

Preface

Special Issue on "Dedicated to Professor Jerry Bona for his 70th birthday"

Jerry Lloyd Bona is a distinguished American mathematician, known for his work in fluid mechanics, partial differential equations, and computational mathematics. In particular, jointly with T. Brooke Benjamin and John J. Mahony, he published the seminal paper "Model Equations for Long Waves in Non-linear Dispersive Systems". The model equation derived in this paper is now known as Benjamin Bona Mahony equation. It and its relatives have seen extensive use in oceanography and other areas of fluid mechanics.

Jerry received his Ph.D in 1971 from Harvard University under the supervision of Garrett Birkhoff. He worked from 1970 to 1972 at the Fluid Mechanics Research Institute at the University of Essex, before joining the mathematics faculty at the University of Chicago in the Fall of 1972. In 1986, he moved to the Mathematics Department of the Pennsylvania State University and served as its chair and as Raymond Shibley Professor from 1990 to 1995. He relocated to the University of Texas at Austin where he held the CAM Chair 1 from 1995 to 2002. He moved again to the Department of Mathematics, Statistics and Computer Science at the University of Illinois at Chicago in 2002, serving as Chair from 2002-2007. He continues there as Professor of Mathematics.

To celebrate his 70th birthday, an international Workshop on "Theoretical, Numerical and Experimental Studies of Nonlinear Dispersive Equations" was held July 6-10, 2015 in the Tsinghua Sanya International Mathematics Forum located in Sanya, China. The papers collected in this issue and the next issue, which are part of the presentations given at the workshop, are on topics in partial differential equations with an emphasis on nonlinear waves. They give an indication of his influential contribution to this research subject. His inspiration and support to junior researchers, including many of authors in this issue, has been a hallmark of his career.

Editors of the Special Issue

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