



## Encontro Nacional da SPM

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One of the aftermaths due to the pandemic crisis was the revocation of the Encontro Nacional da SPM (ENSPM) 2020 that should have been done in the beautiful city of Tomar, in July 2020. After advances and setbacks and numerous doubts faced by the newly elected directive board of the SPM, in September 2020, finally it was established that 2021 would not end without a remarkable ENSPM! Nevertheless, it was getting clearer that a face-to-face meeting was out of the question and SPM gathered all its strength, will and energy to make an unforgettable meeting with the presence of outstanding scientists. Despite the fact that the distance learning skills grew in each day it was clear that a meeting of this magnitude needed professional advice and so, avoiding at any cost, the emergence of murphy's law statement: "Anything that can go wrong will go wrong!". This was precisely the moment when most of the Mathematical Research Centers all over Portugal joined efforts providing an essential help in order to make our dream come true. One of these Centers was Centro Internacional de Matemática, which reinforced the already solid partnership with SPM. The meeting unfolded from 12-16 July 2021, with almost 800 participants and 19 Invited Parallel Sessions organized

mainly by mathematicians working in the country and developing research with significant impact in the world. There were almost 50 Parallel Sessions proposals with a quite active participation of the national community, but also with a substantial interest from foreign researchers. Several courses, to be attended by secondary school teachers, made this meeting transversal to the entire community at all levels of education. Anyway, the cherry on top of the cake were the plenary talks where 18 world class scientists from a wide range of different areas of mathematics, from pedagogy, computer science and history of science, gifted us with amazing lectures. In overall, it will be forever in our memory the jingles before plenary talks, the graphic environment, the bouncy emojis emphasizing our excitement after a thrilling explanation and the feeling of closeness with personalities with huge impact in science nowadays treading the path of the future! In 2022 there will be a face-to-face ENSPM in Tomar, we will be together again but a seed was planted and the impact of the online meeting ENSPM 2021 certainly caused a paradigm change and things will no longer be the same.

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