

**Regular General Meeting for the
Asia Pacific Consortium of Mathematics for Industry (APCMfi)**

Sunday 22 October 2017

Keller 418, Faculty of Mathematics, University of Hawaii at Mānoa

Chair: Masato Wakayama

Attendees: Masato Wakayama, Bob Anderssen, Yasuhide Fukumoto, Osamu Saeki, Wil Schilders, Kenji Kajiwara, Monique Chyba, Kaname Matsue, Dinh Hoa Nguyen, Robert McKibbin, Alejandro Jofré, Jin-Hwan Cho, Youngjin Kim, Joon Heo, Jong-Hyeon Seo, Yichao Zhu, Seiko Sasaguri, Tsubura Imabayashi

MINUTES

The meeting commenced at 4:00pm.

1. Welcome – Masato Wakayama

MW welcomed the attendees to the Regular General Meeting. He mentioned the absence of the Secretary Alexandra Hogan, who was in London at the time of the Meeting.

2. Chair's report – Masato Wakayama

MW delivered the Chair's reports as follows.

- It has been three years since the establishment of the Pacific Journal of Mathematics for Industry (PJMI), which is a continuation of the Journal of Math-for-Industry. It is an open access electronic journal supported by IMI, without submission charge, and is now published through Springer Nature. For these three years, there were about 100 submissions in total, among which 34 accepted and 60 rejected. As a particular strategy, we are inviting survey papers from strong mathematicians. New editorial manager Louis Freeland-Haynes arrived. By his efforts, PMJI is already indexed and abstracted in Google Scholar, EBSCO Discovery Service, Emerging Sources Citation Index, OCLC, Summon by ProQuest. KM asked if the articles should necessarily be directly related to industry. MW answered that articles having potential applications to industry or to other disciplines are also welcome.
- Springer series "Mathematics for Industry" already has 23 volumes published and 11 under preparation. The Proceedings of FMfi2017 is planned to be published as a volume in this series.

3. Treasurer's report – Bob Anderssen

RSA delivered the Treasurer's reports follows.

- The APCMfi Charter has been modified according to the discussion of the Regular General Meeting in November 2017. Items concerning student and retired memberships have been added. Some wordings have been modified for giving more flexibility. Some contradictory wordings have also been corrected. Gratitude to the Secretary Alexandra Hogan for her efforts in modifying the Charter was expressed.

- The increase in numbers of APCMfI individual/institutional members has been reported. In 2016, we had 5 institutional members and 92 individual members, while we have 7 and 136 members, respectively, in 2017 to date. Japan has 41 individual members, Australia 37, USA 16, including those from Hawaii, New Zealand 12, South Korea 8, China 3, etc. As these figures show, our APCMfI activity using common time zone is quite successful.
- As to the APCMfI financial situation, in 2015, the income was 33,555 JPY, in 2016 the income was 278,855 JPY, and in 2017 the income was 237,578JPY to date. There were no outgoing expenses. The balance at 22 October 2017 was 549,988 JPY. RM asked how we will use the income. RSA mentioned its importance, from a long-term viewpoint, for supporting APCMfI activities, and also mentioned that the welcoming party of FMfI2017 will be financially supported by APCMfI.
- RSA noted the importance of inviting colleagues to become APCMfI members, by showing its merits; interaction with people from various fields and countries, having nice opportunities for various activities, free registration for FMfI, etc.

4. Proposal of change of APCMfI council members

MW delivered a report from the Steering Committee Meeting, and announced a change of the council member in charge of Newsletter and Communications in order to enhance advertisement activities of APCMfI. We will launch a committee to be in charge of Newsletter and Communications, which will consist of one senior council member together with two junior members. We will ask Graeme Wake, present council member in charge of Newsletter and Communications, to be an advisor or an “emeritus member” of the committee.

5. Discussion of Open Innovation Study Group (Mathematics-by-Industry)

MW proposed a new type of activity that APCMfI will promote: Open Innovation Study Group (Mathematics-by-Industry). As usual study groups (SGs) are very popular worldwide. APCMfI plans to propose a new type of a SG, focussing on recently well-discussed open innovation issues, like big data, IoT, AI, etc., which are strongly engaging researchers in industry in many countries. As the industrial partners are very much interested in these topics, we may be able to get financial support from them. It might be a chance to establish an efficient practical mechanism promoting open innovation SG internationally, focussing on basic and real problems in common. In Japan, for example, big companies have Research & Development sections; however, they are reducing the size, and are not so successful. In particular, there are very few mathematicians in such sections. After the SG activities were initiated at the University of Tokyo and IMI in Japan, some of industrial researchers already understand the efficiency and importance of SG activities. So, now is a good opportunity to refresh. This is basically independent of IMI. However, in order for IMI to get funding from the Japanese government, it is important to establish such a mechanism as a joint usage research center. MW proposed to call such a new type of SG “Mathematics-by-Industry” following RSA’s suggestion.

After MW’s proposal, some discussions followed. At the end, an agreement has been established among the attendees in such a way that APCMfI can promote such kind of new activities as MW proposed, although some details must still be discussed.

6. Discussion of FMfI

MW and YF confirmed that FMfi2018 will be held in Shanghai, probably at Fudan University, China, organized by Jin Cheng, during November 16 (Friday) – 20 (Tuesday), 2018. The theme will be Finance, Economy, and Big Data.

MW asked the attendees about the venue for FMfi2019. RSA mentioned that there had been a proposal to hold it in New Zealand, and MW agreed. RM agreed to positively discuss the issue with his colleagues in New Zealand later.

The meeting closed at 5:15pm.