

## Preface

# International conference on approximation and iterative methods



This special issue of the Journal of Computation and Applied Mathematics is dedicated to Claude Brezinski. On the occasion of his retirement from the University of Sciences and Technologies of Lille in June 2006, more than one hundred researchers from twenty countries gathered for the conference AMI06 in Lille. This gave Claude an opportunity to meet many colleagues who, over the years, have become good friends.

The invited speakers at this conference were:

- Dario A. Bini (University of Pisa, I)
- Albert Cohen (Université de Paris VI, F)
- Michael Eiermann (University of Freiberg, D)
- Jocelyne Erhel (IRISA/INRIA Rennes, F)
- Mariano Gasca (University of Zaragoza, E)
- Walter Gautschi (Purdue University, USA)
- Peter Graves-Morris (University of Bradford, GB)
- Nick Higham (University of Manchester, GB)
- Paco Marcellan (University of Madrid, E)
- G rard Meurant (CEA, F)
- G nter M hlbach (University of Hannover, D)
- Marcos Raydan (Central University, YV)
- Lothar Reichel (Kent State University, USA)
- Youcef Saad (University of Minnesota, USA)
- Paul Sablonni re (INSA, Rennes, F)
- Stefano Serra-Capizzano (University of Insubria, I)
- Walter Van Assche (KU Leuven, B)

Each of them gave a 30-min talk.

The areas covered include numerical solution of linear systems (L. Reichel, G. Meurant, Y. Saad, P. Graves-Morris) with applications to Google problems (S. Serra-Capizzano), to simulation (J. Erhel), and to matrix functions (M. Eiermann); Pad  approximation for computing matrix functions (N. Higham); interpolation and approximation of curves and surfaces (W. Gautschi, M. Gasca, P. Sablonni re, G. M hlbach, D. Bini, A. Cohen); orthogonal polynomials (W. van Assche, F. Marcellan); and optimization (M. Raydan).

Several of the papers contained in this volume were presented at this conference.

Claude ended the conference with a humorous anecdote. As editor of many journals, he has handled a large number of submitted papers. He described a (imagined) vacuous paper by an author, who unfortunately forgot to remove his

personal comments before submission. These comments reveal the paper to be submitted only to improve the vitae of the author and improve his chances of getting promoted. It was a truly delightful moment!

On Thursday evening, a banquet at the restaurant “La Main Bleue” was the occasion to celebrate Claude. It was an opportunity for his friends to congratulate Claude for all his accomplishments during his rich career. Claude Brezinski’s invaluable contributions range from the theory of orthogonal polynomials and the related area of Padé approximation to convergence acceleration (this theme is now part of hiring programs in education), orthogonal polynomials, numerical solution of linear systems, and the no less significant history of mathematics. Claude was one of the first researchers in Numerical Analysis at the University of Lille, particularly in convergence acceleration, a domain he contributed in developing France and all over the international scientific community.

The organizers

B. Beckermann, University of Lille I, France

M. Prévost, University of Littoral, France

A. Matos, University of Lille I, France

M. Redivo-Zaglia, University of Padova, Italy

H. Sadok, University of Littoral, Calais, France

J. Van Iseghem, University of Lille I, France

F. Wielonsky, University of Lille I, France

thank Claude for being a tireless advisor to a large number of students. In fact, despite his retirement Claude is still working both in research and in education.

It is a great privilege for us to edit this special issue.

*Guest Editors*

Marc Prévost

Michela Redivo-Zaglia

Franck Wielonsky

*Universite du Littoral, Cote d Opale, Math Department, 62228 Calais, France*

*E-mail address: [prevost@lmpa.univ-littoral.fr](mailto:prevost@lmpa.univ-littoral.fr)*