Preface

In Spring 2003, a postgraduate course on *complex systems* was organized at HUT Control Engineering Laboratory.

Complex systems is a hot topic today: Complexity in technical systems and in nature around us is overwhelming. The traditional modeling methods do not seem to be powerful enough to capture this diversity, and it seems that a paradigm shift is needed. It is complexity theory that promises to give us tools for this. But what is it all about — what is it now, and what are the future possibilities? These issues are discussed in this report.

In addition to the printed version, this report is available also in PDF format through the HTML page at the Internet address

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I am grateful to everybody who has contributed in this effort. — All authors are responsible for their own texts.

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