

My Life in Computer Algebra

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Abstract

Looking back after about 40 years of scientific activities, from 1979 to 2021, I have been wondering whether there is a guiding principle, a kind of “Ariadne’s thread”, in my scientific career. I have worked on elimination theory, decision problems in equational logic, on geometric theorem proving, algebraic curves, and algebraic differential equations. Is this a collection of topics dictated by chance, or can I discern a stringent path leading from my scientific beginnings to my current interests?

Well, the leading theme throughout all my scientific career from 1979 until now is definitely “Computer Algebra”. In this talk I will tell the history of my scientific life, and I will explain the connections between the areas of my scientific interest; and which contributions I could make to them.