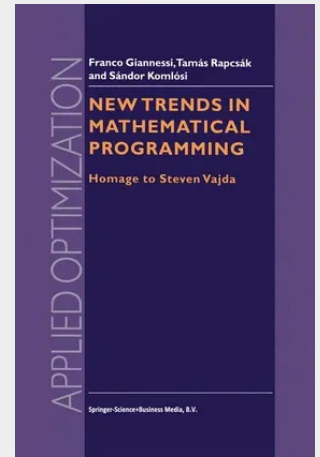


New Trends in Mathematical Programming

Homage to Steven Vajda

Though the volume covers 22 papers by 36 authors from 12 countries, the history in the background is bound to Hungary where, in 1973 Andras Pnškopa started to lay the foundation of a scientific forum, which can be a regular meeting spot for experts of the world in the field. Since then, there has been a constant interest in that forum. Headed at present by Tamas Rapcsak, the Laboratory of Operations Research and Decisions Systems of the Computer and Automation Institute, Hungarian Academy of Sciences followed the tradition in every respect, namely conferences were organized almost in every second year and in the same stimulating area, in the Matra mountains. The basic fields were kept, providing opportunities for the leading personalities to give voice to their latest results. The floor has been widened recently for the young generation, ensuring this way both a real location for the past, present and future experts to meet and also the possibility for them to make the multicoloured rainbow of the fields unbroken and continuous. The volume is devoted to the memory of Steven Vajda, one of the pioneers on mathematical programming, born in Hungary. In 1992 he took part in the XIth International Conference on Mathematical Programming at Matrafiired where, with his bright personality, he greatly contributed to the good spirituality of the event. We thank Jakob Krarup for his reminiscence on the life and scientific activities of late Steven Vajda.

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