

## PREFACE

This special issue on Variational Analysis and Nondeffiriantiable Optimization is dedicated to Professor Steve Robinson on the occasion of his 75th birthday,

Stephen M. Robinson is Professor Emeritus of Industrial and Systems Engineering and of Computer Sciences at the University of Wisconsin-Madison, on whose faculty he served during 1972-2007. He also holds the rank of Colonel (Retired) in the Army of the United States. Professor Robinson has made significant contributions to variational analysis and mathematical programming: methods for making the best use of limited resources, applied in logistics, transportation, manufacturing and many other areas. He is author, co-author or editor of seven books and more than 100 scientific research papers, and has directed numerous funded research projects at his university. His research achievements have been recognized by the award of the honorary doctor's degree from the University of Zürich, Switzerland, the George B. Dantzig Prize of the Mathematical Programming Society and the Society for Industrial and Applied Mathematics (SIAM), the John K. Walker Jr. Award of the Military Operations Research Society, and the George E. Kimball Medal of the Institute for Operations Research and the Management Sciences (INFORMS). He is a member of the National Academy of Engineering, a National Associate of the National Research Council, a Fellow of INFORMS and a Fellow of SIAM. He served as President of INFORMS in 2014.

In this special issue, we present papers authored by a selected group of experts in the areas of variational analysis and optimization. The first part of the special issue contains eight papers contributed by well-known experts in optimization from Chile, France, Germany, Israel, Italy, Japan, Poland, Romania, Spain, Taiwan and USA.

These papers cover a wide spectrum of important problems and topics of current research interest in variational analysis and optimization such as second-order state dependent sweeping process with unbounded and nonconvex constraints, stochastic minimization of convex functionals, characterization of differences of sublinear functions, elliptic inverse problems of identifying nonlinear parameters, complexity of the regularized Newton's method, split common fixed point problems in Hilbert spaces, an implicit multifunction theorem for the hemiregularity of mappings and Lagrange multipliers in convex entropy minimization.

Therefore we feel that this special issue will be very valuable for many mathematicians who are interested in recent developments in variational analysis and optimization as well as their numerous applications.

Editors

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