Newsletter 20 of EUROPT

EUROPT - The Continuous Optimization Working Group of EURO

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

May 2010

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Words from the chair

Dear Members of EUROPT, dear Friends,

As I have told you approximately one year ago (Newsletter nº 15), the most important events in which EUROPT is involved, are our EUROPT Workshop and the annual EURO Conference, and now they are really close in time. The 8th EUROPT Worksop "Advances in Continuous Optimization" will be held in Aveiro (Portugal) the days 9-10 of July. The Program and the Organizing Committees worked hard to prepare a very attractive programme, from both the scientific and social sides; they had in mind the special circumstance that this workshop is the occasion to celebrate the 10th anniversary of the EUROPT birth.

Aside the impressive list of invited speakers, composed by Immanuel Bomze, Mirjam Duer, Alexander Shapiro, Luis Nunes Vicente, and Henry Wolkowicz, we will have a Special Lecture on the Hirsh's Conjecture, to be delivered by Francisco Santos, a young professor of Cantabria University (Spain) who recently succeeded to give a counterexample to this fundamental conjecture. This a very important and brilliant achievement, and our Honorary Chair, Tamas Terlaky, suggested the possibility of inviting Francisco to come to Aveiro, allowing us to have the privilege of being informed on this important scientific finding straightforwardly, by the own author of it. Then, Domingos and Tatiana, and the rest of the Organizing Committee, made the things easy to include this special lecture in the final program.

Finally, I would like to call your attention on the fact that, during the Aveiro Workshop, I will have the pleasure to announce the nomination of our Fellow 2010, and to present a Llaudatio of him (or her). This will be my last honour as Chair, since during the Workshop, our dear Elected Chair, Prof. Kaisa Miettinen, will assume her responsibilities as new Chair.

Concerning the 24th European Conference on Operational Research (EURO XXIV), July 11-14, Lisbon, the list of streams in the field of Continuous Optimization is also impressive, as well as the high prestige of the colleagues who have proposed them. There will be streams on Convex Optimization, Global Optimization, Semi-Infinite Optimization, Nonsmooth Optimization, Vector and Set-Valued Optimization, Variational Inequalities, Complementarity Problems and Bilevel Programming, Linear and Conic Programming, Nonconvex Programming: Local and Global Approaches, etc.

These two events will bring us a new opportunity to meet the dear colleagues of EUROPT, to interchange ideas and experiences between us, and to discuss on new goals and projects, on the basis of the exhaustive information gathered in our website (http://www.iam.metu.edu.tr/EUROPT/), efficiently handled and updated by Aysun Tezel, with the enthusiast and permanent impulse of Willi.

There, in our website, we can also find the description of the many activities promoted and supported by EUROPT. In the close future, EUROPT will get a great benefit from the creative impulse and the enthusiasm of the new Chair, Prof. Kaisa Miettinen. I am completely sure that Kaisa will succeed in achieving any possible new goal, and in giving 'optimal' answer to the challenges that the Managing Board and members of EUROPT may assume in the new period.

Good luck, Kaisa! I wish you all the best. Be sure that all the members of EUROPT will support you in your leadership, as they helped me all the time. For this reason, I am in debt and extremely thankful to all of them!

But here today, I would like to mention all the members of the MB, Kaisa, Mirjam, Leonidas,

Domingos, and very specially, to Willi. Thank you very much to the leaders of the team in charge of the Newsletter, dear Domingos and Tatiana. Thanks a lot to the wonderful team of friends who, during so many years, have developed the administrative tasks; they are Basak, Koksal, Aysun, and always Willi. Without them, EUROPT will be far from its current healthy situation. Thank you very much for your generous and permanent collaboration.

Finally, it was a great feeling for me to count with your support and expert advice, dear Tamas and dear Tibor.

I'll see all of you in Aveiro.
The best,

Marco A. Lopez, Chair of EUROPT

Forthcoming Events

- **8th EUROPT Workshop**
ADVANCES IN CONTINUOUS OPTIMIZATION
Aveiro, Portugal
July 9 - 10, 2010

http://www.europt2010.org

(3rd ANNOUNCEMENT, AND EXTENSION OF THE SUBMISSION DEADLINE)

Aims and scope: This meeting continues in the line of the EUROPT workshops, the first held in 2000 in Budapest, followed by the workshops in Rotterdam in 2001, Istanbul in 2003, Rhodes in 2004, Reykjavik in 2006, Prague in 2007, and Remagen in 2009.

The workshop aims to provide a forum for researchers and practitioners in continuous optimization and related fields to discuss and exchange their latest works.

Invited Speakers: Immanuel Bomze, University of Vienna; Mirjam Duer, University of Groningen; Alexander Shapiro, Georgia Tech; Tamas Terlaky, Lehigh University; Luis Nunes Vicente, University of Coimbra; Henry Wolkowicz, University of Waterloo.

Topics: applications of continuous optimization to combinatorial problems; complexity and efficiency of optimization algorithms; convex and nonsmooth optimization; complementarity and variational problems; derivative-free optimization; global optimization; linear and nonlinear optimization; optimal control; multiobjective optimization; robust optimization; semi-definite programming; semi-infinite programming; stochastic optimization; large-scale optimization...

Program Committee: Marco Lopez (*Chair*), Universidad de Alicante; Domingos M Cardoso, Universidade de Aveiro; Emilio Carrizosa, Universidad de Sevilla; Joaquim João Júdice, Universidade de Coimbra; Diethard Klatte, Universitat Zurich; Olga Kostyukova, Institute of Mathematics, Belarusian Academy of Sciences; Marco Locatelli, Universita di

Torino; Florian Potra, University of Maryland, Baltimore County; Franz Rendl, Universitat Klagenfurt; Claudia Sagastizabal, CEPEL (Research Center for Electric Energy); Oliver Stein, Karlsruhe Institute of Technology; Georg Still, University of Twente.

Organizing Committee: Domingos M Cardoso (*Chair*), Universidade de Aveiro; Tatiana Tchemisova (*co-Chair*), Universidade de Aveiro; Miguel Anjos, University of Waterloo; Edite Fernandes, Universidade do Minho; Vicente Novo, UNED (Spain); Juan Parra, Universidad Miguel Hernández de Elche; Gerhard-Wilhelm Weber, Middle East Technical University.

Local Committee (Universidade de Aveiro): Paula Carvalho; João Pedro Cruz; Jorge Manuel Esteves; Carlos Luz (Politécnico de Setubal); Agnieszka Malinowska; Enide Andrade Martins; António Pereira; Paula Rama.

Secretariat: Agnieszka Malinowska (e-mail: europt2010@europt2010.com)

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IMPORTANT DAYS
Abstract submission (extended): May 20, 2010
Notification of acceptance (extended): May 31, 2010
Deadline for early Registration (extended): June 10, 2010

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- # Summer School Achievements and applications of contemporary informatics, mathematics and physics, AACIMP-2010
  ## Kyiv, Ukraine
  ## August 3-5, 2010

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summerschool.ssa.org.ua/en/welcome

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Summer School Achievements and applications of contemporary informatics, mathematics and physics, AACIMP-2010 is an unique scientific-educational project, which has been successfully carried out for 5 years by Student Science Association of the National Technical University of Ukraine KPI. The anniversary 5th Summer School will be held on August 3-15, 2010 in Kyiv (Ukraine).

Participation in Summer School is a wonderful opportunity to broaden your horizons, find out more about the latest achievements of science, contemporary high technologies, and topical questions of scientific and technical progress of a society.

Educational program of AACIMP-2010. The courses of the Summer School "AACIMP-2010" are presented in form of lectures, seminars, workshops, discussions according to the topics of four areas (streams): Applied Mathematics; Sustainable Development; Physics, Chemistry and Living Systems; Informational Technologies.

Tutors of AACIMP-2010. Tutors of the Summer School are the scientists from well-known universities of Germany, France, Belgium, Sweden, Lithuania, Poland, Ukraine, Russia, Turkey, USA and the leading specialists of world's largest companies, such as Microsoft, Intel, Cisco, Sitronics and many others.

- # 10th International Conference on PARAMETRIC OPTIMIZATION AND RELATED TOPICS
  ## (paraoptX)
  ### Karlsruhe, Germany
  ### September 20 - 24, 2010

  www.ior.kit.edu/paraoptX.php

  (DEADLINE EXTENDED)

The international conference series "Parametric Optimization and Related Topics" was founded in 1985 and, since then, took place each 2-3 years in different places: the latter six conferences were held in Enschede (1995), Tokyo (1997), Dubrovnik (1999), Puebla (2002), Cairo (2005), and Cienfuegos (2007). From September 20 to 24, 2010, the Karlsruhe Institute of Technology will host the conference paraoptX.

Parametric optimization is a part of mathematical programming and has emerged as an exciting research area in theory, numerics and applications. It investigates the properties of solutions to optimization problems under data perturbations or uncertainty. Many relations to other disciplines of operations research, like stochastic programming, complementarity problems, mixed-integer problems, model-building, numerical methods, multi-objective optimization and optimal control, originate from these properties.

paraoptX welcomes papers as well as proposals for special sessions on any area in parametric optimization or related topics. We hope that the conference will continue to help link researchers and practitioners from different areas of mathematical programming from around the world.

Invited speakers:

o Christodoulos A. Floudas (Princeton University, Princeton, USA)

o Sven Leyffer (Argonne National Laboratory, Argonne IL, USA)

o Boris Mordukhovich (Wayne State University, Detroit MI, USA)

o Jiri Outrata (Charles University, Prague, Czech Republic)

o Teemu Pennanen (Helsinki University of Technology, Helsinki, Finland)

o Andreas Waechter (IBM Watson Research Center, Yorktown Heights NY, USA)

Programm committee:

Chairs: Jan-J. Rueckmann (University of Birmingham, United Kingdom), Oliver Stein (Karlsruhe Institute of Technology, Germany)
*Members:*Wolfgang Achtziger (Technische Universitaet Dortmund, Germany), Roberto Cominetti (Universidad de Chile, Santiago, Chile), Asen Dontchev (National Science Foundation, Ann Arbor, USA), Miguel Goberna (Universidad de Alicante, Spain), Andreas Griewank (Humboldt-Universitaet zu Berlin, Germany), Juergen Guddat (Humboldt-Universitaet zu Berlin, Germany), Francisco Guerra (Universidad de las Americas, Puebla, Mexico), Alfredo Iusem (IMPA, Rio de Janeiro, Brazil), Florian Jarre (Heinrich-Heine-Universitaet Duesseldorf, Germany), Hubertus Th. Jongen (RWTH Aachen, Germany),

Christian Kanzow (Universitaet Wuerzburg, Germany), Diethard Klatte (Universtiaet Zuerich, Switzerland), Michal Kocvara (University of Birmingham, United Kingdom), Marco Lopez (Universidad de Alicante, Spain), Juan Enrique Martinez Legaz (Universitat de Barcelona, Spain), Diethard Pallaschke (Karlsruhe Institute of Technology, Germany), Panos Pardalos (University of Florida, Gainesville FL, USA), Werner Roemisch (Humboldt-Universitaet zu Berlin, Germany), Ruediger Schultz (Universitaet Duisburg-Essen, Germany), Alexander Shapiro (Georgia Tech, Atlanta, USA), Georg Still (Universiteit Twente, The Netherlands), Jie Sun (National University of Singapore, Republic of Singapore), Kok Lay Teo (Curtin University of Technology, Perth, Australia), Tamas Terlaky (Lehigh University, Bethlehem PA, USA), Michel Thera (Universite de Limoges, France), Jane Ye (University of Victoria, Canada)

Organizing committee:

Chair: Oliver Stein (Karlsruhe Institute of Technology, Germany)
Members: Stefan Nickel (Karlsruhe Institute of Technology, Germany), Jan-J. Rueckmann (University of Birmingham, United Kingdom), Marcel Sinske (Karlsruhe Institute of Technology, Germany), Paul Steuermann (Karlsruhe Institute of Technology, Germany), Karl-Heinz Waldmann (Karlsruhe Institute of Technology, Germany)

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IMPORTANT DAYS
Abstract submission (extended):   June 4, 2010
Notification of acceptance (extended): June 18, 2010
Early Registration (extended): July 2, 2010

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- ## 4th Global Conference on Power Control and Optimization (PCO'2010)
  ### Kucing Borneo Sarawak, Malaysia
  ### December 2-4, 2010

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www.pcoglobal.com

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Aims and scope: The Fourth Global Conference on Power Control and Optimization PCO 2010, will be held in Damai Puri Resort, (http://www.damaipuriresort-kuching.com). Scope of the conference is contemporary and original research and educational development in the area of electrical power engineering, control systems and methods of optimization. Prospective authors from universities or institutes and industries are invited to submit the full paper by email before the deadline. All papers will be peer reviewed by independent specialists.

Proposal for holding special sessions, tutorial, exhibition and workshop are invited from prospective authors, industrial bodies and academicians should be addressed to the conference secretariat.

Topics of the conference: Hybrid renewable energy and energy saving; Power systems, protection and reliability; Controllers, drives and machine design; Smart system

and dynamic robust system; Mechatronics and nano physics; NEMS and MEMS; Simulators and software engineering; Soft computing and computational intelligent; Fuzzy and hybrid optimization; Bioinformatics and body sensors; Inventory, queuing and game theory; Control Systems; FEM; Power Electronics;Robotics and Sensors; Artificial immune systems neural network; Evolutionary algorithms; Ant colony, genetic and swarm optimization; Probabilistic and possibilistic optimization; Production design and rough set; Line, pattern searches and decision making; Micro transportation and civil structure; Cams and gear design and optimum valves; Network communication and wireless sensor; Scheduling and assignment problems; Graph theory and supply chain management; Simulation and Modeling; Operational Research; Intelligent Systems and Applications; Energy, Hydrogen energy, Bio-energy and Fuel; Heat transfer and Biomass; Fusion technology; Automatic computing, Biological computing; Coordinative intelligence, Granular computing; Humanized intelligence,Cloud computing; Hybrid artificial and Natural intelligence and computing; ComputerScience and Computer Engineering; Climate and energy systems, wind energy, fuel cells and Hydrogen, Solar energy, Nuclear technologies

Steering Committee: Prof. Dr. Felix Chernousko, Russia; Prof. Dr. Andrew Kusiak, USA; Dr. Kenneth Adan, Malaysia; Dr. Rami Hikmat, Jordan; Dr. Sermsak Uatrongjit, Thailand; Prof. Dr. Gerhard-Wilhelm Weber, Turkey.

Keynote Speakers: Prof. Dr. Milun Babic (Serbia); Prof. Dr. Tsu Tian Lee (Taiwan); Prof. Dr. Mingcong Deng (Japan); Prof. Dr. T. S. Zhao (Hong Kong); Prof. Dr. Yew Soon Wong(Singapore); Prof. Dr. Alan Oxley (Malaysia); Prof. Dr. M. Ahmad Al-Nimr (Jordan); Prof. Dr. Robert Grubbstrom (Sweden); Prof. Dr. Vladimir Fedorov (Russia); Prof. Dr. Wolfgang Borutzky (Germany); Prof. Dr. Vitezslav Benda (Czech Republic); Prof. Dr. Wilhelm Höflinger (Austria).

Organizing Committee: Prof. Dr. Nader Barsoum, Malaysia (Chairman); Dr. Pandian Vasant, Malaysia; Dr. Rabi W Yousif, Malaysia; Dr. Jeffrey Webb, Malaysia.

Conference secretariat:

Tel: 605 3711 416, 6085 44 3821;

Email: pcoglobal@gmail.com

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IMPORTANT DAYS

Submission of Full Papers: August 01, 2010
Notification with Peer Review: September 01, 2010
Camera-ready Paper: October 15, 2010
Registration with Full Payment: October 15, 2010

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X INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE ON APPROXIMATION AND OPTIMIZATION IN THE CARIBBEAN
Costa del Sol, El Salvador
March 6-11, 2011

www.xappopt.wordpress.com

FIRST ANNOUNCEMENT AND CALL FOR PAPERS

BASIC INFORMATION The conference will focus on the interplay between Approximation Theory and Continuous Optimization, with emphasis on the following subjects:

Approximation: wavelets, polynomial and rational approximations, splines, orthogonal polynomials, interpolation, asymptotic analysis, radial basis functions.

Optimization: nonlinear equations and inequalities, continuous optimization, nonsmooth analysis, variational inequalities, equilibrium theory, vector optimization, stochastic optimization, critical point theory.

Applications: financial markets, cooperative and non-cooperative games, engineering and energy modeling, pattern recognition, image restoration.

The Conference is the tenth of a series dedicated to research on Approximation and Optimization which takes place in the Caribbean. The series was jointly initiated by Humboldt University (Berlin), RWTH (Aachen) and Universidad de La Habana. Previous issues were held in La Habana, Cuba (1987 and 1993), Puebla, Mexico (1995), Caracas, Venezuela (1997), Pointe-a-Pitre, Guadeloupe (1999), Ciudad de Guatemala, Guatemala (2001), Leon, Nicaragua (2004), Santo Domingo, Dominican Republic (2006), and San Andres, Colombia (2008).

The conference will consist of contributed talks of thirty minutes each. We intend to have no simultaneous sessions (unless the number of accepted talks exceeds our expectations). There will be work sessions on Monday, March 7, Tuesday, March 8, Thursday, March 10 and Friday, March 11. On Wednesday, March 9, a full day excursion will take place. Detailed information on the excursion will appear in forthcoming announcements.

When ready, the full workshop program will be posted in the workshop site, and will also be included in forthcoming announcements.

Data on the hotel where the Conference will be held, as well as on other hotels in the area, including room rates, will also appear in forthcoming announcements, and will be posted in the conference site as soon as available.

Those interested in contributing a talk should send an abstract by by electronic mail, to the addresses below, no later than November 30, 2010. Acceptation of the contributed talks will be informed no later than December 30, 2010.

ORGANIZING COMMITTEE:
· Martín Guerra, Universidad de El Salvador, San Salvador (megueca@yahoo.com);
· Alfredo Iusem, Instituto de Matemática Pura e Aplicada, Rio de Janeiro (iusp@impa.br)
· Margarita Villagran, Universidad de San Carlos, Guatemala (margavilla2008@yahoo.com)

SCIENTIFIC COMMMITTE:
· Alfredo Iusem, Instituto de Matematica Pura e Aplicada, Rio de Janeiro, Brazil

· Bert Jongen, RWTH University, Aachen, Germany
· Miguel Jimenez, Universidad Autonoma de Puebla, Mexico
· Marcos Raydan, Universidad Central de Venezuela, Caracas, Venezuela
· Ruediguer Schultz, Duisburg Universitat, Germany
· Wilfredo Sosa, Instituto de Matematica y Ciencias Afines, Lima, Peru

EXECUTIVE COMMMITTE OF THE APPOPT CONFERENCES:
· Juergen Guddat, Humboldt Universitat, Berlin, xiGgermany
· Miguel Jimenez, Universidad Autonoma de Puebla, Mexico
· Bert Jongen, RWTH University, Aachen, Germany
· Hans Peters, University of Maastricht, The Netherlands
· Ruediguer Schultz, Duisburg Universitat, Germany

ADDRESSES:
e-mail address: xappopt@gmail.com
Postal adress: Escuela de Matemática, Facultad de Ciencias Naturales y Matemática. Universidad de El Salvador. Ciudad Universitaria, Final 25 Av. Norte, San Salvador, El Salvador, C.A. Tel: (503) 78 31 40 22

Awards and Nominations

COSP STUDENT PAPER PRIZE

COSP (the Committee on Stochastic Programming) is pleased to announce a new student paper prize, which will be given in recognition of the most outstanding student-authored paper in Stochastic Programming. The prize will be awarded at the forthcoming 12th International Conference on Stochastic Programming to be held in Halifax, Canada, during the week of August 16-20. This is a new paper competition, which will be held every three years following the Halifax meeting.

Jury. The award will be decided by a three-member jury formed by Dr. Alan King (IBM Research), Prof. Güzin Bayraksan (University of Arizona), and Prof. Rüdiger Schultz (University of Duisburg-Essen).

Eligibility Criteria. Each entry must satisfy the following eligibility criteria:
i. The paper must present original research results.
ii. The entrant must have been a student within the previous three years of the year of the prize.
iii. The research must have been conducted while the entrant was a student.
iv. The paper must have been published in (or submitted to) an English language journal.
v. The paper must be written by the entrant with only minor outside assistance. One or more advisors may appear as co-authors of a paper, but the student must be the 'first author'.
vi. The entrant can be a (co-)author in at most one paper submitted to the competition.

Submission.
Entrants must submit the following material to the COSP Student Paper Prize Committee Chair before the June 30, 2010 deadline:
i. An electronic copy (a PostScript or pdf file) of the paper.

ii. The publication information for the work. If paper is still under review, state the name of the journal and point in the review process).

iii. An email address and phone number where the entrant can be contacted in the event the entrant is selected as a finalist.

iv. A letter signed by both faculty advisor and the entrant attesting that the eligibility conditions are met.

Papers must be sent to Dr. Alan King, who will chair this year's Prize Committee, at the address kingaj@us.ibm.com before the deadline June 30th,2010.

Criteria. The submitted papers will be judged on the following criteria:
i. Magnitude of the contribution to the advancement of the field of stochastic programming;
ii. Originality of ideas and methods;
iii. Clarity and excellence of exposition.

Communication of the results. The prize results will be communicated to the participants by the end of July and the winner, if any, will receive the prize (a US Dollar 500 check) at the Halifax conference.

Job opportunities

Optimization Position at Wisconsin

The Wisconsin Institute for Discovery (WID) at the University of Wisconsin-Madison (www.discovery.wisc.edu) invites applications for faculty openings in Optimization and its Applications. The WID optimization theme aims to develop and apply optimization technology to systems-level problems emerging in science and engineering applications in an interdisciplinary, integrative, and collaborative fashion. Collaborations with biology and medical researchers will be a focus.

Our interests encompass (but are not limited to):
(i) Development of core optimization technology and large scale computational methodology;
(ii) Planning techniques for medical treatment that exploit unfolding understanding of the physical system;
(iii) Applications of simulation and stochastic optimization techniques;
(iv) Use of optimization and statistical methods to understand and predict systems phenomena, even when competition exists between entities;
(v) Sparse optimization and image reconstruction leveraging compressed sensing frameworks, optimization algorithms, and powerful computational platforms.

Opportunities are available at the Assistant, Associate or Full Professor level. Successful candidates will occupy a new state-of-the-art and centrally located WID research facility specifically designed to spark and support cross-disciplinary collaborations. WID is the public half of an exciting public-private pair of Institutes that will promote basic research and facilitate the translation of new discoveries to practice.

Candidates. Each successful candidate will be appointed to the department of the University that most appropriately matches their experience and interests. The candidate will be expected to develop a vigorous, independent research program; attract and maintain extramural funding

for their research program; teach undergraduate and/or graduate courses; develop new course(s) in their area of expertise as appropriate; supervise graduate and postgraduate research; participate in faculty governance activities in the department, college and/or University; and actively engage with the national and international scientific community.

Applicants must submit a cover letter, curriculum vitae, statement of teaching interests, and a statement of current and future research plans related to optimization and its applications. The full application, submitted as a PDF should not exceed 10 pages. In addition, three references from persons knowledgeable with the applicant's research, leadership and/or teaching abilities must be separately supplied through the website at: https://oberon.cs.wisc.edu/Recruiting. Further details are available at: www.ohr.wisc.edu/pvl/pv$_0$63829.$html$

Contacts: Professor Michael C. Ferris, email: ferris@cs.wisc.edu, University of Wisconsin url: http://www.cs.wisc.edu/ ferris.
Department of Computer Sciences cell: 608-212-8264; 1210 West Dayton Street office: 608-262-4281, Madison, Wisconsin 53706, USA fax: 608-262-9777

PhD position for the NWO project at Tilburg University

The Department of Econometrics and Operations Research of the Tilburg School of Economics and Management at Tilburg University is offering
PhD position for the NWO project **"Solving Quadratic Assignment Problems with Algebraic Symmetry via Semidefinite Programming"**

Project description: The quadratic assignment problem (QAP) is well known in operations research (mathematical programming) and arises from applications as diverse as electronic circuit testing and hospital facility location. It is also famously hard to solve QAP instances, even ones of moderate size. In this project we will revisit the possibility of solving QAP problems using semidefinite programming in a branch and bound setting. In particular, we will use modern techniques from algebraic combinatorics to exploit algebraic structures in the data where present.

Job requirements/Qualifications: The ideal candidate:

- holds a Master, or equivalent degree in (applied) mathematics, operations research, or computer science, and has some background in mathematical programming;

- has an interest and skills in computer programming (in MATLAB, C++);

- is ambitious, self-motivated, and cooperative;

- is able to communicate in English;

- is able to function in a research group and willing to assist in the organization of research meetings, symposia, etcetera.

Terms of employment: According to the Collective Labour Agreement (CAO) for Dutch Universities, a PhD candidate (promovendus) receives a starting salary of 2.042.– gross per month in the first year. The university offers very good fringe benefits (it is one of the best

non-profit employers in the Netherlands), such as an options model for terms and conditions of employment and excellent reimbursement of moving expenses. The position can be either for a duration of three or four years, depending on the qualifications and wishes of the candidate. The starting date is negotiable, but can be as early as September 1st, 2010.

Information: Specific information about the vacancy can be obtained from:
Prof. Etienne de Klerk, Tilburg University. Tel: +31 13 466 2031 email: e.deklerk@uvt.nl
Dr. Renata Sotirov, Tilburg University. Tel: +31 13 466 3178, email: r.sotirov@uvt.nl

Applications: Applications including a curriculum vitae and two reference letters must be submitted before June 25th, 2010 to e.deklerk@uvt.nl

Two PhD positions at LIX, Ecole Polytechnique

The Microsoft Research-CNRS chair "Optimization for Sustainable Development" (http://chaire-osd.polytechnique.fr/) at LIX, Ecole Polytechnique (near Paris, France) is inviting applications for two postdoctoral positions in the field of Operations Research applied to Sustainable Development applications.

Research at the OSD Chair focuses on the use of optimization techniques to applications in sustainable development, including transportation, scheduling and energy-related topics. Methodology-wise, we pursue interests in: multi-objective optimization, stochastic programming, combinatorial optimization, nonlinear and mixed-integer programming.

Current projects carried out by Chair members focus on: - green VRP
- multi-modal shortest paths in dynamic road networks
- multi-objective shortest paths
- solution algorithms for mixed-integer nonlinear programming
- graph theory and combinatorial optimization

Applicants must hold a Ph.D. in an optimization related field, and have an interest in applications to sustainable development.

Applications should include:
- a motivation letter
- a detailed CV (including a complete list of publications)
- two reference letters
- a research statement detailing the proposed research field

Contacts. Application material should be sent to Leo Liberti (leoliberti@gmail.com) and carry "OSD chair postdoc" in the subject field.

Deadline. The deadline for applications is July 15, 2010, with a view to start around October 2010.

Positions.
One of the two positions concerns the Multiobjective Optimization project described below. The other position is open (preferably within one of the research subjects listed above).

Multiobjective optimization (MOO) problems with preferences are MOO problems plus preferences over the objectives. Therefore preferences act as a filter and select the "preferred"

solutions among Pareto-optimal ones. Preferences can be incorporated in MOO at different levels: before resolution, during the search process or after the resolution process. On the other hand, representing and reasoning about/with preferences have been extensively developed in Artificial Intelligence over the past decade resulting in robust and successful languages for preferences representation. The aim of this project is to integrate these languages into MOO problems.

Applicants to the "MOOPreferences" project should specify their preference "clearly" in their application. Limited to the MOO applicants, knowledge of theory of preferences, multicriteria optimization, stochastic programming is a plus.

Applications specific to the MOO project should be sent to Souhila Kaci (kaci@cril.fr).

Interview: The most promising candidates will be invited for an interview around the end of June 2010.

Short note in memory of professor Mikhail Mikhalevich

(11.08.1956 - 14.12.2009)

Tolouse, July 2008

With great sadness we announce the untimely and tragic death of our friend and colleague, outstanding Ukrainian mathematician and economists professor Mikhail Vladimirovich Mikhalevich. Mikhail Mikhalevich was chair of the Department of Information Technologies and Sys-

tems Analysis at the Ukrainian University of Finances and International Trade, the corresponding member of the National Academy of Sciences of Ukraine. He lectured at Kyiv Mahyla Academy and National Shevchenko University.

Mikhail Mikhalevich graduated from Kiev State University in 1978 with speciality Economic Cybernetics, and in 1981, only 25 years old has defended his PhD thesis in Physics and Mathematics Sciences. Ten years later, in 1981 he has defended his second scientific dissertation and was awarded Dr. Habil., the highest academic qualification in former Soviet Union.

The area of scientific interests of Mikhail Mikhalevich was very wide, including continuous and combinatorial optimization, applied optimization, multicriteria analysis, Decision Support Systems, modelling of energy saving, utility theory for nontransitive preferences, statistical data analysis, modelling of transition economy, etc.. Mikhail has published more that 155 articles and five books. He was scientific coordinator of three 3 PhD thesis. Three of his students received Dr. Habil. degree.

Mikhail was an active member of European OR society: he was member of EWG on Desision Support Systems, EWG on Complex Societal Problems, and EUROPT member since 2005. During many years he actively participated in EURO conferences and Workshops of EWGs as well as other national and international conferences.

Mikhail was an extraordinary person who left a mark on the soul and heart of everybody who knew him. He had an open and inquisitive mind, a keen interest in science, history and people. His encyclopedic knowledge in history, both of mathematics, and society, amazed and fascinated. In his personal life he was a very humble man, dedicated to his work and family, a loving and caring husband, attentive friend and colleague.

At his 53 year Mikhail was full of energy, he had a lot of creative plans in front of him when an unexpected accident has interrupted his life. Severity of the lost is heavy and we wish his wife Ludmila Koshlai all strength and courage to bear this grief. Ludmila, You are not alone in your mourning: a lot of people together with You remember Mikhail and miss him.

One of Mikhail's short time project was to participate in 8th EUROPT Workshop in Aveiro, where he was going to present his recent work and meet some of his old and new friends. Unfortunately this project cannot not be realized. By the initiative of Mikhail's widow Ludmila, it was decided to organize a special section in his memory in the frame of Workshop EUROPT 2010. The title of the session is "Nonlinear and nonsmooth optimization and applications (in memory of Professor Mikhail Mikhalevich)". We invite all the friends and colleagues of Mikhail to participate in this section.

The editorial board of Europt Newsletter express cordial gratitude to Dorien J. DeTombe, Chair of EWG Methodology on Complex Societal Problems who has kindly offered for publication in this Newsletter her "In memoriam" dedicated to Mikhail Mikhalevich.

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Tatiana Tchemisova
EUROPT member
E-mail: tatiana@ua.pt

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"In memoriam"

Death of Prof. Dr. Mikhail Mikhalevich 1956-2009 Prof. Dr. Mikhail Mikhalevich Ukrainian Academy of Foreign Trade, Department of Systems Analysis Kiev, Ukraine Chair of Ukraine Research Society on Societal Complexity Member of the International Research Society on Societal Complexity

We are deeply shocked by the sudden death of our beloved friend and well esteemed colleague Prof. Dr. Mikhail Mikhalevich. Prof. Dr. Mikhail Mikhalevich died at the age of 53 last December due to an accident in his home town Kiev in Ukraine.

For more than ten years Prof. Dr. Mikhail Mikhalevich was an active member of our International Research Society on Societal Complexity. Together with his wife Prof. dr. Ludmilla Koshila he was chair of the Ukraine Research Society on Societal Complexity.
In his field of Systems Analysis he dared to take the challenges of entering new ways in research. Together with his wife Prof. dr. Ludmilla Koshila Prof. Dr. Mikhail Mikhalevich combined the knowledge of fuzzy set theory, hierarchy analysis and cybernetics with that of the methodology of Societal Complexity, specific the Compram methodology, to find new scientific approaches for handling real life problems, such as that of effects of the Tsjernobyl disaster to make strategic decisions concerning the periphery of suburban area.

Prof. Dr. Mikhail Mikhalevich was outstanding as a researcher and with his death science lost one of its pioneer in science. He was a very enthusiastic researcher dedicating his life to science. Mikhail was an frequent contributor of the Euro conferences, every year attending the Euro conferences with his wife and scientific partner Ludmilla. We have very good memories of his lectures and his contribution to the discussion. He became a warm and good friend of all of us. Talking with us during lunches, dinners, and at parties and meetings of our research group. We had a good time together.

Mikhail is taken from us in the middle of his scientific life. We are convinced that we speak on behalf of all who knew him that we will miss not only a good scientist but an interesting, warm and good friend.We wish his wife Prof dr. Ludmilla Koshila all the strength and courage to go on. Prof dr. Ludmilla Koshila indicated that she continues the scientific chairs she and her husband had in the Ukraine, so she will continue the chair of the Ukraine Research Society on Methodology of Societal Complexity. Although these chairs will be in good hands with her, she will be lonesome performing these tasks.

Ludmilla, we wish you all the courage to go on living without your dear husband, scientific partner and friend Mikhail.

Our only comfort is that in Ludmilla the memory of Mikhail will stay alive. Our thoughts go to Ludmilla whom we wish all the courage to continue a life without her beloved husband. Mikhail we will miss you.

Dorien DeTombe
Chair International Research Society on Societal Complexity
Tel: +31 20 6927526
E-mail: DeTombe@nosmo.nl

Editor's personal comments

Dear EUROPT members, dear fiends,

As usually, this issue starts with a note by the Chair of EUROPT, Marco Lopez, and this particular note contains very kind words for all of us.

Thanks Marco, it has been a great privilege to be a member of your team.

Some announcements of Forthcoming Events, Awards and Nominations, Job Opportunities and Special offers are also part of this issue. Furthermore, we have also two short notes in memory of Prof. Mikhail Mikhalevich, who suddenly passed away. These notes were written, respectively, by Tatiana Tchemisova and Dorien DeTombe, Chair of the International Research Society on Societal Complexity.

I would like to express my gratitude to all the colleagues and friends who sent us the information for inclusion in this number.

Finally, I must mention that the 8th EUROPT Workshop - Advances in Continuous Optimizations (www.europt2010.com), to be held in Aveiro, Portugal on 9-10 of July, where we will celebrate the EUROPT's tenth anniversary, is coming. The number of presentations (in contributed and organized sessions) is now more than eighty and, as it is referred by our Chair, Marco Lopez, in the beginning of this newsletter, in addition to a list of prestigious Invited Speakers which includes Immanuel Bomze, Mirjan Duer, Alexander Shapiro, Luis Nunes Vicente and Henry Wolkowicz, recently, thanks to the initiative of our Honorary Chair, Tamas Terlaky, we are also proud to have a Special Lecture on the Hirsh's conjecture delivered by Francisco Santos who recently proved that this conjecture is not true. We hope that this scientific program, together with a social program carefully prepared in the atmosphere of Aveiro (with salt marshlands, canals and lagoons that surround and penetrate the city) provide everything we need for a remarkable Event.

We are hoping to see you all in Aveiro, next July.

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

EUROPT Newsletter
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