

FROM THE EDITORS

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During the celebration of the 75th anniversary of Academician Ildar Abdullovich Ibragimov, it was decided to publish a collection of papers written by participants of jubilee conferences and seminars. One of the conferences, “Asymptotic Statistic and Its Applications in Survival Analysis and Reliability Theory,” was organized by l’Université Victor Segalen Bordeaux 2. At this conference, I. A. Ibragimov was solemnly presented the Honoris Causa Doctor Diploma of the University. The second conference, in St. Petersburg, had the form of the city seminar on probability theory and mathematical statistics. It was organized by the St. Petersburg Division of the Steklov Mathematical Institute of RAS and by the chair of probability theory and mathematical statistics of St. Petersburg State University. In his time, Ildar Abdullovich was the head of both PDMI and the above-mentioned chair.

At present, when his age is a formal obstruction to be at the head of an organization, he accepted the offer of the governing body of RAS to share his experience as an advisor of RAS.

We do not include detailed biographical data; the reader can find them in any reasonable encyclopedia or a bibliographical dictionary. We only recall that Ildar Abdullovich was elected a Corresponding Member of the Soviet Academy of Sciences and an Academician of RAS. His scientific achievements got a high appraisal, and he got the highest awards of the country (for example, the Lenin Prize). He is the author and co-author of two hundred of scientific works, including four monographs. We want to mention separately a series of his researches in mathematical statistics, joint with R. Z. Hasminskii. Their monograph became a generator of new ideas in mathematical statistics. Ildar Abdullovich supervised around 30 candidate and 10 doctor dissertations (and the process continues). He had created (and still heads) a large scientific school. At present, 35 dissertations supervised by disciples of Ildar Abdullovich has been defended. His own scientific activity was influenced by his elder colleagues, Yu. V. Linnik and A. N. Kolmogorov.

Ildar Abdullovich wrote in a letter: “I am still interested in the whole mathematics, but I always had problems with complicated combinatorial arguments, as well as with geometric and topological ones.” The stream of his research envelopes practically the whole probability theory and mathematical statistics, as well as almost all branches of mathematics, especially those using deep analytic methods. Recently, he was asked: “What would You wish for yourself?” The answer was: “I would like very much to see with my own eyes that the St. Petersburg mathematics, especially at PDMI and the University, gains its former strength, importance, and greatness. But I am afraid ... that my forces are not enough for that.”

All the participants of this edition and of the conferences greet you, Ildar Abdullovich. Let all your wishes be fulfilled.

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