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Final Report on COIA 2020

The 7th International Conference on Control and Optimization with Industrial Applications (COIA 2020) was held during August 26-28, 2020, originally scheduled as an in-person meeting in Baku, Azerbaijan, but because of the pandemics held in a virtual mode. This conference was organized by the Institute of Applied Mathematics of Baku State University (BSU) with the support of the Ministry of Transport, Communications and High Technologies of the Republic of Azerbaijan.

About 476 scientists and researchers from all around the world registered on the website of the conference. In spite of the virtual mode, the participants (totaling 256) had many fruitful discussions and exchanges of opinions that contributed to the success of the three-day conference. Participants from 14 different countries, including Azerbaijan, Turkey, USA, Mexico, Italy, Russia, Ukraine, and others brought their valuable contribution to the conference. Extended abstracts of 240 of the presented papers are included in the Proceedings of COIA 2020. This event has already become traditional and was held for the fifth time in Baku this year.

The Deputy Minister of Transport, Communications and High Technologies, Elmir Velizade, delivered a welcoming speech at the conference. Approaching the dynamic development of information and communication technologies in the world, he noted that this area is one of the priorities for the Republic of Azerbaijan.

The issues covered by speakers at the conference were by and large related to the application of scientific and theoretical results in industry and economy. The presentations at the conference covered such topics as: "Control Theory", "Optimization", "Fuzzy Control", "Intelligent Systems", "Network and Telecommunications", "Numerical and Computational Methods", "Mathematical Modeling and Simulation", "Identification", and "Application of Optimization Procedures in Physical Problems".

In the plenary sessions, prominent scientists, namely Tamer Başar (USA), Patricia Melin (Mexico), Rolf Findeisen (Germany), Boris Polyak (Russia), Yaroslav Sergeyev (Italy), and Leonid Nizhnik (Ukraine) delivered presentations on various aspects of control and optimization.

At the closing ceremony, which was held on August 28, 2020, Professor Fikret Aliev announced that the next COIA will be held in two years, in 2022. The exact dates of the *8th International Conference on Control and Optimization with Industrial Applications* (COIA 2022) and its location will be determined and announced in due time.

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