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5th International Conference, ALP'96
Aachen, Germany, September 25-27, 1996
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Preface

This volume contains the proceedings of the *Fifth International Conference on Algebraic and Logic Programming (ALP'96)*, held in Aachen (Germany) during September 25–27, 1996. The conference was preceded by previous meetings in Gaussig (1988), Nancy (1990), Volterra (1992), and Madrid (1994). The previous proceedings have been published by Springer-Verlag, as in this case, as Lecture Notes in Computer Science, volumes 343, 463, 632, and 850, respectively.

Following the intention of the previous ALP meetings, the conference aims at strengthening the connections between algebraic techniques and logic programming. On the one hand, logic programming has been very successful during the last two decades, and many efforts have been made to enhance its expressive power and efficiency, including in particular the emergence of constraint logic programming. On the other hand, concepts such as functions, types, equational theories, and modularity are particularly well handled in an algebraic framework. As during the previous conferences, ALP promotes the cross-fertilizing exchange of ideas and experiences among researchers from the algebraic and logic programming communities.

On this occasion, ALP was held concurrently with the Eighth International Symposium on Programming Languages, Implementations, Logics, and Programs (PLILP'96) and the Third International Static Analysis Symposium (SAS'96).

The ALP'96 Program Committee met in Aachen on June 22, 1996. Shortly before this meeting, there was an email discussion of those papers for which there was a significant disagreement about the technical quality. Finally, the Program Committee selected 21 papers from 54 submissions. In addition to the selected papers, the scientific program included invited lectures (shared with PLILP'96 and SAS'96) by Claude Kirchner, Lambert Meertens, and Bernhard Steffen. The invited paper by Ilies Alouini and Claude Kirchner is included in this volume.

We would like to thank all the members of the Program Committee and all the referees for their careful work in the reviewing and selection process.

The organization of the conferences was supported by

- The Association of Logic Programming
- Esprit Compulog-Net
- RWTH Aachen
- SUN Microsystems

Finally, we express our gratitude to all members of the local Organizing Committee for their help in organizing a successful event.

Aachen
Madrid
July 1996

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