

Foreword

The first part of this volume is dedicated to our friend and colleague Giovanni Alessandrini, on the occasion of his sixtieth birthday. This section contains twenty-one invited papers from mathematicians who have collaborated with Giovanni, mainly in the field of partial differential equations and inverse problems. We thank all the authors for their contributions.

Giovanni Alessandrini was born in Florence on November 16, 1955. He obtained his university degree in Mathematics in 1978 at the University of Florence, with a thesis on Harmonic Functions, under the supervision of Giorgio Talenti. In the same university he worked as a researcher up to 1988 when he became associate professor at the University of Ancona. Since November 1990 he is full professor of Mathematical Analysis at the University of Trieste.

His research interests are focused on the qualitative theory of elliptic and parabolic equations and on inverse problems. In all these topics he has given several relevant scientific contributions. He is editor of important journals, in the field of ill-posed and inverse problems. During his career, Giovanni has had many students and has collaborated with mathematicians from several countries. All those who know Giovanni appreciate his deep mathematical culture and insight, as well as his kindness and generosity.

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