

Preface

In succession to our former meetings on differential geometry a Colloquium took place in Debrecen from July 25 to July 30, 2000. The Colloquium was organized by University of Debrecen, Debrecen Branch of the Hungarian Academy of Sciences and supported by the János Bolyai Mathematical Society.

The Program Committee consisted of:

Alekseevsky, Dmitri (Cologne, Germany), Antonelli, Peter (Edmonton, Canada), Berger, Marcel (Bures-sur-Yvette, France), Chern, Shing Shen (Berkeley, USA), Dombrowski, Peter (Cologne, Germany), Eells, James (Warwick, England), Gilkey, Peter B. (Eugene, USA), Kenmotsu, Katsuei (Sendai, Japan), Kowalski, Oldrich (Praha, Czech Republic), Krupka, Demeter (Opava, Czech Republic), Leichtweiss, Kurt (Stuttgart, Germany), Marchiafava, Stefano (Roma, Italy), Matsumoto, Makoto (Kyoto, Japan), Michor, Peter (Vienna, Austria), Miron, Radu (Iasi, Romania), Naveira, Antonio, M. (Burjassot, Spain), Szenthe, János (Budapest, Hungary), Tamássy, Lajos (Debrecen, Hungary), Vanhecke, Lieven (Leuven, Belgium).

It was pleasant to meet both the returning participants of our former colloquia and the numerous new guests. The Colloquium had 118 participants from 22 foreign countries and 21 from Hungary.

The programme included 4 plenary lectures from: Dmitri Alekseevsky, Peter B. Gilkey, Gábor Tóth, Zhongmin Shen, and 86 lectures in 3 sections. The meeting created an inspiring atmosphere for fruitful discussions between the participants. The historical sites of the town Debrecen and its famous surroundings offered ideal occasions to acquaint with Hungarian cultural traditions and for evening programmes.

The present volume contains the written versions of the lectures presented at the Colloquium and also the list of the participants. The content of the papers covers a wide range of topics in differential geometry. The subjects receiving major emphasis were Riemannian geometry, Finsler geometry, the theory of submanifolds and applications of differential geometry in mathematical physics.

It is our pleasant duty to thank our guests who contributed to the success of the Colloquium and especially to those who offered us their manuscript for publication.

The Editors