IMACS-GAMM International Symposium on Numerical Methods and Error Bounds

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Международный симпозиум IMACS-GAMM по численным методам и границам погрешностей

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From July 9 to 12, the IMACS-GAMM International Symposium on Numerical Methods and Error Bounds took place at Carl-von-Ossietzki University, Oldenburg, Germany. Its organizing Chairmen were Prof. Dr. Götz Alefeld, Karlsruhe, and Prof. Dr. Jürgen Herzberger, Oldenburg (local organizer). The symposium was attended by 56 scientists from Germany, United States, Bulgaria, Russia, Yugoslavia, Croatia, Italy, Japan, Poland, Switzerland, Ukraine, Australia, Austria, Great Britain, India, and Macedonia, who presented and discussed about forty talks on applications of numerical algorithms in science and engineering. Special emphasis was put on systems of linear interval equations, validated numerics for nonlinear equations, approximation problems, error-bounds for ordinary and partial differential equations and on a number of problems in science and engineering involving intervals or error-bounds. Among the invited speakers were Prof. Dr. J. Albrecht (Clausthal-Zellerfeld, Germany), Prof. Dr. G. Corliss (Milwakee, USA), Doz. Dr. B. Dobronets (Krasnoyarsk, Russia), Prof. Dr. U. Kulisch (Karlsruhe, Germany), Prof. Dr. F. Potra (Iowa City, USA), Prof. Dr. M. Plum (at that time Clausthal-Zellerfeld, Germany), Prof. Dr. S. Rump (Hamburg, Germany), Prof. Dr. Ch. Ullrich (Basel, Switzerland), Prof. Dr. T. Yamamoto (Matsuyama, Japan), as well as the author of this information. It is a particular pleasure that the proceedings of the Symposium will be published in a special volume (at a reasonable price) by Academie-Verlag, Berlin. It is entitled Numerical Methods and Error Bounds and edited by Götz Alefeld and Jürgen Herzberger.

This is a formal outline of the meeting in Oldenburg. However, my column about the symposium would be incomplete and one-sided, or even distorted, if I had not supplemented it with some subjective impressions on my stay in Oldenburg.

At a first sight, one might think that the Symposium on Numerical Methods and Error Bounds was an unnecessary duplication of SCAN-95, which seems to be the major interval event of the year. However, such a viewpoint turns out superficial and wrong upon closer examination. The intersection between Oldenburg symposium and SCAN-95 proved, in fact, not to be considerable: only 18 of 56 participants of the Symposium in Oldenburg attended SCAN-95 afterward. Originally, the Oldenburg symposium was designed to be a satellite conference to the ICIAM World Congress in Hamburg and a good deal of its participants who could not attend SCAN-95 as a separate meeting had a possibility to take part in an "interval/self-validating" event. Also, due to the moderate number of participants, the symposium in Oldenburg was very much like a meeting of good friends, both old and new, and its scientific program was not overloaded. I think it was its evident advantage as compared with large and crowded scientific events, which, though more concentrated scientifically, sometimes resemble an express train running at a full speed so that there is no time to slow down and think over what is being done and said. The Oldenburg symposium was held in the cozy Welchoy Campus of the Universität Oldenburg, it was accompanied by nice social events and provided a sufficient amount of spare time. Overall, I tend to think that Oldenburg symposium and SCAN-95 coincide neither in scope nor in audience, and each one pursues its own goals.

To conclude, I would like to express my gratitude to the main organizer of Oldenburg symposia Prof. Dr. Jürgen Herzberger, who is doing a good and important job. I believe that the interval community should in every way welcome his noble efforts.

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