CONTEMPORARY MATHEMATICS

327

Advances in Differential Equations and Mathematical Physics

UAB International Conference Differential Equations and Mathematical Physics March 26–30, 2002 University of Alabama, Birmingham

> Yulia Karpeshina Günter Stolz Rudi Weikard Yanni Zeng Editors



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American Mathematical Society Providence, Rhode Island

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Contents

Preface	v
List of Plenary Speakers	vii
List of Special Sessions	ix
List of Participants	xi
Zero modes of Pauli and Weyl-Dirac operators A. A. BALINSKY AND W. D. EVANS	1
The Lane-Emden equation revisited R. BENGURIA	11
A Paley-Wiener theorem with applications to inverse spectral theory C. BENNEWITZ	21
Zero-free regions for Jost functions: The Bessel case B. M. BROWN AND M. S. P. EASTHAM	33
Concentration in solutions to hyperbolic conservation laws GQ. CHEN	41
Local and global continuity of the integrated density of states JM. COMBES, P. D. HISLOP, AND F. KLOPP	61
Transition to the continuum of a particle in time-periodic potentials O. COSTIN, R. D. COSTIN, AND J. L. LEBOWITZ	75
Quantum dynamical bounds for one-dimensional quasicrystals D. DAMANIK	87
Lower order terms in Szegö theorems on Zoll manifolds D. GIOEV	99
Solution error models for uncertainty quantification J. GLIMM, S. HOU, YH. LEE, D. H. SHARP, AND K. YE	115
Instantaneous blow up J. A. GOLDSTEIN AND I. KOMBE	141
Simplified semiclassical propagation estimates G. A. HAGEDORN	151

Resolvent expansions and trace regularizations for Schrödinger operators M. HITRIK AND I. POLTEROVICH	161
A note on the entropy production formula V. Jakšić and CA. Pillet	175
Existence and uniqueness of solutions to the operator Riccati equation. A geometric approach V. KOSTRYKIN, K. A. MAKABOV, AND A. K. MOTOVILOV	181
Asymptotics of spectra of Neumann Laplacians in thin domains P. KUCHMENT AND H. ZENG	199
Absolutely continuous spectrum of matrix valued Schrödinger operators A. LAPTEV AND O. SAFRONOV	215
Ergodic theory and discrete one-dimensional random Schrödinger operators: Uniform existence of the Lyapunov exponent D. LENZ	223
Bose-Einstein condensation of dilute gases in traps E. H. LIEB AND R. SEIRINGER	239
On the dynamics of interfaces in the ferromagnetic XXZ chain under weak perturbations B. NACHTERGAELE, W. L. SPITZER, AND S. STARR	251
Bounds for sums of powers of eigenvalues of Schrödinger operators via the commutation method N. PAVLOVIĆ	271
Statistical mechanics of anharmonic lattices L. REY-BELLET	283
The essential spectrum of the linearized 2D Euler operator is a vertical band R. Shvidkoy and Y. Latushkin	299
New coherent states and a new proof of the Scott correction J. P. SOLOVEJ AND W. L. SPITZER	305
Remark on weak solutions of stationary conduction-convection problems B. Su	321
Spectrum of 1-d selfadjoint periodic differential operator of order 4 V. TKACHENKO	331
BV estimates for $n \times n$ systems of conservation laws K. TRIVISA	341
The time-dependent approach to inverse scattering R. WEDER	359
Blowup in hyperbolic conservation laws R. YOUNG	379

Preface

The 9th International Conference on Differential Equations and Mathematical Physics was held in Birmingham, Alabama, March 26-30, 2002. This conference was part of a series which started in 1981 as a meeting on spectral and scattering theory with 90 participants from North America and Europe, and has since grown, not only in the number of participants and countries, but also by encompassing many other disciplines, such as statistical physics, general relativity, geometric analysis, fluid dynamics, inverse problems and elasticity, among others. The present conference featured 125 talks, and was attended by over 160 participants from 24 countries: Austria (2), Canada (3), Chile (2), China (2), France (6), Germany (15), Israel (3), Japan (4), Mexico (5), Russia (3), South Korea (2), Sweden (6), Switzerland (3), United Kingdom (3), United States (98) and one each from Czech Republic, Denmark, Greece, Hungary, India, Ireland, Kuwait, Turkey, and Venezuela. Previous conferences in the series were held in Birmingham in 1981, 1983, 1986, 1990, 1994, 1999, as well as in Atlanta in 1992 and 1997.

The present proceedings volume features twenty-nine research and survey papers which were contributed by participants of the conference. These contributions were made by invitation of the editors and refereed. In the view of the editors they represent some of the most interesting works which were presented during five days of invited lectures, focus session talks and contributed talks. They are also representative of the major areas of research which were covered at the recent conference, such as spectral theory with applications to non-relativistic and relativistic quantum mechanics, including time-dependent and random potentials, resonances, many body systems, pseudo differential operators and quantum dynamics; inverse spectral and scattering problems; the theory of linear and non-linear partial differential equations with applications in fluid dynamics, conservation laws and numerical simulation; as well as equilibrium and non-equilibrium statistical mechanics.

The main goal of the conference series has been and still is to provide researchers from a broad range of areas encompassing the theory of differential equations and their applications in mathematical physics with a forum to present and discuss their recent results. By now this has brought many leading mathematicians to the conference venues and also given researchers from the southeastern U.S. the opportunity to present their work to an international audience. The present conference was supported through a grant by the US-National Science Foundation (DMS 0120195)¹. Other financial support was provided by the Alabama Alliance for Minority Participation and by the UAB Department of Mathematics.

¹Any opinions, findings, and conclusions or recommendations expressed in this material are those of the authors and do not necessarily reflect the views of the National Science Foundation.

PREFACE

The history of the conference is closely linked to the development of the relatively young Mathematics Department at UAB. Organizing a conference of this scale is a truly departmental effort, both from the scientific and the administrative points of view. The editors of this volume acted as organizing committee of the recent conference, but many other faculty and staff members were involved. Almost all graduate and a number of undergraduate students also volunteered their efforts. The decision on whether to run the next conference is never easy. But we feel that by now the significance of the conference series, for UAB as well as for the mathematics community, has grown to the point that we have to keep going. And therefore:

See y'all again in Birmingham!

The Editors Birmingham, Alabama January 2003

List of Plenary Speakers

MICHAEL AIZENMAN, Princeton University, USA Localization in Schrödinger Dynamics with Random Potentials

JAMES GLIMM, Stony Brook University, USA Predictability and Solution Error Models for Flow in Porous Media

SVETLANA JITOMIRSKAYA, UC Irvine, USA Nonperturbative Localization

ARI LAPTEV, Royal Institute of Technology in Stockholm, Sweden Negative Spectrum of Schrödinger Operators

JOEL LEBOWITZ, Rutgers University, USA Complex Time Evolution of Simple Quantum Systems

ELLIOTT LIEB, Princeton University, USA Stability of a Model of Relativistic Quantum Electrodynamics

TAI-PING LIU, Stanford University and Academia Sinica, USA and Taiwan Boltzmann Equation and Conservation Laws in Gas Dynamics

CLAUDE-ALAIN PILLET, Université de Toulon, CPT-CNRS/FRUMAM, France Spectral Theory of Open Quantum Systems

JOHANNES SJÖSTRAND, Ecole Polytechnique, Palaiseau, France Some Recent Progress on Spectral Asymptotics for Non-Self-Adjoint Operators

RICARDO WEDER, Universidad Nacional Autónoma de México, Mexico The Time-Dependent Approach to Inverse Scattering

List of Special Sessions

Conservation Laws

Organizer: GUI-QIANG CHEN, Northwestern University, USA Speakers: Gui-Qiang Chen, Katarzyna Saxton, Bo Su, Konstantina Trivisa, David Wagner, Robin Young

Dynamics and Mathematical Physics

Organizer: NANDOR SIMANYI, University of Alabama at Birmingham, USA Speakers: Leonid Bunimovich, Predrag Cvitanovic, Oliver Knill, Marco Lenci, Michael Loss, Thomas J. Murphy, Domokos Szasz

Inverse Problems

Organizer: JOYCE MCLAUGHLIN, Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute, USA Speakers: Gang Bao, Jean-Pierre Fouque, Ji Lin, Liz Rachele, Chris Stolk, Jeong-Rock Yoon

Mathematical Fluid Dynamics

Organizer: SUSAN FRIEDLANDER, University of Illinois at Chicago, USA Speakers: Radu Cascaval, Susan Friedlander, Yuri Latushkin, Anna Mazzucato, Fedor Nazarov, Natasa Pavlovic, Misha Vishik

Quantum Mechanics and Spectral Theory

Organizer: GIAN-MICHELE GRAF, ETH, Zürich, Switzerland Speakers: L. Erdos, M. Griesemer, S. Gustafson, G. Hagedorn, P. Hislop, R. Killip, B. Nachtergaele, R. Seiringer

Spectral Theory and Wave Propagation

Organizer: PETER KUCHMENT, Texas A&M University, USA Speakers: Tuncay Aktosun, Boris Belinskiy, Pavel Exner, Leonid Friedlander, Michael J. Gruber, Peter Kuchment, Vassilis Papanicolaou, Michael Solomyak

List of Participants and Speakers

MICHAEL AIZENMAN, Princeton University, USA Localization in Schrödinger Dynamics with Random Potentials

TUNCAY AKTOSUN, Mississippi State University, USA Wave focusing on the line

MARK ASHBAUGH, University of Missouri-Columbia, USA

GERARD AWANOU, University of Georgia, USA Spline Approximations of the 3D Navier-Stokes Equations

GANG BAO, Michigan State, USA

HORST BEHNCKE, University of Osnabrück, Germany The Spectrum of Differential Operators with Almost Constant Coefficients

BORIS BELINSKIY, University of Tennessee at Chattanooga, USA Stability of a general linear mechanical system with a white noise in parameters

RAFAEL BENGURIA, P. Universidad Católica de Chile, Chile The Lane-Emden Equation revisited

CHRISTER BENNEWITZ, Lund University, Sweden Paley-Wiener methods in inverse spectral theory

LYONELL BOULTON, Universidad Simon Bolivar, Caracas, Venezuela D-S projection methods for discrete Schrödinger operators

AMIN BOUMENIR, State University of West Georgia, USA Interpolation and Inverse Spectral Theory

B. MALCOLM BROWN, Cardiff University, UK Computing the spectrum of the one-dimensional p-Laplacian

LEONID BUNIMOVICH, Georgia Tech, USA Walks in Rigid Environments: Continuous Limits

ALMUT BURCHARD, University of Virginia, USA On the Cauchy problem for a dynamical Euler's elastica

RADU CASCAVAL, University of Missouri - Columbia, USA Pulse Waves in Elastic Tubes

ISABELLE CATTO, CNRS and University of Paris IX-Dauphine, France On a Dirac-Fock type models for crystals GUI-QIANG CHEN, Northwestern University, USA Multidimensional Transonic Shocks and Free Boundary Problems for the Euler Equations for Potential Fluids

HONGQIU CHEN, University of Texas, USA

THOMAS CHEN, Courant Institute, NYU, USA Infrared renormalization and infraparticle states in QED

ALEXEI CHEVIAKOV, Queens University, Canada

PREDRAG CVITANOVIC, Georgia Tech, USA Hopf's last hope: Spatiotemporal chaos in terms of unstable recurrent patterns

DAVID DAMANIK, California Institute of Technology, USA Quantum Dynamical Bounds for One-Dimensional Quasicrystals

RAFAEL DEL RIO CASTILLO, UNAM, Mexico Coexistence of spectra in rank-one perturbation problems

SERGUEI DENISSOV, California Institute of Technology, USA The theory of orthogonal polynomials and spectral analysis of Schrödinger operators

JOCHEN DENZLER, University of Tennessee, Knoxville, USA

JÖRG DONIG, Gerhard-Mercator-Universität Duisburg, Germany

LASZLO ERDOS, Georgia Tech, USA Derivation of the nonlinear Schrödinger equation with Coulomb potential

W. DESMOND EVANS, Cardiff University, Wales, UK On the Zero modes of Pauli and Dirac operators

PAVEL EXNER, Czech Academy of Sciences, Czech Republic Generalized Schrödinger operators of the graph type

JEAN-PIERRE FOUQUE, North Carolina State University, USA Time-reversal mirror techniques in the regime of separation of scales

SOEREN FOURNAIS, Université Paris-Sud, France The total magnetic moment of large atoms in strong magnetic fields

LEONID FRIEDLANDER, University of Arizona, USA On the spectrum of second order elliptic differential operators with periodic coefficients

SUSAN FRIEDLANDER, University of Illinois, Chicago, USA A dyadic model for non-Newtonian fluid equations

DAPHNE GILBERT, Dublin Institute of Technology, Ireland An inverse spectral problem for the one-dimensional Schrödinger operator

DIMITRI GIOEV, University of Pennsylvania, USA Lower order terms in Szego type asymptotic formulas

JAMES GLIMM, Stony Brook University, USA Predictability and Solution Error Models for Flow in Porous Media

xii

GISELE GOLDSTEIN, U. of Memphis, USA

The n-dimensional Heat Equation with Nonlinear Generalized Wentzel Boundary *Conditions*

JERRY GOLDSTEIN, U. of Memphis, USA Instantaneous blow-up for heat equations

GIAN-MICHELE GRAF, ETH Zürich, Switzerland

MARCEL GRIESEMER, University of Alabama at Birmingham, USA Asymptotic Completeness for Compton Scattering

MICHAEL J. GRUBER, The University of Arizona, USA Spectral theory of Schrödinger Operators with periodic magnetic field

GUDRUN GUDMUNDSDOTTIR, Lund University, Sweden

STEPHEN GUSTAFSON, ETH-Zürich, Switzerland Effective dynamics of magnetic vortices

GEORGE HAGEDORN, Virginia Tech, USA A Time-Dependent Born-Oppenheimer Approximation with Exponentially Small Error Estimates

CHRISTIAN HAINZL, Universität München, Germany One non-relativistic particle coupled to a photon field

EVANS HARRELL, Georgia Tech, USA Gap estimates for Schrödinger operators depending on curvature

RAINER HEMPEL, TU Braunschweig, Germany On the discrete spectrum of Schrödinger operators with strong magnetic fields of compact support

LOTFI HERMI, University of Arizona, USA On Harrell-Stubbe Type Inequalities for the Discrete Spectrum of a Self-Adjoint **Operator**

ANTONIO HERNANDEZ, UNAM, Mexico Bifurcation of relative equilibria in symmetric Hamiltonian systems at singular momentum values

ANDREAS M. HINZ, Technical University Munich, Germany Delocalization for Schrödinger operators

PETER HISLOP, University of Kentucky, USA Global Continuity of the Integrated Density of States

MICHAEL HITRIK, University of California at Berkeley, USA Trace distributions and heat invariants for Schrödinger operators

MARIA HOFFMANN-OSTENHOF, University of Vienna, Austria A geometrical version of Hardy's inequality

THOMAS HOFFMANN-OSTENHOF, Erwin Schrödinger Institute for Mathematical Physics, Austria

Eigenvalues in Symmetry Subspaces

MARY ANN HORN, Vanderbilt University, USA Modelling of Nonlinear Dynamic Linked Elastic Structures

TOSHIHIKO HOSHIRO, Himeji Institute of Technology, Japan The maximal smoothing effect of dispersive equations

DIRK HUNDERTMARK, California Institute of Technology, USA A diamagnetic inequality for semigroup differences

ALEXEI IANTCHENKO, Malmö University, Sweden Birkhoff normal forms for Fourier integral operators

SVETLANA JITOMIRSKAYA, UC Irvine, USA Nonperturbative localization

LIN JI, Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute, USA Stiffness Identification in Biological Tissue

ALEXANDRA KAFFL, University of Alabama at Birmingham, USA

HUBERT KALF, Universität München, Germany

YULIA KARPESHINA, University of Alabama at Birmingham, USA

ROBERT KAUFFMAN, University of Alabama at Birmingham, USA

BERNHARD KAWOHL, University of Cologne, Germany Anti-eigenvalues and a conjecture of McKenna and Walter

ROWAN KILLIP, University of Pennsylvania, USA Trace Formulae and Tri-diagonal Matrices

STEFFEN KLASSERT, TU-Chemnitz, Germany

OLIVER KNILL, Harvard University, USA On a spectral notion of integrability

HORST KNÖRRER, ETH Zürich and Institute for Advanced Study, Switzerland/USA Asymmetric Fermi Surfaces for Magnetic Schrödinger Operators

BONGSOO KO, Cheju National University, S. Korea Multiplicity of Unstable Nontrivial Solutions in Semilinear Elliptic Indefinite Weight Boundary Value Problems

ALEXANDER KOMECH, Moscow State University, Russia On attractors of nonlinear Hamiltonian equations

MIKHAIL KOVALYOV, University of Alberta, Canada Nonlinear analogues of $e^{i(kx-\omega t)}$ for integrable systems

ALEXANDER KOZHEVNIKOV, University of Haifa, Israel On a Complete Scale of Isomorphisms for Elliptic and Parabolic Pseudodifferential Boundary-Value Problems

PAVLO KROKHMAL, University of Florida, USA An approach to solving boundary-value problems of elasticity in coordinate systems with incomplete separation of variables

PETER KUCHMENT, Texas A&M University, USA Spectra of Neumann Laplacians in thin graph like domains

xiv

PAVEL KURASOV, Lund Institute of Technology, Sweden Inverse scattering problem for quantum graphs

ARI LAPTEV, Royal Institute of Technology in Stockholm, Sweden Negative spectrum of Schrödinger operators

GENNADY LAPTEV, Steklov Mathematical Institute, Russia

YURI LATUSHKIN, University of Missouri-Columbia, USA Spectrum of the linearized Euler operator

JOEL LEBOWITZ, Rutgers University, USA Complex Time Evolution of Simple Quantum Systems

YOUNG-RAN LEE, University of Alabama at Birmingham, USA

MARCO LENCI, Stevens Institute of Technology, USA Large deviations for ideal quantum systems

OLIVIER LENOBLE, CNRS, France

DANIEL LENZ, TU Chemnitz, Germany Cantor spectrum for one-dimensional quasicrystals

CLAIRE LESORT, University of Alabama at Birmingham, USA

ROGER LEWIS, National Science Foundation, USA

ELLIOTT LIEB, Princeton University, USA Stability of a Model of Relativistic Quantum Electrodynamics

TAI-PING LIU, Stanford University and Academia Sinica, USA/Taiwan Boltzmann equation and conservation laws in gas dynamics

MICHAEL LOSS, Georgia Tech, USA A Bound on Binding Energies and Mass Renormalization in Models of Quantum Electrodynamics

KONSTANTIN MAKAROV, University of Missouri-Columbia, USA On a Subspace Perturbation Problem

OLEG MARICHEV, Wolfram Research Inc., USA *The website functions.wolfram.com*

ANNA L. MAZZUCATO, Yale University, USA The Navier-Stokes equation in distribution spaces

C. MAEVE MCCARTHY, Murray State University, USA Torsional Waves in Functionally Graded Isotropic Elastic Rods

JOYCE MCLAUGHLIN, Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute, USA

RONALD MICKENS, Clark Atlanta University, USA Analysis of a van der Pol Type Differential Equation Having a Nonpolynomial Elastic Term

ALEXANDER K. MOTOVILOV, University of Missouri-Columbia and JINR, Dubna, USA/Russia

Factorization Problem for Operator-Valued Herglotz Functions: Geometric Approach

DELIO MUGNOLO, University of Tübingen, Germany

THOMAS MURPHY, University of Maryland, USA Sequences of Classical Hard-Core Collisions

BRUNO NACHTERGAELE, University of California, Davis, USA From Schrödinger dynamics to the Euler equations

FEDOR NAZAROV, Michigan State, USA

JEROME NICOLAS, CNRS, Marseille, France

MARIUS NKASHAMA, University of Alabama at Birmingham, USA

MAYUMI OHMIYA, Doshisha University, Japan Darboux-Lamé equation and isomonodromic deformation on the torus

KEVSER OZDEN KOKLU, Yildiz Technical University, Turkey The Asymptotic Formula For The Eigenvalues Of The Second Order Partial Differential Equation With Operator Coefficient

MICHAEL PANG, University of Missouri-Columbia, USA An alternative proof of Pascu's theorem on hot spots

VASSILIS PAPANICOLAOU, National Technical University of Athens, Greece Recent Developments in the Theory of the Periodic Euler-Bernoulli Equation

RAJENDRASINH H. PARMAR, Sir P. T. Science College Modasa, India Generalized Laguerre Polynomial Solutions for Central Potentials in Quantum Mechanics

NATASA PAVLOVIC, University of Illinois at Chicago, USA Finite time blow-up for a dyadic model of the Euler equations

CLAUDE-ALAIN PILLET, Univ. de Toulon, CPT-CNRS/FRUMAM, France Spectral Theory of Open Quantum Systems

LIZABETH RACHELE, University at Albany, SUNY, USA Inverse Problems for Elastic Media

CHRISTIAN REMLING, Universität Osnabrück, Germany Inverse spectral theory for one-dimensional Schrödinger operators

LUC REY-BELLET, University of Virginia, USA Fluctuations of entropy production in anharmonic chains

SUZANNE RIEHL, University of Northern Iowa, USA Consequences of the Connection Formulae for Sturm-Liouville Spectral Functions

NORBERT RÖHRL, University of Alabama at Birmingham, USA

IVAN ROTHSTEIN, Virginia Tech, USA

JOHANNES RÜCKERT, University of Alabama at Birmingham, USA

GARY RUSSELL, University of Alabama at Birmingham, USA

MAYUMI SAKATA, University of Missouri-Columbia, USA

KATARZYNA SAXTON, Loyola University, New Orleans, USA Nonlinear balance laws in low temperature heat propagation

RALPH SAXTON, University of New Orleans, USA

MARC SCHAEFER, Gerhard Mercator Universitt Duisburg, Germany

KARL MICHAEL SCHMIDT, Cardiff University, UK Eigenvalue asymptotics of perturbed periodic Dirac systems in the slow-decay limit

ROBERT SEIRINGER, Princeton University, USA Proof of Bose-Einstein Condensation for Dilute Trapped Gases

HEINZ SIEDENTOP, Ludwig-Maximilians-Universität München, Germany The Energy of Electrons in Heavy Atoms According to Jansen and Hess

NANDOR SIMANYI, University of Alabama at Birmingham, USA

ROBERT SIMS, University of California at Irvine, USA Fractional Moment Methods for Finite Rank Perturbations

JOHANNES SJÖSTRAND, Ecole Polytechnique, France Some recent progress on spectral asymptotics for non-self-adjoint operators

ALEXANDRA SMIRNOVA, Georgia State University, USA Regularization of nonlinear ill-posed problems by dynamical system method

MICHAEL SOLOMYAK, The Weizmann Institute of Science, Israel Schrödinger operator on homogeneous metric trees: spectrum in gaps

THOMAS OSTERGAARD SORENSEN, Aalborg University, Denmark Structure and regularity of molecular eigenfunctions and electron densities

WOLFGANG SPITZER, UC Davis, USA A new proof of the Scott correction

SHANNON STARR, Princeton University, USA

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GUNTER STOLZ, University of Alabama at Birmingham, USA

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DOMOKOS SZASZ, Budapest University of Technology and Economics, Hungary Local Limit Theorems and Recurrence for the Planar Lorentz Process

Olga Tchebotareva, UNAM, Mexico

FLAVIA THEN, University of Alabama at Birmingham, USA

KYRIL TINTAREV, Uppsala University, Sweden Concentration compactness and nonlinear subelliptic problems without compactness

VADIM TKACHENKO, Ben-Gurion University of the Negev, Israel 1d periodic differential operator of order 4

JULIO TOLOZA, Virginia Tech, USA Exponentially Small Error Estimates of Quasiclassical Eigenvalues KONSTANTINA TRIVISA, University of Maryland, USA Systems of Conservation Laws in Continuum Physics

DANIEL UELTSCHI, University of California, Davis, USA On the sum of eigenvalues of the discrete Laplace operator

TOMIO UMEDA, Himeji Institute of Technology, Japan Asymptotic properties of the generalized eigenfunctions of relativistic Schrödinger operators

IVAN VESELIC, Ruhr-Universität Bochum, Germany Wegner estimate with local continuity requirements on the coupling constants

CARLOS VILLEGAS-BLAS, Universidad Nacional Autónoma de México, Mexico The regularization of the Kepler problem and the Bargmann Transform

MIKHAIL VISHIK, The University of Texas at Austin, USA Harmonic analysis methods for incompressible flows of an ideal fluid

HENDRIK VOGT, The University of Memphis, USA

VITALI VOUGALTER, University of British Columbia, Canada Pauli operator and Aharonov-Casher theorem for measure valued magnetic fields

KIM TUAN VU, Kuwait University, Kuwait Paley-Wiener Theorem and Sturm-Liouville Transforms

SEMJON VUGALTER, University of Munich, Germany Enchanced Binding in non-relativistic QED

DAVID WAGNER, University of Houston, USA Exotherimic Reacting Euler Equations

RICARDO WEDER, Universidad Nacional Autónoma de México, Mexico The Time-Dependent Approach to Inverse Scattering

RUDI WEIKARD, University of Alabama at Birmingham, USA

GILBERT WEINSTEIN, University of Alabama at Birmingham, USA

JIANG WEI, University of Anhui, Hefei, China On the Stabilizability of Systems with Control Delay Via Output Feedback

DENIS WHITE, University of Toledo, USA

KENJI YAJIMA, University of Tokyo, Japan Local decay for time period Schrödinger equations

JEONG-ROCK YOON, Korea Advanced Institute of Science and Technology, S. Korea

On a nonlinear PDE arising in magnetic resonance electrical impedance tomography (MREIT)

BORISLAV YORDANOV, University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee, USA

ROBIN YOUNG, University of Massachusetts, USA The p-system with Large Data

YANNI ZENG, University of Alabama at Birmingham, USA

HONGKUN ZHANG, University of Alabama at Birmingham, USA

xviii

OLESYA ZHUPANSKA, University of Florida, USA A Singular Integral Equation with Sum-Difference Kernel Arising in Contact Problems with Friction

HENGHUI ZOU, University of Alabama at Birmingham, USA

This volume presents the proceedings of the 9th International Conference on Differential Equations and Mathematical Physics. It contains 29 research and survey papers contributed by conference participants.

The papers represent some of the most interesting results and the major areas of research that were covered, including spectral theory with applications to non-relativistic and relativistic quantum mechanics, including time-dependent and random potential, resonances, many body systems, pseudodifferential operators and quantum dynamics, inverse spectral and scattering problems, the theory of linear and nonlinear partial differential equations with applications in fluid dynamics, conservation laws and numerical simulations, as well as equilibrium and nonequilibrium statistical mechanics.

The volume is intended for graduate students and researchers interested in mathematical physics.



