CONGRATULATIONS TO ACADEMICIAN ZHONG-CI SHI ON HIS $70^{\rm th}$ BIRTHDAY

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This special issue of the Journal of Computational Mathematics is dedicated to Professor Zhong-Ci Shi, an outstanding mathematician and the academician of Chinese Academy of Sciences (CAS), on the occasion of his seventieth birthday.

Professor Zhong-Ci Shi was born on 5 December 1933 in Ningbo, Zhejiang Province. Shortly after graduating from the Department of Mathematics of Fudan University in 1955, he became a member of the earliest research group on computational methods in China headed by Professor Luo-geng Hua at the Institute of Mathematics of the CAS. In 1956, he was selected by the Institute to study computational mathematics at the Steklov Institute of Mathematics in Moscow. After returning to China in 1960, he worked in the Institute of Computing Technology of the CAS where he played an important role in the establishment and development of computational mathematics in China under the direction of Professor Kang Feng. From 1961 to 1986, he worked in the University of Science and Technology of China (USTC), where he held several positions including the Chairman of Department of Mathematics and the Director of Computer Center of the USTC. Professor Shi returned to Beijing in 1987 and since then he has been working in the Computing Center of the CAS and the Institute of Computational Mathematics of the CAS. He was the Director of the Computing Center (1987-91) and the Director of the State Key Laboratory of Scientific and Engineering Computing (1991-95). He is now the Chairman of the Scientific Committee in the Institute of Computational Mathematics of the CAS and the Dean of the College of Science in Shanghai Jiaotong University.

Professor Shi has made profound and significant contributions in many areas of scientific computing, including finite element methods, domain decomposition methods and multigrid methods, which are well represented in this special issue. His achievements in the development of nonconforming finite element methods have been particularly recognized by the community. Many of Professor Shi's research topics are reflected in the papers of this special issue written by his collaborators, former students, and friends. He is not only a leading research scientist, but also an energetic leader for the computational mathematics community in China. He was the chief scientist of the State Key Project "Large Scale Scientific and Engineering Computing Research" (1993-99) and has been the President of the Chinese Computational Mathematics Society since 1994.

Professor Shi has strong organization ability. He has organized numerous national and international academic conferences. In particular, he is the founder on the Chinese side for the series conferences on computational mathematics between China and Japan, China and Korea, and China and Sweden. As the Editorin-Chief of the three major research journals on computational mathematics in China, namely "Journal of Computational Mathematics" (JCM), "Mathematical Numerical Sinica", and "Journal on Numerical Methods and Computer Applications", he has been instrumental to keep the journals' standard high. Moreover, he has served on the editorial board of a dozen of other academic journals abroad and at home, including "Numerische Mathematik", and "Science in China".

Professor Shi has received many honors and awards, including the Alexan-

der von Humboldt Foundation Fellowship (1981-83, 1985, 1994), the Natural Science Awards of the CAS (1980, 1986), National Natural Science Award of China (1987), the Science and Technology Progress Award of Ho leung Ho lee Foundation (2000). He was named a Middle-Aged Expert with Distinguished Contributions by the Ministry of Labor and Personnel of China in 1986. In 2003, he was awarded the Hua Luo-geng Mathematics Prize, the highest mathematics prize in China, by the Chinese Mathematical Society. In 1991, he was elected as the academician of the Chinese Academy of Sciences. He has been invited to visit over twenty countries for research collaborations, and delivered numerous invited talks in national and international academic conferences.

Professor Shi not only devotes much of his energy in research and leadership, but also enjoys training students. He was one of the earliest PhD supervisors in the field of computational mathematics in China and has produced many high quality students, most of them are now active researchers in the field of computational and applied mathematics around the world. He has always offer encouragements to younger generations to do high quality research in mathematics. For this purpose, he along with other senior members established the Feng Kang Prize in Scientific Computing to honor young mathematicians making important research contributions. The prize has been awarded every two years since 1993 and is now well recognized in the scientific computing community. Professor Shi serves as the Chairman of the selection committee in the past six terms.

Professor Shi is an outstanding representative of the Chinese community of computational mathematics. He has a deep knowledge on the trend of computational mathematics and always works at the forefront of research. He emphasizes practical applications of the theory to real-world problems. He is scrupulous, hardworking, and a scholar full of dedication.

Sincerely, we wish Professor Shi good health, joy, and happiness!