## **Preface to the eleventh Takagi Lectures**

The Takagi Lectures are expository lectures by the finest contemporary mathematicians.

The Mathematical Society of Japan (MSJ) inaugurated the Takagi Lectures as prestigious research survey lectures. The Takagi Lectures are the first series of the MSJ—official lectures in mathematics to be honored with this respected Japanese mathematician's name [2]. The lectures are intended for a wide range of mathematicians, and are as a rule held twice a year. The first Takagi Lectures took place in November 2006 at RIMS, Kyoto. Since then Takagi Lectures have been delivered by the following distinguished mathematicians: Y. Benoist, S. Bloch, J.-P. Bourguignon, S. Brendle, A. Connes, É. Ghys, S. Gukov, M. Harris, M. Hopkins, U. Jannsen, C. Khare, C. Kenig, M. Khovanov, M. Kontsevich, P.-L. Lions, J. Makino, P. Malliavin, D. McDuff, J. McKernan, A. Naor, K.-H. Neeb, N.A. Nekrasov, H. Ooguri, S. Smale, O. Viro, D.-V. Voiculescu, C. Voisin, and M. Yor.

The Takagi Lectures bear the name of the principal creator of Class Field Theory and the father of modern mathematical Professor Teiji Takagi (1875–1960). In Japan, he is also known as the founder of the Japanese School of modern mathematics [1,3]. Internationally, he served as one of the first Fields Medal Committee Members in 1936 together with G.D. Birkhoff, É. Cartan, C. Carathéodory, and F. Severi.

The eleventh Takagi Lectures are to be held in cooperation with the University of Tokyo on November 17–18, 2012 with the distinguished lecturers P.F. Baum, A. Lubotzky, and R. Seiringer.

The lecture notes of the Takagi Lectures are to be published by the *Japanese Journal of Mathematics* (JJM). It is the oldest continuously published mathematical journal in Japan (founded in 1924) and its third series was relaunched in 2006 as a mathematical journal of research survey articles of the highest scientific level in cooperation with Springer. The editors of JJM, Y. Kawahigashi,

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H. Nakajima, K. Ono, T. Saito, and myself also serve as the organizers of the Takagi Lectures. The videos of the lectures will be available on the Internet.

This scheme of the Takagi Lectures is intended to support its mission to continue the advancement of mathematics, not only in Japan but throughout the world.

The Takagi Lectures are financially supported by the surplus from the International Congress of Mathematicians, which was held in Kyoto in 1990, with funding provided by the MSJ.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank the distinguished lecturers and all those who have supported our endeavors. I hope that the Takagi Lectures will gain the respect of a worldwide audience and will continue to promote future progress in mathematics.

Toshiyuki Kobayashi The University of Tokyo



Teiji Takagi (1875–1960)

## Biography of Teiji Takagi

1875.4.21	Born in Gifu Prefecture, Japan
1894	Entered the Department of Mathematics, Imperial University of Tokyo
1897	Entered the Graduate School of the same university
1898-1901	Studied in Berlin and Göttingen
1903	Received the degree of Doctor of Science from the Imperial University
	of Tokyo
1904	Appointed Professor at the Imperial University of Tokyo
1920	Published his main paper on the class field theory
1925	Elected Member of the Imperial Academy of Japan
1936	Served on the 1st Fields Medal Committee
1938	Published the book A Course on Analysis (in Japanese)
1940	Received Culture Medal
1960.2.28	Died at the Hospital of Tokyo University
Decorated posthumously with the Order of the Rising Sun of the First Grade	

## References

- [1] S. Iyanaga, Chronological synopsis of the life of Teiji Takagi. In: Teiji Takagi Collected Papers, Second Enlarged Edition, Springer-Verlag Tokyo, 1990.
- [2] T. Kobayashi, On the establishment of the Takagi Lectures. Japan. J. Math., 2 (2007), 145–148.
- [3] K. Miyake, Teiji Takagi, Founder of the Japanese School of Modern Mathematics. Japan. J. Math., 2 (2007), 151–164.