995; Callahan, Kosaraju

Wire Sizing1032
1999; Chu, Wong

Work-Function Algorithm for k Servers1035
1994; Koutsoupias, Papadimitriou

Chronological Index1039

Bibliography1053

Index1157