

Nazli E. Kahveci

It is with great sadness that we report the sudden passing of Nazli Kahveci, age 34, on June 5, 2015 at her home in Ankara, Turkey. She was a young dynamic researcher, a great engineer, an enthusiastic educator, an active participant in serving the scientific community, and a friend to many in the IEEE Control Systems Society.

Dr. Kahveci received the B.S. degree in electrical and electronics engineering from Middle East Technical University (METU), Ankara, Turkey, in 2002 and the M.S. and Ph.D. degrees in electrical engineering from the University of Southern California (USC), Los Angeles, in 2004 and 2007, respectively. She was a research assistant with the Center for Advanced Transportation Technologies from 2002 to 2007. She had summer internships in flight control with NASA Dryden Flight Research Center, Edwards, California, in 2004 and the Boeing Company, Everett, Washington, in 2006. After graduation, she held positions as a research engineer at Ford Motor Company (2008–2010), principal engineer at Toyota Motor Engineering and Manufacturing North America (2011–2012), and technical specialist at AVL Research and Engineering Turkey (2012–2015) and was a consultant in transmission electronics on behalf of AVL at Ford Global Powertrain Systems Engineering (2013–2015). She joined the Electrical and Electronics Engineering Department of METU as an assistant professor in 2015.

Her research interests included robust adaptive control and system identi-



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fication with applications to automotive powertrains, intelligent and automated vehicles, and flight control systems. She participated in multiple research projects in powertrain control and active safety, developed control-oriented models and simulations, designed and implemented controllers, performed system analysis, established next-generation diagnostic-system algorithms, and generated innovative ideas for production.

Dr. Kahveci was the recipient of the 2006 Boeing Satellite Systems Platinum Scholarship, the 2007 Certificate of Merit Recognition granted by the USC Women in Science and Engineering, and the 2007–2008 Academic Year Special Award presented by the USC Graduate School and the Center for Excellence in Teaching. In addition, she received the Best Presentation Award for the Adaptive Systems Session at the 2008 American Control Conference. She received the Society of Women Engineers Detroit Section Technical Award in 2010 and the Engineering Society of Detroit Affiliate Council Technical Award in 2011. She became a senior member of the American Institute of Aeronautics and

Astronautics (AIAA) in 2014. Dr. Kahveci was an associate editor of *SAE International Journal of Engines* and of *Control Engineering Practice* from 2014 to 2015. She was a member of several technical committees: AIAA Guidance, Navigation, and Control (2008–2012); IEEE Control Systems Society on System Identification and Adaptive Control (2008–2015); IFAC on Automotive Controls (2009–2015); IEEE Signal Processing Society, Circuits and Systems Society, and Information Theory Society Southeastern Michigan-Chapter I (2010–2015); and the ASME Dynamic Systems and Control Division-Automotive and Transportation Systems (2013–2015). She was an associate editor for 27 international major conferences (2007–2015).

Dr. Kahveci is widely remembered as a lively, friendly person, very dynamic and enthusiastic about her work, with a strong desire to become a university educator and researcher. It is very unfortunate and sad that she left us just when her goal of getting an academic position at METU was accomplished.

The sympathies of everyone who got to know her through her research, education, and service activities, as well as colleagues and friends at the University of Southern California, go out to the Kahveci family. God bless her soul, and keep her memory alive.

Petros Ioannou

with contributions from the control group at the Ming Hsieh Department of the Viterbi School of Engineering at the University of Southern California and Nazli's family