

## Come to Maui for the 42nd IEEE CDC

**A**loha! Just think—Hawaii in the winter... In December, it might be cold and snowy at home, but not in Hawaii. You can combine networking and learning with sun and fun at the 42nd IEEE Conference on Decision and Control (CDC), held at the Hyatt Regency Maui, Hawaii, 9-12 December 2003. This magnificent hotel is situated on a beautiful, wide stretch of Kaanapali Beach beside the jewel-like Pacific. Four miles south is the quaint historical whaling port of Lahaina.

The CDC 2003 Maui boasts record submissions and acceptances of papers, with 1156 accepted papers for a 61% acceptance rate. We plan on 14 parallel sessions, with one poster/ interactive session having Internet access for real-time simulation and demonstrations. Also notable is heavy sponsorship by industry. Our sponsors at the \$5000 level include Honeywell, Xerox, and National Instruments.

CDC'03 has a rich plenary structure. The plenary speakers are Katsuhisa Furuta, past president of Japan's SICE, Vladimir Kucera, president of IFAC, and Tamer

Basar, past president of IEEE Control Systems Society. Also attending will be Ioan Landau, founder and first president of the European Union Control Association. Janusz Bryzek will give a keynote talk titled "Control of MEMS Microsystems." Kishan Baheti and Murti Salapaka have organized a special track on nanotechnology. There are three plenary panels: History of Controls, International Funding Thrusts and Mechanisms, and Past CSS Presidents Panels.

We invite you to attend CDC 2003 Maui. The Hyatt Regency is offering ocean suites at US\$205, much less than half the standard rate. Ten workshops are detailed on the Web page and span the spectrum of current research interest areas in feedback control. Whale season starts in early December, so you may see the hump back whales out of Lahaina. Finally, opening and closing receptions on the beachside with music and cultural dancers are calculated to round out the experience both in technical and social terms.

See the CDC'03 Web page for a program and registration and travel information: <http://www2.acae.cuhk.edu.hk/~ycliu/cdc03/> or as a link through the CSS conferences Web page

We look forward to seeing you in Maui!

—Frank L. Lewis

General Chair, CDC 2003 Maui

—Chaouki Abdallah

Program Chair, CDC 2003 Maui



## Louisiana Conference on Mathematical Control Theory

**T**he Louisiana Conference on Mathematical Control Theory (MCT'03) was held at Louisiana State University (LSU) in Baton Rouge 10-13 April 2003. The conference brought together more than 25 researchers in mathematical control theory and control engineering. Speakers included Vera Zeidan, Ludovic Rifford, Franco Rampazzo, Boris Mordukhovich, Bill McEneaney, Miroslav Krstic, Zhong-Ping Jiang, Lars Gruene, Asen Dontchev, and Zvi Artstein. Plenary talks were given by Francis Clarke, Terry Rockafellar, Hector Sussmann, Andrew Teel, and Richard Vinter. Clarke's opening plenary lecture was "The Euler Equation in the Calculus of Variations and Optimal

Control: A Survey" and Rockafellar's plenary talk was "Feedback and Cost-to-Go in Control Problems of Convex Type." Conference topics included nonsmooth analysis, Hamilton-Jacobi-Bellman equations, computational methods, and control applications in ship navigation and chemical process control.

One of the motivations for the conference is the belief that classical mathematical concepts are not sufficient to understand and prescribe the behavior of control systems with nonsmooth features. These features arise naturally whenever there are "min" or "max" operations or when the nonlinear systems develop shocks. The emerging theory of

nonsmooth analysis has been developed in part to supply the mathematical tools for handling these phenomena. The LSU conference formed a well-integrated exploration of those areas of systems and control theory in which nonlinear, nonsmooth control is having an impact. One of the goals of the conference was to familiarize the mathematical control theory community with some of the important problems faced in control engineering. Synergies between theorists and engineers are key for addressing the sorts of complicated problems that arise in control applications.

MCT'03 provided a venue for interdisciplinary contact between engineering and mathematical control researchers, as well as opportunities for young researchers and graduate students to meet and interact with the established researchers. In this regard, an important feature of MCT'03 was a special session of papers by Ph.D. students in mathematical control theory.

Social events at MCT'03 included a trip to the historic

Magnolia Mound plantation, a Louisiana crawfish boil, and a demonstration of traditional Cajun dancing. The conference concluded with an excursion to the French Quarter Festival in New Orleans, where the attendees were treated to authentic Louisiana jazz, blues, and brass band music and a tour of Bourbon Street.

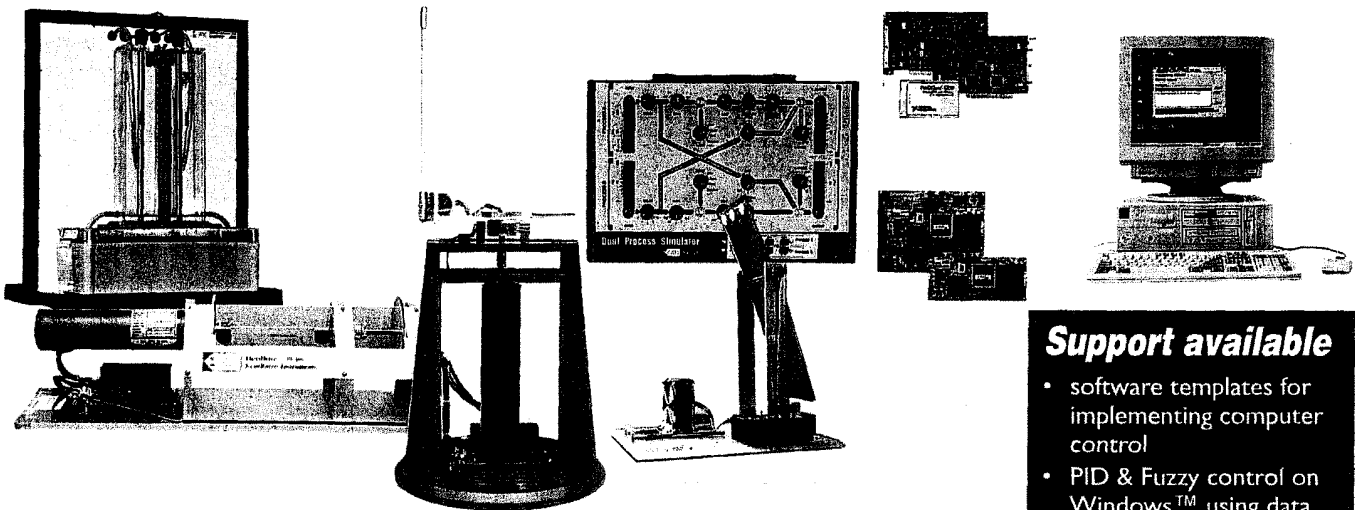
The conference was organized by Marcio de Queiroz, Michael Malisoff, and Peter Wolenski from the LSU mathematics and mechanical engineering departments and was co-sponsored by the Louisiana Board of Regents and the National Science Foundation Division of Mathematical Sciences. International speakers came from Austria, Bulgaria, France, Germany, Israel, Italy, Japan, Portugal, and the United Kingdom.

The MCT'03 proceedings will be published in Springer's Lecture Notes in Control and Information Sciences series.

—Michael A. Malisoff

Louisiana State University and A & M College

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