

Friendship and Reliability

Preface



This special issue is edited in memoriam Yuri Rogozhin, our colleague who passed away on March 10, 2014. Born on November 13, 1949, he would celebrate his 65th birthday this year.

The title above summarizes two of the capital features of Yuri, also stressed during a commemorative session dedicated to him at the recent Conference on Membrane Computing, CMC 15, Prague, Czech Republic, August 2014. Always smiling, always optimistic and ready for cooperation, Yuri was also both a person to trust and a mathematician to trust.

His scientific interests ranged from finding small universal Turing machines (he has many results which are still the best in this area) to natural computing (e.g., DNA computing by splicing and insertion-deletion, membrane computing), systematically addressing difficult problems and producing elaborate proofs of impressive complexity.

To his scientific achievements we should add his skill in discovering talented young researchers, several of them being now well-known in the areas he explored.

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A proof of Yurii's popularity is the fact that the authors invited to contribute to this volume, friends and collaborators of him, immediately answered positively our call. The papers illustrate many research directions where Yurii had contributions, and many of them cite or continue his research.

Let us mention only a few of the topics covered: cellular automata, Turing machines, universality, tiling, natural computing, logic.

All papers were refereed according to the journal procedure. We thank both the authors and the referees for their efforts. We are also indebted to Prof. D. Niwinski for his encouragement to publish this special issue in *Fundamenta Informaticae*.

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