



Editors: Myriam Lazard, Andris Buikis, Yuriy S. Shmaliy, Roberto Revetria, Nikos Mastorakis, Olga Martin, Gabriella Bognar, Siavash H. Sohrab, Daniel N. Riahi, Gilbert-Rainer Gillich

Recent Advances in Applied & Biomedical Informatics and Computational Engineering in Systems Applications

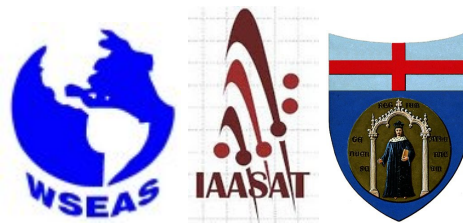
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Plenary Lecture 1

On Formally Engineering Applications Software



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Abstract: Formal methods--be they logical (such as model checking) or algebraic (such as model-based testing)--have established themselves as mainstream tools for verification and validation. Hardware, device drivers, and network protocol have all been formally validated in various contexts. Recent Turing prizes have recognized this success. When it comes to specifying and verifying complex application software, formal methods have hit however a stumbling block. Indeed, conformance testing is traditionally based on finite-state formalisms: a system is at any time in one of the multitude of named states. Such an approach fails for complex software because of the sheer number of necessarily distinct states (already happening in simpler systems, but becoming simply unmanageable for complex applications such as word processors or operating systems). Bringing conformance testing to complex application software is an emerging area. Typical programming languages (and thus the control flow of software programmed using them) feature nested, recursive invocations of program modules. These features are modelled naturally by context-free languages. Many non-regular properties are therefore required for software verification. Such properties generate an finite state space, which cannot be handled by finite-state process algebras or by standard verification techniques such as model checking. Context-free process algebras such as BPA can specify context-free properties. However, concurrency cannot be provided by context-free process algebras since context-free languages are not closed under intersection. This talk focuses on the quest of finding a formalism that is expressive enough to model the context-free phenomena from complex software yet allows for a compositional approach to conformance testing. We start with visibly pushdown languages (VPL), a promising construct which unfortunately is not suitable for compositional specification and verification. We extend VPL to multiple stacks, obtaining multi-stack visibly pushdown languages (MVPL). These languages model concurrency naturally, but their standard definition does not allow compositional approaches. We then present an alternate set of operations over MVPL that are natural and also permit compositional specification and verification. The subsequent tools for specifying and verifying complex, recursive application software will also be discussed, mostly in the context of functional programming languages (such as Haskell or Erlang).

Brief Biography of the Speaker:

Dr. Stefan D. Bruda is Associate Professor of Computer Science with Bishop's University in Sherbrooke, Quebec. He obtained his PhD from Queen's University at Kingston for his work in the area of computational models for parallel and real-time computations. His current research interests remains mostly in the theoretical realm, though they are now closer to practice being focused primarily on formal software engineering (but also on models of computation and formal languages). Since the start of his career as faculty Dr. Bruda's research has been continuously financed by the Natural Sciences and Engineering Research Council of Canada. Other financing institutions included the Fond quebécois de la recherche sur la nature et les technologies and Bishop's University. Dr. Bruda is the co-author of the book "Reconfiguration is Shared Memory: Collapsing the Hierarchy of Parallel Models with Reconfigurable Buses and Shared Memory" (LAP Publishing, 2010) and over 40 journal and conference papers. He is an editor of Parallel Processing Letters.

Plenary Lecture 2

The Electric PCR Microsystems based on LTCC Technology for Escherichia Coli Detection in Environmental Samples



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Abstract: Escherichia coli (E.coli) is a common bacteria that colonize digestive tract of many organisms including humans and is an important source of Vitamin K and B12. However, numerous strains of E.coli are pathogenic and cause severe infections and alimentary toxemia. Eight toxic strains of E.coli are known till now. The main source of E.coli infections is water. That is why monitoring the purity level of water sources is extremely important for public health. Commonly used methods for E.coli detection are time-consuming and rely on E.coli culturing and cells differentiation. Noticeably faster and more sensitive method for E.coli detection is a PCR where even small copy of E.coli genome might be detected. What is more, the analysis can be done in about one hour, what accelerates the time of analysis.

PCR (Polymerase Chain Reaction) is a sensitive and specific tool for DNA fragments amplification and utility of this technique is still growing. Here we are presenting a device dedicated for DNA fragments amplification based on Real-Time PCR approach. We designed the system for E.coli DNA fragment amplification and detection and at the same time for E.coli quantification. The LTCC technology was used for structure fabrication. We successfully performed PCR, where we were able to amplify region of E.coli DNA. The miniaturized PCR system based on the LTCC technology might provide the possibility for faster and cheaper E.coli detection in a different source of environmental samples even by small laboratories or the one created in a place of potentially E.coli contamination.

Brief Biography of the Speaker:

Malgorzata Malodobra graduated from the Wroclaw Medical University in Poland in 2006. In 2010 she received the Ph.D. title at Wroclaw Medical University in Molecular Technique Unit. From 2010 she works as an Assistant of Professor in Molecular Technique Unit at Wroclaw Medical University. In 2009 she performed an internship in Joslin Diabetes Center at Harvard Medical School, MA, USA. She is interested in the molecular basis of metabolism syndrome, insulin resistance and type 2 diabetes. She is also involved in many research projects performed in Molecular Techniques Unit. From 2008 she works also as a specialist in research projects dedicated to Electronic Microsystem development standing for a single used thermalcycler for PCR in a wide range of use, especially for medicine and environmental hazardous factors detection. She is also performing a diagnostic research of genetic disorders or a pathogens detection. She is an author or co-author of eight full text publications and an author or co-author of 13 conference abstracts in a wide field of molecular medicine research.

Plenary Lecture 3

Biomedical Informatics a Creative Way in Health Education - An Ethical Approach



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Abstract: Developing the medicine in our days is not possible without clinical informatics and biomedical informatics. Biomedical informatics and its development is connected with computer science, medicine, biomedicine, public health and is more and more a practical discipline which need a permanently evaluation of ethical standards.

Bioethics is, in this context, a powerful tool for evaluating the impact of biomedical informatics in health care activities and is connected with medical student education.

Understanding and studying the medicine using a biomedical informatics way could be also a modality to replace traditional instruction based by dissection and patients. Biomedical informatics programme could also avoid experimenting skills on the patients or use autoexperiment before having enough abilities to do that.

Biomedical informatics is a modality to improve health care, to develop public health policy and, in the same time to assure a support for medical and nursing student education. Clinical decision support assured by biomedical informatics is also an area of research and education.

The challenge is to integrate different fields of biomedical informatics in medical, pharmaceutical or nursing education, even if it is graduate or post-graduate programme.

Biomedical informatics specialists are involved more and more in health system in management, administration, security or medical decision.

Biomedical informatics specialist in our days could be medical doctors, nurses, computer specialists, biomedical engineers or medical librarians. Also, pharmacists, or pharmaceutical representatives, academic researchers or educators and students are interested and involved in biomedical informatics activities.

They could be structured on 3 levels of interest and competencies: academic (educators and researchers designates for evaluate and develop special software), applicative (for managers, information officers or persons designated for adapt special software for medical practice) and applicants of biomedical informatics programme in their daily professional activities.

According to this, bioethics is a practical discipline which must integrate the moral rules in the society's development and could assure high standards for respecting the human being rights and individuality.

Brief Biography of the Speaker:

Professor-chief of Health Promotion, Human Behaviour, Ethics and History of Medicine Department, General Chancellor at the University Transylvania Brasov.

She is member in International Society of Biometrics, member in International Society of Clinical Biostatistics, member in International Society of History of Medicine and editor coordinator of 2 Medical Journal.

She published 21 books like author or co-authors, published in Romania, at the HIMSS, i-technonline

She participates at more than 50 conferences and published 38 papers in extensor at the conference and 72 articles in journals, in the ethics, human behaviour, health promotion and history of medicine.

She was involved in 15 projects like coordinator and member.

Plenary Lecture 4

Elaboration and Physicochemical Behaviour of Nano Hydroxyapatite / Silver Nanoparticles Biocomposite after "In Vitro" Assays



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Abstract: Silver nanoparticles induce many beneficial effects in biomedical materials when it is used in good dose. Silver is generally recognized by its inhibitory effect towards many bacterial strains and microorganisms commonly present in medical and industrial processes. In this work, hydroxyapatite/polyvinylpyrrolidone was doped with two different concentrations of silver nanoparticles prepared by reduction method.

Physicochemical characterization of compounds was carried out by using TEM, SEM and XRD methods. They permit to highlight the structural and morphological behavior of nano biomaterials after addition of Silver. The chemical reactivity and kinetic of bioactivity were studied. Ionic exchanges between compounds and SBF were achieved by using ICP-OES method. It is demonstrated that silver doped nanohydroxyapatite obviously improve the bioactivity of the apatite at the early stages of immersion. Hydroxyapatite was elaborated in the presence of polyvinylpyrrolidone (HA/PVP).

Obtained results show that the particles seemed to be like fibers with at least more than 100 nm in length and 10-20 nm in diameter.

Brief Biography of the Speaker:

Hassane Oudadesse graduated from the University Blaise Pascal of Clermont-Ferrand France. He obtained his PhD in 1989 and worked as associate Professor and obtained his HDR (Habilitation à Diriger des recherches) in 1998. Since 2001, he works in the University of Rennes 1 as Full Professor in the "Sciences Chimiques de Rennes", UMR CNRS 6226.

His works concern the conception, synthesis and physicochemical studies of new biomaterials for applications in orthopaedic surgery. Biocompatibility, kinetic of bioactivity, kinetic of bio consolidation in the interface bone-Implants, cells enhancement and other properties of biomaterials present the research field of Professor Hassane Oudadesse.

He is author of more than 80 articles published in international journals and 50 international conferences.

Professor Hassane Oudadesse is a Head of the research unit on Biomaterials since 2001, Vice-President of University of Rennes 1, human resources since 2008, Director of Master 2 Solid State Chemistry and Materials since 2006. He was the President of the Chemical Department from 2002 to 2004 and the President of the specialists commission CNU 33 (Materials Chemistry) from 2003 to 2008.

Plenary Lecture 5

Possibilities of Applications of the Fuzzy Inference Systems and Probabilistic–Fuzzy Inference Systems for the Prediction and Diagnosis



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Abstract: Probabilistic methods have a long history of applications to data analysis and statistical inference in many fields of human activities, also for prediction and diagnosis. Zadeh's theory of fuzzy systems, especially theory of approximate reasoning, gave the grounds for creating the knowledge based systems, where human knowledge and experiences expressed in linguistic categories are prepared and used for the prediction, diagnosis or control.

According to many authors, uncertainty is the central, critical fact in medical reasoning. Many applications of knowledge based medical systems confirm, that fuzzy set theory is very suitable for expressing uncertainty of symptoms, reasons, and for creating the inference, diagnostic procedure.

In this work we present the methods of applications both, the sets of numerical data collected in real systems, as well as, expert's experiences to modelling knowledge bases, by using linguistic fuzzy models and the probability theory of fuzzy events. A structure of the reason-result fuzzy model is predefined at the beginning of the task. Collected data are used to compute empirical probability distributions of linguistic variables. The calculated probabilities of fuzzy events have been included into inference procedures. The exemplary calculations are presented.

Brief Biography of the Speaker:

Anna Walaszek-Babiszewska was born in Wroclaw, Poland. She received M. Sc. degree (1970) in Control Engineering from the Technical University of Wroclaw, Poland. Since 1970 she has been with the Silesia University of Technology, Gliwice, Poland, where she received Ph. D. and D. Sc. (Habilitation) degrees in 1980 and 1994, respectively. At present, she is a professor at the Opole University of Technology, Department of Control and Computer Engineering, Opole, Poland.

Her research interests include: stochastic and fuzzy modeling, knowledge-based systems, systems identification, data analysis, and applications in technological and managerial situations.

She has supervised 4 and reviewed 5 Ph.D dissertations in engineering and economic sciences. She has published 4 monographic books on stochastic and fuzzy modeling and over 90 scientific papers (the book on 'Fuzzy modeling in stochastic environment' is just publishing by LAP LAMBERT Academic Publishing).

She was a member of the Management Editorial Board (2000-2005) and the Lecture Notes in Control and Computer Science Editorial Board (2003) of the Zielona Gora University Press, Zielona Gora, Poland. She was a member of the Section of Cybernetics in Mining, Mining Committee of the Polish Academy of Sciences (1999-2011).

Plenary Lecture 6

Digital Signal Processing and Softcomputing Methods Applied to ECG and PCG to Infer about Subject Physiological Status



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Abstract: Electrocardiogram (ECG) and Phonocardiogram (PCG) signals embed key information about subject physiological status. Physicians use such information to diagnose the general physiological status of the patient and also to diagnose incoming pathologies. The automatic extraction of such information enables the implementation of systems that could monitor subjects and infer about some physiological and pathological condition, so that efficient prevention strategies could be enabled. ECG and PCG features extraction is a set of Digital Signal Processing-based (DSP-based) application-specific algorithms (ASA) to execute crisp measurements to be inputted to a fuzzy logic engine that infers about a physiological and/or pathological status of the subject. Fuzzy logic engine is a data driven inferential process, so most of the design efforts need to be addressed to the features extraction process and to the rule set and membership functions definition and tuning. Low level and high level signal features can be extracted, so that a very effective inference could be applied at fuzzy logic engine level. Heart rate variability (HRV) is one of the high level signal features that embeds very significant information about physiological and pathological condition of the subject.

Brief Biography of the Speaker:

Prof. Mario Malcangi received his undergraduate and graduate degrees in Electronic Engineering and Computer Science from the Politecnico di Milano in 1981. He is member of the International Neural Network Society and among the founders of the Engineering Applications of Neural Networks Special Interest Group (SIG). His research is in the areas of multimedia communications, digital signal processing, embedded/real-time systems, biometrics, and biomedical. His research efforts are mainly targeted at speech- and audio-information processing, with special attention to applying soft-computing methodologies (neural networks and fuzzy logic) to speech synthesis, speech recognition, and speaker identification for implementation on deeply embedded systems. He teaches digital signal processing and digital audio processing at the Università degli Studi di Milano. He has published several papers on topics in digital audio and speech processing.

Plenary Lecture 7

The Use of Biomedical Imaging for Computer-Aided Diagnosis and Treatment Planning in Orthodontics and Dentofacial Orthopedics



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Abstract: Orthodontics and Dentofacial Orthopedics, the most complex branch of dentistry, assume a careful acquisition and interpretation of a large amount of information to achieve a correct diagnosis and treatment planning. Medical imaging has become a major tool in almost every aspect of orthodontic practice, research and education. Three-dimensional imaging had a great evolution in recent years and has found various applications in orthodontics as well as in oral and maxillofacial surgery. The paper will present the most recent uses of biomedical imaging in the orthodontic practice. Digital photographs, digital models, digital radiology and cone beam computed tomography will be presented and evaluated. We outlined the specific clinical problems where this digital technology can best help the orthodontist in providing improved diagnosis and treatment planning. The specialists from dental medicine are encouraged to exploit the potential of this technology and to contribute to the development of these powerful diagnostic tools.

Brief Biography of the Speaker:

Alexandru S. Ogodescu graduated in 1993 the "Grigore Moisil" Computer Science High School in Timisoara, specializing in computers, getting the degree of programmer. In 1999 he graduated the School of Dentistry from the University of Medicine and Pharmacy "Victor Babes" Timisoara, Romania obtaining the degree of doctor-medical-doctor (DMD) in dentistry. After 3 years of postgraduate specialization (2000-2003) in the same University he obtained the title of Specialist in Orthodontics and Dento-Facial Orthopedics. In 2001 he graduated the postgraduate course about "Computer Science for Dentists". In 2006 he presented his PhD Thesis about "The Interdisciplinary of Modern Orthodontics" and received the degree of PhD in dental science. The author's major fields of study are interdisciplinary orthodontics, orthodontic treatment of adult patients, biomechanics, computer science in orthodontics, digital tools, and management of dental surfaces during the orthodontic treatment. He works now as Ass. Prof. in the Department of Orthodontics, University of Medicine and Pharmacy "Victor Babes" Timisoara, Romania and also in his own private dental practice (1999-present). In 2008 he published the first monograph about adult orthodontics in Romania : "Tratamentul orthodontic la adult", Timisoara, Romania, Ed.Eubeea, 2008. He presented and published together with his wife, Dr. Emilia Ogodescu, also orthodontist, a lot of papers in the fields of orthodontics and received awards. Dr. Ogodescu is member of the Romanian Society of Straight-Wire, European Orthodontic Society, World Federation of Orthodontics, International Association of Dental Research and Association for Computing Machinery.

Plenary Lecture 8

The Learning Content Management Systems in Medical Education: A New Wave Emerges



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Abstract: For millennia, the paradigm of learning ? classroom teaching prevailed! The formal learning was scarce; resources were concentrated around and centered on the availability of the educator, rather than the learner. The first applications of eLearning were therefore paralleled with the old classroom model and its associated characteristics. While understandable, this does not achieve the true potential of the new paradigm: the Internet as a learning medium. The first wave of e-learning was focused on solutions associated with administering classroom training, i.e. the Learning Management System (LMS). However, the discipline has developed and evolved into a second wave of a more sophisticated e-learning solution. This new wave requires an e-Learning Content Management System (LCMS) to fulfill the needs of personalized and adaptive e-learning. Web based LCMS are increasingly utilized across the medical universities internationally. LCMS can facilitate the delivery of medical education and broadens the capacity for tracking and reporting of teaching & learning across an institution, simplify and automate administrative and supervisory tasks, and facilitate institutional accreditation. These systems are equipped with business intelligence tools to analyze data and create reports to foster curriculum governance and education delivery. The most sophisticated systems incorporate version control, multiple authors, and project management as well. LCMS is a multi-user environment where developers may create, store, reuse, manage, and deliver digital learning content from a central object repository. LCMS solutions are ideally suited to create content-centric learning strategies, supporting multiple methods for gathering and organizing content, leveraging content for multiple purposes, and achieving educational goals and objectives. The LCMS in medical education, with its focus on the learner, may be the real breakthrough in eLearning. Thus, it is greatly anticipated that this new wave of eLearning in medicine will change the landscape of learning forever in favor of the learner and their dynamically changing needs.

Brief Biography of the Speaker:

Professor Sat Sharma, MD, FRCPC, FCCP, FACP, FAASM is a Professor and Head of Respiriology for the Department of Internal Medicine at the University of Manitoba in Winnipeg, Canada. He also works within the Critical Care Section and Sleep Disorders Centre, served as program director of post graduate education in respirology at the University of Manitoba, and is the site director of respiratory medicine at St. Boniface General Hospital and Health Sciences Centre. Dr. Sharma's research interests include epidemiology of respiratory diseases, perioperative respiratory care, exercise induced hypoxemia, medical education, and medical informatics. Dr. Sharma is presently Director of Medical Informatics at Faculty of Medicine, University of Manitoba. In this position he was instrumental in creating a Learning Content Management System for the medical faculty. He is a longstanding board member of the Canadian Thoracic Society, chair of the Specialty Committee of Respiriology for the Royal College of Physicians and Surgeons of Canada, governor of the Manitoba chapter of the American College of Chest Physicians, and a member of the Health and Science Policy Committee for the ACCP. Dr. Sharma maintains an active agenda of philanthropic undertakings and supports UNICEF, the Red Cross, and numerous other voluntary organizations. In his spare time, he enjoys competitive running, bicycling, travel, fiction writing, and community work.

Plenary Lecture 9

Advances in 2-D Filter Design - New Algorithms for Notch, Fan and Cone Filters



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Abstract: In the first part of the Plenary Lecture, new general transformations for designing 2-D (Two-Dimensional) FIR and IIR filters are provided. The present methodology can be viewed as an extension of the McClellan Transformations and can be applied in several cases of 2-D FIR and IIR filter design. Numerical examples illustrate the validity and the efficiency of the method.

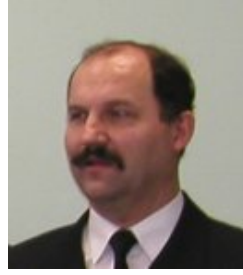
In the Second part, general transformations for designing 2-D (Two-Dimensional) IIR filters are provided. The present approach can be viewed as an extension of the classical method of magnitude approximation and can be applied in several cases of 2-D filter design. Numerical examples illustrate the validity and the efficiency of the method.

Brief Biography of the Speaker:

Prof. Dr. Nikos E. Mastorakis received his B.Sc. and M.Sc. (Diploma) in Electrical Engineering from the National Technical University of Athens (Greece) and the Ph.D. in Electrical Engineering and Computer Science from the same university. He also received the B.Sc. (Ptychion) in Pure Mathematics from the National University of Athens, Greece. He have served as special scientist on Computers and Electronics in the Hellenic (Greek) Army General Staff (1993-1994) and taught several courses in the Electrical and Computer Engineering Department of the National Technical University of Athens (1998-1994). He has also served as Visiting Professor at the University of Exeter, School of Engineering (UK, 1998), Visiting Professor in the Technical University of Sofia (Bulgaria, 2003-2004) while he is now Professor in the Technical University of Sofia (Bulgaria, <http://elfe.tu-sofia.bg/elfe/staff.htm>, <http://elfe.tu-sofia.bg/elfe/curriculum4.htm> and <http://elfe.tu-sofia.bg/elfe/curriculum3.htm>) and also Professor in the department of Computer Science at the Military Institutions of University Education (MIUE) -Hellenic Naval Academy, Greece. CV: http://www.wseas.org/mastorakis/CV_Mastorakis.doc

Plenary Lecture 10

Multi-criterion, Evolutionary and Quantum Decision Making in Complex Systems



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Abstract:

Designing of the general complex systems like the semantic Web, computer networks, production scheduling or robot path planning require some extremely efficient optimization techniques that support decision making process [7]. Decision making for complex systems is based on multi-criterion-optimisation. We use several criteria to identification the sensitive preferences of a decision maker. For instance, a task assignment in a distributed computer system may reduce both the total cost of a program run and a workload of the bottleneck computer [2]. The probability that all computers remain fault-free during the execution of the modules assigned to computers is another criterion of evaluation task assignments. Some crucial multi-criterion evolutionary algorithms have been described in [3].

However, multi-criteria evolutionary algorithms consume a lot of time to calculate the set of efficient solutions. To avoid this disadvantage, we introduce some quantum-based algorithms. Because there are not accessible quantum computers we simulate the quantum computers on classical ones. In such a way quantum-inspired algorithms can be used for a computer decision aid, too.

Decision making by the AQMEA (Adaptive Quantum-based Multi-criterion Evolutionary Algorithm) has been considered for distributed computer systems [1]. Evolutionary computing with Q-bit chromosomes has been proofed to characterize by the enhanced population diversity than other representations, since individuals represent a linear superposition of states probabilistically.

In AQMEA, a quantum representation is applied for the probabilistic representation that is based on the concept of qubits [6]. *Bra-ket* (Dirac) notation is used for describing quantum states by development of angle brackets and vertical bars. A qubit is a two-layer quantum bit that can be modeled as the Hilbert space H_2 with the given base $B = \{|0\rangle, |1\rangle\}$ [5]. The Bloch sphere is a geometrical demonstration of the state space for a qubit and it may also refer to the space of an n -level quantum system [4].

The state x_m of the m th qubit in the Q -chromosome can be written, as follow:

$$Q_m = \alpha_m |0\rangle \oplus \beta_m |1\rangle, \quad (1)$$

where

α_m and β_m – complex numbers that specify the probability amplitudes of the corresponding states,

\oplus – a superposition operation,

m – the index of the gene in the chromosome, $m = \overline{1, M}$.

The chromosome can be represented by the chromosome matrix, as follows [1]:

$$Q = \begin{bmatrix} |\alpha_1|^2 & \dots & |\alpha_m|^2 & \dots & |\alpha_M|^2 \\ |\beta_1|^2 & \dots & |\beta_m|^2 & \dots & |\beta_M|^2 \end{bmatrix} \quad (2)$$

Moreover, the procedure of random selection of decision values is involved with a chromosome matrix. If the decision variable x_m is characterized by a complex pair (α_m, β_m) , then is equal to 0 with the probability $|\alpha_m|^2$ and it is equal to 1 with $|\beta_m|^2$ [1].

AQMEA is working on a digital computer and collapsing into a single state does not occur. So, we simulate the process of observation.

A standard n -bit state and a quantum n -qubit state are 2^n -dimensional elements that are processed differently for standard or quantum computation.

In randomized computation, the application of stochastic matrices preserves that the sum of probabilities has to be equal to one. On the other hand, in quantum computation, allowed operations are unitary matrices. Those matrices are effectively rotations and preserve that the sum of the squares is equal to one [5].

Finally, we present how a path of an underwater vehicle is determined by AQMEA solving a multiobjective optimization problem. For evaluation of a vehicle trajectory three main criteria are used: a total length of a path, a measure of safety, and a smoothness of a trajectory.

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Brief Biography of the Speaker:

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