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Athanasios Migdalas
Athanasia Karakitsiou *Editors*

Optimization, Control, and Applications in the Information Age

In Honor of Panos M. Pardalos's 60th Birthday

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Editors

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Ἄνδρα μοι ἔννεπε, μοῦσα, πολύτροπον, ὃς
μάλα πολλὰ πλάχθη, ἐπεὶ
Τροίης ἱερὸν πτολίεθρον ἔπερσεν,
πολλῶν δ᾽ ἀνθρώπων ἴδεν ἄστεα
καὶ νόον ἔγνω·

(Ὁμήρου Ὀδύσσεια)

Tell me, O Muse, declare to me that man
Tost to and fro by fate, who, when his arms
Had laid Troy's holy city in the dust,
Far wand'ring roam'd on many a tribe of men
To bend his gaze, their minds and thoughts to learn.

(The Odyssey of Homer,
Translated by George Musgrave, 1868)

Σὰ βγεῖς στὸν πηγαιμὸ γιὰ τὴν Ἰθάκη
νὰ εὔχεσε νἄναι μακρὺς ὁ δρόμος
γεμάτος περιπέτειες, γεμάτος γνώσεις.
Τοὺς Λαιστρυγόνας καὶ τούς Κύκλωπας,
τὸν θυμωμένο Ποσειδῶνα μὴ φοβᾶσαι,
τέτοια στὸν δρόμο σου ποτὲ σου δὲν θὰ βρεῖς,
ἂν μέν᾽ ἡ σκέψις σου ὑψηλή, ἂν ἐκλεκτὴ
συγκίνησις τὸ πνεῦμα καὶ τὸ σῶμα σου ἀγγίζει.
Τοὺς Λαιστρυγόνας καὶ τοὺς Κύκλωπας,
τὸν ἄγριο Ποσειδῶνα δὲν θὰ συναντήσεις,
ἂν δὲν τοὺς κουβανεῖς μὲς στὴν ψυχή σου,
ἂν ἡ ψυχή σου δὲν τοὺς στήνει ἐμπρὸς σου.

When you set out on your journey for Ithaka
pray that the voyage is a long one,
full of adventure, full of knowledge.
The Laestrygonians and the Cyclops,
the angry Poseidon – do not fear of them:
you'll never find things like that on your path,
as long as you keep your thoughts high,
if fine emotions touch your spirit and your body.
The Laestrygonians and the Cyclops,
the fierce Poseidon – you won't encounter them
unless you carry them within your soul,
unless your soul sets them up in front of you.

Νὰ εὔχεσαι νἄναι μακρὺς ὁ δρόμος.
Πολλὰ τά καλοκαιρινὰ πρωϊνὰ νὰ εἶναι
ποὺ μὲ τὶ εὐχαρίστησι, μὲ τὶ χαρὰ
θὰ μπαίνεις σὲ λιμένας πρωτοειδωμένους·
νὰ σταματήσεις σ᾽ ἐμπορεῖα Φοινικικά,
καὶ τὲς καλὲς πραγμάτειες ν᾽ ἀποκτήσεις,
σεντέφια καὶ κοράλλια, κεχριμπάρια κ᾽ ἔβενους,
καὶ ἡδονικὰ μυρωδικὰ κάθε λογῆς,
ὅσο μπορεῖς πιὸ ἄφθονα ἡδονικὰ μυρωδικά·
σὲ πόλεις Αἰγυπτιακὲς πολλές νά πᾶς,
νὰ μάθεις καὶ νὰ μάθεις ἀπ᾽ τοὺς σπουδαγμένους.

Pray that the voyage is a long one.
That the summer mornings are many, when,
with such pleasure, with such joy,
you'll enter ports seen for the first time;
may you stop at Phoenician markets
to buy fine merchandise,
mother of pearl and coral, amber and ebony,
and sensual perfume of every kind –
as many sensual perfumes as you can;
and may you visit many Egyptian cities
to learn and learn from their scholars.

Πάντα στὸν νοῦ σου νἄχεις τὴν Ἰθάκη.
Τὸ φθάσιμον ἐκεῖ εἶν᾽ ὁ προορισμός σου.
Ἀλλὰ μὴ βιάζεις τὸ ταξεῖδι διόλου.
Καλλίτερα χρόνια πολλὰ νὰ διαρκέσει·
καὶ γέρος πιὰ ν᾽ ἀράξεις στὸ νησί,
πλούσιος μὲ ὅσα κέρδισες στὸν δρόμο,
μὴ προσδοκῶντας πλούτη νὰ σὲ δώσει ἡ Ἰθάκη.

Always keep Ithaka in your mind.
Arriving there is your ultimate goal.
But do not hurry the voyage at all.
Better if it lasts for many years,
and to anchor at the island when you are old,
wealthy with all you have gained on the way,
not expecting that Ithaka will offer you riches.

Ἡ Ἰθάκη σ᾽ ἔδωσε τ᾽ ὡραῖο ταξεῖδι.
Χωρὶς αὐτὴν δὲν θἄβγαινες στὸν δρόμο.
Ἄλλα δὲν ἔχει νὰ σὲ δώσει πιά.

Ithaka gave you the marvelous voyage.
Without her you would not have set out on the road.
She has nothing left to give you now.

Κι ἂν πτωχικὴ τὴν βρεῖς, ἡ Ἰθάκη δὲν σὲ γέλασε.
Ἔτσι σοφὸς πού ἔγινες, μὲ τόση πεῖρα,
ἤδη θὰ τό κατάλαβες ἡ Ἰθάκες τὶ σημαίνουν.

And if you find her poor, Ithaka won't have deceived you.
Wise as you have become, so full of experience,
you must have already understood what Ithakas mean.

(«Ἰθάκη» τοῦ Κωνσταντίνου Π. Καβάφη, 1863-1933)

("Ithaka" by Constantine P. Cavaphes/Kavafis)

Distinguished Professor Panos Pardalos

With our deepest appreciation, the contributors and the editors, we dedicate this volume to the Distinguished Professor Panos M. Pardalos on the occasion of his 60th birthday.

Preface

During June 15–20, 2014, a group of scientists gathered together in a conference on "*Optimization, Control and Applications in the Information Age*" in order to celebrate and honor Panos M. Pardalos on the occasion of his 60th birthday. The meeting took place at the Meliton Hotel of Porto Carras on the middle leg (Sithonia) of the Chalkidiki peninsula in Macedonia, northern Greece, a place of exquisite beauty and one of Panos's favorite places. The conference was organized by Sergiy Butenko and Athanasios Migdalas and was attended by scientists from all over the world. More than 50 members of this "*Panos's club*" presented talks during this event.

This volume is dedicated to Panos M. Pardalos, on the occasion of his 60th birthday. The articles collected in this volume are based on selected talks presented during the conference. Several members of the Panos's club could not attend conference, but have submitted their papers to this volume in order to honor him.

The papers published in this volume cover a wide range of topics and present recent developments and surveys in research fields to which Pardalos has actively contributed and promoted during his career.

In addition, Panos's spouse, Rosemary Bakker, has written a brief biography describing Panos's exciting journey from a pastoral village on the high mountains in Thessaly, central Greece, to a Distinguished Professorship at the University of Florida, that is, Panos's own Odyssey. We therefore dedicate to him the first verses of Homer's Odyssey and Cavaphes' poem "Ithaka" believing that they accurately describe Panos's past, his present, and his future discovery voyages.

We are indebted to Springer publishers and particularly to Razia Amzad for their support in making the publication of this volume possible.

We join our voice with all conference participants, article contributors, and reviewers who made this volume possible in order to wish Panos “Happy Birthday!” and “Chronia Polla!” and in order to express our deepest appreciation to him as a scientist and as a friend.

Luleå, Sweden — Athanasios Migdalas
Luleå, Sweden — Athanasia Karakitsiou
February 2015

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