

Buddhapriya Chakrabarti (“*Buddho*”), Senior Lecturer, University of Sheffield, U.K



I remember Aditi as a group mate and a friend with fondness from my time @ Theory Group IISc Bangalore. During our time the theory group was a place of intense physics, the intensity mostly coming from frequent visits to the Tea-board, Coffee board, TMSc and parties at RBRT (Raman Building Roof Top). Aditi was a part of many such visits and parties. I still have her unmissable "Kya re..." and the proverbial "S....la" ringing in my ears. We lost touch over the years. She was a gifted scientist and researcher. Her work bears a testimony to that fact.

Buddho was a close friend of Aditi, and had significant overlap with her at IISc.

R. Mike Evans, Professor, University of Leeds, U.K



Aditi was my postdoc from 2005 to 2008. I got to know her as a friend when she came to Leeds to work on my three-year project. Typical of her diligence, she stayed for a further six months, unpaid, to tie up loose ends and complete the research to her satisfaction.

Aditi did important work on fluctuations in non-equilibrium systems. When she was happy, she was brilliant and inspired, and she was always generous. I treasure the time that I worked with her, and the beautiful gifts that she gave to me and my children.

Prof. Evans was Aditi's post-doc advisor during 2005-2008 at the University of Leeds.

Mounika Gosika, Ph.D student, Indian Institute of Science, Bengaluru



My first encounter with Prof. Simha was when she took few guest lectures on Fourier transforms in a Math Phys course, during my undergrad time at IIT Madras. Her teaching was more than clear to me and I soon found that she was working on non-equilibrium stat mech. I approached her for a project and she instantly said yes. I really enjoyed reproducing the results from a well-known research article on Vicsek model under her guidance. She was undoubtedly one of the best minds I had worked with.

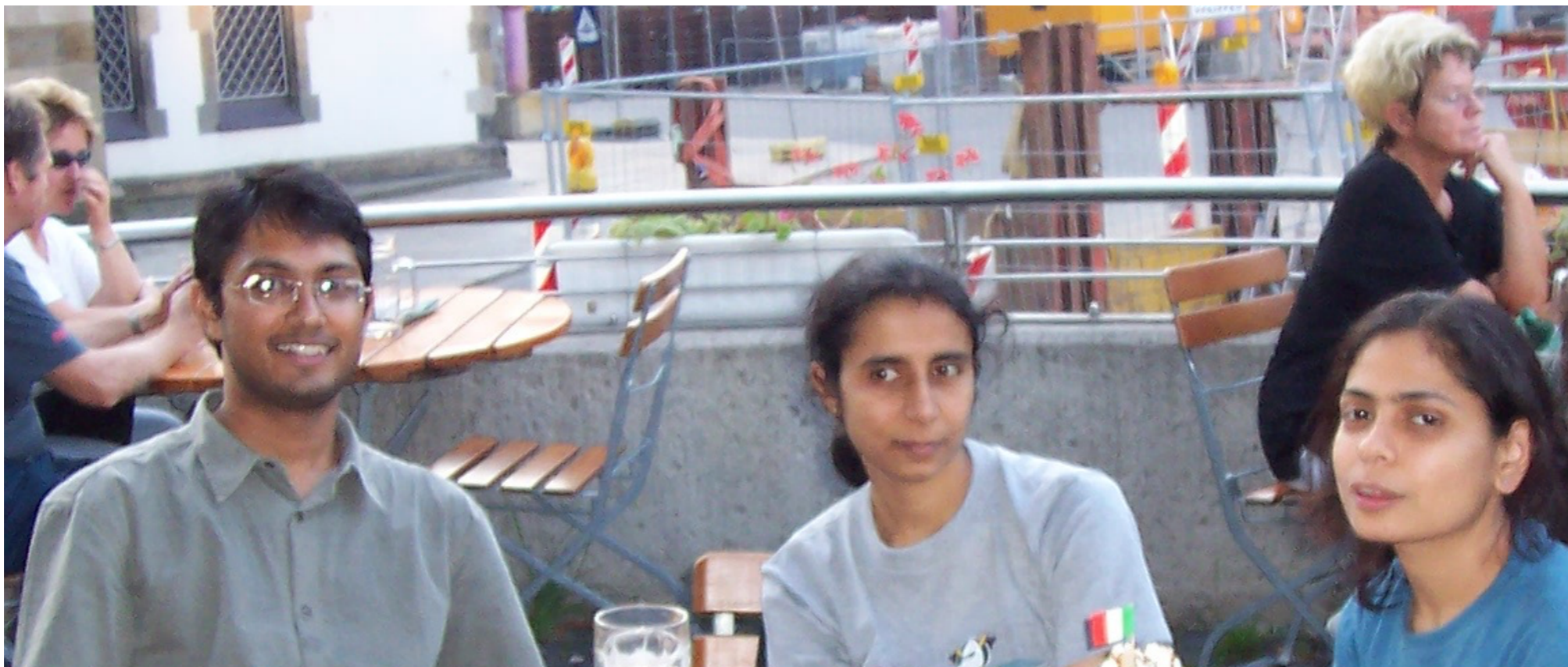
Aditi was also one of the most compassionate and down-to-earth people I have ever met. I could just drop by at her office with the simplest to complicated doubts and she always gave time, sat down with the problem I was facing. I remember, once I was roaming around the department trying to find a scanner. She happened to bump into me, found why I looked worried and actually took the document scans for me. I was surprised at her kind gesture. Even after I joined in IISc for PhD, she kept in touch and took the effort to meet me whenever she was in IISc. I still couldn't believe that she is not with us.

Mounika was a Dual Degree (B.S-M.S) student at Physics Department, IIT Madras, and had worked with Aditi for her course project.

**Ronojoy Adhikari, Professor, IMSc, Chennai and University of Cambridge, U.K
and
Arti Dua, Associate Professor, IIT Madras**

We write with a feeling of grief that has not healed in the passing of a year. Aditi was an uncommonly gifted person, combining intelligence with perception, empathy and kindness, and a friend of many years with whom it never felt awkward to share a silence. She was amongst the most able scientists we have known and her research laid the foundations of the thriving field of soft active matter. This is a tragic loss to our community, both in India and abroad, and one that we are still to come to terms with. We honour her memory today and hope her life and work will inspire another generation of scientists, women and men, to be bold in asking questions and brave in facing challenges.

- Arti Dua, Ronojoy Adhikari



With Aditi Simha, Leipzig, Germany, 2004

Ronojoy and Arti were Aditi's close friends at IISc. Ronojoy was also a member of Prof. Ramaswamy's group.

Shraddha Mishra, Assistant Professor, IIT-BHU, Varanasi



Dr. Aditi Simha, or in my words Aditi-di, a soft voice, an excellent scientist as well as a good human being. It is rare to find a person with all these qualities in one person. My first introduction (not interaction) with Adidi-di was because of her doctoral thesis, thanks to Sriram (our supervisor). After that I met her many times during my Ph.D and also in last couple of years we talked many times over the phone and skyped about our collaborative work. But I never realise that she is going through so much agony. I feel deeply saddened by her death.

In science, especially in India and in Physics, there are very few women scientists and a even few who have an attitude like Adidi-di. Unlike many others, she never tried to superpose her credit for research work. She always use to hear others patiently and then give her suggestions on that. You will never feel that it is her idea. I will say again that very few people are like her. My last communication with Aditi-di was about one month before that tragic day, when we discussed about our ongoing work and we decided to meet in Bangalore in the same week when this tragic incident happened. Unfortunately, I could not travel due to some personal problem and never realised that this is going to happen. I really regret that I could not talk to her about her personal life. Being a woman, I should have talked something.

In our academic society we are so much confined to our "cells" that we never try to realise that what is going on in others mind. I have learnt many things in my research area through her previous work and discussions with her. At the end, I would like to say that Aditi-di continues to be a source of inspiration in academics for many of us.

May her soul rest in peace !!!

Shraddha was Aditi's junior at IISc, in Prof. Ramaswamy's research group.

Prathyusha K. R, Post-doctoral researcher, MPI for dynamics and self-organization, Gottingen, Germany



It is still hard to believe that Aditi is no more. During my PhD time, I had an opportunity to interact with her rather closely. She was a remarkable person, both as an exceptional physicist and a kind human being. Some of the scientific discussions I had with her were stimulating and which revealed her deep knowledge of the subject. I am sure that her scientific achievements in the field of active matter will continue to inspire many.

Aditi was like a friend who can be approached anytime. I can never forget her encouragement during the last years of my PhD. I talked to her for the last time before my wedding. I was touched when she sent me a present on my wedding day though she didn't manage to attend. She also enjoyed many gatherings with our lab members: be it birthday parties in the lab or cooking at her home or many dinners either at Sunil's home or restaurants. We all loved her and all of us were deeply affected by her passing.

Aditi will be greatly missed, but her warmth, kindness and gentle spirit will be remembered forever.

Prathyusha was a Ph.D student in the Complex Fluids group, Department of Physics, IIT Madras during 2007-2013.

Madan Rao, Professor, National Centre for Biological Sciences (NCBS-TIFR), Bengaluru



Aditi was an exceptionally talented physicist and a warm and generous friend and collaborator. She was one of the best of us to have come out of the Theory group at IISc - it is rare that a PhD thesis can spark an entire field! It is difficult to imagine that she is no longer here - she will live on in all of us who knew her.

Prof. Madan Rao has been a long-collaborator of Aditi and Prof. Ramaswamy, and has co-authored several well-known papers with them.