

EDITORIAL

A SPECIAL ISSUE ON MATHEMATICAL ECONOMICS IN MEMORY OF PROFESSOR TAPAN MITRA ON THE OCCASION OF HIS 75TH BIRTHDAY

This special issue on Mathematical Economics is dedicated to the memory of Professor Tapan Mitra on the occasion of his 75th birthday.

Tapan Mitra (18 July 1948 - 3 February 2019) was an outstanding American mathematical economist. In 1968 he graduated from the University of Calcutta with a degree in economics and further studied the subject, completing a master's degree at Delhi University two years later. Tapan Mitra subsequently immigrated to the United States, where he obtained a second master's in economics, followed by a doctorate in the same subject at the University of Rochester in 1973 and 1975 respectively. He lectured at Rochester while working toward his Ph.D, joining the University of Illinois at Chicago in 1974 as an assistant professor. Tapan Mitra moved to the Stony Brook University in 1976, where he was later appointed associate professor. He began teaching at Cornell University in 1981 as full professor of economics. In 1997, Professor Mitra was elected a fellow of the Econometric Society, and was named the Goldwin Smith Professor of Economics at Cornell in 2007. In 2016, he endowed a set of prizes awarded by the Department of Economics.

Tapan Mitra was on the Editorial Board of Economic Theory and of the International Journal of Economic Theory at their inception and was a Fellow of the Society for the Advancement of Economic Theory (SAET). He was also a Fellow of the Econometric Society, and had held a Sloan Fellowship.

A prolific researcher, Mitra was duly acknowledged as a leading economic theorist of his generation. His definitive and pioneering contributions to the efficiency and equity of inter-temporal allocation of resources gave a shape and cast to capital theory and to economic dynamics that will surely stand the test of time. Committed to the highest standards of scholarship, of precision and rigour, and blessed with rare analytical power, his touch enriched many subjects: chaotic dynamics, renewable and exhaustible resources, their sustainability and extinction, choice of technique in development planning, forestry economics, and undoubtedly others. He investigated convex and non-convex environments, with or without discounting, and whereas he did

not neglect continuous-time dynamics, the setting of discrete-time was his favourite and formidable forte. Tapan Mitra published around 100 refereed journal and conference articles.

In this special issue we present nine papers authored by a selected group of experts in the area of Mathematical Economics. Most of the papers collected here have been contributed by collaborators, friends and colleagues of Tapan Mitra, who were influenced by his scientific work. These papers cover a wide spectrum of important problems and topics of current research interest.

Therefore we feel that this special issue will be highly important for many researchers, who are interested in recent developments in Mathematical Economics.

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