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Mathematical Economics

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INTRODUCTION

In the last few years an ever increasing interest has been shown by economists and mathematicians in deepening and multiplying the many links already existing between their areas of research. Economists are looking for more advanced mathematical techniques to be applied to the analysis of formal models of greater complexity; mathematicians have found in problems from economics the stimulus to start new directions of study and to explore different trends within their theories.

The principal aim of the CIME Session on "Mathematical Economics" held at Villa La Querceta in Montecatini Terme, Italy, from June 25 to July 3 1986, has been the one of offering scholars from the two fields an opportunity of meeting and working together.

The common base of discussion was provided by four survey courses - whose texts are contained in the present volume - which were given by I. Ekeland "Some Variational Methods Arising from Mathematical Economics", A. Mas-Colell "Differentiability Techniques in the Theory of General Economic Equilibrium", J. Scheinkman "Dynamic General Equilibrium Models" and S. Zamir "Topics in Non Cooperative Game Theory".

Even if Ekeland's and Zamir's lectures were more "mathematically oriented", whereas Mas-Colell and Scheinkman put a greater emphasis on the economical contents, in every class, the focus of the discussion was placed over the connections naturally arising between problems from the two sciences.

It's our feeling that the Session was very successful in reaching its intended objectives, and we wish to express our gratitude to the four speakers, for the extremely high quality of the lectures delivered and the stimulating atmosphere they were able to create in Montecatini, and to all the participants, who supported the meeting with their interest and their lively discussions.

Our final thanks go to the CIME Scientific Committee for the invitation to organize the courses and to the CIME staff for its very effective job.

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C.I.M.E. Session on "Mathematical Economics"

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