

# Preface

During the last years, constructive approximation has reached out to encompass the computational and approximation-theoretical aspects of different fields in applied mathematics, including multivariate approximation methods, quasi-interpolation, and multivariate approximation by (orthogonal) polynomials, as well as modern mathematical developments in neuro fuzzy approximation, RBF-networks, industrial and engineering applications.

Following the tradition of our international Bommerholz conferences in 1995, 1998, and 2001 we regard this 4th IBoMAT meeting as an important possibility for specialists in the field of applied mathematics to communicate about new ideas with colleagues from 15 different countries all over Europe and as far away as New Zealand and the U.S.A. The conference in Witten Bommerholz was, as always, held in a very friendly and congenial atmosphere.

The IBoMAT-series editor Detlef H. Mache (Bochum) would like to congratulate Marcel de Bruin (Delft) and József Szabados (Budapest) for an excellent editing job of this 4th volume about *Trends and Applications in constructive approximation*.

After the previous three published books in *Akademie Verlag* (1995) and *Birkhäuser Verlag* (1999 and 2003) we were pleased with the high quality of the contributions which could be solicited for the book. They are refereed and we should mention our gratitude to the referees and their reports.

At this point we also thank the *Deutsche Forschungsgemeinschaft (DFG, Bonn)* for providing the majority of the financial support of this 4th conference and the publisher *Birkhäuser / Springer Publishing Group* for accepting the proceedings into its *International Series of Numerical Mathematics*.

Also we would like to thank all participants for their efforts in making IBoMat 2004 a more than successful conference.

Finally, we would like to express our special thanks to Petra Mache who assisted in the preparation of this book and Jennifer Meyer who produced the manuscript in a camera-ready form. We wish to express our appreciation of their friendly assistance and wonderful cooperation.

The very positive resonance of the IBoMAT conferences in the years 1995, 1998, 2001 and 2004 will encourage us to continue this successful series in Witten-Bommerholz with new international developments in applied mathematics and applications in constructive approximation.

Witten-Bommerholz, January 2005

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