

## PREFACE

The Seventh International Conference on Geometry, Integrability and Quantization took place, as in previous years, at the Sts. Constantin and Elena resort on the Black Sea coast of Bulgaria, from June 2 to June 10th, 2005.

The lectures covered topics in Exterior Differential Systems, Billiards, The Camassa–Holm Equation, Braided Quantum Interactions, Dissipative Two-Level Spin Systems, Hurwitz Numbers of Ramified Covers, Slow-Fast Differential Systems, Multi-Symplectic Manifolds, Extended Parallelism, Gyrogeometry, Quantum Groups and Stochastic Models, Exactly Solvable Differential Equations, Cartan Forms and the Calculus of Variations, Chiral Fields and Ferromagnets, Poisson Geometry, Geometry and Topology of Vortex Filaments, The Manev Problem, Several Inverse Problems in the Calculus of Variations, Minimal Lagrangian Manifolds, Shape of Biomembrane Vesicles Viewed as a Surface Variation Problem in Differential Geometry, R-Matrices, The Q-Calculus, Totally Geodesic Vector Fields, Geometric Quantization as well as other topics.

As is clear from this list, as usual, the subject matter was wide ranging. The conference was an almost unique opportunity for researchers separated both by discipline (mathematics, physics, biology) and geography (Algeria, Bulgaria, Iran, Romania, Russia, South Africa, South Korea, Spain, Taiwan, Turkey, Ukraine, USA) to meet. In addition to the lectures and scientific discussions, the participants enjoyed excursions to nearby historical and natural sites, as well as the nearby beaches and their facilities. The editors thank all the participants for the friendly atmosphere which dominated the meeting and for their oral and written contributions. We express our thanks to Ivaylo Zlatanov, Mariana Hadzhilazova and Vassil Vassilev for their assistance in the organization of the meeting. Special thanks are due also to Georgi Dimitrov and Mariana Hadzhilazova for their help with the proofreading of the papers presented in this volume.

A delayed contribution from the Sixth Conference by B. Kay on Quantum Field Theory in Curved Spacetime which, as it was announced in the preface to the previous volume, was due to appear in the present volume will, unfortunately, not now appear until the next volume.

We look forward to the Eighth International Conference on Geometry, Integrability and Quantization, to be held in June 9–14, 2006 at the same location, and hope it will be as satisfying as its predecessors.

*The Editors*