

# DEZSŐ DÉVÉNYI

## 1948-2009

Who Dezső was, what he meant to us..



*Teacher,  
supervisor,  
mentor,  
colleague  
and a friend*

Dezső in Reading in November, 2009  
Are we in a library?...  
What is he reading so passionately?

# The start

- ▣ Graduated from Eötvös Lóránd Univ. in 1973 as a teacher of mathematics and physics and as a meteorologist
  - **Master thesis: Objective analysis of meteorological fields**
- ▣ 1975-76, Leningrad: „Stochastic simulation of meteorological fields using Monte Carlo method”: post-graduate study under the supervision of Lev Gandin. In more general: 4D data assimilation.. Purpose: „candidature” (the equivalent of PhD)
- ▣ Dezső's bad luck: Gandin became persona non grata („refusenik” )

# Dezső the young man



Dezső and Patricia in Hévíz

Dezső and his brother Laci

# Initial years at HMS

- ▣ 1976-79: scientist at NWP section
- ▣ 1979-84: scientific secretary
- ▣ 1985-88: head of NWP group at Central Institute for Weather Forecasting (I joined this group in 86)
- ▣ 1988-91 head of weather forecasting division (NWP group included)

# Initial years at HMS



Mid 80-ies North Korea as a  
WMO expert



Síkfőkút, conference on use of mathematical  
statistics in meteorology



On a mission in Kazakhstan  
With our forecasters

# Dezső as head of NWP

- ▣ He formed a group of young meteorologists, supervised and trained them on NWP
  - Purpose was to develop or **adapt** an up-to-date NWP system (a new computer centre was built with a relatively strong mainframe)
- ▣ 1988- Adaptation SMHI LAM system
  - Dezső visited SMHI and brought home the code
  - It became operational at HMS in 1991
- ▣ 1990: Dezső represented HMS at the kick-off of the NWP cooperation initiated by Meteo-France (later called ALADIN)
- ▣ 1991: Initiation of ECMWF „cooperative state” membership (Dezső played a crucial role)

# ALADIN kick-off



1991, start of LAM cooperation between Meteo-France and Eastern Europe: Dezső with JFG, Radmila and Vlad in Paris

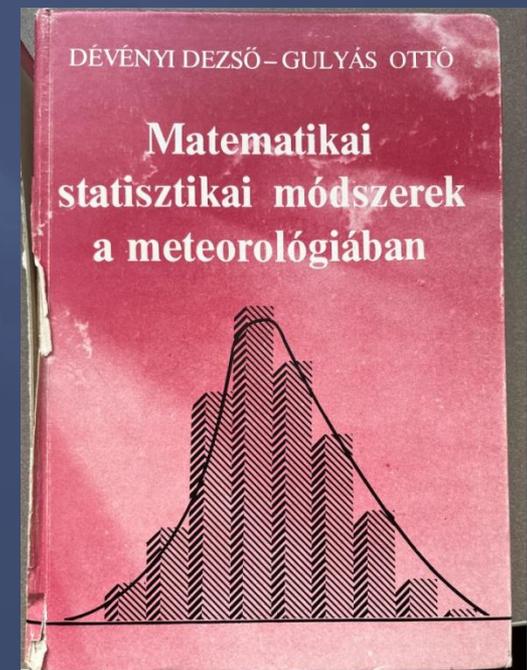
# Our first visit to Reading, IUGG-1989



IUGG conference at Reading University, also visit to ECMWF  
Milestone in Dezső's future life: met for the first time his future  
Boulder colleagues and friends Stan Benjamin and Tom  
Schlatter!!!

# Dezső as a teacher and supervisor

- 1982-1991: Dezső gave lectures for meteorology students on NWP (numerical methods, stability issues, Galerkin methods, NWP models, optimal interpolation...)
- He was supervisor for numerous master and PhD theses
- He was co-author of a mathematical statistics for meteorologists textbook



# Dezső's candidate (PhD)work

Dezső got his title in 1991:

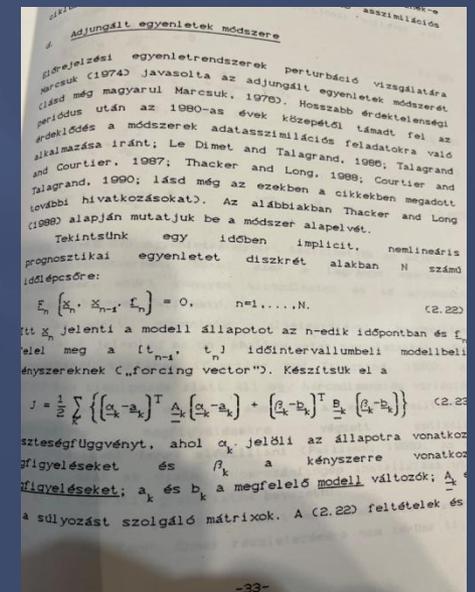
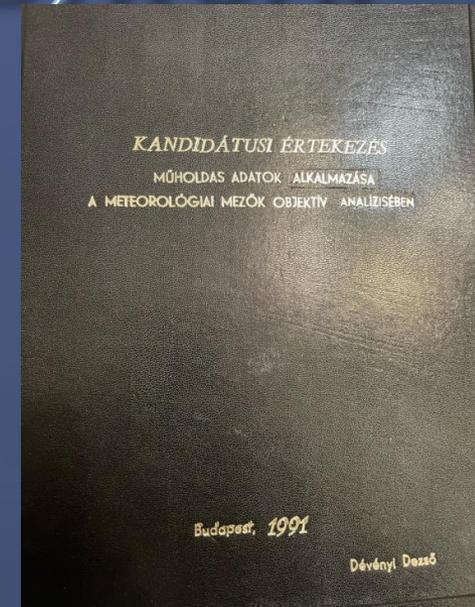
**Application of satellite data in the objective analysis of meteorological fields**

*Points out the poor accuracy of T,q profiles retrieved from satellite measurements compared to model background fields;*

*Introduces his two-step algorithm to filter and interpolate observational data (conventional and satellite);*

*Summarizes promising new methods (nonlinear optimal interpolation, kalman filter and variational methods):*

*they can account for nonlinearities in radiative transfer model, so radiances can be directly assimilated*



# Between Boulder and Budapest

- ▣ 1991-93 First visit to Boulder, NOAA FSL:
  - Developed RUC Optimal interpolation in isentropic coordinates



Dezső, Stan, Tom and myself  
HMS headquarters, 1991, August



# Between Boulder and Budapest

- ▣ Stan Benjamin: „Dezső was the best data assimilation scientist in RUC/Rapid refresh group at NOAA FSL”
- ▣ 1993: Dezső came back to HMS : Vice President of HMS, 94-95
- ▣ 1995-1998: back to Boulder
- ▣ 1999: Back to Budapest, prof at ELTE
- ▣ 2000-: Boulder again...

# Between Boulder and Budapest



Dezső with Vissy Gyuri, Takács Ági, Stan and:  
**Peter Mandics and Major Gyurka**, the two, who initiated the fruitful  
cooperation

# Between Boulder and Budapest



Visegrád with Stan,  
Dezső's family, István, myself

Boulder and the Rockies, Laci,  
Gizi, Jeff, Iván and Dezső's family

# Between Boulder and Budapest

- ▣ Dezsó's main achievements in Boulder (recap from Stan's talk):
  - Introduction of 3DVAR to NOAA hres short-range models
  - Application of the community GSI statistical interpolation to regional RAP
  - Development of ens-based closure scheme for deep convection parametrization (Grell-Devenyi, 2002)

# Dezső in Reading

- ▣ Visited several times, last time in November, 2009



1, Nov 2009  
Birmingham City-Manchester  
City 0:0



Our favourite pub in Reading, The George with  
Ervin, István and myself

# We remember Dezső

