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Ron Graham* (graham@ucsd.edu), CSE 2138, UCSD, La Jolla, CA 92093-0404. *The Erdos-Szekeres theorem*. Preliminary report.

In 1935, Erdos and Szekeres published the seminal paper "A combinatorial theorem in geometry". This paper contained the seeds of many new and interesting combinatorial ideas, not the least of which was an independent discovery Ramsey's theorem (which was unknown to the authors at that time). In this talk, I will describe some of the history of this paper as well as some of the more recent developments arising from it. (Received August 05, 2008)