

# The International Algebraic Conference dedicated to the 100th anniversary of L. A. Kaluzhnin

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The International Algebraic Conference dedicated to the 100th anniversary of an outstanding mathematician and teacher, the founder of Algebra and Mathematical Logic Department of Taras Shevchenko National University of Kyiv Professor L. A. Kaluzhnin was held on 7–12 July 2014 in Kyiv.

Lev Arkadjevich Kaluzhnin was born on 31 January 1914 in Moscow. Starting from 1923 he lived in emigration with his mother. From 1925 to 1933 he studied in Realschule in Berlin. After graduation Kaluzhnin attended lectures at Berlin and, later, Hamburg universities. In 1938 he moved to Paris and started to study at Sorbonne. The study was interrupted by German military occupation. On 22 June 1941, the day Germany attacked Soviet Union, Kaluzhnin was interned and sent to the Compiègne internment camp near Paris. In the beginning of 1942 he was transferred to the concentration camp in Wahlsburg. He was released by the American army in March 1945. After that Kaluzhnin returned to Paris, where he became actively involved in scientific work.



He published a series of papers on the structure of Sylow  $p$ -subgroups of symmetric groups and their generalizations, stable automorphism groups,

wreath products of permutation groups and their applications. In 1948 Kaluzhnin defended a doctoral thesis in Sorbonne. In 1951 he moved to Berlin to work at Humboldt University where he defended a habilitation and was elected for a professor.

In 1955 L. A. Kaluzhnin returned to Soviet Union and started his scientific and educational work in Taras Shevchenko National University of Kyiv. He held a professor position at the Department of Algebra, Analysis and Probability. In 1957 Kaluzhnin defended habilitation in accordance with the requirements of USSR. In 1959 he founded and headed the Algebra and Mathematical Logic Department at Mechanics and Mathematics Faculty of Taras Shevchenko National University of Kyiv. His activity allowed to revive the algebraic scientific school (Grave's school) in Kyiv destroyed in the 1930's. Currently the Kaluzhnin's school is still growing and developing. Among his students 4 defended habilitations and 18 defended Ph.D. dissertations. New descendants appear.

In 1990 L. A. Kaluzhnin died in Moscow. His various legacy still has valuable impact on the development of science and education in Ukraine and abroad.

The International Algebraic Conference in Kyiv was dedicated to the centenary of Professor Kaluzhnin. The conference was organized by Taras Shevchenko National University of Kyiv, Institute of Mathematics (NAS of Ukraine) and Kyiv-Mohyla Academy. About 80 mathematicians from 8 countries participated in the conference. The conference was opened by the talk "Life and work of L. A. Kaluzhnin" of Kaluzhnin's student, Professor Vitaly Sushchansky. The conference program included 18 plenary talks on different topics of modern algebra, discrete mathematics and dynamics. Two students of Professor Kaluzhnin, Professors Vitaly Sushchansky and Vasyl Ustymenko, gave plenary talks. Two other Kaluzhnin descendants, Professors Volodymyr Nekrashevych (Texas A&M University) and Ievgen Bondarenko (Taras Shevchenko National University of Kyiv), were plenary speakers. Among other, it is necessary to note the plenary talks of Professors Yuriy Drozd (Institute of Mathematics), Rostyslav Grigorchuk (Texas A&M University), Alexander Olshanskii (Vanderbilt University), Anatolii Vershik (Steklov Institute). In addition to very interesting plenary talks, 35 section talks on group theory, rings, modules, representations, algebraic geometry, number theory, computer algebra, discrete mathematics, mathematical logic, semigroups and algebraic systems were given. Note that a few scientific "great-grandsons" of Professor Kaluzhnin gave their talks.

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On the last day of the conference, after finishing its main program, the meeting of Kyiv Mathematical Society was held. All participants of the conference and many other mathematicians enjoyed a talk of an outstanding Russian mathematician Anatoly Vershik. His deep and remarkable speech led to an active discussion. Professor Vershik expressed support for Ukrainian mathematicians and the whole Ukrainian society in their struggle for European values. During the conference some participants visited the Independence Square and honoured tragically killed heroes of the Revolution of Dignity.

*Current issue — Proceedings of the International Algebraic Conference dedicated to the 100th anniversary of L. A. Kaluzhnin. The authors of issue devote their articles to the memory of Professor L. A. Kaluzhnin.*