Newsletter 14 of EUROPT

EUROPT - The Continuous Optimization Working Group of EURO

http://www.iam.metu.edu.tr/EUROPT/

March 2009

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Words from the chair

Dear Members of EUROPT, dear Friends,

It is again my great pleasure to accept the kind invitation of our friends Profs. Domingos Cardoso and Tatiana Tchemisova to address you some salutation words through this Newsletter.

In this occasion, I would like to inform you about a big research project which is being developed in Spain, in the period 2006-2011. This project, called i-MATH, consists of a large scale activity research program for Spanish mathematics, whose principal aim is to promote and carry out strategic actions oriented to increase the presence of mathematics in the Spanish system of science, technology and business. You can find complementary information about i-MATH in http://www.i-math.org/?q=en.

The Research Activity Program of i-MATH covers a very wide scope and is structured around four main thematic areas: A) From basic research to applications, B) How to understand the physical world, C) The essential computational support, D) Direct applications to society.

Recently the Steering Committee of i-MATH decided to start a new subprogram called "Activities Top-Down", which are conceived to enhance the research activity in some emergent areas which are playing an increasing crucial role in Science and Technology along the world. The point is that Optimization is recognized in all the reports that have been considered by the Steering Committee as a scientific subject at the highest priority class. I am very pleased to comment with you this particular story because I think that it provides a source of supplementary motivation to our students, practitioners, and members of EUROPT in general.

Let me devote the last part of this salutation to bring our attention, once again, to our website http://www.iam.metu.edu.tr/EUROPT/ , efficiently maintained and updated by our friends Basak Akteke-Ozturk, Koksal Yucesoy, and Aysun Tezel. In particular, you can find there the latest information about our 7th EUROPT Workshop "Advances in Continuous Optimization", to be held in Remagen, Germany, in July 3-4, the days previous to EURO XXIII 2009, in Bonn (http://www.rheinahrcampus.de/Home.europt2009.0.html). Please do not forget to register yourself in this event, which is itself our main EUROPT family meeting. Remember that the Abstract Submission deadline is April 10, and that the Early Registration finishes at April 30.

Finally, in relation to other big event, in which most of us are involved, the 23rd European Conference on Operational Research, EURO XXIII, Bonn, Germany, July 5 - 8, 2009, let me advice you that the organizers decided to shift the deadline for submissions of abstracts until March 20th, 2009. So, you are still in time to submit your abstract through http://www.euro-2009.de/ Please do it!

With my best wishes, Yours sincerely,

Marco A. Lopez, Chair of EUROPT

Forthcoming Events

Scope: A conference is dedicated to the memory of prematurely gone from the life in 2007 corresponding member of National Academy of Sciences of Ukraine, chair of Department for applied nonlinear analysis at Institute for Applied Systems Analysis of National Technical University of Ukraine "Kyiv Polytechnic Institute" Valery Melnik. The subject of conference reflects the numerous scientific interests of Valery Melnik and is determined for either pure mathematicians or business administrators and decision making system developers to take part as well. Young scientists are invited also to participate in conference. The working languages of the conference are English, Russian, Ukrainian.

Conference topics:
1. Nonlinear analysis and topology.
2. Differential-operator inclusions and variation inequalities.
3. Theoretical tasks of optimization.
4. The applied problems of optimization.
5. Decision-making theory.
6. Dynamic systems and attractors.
7. Mathematical models of the complex systems.
8. Application of optimization and modeling.

Honorary program committee:

Chair: Zgurovsky Michael, academician of National academy of Sciences of Ukraine, foreign member of Russian academy of sciences, rector of NTUU "KPI", director of the ESC "IASA", head of the program committee.

Ivanenko Viktor Doctor of science, professor, NTUU "KPI";
Mokin Boris Doctor of science, professor, academician of AES, rector of VNTU;
Samoilenko Anatolii Doctor of science, professor, academician of NASU;
Sharkovskyi Oleksandr Doctor of science, professor, academician of NASU;
Ghorbachuk Myroslav Doctor of science, professor, corresp. member of NASU;
Egorov Alexander Doctor of science, professor;
Liashko Serhii Doctor of science, professor, corresp. member of NASU;
Makarov Volodymyr Doctor of science, professor, corresp. member of NASU;
Skopetskyi Vasyl Doctor of science, professor, corresp. member of NASU;
Perestiuk Mykola Doctor of science, professor, corresp. member of NASU;
Chikrii Arkadii Doctor of science, professor, corresp. member of NASU;
Sharko Volodymyr Doctor of science, professor, corresp. member of NASU.

International program committee: Valero Jose Doctor of science, (Spain); Goldengorin Boris Doctor of science, (Netherlands); Weber Gerhard-Wilhelm (Turkey); Vladimirov Vsevolod (Poland); Andreev Mykola; Borisenko Serhii ; Danilov Valerii; Ivanenko Viktor ; Kapustian Volodymyr ; Kapustian Oleksii; Kogut Petro ; Makarenko Alexander; Novikov Oleksii; Novickiy Viktor; Ostapenko Valentyn; Yatsenko Vitalii

Organizing committee: Valero Jose, Kapustian Oleksii, Makarenko Alexander, Pankratova Nataliia , Romanenko Viktor, Dudnikov Petro, Kasyanov Pavlo, Kirik Olena, Mizernyi Viktor, Poveshenko Hennadii, Yakovleva Alla, Yasynskyi Vasyl, Moreva Ol'ga, Patioha Alla, Samorodov Evhenii, Yefremov Kostiantyn , Zadoyanchuk Nina , Kogut Ol'ga, Krushynskyi Dmytro, Pasichny Alexis, Pereverza Kateryna, Kalyschuk Taras, Korotchenko Ielizaveta , Lanevs'ka Anna, Leonov Oleksii, Oleksiuk Bohdan

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IMPORTANT DAYS

Abstract submission: March 1, 2009
Abstracts review and program finalization: March 10, 2009

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• **OCA 2009**
The Forth International Conference on Optimization and Control with Applications
June 6-11, 2009,
Harbin and Wudalianchi, China

http://oca2009.hit.edu.cn/

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General information: The 4th International Conference on Optimization and Control with Applications (OCA2009) will be held in Harbin in June 6-11, 2009.

It is a continuation of the **OCA series**, which has had its first three conferences:
(i) Ettore Majorana Centre for Scientific Culture, International School of Mathematics "G. Stampacchia", Erice , Italy , July 9-17, 2001;
(ii) Yellow Mountain International Hotel, Tunxi City, Anhui, China, August 18-22, 2002 ;
(iii) Chongqing-Chengdu-Jiuzhaigou, Chongqing City and Sichuan Province, China, July 25-31, 2004.

The goal of the 4th OCA is to provide an international forum for scientists, engineers, researchers, software developers, and practitioners to exchange ideas and approaches, to present research findings and state-of-the-art solutions, to share experiences on potentials and limits, and to open new avenues of research and developments, on all issues and topics related to optimization and control. The 4th OCA will include keynote lectures, invitedlectures, contributed papers, and industrial exhibits. Prospective authors are strongly encouraged to make their papers as accessible as possible to a wide variety of readers. All papers presented in the Conference will be included in the conference CD Rom.

Publications: The author could also indicate which of the following journals that they wish their papers to be considered for possible publication:
(i) Journal of Global Optimization;
(ii) Pacific Journal of Optimization;
(iii) Nonlinear Dynamics and Systems Theory;
and (iv) Dynamics of Continuous, Discrete and Impulsive Systems, Series B.

Topics of interests are in the broad areas of control and optimization, including but not limited to:
Algorithms Analysis and Design; Generalized Convexity Global Optimization; Nonlinear Programming; Optimal Control; H-inf Optimal Control; Linear Matrix Inequalities; Robust Control; Stabilizing Controller Design; Optimization Theory; Semi-infinite Programming; Software for Optimization and Control; Systems of Nonlinear Equations; Variational Inequalities; Applications in Industry, Service, Finance, Business and Military; Engineering Applications; Financial Optimization.

General Conference Chair: G.R. Duan HIT, Heilongjiang.

Organizing Committee: L. Caccetta CUT, Australia; H.J. Gao HIT, Heilongjiang; X.L. Huang HIT, Heilongjiang; Y. Shen HIT, Heilongjiang; X.M. Yang CQNU, Chongqing; Y. Yao HIT, Heilongjiang; Cedric K.F. Yiu HKPU, Hong Kong.

Advisory Committee: L.Q. Qi - Chair HKPU, Hong Kong; H.F.Chen ISS, CAS, Beijing; L. Guo ISS, CAS, Beijing; L. Huang Peking Univ., Beijing; S.C. Fang North Carolina State Univ.,USA; M. Fukushima Kyoto Univ., Japan; D. Li Chinese Univ. of HK, Hong Kong; T. Tanino Osaka Univ., Japan; S.Y. Wu National Cheng Kung Univ., Taiwan; X.M. Yang CQNU, Chongqing; W.Y. Yue Konan Univ., Japan.

Publication Committee: X.M. Yang - Chair CQNU, Chongqing; N.J.Huang Sichuan Univ., Sichuan; S. Ito The Institute of Statistical Mathematics, Japan; J.W. Peng CQNU, Chongqing; T. Tanaka Niigata Univ., Japan; Z.Y. Wu CQNU, Chongqing; X.Y. Zheng Yunnan Univ., Yunnan.

International Programme Committee: K. L. Teo - Chair CUT, Australia; A. Bagirov Univ. of Ballarat, Australia; X.Q. Cai Chinese Univ. of HK, Hong Kong; H. Chen Jilin Univ., Jilin; D.Z. Cheng ISS, CAS, Beijing; D. Y. Gao Virginia Tech, USA; X.P. Guan Yanshan Univ., Hebei; Z.S. Hou Beijing Jiaotong Univ., Beijing; J. Huang Chinese Univ. of HK, Hong Kong; Y.M. Jia Beihang Univ., Beijing; H. Kawasaki Kyushu Univ., Japan; T. Kuno Univ. of Tsukuba, Japan; S.J. Li Chongqing Univ., Chongqing; S.Y. Li Shanghai Jiao Tong Univ. Shanghai; Y.P. Lin HKPU, Hong Kong; Z.L. Lin Univ. Of Virginia, USA; G.P. Liu Univ. of Glamorgan, UK; K.L. Mak Univ. of HK, Hongkong; M. Mammadov Univ. of Ballarat, Australia; S. Mizuno Tokyo Institute of Technology, Japan; T. Ratiu Ecole Polytechnique Federale de Lausanne, Switzerland; J. Sun National Univ. of Singapore; X.L. Sun Fudan Univ., Shanghai; S.J. Tang Fudan Univ., Shanghai; S. Wang Univ. of Western Australia; G.-W. Weber Middle East Tech. Univ., Turkey; H. M. Wee Chung Yuan Christian Univ., Taiwan; N. Yamashita Kyoto Univ., Japan; X.Q. Yang HKPU, Hong Kong; A. Yoshise Univ. of Tsukuba, Japan; H.S. Zhang Shandong Univ., Shandong; J.F. Zhang ISS, CAS, Beijing; D.H. Zhou Tsinghua Univ., Beijing; K. M. Zhou Louisiana State Univ., USA; Y. Zou Nanjing Univ. of Sci. and Tech., Jiangsu

Secretariat: Miss Mingyan Liu, P.O. Box 416, Harbin Institute of Technology, Harbin, Heilongjiang, 150001, China, **Tel/Fax:** +86-451-86418034 **Email:** oca2009@sina.com.

IMPORTANT DAYS

Deadline for submission: March 15, 2009
Notification of acceptance: April 15, 2009
Deadline for final manuscript submission: May 15, 2009
Conference dates: June 6-9, 2009
Post-conference activities: June 10-11, 2009

- ## The 20th INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE ON MULTIPLE CRITERIA DECISION MAKING
  ### Hosted by University of Electronic Science and Technology of China
  ### June 21-26, 2009,
  ### Chengdu/Jiuzhaigou, China

  http://www.mcdm2009.cn/

Theme: New State of MCDM in 21st Century. The conference seeks solutions to challenging problems facing the development of multiple criteria decision making, and shapes future directions of research by promoting high quality, novel and daring research findings. With the MCDM conference, these new challenges and tools can easily be shared with the multiple criteria decision making community. MCDM 2009 will invite a number of well-known MCDM scholars to deliver keynote or plenary speeches which include their experiences with the remarkable MCDM history, important contributions to MCDM and/or creative thinking towards the future development of MCDM. As the tradition of MCDM Conference Series, the main conference sessions on June 22-26, 2009 have an equal emphasis on all aspects of MCDM related topics that will affect scientific, social and economic development of the 21st century. Moreover, MCDM 2009 creates new tutorial and workshop programs on June 21, 2009 before the main conference. The tutorial program of this conference will be invitation-based and cover emerging MCDM technologies and the state-of-the-art of MCDM developments. The workshop program will focus on new research challenges and initiatives.

Publications: After the conference, participants of the conference will be invited to submit the extended version of their paper for further review in special issues of Journal of Multi Criteria Decision Analysis, Decision Support Systems (SCI-indexed), Annals of Operations Research (SCI-indexed), International Journal of Information Technology and Decision Making (SCI-indexed), and Information Sciences (SCI-indexed). Contributors of Abstract of Conference Papers are encouraged to submit a full-length paper to a post conference proceeding in Lecture Notes in Economics and Mathematical Systems.

IMPORTANT DAYS

Deadline for Abstract of Conference Papers: March 55, 2009
Notification of acceptance: April 10, 2009
Final advanced registration: May 10, 2009

- ## MOPTA 2009:
Modeling and Optimization: Theory and Applications
Lehigh University, Bethlehem, PA
August 19-21, 2009

http://coral.ie.lehigh.edu/ mopta/

SCOPE: The conference is an annual event aiming to bring together a diverse group of people from both discrete and continuous optimization, working on both theoretical and applied aspects. Our target is to present a diverse set of exciting new developments from different optimization areas while at the same time providing a setting which will allow increased interaction among the participants. We aim to bring together researchers from both the theoretical and applied communities who do not usually have the chance to interact in the framework of a medium-scale event.

CONFIRMED PLENARY SPEAKERS: Ravindra K. Ahuja, University of Florida, Gainesville; Natalia Alexandrov, NASA; Paul I. Barton, MIT; John M. Mulvey, Princeton University; Pablo A. Parrilo, MIT; Robert Weismantel, Otto-von-Guericke Universitдt Magdeburg

MODELING COMPETITION: An optimization modeling competition, sponsored by AIMMS is organized. Finalist will present their results at a special session of MOPTA09. Problem released January 31, 2009.

CONTRIBUTED TALKS Each accepted paper will be allotted a 25 minute talk. Authors wishing to speak should submit an abstract via the conference WEB page by June 6, 2009.

IMPORTANT DAYS

Abstract Submission deadline: June 6, 2009
Early registration deadline: July 1, 2009
Conference date: 19-21 August 2009

- ## XIV Latin American Summer School on Operations Research
ELAVIO 2009
El Fuerte, Mexico,
August 9-14, 2009

http://www.udo.mx/elavio2009

Aims and Scope: The first Latin American Summer School on Operations Research took place in Punta de Tralca, Chile, on January, 1994. These summer schools are mainly aimed at graduate students, and their mission is to generate new research in collaboration, and promote the training and participation of young students and graduates. Between

40 and 60 alumni assist usually, and 4 or 5 short courses and 4 or 5 tutorials are given. The participants have the opportunity of presenting and discussing their work. A great feeling of comradeship has been generated at each ELAVIO, and the integration among integrants of research groups at different countries has grown.

The ELAVIO targets young scholars interested in the field of Operations Research (OR). The main purpose of the school is to present students (Doctoral, Master and exceptionally, advanced undergraduates) to short-courses, tutorials, discussion panels, and lectures on advanced topics in OR given by senior researchers and scholars. The school also gives the opportunity to a selected group of students to show their research results in special tracks. An important goal of the ELAVIO is to promote scientific exchange and networking opportunities between senior and young scholars. Topics of interest include (but not are limited to) Optimization Multiobjective and multicriteria, Heuristics and Metaheuristics, Mathematical Programming, Fuzzy Logic, Decision Support Systems, Artificial Intelligence, Simulation, Networks, Logistics.

Official languages: The official languages are: English, Spanish and Portuguese.

Invited Speakers (Short Courses): Sira Allende Alonso– Universidad de La Habana, Cuba; Eduardo Fernandez Gonzalez– Universidad Autonoma de Sinaloa, Mexico; Federico Gonzalez Santoyo– Universidad Michoacana de San Nicolas Hidalgo, Mexico; Justo Puerto Albandoz– Universidad de Sevilla, Espana.

Invited Speakers (Tutorials): Hector Cancela–Universidad de la República,Uruguay; Carlos Coello Coello– CINVESTAV, Mexico; Roger Rios– Universidad Autonoma de Nuevo Leon, Mexico; Reinaldo Morabito– Universidad Federal de Sao Carlos, Brasil.

Activities: At the summer school there will be lectures given by invited speakers, but the main emphasis will be on the participants' presentations and on the discussion about the abstracts. A special proceeding will be prepared based on abstracts sent at the ELAVIO. ALIO considers the social activities to be most important for the success of the ELAVIO, since it is through these activities that friendships can develop and a scientific network can be established for cooperation in the future. For this purpose, the organizers of this XIV ELAVIO will prepare a varied social program including tours and visits.

Summer School Venue: The summer school will be held at the "Escuela Normal Experimental de El Fuerte," within the municipality of El Fuerte (Sinaloa, Mexico). Located in the north- western part of Mexico, El Fuerte valley is a leading area in Agriculture produce and industries related. Furthermore, the beauty of the western mountain range and impressive landscapes provides a relaxed ambient ideal for this meeting.

Organizing committee: Juan Carlos Leyva Lopez (Chairman), Universidad de Occidente; Ricardo Aceves Garcia, Universidad Nacional Autonoma de Mexico; Maria Auxilio Osorio, Benemerita Universidad Autonoma de Puebla, Roger Z. Rios Mercado, Universidad Autonoma de Nuevo Leon, Claudio Lopez Miranda, Universidad de Sonora, Jorge Navarro Castillo, Universidad Autonoma de Sinaloa.

Participation: Participation is limited to a group of about 60 students, normally aged 23-35. The intended audiences of the school are final-year master students as well as doctoral students in fields related to themes of Operations Research. Participants should be interested in learning about the state of the art in this area. The school will also be a good opportunity to get to know other people working in OR and to establish

contacts that may lead to research collaborations in the future. During the ELAVIO all participants are invited to give a talk of 20 minutes on their submitted abstract. The costs of stay at the ELAVIO (scientific program, accommodation, meals, and social activities) are covered by organizing committee's institutions and other organizations and sponsors. The participants will have to cover the costs of travel to El Fuerte. However, ALIO encourages the National OR Societies to give support to their participants to cover these costs. Students interested in participating in ELAVIO 2009 should send their application, together with their curriculum vitae, and an abstract corresponding to some unpublished work of his/her personal research, to one of the following members of the International Scientific Committee, according to the applicant's origin. The scientific committee will make the final choice of the participants (for details, see the web page of the event http://www.udo.mx/elavio2009).

Scholarships: IFORS (International Federation of Operations Research Societies) in agreement with EURO (Association of European Operational Research Societies) and CORS (Canadian Operational Research Society) sponsors four traveling expenses grants.

- One of them is intended for a developing country candidate
- Other two are directed to EURO country candidates; see IFORS/EURO call for further information.
- Another sponsored by CORS and aimed at a Canadian candidate; see CORS call (English - French) for further information.

IFORS/EURO EXCHANGE OF YOUNG RESEARCHERS PROGRAM

The Association of European Operational Research Societies (EURO) is pleased to announce its sponsorship of two young OR researchers from EURO countries willing to participate and to present a short communication to the XIV ELAVIO organized by ALIO, the Latin-Ibero-American Operations Research Association, with the support of the International Federation of OR Societies (IFORS). EURO will cover the travel expenses of the two EURO participants and IFORS will cover the local costs. To apply, candidates 25-35 years old with a good knowledge of English should contact their National OR Society and send through email their application including (1) a complete CV, and (2) a paper proposal (complete text or a 3-5 pages extended abstract).

Each National OR Society will select one candidate and will send his/her candidature to the EURO/IFORS Vice-President who is responsible for the final selection through email (speranza@eco.unibs.it) and before March 30, 2009.

The EURO/IFORS Vice-President will evaluate and rank the candidates on the basis of two criteria, each counting for 50%:
- CV (Diplomas, Publications, Conference presentations, Awards, etc.)
- Paper proposal (originality, quality of results, closeness to OR, real word applications, etc.).
The candidates ranked first and second in the ranking will be selected to participate to the Summer School. Announcement of the selected candidates will be given before April 24, 2009.

Prof. M. Grazia Speranza, EURO/IFORS Vice-President University of Brescia,Italy
Email: *speranza@eco.unibs.it*

Publication: Special proceedings will be produced dedicated to the abstracts presented at the ELAVIO. Therefore the submitted abstracts should be suitable for publication and meet selected standards as described in corresponding "Notes for Participants."

Further Information: For further information and subsequent updates see the webpage www.udo.mx/elavio2009 or ://www-2.dc.uba.ar/alio or, alternatively, send your request by e-mail to elavio2009@culiacan.udo.mx.

Chairperson: Dr. Juan Carlos Leyva Lopez, **e.mail**: jleyva@culiacan.udo.mx,

elavio2009@culiacan.udo.mx, Universidad de Occidente, Blvd. Lola Beltran y Rolando Arjona, Culiacan, Sinaloa, Mexico, c. p. 80040 **Phone:** +52 - 667 7591300 ext 2268, **Fax:** + 52 - 667 7591300

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IMPORTANT DAYS

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Deadline for application and submission of abstracts to the assigned persons:
March 30, 2009
Deadline for submission of information about candidates by the assigned persons to XIV ELAVIO: April 3, 2009
Announcement of selected participants: April 24, 2009
XIV ELAVIO: August 9-14, 2009

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• ICNAAM 2009
International Conference of Numerical Analysis and Applied Mathematics 2009
Aquila Rithymna Beach, Rethymno, Crete, Greece
18-22 September 2009

http://www.icnaam.org

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Invited Speakers: Ernst Hairer, Switzerland; Mark J. Ablowitz, USA; John Butcher, New Zeland; Philippe Chartier, France; Peter Deuflhard, Germany; Martin J. Gander, Switzerland; C. W. Gear (Bill), USA; Zdzislaw Jackiewicz, USA; Ben Leimkuhler, UK; Christian Lubich, Germany; Peter Markowich, Austria; Linda R., USA; Bob Russell, Canada; Robert D. Skeel, USA; Andrew Stuart, UK; Vladimir Soucek, Czech Republic; Gerhard Wanner, Universite de Geneve, Switzerland.

Proceedings: Proceedings of ICNAAM 2009 will be published in the very famous AIP (American Institute of Physics) Conference Proceedings. More information can be found at: http://www.icnaam.org/proceeding.htm The Proceedings of ICNAAM have been abstracted/indexed in: ISI Proceedings, Zentrablatt fur Mathematik, MathSciNet, Scopus, INSPEC, Scirus, Google Scholar etc.

Selected Proceedings of ICNAAM 2009 will be published in appropriate journals.

Registration fee waiving: The session and symposium organizers have free registration and a participation in the accommodation fee.

Leaflets and posters: If you want leaflets and posters for ICNAAM 2009, please send your request to tsimos.conf@gmail.com
(with a carbon copy to: tsimos.conf09@gmail.com)

Contact: tsimos.conf@gmail.com

- ## WORKSHOP ON AUTOMATED HEURISTIC DESIGN: CROSSING THE CHASM FOR SEARCH METHODS during GENETIC AND EVOLUTIONARY COMPUTATION CONFERENCE (GECCO-2009)
  ### Delta Centre-Ville Hotel Montreal, Canada
  ### July 8-12, 2009

http://www.sigevo.org/gecco-2009

Organizers: Gabriela Ochoa, Ender Ozcan and Marc Schoenauer

Full details can be found at http://www.cs.nott.ac.uk/ gxo/hhgeccoworkshop.html

The aims: This workshop aims at bringing together researchers from different sub-fields of computer science, artificial intelligence and operations research that have recognized the need for developing automated systems to replace the role of a human expert in the design and tuning of search heuristics, and who are, therefore, interested in developing more generally applicable methodologies.

Relevant topics include, but are not limited to: Hyper-heuristics (e.g. systems to build systems);Algorithm selection and portfolios; Parameter setting - parameter control - parameter tuning; Off-line techniques (e.g. DOE, DACE, Racing, SPO, ...); Adaptive and self-tuning algorithms; Optimization of meta-parameters; Design of class-specific heuristics (e.g. using Genetic Programming); Foundational studies (e.g. heuristic understanding).

Publications: the authors of accepted abstracts will have the opportunity to extend their work and submit it for a special issue of the Journal of Memetic Computing (http://www.springer.com/engineering/journal/12293).

Invited speakers: Prof. Darrell Whitley,Department of Computer Science, Colorado State University, USA,
Dr. Natalio Krasnogor, Associate Professor and Reader, School of Computer Science, University of Nottingham, UK.

Submission Format: We invite submissions as extended abstracts of 2 to 4 pages in ACM format. The abstracts should be submitted in PDF format directly to the following e-mail address: hhsubmit@cs.nott.ac.uk Templates and final file preparation instructions: http://www.sheridanprinting.com/typedept/gecco1.htm

- ## INDAM Meeting
12-th WORKSHOP ON WELL - POSEDNESS OF OPTIMIZATION PROBLEMS AND RELATED TOPICS
Levico Terme, Italy,
September 14 - 18, 2009

http://wp09levico.dima.unige.it/

Conference Scope: This is the 12-th workshop devoted to well-posed optimization problem and related topics. Previous workshops were organized in Milano (1987), Sofia (1989), Santa Margherita Ligure (1991), Sozopol (1993 and 1997), Luminy (1995 and 2003), Gargnano (1999), Warsaw (2001), Borovets (2005), Alicante (2007).

Well-posedness of (scalar and vector) optimization problems is a basic feature of such problems, being related in a deep way to their mathematical structure and the performance of numerical methods. Starting with the fundamental work by Tikhonov and the adaptation of the ideas of Hadamard to the optimization setting, first studies were directed to perturbed optimization and regularization methods. The field has evolved in recent years relating to variational analysis, stability of variational inequalities and game theory, metric regularity, approximate solutions in equilibrium models and game theory, condition number theory, stochastic optimization (to name a few).

Scientific Committee: Heinz Bauschke (Vancouver); Diethard Klatte (Zurich); Adrian Lewis (Ithaca); Marco Lopez (Alicante); Roberto Lucchetti (Milano); Julian Revalski (Sofia); Lionel Thibault (Montpellier); Vladimir Veliov (Vienna); Tullio Zolezzi (Genova).

Organizing Committee: Tullio Zolezzi (Genova); Roberto Lucchetti (Milano).

- # ICICS 09:
International Conference on Information and Communication Systems
December 20-22, 2009
Amman, Jordan

http://www.icics.info/

Scope: The International Conference on Information and Communication Systems (ICICS09) is a forum for scientists, engineers, and practitioners to present their latest research results, ideas, developments and applications in all areas of Computer and Information Sciences. The topics that will be covered in the ICICS2009 include, but are not limited to: Artificial Intelligence, Mobile Computing, Networking, Information Security and Cryptography, Intrusion Detection and Computer Forensics, Web Content Mining, Bioinformatics and IT Applications, Database Technology, Systems Integration, Information Systems Analysis and Specification, Telecommunications, and Human-computer Interaction.

Topics: Researchers are encouraged to submit original research contributions in all major areas, which include, but not limited to: Databases Information Systems Integration; Artificial Intelligence; Machine Learning; Bioinformatics; Data Mining; Robotics and Autonomous Systems; Knowledge Management; Natural Language Processing; E-Government; E-Commerce; E-Learning; Health Information Systems; Knowledge Management Systems; Applications of Fuzzy Logic; Applications of Neural Network; Data Warehouses; Human Computer Interaction; Systems Engineering Methodologies; Embedded Systems; Software Engineering; Software Measurement; Algorithms Applications; Computer Architecture; Computer Graphics; Computer Networks; Wireless and Mobile Computing; Computer Simulation; Telecommunication Technologies; Information Security; Information Systems; Semantic Web Technologies; Multimedia Image Processing; Parallel Distributed Systems; Pervasive Adaptive Systems; Reliability Fault-Tolerance; Internet and Collaborative Computing.

Conference Chair: Mohammed Hussein, USA

Conference Co-Chair: Mohammad Al-Rousan,Jordan.

Steering Committee: Omar Al-Jarrah (Chair), Rick Chaney (Co-Chair), Mohammad Al-Rousan, Adnan Shaout, Ayat Jafari.

Program Committee: Raed Abu-Zitar (Chair), Omar Al-Jarrah (Co-Chair), Iman Akour, Kamel Mekhnacha, Basheer Al-Duwairi Andres Cano Utrera, Antonio Salmeron Cerdan, Jose Antonio Gamez Martin, Rajkumar Kannan.

Organizing Committee: Eyas El-Qawasmeh (Chair); Jalal Atoum (Co-Chair); Loai Tawalbeh; Linda Smail; Wael Mardini; Mohammed Odat; Muneer Masadeh; Mouade Shubita.

Submission: Prospective authors are invited to submit full papers using our EasyChair online submission system at https://www.easychair.org/login.cgi?conf=icics09 Authors should follow the guidelines posted in the conference website http://www.icics.info/. Submitted papers will be peer-reviewed. Prospective authors are expected to present their

paper at the conference, which will include a number of special sessions and tutorials. Authors must submit their proposals including title, rationale, session outline, and contact information to the conference secretariat before the deadline.

ICICS Secretariat Contact: Linda Smail, NYIT Zahran Street Um Uthaina, 6th Circle Amman Jordan,

E-mail: lsmail@nyit.edu, **Phone:** (+ 962) 776718200, **Fax:** (+ 962)6 4711310

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IMPORTANT DAYS

Full paper submission: May 1, 2009
Tutorial and special session proposal: June 1, 2009
Notification of Decision: August 15, 2009
Camera-ready: November 1, 2009

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- ## Workshop on OR for Developing Countries - Young Researchers and PhD Symposium
  ### Remagen, Germany
  ### July 4, 2009

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http://www2.ing.puc.cl/ fcrespo/eurofdv/Bonnconference/homepage.htm

(SECOND ANNOUNCEMENT)

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This workshop provides the opportunity for doctoral students to present and discuss their research within a focused environment and with other academics and practitioners with similar interests in Operational Research (OR) and Development.

It is organized by EURO ORD, the new EURO Working Group on OR for Development: (http://www2.ing.puc.cl/ fcrespo/eurofdv/). The symposium will comprise plenary sessions, research clinics as well as the opportunity to have research dialogues led by senior academics working in the field.

Aim of Workshop:

To provide a forum for doctoral students and others involved in OR and Development to share and discuss their research activities, encourage students to establish and maintain a research network, foster a research environment to support career development in the any domain of a practical OR discipline.

On a wider basis the workshop will demonstrate the value of collaborative research in the OR field, explore the merits of an interdisciplinary approach to OR research.

Contacts:

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• IFAC Workshop on Control Applications of Optimization
University of Jyvaskyla, Finland
May 6-8, 2009

http://cao09.automaatioseura.fi/

(SECOND ANNOUNCEMENT)

The purpose of the Workshop is to present and share ideas on new developments on optimisation and control. Both theoretical research and practical applications are covered, some of the main topics including numerical optimisation techniques, applications in control problems, advances in optimal control, multiobjective optimisation, robust and adaptive control, differential games etc. Sharing ideas between researchers from universities and industry in both theoretical research and applications in this area is especially encouraged to show where the optimisation in today's technological society faces its most important challenges.

The plenary speakers are Prof. Roland Glowinski (University of Houston), Prof. Luca Lambertini (Universita di Bologna) and Prof. Stefan Pickl (Universitдt der Bundeswehr Mьnchen).

The program containts almost 90 contributed talks in the fields of Multiobjective optimization, Optimization with uncertainties, Optimal control, Robust control and stabilisation, Numerical methods in optimization, Applications in enviromental sciences, economics and management, Optimal PDE control, Model-predictive control, Stochastic optimization, Differential games and Adaptive control.

Registration: The regular early bird fee (before 16 March 2009) is 500 EUR. After March 16, the fee is 550 EUR. The fee for students is 350 EUR.

The registration fee includes admission to all the sessions during the three days, workshop preprint in CD, book of abstracts, lunches, coffees, get-together party and workshop dinner. Students are entitled to workshop dinner on extra fee.

For further information, see EUROPT Newsletter 12:
http://www.iam.metu.edu.tr/EUROPT/Newsletter12-EUROPT.pdf

- **7th EUROPT Workshop on**
ADVANCES IN CONTINUOUS OPTIMIZATION
Remagen, Germany,
July 3 - 4, 2009

http://www.rheinahrcampus.de/europt2009

This international workshop is organized by the EURO Working Group on Continuous Optimization (EUROPT; http://www.iam.metu.edu.tr/EUROPT) as a satellite meeting before the EURO XXIII conference in Bonn (http://www.euro-2009.de). The workshop covers all aspects of continuous optimization and will be held in Remagen, situated about 20 kilometers south of Bonn at the river Rhine.

IMPORTANT DAYS

Abstract submission: April 10, 2009
Notification of acceptance: April 20, 2009
Early Registration: April 30, 2009
Conference: July 3-4, 2009

All the information can be found in the conference web site and in EUROPT Newsletter N.12 http://www.iam.metu.edu.tr/EUROPT/Newsletter12-EUROPT.pdf

- **COSI'2009: Colloque sur l'Optimisation et les Systemes d'Information**
Annaba, Algerie, May 25-27, 2009
http://www.isima.fr/cosi/cosi2009/index2009.php

COSI'2009 is the 6th edition of a series of annual conferences on research and development in optimization and information systems. COSI'2009 aims at continuing the tradition of the previous five editions in fostering the debate on new issues and research directions in these areas. More details are available at http://www.isima.fr/cosi/cosi2009/index2009.php.

IMPORTANT DAYS

Abstract submission: February 4, 2009
Papers submission: February 11, 2009
Paper acceptance notification: April 7, 2009
Reception of the final version of the papers: April 24, 2009
Conference: May 25-27, 2009

All the information can be found in the conference web site and in EUROPT Newsletter N.12 http://www.iam.metu.edu.tr/EUROPT/Newsletter12-EUROPT.pdf

- ## MISTA 2009: 4th Multidisciplinary International Scheduling Conference: Theory and Applications
  ### Dublin, Ireland, August 10-12, 2009

http://www.mistaconference.org/2009/cfp/index.html

Scope and aims: This conference is the 4th in a series of conferences (the first took place in Nottingham, UK in August 2003, the 2nd in New York in July 2005 and the 3rd in Paris in 2007) that serves as a forum for an international community of researchers, practitioners and vendors on all aspects of multi-disciplinary scheduling. The conference will cover, but not be limited to, the following disciplines:
Artificial Intelligence, Computer Science, Engineering, Management, Manufacturing, Mathematics, Operational Research

IMPORTANT DAYS
Deadline submission: 15th Jan 2009;
Decisions to authors: 15th Mar 2009;
Camera ready papers due:30th May 2009;
Conference: 10th - 12th Aug 2009

All the information can be found in the conference web site and in EUROPT Newsletter N.12: http://www.iam.metu.edu.tr/EUROPT/Newsletter12-EUROPT.pdf

- ## 23-rd EUROPEAN CONFERENCE ON OPERATIONAL RESEARCH
  ### Bonn, Germany, July 5 - 8, 2009

http://www.euro-2009.de/

The 23nd European Conference on Operational Research, EURO XXIII, is organized by the Gesellschaft fuer Operations Research (GOR) e.V. in co-operation with the University of Siegen and will be held in the Gustav-Stresemann Institute and the Maritim Hotel in Bonn. The Programme and Organising Committee are preparing a high quality academic programme of the Conference. In addition to this, you will have an excellent opportunity to exploit the city and vicinity of Bonn! A history of more than 2000 years has given the city most appealing and memorable facets. Bonn is an international center of science, arts and politics. You will enjoy the picturesque impressions along the romantic Rhine, Bonn's international and political life or the magnificent Ahr wine region. Culture is inseparably linked to the works of Ludwig van Beethoven, but also of Robert Schumann, August Macke and Ernst Moritz Arndt.

Submission for abstracts starts: October 2008
Deadline for abstract submission: March 1, 2009 (extended to March 29)
Notification of acceptance: March 31, 2009
Deadline for early registration: April 1, 2009
Deadline for author registration: April 15, 2009
Conference: July 5-8, 2009

All the information can be found in the conference web site and in EUROPT Newsletter N.12 http://www.iam.metu.edu.tr/EUROPT/Newsletter12-EUROPT.pdf

- ## VIII BRAZILIAN WORKSHOP ON CONTINUOUS OPTIMIZATION
  ### Mambucaba, Rio de Janeiro, Brazil,
  ### July 13-17, 2009

http://www.impa.br/opencms/pt/eventos/store/evento_0902

(THIRD ANNOUNCEMENT)

BASIC INFORMATION: The VIII Brazilian Workshop on Continuous Optimization will take place at Hotel do Bosque, in Mambucaba, near Angra dos Reis (about 200 km from Rio de Janeiro), between July 13 and 17, 2009. Subjects to be discussed encompass theoretical, computational and implementation issues, in both linear and non-linear programming, including variational inequalities, complementarity problems, nonsmooth optimization, vector optimization, generalized equations, etc.

The backbone of the workshop will consist of plenary lectures, offered by invited speakers, of 45 minutes each. There will be also a limited number of contributed talks, of 25 minutes each. Those interested in contributing a talk should send an abstract, either by regular or electronic mail, to the addresses indicated below, no later than February 28, 2009. Acceptation of the contributed talks will be informed no later than March 15, 2009.

All the information can be found in the conference web site and in EUROPT Newsletter N.12 http://www.iam.metu.edu.tr/EUROPT/Newsletter12-EUROPT.pdf

Job opportunities and positions

• Postdoctoral Positions at the University of Waterloo, Canada

Applications are invited for one or more postdoctoral positions to carry out research in the development of novel optimization methodologies for solving hard combinatorial problems arising in real-world applications. The positions may be based at either the University of Waterloo (http://www.uwaterloo.ca) or the University of Guelph (http://www.uoguelph.ca).

The **lead investigators** are Professors Miguel Anjos (Waterloo, Management Sciences), Anthony Vannelli (Guelph, Engineering), Stephen Vavasis (Waterloo, Combinatorics Optimization), and Henry Wolkowicz (Waterloo, Combinatorics Optimization).

The successful applicant will have completed (or be very near completion of) a PhD in Operations Research, Electrical Engineering, Computer Science, or a related field. Preference will be given to candidates with documented expertise in mathematical programming techniques.

The starting date will be determined by mutual agreement. The initial contract will be for 6 to 12 months, with a possibility of extensions up to a maximum of 2 years in total.

Applicants should send a CV and list of referees to Professor Miguel Anjos (manjos@uwaterloo.ca) as a PDF (preferred) or Word file. Applications will be accepted until all positions are filled.

Further information can be obtained from Professor Miguel Anjos, tel. +1-519-888-4567 ext 32521, manjos@uwaterloo.ca http://mfa.uwaterloo.ca

• The LANCS initiative Foundational Operational Research: Building Theory for Practice
http://www.LANCS-Initiative.ac.uk/ PhD Studentships/Scholarships

A total of 35 funded PhD positions will be available from 2009-2013 in four U.K. universities: LAncaster, Nottingham, Cardiff and Southampton (LANCS).

The U.K.'s Engineering and Physical Sciences Research Council (EPSRC) has awarded the LANCS initiative grants to a total of 5.4 million GBP to support the development of research capacity in Operational Research (OR) at these four collaborating universities. This, together with additional support coming from the universities themselves, means that during the period 2008-2013, a 13 million GBP investment will be made.

The principal aim of LANCS is to strengthen and grow theoretical OR in the UK with a particular emphasis on deepening our theoretical understanding of complex and uncertain real world problem solving environments.

The initiative focuses on six different research themes: green logistics, healthcare, transport, discrete and nonlinear optimisation, heuristic understanding and systems to build systems.

LANCS will also undertake an ambitious and far reaching collaborative research programme of industrial, scientific and public outreach to generate maximum academic,

commercial and social impact. Full funding and fee grants that come from the participant universities individually will be available to the students.

The grants might vary depending on the qualifications of an applicant. The required background and further details for each applicant will be announced with each available position separately by the relevant university.

Mailing list: lancs-announce@cs.nott.ac.uk
For more details: http://www.LANCS-Initiative.ac.uk/

Eduard Stiefel's birthday centenary

By Dr. Neculai Andrei, Research Institute for Informatics - Bucharest, Romania Academy of Romanian Scientists - Bucharest, Romania

The conjugate gradient algorithm which now is more than 55 years old comprise a class of very elegant unconstrained optimization algorithms characterized by strong local and global convergence properties and by low memory requirements. The history of these algorithms begins with the research of Eduard Stiefel at Eidgenössische Technische Hochschule Zürich - Swiss Federal Institute of Technology, and Cornelius Lanczos (1893-1974) and Magnus Hestenes (1906-1991) at the Institute for Numerical Analysis (National Applied Mathematics Laboratories of the United States National Bureau of Standards in Los Angeles).

Eduard Stiefel (1909-1978)

In 1951 Stiefel established the n-step method for solving systems of algebraic linear equations, systems with symmetric and positive definite matrix, published as: Über einige Methoden der Relaxationsrechnung. Z. Angew. Math. Phys., 3 (1952), pp.1-33 (submitted in July 1951). In July 1951, invited by Olga Taussky-Todd (1906-1995), he visited the Institute for Numerical Analysis (INA) of the National Bureau of Standards - UCLA, Los Angeles, until February 1952. There he found out that Magnus Hestenes in collaboration with others of the INA (Lanczos, Forsythe, Motzkin, Rosser, Stein) had discovered the same method too. Hestenes, who called it the conjugate gradient method, published an internal report as: Iterative methods for solving equations. NAML Report 52-9, National Bureau of Standards, Los Angeles, CA, July 1951. During this visit Hestenes and Stiefel combined their efforts and published a 28-page two-columns conjugate gradient paper as: Methods of Conjugate Gradients for Solving Linear Systems. Journal of Research of the National Bureau of Standards, vol.49, No. 6, December 1952 (Research Paper 2379), being one of the most influential papers in numerical analysis. Some details and insights on this paper have been prepared by Dianne P. O'Leary [O'Leary, D.P., Conjugate gradients and related KMP algorithms: the beginnings. in Linear and Nonlinear Conjugate Gradient - Related Methods, L. Adams and J.L. Nazareth (Eds.) SIAM, 1996, pp.1-8].

Since than over 50 nonlinear conjugate gradient algorithms have been established, and practically an innumerable number of papers have been published on this subject insisting both

on their theoretical and practical aspects. An excellent survey of development of different versions of nonlinear conjugate gradient methods, with special attention to global convergence properties, is presented by Hager and Zhang [Hager, W.W., Zhang, H., A survey of nonlinear conjugate gradient methods. Pacific Journal of Optimization, 2 (2006), pp.35-58.]

Some open problems in nonlinear conjugate gradient algorithms for unconstrained optimization have been articulated by Andrei [Andrei, N., Open Problems in Nonlinear Conjugate Gradient Algorithms for Unconstrained Optimization. ICI Technical Report No. 28/08, July 30, 2008].

January 29, 2009

Editor's personal comments

Dear members of EUROPT. This issue has the benefit of the collaboration of several colleagues around the world which have sent to us announcements of events and Job opportunities.

Despite the section "problems and teaching activities" is absent this time, it is our strong commitment to continue with this novel section. For such purpose, we count with the precious cooperation of many prestigious EUROPT members. Fortunately, in compensation, this issue includes a beautiful short note by Dr. Neculai Andrei, from Romania Academy of Romanian Scientists, in honour of Eduard Stiefels, celebrating his birthday centenary. This short note contains very interesting historical references about the conjugate gradient method.

On behalf of the Editorial Board of EUROPT Newsletter,
Domingos M Cardoso