



In January of 2001 the Italian Government has decided to incentive return of scientists in Italy and has supplied special funds for the direct call of distinguished researchers for positions of Full Professor in Italian Universities. The candidates should be eminent researches in their scientific fields, be Full Professors in their countries for at least three years, and be proposed by an Italian University.

The special governmental commission analysed candidates proposed by Italian Universities for more than one year and a half and has made its decision in summer, 2002. One of these prestigious positions has been awarded to a member of the Pacific Optimization Research Activity Group, Professor Yaroslav Sergeyev from the University of Nizhni Novgorod (Russia). Prof. Sergeyev has started to serve at the University of Calabria (Rende) since November, 1, 2002.

Prof. Sergeyev is one of the mostly recognised researchers in global optimization. His deep results in parallel global optimization have given him a high international reputation. He was one of the first in the world to propose several classes of parallel global optimization algorithms in the middle of 80-ies. A deep theoretical analysis done by Yaroslav for these classes of methods has allowed to obtain accurate theoretical estimates on efficiency of parallelization and convergence conditions of a new type.

One of his most remarkable results is introduction of the idea of "local tuning" in Lipschitz global optimization. This tool has given a possibility to construct fast methods significantly outperforming traditionally used schemes. His investigations dealing with space-filling curves and diagonal algorithms have led to creation of very promising new instruments for solving black-box global optimization problems.

Yaroslav has published numerous papers in *Journal of Global Optimization* and other top journals such as *Mathematical Programming*, *Numerische Mathematik*, *SIAM Journal on Optimization*, *SIAM Journal on Scientific Computing*, etc. The monograph *Global optimization with non-convex constraints: Sequential and parallel algorithms*, Kluwer Academic Publishers, 2000, written together with R.G. Strongin is a fundamental work which has become an important event in global optimization and parallel computations.

It is a great pleasure to express our warmest congratulations to Yaroslav and to emphasize that this award is an important recognition of the importance of the optimization field.

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