A GENERALIZATION OF KUMMER’S CONGRUENCES AND RELATED RESULTS


AMS Classification numbers: 11B68, 11B48, 11B80

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Our home during the Conference was a University dormitory. John Burnet Hall, formerly a hotel, and still providing the comfort of such. Colleges and Universities have the reputation of offering dull, institutionalized fare. Our food, taken at the dorm’s cafeteria, constituted an enjoyable counterexample.

St Andrews is an ancient institution. And during its nearly six centuries of existence, it has maintained vigorous scholarly impact across the whole academic spectrum. St. Andrews has been called “a gem of a University”—uniquely Scottish by history and beautiful location, yet unusually cosmopolitan.

The Conference’s social events rounded off, and enhanced, our academic sessions. The traditional mid-conference’s afternoon excursion took us to Falkland, a Renaissance Palace, which grew out of the medieval Falkland Castle. At once did we get lured into the quaintness of an historically rich palace and became enchanted by the charming multi-coloredness of the garden.

To convey the congenial and happy atmosphere at our Conference—dinner adequately would require a vocabulary far richer than mine. Interspersed with inspirational short talks and remarks, animated by delicious banquet fare and, most of all, by having our whole group gathered together, it was simply delightful.

And, finally, the Conference itself.

Erudite and always carefully prepared papers ranged over the heights and depths of “purity” and “applicability,” once more illustrating the startling way in which these two facets of mathematics are duals of each other. And while we speak with many different accents, we understand each other on a much more significant level. Almost immediately, friendships blossomed or ripened, as the love of our discipline and the enthusiasm for it were written over all the faces of the “Fibonacci’s” as some of us like to refer to ourselves. That one week in Scotland, kindled by the serenity of the Scottish landscape and enhanced by the spirit of our Scottish hosts and co-mathematicians, gave us experiences which were both mentally enriching and personally heartwarming.

Finally, it was “farewell.” But it is with much happiness that we can say: “Auf Wiedersehen in two years at Pullman, Washington.”

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