

Polish Academy of Sciences

Institute of Fundamental Technological Research

Archives of Mechanics

P. 262 b



Archiwum Mechaniki Stosowanej

volume 30

issue 6

Polish Scientific Publishers

Warszawa 1978

ARCHIVES OF MECHANICS IS DEVOTED TO

Theory of elasticity and plasticity • Theory of non-classical continua • Physics of continuous media
Mechanics of discrete media • Non-linear mechanics
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Printed in Poland. Editorial Office: Świętokrzyska 21,
00-049 Warszawa (Poland)

Nakład 840. Arkuszy wydawniczych 14,25. Arkuszy drukarskich
11,25. Papier druk. sat. IV kl. 71 g. Bl. Oddano do składania
21.VII.1978 r. Druk. ukończono w grudniu 1978 r.
Cena zł 38,—. Zam. 1185/78. S-86. Druk. im. Rewolucji
Październikowej W-wa

V.V. Sokolovskii (1912-1978)

Professor V. V. SOKOLOVSKII, an eminent Soviet scholar and one of the founders of the contemporary theory of plasticity, died at the age of 66 in Moscow on January 8, 1978. Since 1946 he was a corresponding member of the Soviet Academy of Sciences, and in 1959 he became a foreign member of the Polish Academy of Sciences. Since 1961 he was a member of the editorial Advisory Committee of our periodical.

V. V. SOKOLOVSKII was born in Kharkov on October 17, 1912. He graduated from the Moscow Civil Engineering Institute in 1933. From that time he published a number of fundamental works in the mechanics of plastic flow and mechanics of granular materials. The total output of the research work of Professor V. V. SOKOLOVSKII includes over 100 scientific reports and two outstanding monographs, "Theory of Plasticity" and "Statics of Granular Media". Both books were reprinted several times and translated into English, Japanese and Polish.

In his works devoted to the theory of plastic flow he gave a detailed analysis of the plane state of stress, in which he showed that the governing equations are of the hyperbolic or elliptic types depending on the state of stress existing in the body. In his works he also presented a generalized approach to the theory of plane state of strain of a plastic body as well as numerous original practical applications to the problems of compression, indentation, drawing etc. Numerous other original solutions to various plastic flow problems proposed by Professor SOKOLOVSKII are quoted as classical ones in various books. The elastic-plastic torsion of a bar with oval cross-section, torsion of non-cylindrical bars, plastic bending of beams and plates, propagation of plastic waves, may be mentioned as typical examples.

Not less important are the achievements of Professor V. V. SOKOLOVSKII on limit states of granular materials. His classical monograph "Statics of granular media" contains a sound presentation of the theory of plane strain limit states of Granular Materials, as well as numerous original solutions to problems of stability of slopes, interaction between a granular material and rigid walls of various configuration, limit states of a wedge of non-cohesive granular medium etc.

Professor V. V. SOKOLOVSKII maintained close ties with Polish science. He visited our country several times where he participated in scientific meetings.



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