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# Preface to Special Issue: Coalgebraic methods in computer science

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During the last few years it has become increasingly clear that a very wide variety of state-based dynamical systems, such as transition systems, automata, process calculi and class-based systems can be captured uniformly as coalgebras. Moreover, the theory and applications of coalgebras is developing into a field of interest in its own right, presenting a deep mathematical foundation, a growing range of applications and interactions with various other areas, such as reactive and interactive system theory, object-oriented and concurrent programming, formal system specification, modal logic, dynamical systems, control systems, category theory, algebra, analysis, and so on.

This special issue of *Mathematical Structures in Computer Science* is dedicated to the Fourth Workshop on Coalgebraic Methods in Computer Science (CMCS 2001). The Workshop was held in Genova, Italy on 6–7 April 2001, as a satellite event of ETAPS 2001. The workshop proceedings appeared as *ENTCS* **44** (1). The program committee of CMCS 2001 consisted of Alexandru Baltag, Andrea Corradini, Bart Jacobs, Marina Lenisa, Ugo Montanari (chair), Larry Moss, Ataru T. Nakagawa, Dusko Pavlovic, John Power, Horst Reichel and Jan Rutten. The invited speakers of CMCS 2001 were Robin Cockett and Gordon Plotkin. The aim of the CMCS workshop series is to bring together researchers with a common interest in theory of coalgebras and its applications. Previous workshops were organised in Lisbon (1998), Amsterdam (1999) and Berlin (2000). The proceedings appeared as *ENTCS* **11**, **19** and **33**.

The papers in this special issue were reviewed by Falk Bartels, Corina Cirstea, Andrea Corradini, Pietro Di Gianantonio, Fabio Gadducci, Robert Goldblatt, Jesse Hughes, Bart Jacobs, Alexander Kurz, Marina Lenisa, Larry Moss, John Power, Horst Reichel, Grigore Rosu and Tarmo Uustalu.

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