

**Forward:**  
**A volume dedicated to Bjarni Jónsson**  
**on the occasion of his seventieth birthday**

**The Jónsson Symposium**

Bjarni Jónsson has played a leading role in the development of lattice theory, universal algebra, and algebraic logic for nearly forty years, contributing much to the present-day vitality of these fields. It was inevitable that as his 70th birthday approached, the idea would occur to many people to use the occasion for an international symposium, not only to recognize and celebrate his fundamental contributions, but to assess the present status of these fields and provide a forum for the broadest possible exchange of ideas and results at the leading edge of research.

Organized by an international committee, the Jónsson Symposium took place in Laugarvatn, Iceland, July 2–6, 1990. The scientific program of the Symposium consisted of 19 plenary addresses, 6 fifty-minute lectures, 24 thirty-minute lectures, and three problem sessions. The 32 papers in this present collection, all dedicated to Bjarni Jónsson, arose largely in connection with the Symposium. The Jónsson Symposium attracted 77 participants from 14 countries.

**Concerning Bjarni Jónsson**

Bjarni Jónsson was born in Draghals, Iceland in 1920. He obtained his Ph.D. in Mathematics in 1946 from the University of California at Berkeley, under the supervision of Alfred Tarski. He held positions at Brown University and the University of Minnesota before becoming Distinguished Professor of Mathematics at Vanderbilt University in 1966. Bjarni Jónsson was awarded the Harvie Branscomb Distinguished Professorship at Vanderbilt in 1974, the Earl Sutherland Prize in 1982, and an Honorary Doctorate from the University of Iceland in 1986. He is an editor of the *Houston Journal of Mathematics* and serves on the editorial boards of two other mathematical journals: *Order* and *Algebra Universalis*. Jónsson has presented major addresses at many mathematical conferences, including the

Tarski Symposium (held at Berkeley in 1971), the International Congress of Mathematicians (Vancouver, 1974), the NATO Advanced Study Institute on Ordered Sets (Banff, 1981), and the Banaschewski Symposium (McMaster University, 1986).

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Brian Davey	Alan Day	Halldór Elíasson	Matthew Gould
Christian Herrmann	William Lampe	Ralph McKenzie	George McNulty
J. B. Nation	Alden Pixley	Ivo Rosenberg	Jiri Sichler
Ragnar Sigurdsson	Jón R. Stefánsson	Rudolf Wille	

The Program Committee, chaired by Rudolf Wille, consisted of:

Garrett Birkhoff	Béla Csákány	Ervin Fried	George Grätzer
George McNulty	Don Monk	B. H. Neumann	Rudolf Wille

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George F. McNulty  
Symposium Organizing Committee Chair  
and Special Volume Editor

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11. *On isomorphism types of groups and other algebraic systems*, Math. Scand. 5 (1957), 224–229.
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