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NOTE ABOUT SHREERAM SHANKAR ABHYANKAR (1930–2012)

Shreeram Shankar Abhyankar, famous American mathematician, was born in India in 1930, died in 2012. He, as a pupil of Oscar Zariski, specialized in algebraic geometry. He proved the desingularization theorem for 3-dimensional varieties in positive characteristic. He was also excellent expert in two-dimensional jacobian conjecture (which is still open). In proofs of his results he used classical methods like Tschirnhausen transformations, elimination theory, Newton diagrams etc. Since we like and still use such methods in our researches (PhD thesis by Brzostowski on approximation roots of non-characteristic degrees, Newton diagrams in many papers by Płoski, Lenarcik, Oleksik, Brzostowski, Walewska, elimination theory used by Chądzyński, Płoski, Krasieński) we owe a lot to him. He expressed his passion for the classic approach to mathematics and his opposition against formalism in the Bourbaki style in a poem written in 1970 at the International Conference in Nice, France. The inspiration was van der Waerden's historical lecture on the development of algebraic geometry. We have obtained the permission of his wife, Yvonne Abhyankar, to publish this poem. Since we agree with his views we present his poem and two translations into Polish. One can find more remembrances on Shreeram Shankar Abhyankar in Notices of AMS in November 2014.

PREPARED BY EDITORS