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Chapter 2
Jan Lipiński – our teacher

WŁADYSŁAW WILCZYŃSKI

Jan Stanisław Lipiński was born Nov. 24, 1923 in Przemyśl (now southeastern Poland). During the Second World War he lived in Warsaw, where he survived the outbreak of the Warsaw uprising. In 1945 he obtained (as an extern) the certificate of maturity and worked as a teacher in Zgierz -– a small town several kilometers from Łódź. From 1946 to 1952 he studied mathematics at the University of Łódź. In 1949 he started research under professor Zygmunt Zahorski, who was the chief of the Chair of Mathematics II. Professor Lipiński has obtained his Ph.D. in 1958 and habilitation in 1960, both from University of Łódź. He became a full professor in 1967. Fifty years later University of Łódź has organized for him a 50th Anniversary Celebration. In 2013 University of Łódź awarded the medal Universitatis Lodziensis Amico to Professor Jan Lipiński.

I met Jan Lipiński as a student of the third course in 1965. Then I wrote my master thesis on rectifiable plane continua in 1968 and the supervisor was Professor Lipiński. After that I was employed at the University of Łódź, Department of Mathematics, Physics and Chemistry, Chair of Mathematics II. I expected to learn a lot from Zygmunt Zahorski and from Jan Lipiński (working also in the Chair of Math. II). Unfortunately, thanks to the knotted history of University of Łódź Professor Lipiński left our University going to Gdańsk in 1969 (his work in Gdańsk is described in the article of Lech Górniewicz and Zbigniew Grande), Professor Zahorski went to Gliwice and continued work on Silesian Technical University. The group of young mathematicians interested in real analysis at the University of Łódź became scientific orphans. Luck-

ily, we could participate from time to time in the seminar hold by Professor Lipiński in Gdańsk. The second lucky circumstance was that at the Technical University of Łódź there was Professor Tadeusz Świątkowski, also eminent in real analysis. In the seventieth it was a great common effort of Mirosław Filipczak, Jacek Jędrzejewski and me to continue studies in real analysis in Łódź. Our students and students of our students are still working on it. Professor Jan Lipiński was still with us: he participated in numerous conferences, wrote a lot of opinions for doctorates, habilitations and professorships. Thanks to his contacts with eminent mathematicians in real analysis throughout the world we had the opportunity to deepen our knowledge and to learn new trends in our field of interest.

Paul Humke in his article described almost all scientific achievements of Professor Jan Lipiński. In the text he didn't mention papers [30] and [31]. The results there, although this is a lateral branch of scientific creation of Professor Lipiński, belong to my favourite in the whole mathematics. Professor Lipiński proved that there exists a sequence (quickly tending to infinity) of real numbers such that each bounded real function defined on the set of terms of this sequence can be extended to a continuous periodic function defined on the whole real line, and he even strengthened this result proving that instead of the sequence of numbers one can find the sequence of intervals (obviously, with necessary changes concerning the function defined on the union of intervals) having similar property. I believe this result should have a considerable place in THE BOOK refered to by Pal Erdös.

Władysław Wilczyński
Faculty of Mathematics and Computer Science, Łódź University
ul. Banacha 22, 90-238 Łódź, Poland
E-mail: wwil@uni.lodz.pl