

Commemoration

In memoriam: Aurel Bejancu

(19 August 1946 - 3 April 2020)

One of the most famous geometers in the field of submanifolds was professor Aurel Bejancu.

He was born on 19-th August 1946 in Romania, Novaci, Gorj county. Later, giving course to his gift in mathematics, he studied at the Faculty of Mathematics, "Al. I. Cuza" University of Iași during 1963-1968. He continued his education as a recipient of a scholarship in U.K. Having professor Gh. Gheorghiev as supervisor, he obtained his PhD in 1972. After graduation, in 1968, he became a researcher of the Institute of Mathematics in Iași, until this Institute was shut down due to political reasons, in 1978. After that, he occupied a position of lecturer at the department of mathematics, "Gh. Asachi" Technical University of Iași, Romania, where he taught courses in different fields of mathematics. The revolution, in 1990, gave him the opportunity to become full professor. He was also head of department in Iași and then, in 1998, he became professor in Kuwait, until his retirement in 2016. He was a Ph D supervisor both in Romania and Kuwait.



Professor Bejancu introduced in mathematics the concept of CR-submanifold, which generalizes both the notions of invariant, and anti-invariant, submanifolds. He published a huge number of research papers in very famous mathematical journals, (e.g., J. Diff. Geom., TAMS, PAMS, etc.), in a wide area of mathematics, such as the theory of submanifolds, Finsler and Lagrange geometry, foliations, lightlike submanifolds in semi-Riemannian manifolds, supermanifolds, gauge theory and so on. For his ability of mathematical teaching and research, he was invited as a visiting professor in USA, Spain, Canada etc. He jointly published scientific works with several collaborators (e.g., with K. Yano and M. Kon), was invited to deliver lectures in many international conferences and was an editor in several journals abroad.

Professor Bejancu is famous for his more than 10 books published in prestigious publishing houses among which Springer, Kluwer and North Holland. He was awarded the Prize of the Romanian Academy.

Professor Aurel Bejancu was an example of a mathematician who worked in difficult conditions (because the lack of documentation, the isolation, etc.), but succeeded to overcome all these difficulties and to produce sound results.

On 3-rd April 2020, the field of Mathematics lost a great differential geometer, when professor Aurel Bejancu passed away. Nevertheless, he transferred his passion for mathematics to his students and to his son, Aurelian Bejancu, a reputed specialist in approximation theory.

Prof. Dr. Cornelia-Livia Bejan

"Gh. Asachi" Technical University of Iași, Romania