

PREFACE

SPECIAL VOLUME OF ELECTRONIC JOURNAL OF LINEAR ALGEBRA DEDICATED TO

PROFESSOR RAVINDRA B. BAPAT
ON THE OCCASION OF HIS 60TH BIRTHDAY AND
INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE ON LINEAR ALGEBRA & ITS
APPLICATIONS

DECEMBER 18–20, 2014

DEPARTMENT OF STATISTICS, MANIPAL UNIVERSITY, MANIPAL, INDIA*

SPECIAL EDITORS: RAJENDRA BHATIA[†], STEVE KIRKLAND[‡], K. MANJUNATHA PRASAD[§], AND
 SIMO PUNTANEN[¶]

The theme of the conference was focused on (i) Matrix Methods in Statistics, (ii) Combinatorial Matrix Theory and (iii) Classical Matrix Theory covering different aspects of Linear Algebra. This conference was a sequel to the conference ‘CMTGIM 2012’ held in Manipal during January 2012. The main goal of the ICLAA 2014 was to bring experts, researchers, and students together to present recent developments in this dynamic and important field. The conference also aimed to stimulate research and support interaction between scientists by creating an environment for participants to exchange ideas. The conference was endorsed by the *International Linear Algebra Society* and supported by the *National Board for Higher Mathematics (NBHM)*, *Department of Scientific and Technology (SERB-DST)*, *Council of Science and Industrial Research (CSIR)* and *Indian National Science Academy (INSA)*.



of the Scientific Committee), the scientific activities of the conference included 9 plenary

The scientific activities of the ICLAA 2014 were dedicated to eminent matrix theorist Professor Ravindra B Bapat on the occasion of his 60th birthday. Many of his contemporaries, collaborators and students came together to serve the objectives of the conference on the occasion, in honor of him. With a brief opening remark and welcome address by Professor Bhatia (Chairman

*Received on May 6, 2015. Accepted September 14, 2015. Handling Editor: Bryan L. Shader.

[†]Stat—Math Unit, Indian Statistical Institute, Delhi, India (rbh@isid.ac.in).

[‡]Department of Mathematics, University of Manitoba, Canada (stephen.kirkland@umanitoba.ca).

[§]Department of Statistics, Manipal University, Manipal, India 576104 (km.prasad@manipal.edu; kmprasad63@gmail.com).

[¶]School of Information Sciences, University of Tampere, Finland (simo.puntanen@uta.fi).

talks among 22 invited talks, and 30 contributed talks in three parallel sessions. The conference was inaugurated by Dr. G. K. Prabhu (Registrar, Manipal University) with a special function organized in the evening of the first day. The list of invited speakers consisted of R. Balakrishnan, Abraham Berman, Rajarama Bhat, Rajendra Bhatia, Arup Bose, Steve Haslett, Surender Kumar Jain, Andre Leroy, Steve Kirkland, S. H. Kulkarni, Arbind Kumar Lal, S. K. Neogy, Sukanta Pati, Simo Puntanen, T. E. S. Raghavan, Bhaba Kumar Sarma, Ajit Iqbal Singh, K. C. Sivakumar, Sivaramakrishnan Sivasubramanian, Murali K. Srinivasan, Wasin So, and V. S. Sunder. For the detailed list of participants and speakers, abstracts of the talks, photos and videos, please visit <http://conference.manipal.edu/ICLAA2014/>.

The book titled 'Linear Algebra with Applications - A volume in honor of Professor Ravindra B Bapat' was released on December 20, 2014 at a function felicitating Professor Bapat. Dr. H. Vinod Bhat (Pro Vice Chancellor, Manipal University) presided over the function. The editors of this book are Steve Kirkland, K. Manjunatha Prasad, Sukanta Pati, and Simo Puntanen. This book is published by Manipal University Press, Manipal, India (<http://mup.manipal.edu/BookDetails.aspx?BookId=61&Type=B>) and consists of selected papers of Professor Bapat.

