

Prof. Valerij Bočvarski has been for many years collaborator at the Institute of Physics Belgrade (IPB). After obtaining his bachelor diploma in 1976 at Department of Physics, Faculty of Science, University of Belgrade he started his master studies with Prof. Milan Kurepa in Atomic Collision Group of IPB. He received his master degree in 1981 with the work *Electron Spectroscopy of Molecules at the Threshold Energies*. After that he went for doctoral studies at University Paris XIII – Villtaneuse and under the supervision of Prof. Jaques Baudon performed experimental research at the LPL ([Laboratoire de Physique des Lasers](#)) and in 1986 he defended his PhD Thesis in University of Belgrade under the title *Elastic and Inelastic Collisional Cross sections  $H_2 - Ne^*$  on Thermal Energies*.

Valja cited in the forward of his PhD Thesis the sentence of philosopher Hegel: “*It is easiest to judge what is of internal value and core, it is harder to understand it, and the hardest thing is that these two associate, namely, to give an indication of it.*” From the early days of his career he inclined to philosophical questions and that stayed his preoccupation during his last days – questions such as unity-duality, space-time, discrete-continuum, as well as development of such ideas during the changes of civilizations. How our ontology standing points affect our thinking and development of our science and technology? – had been intriguing him constantly.

In physics he devoted his career to studies of several different research areas:

- Electron spectroscopy (excitation and ionization of atoms and molecules);
- Atomique interferometry;

- van der Waals interaction;
- Inelastic atom/surface processes;
- Nano – physics and matter – optics.

He became a Full-time Professor at Faculty of Science, University of Kragujevac, Serbia in 2003 and Directeur de la recherche associée 2002 (C.N.R.S. France). He also conducted two bilateral projects between France and Serbia: COCOP (9610) 1997 – 2000; and Pavle Savic 2004 – 2005. But he regularly visited his colleagues at the Institute of Physics Belgrade and discussed with them questions related to atomic physics, foundations of physical laws, and information and expert systems applied in the field of their own expertise.