

Mathematics – the borderless passion of Jaroslav Zemánek

Iwona Wróbel

Warsaw University of Technology, Poland

Abstract

This talk is dedicated to professor Jaroslav Zemánek (03.09.1946 - 18.02.2017). A great mathematician, he first worked in Mathematical Institute of the Czechoslovak Academy of Sciences and then in Mathematical Institute of the Polish Academy of Sciences. He was an author of over 70 scientific papers, winner of several scientific awards (for instance Banach Prize of the Polish Mathematical Society, in 1987), member of editorial board of several journals, a mentor of 7 PhD students. I had an honour to be one of them.



Jaroslav Zemánek (03.09.1946 - 18.02.2017)

I first met Jaroslav Zemánek in 2001, when I was looking for someone patient enough to be a supervisor of my PhD thesis. After I finished it, we continued to have mathematical discussions and in time we became friends.

Mathematical interests of Jaroslav Zemánek were very broad, including mainly linear operators, Banach algebras, complex analysis, algebra, history of mathematics. And matrix theory, for instance topics related to localization of spectrum. I do not have enough knowledge to tell about everything. In this talk I will describe a couple of questions we were working on together, mostly related to matrices. Some of them remained open.

I will also briefly sketch biography of Jaroslav Zemánek, his interests, mathematical and other, mention some of the events he organized, his Operator Theory Seminars, the (somewhat unique) conference in Jurata, in 2010, and also tell about Jaroslav as I knew him.



Jaroslav Zemánek and his beloved wife Barbara. Behind them the second love of his life – books. The photo was taken in Jaroslav and Barbara's apartment in Warsaw.



Jaroslav Zemánek in his free time, during one of his many travels.