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(*b*. Bar, Podolskaya gÜbernia [now Vinnitsa oblast], Russia, 16 December 1804; *d*. St, Petersburg, Russia, 12 December 1889)

mathematics, mechanics.

Bunyakovsky was the son of Colonel Yakov Vasilievich Bunyakovsky. After a basic education at home, he completed his studies abroad, receiving the doctorate in mathematical sciences at Paris in 1825. He returned the following year to St. Petersburg, where he subsequently began his scientific research and teaching. For many years Bunyakovsky lectured on mathematics and mechanics at the First Cadet Corps (later the Naval Academy) and at the Communications Institute. From 1846 to 1880 he was a professor at St. Petersburg University.

Bunyakovsky's scientific work was done at the St. Petersburg Academy of Sciences, of which he was named adjunct in mathematics (1828), extraordinary academician (1830), and ordinary academician (1841). He was elected vice-president in 1864 and retained the post for twenty-five years.

Of Bunyakovsky's approximately 150 published works in mathematics and mechanics, a monograph on inequalities relating to integrals in finite intervals (1859) is particularly well known. In this work he first stated the important integral inequality named for him:

Rediscovered and published by Hermann Schwarz in 1884, it is now often known as the Schwarz inequal ity. Bunyakovsky produced many works on number theory and in particular solved a series of specific equations and gave a new proof for the law of quadratic reciprocity.

Some of Bunyakovsky's results were included in P. Bachmann's Niedere Zahlenthéorie, and about forty references to his original results appear in L.E. Dickson's Hisotory of the Theory of Numbers. His contributions to number theory include a work (1846) in which he gave an original exposition of this science and of its application to insurance and demography.

Bunyakovsky's works also deal with geometry. In 1853 he critically examined previous attempts to prove Euclid's fifth postulate concerning parallel lines and attempted a proof himself-unaware of the significance of Lobachevsky's non-Euclidean geometry. Active in disseminating mathematical knowledge in Russia. he also contributed substantially to the enrichment of Russian mathematical terminology.

Bunyakovsky' works on applied mechanics and hydrostatics are also of interest. To commemorate fifty years of his research and teaching. the St. Petersburg Academy in 1875 issued a medal and established a prize bearing his name for outstanding work in mathematics.

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