

Preface

This volume contains 21 invited papers in algebraic and arithmetic geometry. The treated topics range over a variety of themes, including moduli spaces of curves and abelian varieties, algebraic cycles, vector bundles and coherent sheaves, curves over finite fields, and algebraic surfaces, among others.

The volume is loosely connected to the conference “Geometry and Arithmetic” that took place on the island of Schiermonnikoog, The Netherlands, in September 2010. Roughly half the papers here were submitted by conference participants; the other contributions were invited by us and discuss subjects that fit the general themes of the conference well. Each article has been carefully refereed.

It is a pleasure to dedicate this volume to Gerard van der Geer, our Ph.D. advisor, who continues to inspire us. Gerard’s 60th birthday provided the occasion for the organization of the conference; the two main themes of this volume and of the conference were chosen to represent and reflect his broad mathematical interests.

To honour Gerard’s fondness of and interest in foreign languages, many authors have provided a second abstract in their native language. We hope that most readers will enjoy this special feature of the volume.

We take the opportunity to thank the authors and referees of the articles, as well as the speakers and participants of the conference, for their contributions. Last but not least, we thank the institutions whose financial support made the conference possible: the Foundation Compositio Mathematica, the research cluster Geometry and Quantum Theory, the research school WONDER, and the Netherlands Organization for Scientific Research.

July 2012

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