



József Mogyoródi  
1933-1990

On the 27-th of March of 1990 professor József MOGYORÓDI died suddenly at the age of 57. He was the head of Department of Probability and Statistics of Eötvös University (ELTE) Budapest and a member of the editorial board of this periodical. Until the last minute of his life he was full of energy and plans.

Professor *Mogyoródi* was born in a village called Nagyoroszi in 1933. He graduated from secondary school in 1952. Then he went to study mathematics to ELTE, where he received his diplom in 1957. After graduation he worked at the Mathematical Research Institute of the Hungarian Academy of Sciences for two years then became a faculty member of Department of Probability of ELTE in 1958.

He was among the experts in our country who first conceived the new dimensions provided by the computers in the economy and sciences. He was also aware of the responsibility of the mathematicians in realizing the new possibilities. When Department of Computer Sciences was established at ELTE he put aside his fruitful research work in probability. As the head of it he started to build up that new department with making big efforts in providing all the necessary conditions. He not only made a very efficient organizational work but became familiar with the computer science on a high level giving a good example for the new generation.

After the sudden death of his master professor Alfréd RÉNYI he was entrusted with leading Department of Probability and Statistics of ELTE and so returned to his original research field. Professor *Mogyoródi* devoted his energies to win talented students over doing research in stochastic mathematics and applying the results in the practice. It was his intention that every important field be represented on a high level in his department. For the sake of it he gathered talented young mathematicians and the best outside researchers. This way the standard of teaching has been greatly improved.

He admired the inner harmony of mathematics but his entire activity proves how much emphasis he put on application. This was the view he planted into the mind of his students.

He first results were connected with the stochastic models about the physical processes in atomic reactors, which was one of the most exciting problems that time.

Partly the theoretical problems arisen in this area and *Rényi's* work inspired him to deal with sums with random terms of stochastic variables. This part of his work, in which he worked out the theory and solved the most important questions of this field, had a significal international effect.

His research activity included many parts of the theory of probability and related areas. A number of his papers are about the theory of queueing processes and problems of sparse renewal processes. He recognized the central importance of the concept of martingales in stochastic mathematics in good time. A significant part of his research is about the basic problems of martingale theory and its application in statistics and analysis. He investigated the relation among the main inequalities of martingale theory showing that they are dual to each others. He extended the inequalities and duality theorems known for Lebesgue and Hardy spaces for Orlicz spaces of martingales. He and his students worked up the theory of this important area and answered the fundamental questions concerning it.

He took an active part in postgraduate education not only in Hungary but for instance in Mali Republic, organized by UNESCO. Many Egyptian and Vietnamese mathematicians achieved their scientific degree under his supervision.

He was one of the initiators and organizers of the annual joint Austrian-Hungarian Pannon Symposiums in probability and statistics, which is a nice example for the scientific cooperation of the experts of this area. The proceedings of these conferences edited by him had an international reputation.

Professor *Mogyoródi* was an altruist human being, a succesful teacher and researcher. He was at the height of his creative power when he passed away. His colleagues and students will keep his memory alive.

Ferenc Schipp