



Preface

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Preface

We are pleased to present this special issue of *AKCE International Journal of Graphs and Combinatorics* dedicated to the *International Conference on Linear Algebra and its Applications, 2021* organized by *Center for Advanced Research in Applied Mathematics and Statistics* at Manipal Academy of Higher Education, Manipal during December 15–17, 2021.

Linear Algebra and Graph Theory are the subjects having applications in almost every branch of science including Biology, Economics, Engineering, Physics, which are consistent with the focus research activities of CARAMS, MAHE. ICLAA 2021 is the fourth in its sequel, which started with CMTGIM 2012 and the fifth is ICLAA 2023 scheduled in December 2023. The initial intention was to dedicate the common day between IWMS 2020 and ICLAA 2020 to honor C R Rao, a living legend among Indian Statisticians, who was celebrating the birth centenary in the year 2020. Unfortunately, the events could not be organized as per schedule in the normal format due to the prevailing situation. With the hope of having normal life in 2021, the events in the physical formats have been rescheduled to December 2021, and CARAMS organized ALAPS 2020 (International Conference on Applied Linear Algebra, Probability, and Statistics) in the online format (164 participants – 25 invited, 40 contributory), in which many collaborators, disciples, and the followers of Rao participated. However, IWMS 2021 (192 participants – 20 invited, 14 contributory) and ICLAA 2021 (242 participants – 25 invited, 28 contributory) were organized successfully in the hybrid format and decided to publish a special issue in ‘AKCE International Journal of Graphs and Combinatorics’, and a book-volume ‘Applied Linear Algebra, Probability, and Statistics – A volume in honor of Rao and Lal’ (ALAPS) in the ISI series of Springer Nature.

From about thirty articles submitted, fifteen have been accepted for publication in the special issue. The special issue focuses on Graph Theory, Matrices & Graphs, and their applications.

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The editors acknowledge the incredible contribution from all the authors, which made the special issue so rich. Also, the editors acknowledge the association and the support of

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