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4. Branched covers of S_n . Goldsmith's result; References; A_1^* -fibrations on affine threefolds; Introduction; 1. Preliminaries; 2. A_1^* -fibration; 3. Homology threefolds with A_1^* -fibrations; 4. Contractible affine threefolds with A_1^* -fibrations; References; Acknowledgements; Miyanishi's characterization of singularities appearing on A_1^* -fibrations does not hold in higher dimensions; 1. Introduction; 2. Preliminaries; 3. Proof of Theorem 1.2; 3.1.; 3.2.; 3.2.1.; 3.3.; 3.4.; 3.5.; 3.5.1.; 3.5.2.; 3.6.; 3.6.1.; 3.6.2.; Acknowledgements; References

A Galois counterexample to Hilbert's Fourteenth Problem in dimension three with rational coefficients 1. Introduction; 2. Invariant field; 3. Kuroda's construction; 4. Proof of Theorem 1.2; Acknowledgments; References; Open algebraic surfaces of logarithmic Kodaira dimension one; 0. Introduction; 1. Preliminary results; 2. Structure of open algebraic surfaces of $\kappa = 1$; 3. Logarithmic plurigenera of normal affine surfaces of $\kappa = 1$; Acknowledgements; References; Some properties of C^* in C^2 ; 0. Introduction; 1. Preliminaries; 2. Basic inequality 3. Separation of branches I: The branches are tangent at infinity 4. Separation of branches II: The branches separate on the first blowing up; References; Acknowledgements; Abhyankar-Sathaye Embedding Conjecture for a geometric case; 1. Introduction; 2. Preliminaries; 3. Proof of Theorem 1.1; Acknowledgments; References; Some subgroups of the Cremona groups; 1. Introduction; 2. Flattening, linearizability, tori; 3. Subgroups of the rational de Jonquieres groups; 4. Affine subspaces as cross-sections; References; The gonality of singular plane curves II; 1. Introduction; 2. Preliminaries 3. Proof of Theorem 1

Sommario/riassunto

The present volume grew out of an international conference on affine algebraic geometry held in Osaka, Japan during 3-6 March 2011 and is dedicated to Professor Masayoshi Miyanishi on the occasion of his 70th birthday. It contains 16 refereed articles in the areas of affine algebraic geometry, commutative algebra and related fields, which have been the working fields of Professor Miyanishi for almost 50 years. Readers will be able to find recent trends in these areas too. The topics contain both algebraic and analytic, as well as both affine and projective, problems. All the results treated in
