

IN MEMORIAM

Drs. Anita and Aniruddha Naolekar



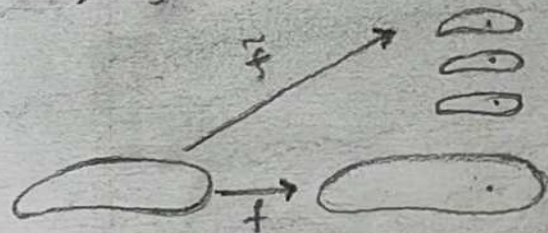
Drs. Aniruddha and Anita Naolekar

"The Octonions"
- John Baez



$$\begin{array}{ccccccc} 0 \rightarrow H^0(X, A; G) \rightarrow H^0(X; G) \rightarrow H^0(A; G) \xrightarrow{\Delta} H^1(X, A; G) \rightarrow \dots \\ \uparrow \quad \quad \quad \uparrow \quad \quad \quad \uparrow \quad \quad \quad \uparrow \\ 0 \rightarrow H^0(Y, B; G) \rightarrow H^0(Y; G) \rightarrow H^0(B; G) \xrightarrow{\Delta} H^1(Y, B; G) \rightarrow \dots \end{array}$$

Lifting Problem

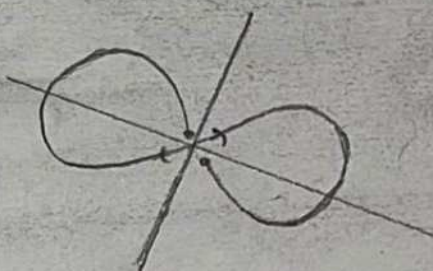
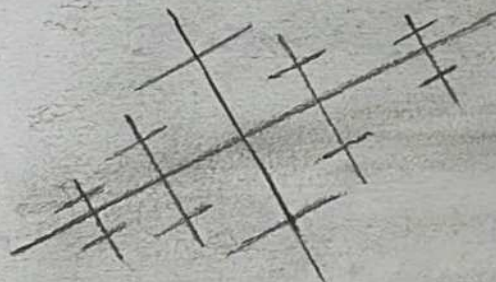


$$\begin{array}{ccc} X & \xrightarrow{f} & E \\ \downarrow i_0 & \nearrow \tilde{h} & \downarrow p \\ X \times I & \xrightarrow{h} & B \end{array}$$

$$S^n \cong \text{SO}(n+1)/\text{SO}(n)$$



$$D_X Y = \sum_{i,j}^k (X^i h_{ij} + (Y^j h_{ij} + \sum_{i,j}^k \Gamma_{ij}^k) \frac{\partial}{\partial x_k})$$



$$\mathbb{CP}^2 \neq S^2 \vee S^2$$

Our Memories of Anita Ma'am and Aniruddha Sir

Prof.s Aniruddha and Anita were very kind and loving to us always and blessed us like parently figures. I remember I used to talk to Anita ma'm for advice regarding math or literally anything in college, any difficulty I faced. I still remember she first found me sitting confused in an advanced lecture at an ICTS conference, and gently helped me to get through some of the ideas. I said I felt completely lost at the standards of the talk, and she said : Neither do we understand it well. Of course she was joking but it felt so comforting and homely. Aniruddha Naolekar Sir took our LA 1 course, I wasn't old enough to understand the depth of his actual research, but he felt like one of the nicest people on earth. I still miss Anita maam's class; she took our galois course. I had planned to call/contact her this September but now I won't be able to thank her enough for what support she had given me. God takes His angels sooner, and I pray for their souls with heartfelt obesciences; Om Shanti.

- Prognadipto Majumder (B Math 2021-24)



Our Memories of Anita Ma'am and Aniruddha Sir



Anita ma'am taught us two courses, both of which I think I was able to grasp because of her calm and steady teaching pace and willingness to answer questions after class. Her teaching taught me that a bit of calmness is an important ingredient in making a whole classroom engage. It's a shame that we did not get to study an offline course with Aniruddha sir.

I will forever remember the donuts that Anita ma'am brought for the whole class after our Galois theory exam. Acts like these really showed her love for us students.

- Aditya Prabhu, B. Math 21-24

Our Memories of Anita Ma'am and Aniruddha Sir

Aniruddha sir has been a huge inspiration for me, and he reached out to me and showed me immense kindness at a very dark time of my life. He helped me go through it and helped me with my studies and everything other than studies. He believed in me even though I was not doing well in my exams and was struggling a lot, and that helped me believe in myself too. He showed me hope when I had none. I wish I could tell him how grateful I am, and I hope to someday be able to pass on the kindness too.

- Rinkiny, BMath 22-25, MMath 25-27



Our Memories of Anita Ma'am and Aniruddha Sir

Prof. Aniruddha was a respected mathematician and an even better teacher. I have not just learnt math but also developed a work ethic from him. He has become an academic parent for our batch. We interacted with him a lot and he had all the patience in the world to carefully explain all our doubts.

Thank you Sir and Ma'am for all your time and efforts you both have spent years together on teaching us. You both will always be remembered and may you both rest in peace

- Gautham, BMath-23, MMath-25

(Algebra 1,2,4 by Dr. Anita
Topology 1,2,3, Diff Geo 2 by Dr. Aniruddha)

Professor Anita Naolekar's words of encouragement after my midsems helped me get back on track after my disastrous first 2 years at ISI. She wrote a recommendation letter for me even though I was failing student. Sometimes I find myself motivated to do better just because a professor I looked up to thought I could do better. Thank you ma'am and sir, I am forever indebted to your efforts. May you both rest in peace

- Sushant Aditya, BMath-26

(Representation theory by Dr. Anita)

Our Memories of Anita Ma'am and Aniruddha Sir



Profs. Aniruddha Naolekar and Anita Naolekar were two of the most soft-spoken teachers I ever had, and this world is poorer now that they have moved on.

As the saying goes, maybe
Somebody Up There Liked Them,
as we did down here too.

ॐ शान्ति:

- R Samyak, BMath 2015-18

(Analysis IV by Prof Anita in B2,
Diff Geo I by Prof Aniruddha in B3)

Our Memories of Anita Ma'am and Aniruddha Sir

Professors Anita and Aniruddha Naolekar were both immeasurably kind, patient, and inspiring. Our BMath batch learnt Algebra I from Prof Anita. We were certainly not model students, but we learnt a lot. In hindsight, I have grown to appreciate her as a teacher more. She was always welcoming and generous with a smile whenever I ran into her.

Aniruddha Naolekar's mathematical inclination was closer to mine, since he was a topologist. He was an amazing lecturer; despite his calm demeanour and soft voice he held the class in attention. He was also a great source of support and motivation when I was applying for graduate school. Through my time at ISI and beyond, he grew into someone I considered more of a peer and a confidante.

ISI, and the world of mathematics, is poorer for their departure. They were two good people and it is my privilege to have learned from them.

Agniva Roy (BMath MMath 2012-17)

I am still unable to comprehend the news that Dr. Anita is no more. Just a couple of days ago, we spoke over the phone and were wondering when we could meet.

I first met her at the Winter School organized at ISI. She was undoubtedly the pillar of the IWM Winter School, which has now grown into the Summer School. She was one of the calmest people I have ever known, with immense empathy and an unwavering commitment to finding ways to support and benefit them. Every conversation with her carried a sense of warmth, kindness, and genuine compassion.

It is difficult to accept that I will never get to meet her again. I do not have the right words to describe this loss. It is all the more heartbreaking that both she and her husband were taken away in such a tragic incident.

My thoughts and prayers are with their child and their loved ones. I hope they find the strength to endure this unimaginable loss. May she rest in peace.

- Senthil Raani K. S. (Friend and Colleague)

Our Memories of Anita Ma'am and Aniruddha Sir

Anita di was a gentle soul. I knew her through various conversations that we have had, mathematical or otherwise. I pray that the universe grants her family the strength to face the coming days without her and Aniruddha da. It is a loss that will take a long time to heal.

Somnath Basu, BMath 2000-03, MMath 2003-05



Our Memories of Anita Ma'am and Aniruddha Sir

I was fortunate to learn topology from Aniruddha sir. His way of teaching was inspirational. His clarity of the subject was amazing as I always remember his way of handling a lecture while taking a class. Apart from the classroom, he took us out on a treat as we were a part of his advanced topology class. I still remember he told us that he was a hockey player back in his college days and shared his interest in movies. Miss you sir! I always loved seeing Anita Ma'am and Aniruddha Sir together as they will forever be. They will be remembered eternally.

~Deepak Gothwal (M.Math, 2017-19)

Aniruddha da was one of the kindest souls I've ever met in my life, and had a profound impact on my life going forward. When I was suffering from depression in B3, he was the only one who noticed my changes, and invited me to his office to talk to me. He helped me a lot to get over the hard periods, and has been my mentor to me both inside and outside the classroom. I had the pleasure of visiting him recently at the alumni meet, and finally got to tell him thank you for everything he had done for me. I still do not fully understand the loss we suffered, but I hope someday I will be able to pass forward the kindness I received from him..

~Aditya De Saha (B.Math-M.Math, 2016-2021)

Our Memories of Anita Ma'am and Aniruddha Sir



I was taught by Prof Anita both in my bachelors and masters. She was one of the first persons who initiated conversations and offered to help when things got tough for me in B. Math. Even shared her contact number and has been available whenever I needed help. For the caring person she was, I'm sure many of us, including myself, owe her for getting us through stressful times at ISI. Have heard many great things about Prof Aniruddha also. Their loss feels unfair. I sincerely hope that their closed ones have all the strength to get through this time, and know how valuable these people have been to many of us.

- Satya Amar (B. Math 21, M. Math 23)

Our Memories of Anita Ma'am and Aniruddha Sir

It is really unfortunate that I have to write this here. Death may be the ultimate truth, but their passing away in this way is something I still cannot process.

I was really close to both of them. With Sir, my relationship was mostly academic, but with Ma'am, it was much more personal.

Sir taught me during M.Math. I remember that during that time, I had to undergo surgery and missed many classes. When I returned, I was struggling to catch up. He spent hours with me outside the class hours explaining the concepts. He would come earlier than usual to give me time before class. That kindness and patience meant so much to me than I probably ever told him. He was one of the softest-spoken and calmest people I have ever come across.

With Anita Ma'am, I honestly do not know where to begin. She was such an important person during my stay at ISI. She was someone I could go to with almost anything, may it be academic problems, personal worries, or when I needed someone to talk to. I always knew that she was just a text away. Once, when I had to be admitted to the hospital, she even offered to stay with me until my parents arrived. That was simply who she was. Her kindness was not limited to words, but was always there for the people she cared for. I wish I had more time, more conversations, more opportunities to tell her how much she meant to me.

I especially remember how proudly she spoke about her daughter. Whenever she spoke about her, her face would light up. It is impossible to imagine what she is going through now. I can only hope that their daughter and parents find the strength to endure this unimaginable loss.

Our Memories of Anita Ma'am and Aniruddha Sir

(contd.)

It is difficult to believe that these two people, who brought so much kindness and warmth into the lives of everyone who knew them, are no longer with us. It feels so unfair, so unreal. I feel incredibly grateful to have known them and to have experienced their warmth and kindness so closely.

The last time I met Ma'am, Sir was not there. She asked me to come home for coffee so that I could meet both of them before I left Bangalore.

That coffee will always be due!

I will miss you both, Ma'am and Sir. More than words can ever express.

Priyanka Karmakar (M.Math 2023-25)



Our Memories of Anita Ma'am and Aniruddha Sir

I had met Aniruddha in 1998 - he taught us Calculus II as a replacement of Prof. Pradipta Bandyopadhyay for a few weeks and graded one class test as well. His gentle, warm and cordial attitude is still appreciated by my our batch.

I met Anita in 2017 when I joined ISI Bangalore. She was my office neighbour and a close friend. One reason why we became friends is that we both cared about students and their well-being.

Both Aniruddha and Anita were loved by all. After the shocking incident, many students have contacted me via email and WhatsApp. They are all mourning and I have no words to console them.

- Parthanil Roy (Friend and Colleague)

Although our batch was never taught by Aniruddha (Anita was not in ISIBC then), I have several vivid memories of him. What is striking is in 3 years I never once heard his voice, but at the same time, saw him smiling almost every day, a warm gentle smile, which indicated all is well! A specially vivid memory is from a faculty vs student badminton match on teacher's day. He played an unbelievable shot to gain a point (a gentle tap to wiggle the shuttle across the net against a blinding smash) which led to applause that rent the skies. But in response, his smile just widened a half inch for a couple of seconds! He got ready then to serve again...

- Issan Patri (BMath, 2005-08)

Our Memories of Anita Ma'am and Aniruddha Sir



I have never found a more legitimate bearer of the phrase *mukhāravinda* than Aniruddha sir. One had to sit in his class to truly see it. So (g)radiant. We naturally become tranquil upon seeing a blooming flower, and so was his class. His smile was reflected in us. Words fall short to express his teaching capabilities. The same was true of Anita ma'am. Every word she uttered carried compassion and concern. She genuinely believed that everyone had a spark in them, and I still remember her giving everyone a chance to speak up and share our ideas during online classes. Their warmth was inexplicable. Just the right fertile temperature for a plant to nourish. To borrow his own words, words he once used for someone else, I don't know if they both were better mathematicians or better human beings. May they both rest in peace.

- Venkat Trivikram (B.Math 23, M.Math 25)

Our Memories of Anita Ma'am and Aniruddha Sir

I am deeply saddened to hear the incredibly shocking news of the passing of two of my dear professors, Professor Anita Naolekar and Professor Aniruddha Naolekar.

Anita ma'am taught me Group Theory and Linear Algebra at the beginning of my undergraduate years in the B.Math. program. I remember struggling terribly with my first Group Theory midterm—I found the subject far too abstract at the time. Ma'am was incredibly kind and supportive through that phase. I still remember her wishing me all the best for the Group Theory final, and I was able to do much better. She later taught me Linear Algebra as well. She was always so sweet, caring, and encouraging.

Aniruddha sir taught me Differential Geometry, Differential Topology, and Topology on Manifolds during my M.Math. years. I was always amazed by the way he lectured without notes, with such calmness and preparation. Beyond the classroom, during a difficult period in my life, he was very supportive and understanding. He also introduced me to certain ideas in geometric group theory and gave me Bowditch's book to read. I will always be grateful for his generosity and encouragement, including the many letters of recommendation he kindly wrote for my PhD applications.

Both ma'am and sir were truly admirable people and wonderful teachers. I feel very fortunate to have been their student. Their kindness, encouragement, unwavering support, and the things they taught me will remain with me.

It breaks my heart to think that they are no longer with us. My sincere condolences to their family, friends, colleagues, and all the students whose lives they touched.

Aum Shanti.

- Yash Chandra (B.Math. 2012-15, M.Math. 2015-17)

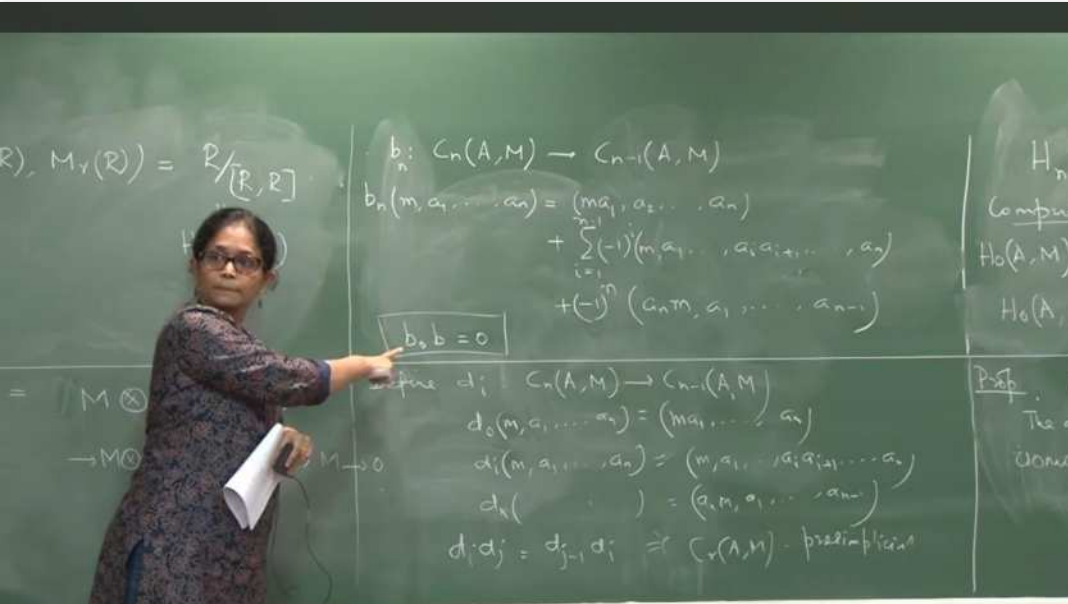
Our Memories of Anita Ma'am and Aniruddha Sir

Both Aniruddha sir and Anita ma'am were extremely kind people and they always had time to help any of us in need. They were very helpful and approachable. They truly cared about even the non-academic issues of the students and we could go to them whenever we faced any issues. I regret not talking to them enough and appreciating them enough. I wish they were here to take us to the picnic they were planning for our batch.

Aniruddha sir's teaching is one of the best I've seen, and I loved the stories he'd tell, which he never ran out of. I will miss his "isn't it amazing?" whenever he did a nice result, which was full of contagious mathematical enthusiasm. I will miss his gleeful "no sooner than"s that he always said during his classes. I keep wishing he'd come in smiling, with his collars up like he always had, and take our next differential geometry class.



Our Memories of Anita Ma'am and Aniruddha Sir



Anita ma'am was my academic advisor and a motherly figure in my academic life. She was a guiding light in our lives. The little bit of algebra that i know, all I learnt from her- Linear algebra courses in my first year, and a group theory reading project following that. I only wish I had talked to her more often. I will forget the algebra some day but what I won't be able to forget is when she taught me how to mail my professors (which definitely comes before learning maths). She will forever be the most important figure in my academic life. May she rest in peace.

- Rahul Kumar (B.Math 2024-27)

Our Memories of Anita Ma'am and Aniruddha Sir

I owe a lot to Prof. Anita, and words are not enough to express the kindness she showed to me. Whenever I was struggling, academically or in life, she was someone I could always turn to. She was a motherly figure to me. I remember once I was discussing some math with her. Suddenly, she asked me if something was bothering me, and we spoke about it for over an hour, well past lunchtime! I still don't know how she figured it out. The warmth and compassion with which she spoke to me that day is something I will never forget. Thank you, Ma'am, for your love and care. I will forever remain grateful to you. I pray that they both rest in peace.

- Treanungkur Mal (B.Math 2023-26)



Our Memories of Anita Ma'am and Aniruddha Sir

Research Publications of Aniruddha C. Naolekar

1. W-triviality of low dimensional manifolds (with Aritra C. Bhattacharya, Bikramjit Kundu, 2023/2024)
2. On trivialities of Chern classes (with Ajay Singh Thakur, 2013/2014)
3. Vector bundles over iterated suspensions of stunted real projective spaces (with Ajay Singh Thakur, 2012/2014)
4. Characteristic rank of vector bundles over Stiefel manifolds (with Jülius Korbaš, Ajay Singh Thakur, 2012)
5. Note on the Characteristic rank of Vector bundles (with Ajay Singh Thakur, 2012)
6. Bounded automorphisms and quasi-isometries of finite generated groups (with Parameswaran Sankaran, 2002)
7. Bredon cohomology of cyclic geometric realization of G-cyclic sets (1997)
8. A note on equivariant Euler characteristic (1997)
9. An axiomatic approach to equivariant cohomology theories (1998)
10. Chaotic group actions on manifolds (with Parameswaran Sankaran, 2000)
11. Realizing cohomology classes as Euler classes (2012)
12. Some Problems in Equivariant Topology (PhD Dissertation, 1994)

In those days, Professors were like elder brothers to (~<10/batch) BMath students. Last time I was at ISIBC, a year ago, Prof. Aniruddha, while returning from Kumara Shop, extended both hands to greet me. A humble man indeed.

Now I regret not making it to the BMath re-union earlier this month for having missed him for a finite but large time period.

- Safdar Quddus, BMath 2004-07

Memories of Aniruddha

Aniruddha and I may have been each other's longest officemates in ISI Kolkata, with the possible exception of Gautam-da (Prof. Gautam Mukherjee) for him. He had by then completed his PhD while I was about to, but having a somewhat hard time doing so, as one is sometimes wont to. It will be no exaggeration to say that one of the things that kept me going during those days was his company. I don't think I ever found him losing his temper or raising his voice - even on matters he felt strongly about, he typically kept his opinions to himself unless strongly goaded, and often even then. Always calm, smiling, always equanimous, he did not just memorize the Gita as a child but lived its teaching about as fully as anyone I can think of.

I had few interactions with Anita but found her pleasant too. As others have said, the world is poorer for their untimely departure.

- Arindam Sengupta

Aniruddha and I joined ISI Kolkata in the same year 1988 as research students. We both worked with the same supervisor. He was always very sincere about Mathematics, an honest academician. Often I wondered how he learnt so much even before coming to ISI. Aniruddha could speak fluent Bengali. However, it took me several years to know this. He learnt it in his very early years as his family lived in a place near Kolkata.

He used to interact very little with others with just one exception. He was very close to Goutam Mukherjee who was our senior and like Aniruddha's elder brother. Anita was Goutam Mukherjee's first student.

Anyone who has met Aniruddha would know that he was a very gentle, unassuming person. Though he used to speak little, you could feel the sincerity when he would speak.

Unfortunately, we met only three or four times after our student days, mainly because he hardly used to go to conferences or other meetings. What I felt is that, he wanted to live peacefully within himself. Such a charming personality is rare in today's world. It is a great loss for the Mathematics community and all those who knew him.

- Mahuya Datta, ISI K

Our Memories of Anita Ma'am and Aniruddha Sir

I first met Prof. Anita Naolekar when I was an RA at ISI Bangalore and served as a TA for the Algebra II course she taught. Later, I also had the opportunity to interact with Prof. Aniruddha Naolekar, through academic discussions. However, in the case of Anita Ma'am, it was much more than that. She was one of the softest-spoken and kindest people I have ever met—just like Sir. I could comfortably discuss with her any problem, whether academic or personal, and she would always try her best to help. The last time I met both of them was when they invited me to their place for Durga Puja. I spoke to Ma'am on the phone only last month, and I still find it difficult to believe that it was the last time I would ever speak to her.

Both Madam and Sir were exceptionally kind and gentle people, and their absence leaves behind a void that is difficult to put into words. I shall miss them both deeply.

May the Almighty give strength to their daughter, parents, and all their family members to bear this unimaginable loss.

- Souvik Pal (RA 2021-23)

Research Publications of Anita Naolekar

1. Adjunctions between Eilenberg-Moore categories and a PBW-type theorem (with Mamta Balodi, Abhishek Banerjee)
2. On representation categories of A_∞ -algebras and A_∞ -coalgebras (with Abhishek Banerjee)
3. Noncommutative Differential Calculus Structure on Secondary Hochschild (co)homology (with Apurba Das, Satyendra Kumar Mishra)
4. O-Operators on Hom-Lie algebras (with Satyendra Kumar Mishra, 2020)
5. Cohomology and deformations of Filippov algebroids (with Satyendra Kumar Mishra, Goutam Mukherjee, 2019/2021)
6. BV-operators and secondary Hochschild complex (with Mamta Balodi, Abhishek Banerjee)
7. Weak comp algebras and cup products in secondary Hochschild cohomology of entwining structures (with Mamta Balodi, Abhishek Banerjee)
8. On n -Hom-Leibniz algebras and cohomology (with Abdenacer Makhlouf, 2018/2020)
9. Versal deformation theory of algebras over a quadratic operad (with Alice Fialowski, Goutam Mukherjee, 2012/2014)
10. Deformation Theory of Dialgebras (PhD Dissertation, 2004)

Our Memories of Anita Ma'am and Aniruddha Sir

During my five years at ISI, if there was one person I always knew I could reach out to, it was Anita Ma'am. Academically, she constantly encouraged us to participate, to answer questions, to speak up, and most importantly, to ask our doubts without hesitation. She would often tell me that there was no "timing" for mathematics, and that I could call her at any time of the day if I had a question. And I did. We had conversations well past midnight, and looking back, I realise how many of those questions must have been utterly silly. Yet, she never once made me feel that way. She would always appreciate the fact that I had asked.

But Ma'am was much more than a teacher to me. At ISI, she became someone I could turn to for absolutely anything. She would listen with immense patience and then offer not just advice, but whatever help she could. There were many occasions when she offered to accompany me to the hospital when I was unwell. Whenever I faced any difficulty, she was the first person I would text.

I remember her sharing stories of her own struggles and her time as a student whenever I spoke to her about difficulties. She always made us feel that it was okay to struggle and okay to feel bad. Her kindness, grace, warmth, and patience are things I will carry with me forever. One of my deepest regrets is that I never found the right words, while she was with us, to tell her just how much all of this meant to me.

Aniruddha Sir began teaching me during my M.Math. His classes were always in the morning, and although I have never been a morning person, I hated missing them. I have often thought that if and whenever I get the opportunity to teach, I would want to be a teacher like him.

There was a calmness and enthusiasm in the way Sir taught that made his classes so much more than just lectures. I was particularly weak in topology, so I would often go to his office with my doubts. There were times when he would even skip his lunch so that we could spend more time working through them. Spending three to four hours in his office in a week was not unusual for me, and not once did I feel that he was getting impatient or annoyed.

Towards the end of my M.Math, I remember Sir talking fondly about Thane and Cadbury Junction. He would reminisce about those places and wonder whether they were still the way he remembered them. In fact, during one of our Geometric Group Theory classes, he ended up talking about them for nearly fifteen minutes even after the lecture had already begun! I had always thought that one day, whenever I happened to visit those places, I would send him some pictures and show him how they looked. I deeply regret that I never got the chance to do so.

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Our Memories of Anita Ma'am and Aniruddha Sir

(contd.)

My last memory of both Sir and Ma'am is from when they were on my project committee and had come to evaluate my final presentation. They had heard that I had received an offer for my PhD. They came up to me with the biggest smiles, congratulated me, and told me how happy they were for me.

They were a tremendous inspiration to me, and I am certain, to many others. They showed us not only what it means to be good mathematicians and teachers, but also what it means to be good human beings.

It is difficult to accept that they are no longer among us. There are still so many things I wish I could have said, so many questions I wish I could have asked, and so many small memories I wish I could have shared with them. I will always be grateful that I had the privilege of being their student.

I hope their daughter, parents, and family find strength in this immensely difficult period. As their students, I hope that wherever they are, they can look at us with pride, and I pray that they are at peace.

- Pratichi Paramita (B.Math 2020-23, M.Math 2023-25)



by Paramita Adhikari,
BMath 2017-20

Our Memories of Anita Ma'am and Aniruddha Sir



Prof Aniruddha Naolekar introduced me to topology when I first arrived at ISIB for my M.Math. To say that he influenced me would be an understatement. His teaching style was extremely patient, and a great amount of care was taken in everything he wrote on the board. It was due to these qualities of his that I believe I was able to cope with what would otherwise be considered a difficult subject. I took one course of his each semester, and he played an important role in getting me interested in the field. Both in and out of class, he was an extremely approachable person. I would often find him available in his office, and he was very patient with my doubts, He was very soft spoken too, and would always make you feel comfortable when asking doubts.

I remember one day when walking in the campus, I had spotted him standing, his car parked in the roadway. As I approached him, he showed an animal he was carefully observing in the woods. I no longer remember the scene clearly, but what I do remember was that he had a big smile on his face as he was peacefully taking in the scenery. He was a gentle soul, and I have nothing but positive memories of him. May Prof Aniruddha Naolekar and Prof Anita Naolekar rest in peace.

- Samanyu Khosla (M.Math 23-25)

Memories of Anita Mashi and Aniruddha Kaku

Well before I knew them as my professors, they were my mashi and kaku. They are part of the giant Bangalore family I grew up in. I think for embarrassingly long I did not think why this Bengali person has a name like Naolekar. She is the first person I know with allergy to eggs.

Once I became a student at ISI, I rode in their car to ISI regularly as they lived near my parents' home. Aniruddha kaku was one of numerous people who gave me the most important driving advice - once we hit a bump on the road slightly harder than his average very smooth driving. He said oops, I was thinking of some math, never do that while driving. I follow this always - you are not even allowed to discuss math in the car if I am driving.

My interactions with them as professors was small as they didn't teach our batch. Anita Ma'am was our professor buddy - for all the girls in our batch. At eight we were perhaps the first batch of BMath with so many girls. She took us out for lunch and was always there if we needed her. I got involved in some disciplinary issues in my second year, and I remember how firm yet compassionate she was with us.

I will miss their quiet smiles!

Ipsita Datta (BMath 2011-14)

Our Memories of Anita Ma'am and Aniruddha Sir

Anita Ma'am taught us group theory in the first semester of B.Math and she (along with other professors) was our first introduction to rigorous mathematics. The course was very good and she paid a lot of attention to the students which we really appreciated. She taught Topology I to the M.Math batch too which was online due to covid but she did a fantastic job regardless which is a testament to her dedication to teaching. Aniruddha Sir taught us Topology III and Topology IV in M.Math and he explained everything very well. He was also one of the reasons why I chose topology for PhD. I owe a lot to them and if it weren't for them, my understanding of mathematics would be poorer.

-Ritvik Saharan, BMath 2018-2021, MMath 2021-2023



Our Memories of Anita Ma'am and Aniruddha Sir



I had the privilege of being taught by Professor Anita in both semesters of my first year at ISI. Her classes were among my earliest experiences at the Institute, and I remember especially appreciating the structure and clarity of her lectures. She was a rigorous and fair teacher, and she encouraged me to work harder and engage more deeply with the subject. I think I got off to the right start at ISI in no small part because she inspired me to push myself and take my studies seriously.

I also had the opportunity to speak with her during office hours, and I remember her kindness and understanding, not only in her willingness to help me with my doubts, but also in taking the time to talk to me about things beyond academics. I am commuting to the Institute every day rather than living on campus, and I found it difficult to feel as connected to the student community as many of my peers. She understood that difficulty in a way that meant a great deal to me. Later, she was kind enough to write a recommendation letter for me for a summer camp, an opportunity that went on to have a profound impact on my life. I remain deeply grateful that she took the time to support me in that way.

- Kanak, Bmat 2024-2027

Our Memories of Anita Ma'am and Aniruddha Sir

My condolences to their relatives, friends and math community

So good mathematicians, nice, kind, carrying persons .

- Abdenacer MAKHLOUF, Mulhouse, France



Our Memories of Anita Ma'am and Aniruddha Sir

I knew both of them when they were in ISI Kolkata and then occasionally interacted on various committees and also when they would come to ISI Kolkata. During the last one year I visited Bangalore more frequently and enjoyed talking to them or having coffee at the canteen. They had such a serene and cordial aura around them! and I can't yet believe that I will not see them in the department when I visit Bangalore in future! It is a great loss for all of us, both academically and personally. I wish that their bereaved daughter and other family members gain mental strength to cope with the tragedy.

- Debashish Goswami, ISI K





Drs. Aniruddha and Anita Naolekar

Left us after a tragic car accident at Channapatna on 20 Aug 2026

Forever in our hearts

From the BMath and ISIBang community



LINK TO THESE SLIDES

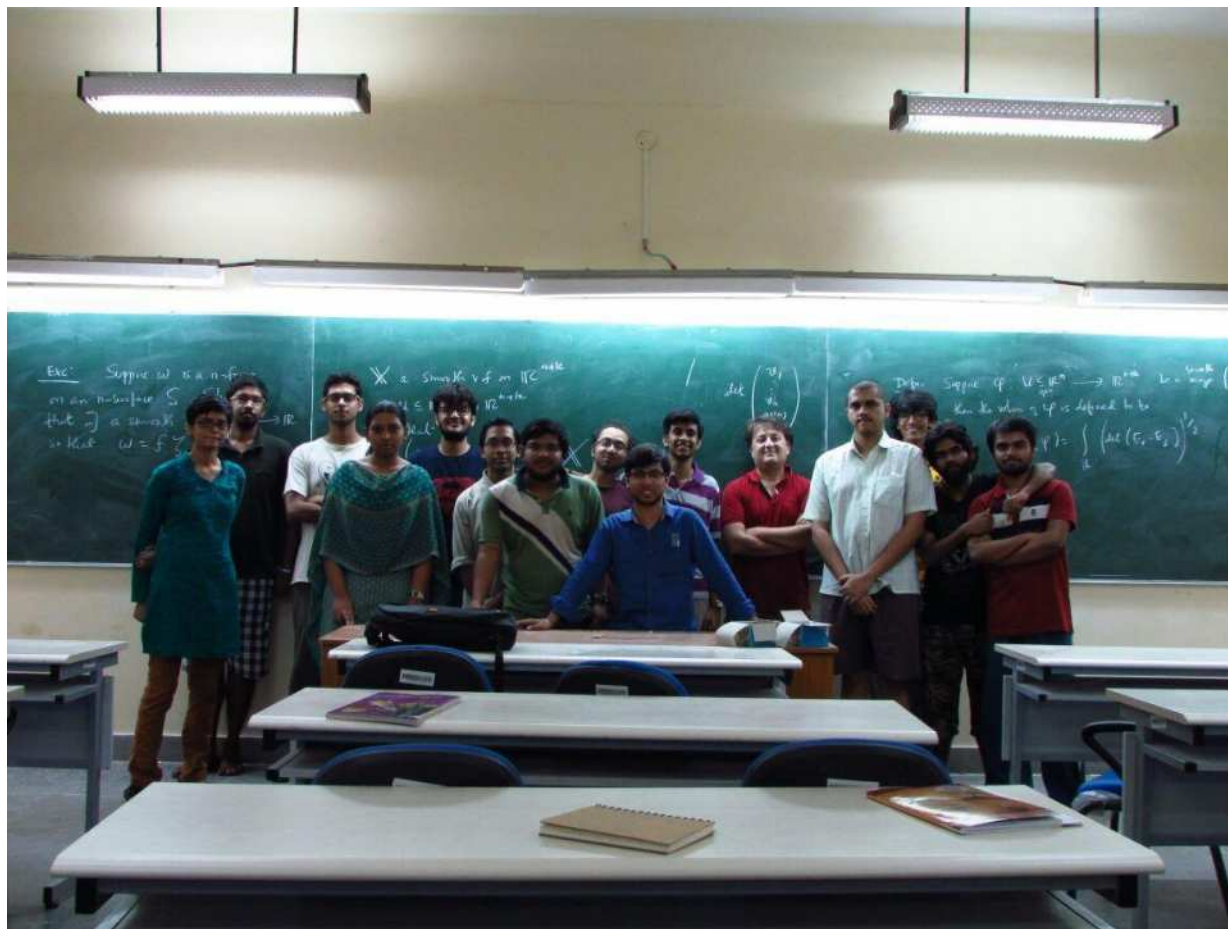


LINK TO FORM FOR MORE SUBMISSIONS

PHOTOS







Class of M.Math. 2015-17 with Prof. Aniruddha Naolekar





Last rites at Kengeri, 22 Aug 2026

Condolence Meeting

In memory of



Dr. Aniruddha C Naolekar

15.09.1964 - 20.08.2026

&

Dr. Anita Naolekar

17.04.1974 – 20.08.2026

Date : 24.08.2026

Time : 10.30AM

Venue: PJ Auditorium, ISI Bangalore

Zoom Meeting ID: 857 1670 8752

Passcode: 786939

INDIAN STATISTICAL INSTITUTE BANGALORE CENTRE

(space for more photos)



Sketch of Prof Anita,
by Atul Kumar

