

U poglavlju pod nazivom *Geografski aspekti djelovanja Ruđera Josipa Boškovića* autor Josip Faričić razmatra geografske aspekte djelovanja Josipa Ruđera Boškovića. Premda se danas njegova ostvarenja vezana uz određivanje dimenzije Zemlje, njegove rasprave o obliku Zemlje, o izostaziji, plimi i oseki te dr. smatraju postignućima na polju geodezije, geofizike i geologije, u njegovo su se doba ti problemi rješavali u okviru geografije i astronomije. Sukladno kontekstualizaciji Boškovićeve djela u povijesnom razdoblju u kojem je istraživao, bilo bi dobro Boškovića, uz sve njegove do sada isticane znanstvene atribucije, smatrati i geografom. Uostalom, Bošković je bio zainteresiran putnik i znanstvenik koji je pažljivo proučavao prostor u kojem je znanstveno djelovao i kroz koji je prolazio. Zacijelo nije moguće previdjeti geografsku osnovu njegovih brojnih hidrotehničkih ekspertiza kao i oštroomne opservacije o geografskim obilježjima velikog dijela Europe kojim je proputovao.

Ivan Razumović i Martina Triplat Horvat u poglavlju *Boškovićeve metoda izjednačenja* prikazuju povijesni pregled obrade različitih vrsta mjerenja s naglaskom na metode izjednačenja. Detaljno je prikazana prva metoda izjednačenja, koju je osmislio Bošković, te njezin daljnji razvoj i primjena. Objasnjeni su uvjeti koji moraju biti zadovoljeni da bi se neka mjerenja mogla izjednačiti po Boškovićevoj metodi. Dan je analitički prikaz metode sukladan Laplaceovoj razradi metode. Provedena su izjednačenja primjenom geometrijskog i analitičkog oblika Boškovićeve metode na primjerima za pet i devet mjerenih meridijanskih stupnjeva. Podaci upotrijebljeni za računanje preuzeti su iz Boškovićeve izvornika, a dobiveni rezultati uspoređeni su s onima koji su iskazani u Boškovićeve djelima. Na kraju je još ukratko opisan odnos Boškovićeve metode prema drugim metodama i njezine primjene.

Kao inicijator i urednik monografije želim zahvaliti svima onima koji su pridonijeli njezinu ostvarenju. To su ponajprije autori, prevoditelji i recenzenti, a zatim institucije bez čije suradnje i pomoći ova knjiga ne bi mogla ugledati svijetlo dana: Geodetski fakultet Sveučilišta u Zagrebu, Državna geodetska uprava, Hrvatska komora ovlaštenih inženjera geodezije, Hrvatsko geodetsko društvo, Zaklada Hrvatske akademije znanosti i umjetnosti, Rudarsko-geološko-naftni fakultet Sveučilišta u Zagrebu, Državni arhiv u Dubrovniku, Nacionalna i sveučilišna knjižnica u Zagrebu, Knjižnica Hrvatske akademije znanosti i umjetnosti, Bibliothèque nationale de France, Biblioteca Casanatense, Ministero dei beni e delle attività culturali e del turismo, Rim i Istituto Geografico Militare, Firenze. Posebno zahvaljujem svim donatorima i sponzorima.

*Miljenko Lapaine*

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