Surveys in Differential Geometry

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Volume VII

Surveys in Differential Geometry

Papers dedicated to Atiyah, Bott, Hirzebruch, and Singer

edited by
Shing-Tung Yau

International Press
www.intlpress.com
Art by Milen Poenaru
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Preface

This volume arises out of the conference sponsored by the Journal of Differential Geometry and held at Harvard University to honor the four mathematicians who founded Index Theory. A large number of geometers gathered for this historic occasion which included numerous tributes and reminiscences which will be published in a separate volume. The four men who together created Index Theory: Michael Atiyah, Raoul Bott, Frederich Hirzebruch, and Isadore Singer, were sources of inspiration, mentors and teachers for the other speakers and participants at the conference. The larger than usual size of this volume derives directly from the tremendous respect and admiration felt for the honorees.

Along with this volume, we give our best wishes to each of the honorees that they might have many more years to continue their own research and to inspire and encourage future mathematicians.

Sincerely,

S.-T. Yau
The geometry of classical particles
MICHAEL ATIYAH

Singularities in the work of Friedrich Hirzebruch
EGBERT BRIESKORN

The moduli space of abelian varieties and the singularities of the theta divisor
CIRO CILIBERTO & GERARD VAN DER GEER

Holomorphic spheres in loop groups and Bott periodicity
RALPH L. COHEN, ERNESTO LUPERCIO & GRAEME B. SEGAL

Moment map and diffeomorphisms
S. K. DONALDSON

Dirac charge quantization and generalized differential cohomology
DANIEL S. FREED

The holomorphic kernel of the Rankin–Selberg convolution
DORIAN GOLFED & SHOUWU ZHANG

Equivariant de Rham theory and graphs
V. GUILLEMIN & C. ZARA

Morse theory and Stokes’ theorem
F. REESE HARVEY & H. BLAINE LAWSON, JR.

The Atiyah-Bott-Singer fixed point theorem and number theory
F. HIRZEBRUCH

The moduli space of complex Lagrangian submanifolds
N. J. HITCHIN

Which Singer is that?
RICHARD V. KADISON
Curvature and function theory on Riemannian manifolds
PETER LI 375

Mirror principle. III
BONG H. LIAN, KEFENG LIU & SHING-TUNG YAU 433

Mirror principle. IV
BONG H. LIAN, KEFENG LIU & SHING-TUNG YAU 475

Three constructions of Frobenius manifolds:
A comparative study
YU. I. MANIN 497

On Ricci-flat twistor theory
ROGER PENROSE 555

On the geometry of nipotent orbits
WILFRIED SCHMID & KARI VILONEN 565

Seiberg-Witten invariants, self-dual harmonic 2-forms and
the Hofer-Wysocki-Zehnder formalism
CLIFFORD HENRY TAUBES 625

Unifying themes in topological field theories
CUMRUN VAVA 673

Noncommutative Yang-Mills theory and string theory
EDWARD WITTEN 685