

Thanks

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First, I want to thank all organizers, **Giuseppe, Julien and Stephane**, with a special mention to Giuseppe who has worked a lot. I also want to thank the speakers, the institutions which have contributed to this conference, and of course all participants.

This anniversary is also, more or less, the 60's birthday of Algebraic Analysis, since **Mikio Sato's** first draft on hyperfunctions appeared in 1958. I am not sure that this paper had the influence on Mathematics it deserved, but it had certainly an enormous influence on my mathematical life. Perhaps I will briefly explain how I discovered the existence of hyperfunction theory.

I started mathematics with **Jacques-Louis Lions**. Indeed, I was not from the ENS or Ecole Polytechnique but I followed the courses at the University, called La Sorbonne at that time and which, in accordance with a theorem of Poincaré, is again the name of my University. I was not a very good student, I was fired from the "preparatory school to the "grandes écoles" and barely passed my exams, but by some chance I was first at an exam of a course given by Lions and then I went to him to ask him to do research. I perfectly remember his answer "you are not good in math, but this is not a problem, if you are ambitious and a hard worker, you will succeed in... numerical analysis" and he gave me a few books on this subject to read. Of course, I didn't open any of these books and wrote a paper on a kind of abstract Gevrey distributions. I showed the paper to Lions who told me that there was a Japanese mathematician, Mikio Sato, who had constructed a generalization of distributions and that **André Martineau**, living in Montpellier, was the best (and unique) specialist of this theory. Then I got in touch with Martineau and rapidly left Lions for him as my new advisor. I should mention that Lions had been very fair and never showed any bad mood for this defection.

At this time, I was supposed to be an analyst and I participated to the Schwartz seminar, at Ecole Polytechnique. It took much time for me to realize that I was not an analyst and to make a kind of "coming out", which does not mean that I became an algebraist. It is like in many other aspects of life, it is not because you are not on one side that you belong to the opposite side, like in politics now, you can be "en même temps" on the left and on the right, you can be an analyst and an algebraist, and there are other examples that I will not develop here.

I entered the university in October 1965, at the age of 22. My only degree at this time was a so-called “thèse de 3eme cycle” consisting of a Note at the French Academy of Sciences concerning an obscure question of functional analysis. At this time, nothing was more easy than to start an academic life. There were more positions (assistant professors or researcher at Cnrs) than postulants, but things drastically changed in the 70s and positions suddenly became rare. I got a professor’s position in 72 at Villetaneuse, and I can say that I have been very lucky since I had no support, Martineau having passed away the same year. Twenty years later, I moved to Paris 6 University, thanks to some people that I warmly thank (at least one of them, **François Loeser**, is here). At this time, Paris 6 was a very strange place and the criteria to be hired were perhaps not all strictly scientific. I used to attend the seminar of **Jean Leray** and I asked him if he could support me. He immediately answered that he could not do anything for me but in fact, he did, and I think that his intervention was decisive.

I will not trace here the whole story of my mathematical life. The most important thing is my collaboration with **Masaki Kashiwara**, our first paper appeared in 1978, exactly 40 years ago. I think we have done a good job together, centered around the idea of microlocal sheaf theory, in the continuation of Mikio Sato’s ideas and with the tools of the 70s elaborated by Sato and Grothendieck. The key idea is that of microsupport, a closed conic subset of the cotangent bundle, which will be proved to be co-isotropic. Behind this idea of microsupport is the basic concept of propagation, a notion which first emerged in PDE but the microsupport plays a role in various branches of mathematics, including symplectic geometry, under the impulse of **Tamarkin** and algebraic geometry, after the impulse of **Beilinson**.

But of course new ideas have emerged since the 70s and it clearly appears that microlocal sheaf theory, or more generally Algebraic Analysis, has to be developed in the new framework of **Lurie’s and Toen’s** infinite categories, and for such a task, one needs fresh blood. I hope this conference will be a step in this direction.