

Preface

Armand Borel is a giant of the 20th century mathematics. His unexpected death in 2003 is a great loss to the world mathematics community. He has made deep contributions to many branches of modern mathematics such as the topology of Lie groups, linear algebraic groups, arithmetic groups, automorphic forms and representation theory. It is also well-known that he has been actively involved in editing many leading journals, and organizing seminars at the Institute for Advanced Study. Perhaps it is less known that he is also very knowledgeable about the Chinese culture and has been actively involved in helping develop mathematics in China. He visited China many times starting in early 1980s. In the last few years of his life, he was fully committed to organize summer schools at the Center of Mathematical Sciences at Zhejiang University, Hangzhou.

In honor of Professor Borel's contributions to mathematics and his help with the activities at the Center in Hangzhou, an international conference was held at the center in July 2004. In conjunction with this conference, the Quarterly Journal of Pure and Applied Mathematics has decided to publish these special issues in memory of him. To reflect his broad interests, these issues contain papers from many different areas.

We would like to take this opportunity to thank the staff members at the center, in particular, the deputy-director Hongwei Xu, the local organizers Li Fang and Yang Jing, for their efforts and help during the Borel conference. We would also like to thank Zhu-Jun Zheng, an editor of the journal, and the journal secretary Chen Fang for their help in preparing these special issues, and Xu Hao at the Center for help with the Borel conference pictures. Acknowledgements must also be made to CMS, Zhejiang University, and W.Casselmann, L.Mozzochi, R.Howe for contributing pictures in this issue.

Editorial board of the special issues:
Lizhen Ji (managing editor)
Kefeng Liu
Shing-Tung Yau