PREFACE

The conference "Lie algebroids and related topics in differential geometry" was held at the Banach Center in Warsaw from 12.6.2000 to 18.6.2000. 33 mathematicians from 10 countries participated in this workshop.

The invited lectures and papers reported covered topics in the general theory of groupoids and algebroids dealing with the mainstream problems of the theory as well as answering some very concrete questions. Several speakers presented papers on cohomology theories and characteristic classes associated with groupoids and algebroids.

The importance of the theory was highlighted by several speakers who reported on its applications.

In addition to lectures, two problem sessions were held during which the participants formulated conjectures, posed questions and presented their new ideas.

The workshop has demonstrated that groupoids and algebroids are doing quite well, that more and more mathematicians find these objects of great interest with many links to other areas of mathematics. Moreover, these notions have proved to be useful tools in physics.

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