



FUTURE
Newsletter

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KFUPM's Construction Industry Institute organizes its Annual Conference

The annual conference of KFUPM's Construction Industry Institute, entitled "Towards Better Productivity and Effective Quality", will be held on Wednesday and Thursday 1st and 2nd of March, 2017.

The Conference aims to initiate the information exchange between elements of the construction industry (especially research centers and universities), strengthen the role of research and development to improve the performance of construction industry companies and introduce the practices for productivity measurement and quality control into construction projects in Saudi Arabia. For owners, contractors, consultants, suppliers, legislators, and academics, the conference provides a forum for convergence and an opportunity to exchange views on best practices to increase productivity and improve quality control in construction sites to develop the role of construction in sustainable development in Saudi Arabia.

A distinguished group of industry leaders will participate in the Conference, including owners, contractors, consultants, suppliers, regulators, and academics at the national and global level.

The Construction Industry Institute aims to improve the construction industry in the Kingdom by carrying out studies and making the research data available to the parties involved in the construction field. In addition, the Institute provides vital programs dealing with research and development to improve construction methods, increase the efficiency of the vital cycle of construction projects, product efficiency, and enhance the capacity development process and the competitiveness of manufacturers in this field.

It is worth mentioning that, being an engineering and technical university, KFUPM has been paying attention to the construction and building industry for decades. The University has long been involved in satisfying the Kingdom's varying needs for structural engineers and architects to cope with the ongoing needs of the cultural renaissance of the Kingdom, in parallel with the rapid developments in the Kingdom.

Workshop on Fractional Model in Science and Engineering

Fractional models are nowadays increasingly adopted in many areas of engineering and science.

These models provide an efficient tool to describe the memory dependence and spatial nonlocality in many processes in many areas such as biology, hydrology, electromagnetic, chemical reactions, finance, etc.

To enhance this area at KFUPM, the mathematics department organized on December 12, 2016 a workshop on "Fractional Models in Science and Engineering" with speakers from different disciplines. The talks discussed the computational and analytical aspects of fractional models and their applications in engineering. Prof. Abdul Khaliq (Math, Middle Tennessee State University) discussed the modelling and computation of multi-dimensional space fractional nonlinear Schrödinger equation. Dr. Salim Ibrir (Electrical Engineering, KFUPM) presented the stabilization of a fractional system by an adaptive control. Numerical solutions of an anomalous diffusion in porous media were provided by Dr. Abeeb Awotunde (Petroleum Engineering, KFUPM).

Boundary Value problems of fractional order were analyzed by Prof. Basheer Ahmed (Math Dept. at King Abdulaziz University). Prof. Kassem Mustapha (Math, KFUPM) gave an overview on numerical solutions for fractional convection-diffusion equations. The workshop was closed by an interesting talk by Prof. Nasser-eddine Tatar (Math, KFUPM) on the fractional damping and its vital role in engineering.

According to Prof. Khaled Furati (workshop coordinator) the workshop was well received and attended by faculty and graduate students from different disciplines. It provided an opportunity for researchers to meet and explore ways of collaboration on this hot area. There is a plan to hold the next workshop on December 13, 2017.



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