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פרס חיים נסיהו במתמטיקה לשנת תשע"ב

פרס חיים נסיהו במתמטיקה לשנת תשע"ב (2012) מוענק לד"ר **אלכסנדר (סשה) סודין** מאוניברסיטת תל-אביב. נימוקי ועדת הפרס מובאים להלן.

2012 Haim Nesyahu Prize in Mathematics

The Haim Nesyahu Prize in Mathematics for the year 2012 is awarded to Dr. **Alexander (Sasha) Sodin** from Tel-Aviv University. The prize committee citation follows.

החלטת השופטים

לאחר עיון בעבודות הדוקטוראט של ששת המועמדים ובמכתבי הממליצים, החליטה וועדת השיפוט להעניק את פרס חיים נסיהו במתמטיקה לשנת תשע"ב עבור עבודת הדוקטוראט המצטיינת במדעי המתמטיקה לד"ר **אלכסנדר סודין**, על עבודת הדוקטורט בנושא: "מטריצות מקריות בעלות איברים בלתי-תלויים, ונושאים אחרים בתורת ההסתברות האסימפטוטית". העבודה נכתבה בהנחיית פרופ' ויטלי מילמן מאוניברסיטת תל-אביב, והוגשה בקיץ 2010.

Citation:

We have decided to award the Nesyahu prize for 2012 to Dr. **Alexander Sodin** of Tel-Aviv University. We considered the six excellent Ph.D. theses which were submitted this year, all worthy of the prize, and after discussing their strengths and contributions, we have reached the conclusion that Dr. Sodin's thesis should receive the award this year.

Dr. Sodin's thesis, *Random Matrices with Independent Entries, and Other Topics in Asymptotic Probability Theory*, written under the supervision of Professor Vitali Milman at Tel-Aviv University and submitted in June, 2010, deals with the statistical properties of large random matrices and their eigenvalues. The thesis discusses the global distribution of eigenvalues for random and band-random matrices. However, its most important results relate to the "local regime" in the vicinity of a specific value. Dr. Sodin introduces here a modification of the classical moment method for

studying random matrices, combining it with a combinatorial approach using orthogonal polynomials.

As the examiners of Dr. Sodin's thesis say, "[it] contains impressive new results about random band and sparse matrices. There is more than enough material here for several theses. [...] The results and ideas of this thesis have already had a significant impact on random matrix theory". "Sodin is clearly a powerful and ambitious young mathematician [...] I am very impressed not only by his technical virtuosity, but by his original approach to difficult problems of analysis."

Part of this thesis has been published in the *Annals of Mathematics*.

Prof. David Blanc,
Prize committee chairman

Prof. Louis Rowen,
President