

Slobodan K. Simić was born in Belgrade (Serbia) in July 24 1948. When he was in the secondary school, he received three times the first prize on national (ex-yu) competitions in mathematics (in 1966 and 1967) and in physics (in 1966). This explains his early interest in mathematics. But his educational background is in electrical engineering. The B.Sc. degree he received in 1973 from Faculty of Electrical Engineering at University of Belgrade. The next two degrees, both in Applied Mathematics, he received at the same Institution – M.Sc. (in 1977) and Ph.D. (in 1979). His supervisor (each time), and later the most important collaborator, was Dragoš Cvetković.

From 1973 up to 2006, he was employed at Faculty of Electrical Engineering (University of Belgrade) at Department of Mathematics, starting as Teaching Assistant. He became Docent in 1982, Associate Professor in 1992 and Full Professor 1996. Two academic years starting from 2001 he was employed at University of Montenegro (in Kotor at Maritime Faculty and partly in Podgorica at Mathematical Faculty). From 2003 he was also teaching at Faculty of Computer Sciences in Belgrade. In his career he was the chairman of Department of Mathematics, at Faculty of Electrical Engineering in Belgrade and Maritime Faculty in Kotor. Since 2006 up to retirement in 2014, he was employed at Mathematical Institute of Serbian Academy of Sciences and Arts as Full Research Professor. Next two academic years after retirement, he spent at State University Novi Pazar (Serbia) as Full Professor, focused only on research. In 2013, he was promoted in Visiting Professor at University of Messina (Italy). Since 2016, he finished his academic career, keeping his interest for mathematics, but also for electrical engineering as was a dominating activity in some perioda when being employed at Faculty of Electrical Engineering.

In his academic career, besides teaching students at various levels (including Ph.D. ones) and preparing them for inter-student competitions, he was introducing them to scientific work. He had one master student and three doctoral students. He had prepared for his students more than ten textbooks and some others for growing attention on mathematics in his country. Besides he participated very much in research activities. So far had prepared more than 160 papers and three books (monographs) in Spectral Graph Theory published by Cambridge University Press. He presented his results as a speaker at many conferences and seminars, or talks as a visitor of various Institutions (over his country or abroad in Chezkoslovakia, England, Ger-

many, Italy, Malta, Poland, Portugal, Slovakia, Slovenia, Scotland etc.). For mathematical community he refereed papers for many international journals (like *Applicable Analysis and Discrete Mathematics*, *Discrete Applied Mathematics*, *Discrete Mathematics*, *Discussione Mathematicae - Graph Theory, Graphs and Combinatorics*, *Journal of Algebraic Graph Theory*, *Linear Algebra and its Application*, *Linear Multilinear Algebra*, *MATCH*, etc.). He is (or was) in Editorial Board *Discussione Mathematicae - Graph Theory*, *Publications de l'Institut Mathématique (Belgrade)* and *Applicable Analysis and Discrete Mathematics*. He was a Guest Editor of *Linear Algebra and its Application* (in honour of Dragoš Cvetković). For many years he was a reviewer for *Mathematical Review* and *Zentral Blatt fur Mathematik* ???. Besides this, he took active part in designing and/or implementing various software packages for research (say, *GRAPH*, *NewGraph*, *TSP-Solver*, *NeoGraph*), or for practical application: in electronic intelligence (for analysis of radar signals), in power grid networks, in banking (multilateral compensation and clearing), in national railway company (for designing a database), etc.