

## Commemoration

### In memoriam: Vasile Oproiu

(8 September 1941 - 29 March 2020)

Professor Vasile Oproiu, a well known representative of the Iași school of mathematics, was a geometer with a prestigious international activity, which brought an important contribution to the development of Differential Geometry.



Born on 8-th September 1941 in Romania, at Vulcana-Pandele - Dâmbovița county, he studied at the school of Pucioasa and, in 1964, graduated from the Faculty of Mathematics, "Al. I. Cuza" University of Iași. He spent a very fruitful time of his life between 1964 and 1970, as a researcher of the Institute of Mathematics in Iași, period in which he received his PhD degree in 1968, with the thesis "*Connections compatible with some G-structures and structures of higher order*", under the supervision of professor Gheorghe Gheorghiev. In 1970, he became a member of the Department of Geometry and Topology in "Al. I. Cuza" University of Iași. He was the recipient of a scholarship in Naples, Italy in 1972. Because of the restrictions of that time, he eventually became a full professor only in 1990 (after the revolution). He retired in 2006, and in 2008, he became a Professor Emeritus. He had several administrative positions (such as Department Head, Director of the "Al. Myller" Mathematical Seminar, and so on), was a PhD supervisor, and created a school of Differential Geometry.

With an extensive scientific activity on the Differential Geometry of  $G$ -structures, geometry of the fiber bundles (tangent, cotangent and bundles of higher order), Lagrange spaces, professor Vasile Oproiu published cornerstone scientific papers in international journals, having his results cited by various authors in the world. In mathematical literature, he introduced "*the Oproiu metrics*", which are special Riemannian structures on the total space of the tangent bundle, obtained from a Riemannian structure of the base manifold.

Professor Oproiu is the author of 8 books, two of them (in collaboration with Gh. Gheorghiev) being edited by the publishing house of Romanian Academy, for which he obtained the "*Gheorghe Țițeica*" prize of the Romanian Academy in 1976. Later, in 2006, he was awarded the "*Dimitrie Mangeron*" prize for his entire activity. He was a member of several mathematical societies, such as AMS, European Mathematical Society, Unione Matematica Italiana, Tensor Society, etc. Professor Vasile Oproiu was a guest of some universities as visiting professor in Italy, Poland and Germany. He gave lectures in several universities and took part in numerous international conferences.

His death, on 29-th March 2020, devastated his family and the mathematical community of Iași. Professor Vasile Oproiu will be cherished in our memories.

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