

Editorial: In memoriam—Valentin S. (Valya) Afraimovich (2 April 1945–21 February 2018)

Leonid Bunimovich, Anatoly Neishtadt, and Jürgen Kurths

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The nonlinear science community experienced a painful loss with the sudden death of our colleague and friend, Professor V. S. Afraimovich. For many years, Professor Afraimovich was a very active and constructive member of the Chaos Advisory Board. Additionally, he made lasting contributions to the theory of dynamical systems and its various applications. Valentin was one of the brightest members of the famous Gorky (Nizhny Novgorod) School of nonlinear oscillations. He contributed fundamental results to bifurcation theory, the theory of strange attractors, dimension theory of dynamical systems (in particular, the Afraimovich–Pesin dimension), pattern formation, coupled map lattices, topological dynamics, and open dynamical

systems theory. He was also very actively working on the analysis of dynamical systems in Physics and Neuroscience. Valentin wrote several books and, in the last years, he was working together with M. I. Rabinovich on a book about Nonlinear Cognition.

Valentin had a wonderful, warm, and kind personality and was loved by everybody. Russian-speaking people who knew him called him Uncle (Dyadya) Valya, which expresses true love and appreciation. Traditionally, only children call grownups “Uncle,” but Valya Afraimovich was known as “Uncle Valya” even among his peers.

He will be greatly missed by his many colleagues and friends.