

## Preface

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This second part of the special issue of the *Journal of Computational Methods in Sciences and Engineering* (JCMSE) contains a selection of refereed papers from the Computational and Mathematical Methods for Science and Engineering Conference (CMMSE-2002) held at Alicante University, Spain, during 20–25 September 2002. There were nearly 180 participants at the conference in six parallel sessions, ten of whom gave keynote addresses as part of the general program for CMMSE-2002.

Conferences in computational mathematics have become specialized; in the midst of these and other successful annual conferences there is a niche left for unifying, cross-cutting, inter-disciplinary gatherings, such as CMMSE-2002, where specialists can have exposure to others fields, as well as a chance to meet new people in their area of research and to participate in special sessions different from, but still close to, their interests. We hope that this motivating feature of the meeting, as well as some of the new and emerging topics of research discussed in Alicante, for example in computational physics, chemistry, engineering, and economics, are reflected in this special issue.

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