## PREFACE

The basic idea underlying the organization of the series of National Conferences on *Computer Methods and Systems in Scientific Research and Engineering Design* is to create a platform for the exchange of thought and scientific results between different groups of researchers in computer methods and systems. The wide scope of these conferences encompasses such domains as numerical methods, neural and fuzzy computations, genetic algorithms, symbolic computations, computational intelligence, data mining, computer modeling, computer-aided design, and applications of computer methods to many diverse areas of technology.

A distinct and numerous branch of contributions is constituted by papers relevant to control methods and technology, including modeling, optimization and control synthesis, from theory to real-life applications. This issue of the *AMCS* contains revised and extended versions of a selection of such papers, presented at the Fourth Conference of the series, held in Kraków in 2003.

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