

## ***Carpathian Journal of Mathematics* celebrates 30 years of publication**

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**ABSTRACT.** Following a well established tradition of marking the main anniversary moments of the journal by an editorial, see the previous ones: [Berinde, V., *Anniversary: Ten years of publication of the new series of Buletin Științific*, Bul. Științ. Univ. Baia Mare, Ser. B., Matematică-Informatică, **16** (2000), No. 1, i-ii], [Berinde, V., *Carpathian Journal of Mathematics: Celebrating 20 years of publication of the new series*, Carpathian J. Math., **21** (2010), No. 2, i-vi], [Berinde, V., *CJM celebrates 25 years of publication of its new series*, Carpathian J. Math., **26** (2015), No. 3, i-vi], it is the main aim of this note to present a brief account of what has been achieved since the previous anniversary editorial written five years ago.

This year marks the thirtieth year of publication of our journal, so it is indeed a great chance of me as the founding Editor of *Carpathian Journal of Mathematics* to be still an acting Editor-in-Chief and thus have the rare privilege to mark, by means of this editorial note included in the last issue (No. 3) of volume 36 (2020), its 30th year of publication.

It was the unique chance and opportunity for me to set the course for the development of the journal since its inception in the fall of 1990 till today, a long journey that subsumed a huge and passionate work to which I devoted a lot of time, intellectual energy and enthusiasm. All these efforts are rewarded by many achievements, of which I mention just the fact that this year, *Carpathian Journal of Mathematics* attained its highest Web of Science impact factor (IF=1.438).

The first issue of **CJM** as a periodical journal has been printed in 1991 under the name *Buletinul Științific al Universității din Baia Mare, Seria B, Fascicola Matematică-Informatică*, abbreviated as *Bul. Științ. Univ. Baia Mare, Ser. B, Matematică-Informatică*, a name inherited from its non periodical predecessor, *Buletin Științific*, published irregularly in the period 1969-1989.

The new journal wore this name for 12 years, in the period 1991-2002. In 2002 I have proposed the current name, *Carpathian Journal of Mathematics*, to my colleagues from the local Editorial Board. They agreed and it turned out that this has been indeed a very inspired name, as later one other three journals edited at our university adopted the syntagm "Carpathian Journal of" (two of them are actually indexed in Web of Science).

In order to give an idea on how the starting circumstances were, I take the liberty to quote again a brief story of the foundation of the journal, reproduced from my first editorial [1] (and which was also included in [2] and [3]).

"In 1990, I joined the Department of Mathematics and Computer Science at the University of Baia Mare, where I remained since. As a fresh and very enthusiastic Assistant Professor, one of my plans was the founding of a true mathematical journal instead of the hybrid nonperiodical publication I mentioned above. I have easily obtained the approval of Professor I. Coroian, at that time the Dean of Faculty of Letters and Sciences, to do so, and consequently, he and me were appointed as Editor-in-Chief and Editorial Secretary, respectively."

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I still quote from [1]: "In the early days of *Bul. Ştiinţ. Univ. Baia Mare, Ser. B, Matematică-Informatică* the Editorial Secretary did almost everything: attracting contributors, assign the articles to a referee or very often doing the referee's job itself, assign the articles in each issue, put them in some sort of order, design the cover, gather all articles together and send them to the typist, check the technical edition and made corrections, send the material to the printer, check page proofs to verify that all corrections had been made and, not seldom, to make new ones etc. and finally rejoice when the printed issue was received by the Editorial Office.

A very important aim of our journal was accomplished starting even by volume 7 (1991): to ensure an international audience. In order to do this, only articles written in English, French, German and Russian were accepted. Secondly, I have written a letter to propose mutual exchanges that has been sent to some hundreds of journals in the world. To get their addresses, I personally copied them, by pencil and paper, from the files of International Exchange Office of Central University Library in Cluj-Napoca, during my short documentation visits there, while I was finishing my PhD Thesis."

As I mentioned before, the journal changed its name starting with volume 19 (2003), due to the fact that the home city of North University of Baia Mare is situated near the North-Eastern part of Romanian Carpathian mountains chain (called Gutâi Mountains).

Coming back to the 30th anniversary, I am proudly saying that *CJM* is now acknowledged as one of the preeminent journals on general mathematics in Romania, with a unique blend of articles spanning pure and applied mathematics as well as theoretical computer science.

Therefore, I am happy to write this editorial in a double capacity, like five, ten and twenty five years ago: as the founder of *CJM* and also as its current Editor-in-Chief.

I will start as usually by quoting the last sentences in the previous editorial [3]:

"For the coming period, the main challenge remaining from the list given by myself in [2], is related to the possible increasing of the size of the journal, by having 4 regular issues / volume. This would be a normal feedback to the steadily increasing submission rate (currently about 3 submissions per day on average), but there are some reasons that suggest us to act prudently in this respect.

First of all, increasing the size of the journal to have four issues per volume / year clearly means that we would implicitly accept a double volume of papers, amongst which we could have for sure some papers published would be not of the same high scientific level like the ones drastically selected for two issues only.

Secondly, *Carpathian Journal of Mathematics* is still published in both printed and electronic format and we have to cope with the printing costs and steadily increasing postal taxes for sending the journal copies to our few subscribers and many exchange library partners. This ensures the presence and visibility of our journal in the shelves of many university libraries across the world even though nowadays most of the journals that increased their size (some of them from two issues per volume to twelve issues per volume !) are only electronically published.

I would like to note that, since the publication of its first issue of the new series in 1991, *Carpathian Journal of Mathematics* has seen strong growth in both print circulation and recently in website usage, as its readership and reputation have steadily increased.

I am very proud of all that the new series of *Carpathian Journal of Mathematics* has achieved over the 25 years of life and look forward confidently for its future."

It is then the main scope of this short note to report on these and some more current facts. In the last 5 years of publication since the previous anniversary note, each volume consisted of three issues. Some of them were special issues:

- 2016: three regular issues;
- 2017: three regular issues;
- 2018: two special issues (No. 1, No. 2) and one special issue (No. 3), dedicated to Professor Yeol Je Cho;
- 2019: one regular issue (No. 1) and two special issues, dedicated to Professor Juan Nieto (No. 2) and to Professor Qamrul Hasan Ansari (No. 3), respectively;
- 2020: two special issues, dedicated to Professor Hong-Kun Xu (No. 1) and to Professor Billy E. Rhoades (No. 2), respectively, and one hybrid issue (No. 3), including mainly regular papers and some selected papers presented at ICFPTA 2019

As at the time I am writing the editorial, the world is under the terror of the SARS-COV-2 virus, I shall present an immediate consequence of it on our journal editorial policy.

Although the *Carpathian Journal of Mathematics*'s local Editorial Board aimed to continue the printed version alongside the electronic one and keep the mutual exchange of printed issues with a large number of university libraries and institutions in the world, early estimates in March 2020 predicated that we shall stop the printed version and this eventually happened.

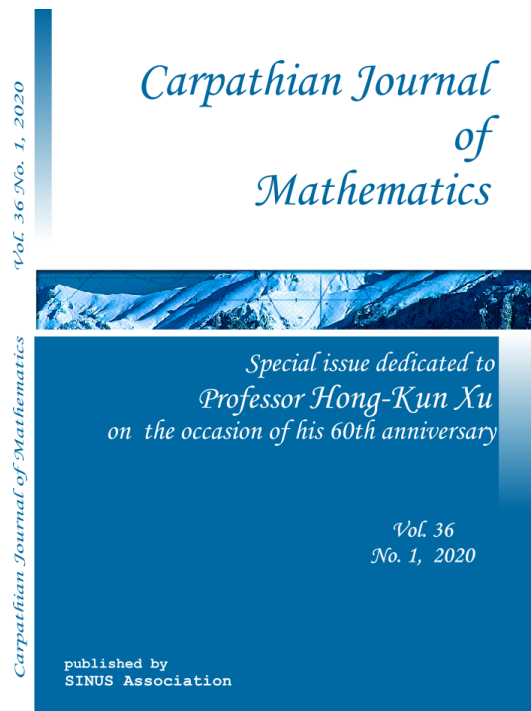


FIGURE 1. Designed front cover of the printed issue 1/2020

What is now remaining is just the on-line version: <https://www.carpathian.cunbm.utcluj.ro>.

As anticipated five years ago [3], we did not move from the format "two issues per volume" to "four issues per volume" but to an average number of issues, i.e., "three issues per volume", of which at least one was usually a special issue.

Let us plan a "four issues per volume" format for the coming decade...

Finally, it is my duty and pleasure to acknowledge the collective support that helps *Carpathian Journal of Mathematics* to flourish. In particular, I would like to thank all

active members of the Editorial Board for their continued support, the technical editors for their dedicated and skilful work and all reviewers for their sustained support of the journal.

Collectively, we all look forward to the next decade of publication of *Carpathian Journal of Mathematics*.

#### REFERENCES

- [1] Berinde, V., *Anniversary: Ten years of publication of the new series of Buletin Științific*, Bul. Științ. Univ. Baia Mare, Ser. B., Matematică-Informatică, **16** (2000), No. 1, i–ii
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