

A SPECIAL ISSUE DEDICATED TO ANTHONY TO-MING LAU



Professor Dr. Anthony (Tony) To-Ming Lau is an outstanding mathematician and a leading expert in harmonic analysis and functional analysis. This Special Issue of Journal of Nonlinear and Variational Analysis collects a series of papers on topics that are close to his research interests and is dedicated to him on the occasion of his 75th birthday.

Tony was born in August, 1943, in Hong Kong. He completed his high school education at Raimondi College in Hong Kong before going to California in August 1961 for his undergraduate degree. He received his A.B. degree in Mathematics from the University of California, Berkeley in 1965. In 1969, he received his Ph.D. from the University of British Columbia under the supervision of Professor Edmond E. Granirer and started his career as a Postdoctoral Fellow in the same university and the University of Alberta. In 1970, he joined the University of Alberta as a Visiting Assistant Professor. He was Chair of the Department of Mathematical and Statistical Sciences, University of Alberta from 2001 to 2006, and was President of the Canadian Mathematical Society from 2008 to 2010. Since 2004, he has been honored as a Distinguished University Professor at the University of Alberta.

Tony has produced dozens of master and Ph.D. students and postdoctoral fellows, most of them are now active experienced researchers in the mathematical community. Tony served as a member of the editorial boards of several international journals, including *Canadian Journal of Mathematics*, *Canadian Mathematical Bulletin*, *Semigroup Forum*, *Fixed Point Theory and Applications*, *Journal of Nonlinear and Convex Analysis*, etc. He joined the editorial board of the *Journal of Nonlinear and Variational Analysis* in 2017. He also served as a member of NSERC: grant selection committees for discovery grants (2006-2008), leadership grants (2005), and accelerated grants (2009), and was one of the main organizers of a thematic program at Fields Institute (2014) on abstract harmonic analysis and operator algebras.

His main scholarly contributions are in harmonic analysis and functional analysis. In the early stage of his career, he worked mainly on the relation between amenability of semigroups and certain fixed-point properties. He then moved to the study of various operator and Banach algebras associated with locally compact groups, such as the group von Neumann algebra $VN(G)$, the Fourier algebra $A(G) = VN(G)_*$, and the Fourier-Stieltjes algebra $B(G)$. He has also studied topological center problems and Arens regularity of Banach algebras. Up to now, he has published 165 papers, with 47 different coauthors, in peer-reviewed international journals according to the MathSciNet.

This Special Issue collects nine contributions. In honor of Tony, four papers are on harmonic analysis and five papers are on functional analysis. Several contributions are due to experienced researchers and many of them have shared with Tony an intense scientific and personal collaboration. We want to thank all the Authors and Reviewers that made this Special Issue possible. It has been an honor for us to act as Guest Editors of this Special Issue and contribute to the recognition of Tony's impact and legacy. We hope that the readers will enjoy it.

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