

## THE 100TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE BIRTH OF ACADEMICIAN BOGOLJUB STANKOVIĆ

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This issue of the journal “*Bulletin, Classe des Sciences Mathématiques et Naturelles, Sciences mathématiques*” (Serbian Academy of Sciences and Arts, Belgrade) consists of scientific articles dedicated to the 100th anniversary of the birth of academician Bogoljub Stanković, who was a longtime Editor-in-Chief of this journal.

Professor Bogoljub Stanković passed away in 2018, at the age of 94. He made an exceptional contribution to mathematics as a scientist and as a professor. His professional work in science and education institutions significantly contributed to the development of science and education in Serbia. He is the founder and pioneer of modern mathematical analysis in Serbia.

Bogoljub Stanković was born in 1924 in the Banat village of Botoš. As a high school student, he participated in gathering young people in the resistance movement against the occupation and collecting aid for those who were hiding across the Bačka region and resisting the occupier. He awaited freedom in the Dachau camp. Shortly before liberation, Stanković contracted typhus. He welcomed the entry of the American army in a semi-conscious state, completely exhausted.

He began his mathematics studies at the Faculty of Philosophy at the University of Belgrade in 1945, and graduated in 1949. He was selected as a fellow of the Mathematical Institute of the Serbian Academy of Sciences and Arts in 1948. Immediately after graduating in 1949, he became the first assistant trainee at the Mathematical Institute, where there was a very active scientific group led by academician Jovan Karamata, a disciple of Mihailo Petrović Alas.

He obtained his Ph.D. in Mathematics in 1954 under the mentorship of academician Jovan Karamata and academician Vojislav Avakumović. His scientific orientation towards modern areas of functional analysis was significantly influenced by his stay in Paris, so that he became interested in the modern theory of integral transformations. Upon his return, he founded a seminar in 1962 still active. Nowadays it is called seminar “Bogoljub Stanković”.

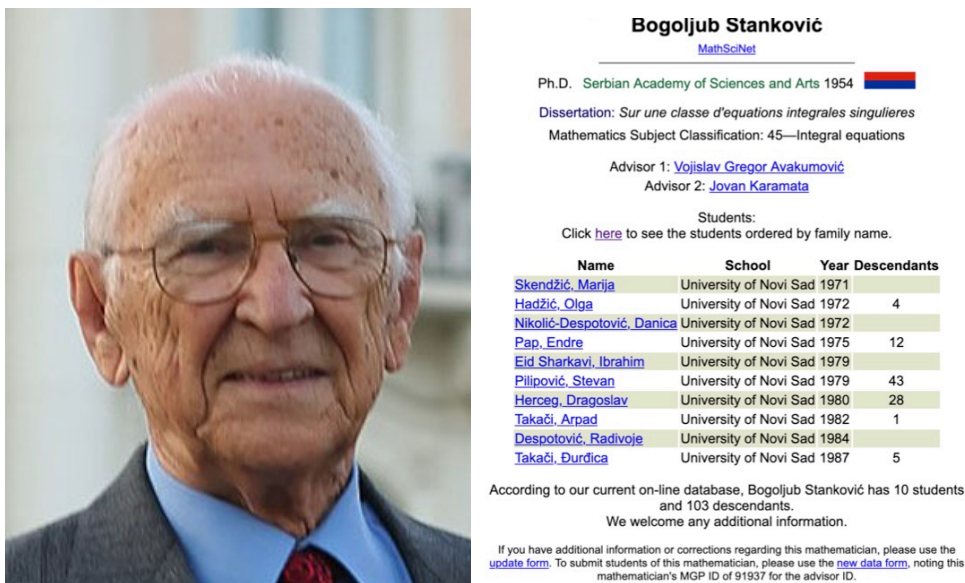


Figure 1: Academician Professor Bogoljub Stanković (1924–2018) and his PhD students

Professor Stanković’s main scientific contributions lie in the areas of the theory of Mikusiński operators, generalized integral transformations, generalized asymptotics, Abel and Tauber theorems, and in the last two decades, applications of fractional calculus in the study of viscoelastic bodies in mechanics. He published 4 monographs and around 150 papers. According to the MathSciNet, he had 15 co-authors, including academicians Theodor M. Atanacković (with 23 joint papers) and Stevan Pilipović (with 19 joint papers), while with the others he had only one or two joint works.

He was one of the founders of conferences dedicated to generalized functions – now known as the *Conferences on Generalized Functions*, the most significant in the areas that many Novi Sad mathematicians deal with. Professor Stanković directed the scientific work of all his collaborators who were involved in mathematical analysis. He enabled all of his students, at the beginning of their careers, to collaborate with mathematicians in Poland, America, Bulgaria, Russia, and Austria. According to the *Mathematics Genealogy Project* online database, Professor

Stanković supervised 10 PhD students (Fig. 1, right), and he has 103 descendants<sup>1</sup>.

Throughout his long professional career, he served as the rector of the University of Novi Sad, dean and vice-dean of the Faculty of Sciences and Mathematics in Novi Sad, as well as director and head of the Department of Mathematics. Professor Stanković was a distinguished representative of several Yugoslav institutions and delegations at world conferences dedicated to education, culture, and science. Professor Stanković was elected as a corresponding member of the Serbian Academy of Sciences and Arts in 1963. He was the academician with the longest tenure, serving for 55 years. He was highly esteemed and respected within the Academy.

This issue, dedicated to Professor Stanković, contains six papers contributed by colleagues from the Serbian Academy of Sciences and Arts, their collaborators and ex-students of Professor Stanković.

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<sup>1</sup><https://www.mathgenealogy.org>, retrieved on December 15, 2024.