

## Preface

This volume collects original or survey papers on Singularities in Geometry and Topology, which resulted from the 6th Franco-Japanese Symposium on Singularities, held in Fukuoka, during September 5–10, 2011. This followed the 5th Franco-Japanese Symposium held in Strasbourg in 2009.

Though singularity theory was born in the XIXth century, this field of research became more popular in France after Prof. Heisuke Hironaka came to Paris. Then, a lot of collaborations between Japanese and French mathematicians started and the conferences on Singularities in Geometry and Topology continue to develop this collaboration between France and Japan.

We note that all the papers in this volume have been carefully refereed.

At first, we were going to organize a Kagoshima Satellite Conference before or after the Fukuoka Symposium, but the situation changed after the March 11 disaster which hit the Tohoku region in Japan and caused a serious nuclear power plant accident in Fukushima. Therefore, we decided to cancel the Kagoshima Satellite Conference.

At this occasion, we would like to express our deepest sympathy to those affected by the terrible earthquake and tsunami that devastated the Tohoku region in Japan in March, 2011.

In spite of the disaster, for the Fukuoka Symposium, we had 90 participants in total, including 9 from France and additional 12 from other countries. The talks covered a broad range of geometry and topology of singularities. In particular, we had a talk by Prof. Heisuke Hironaka on resolution of singularities in positive characteristics. We also organized a poster session for young participants, and there were 11 posters presented.

During the Fukuoka Symposium, we had several important events. One was the GDRI inauguration ceremony. GDRI represents a CNRS international network project in singularity theory. The programs on September 5 (Mon) and September 8 (Thu) were respectively dedicated to the birthdays of Prof. Heisuke Hironaka and Prof. Shihoko Ishii. We also celebrated them at the occasion of the banquet on Thursday. On Saturday, we organized an excursion to Yanagawa city and we all enjoyed a boat ride traveling inside the old town.

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