Józef Marcinkiewicz (1910–1940)
– on the centenary of his birth

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Life and work of the Polish mathematician Józef Marcinkiewicz (1910–1940) will be presented. Marcinkiewicz was born on March 30th, 1910 (April 12th, 1910 in new style calendar) in Cimoszka, a small village near Białystok. He graduated in 1933, after three years of study, from the Faculty of Mathematics and Natural Sciences of Stefan Batory University in Wilno (now Vilnius). In 1935 he received his doctorate for the thesis *Trigonometric interpolation of absolutely continuous functions* written under supervision of Antoni Zygmund, who was his Master during all his career. The academic year 1935/1936 he spent at the University of Lwów, where he collaborated with Stefan Kaczmarz, Juliusz Schauder and Władysław Orlicz. Returning to Wilno in the autumn of 1936, Marcinkiewicz became a senior assistant there. In 1937 he received his *habilitation* and became a docent. In 1938 he got a scholarship to study in Paris, London and Stockholm. He went to Paris (October 1938-March 1939) and London (April–August 1939). In June 1939 he received an offer of a Chair of Mathematics at the University of Poznań. Unfortunately, the outbreak of the war destroyed those plans. In August 1939 Marcinkiewicz decided to return from London to Poland since he was an officer in the army reserve and felt that it was his duty to his country to return. Marcinkiewicz was taken as a Polish prisoner of war to a Soviet camp in Starobielsk and in 1940 he was murdered in Kharkov, together with a few thousands of Polish officers.

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My presentation will include his biography with photos and scientific achievements. Marcinkiewicz worked in real functions, trigonometric series, trigonometric interpolation, functional analysis, orthogonal systems, probability theory and complex analysis. The list of his publications (written between 1933–1939) contains 55 papers, of those 19 were jointly written with other authors. His name is mostly remembered in mathematics for Marcinkiewicz interpolation theorem, two kinds of Marcinkiewicz spaces, Marcinkiewicz–Zygmund law of large numbers, Marcinkiewicz multiplier theorem, Marcinkiewicz theorem on characteristic functions, Marcinkiewicz–Zygmund inequalities, Marcinkiewicz integral, Jessen–Marcinkiewicz–Zygmund strong differentiation theorem, Grünwald–Marcinkiewicz interpolation theorem, Marcinkiewicz–Salem conjecture, etc. I am also planning to mention and shortly describe some of these Marcinkiewicz results.

References

[1] A. Zygmund, *Józef Marcinkiewicz, Collected Papers*, PWN, Warszawa 1964.

[2] L. Maligranda, *Józef Marcinkiewicz as pupil, man and mathematician* (*on the centenary of his birth and the 70th anniversary of his death*), lecture delivered in Janów on March 23rd, 2010 and *Józef Marcinkiewicz and his mathematical results*, lecture delivered in Iwonicz Zdrój on May 25th, 2010.

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