

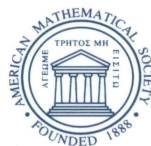
CONTEMPORARY MATHEMATICS

217

Advances in Differential Equations and Mathematical Physics

1997 Georgia Tech–UAB International Conference on
Differential Equations and Mathematical Physics
March 23–29, 1997
Georgia Institute of Technology

Eric Carlen
Evans M. Harrell
Michael Loss
Editors



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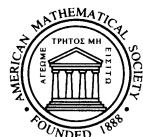
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Preface

The International Conference on Differential Equations and Mathematical Physics, held approximately every two years in either Atlanta, Georgia, or Birmingham, Alabama, is one of the main scientific gatherings on the subject.

In March, 1997, the conference was held at the Georgia Institute of Technology in Atlanta, and was attended by scholars from over 20 countries. This volume contains a selection of topics that were presented at that time.

Needless to say, no such selection can be exhaustive. The editors have instead tried to offer a mix of certain emerging subjects and important recent advances. In some cases it was decided to devote more than one article to a topic. Some contributions were chosen purely for their aesthetic value and others to give an overview. In all cases the articles have been reviewed both for scientific content and for readability.

It is hoped that the product both informs the expert and entices the beginner to explore this vast subject further.

We are grateful to the authors and participants for their contributions, to the American Mathematical Society for helping us to publish this volume, and to Ms. Annette Rohrs for her excellent skills in typesetting all the articles.

Finally, as organizers of the International Conference on Differential Equations and Mathematical Physics we are grateful for financial support from the National Science Foundation, the Institute for Mathematics and its Applications, and the Georgia Tech Foundation.

The Editors

Eric Carlen, Evans Harrell, Michael Loss
Atlanta, Georgia
November 1997

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