

**The Eighth SIAM Conference on
Applied Linear Algebra
Williamsburg, VA: 15-19 July 2003**

The 8th SIAM Conference on Applied Linear Algebra was held July 15-19, 2003, at the College of William and Mary, Williamsburg, VA, USA. There were 246 registered participants from academia, government laboratories and industry. Geographically, the participants were from North America, Europe and Asia. The co-chairs of the meeting were Roy Mathias and Hugo Woerdeman.

The keynote speakers (including two ILAS speakers) were George Cybenko (Dartmouth College), Heike Fassbender (TU Braunschweig), Andreas Frommer (Bergische Universität-Gesamthochschule Wuppertal), Rich Lehoucq (Sandia National Laboratories), Judith McDonald (Washington State University; ILAS Speaker), James G. Nagy (Emory University), Michael Overton (New York University), Bryan Shader (University of Wyoming; ILAS Speaker), G. W. (Pete) Stewart (University of Maryland), and Gilles Villard (CNRS/Ecole Normale Supérieure de Lyon).

In addition there were 26 minisymposia with a wide range of topics, including Combinatorics in Linear Algebra, Linear Algebra in Computational Biomedicine, Matrix Inequalities and Applications, Recent Developments in Sparse Matrix Algorithms, Indefinite Inner Products and Applications, Linear Algebra in Data Mining and Information Retrieval. The wide variety of topics and the wide variety of backgrounds of the participants resulted in a scientifically exciting atmosphere.

The SIAM Activity Group on Linear Algebra (SIAG LA) Prize was awarded to the paper by K. Braman, R. Byers, and R. Mathias, "The multishift QR algorithm. II. Aggressive early deflation." *SIAM J. Matrix Anal. Appl.* 23 (2002), 948--973. The three authors gave an excellent joint presentation on their awarded work.

The SIAG LA business meeting was held over lunch and was attended by approximately 40% of the participants, which led to some lively discussions. The business meeting featured also Junping Wang, NSF, Computational Mathematics and Applied Mathematics.

The social events included a welcome reception and a banquet featuring Roger Horn. Roger did an excellent job of entertaining the crowd and made thankful use of some of the snafus in the organization, which included having two keynote presentations with the same title.

For the first time in this series of conferences, the proceedings were published online <http://www.siam.org/meetings/la03/proceedings/>.

The next SIAM Conference on Applied Linear Algebra will be held in Düsseldorf, Germany, in 2006. It will be the first time the meeting will be held outside of the US.



**Twelfth International
Workshop on
Matrices and Statistics
IWMS-2003**

Dortmund, Germany: 5–8 August 2003

Report by Hans Joachim Werner

The Twelfth International Workshop on Matrices and Statistics (IWMS-2003) was held at the University of Dortmund (Dortmund, Germany), 5–8 August 2003, during the week immediately before the 54th Biennial Session of the International Statistical Institute (ISI) in Berlin. This Workshop, which was hosted by the Department of Statistics at the University of Dortmund, had been cosponsored by the Bernoulli Society as an ISI satellite meeting, and had been endorsed by the International Linear Algebra Society (ILAS).

The International Organizing Committee for this workshop consisted of R. William Farebrother (Shrewsbury, England), Simo Puntanen (University of Tampere, Finland), George P. H. Styan (McGill University, Montréal, Québec, Canada; vice-chair), and Hans Joachim Werner (University of Bonn, Germany; chair). The Local Organizing Committee (LOC) at the University of Dortmund comprised Jürgen Groß, Götz Trenkler (chair) and Claus Weihs. The Workshop Secretary was Eva Brune.

The purpose of the workshop was to stimulate research and, in an informal setting, to foster the interaction of researchers in the interface between matrix theory and statistics. More than 45 participants from 15 different countries joined this workshop. The Workshop was opened by Professor Dr. Eberhard Becker, Rector of the University of Dortmund. This was followed by plenary sessions of invited, short course and contributed papers. The invited and short course speakers were Jerzy K. Baksalary, Adi Ben-Israel, N. Rao Chaganty, Ludwig Elsner, Bjarne Kjær Ersbøll, Richard William Farebrother, Patrick J. F. Groenen, Alexander Guterman, Stephen Pollock, Simo Puntanen, George P. H. Styan, Júlia Volaufová and Roman Zmysłony. The ILAS-Lecturer was Jerzy K. Baksalary. Another 25 papers were presented in several contributed paper sessions, and 3 further papers were presented just by title. It is expected that many of these papers will be published, after refereeing, in *Linear Algebra and Its Applications*. The Workshop Programme can still be downloaded from the Workshop website: www.statistik.uni-dortmund.de/IWMS/main.html.

On Wednesday, August 6, there was an Afternoon Outing to Bochum which is a neighboring city of Dortmund. There,

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visiting the famous Mining Museum Bochum, we had a few hours to imagine the hard work of coal miners. We started our visit with an excellent guided tour down in a mine, followed by some free time to walk on our own through the many exhibition halls of this museum and to climb up a winding tower. Up to the mid 1970's the Ruhr region, Dortmund lies on the north-west edge of the Ruhr, was one-sidedly characterized by mining, steel and iron-making industries. In the evening of the same day there was a Beer Taste and Test at Hövels Brewery in downtown Dortmund. Afterwards a delicious Workshop Dinner was served at the same place. Like our Workshop in Lyngby (Denmark) last year, this Workshop

in Dortmund again provided an extremely good atmosphere to stimulate contacts and exchange ideas.

The 13th International Workshop on Matrices and Statistics (IWMS-2004), in Celebration of Ingram Olkin's 80th Birthday, will be held at Będlewo, about 30 km (18 miles) south of Poznań, Poland, from 18 to 21 August 2004. For further details visit <http://matrix04.amu.edu.pl>.

The 14th International Workshop on Matrices and Statistics (IWMS-2005) will be held at Massey University (Albany Campus), Auckland, New Zealand, 29 March to 1 April 2005, just before the 55th Biennial Session of the International Statistical Institute (Sydney, Australia, 5–12 April 2005).

Photo of Participants in the 2003 Workshop on Matrices and Statistics



Photo by N. Rao Chaganty