Submittee: Tamon Stephen
Date Submitted: 2017-10-16 01:08
Title: West Coast Optimization Meeting Fall 2017
Event Type: Conference-Workshop

Location:
Simon Fraser University, Surrey

Dates:
September 16th, 2017

Topic:
Optimization and Applications

Methodology:
Lectures

Objectives Achieved:
Brought together members of the local research community as well as external visitors to discuss their work, in particular to give students a view of current research. Two of the talks were given by postdocs (Chen and Zhou), and two by graduate students (Lindstrom and Planiden). This series has a tradition of featuring new arrivals to the Northwest optimization community, in this case Simge Kucukyavuz, who recently joined Washington's Industrial and Systems Engineering Department. Optimization is an interdisciplinary and applied topic, speakers represented mathematics, engineering and business schools, as well as industry; the meeting received financial support from industry (1QBit Communications of Vancouver).

Scientific Highlights:
Excellent scientific talks by leading researchers, including M. Friedlander (UBC), W. Hager (Florida), S. Kucukyavuz (Washington), C. Ryan (Chicago) and L. Xiao (Microsoft Reseach), as well as postdocs and graduate students mentioned above.

Organizers:
Lu, Zhaosong, Mathematics, Simon Fraser University

Stephen, Tamon, Mathematics, Simon Fraser University

Speakers:

1. Jiawei Chen, Barber School (Mathematics), UBC Okanagan and Southwest University (China): A Projection Method for Approximating Fixed Points of Quasi Nonexpansive Mappings Without the Usual Demiclosedness Condition.

2. Michael Friedlander, Computer Science, University of British Columbia: Polar convolution.

3. William Hager, Mathematics, University of Florida: Optimization with Polyhedral Constraints.

4. Simge Kucukyavuz, Industrial and Systems Engineering, University of Washington: Chance-Constrained Combinatorial Optimization with a Probability Oracle.

5. Scott Lindstrom, Mathematics, University of Newcastle: The Douglas-Rachford Method for Ellipses and p-Spheres.

6. Chayne Planiden, Barber School (Mathematics), UBC Okanagan: A Derivative-free VU-algorithm for Convex Finite-max Functions.

7. Chris Ryan, Booth School of Business, University of Chicago: Mixed-integer linear representability, disjunctions and Chvatal functions - modeling implications.

8. Lin Xiao, Machine Learning and Optimization group, Microsoft Research (Redmond): Exploiting Strong Convexity from Data with Primal-Dual First-Order Algorithms.

9. Zirui Zhou, Mathematics, Simon Fraser University: Iteration-complexity of first-order inexact augmented Lagrangian methods for convex conic programming.

Abstracts are available at: http://people.math.sfu.ca/~tamon/WCOM_F17/abstracts.php

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Links:
The conference Website is: http://people.math.sfu.ca/~tamon/WCOM_F17/wcom.php

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Comments / Miscellaneous:
Thank you for the support!