Information on the Third Petrozavodsk Conference 'Probabilistic Methods in Discrete Mathematics'

The Third Petrozavodsk Conference 'Probabilistic Methods in Discrete Mathematics' was held at 10–15 May 1992 in Petrozavodsk in Russia. The conference was organized by the Steklov Mathematical Institute of the Russian Academy of Sciences, the Karelian Scientific Centre of the Russian Academy of Sciences and the Karelian State University. The Organizing Committee of the Conference included V. Ya. Kozlov (the chairman, Moscow), A. D. Sorokin (vice-chairman, Petrozavodsk), V. F. Kolchin (vice-chairman, Moscow), Yu. V. Prokhorov (Moscow), B. A. Sevastyanov (Moscow), G. A. Borisov (Petrozavodsk), V. A. Vatutin (Moscow), A. B. Zhizhchenko (Moscow), A. M. Zubkov (Moscow), G. I. Ivchenko (Moscow), Yu. L. Pavlov (Petrozavodsk), V. I. Khokhlov (Moscow).

The pioneering works carried out by V. L. Goncharov, published in 40's, are apparently the first where combinatorial objects were systematically investigated by modern probabilistic methods. These works contain deep results on random permutations and runs in random $(0, 1)$-sequences. During the last three decades the interest in probabilistic problems of combinatorics has grown steadily both in our country and abroad. In 1983 the First All-Union conference 'Probabilistic Methods in Discrete Mathematics' and in 1988 the Second conference were held in Petrozavodsk. The themes of the Petrozavodsk conferences cover almost all areas of probabilistic combinatorics including probabilistic problems of discrete mathematics, statistical problems of discrete mathematics and graph theory. The participants of the two first conferences came up with the proposal to extend the topics of the conference and give more attention to actual applied probabilistic problems of discrete mathematics. In line with these suggestions, for the first time the section 'Mathematical methods of information security' was organized along with the traditional sections 'Probabilistic problems of combinatorics', 'Statistical methods of combinatorics', 'Random graphs'.

During the three working days of the III Petrozavodsk conference, 12 plenary and 33 sectional lectures were read. At the first plenary session the following lectures were presented: 'A survey of the early history of the theory of random mappings' by B. Harris (U.S.A.), 'On Goncharov's works in the field of combinatorics' by V. F. Kolchin (Moscow), 'Random trees, branching processes and the Brownian motion' by V. A. Vatutin (Moscow), 'Random forests of plane planted trees and branching processes' by Yu. L. Pavlov (Petrozavodsk); at the second plenary session the lectures 'Probability distributions in prime number theory' by S. Golomb (U.S.A.), 'Polynomial and polynomial-like allocations: recent developments' by V. G. Mikhailov (Moscow), 'Properties of random permutations with constraints on the maximum cycle length' by A. A. Grusho (Moscow), 'Distribution of additive functions on sparse sequences of natural numbers' by V. A. Plaksin (Petrozavodsk) were made; in the final day the conference heard the plenary lectures 'Stochastic properties of systems of random linear equations over finite