

## Introduction

These are the proceedings of the conference *Recent Developments in Model Theory* held in Oléron, France, June 5–11, 2011. The aim of the conference was to bring together model theorists and scientists working in closely related areas of mathematics to explore the frontiers of the subject, extending from pure model theory to o-minimality to applications in core mathematics. In the end, the conference attracted over one hundred and forty participants, including experts in algebraic geometry, number theory, differential algebra, and geometric group theory, and was a stimulating testament to the depth, breadth, and vibrancy of modern model theory. We hope that these proceedings will convey some of the excitement of the conference.

The conference was also an opportunity to acknowledge, on the occasion of his sixtieth birthday, the influence of Anand Pillay on the subject. This is fitting, as for the last 30 years Anand has been at the center of the action in every major development in model theory. He has played a leading role in pure stability theory; o-minimality—both the initial development and, later, the analysis of definable groups; geometric stability theory; applications of model theory to differential algebra; applications of model theory to Diophantine geometry and transcendence theory; simple theories; the model theory of complex analytic spaces; measures in NIP theories, and, recently, the model theory of the free group.

But, his prodigious publication list does not tell the full story. Anand's enormous influence on the subject is in great part due to the tremendous energy and infectious enthusiasm he brings when working with students, postdocs, collaborators, and colleagues, through his many influential expository writings or just discussing mathematics over a wee whiskey and a cigar. Our subject is truly richer for his presence.

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