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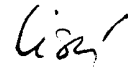
January 27, 2004

Letter of Recommendation

By this letter I would like to recommend Dr. Michal Pudlak for a position at your Department of Physics of the Biocomplexity faculty.

I know Dr. Pudlak some fifteen years. Our academic Department of Biophysics has a long-time collaboration with the Department of Biophysics at the Institute of Experimental Physics, where he is employed (at present, Dr. Pudlak is a member of the Department of Theoretical Physics of the named institute). Due to this I had a good possibility to watch his scientific way after his study at the Charles University in Prague and later the PhD study in Moscow, at the Lomonosov University. Both these universities belong to the best academic institutions in the middle and east Europe and he obtained there a very good education in the fields of theoretical physics and biophysics. Of course, this is only a necessary condition for a successful scientific work but, fortunately, Dr. Pudlak is capable to have own original scientific ideas and solve them using a variety of theoretical methods. He can be classified as a theoretical physicist of a very high level, with the strong interest to biophysics. Looking at his articles one can see that most of the work has been done by himself alone, or with a student. His main interests during the last decade are about the electron transfer in biomolecular systems, particularly in bacterial photosynthetic reaction centers. The last works on this theme are especially interesting. They represent an original attempt to solve a long-standing problem concerning the asymmetry in the transfer in spite of a practically symmetrical structure of the center. Why the electrons chose one of the two possible branches to escape, this has been a challenge for many years. I mention these works also because they show how much (in addition to the brilliant theoretical investigation) hard work had to be done to study and interpret available experiments.

Some time ago I already recommended Dr. Pudlak for a position at the famous Joint Institute for Nuclear Research, Moscow region. He worked there at the Laboratory of Theoretical Physics, in the field of statistical physics and condensed matter. I am very satisfied with that recommendation since Dr. Pudlak's stay at the JINR has led to new excellent works based on the modern differential geometry approach to nanoscience. He has also created a number of scientific contacts and has shown himself as a very adaptable person in quite nonstandard conditions. Now I can with a full responsibility recommend Dr. Pudlak for the stay at your department. I am sure that he will be able to bring to you new knowledge and methodology, and thus be a useful member of your team. And last but not least, I would like to mention his optimistic, cheerful and friendly character, due to which he always contributes to a good atmosphere around him.



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