

Foreword: The beginning of a new era for RACSAM

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Foreword: The beginning of a new era for RACSAM

Jesús Ildefonso Díaz

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Although the Spanish Academy of Sciences (Real Academia de Ciencias Exactas, Físicas y Naturales) was created in 1847 by the Spanish Queen Isabel II (1830–1904), it was only in 1905 that the Academy inaugurated a research journal, called the *Revista de la Real Academia de Ciencias Exactas, Físicas y Naturales de Madrid*. This was done at the initiative of the President of the Academy, *José Echegaray* (1832–1916), an engineer and mathematician who won the 1904 Nobel Prize in Literature, and by the 1906 Nobel Prize winner in Physiology, *Santiago Ramón y Cajal* (1852–1934).

A previous journal of the Academy, launched in 1850 with the name *Revista de los progresos de las Ciencias Exactas, Físicas y Naturales*, consisted of little more than survey articles and news about scientific life in Spain. The current journal is, as mentioned, a research journal. It shortened its name to *Revista de la Real Academia de Ciencias Exactas, Físicas y Naturales* in 1996. A representative list of articles published before 2005 was presented in the journal's special issue number 100.

It was in March 2001 when the Academy started the series, *Serie A: Matemáticas* of the *Revista de la Real Academia de Ciencias Exactas, Físicas y Naturales* with the acronym **RACSAM**. At the time, Ángel Martín Municio was President of the Academy and Gregorio Millán Barbany was President of the Mathematical Section. We at **RACSAM** must acknowledge with gratitude the indispensable help and support of the Madrid Academy of Sciences and its Presidents Carlos Sánchez del Río y Sierra, Alberto Galindo Tixaire and Miguel Ángel Alario y Franco, and also the current President of the Mathematical Section, Darío Maravall Casesnoves.

Our new series better serves the mathematical communications of our Spanish Academy, as that is now its sole concern, rather than the whole of science. We thank the many authors and reviewers for their generous support.

Spanish and foreign members of our Academy and many other authors communicate papers to **RACSAM** of a quality that has already been recognised by those who deal with

citation and impact factors. Such recognition is not independent of the recent impressive production of the Spanish mathematical community.

This new period of **RACSAM**, now under the aegis of Springer-Verlag, opens very promising challenges for the dissemination of new mathematical results at a time when communication is crucial. We thank Springer for the trust shown in **RACSAM**. Together we will inform the world much better of the contributions our journal offers.

Finally, I want to recognise the great care, kindness and patience of Manuel López-Pellicer who, since March 2005, has assumed complete responsibility for this young (yet, at the same time, more than a century old) journal.

Jesús Ildefonso Díaz
First Editor of RACSAM (2001–2005)