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INTERNATIONAL SYMPOSIUM
ON NUMERICAL ANALYSIS
ISNA'92
PREFACE

The subsequent three issues in two parts (combined No. 4–5 and No. 6) of *Applications of Mathematics*, Vol. 38 (1993), contain invited lectures delivered at ISNA'92, the *International Symposium on Numerical Analysis*, held in Prague, August 31 – September 4, 1992.

ISNA'92 was the fourth of the series of ISNA meetings originated in Madrid in 1985, followed then by the second in Prague in 1987, and by the third again in Madrid in 1990. It has been tacitly understood by numerical analysts that ISNA meetings, at least those held in Prague, are natural successors to another traditional series of symposia, namely, the *Liblice conferences* held in Liblice in 1964 and 1967.

As all the previous meetings, ISNA'92 was organized jointly in cooperation between the Universidad Politecnica de Madrid and Charles University of Prague. The Patrons of the Symposium were, in accordance with the tradition, the Rectors of the cooperating universities Prof. Rafael Portaencasa and Prof. Dr. Radim Palouš. It was symbolic that the founder of the Liblice series Professor Ivo Babuška agreed to act as Honorary President of ISNA'92.

The Programme Committee included Heinz Engl (University Linz), Vivette Girault (University Paris), Wolfgang Hackbusch (University Kiel), Yuri A. Kuznetsov (The Academy of Sciences of Russia, Moscow), John Whiteman (Brunel University).

The local organizing committee was headed from abroad by the Honorary President and profited enormously from his valuable suggestions and recommendations. Besides Prof. Dr. Miloslav Feistauer it included most of the members of the Chair of Computational Mathematics at the Faculty of Mathematics and Physics of Charles University.

The Proceedings of ISNA'92 are published in part in *Applications of Mathematics* (plenary and section invited lectures) and in part in a separate booklet (short communications).

The part of ISNA'92 Proceedings published in Applications of Mathematics are opened by the speeches of Prof. Dr. Josef Pacák, the Vicerector of Charles University, and Professor Ivo Babuška given at the opening ceremony in the Aula Magna in Carolinum.

In conclusion, I wish to express my thanks to the Editor of Applications of Mathematics for his kind offer to devote these three issues to the Proceedings of ISNA'92.

Ivo Marek

Scientific Secretary of ISNA'92