Helena Rasiowa

(1917–1994)



the insight from logic

by Damian Niwiński, University of Warsaw

Computer Science Logic 2022

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How it started...

- **1938** Helena decides to study mathematics at the University of Warsaw
- 1939 All universities are closed, six years of terror

Rasiowa continues her studies at the clandestine university

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Note. A logician Heinrich Scholz from Münster tried to help his Polish colleagues undre Nazi occupation, in particular Łukasiewicz.

Return of hope



1946 Helena reconstructs her thesis and returns to the university

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1947 her first publication appears Axiomatisation d'un système partiel de la théorie de la deduction

Own path in logic



1950 PhD

Algebraic treatment of the functional calculi of Lewis and Heyting supervised by Andrzej Mostowski

1956 habilitation Algebraic models of elementary theories and their applications

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with Roman Sikorski, 1963

From Preface:

The title of this book is not meant as a pun, although it may, at first sight, appear to be so.

By means of infinitistic methods the meaning of many basic metamathematical theorems is made clear.

. . .

. . .

It is surprising that the Gödel completeness theorem can be obtained, for example, as a result of the Baire theorem on sets of the first category in topological spaces, etc.

Continuation and offsprings

Algebraic approach to non-classical logics, 1974, North Holland

The work had an impact on **categorical logic**, and gave rise to the development of

- ► algorithmic logic (G. Mirkowska, A. Salwicki) → logics of programs
- logics for artificial intelligence
 (E. Orłowska, Z. Pawlak, C. Rauszer, A. Skowron)

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Sharing knowledge, sharing values

For undergraduates: Introduction to modern mathematics

over 20 PhD students

Dean of the faculty (1958-1960, 1962-1966, 1968-1978)



Scientific community without borders

Fundamenta Informaticae (created with Z. Pawlak in 1977)

Stefan Banach International Mathematical Center — meeting point of East and West



H. Rasiowa, Z. Pawlak, Mrs. Trakhtenbrot, C. Rauszer, B. Trakhtenbrot

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Helena Rasiowa's heritage in logic in computer science



Thank you one

- algebraic and categorical logic
- logics of programs
- Warsaw groups in TCS