PREFACE

During the week of July 3–8, 1997 an international conference on *Mathematical Methods for Curves and Surfaces* was held at Lillehammer, Norway. The conference was attended by 144 mathematicians from 29 countries. There were 9 one hour survey talks, 32 talks in 8 minisymposia, and 75 contributed research talks. This volume contains papers based on the invited lectures, along with 47 full length refereed research papers. Unfortunately, there was not enough space to include all of the papers presented at the conference.

Topics discussed in this book include Bézier curves and surfaces, bivariate splines, blending canal surfaces, cascade algorithms, constructing patches, convexity preservation, curve design, cyclides, de Casteljau's algorithm, elastic splines, fairing, fractal modelling, generalized B-splines, global illumination, image processing, interpolation, iterative refinement of triangulations, nested finite elements, parametric curves, quasi-interpolants, rational curves, refinable splines, reverse engineering, spherical PH-curves, spherical data fitting, spline interpolation, subdivision, surface reconstruction, variational splines, and wavelets.

As a new innovation, this volume includes an automatically generated *index* which points to the author-emphasized words in the various papers. The user should be aware that no attempt has been made to find all appearances of a given word — a reference is included only if the word was specifically marked by some author.

We would like to thank SINTEF, The Research Council of Norway, and the University of Oslo for their support of the conference. We would like to thank Mariane Rein, Ewald Quak, and Frederik Tyvand for their help in organizing and running the conference. Finally, we are also grateful to Gerda Schumaker for her help with preparing the proceedings.

Nashville, January 9, 1998