**Preface**

On June 28 – July 2, 2010, the *Józef Marcinkiewicz Centenary Conference* was held in Poznań. The conference had two aims: to commemorate one of the most distinguished Polish mathematicians, Józef Marcinkiewicz (1910-1940), and to discuss contemporary mathematical research related to his scientific interests. Józef Marcinkiewicz worked in real, complex and functional analysis (trigonometric and power series, interpolation of operators, orthogonal systems, vector-valued inequalities), probability theory (characteristic functions, maximal inequalities for independent random variables, Khintchine type inequalities, Brownian motion). The period of Marcinkiewicz’s scientific activity lasted only six years but the list of his publications, written between 1933-1939, amounts to 56 positions.

The chief organizer of the meeting was the Faculty of Mathematics and Computer Science of Adam Mickiewicz University. Co-organizers included the Institute of Mathematics of the Polish Academy of Science, Faculty of Mathematics, Computer Science and Mechanics of the Warsaw University, and Faculty of Mathematics and Computer Science of Nicholas Copernicus University.

The conference was attended by, approximately, 140 participants from many countries located on four continents. The core of the scientific program consisted of 14 plenary lectures delivered by eminent experts. The selection of plenary speakers was made by the Program Committee which was managed by Zbigniew Ciesielski (chairman) and Stanisław Kwapień (vice-chairman). An involvement of the members of the Program Committee, as well as unusual activity of Mieczysław Mastyło, caused that the following outstanding mathematicians accepted an invitation to present one hour talks: Nicholas Bingham, Krzysztof Bogdan, Michael Cwikel, Tadeusz Iwaniec, Jean-Pierre Kahane, Nigel Kalton. Michael Lacey, Rafał Latała, Michel Ledoux, Tomasz Łuczak, Lech Maligranda, Andreas Seeger, Péter Vértesi, Marc Yor. Also many participants considerably contributed to the high academic level of the Conference presenting, in three parallel sections, about 80 research announcements devoted to interpolation of spaces and operators, singular operators, Fourier series and approximation by polynomials, orthogonal systems, probability and history of mathematics.

The authorities of the City of Poznań and Adam Mickiewicz University appreciated the rank and significance of the Conference. The Mayor of Poznań included the Conference into the program “Academic Poznań” which offers financial support to the scientists visiting the city. The President of Adam Mickiewicz University invited all participants and accompanying persons to formal banquet in the foyer of the University’s Main Auditorium.

A program of social events and entertainments complementing the Conference included an excursion to the Wielkopolska Ethnographic Park. Many participants visited the monument commemorating three Polish cryptologists who, even before the Second World War, cracked the German military code “Enigma” (the organizers provided each participant a compact disc containing materials about achievements of the cryptologists).

Considering opinions of conference participants and the academic program of the Conference the organizers venture the opinion that it met the expectations to its scientific level and quality of scholarly exchange.

The editors of these Proceedings hope that each reader opening the volume will find an interesting and training reading.

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