Ioan Raşa: author, coauthor, friend

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Dedicated to Professor Ioan Raşa on the occasion of his 70th birthday

Abstract

The collaborators dedicate this issue to Ioan Raşa on the occasion of his 70th birthday. Ioan has made many important contributions to Approximation Theory and beyond. Here I briefly recall some of his experiences with friends and coauthors.

From 1971 to 1976 Ioan studied at Babes-Bolyai University of Cluj-Napoca, graduating with a Master's degree. He received his PhD at the same University in 1982. Meanwhile he started a research activity resulting in several papers, many of them coauthored with several friends from Italy, Germany, Spain, France, Israel, Poland, China, Croatia, Russia, Turkey, India, Romania. Ioan works in Approximation Theory and Functional Analysis (see *F. Altomare, M. Cappelletti Montano, V. Leonessa, I. Rasa, Markov Operators, Positive Semigroups and Approximation Processes, Walter de Gruyter, Berlin, Munich, Boston, 2014*), Ulam Stability (see *J. Brzdek, D. Popa, I. Rasa, B. Xu, Ulam stability of operators, Academic Press, Dordrecht, 2018*) and Inequalities (see, e.g., his recent articles with Ulrich Abel and Dany Leviatan). Some of his conjectures were validated, others still wait for validation.

Figure 1: Professor Ioan Raşa

Ioan visited many Universities, in particular University of Bari (where he spent 2 years working with Francesco Altomare and his school), University of Duisburg-Essen (other 2 years, with Heiner Gonska) and University of Wuppertal (half of year, collaborating with Margareta Heilmann).

Ioan and me started a collaboration in 2010. We published several joint papers, some of them with other coauthors. In 2021 we met Stefano de Marchi and Gianluca Vinti at the 8th European Congress of Mathematics organized in Portoroz. The four of us met also in Sibiu at the International Conference on Approximation Theory and its Applications (ICATA), organized in 2022 and dedicated to Ioan. Step by step we identified topics of joint interest and this already led to some joint papers.

Starting from 1992 Ioan met at Maratea and other conferences the Spanish mathematicians Jesús de la Cal, Francisco Javier Muñoz-Delgado, José Antonio Adell, Daniel Cárdenas-Morales, Antonio-Jesús López-Moreno and their PhD students. Several joint papers resulted from such collaborations. Recently, I joined this team and the collaboration is going on.

Ioan likes to tell jokes and is addicted to literature. His favorite novel is *Il Gattopardo*. One reason is that the main character created by *Giuseppe Tomasi di Lampedusa* is a disguised mathematician illustrating the saying "*Mathematics is simple, mathematicians are complicated*".

Ioan, together with your collaborators and friends, we wish you all the best for your future life, a lot of health and happiness, and further scientific accomplishments. See you soon to other conferences!

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Figure 2: September 1990, with Francesco Altomare and Michele Campiti in Giovinazzo

Figure 3: May 2000, with Francesco Altomare in Trani
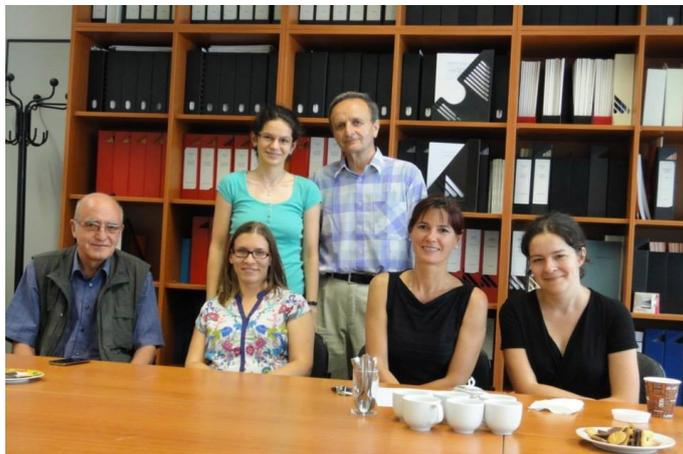
Figure 4: Duisburg 2012, with Heiner Gonska and his PhD students

Figure 5: April 2019, in Wuppertal. From left to right, Ulrich Abel, Margareta Heilmann, Ioan Rasa, Ana-Maria Acu and Elena Berdysheva

Figure 6: June 2021, in Portoroz Slovenia

Figure 7: Sibiu, ICATA 2022, the Conference dedicated to Ioan. From left to right, Ana-Maria Acu, Gianluca Vinti, Ioan Rasa, Mirella Cappelletti Montano, Stefano de Marchi and Margareta Heilmann

Figure 8: October 2022, in Jaén. Left to right, Antonio-Jesús López-Moreno, Ioan Raşa, Ana-Maria Acu and Francisco Javier Muñoz-Delgado

Figure 9: October 2022, in Jaén. Left to right, Ioan Raşa, Ana-Maria Acu, Pedro Garrancho, José Antonio Adell and Daniel Cárdenas-Morales