Preface

In August 2009 we organized the fifth Franco–Japanese Symposium on Singularities at the Department of Mathematics of Strasbourg University. This symposium followed the fourth one held in Toyama, Japan, two years before. The first day we scheduled a *JSPS Forum on Singularities and Applications*, and some applications of singularity theory in physics, medicine and statistics were presented. The following days we had a conference; there were advanced talks in topology, algebraic geometry and complex geometry, and recent results on singularities were discussed.

In this volume we collected some research papers from participants of the conference and surveys of some talks in the JSPS Forum. Moreover we add two lecture notes of T. Suwa and S. Yokura. All papers in this volume have been refereed and are in final form. We hope that this book will give an opportunity to readers to get a deeper understanding of the marvelous field of Singularities.

On behalf of the editors of this proceedings, we would like to express our thanks to Strasbourg University, JSPS, CNRS, Region Alsace and CEEJA, for their support, and to all contributors for the proceedings and the participants of the symposium.

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