

# CONTENTS

<b>Abstracts</b> .....	xi
<b>Introduction</b> .....	xv

## Part I. Expository Articles

SIR PETER SWINNERTON-DYER — <i>Diophantine equations: progress and problems</i> .....	3
1. Introduction .....	3
2. The Hasse Principle and the Brauer–Manin obstruction .....	6
3. Zeta functions and L-series .....	12
4. Curves .....	15
5. Generalities about surfaces .....	19
6. Rational surfaces .....	20
7. K3 surfaces and Kummer surfaces .....	27
8. Density of rational points .....	28
References .....	32
ROGER HEATH-BROWN — <i>Rational points and analytic number theory</i> ..	37
1. Introduction .....	37
2. Contributions from analytic number theory .....	38
3. Potential applications to analytic number theory .....	40
References .....	41
DAVID HARARI — <i>Weak approximation on algebraic varieties</i> .....	43
1. Introduction .....	43
2. Classical results .....	44
3. Cohomological methods .....	50
References .....	57

EMMANUEL PEYRE — <i>Counting points on varieties using universal torsors</i>	61
1. Introduction	61
2. Heights on projective varieties	63
3. Manin's principle	66
4. Results	70
5. The counterexample of Batyrev and Tschinkel	71
6. Methods of counting	71
7. A basic example	72
8. Universal torsors	73
9. Toric varieties	76
10. The plane blown up in 4 points	78
11. Generalization	79
References	80

## Part II. Research Articles

VICTOR V. BATYREV & OLEG N. POPOV — <i>The Cox ring of a Del Pezzo surface</i>	85
1. Introduction	85
2. Del Pezzo surfaces	89
3. Generators of $\text{Cox}(X_r)$	92
4. Quadratic relations in $\text{Cox}(X_r)$	97
References	102
NIKLAS BROBERG & PER SALBERGER — <i>Counting rational points on threefolds</i>	105
1. Introduction	105
2. Preliminaries	106
3. Proof of the main theorem	112
References	119
JEAN-LOUIS COLLIOT-THÉLÈNE & PHILIPPE GILLE — <i>Remarques sur l'approximation faible sur un corps de fonctions d'une variable</i>	121
1. Introduction	121
2. Rappels : Approximation faible	122
3. Rappels : Cohomologie galoisienne des corps $C_1$	123
4. Approximation faible pour les espaces homogènes de groupes linéaires connexes et pour les variétés qui s'y ramènent	124

5. Une surface d'Enriques qui ne satisfait pas à l'approximation faible	130
Références	133
JORDAN S. ELLENBERG — <i>K3 surfaces over number fields with geometric Picard number one</i>	
1. Introduction	135
2. Proofs	136
References	140
TOM GRABER, JOSEPH HARRIS, BARRY MAZUR & JASON STARR — <i>Jumps in Mordell–Weil rank and Arithmetic Surjectivity</i>	
1. Arithmetic surjectivity	142
2. Quadratic twist families	144
3. The Cassels–Schinzel example	146
References	147
BRENDAN HASSETT & YURI TSCHINKEL — <i>Universal torsors and Cox rings</i>	
1. Introduction	149
2. Generalities on the Cox ring	151
3. Generalities on toric varieties	155
4. The $E_6$ cubic surface	158
5. $D_4$ cubic surface	169
References	172
BJORN POONEN & JOSÉ FELIPE VOLOCH — <i>Random diophantine equations</i>	
1. Introduction	176
2. A conjecture	176
3. Motivation and evidence	177
4. Generalization to number fields	179
Appendix A. The Brauer–Manin obstruction for complete intersections of dimension $\geq 3$ (by Jean-Louis Colliot-Thélène)	180
Appendix B. Applications of the Weak Lefschetz Theorem (by Nicholas M. Katz)	182
References	183
WAYNE RASKIND & VICTOR SCHARASCHKIN — <i>Descent on simply connected surfaces over algebraic number fields</i>	
	185

1. Introduction .....	185
2. Notation and preliminaries .....	187
3. Rapid review of the theory of Colliot-Thélène–Sansuc .....	188
4. The homological algebra of descent .....	190
5. The elementary obstruction .....	191
6. The Tate conjecture and the Brauer group .....	194
7. Universal gerbes and the higher Abel–Jacobi mapping .....	196
8. Geometric interpretation of the Brauer–Manin obstruction .....	197
9. Descent on curves .....	200
10. Concluding remarks .....	200
Appendix A. Stacks and gerbes .....	201
Appendix B. Description of the Brauer group in terms of gerbes .....	202
References .....	202
JOSEPH SHALIKA, RAMIN TAKLOO-BIGHASH & YURI TSCHINKEL — <i>Rational points on compactifications of semi-simple groups of rank 1</i> .....	205
1. Introduction .....	205
2. Basic definitions and results .....	207
3. Heights and height integrals .....	210
4. Eisenstein series .....	212
5. Eisenstein integrals .....	215
6. P-series .....	218
7. The cuspidal spectrum .....	224
8. Appendix .....	227
References .....	232
SIR PETER SWINNERTON-DYER — <i>Weak Approximation on Del Pezzo surfaces of degree 4</i> .....	235
1. Introduction .....	235
2. The Legendre–Jacobi functions .....	237
3. Salberger’s device .....	246
4. Reduction to a pencil of conics .....	250
5. Proof of Theorem 2 .....	253
References .....	257
OLIVIER WITTENBERG — <i>Transcendental Brauer–Manin obstruction on a pencil of elliptic curves</i> .....	259
1. Introduction .....	259
2. Preliminaries: 2-descent and the Brauer group of an elliptic curve ..	260
3. An actual example .....	263

References .....	266
<b>Glossary</b> .....	<b>269</b>
<b>Index</b> .....	<b>279</b>