

## Preface to the Present Volume

Collected in this volume are papers contributed by the speakers and some of the participants at a symposium on algebraic geometry held at Tohoku University in Sendai, Japan from June 24 through 29, 1985. There were eighteen one hour talks and about a hundred participants. The members of the program committee listed on the next page also acted as editors of this volume.

As the table of contents shows, this volume has wide scope covering currently very active areas in algebraic geometry: birational geometry of higher dimensional algebraic varieties; Kähler manifolds and analytic varieties; abelian varieties; arithmetic algebraic geometry; rigid analytic spaces; cycles and vector bundles on algebraic varieties; mixed Hodge structures; period maps for  $K3$  surfaces and for isolated singularities.

Moreover, many of the authors obliged the editors by writing up papers which, aside from containing original results, also survey the particular topics covered.

As a result, we can here present a volume which may serve not merely as proceedings but also as an excellent up-to-date guide to algebraic geometry.

The symposium was supported by the Grant-in-Aid for Cooperative Research by the Ministry of Education, Science and Culture. The research fellowship program of the Japan Society for the Promotion of Science as well as that of the Japan Association for Mathematical Sciences enabled us to have several participants from overseas. We are grateful to these institutions for financial support.

Thanks are due to those who cooperated in the time-consuming task of refereeing the papers.

All except one of the papers in this volume are in final form and no version of any of them will be submitted for publication elsewhere, whereas Bloch's note describes an outline of a recent result of his. He is to publish the details in the proceedings of the 1985 AMS Summer Institute in Algebraic Geometry, which began a week after the Sendai symposium.

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