Πανεπιστήμιο Κύπρου
Σχολή Θετικών και
Εφαρμοσμένων Επιστημών

ΠΡΟΣΚΛΗΣΗ

Η Σχολή Θετικών και Εφαρμοσμένων Επιστημών σας προσκαλεί στις Διαλέξεις από τους δύο Διακεκριμένους Καθηγητές:

Demetrios Christodoulou
«Differential Equations and their Historical Development»
Emeritus Professor, Swiss Federal Institute of Technology (ETH), Zurich

Athanase Papadopoulos
«Maps of minimal distortion between surfaces»
Research Director, CNRS and University of Strasbourg, France

Δευτέρα, 06 Οκτωβρίου 2025, στις 18:00

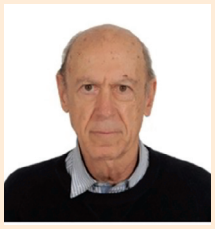
Αμφιθέατρο Β108, Κτήριο Συμβουλίου-Συγκλήτου «Αναστάσιος Γ. Λεβέντης», Πανεπιστημιούπολη

ABSTRACT

I shall relate how differential equations first arose and were formulated, starting from ordinary differential equations, and then moving to partial differential equations of elliptic, parabolic, and hyperbolic types.

After this, I shall discuss the foundation and development of the theory of differential equations, focusing on the important milestones in the development of the equations mentioned in the first part, and concluding with contemporary developments.

Demetrios Christodoulou



Demetrios Christodoulou was born in Athens in 1951. He studied physics at Princeton University and obtained his Ph.D. in 1971. He then turned to mathematics and became Professor of Mathematics, first (1985-1987) at Syracuse University of the state of New York, then (1988-1992) at the Courant Institute of New York University, and in the period 1992-2001 at Princeton University, a position which he held until his move to the Swiss Federal Institute of Technology (ETH) in Zurich in 2001. There he was Professor of Mathematics and Physics until 2017, and since that time he is Emeritus Professor. He has been awarded the MacArthur Fellows Award in mathematics and physics (1993), the Bocher Prize of the American Mathematical Society (1999), the Shaw Prize in Mathematical Science (2011), and the Henri Poincare Prize of the International Association of Mathematical Physics (2021). He is a member of the American Academy of Arts and Sciences, the U.S. National Academy of Sciences, the Academia Europaea, and external member of the Cyprus Academy of Sciences, Letters and Arts.

ABSTRACT

I will talk about the theory of maps with minimal distortion between surfaces. The theory started with William Thurston's paper «Minimal stretch maps between hyperbolic surfaces», who used these maps to introduce a new metric on Teichmüller space, called after him the Thurston metric.

I will survey recent works in this area, done both in the Euclidean and non-Euclidean settings. I will explain relations with physics, biology and art.

Athanase Papadopoulos

Athanase Papadopoulos is Directeur de Recherche Emérite at the French CNRS (Institut de Recherche Mathématique Avancée, Strasbourg). He studied civil engineering at Ecole Centrale de Paris (diploma in 1991), then mathematics (PhD in 1983 and Habilitation in 1989, University of Paris-Sud, Orsay). He works at the French CNRS since 1984. He was member for 2 years of the Institute for Advanced Study (Princeton) and he taught as a visiting professor at the Saint Petersburg State University (Lamé Chair), CUNY, Brown University, USC, and several universities in Asia, mostly India. He is the author of more than 200 papers and 50 books, mostly on geometry, history of mathematics and music theory.

Οι διαλέξεις θα δοθούν στα αγγλικά και είναι ανοιχτές για το κοινό.
Θα ακολουθήσει δεξίωση.

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