Twenty four manuscripts in Virtual Library of Faculty of Mathematics in Belgrade

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The aim of this paper is to present **24 almost forgotten handwritten manuscripts** that we recently found in the library of the Mathematical institute of the Serbian Academy of Science and Arts.

These writings belong to the prominent professors of the Belgrade University who lectured pure and applied mathematics in the beginning of the previous century:

Dimitrije Danić (1862-1932), two manuscripts on general mathematics;

Kosta Stojanović (1867-1921), two manuscripts on theoretical physics and geometry;

Mihailo Petrović (1868-1943), 14 manuscripts on mathematics, mostly on differential calculus and algebra and

Milutin Milanković (1879-1958), five writings on applied mathematics, physics, astronomy and theoretical mechanics.

Unknown author (1846, Fenille ?), acmanuscript on astronomy and geodesy.

Notes were taken and manuscripts were prepared by their students. Digital copies of these writings are deposited now in the **Virtual Library of the Faculty of Mathematics** of the University of Belgrade, http://elibrary.matf.bg.ac.rs.

Dimitrije Danić (1862 -1932) submitted on 10th March 1885 his paper *Conforme Abbildung des elliptischen Paraboloids auf die Ebene* to the Faculty of Philosophy at the University of Jena.

Johannes Thomae, mathematician and the Dean of the Faculty during 1884/85 commented favorably on Danić text and allowed him to take oral examinations.

On 17 th March 1885 Danić passed examinations in **mathematics** (examined by Thomae), **analytical mechanics and physics** (examined by Sohnke). As a result he was awarded his Ph. D. degree; the diploma is dated 12 th March 1885.

The thesis was published in Belgrade, but since it was written in German, Danić also used a Germanized version of his name.

Danić later became a **professor of mathematics at the Military Academy** in Belgrade, and wrote a number of very good textbooks which remained in use for a long period of time.

Mihailo Petrović (1868-1943) is probably the best known Serbian mathematician.

He got his Ph. D. in June 1894 at the **University of Paris** where he defended his thesis

Sur les zeros et les infnis des integrales des equations differentielles algebriques

before some of the most eminent mathematicians of that time:
Ch. **Hermite**, _E. **Picard** and P. **Painleve**.

The thesis was published **in Paris** and some of Petrović results immediately found their place in Picard's classic Traite d'Analyse.

Petrović was a professor of mathematics at the University of Belgrade until he retired in 1938, he was a member of the Serbian Academy of Sciences and during his lifetime he published over 250 papers in various journals all over the world.

It can safely be said that the development of mathematics in Serbia was largely due to him.

Petrović has also great merits for development of cybernetic and computing machines.

He was also a **professional fisherman** and World globetrotter and travel writter.

Kosta Stojanović (1867-192) studied mechanics, mathematics and astronomy in Paris and in Leipzig.

Kosta Stojanović was a **university professor**, but he **had a very rich political career**, too. At the beginning of 1900th he became a deputy as the representative of the Niš district, then Minister of Agriculture and Minister of Finance.

Around that time, Kosta Stojanović wrote the book *Fundamentals of economy value* on **mathematical economics** and Stojanović there used very advanced mathematical apparatus, for example, the theory of partial differential equations to describe economic models. Even today there is an interest for this book, not only in Serbia but also in the other parts of former Yugoslavia. This is probably the most ad-vanced book in economics ever printed in Serbia.

Milutin Milanković (1879-1957) was a great mechanist, astronomer and applied mathematician.

He was born in Dalj, Croatia, and he educated completely in Croatia and Wien (PhD in civil engineering) but all his scientific work was in Belgrade.

Milanković is famous for his planetary climate theory and the theory of ace ages.

Besides university text books, he also wrote popular books on astromy and history of science.