

# Preface

A summer school on Number Theory and Its Applications was held recently at Bilkent University. The summer school was funded by Bilkent University, TÜBİTAK (Scientific and Technical Research Council of Turkey), and ICTP (International Centre for Theoretical Physics, Trieste, Italy).

The talks in the summer school were on various topics in number theory and related subjects in coding theory. In general the lectures covered contemporary developments, aimed particularly at research oriented mathematicians and intended to provide bridges between textbook material and research papers. Professors S. Cohen, J. B. Friedlander, G. Greaves, N. Kuznetsov, G. Lachaud, V. Levenshtein, H. P. Schlickewei, W. Schmidt, S. A. Stepanov, and M. Waldschmidt gave two lectures each, while Professors M. Bilhan, M. G. Ikeda, A. Schinzel, A. Tietavainen, and C. Y. Yıldırım gave one lecture each. Professors R. Rankin and Yu. V. Nesterenko could not attend as planned, but Prof. Rankin's lecture was delivered by Prof. S. Cohen. Each lecture was two hours long. In addition, special sessions of half-hour seminar talks were held.

We believe that the summer school motivated the participants, who were graduate students and researchers from several universities in Turkey. We thank them all for their support. Some student participants decided to pursue graduate work in number theory after the summer school. In view of the responses we can say that the summer school was successful.

Special thanks are due Prof. M. Kocatepe, the chair of the Mathematics Department at Bilkent, and Prof. M. Bilhan of METU, without whose efforts this summer school could not have been realized. We are also grateful to Prof. S. Sertöz for his advice and help in the organization of the school and the preparation of this book.

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