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WORKSHOP ON FINSLER GEOMETRY AND ITS APPLICATIONS. MAY 24 – 29, 2009, DEBRECEN, HUNGARY

Preface

The Workshop on Finsler Geometry was held in Debrecen, Hungary between May 24 and May 29, 2009, organized by the Department of Geometry, University of Debrecen, Debrecen, Hungary. The organizers were Sándor Bácsó, László Kozma and József Szilasi, all from University of Debrecen.

There were 49 participants from 14 countries: Xinyue Cheng, Benling Li from China; Marie Chodorová, Hana Chudá, Irena Hinterleitner, Josef Mikeš, Dana Smetanova, Erico Tanaka, and Alena Vanzurova from the Czech Republic; Matias Dahl, and Juha-Matti Perkkiö from Finland; Sándor Bácsó, Tran Quoc Binh, Zoltán Kovács, László Kozma, Rezső Lovas, Zoltán Muzsnay, Péter Nagy, Johanna Pék, József Szilasi, Zoltán Szilasi, Lajos Tamássy, Szabolcs Vattamány, and Csaba Vincze from Hungary; Anjali Goswami, and Paras Nath Pandey from India; Rossella Bartolo, and Erasmo Caponio from Italy; Tadashi Aikou, Tetsuya Nagano, Shin-ichi Ohta, and Takayoshi Ootsuka from Japan; Chang-Wan Kim from Korea; Nicoleta Aldea, Ioan Bucataru, Oana Constantinescu, Cristian Ida, and Gheorghe Munteanu from Romania; Irena Comic, Gabrijela Grujić, and Jelena Stojanov from Serbia; Jos L. Flores, and Miguel Angel Javaloyes from Spain; Volodymyr Berezovsky, Oleksandr Borysenko, and Ievgen Olin from Ukraine; Ricardo Gallego-Torrome from the United Kingdom; Howard Brandt, and Zhongmin Shen from USA.

The workshop gathered several outstanding experts, and the talks covered a great variety of recent important new results in Finsler geometry. In the program 42 talks were presented, including invited lectures and short communications. The high point was the commemoration on Professor Ottó Varga on the centenary of his birth, read by Professor Lajos Tamássy, the doyen of the Hungarian School of Finsler Geometry. A half-day ship excursion to Hortobágy, and two social dinners with wine-tasting made the stay more pleasant.

The paper versions of the contributions in the volume reflect the key points of the meeting. In current research special interest is devoted to special metrics, even in the complex case, and then to homogeneous Finsler structures, relating to curvature structures, holonomies, several generalizations to higher order case and Lagrange geometry, and as well as to projective mappings of Finsler manifolds. Some talks were strongly related to applications such as quantum theory, field theory, and space-time geometrical structures. — We hope that our meeting provided a splendid opportunity for the Finslerists from India, Japan, China, Romania, the Czech Republic, Hungary, etc., to distribute and discuss their recent results, to know the current trends and problems of the subject from each other, stimulating further successful joint research.

We thank the generous support of the Hungarian National Science Foundation (OTKA), grant No. T48878, as well as the Institute of Mathematics and the Faculty of Informatics of the University of Debrecen. 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 organizers of the workshop and the editors of the proceedings volume