

News

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International Conference on Nonlinear Programming and Variational Inequalities, Hong Kong, December 15–18, 1998

The organizers of this event from the City University of Hong Kong succeeded to get a considerable number of distinguished specialists in the field of optimization and variational inequalities as invited speakers. This list included among others R. J.-B. Wets, the laureate of the Dantzig Prize in 1994 for his outstanding contributions to stochastic programming and variational convergence, or M. J. D. Powell and Ph. L. Toint, acknowledged specialists in developing of effective numerical approaches to the solution of large nonlinear programs. So the whole program of the four conference days before noon consisted from invited talks. Since the number eight plays apparently an important role in China, the remaining talks have been divided into 8 streams, each stream actually including 8 sessions. The single streams have been devoted to general nonlinear programming (A), complementarity and variational inequality problems (B), structured optimization, multi-level programming and semi-infinite programming (C), global optimization, nonsmooth optimization and generalized convexity (D), algorithms and software (E), stochastic programming, multicriteria optimization, genetic approaches and optimal models (F), finance, optimal control and other applications (G) and optimization methods and variational inequality problems (H). A Jury composed from some invited speakers under the leadership of R. J.-B. Wets has evaluated the papers submitted by young scientists to obtain a special award of the City University. After a careful examination of the submitted works the Jury finally selected K. Lau from the University on New South Wales for her contribution on multistage quadratic stochastic programming. Concerning my personal topic, i.e. mathematical programs with equilibrium constraints, there were also several distinguished specialists attending this conference. Let me mention at least J.-S. Pang, who gave an excellent survey talk on this subject and further, D. Ralph, B. Kummer, S. Scholtes, S. Dempe, J. Ye and H. Jiang. To conclude, it was an excellent meeting with a perfect organization and a highly interesting social program. The large number of young Chinese scientists, working partially at various non-Chinese universities provided an impressive information about the scientific potential of this country.

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