Preface

Preface to Special Issue: EXPRESS/SOS 2018

This Special Issue of *Information and Computation* contains a selection of papers presented at EXPRESS/SOS 2018: the Combined 25th International Workshop on Expressiveness in Concurrency and 15th Workshop on Structural Operational Semantics. EXPRESS/SOS 2018 was held as a satellite event of the 29th International Conference on Concurrency Theory (CONCUR 2018) on September 3, 2018 in Beijing, China.

The EXPRESS workshops aim at bringing together researchers interested in the expressiveness of various formal systems and semantic notions, particularly in the field of concurrency. Their focus has traditionally been on the comparison between programming concepts (such as concurrent, functional, imperative, logic and object-oriented programming) and between mathematical models of computation (such as process algebras, Petri nets, event structures, modal logics, and rewrite systems) on the basis of their relative expressive power. The EXPRESS workshop series has run successfully since 1994 and over the years this focus has become broadly construed.

The SOS workshops aim at being a forum for researchers, students and practitioners interested in new developments and directions for future investigation, in the field of structural operational semantics. One of the specific goals of the SOS workshop series is to establish synergies between the concurrency and programming language communities working on the theory and practice of SOS. Reports on applications of SOS to other fields are also most welcome, including: modeling and analysis of biological systems, security of computer systems programming, modeling and analysis of embedded systems, specification of middleware and coordination languages, programming language semantics and implementation, static analysis software and hardware verification, semantics for domain-specific languages and model-based engineering.

Since 2012, the EXPRESS and SOS communities have joined forces as EXPRESS/SOS: an annual combined workshop on the expressiveness of mathematical models of computation and the formal semantics of systems and programming concepts.

This Special Issue contains the extended and revised versions of the following papers presented at EXPRESS/SOS'18:

- *A Parametric Framework for Reversible π-Calculi* by Doriana Medić, Claudio Antares Mezzina, Iain Phillips and Nobuko Yoshida
- *Distributability of Mobile Ambients* by Kirstin Peters and Uwe Nestmann
- *Unique Solutions of Contractions, CCS, and Their HOL Formalisation* by Chun Tian and Davide Sangiorgi.

All papers have undergone a rigorous reviewing process in accordance with the high standards of *Information and Computation*.

We would like to thank the authors for their efforts in producing the extended versions contained in this Special Issue. We are very grateful to the expert reviewers for their very careful reading; their effort has been crucial in producing this issue. We would also like to thank the program committee of EXPRESS/SOS'18, for their expert evaluation of the versions of these papers presented at the workshop. Last but not the least, our special thanks go to the Editor-in-Chief for the opportunity of publishing in *Information and Computation*.

Declaration of competing interest

The authors declare that they have no known competing financial interests or personal relationships that could have appeared to influence the work reported in this paper.

Groningen and Como, 2020

Jorge A. Pérez *
University of Groningen and CWI, the Netherlands
E-mail address: j.a.perez@rug.nl

Simone Tini *
University of Insubria, Italy
E-mail address: simone.tini@uninsubria.it

* Corresponding authors.