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PROFESSOR VICENŢIU RĂDULESCU CELEBRATES HIS SIXTIETH ANNIVERSARY

This special issue marks the 60th anniversary of Professor Vicenţiu Rădulescu. It is a great honour to act as guest editors for this anniversary volume that celebrates more than 30 years of his activity devoted to mathematics.

Professor Vicenţiu Rădulescu was born on 11 May 1958 in Caracal, Romania. He graduated from Faculty of Mathematics at University of Craiova in 1982. The collapse of the Easter European communism in 1989 opened new opportunities for young and promising Romanian mathematicians. In 1991, Professor Rădulescu successfully applied for a PhD scholarship in Paris at the prestigious Université Pierre et Marie Curie (Paris VI) under the supervision of the distinguished Professor Haïm Brezis, member of the French Academy and of the National Academy of Sciences. In June 1995, Professor Rădulescu was awarded the doctoral degree with the thesis [24]: *Analyse de quelques problèmes liés à l'équation de Ginzburg-Landau*. The examination committee consisted of well renowned mathematicians: Haïm Brezis (advisor), Fabrice Bethuel, Thierry Cazenave, Doina Cioranescu, Alain Haraux, Frédéric Hélein and L.A. Peletier. For his thesis, he received the best mention: *très honorable avec félicitations*.

For the next years Professor Rădulescu occupied several academic positions at Faculty of Mathematics and Computer Science at University of Craiova being a Full Profesor since 1998. Here he set high standards in both reseach and teaching and innitiated various programs of collaboration with mathematical centres in Europe, especially from France (Amiens, Paris, Savoie, Pau), Italy (Perugia, Rome, Milano, Pisa), Poland and Slovenia.

In February 2003, Professor Vicenţiu Rădulescu obtained the *Habilitation à Diriger des Recherches* [25] at the Université Pierre et Marie Curie (Paris VI) with the mémoire: *Analyse de quelques problèmes aux limites elliptiques non linéaires*. Since 2007 he is a Professorial Fellow at the Institute of Mathematics "Simion Stoilow" of the Romanian Academy and beginning with 2008 he is a member of the Scientific Board of the CNRS Franco-Romanian joint programme between the Laboratoire de Mathématiques de l'Université Paris-Sud (Orsay) and the "Simion Stoilow" Mathematics Institute of the Romanian Academy. Since 2014, Professor Rădulescu is member of the *Accademia Peloritana dei Pericolanti*, Messina, and since 2015 he is Senior Research Fellow, City University of Hong Kong. Beginning with 2017, Professor Rădulescu is member of the *Accademia delle Scienze dell'Umbria*, Perugia.

Professor Vicenţiu Rădulescu is the recipient of the Simion Stoilow Prize of the Romanian Academy in 1999 and of Prize for Excellence in Research of the Romanian Research Council in 2007. In 2009 he was named the Best Associate Editor of the Journal of Mathematical Analysis and Applications and in 2013 he receiveid the

Award of the Editors-in-Chief of the Journal of Mathematical Analysis and Applications for his editorial activity. In 2014, Professor Rădulescu became a *Highly Cited Researcher* and in the same year The Chinese Academy of Sciences and Thomson Reuters included him in the 2014 list of The World's Most Influential Scientific Minds.

To date, Professor Vicenţiu Rădulescu is Associate Editor or Member of the Editorial Board to several journals: *Nonlinear Analysis: Theory, Methods and Applications (Elsevier), Journal of Mathematical Analysis and Applications (Elsevier), Complex Variables and Elliptic Equations (Taylor & Francis), Advances in Pure and Applied Mathematics (de Gruyter), Electronic Journal of Differential Equations, Opuscula Mathematica*. He is the co-founder in 2012 of the journal *Advances in Nonlinear Analysis*, a highly ranked publication in mathematics. Professor Rădulescu is the Acquisition Editor at De Gruyter Open Book Publishing Program in Mathematics and the Editor of the Mathematics in Science and Engineering Book Series at Academic Press.

His prominent and longstanding contribution to various fields of mathematics comprises

- nonlinear partial differential equations of elliptic type;
- degenerate and singular phenomena in mathematical physics;
- topological and variational methods with applications to partial differential equations and unilateral problems;
- bifurcation theory and applications to mathematical physics, chemistry, and mathematical biology;
- spectral analysis for non-homogeneous differential operators and applications to electrorheological fluids and image processing;
- equilibrium problems and applications.

Particularly, he brought novel methods in the study of boundary blow-up solutions [1], [7], singular elliptic equations and systems [2], [4], [6], [7], variational methods [3], [9], [13], [27], multiplicity of solutions for elliptic partial differential equations [14], [15], [16], [18], quasilinear equations [17], [20], [21], [22], nonlocal fractional elliptic operators [11], [12], [29], [30].

Currently, Professor Rădulescu has published more that 300 research papers in peer reviewed journals and 20 textbooks and research monographs among which we mention [7], [8], [9], [10], [13], [19], [26], [28]. We also point out his impressive activity as editor of volumes or special issues such as [23], [31], [32].

On a personal side, his qualities of commitment, modesty and integrity leave an abiding impression on his colleagues, students and friends.

This volume stems from the scientific works presented at the Conference on Recent Advances in Nonlinear Analysis held in Levico Terme, Italy, in 2018. The broad areas covered at this event lie at the inteface between nonlinear PDEs, calculus of variations and mathematical physics and reflect the influence Professor Rădulescu has had on various fields of nonlinear analysis. It contains carefully selected contributions from curent and past collaborators, former students and mathematicians inspired by his innovative ideas.

The guest editors thank all authors of this special issue. They would also like to thank all the referees for their time, willingness and constructive reviews on the papers. Last but not least, the guest editors thank the Editor-in-Chief, Professor Alain Miranville, for hosting our special issue on the Discrete and Continuous Dynamical Systems Series S journal.

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