Introduction

This volume contains the proceedings of the conference on the elementary theory of groups and group rings and related topics held at Fairfield University and City University of New York on November 1–2, 2018. The conference was held in cooperation with the New York Group Theory Seminar. The conference was held primarily to highlight the extensive research activity in the area since the proofs of the Tarski conjectures by Kharlampovich and Myasnikov and independently by Sela. The conference was also to honor the memory of Gilbert Baumslag who for many years was the guiding inspiration for the New York Group Theory Seminar. This seminar was initiated by Wilhelm Magnus and has run continuously for over 50 years. The conference also honored Ben Fine and Anthony Gaglione on their 70th birthdays. Both have been long time participants in the seminar and have done a great deal of research work in the area of the conference. In addition to the submitted papers, we have included a remembering Gilbert section. Gilbert Baumslag was one of the leading infinite group theorists for much of the second half of the twentieth century. He was also a mentor and guide to both his own students and to many others in the Group Theory community. We have asked several people who worked closely with Gilbert to write both working with him and the impact of his work. Many of these remembrances are related to the talks given at the memorial service for Gilbert held at City University. These talks can be viewed at https://www.youtube.com/watch?v= kIPw79wqdHo&list=PLeYOJGSDgPSr9Elws8z2mj25DvVwQt9DK&index=5.

The Editors

Proceedings of the elementary theory of groups and group rings

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