

This issue of Discrete and Continuous Dynamical Systems is dedicated to Anatole Katok and was conceived on the occasion of his 60th birthday. Anatole Katok was born in Washington, D.C. in 1944. In 1959 he placed second in the Moscow Mathematical Olympiad, and the year after entered Moscow State University, earning his mathematics doctorate in 1968 from Y. Sinai. After working in the department of mathematical methods at the Central Economics and Mathematics Institute for 10 years he emigrated with his family, moving via Vienna, Rome and Paris to the University of Maryland. The position in the US allowed him to travel, attend and organize conferences, collaborate with other mathematicians and supervise students.



Anatole Katok at UC Berkeley

From this time on, he organized more conferences, special years and other events than anybody else in the dynamics community. During his five years at Maryland Katok was instrumental in the development of their dynamical systems school, and after moving to first Caltech and then Penn State he founded a strong group in dynamical systems at each of these institutions. The schools at Maryland and Penn State have become leading world centers. He has always been active in mentoring younger generations. During his student years he devoted much energy to mathematics olympiads and circles, at Penn State he has been the driving force behind the Mathematics Advanced Study Semesters program for especially strong mathematics undergraduates, and he has supervised more than two dozen doctoral students.

A biography with highlights of his mathematical work can be found in Michael Brin, Boris Hasselblatt, Yakov Pesin: *Anatole Katok*. Modern dynamical systems and applications, xi–xiv, Cambridge Univ. Press, Cambridge, 2004 and in Michael Brin, Boris Hasselblatt, Yulij Ilyashenko, Anatole Kushnirenko, Yakov Pesin, Alexey Sossinski, Michael Tsfasman: *Anatole Katok*. Mosc. Math. J. 4 (2004), no. 4, 977–979.



Anatole Katok at home

His 60th birthday was celebrated during the Clay Mathematics Institute/Mathematical Sciences Research Institute Workshop on “Recent Progress in Dynamics” that took place at the Mathematical Sciences Research Institute in Berkeley during the last week of September 2004. Many of the authors of papers in the present issue were also participants of that meeting. Like that workshop and the interests of Katok, this issue spans a broad range of subjects in dynamical systems: ergodic theory, symbolic dynamics and several areas of smooth dynamical systems. As the editor I want to thank the authors for contributing these articles and Shouchuan Hu for publishing this journal issue dedicated to my advisor and colleague Anatole Katok.

I will close with a remark on the papers by Luis Barreira and Anna Mummert. The reader may note that there is an overlap in content. These results were discovered independently by their respective authors, and it is fortunate that the opportunity presented itself to publish them in the same journal issue.

*Boris Hasselblatt, Guest Editor*