Editor's Introduction

The eighth International *Mathematica* Symposium (*IMS*'06) was held in France for the first time. This initiative to promote scientific research and exchange in the broad community of enthusiastic users was held in June 2006 at the "Palais des Papes" of Avignon, next to the celebrated "pont St Benezet"—two monuments inscribed by UNESCO on the World Heritage List with the "Rocher des Doms".

This symposium was not only of interest to researchers, teachers, and doctoral students, but it addressed the academic community as well as the industrial sphere and the world of arts. It was devoted to a broad set of topics in pure and applied mathematics, algorithms and computer algebra, theoretical and applied computer sciences, physics, complexity analysis, biology and life sciences, human sciences, engineering, economy and finance, graphics and design, visual arts and music, and education. We are confident that such events promote and strengthen the wide potential of research and application of *Mathematica*.

More than one hundred abstracts were submitted. After a careful review, the Program Committee invited most of the authors to submit full papers. Each of these papers has been thoroughly reviewed by two independent reviewers, and 64 were recommended for presentation and publication in the electronic proceedings, published as a CD [1]. Two special issues of *The Mathematica Journal* are devoted to the best selected papers; these were subjected to further review.

■ References

[1] *Applied Mathematica, Electronic Proceedings of the Eighth International Mathematica Symposium (IMS'06)*, Avignon, France (Y. Papegay, ed.), Sophia Antipolis, France: INRIA, 2006 ISBN 2-7261-1289-7.
internationalmathematicasymposium.org/IMS2006/IMS2006_CD/html/articles.html.

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