

IN MEMORIAM



Andrey Nikolov Todorov
(1948–2012)

We are deeply saddened to announce that our colleague **Andrey Nikolov Todorov** unexpectedly passed away at the end of March, 2012.

Professor Andrey Todorov, PhD, was born on May 04, 1948, in Sofia, Bulgaria. He graduated in mathematics from M.V. Lomonosov Moscow State University in 1971 and became a doctoral student of Igor Rostislavovich Shafarevich. In 1976, after defending at Moscow State University a doctoral thesis on the Jordan decomposition of the monodromy operator and its application to moduli of $K3$ surfaces, he received a Ph.D. in physical and mathematical sciences. In 1976 he also became a research associate at the Department of Algebra of the Institute of Mathematics of the Bulgarian Academy of Sciences. He had been an associate professor at this department since 1984. He had been a member of the Staff of the Department of Mathematics of the University of California, Santa Cruz, for 15 years, where he retired as a professor in 2008.

Andrey Todorov is one of the most prominent contemporary Bulgarian mathematicians. He was a visiting professor at Harvard and Columbia Universities, and at the Institute of Advanced Studies in Princeton. He also organized seminars and taught lecture courses at a number of other world-renowned universities and research institutes.

The research interests of Andrey Todorov were in the field of algebraic geometry. He was one of the pioneers of algebraic geometry in Bulgaria. Most of the Bulgarian algebraic geometers have entered the area under his guidance. His main contributions were in the study of Calabi-Yau manifolds and their moduli spaces, and in particular, moduli of K3-surfaces. The Bogomolov-Tian-Todorov theorem on the existence of Weil-Petersson metric and the smoothness of moduli spaces of Calabi-Yau manifolds is not only one of the most important results in deformation theory but also a cornerstone of the mathematical study of the mirror symmetry conjecture from string theory. Andrey Todorov was an author or a coauthor of a series of original, first-class results on the Torelli problem, the Shafarevich conjecture and others.

The mathematical community in Bulgaria lost a colleague and a friend who left indelible memories of his contagious optimism, energy and enthusiasm.

From the Department of Algebra and Logic
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