Preface

Special Issue on the 100th Anniversary of the Founding of the Mathematics Discipline

at Xiamen University

In celebration of the 100th anniversary of the mathematics discipline at Xiamen University, the School of Mathematical Sciences, in collaboration with the editorial board of the Journal of Mathematical Study, decided to publish a special commemorative issue.

In 1921, the esteemed overseas Chinese leader, Mr. Tan Kah Kee, founded Xiamen University with the noble vision of "revitalizing the nation through education". Mathematics was one of the university's inaugural disciplines, beginning with the establishment of the Department of Arithmetic in 1923. It was later renamed the Department of Mathematics in 1930, and merged with the Department of Physics in 1936 to form the Department of Mathematical and Physical Sciences. By 1952, the Department of Mathematics was reinstated, and in 2003 it evolved into the School of Mathematical Sciences.

Over the past century, esteemed scholars such as Jiang Lifu, Yang Wuzhi, Jiang Zehan, Zhang Xilu, Fang Dezhi, and Zhang Mingyong have made lasting contributions through teaching and research. The school has proudly trained more than 380 doctoral graduates, over 1,000 master's graduates, and more than 5,880 undergraduates, contributing a wealth of talent to the society. Distinguished alumni, including academicians Ke Zhao, Chen Jingrun, Lin Qun, and Chen Chun, have made significant contributions to scientific progress and economic development. Today, the School of Mathematical Sciences comprises four departments: Pure & Applied Mathematics, Information & Computational Mathematics, Probability & Mathematical Statistics, and College Mathematics Teaching. The school offers doctoral degrees in Mathematics and Statistics, alongside postdoctoral research opportunities, covering five key areas: Pure Mathematics, Applied Mathematics, Operational Research and Cybernetics, Computational Mathematics, and Probability & Statistics. Among these, Pure Mathematics is recognized as a national key discipline. The school has established numerous disciplinary platforms, including the Tianyuan Mathematical Center in Southeast China, the Fujian Provincial Key Laboratory of Mathematical Modeling and High-Performance Scientific Computing, the Center for Applied Mathematics of Fujian Province, and the "Digital Fujian" Xiamen Research Institute for Basic Big Data Technology. It is also a leading force in the Fujian Alliance of Mathematics.

With its distinguished faculty, broad research directions, and a comprehensive talent development system, the School of Mathematical Sciences has made notable advancements in scientific research, education, and social service. It has achieved excellent results in recent discipline rankings, with its ESI discipline ranking within the top 0.25.

To commemorate the 100th anniversary of the mathematics discipline at Xiamen University, we are proud to present this special issue.