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## Preface

The International Symposium on Applied Mathematics was held at Dalian University of Technology in August 2000. About 80 participants from all over the world came to this conference. This special issue contains a selection of papers presented at the conference. The papers in the first part of this issue are by invitation, and the papers in the second part are based on the contributed talks. All papers in this issue have gone through a standard refereeing system. We would like to thank all the anonymous referees who have helped us with their fine reports which make this issue possible. We are also grateful to Luc Wuytack for inviting us to edit this special issue.

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