

-----Original Message-----

From: Yoshiaki Kuramoto [mailto:kuramoto@ton.scphys.kyoto-u.ac.jp]
Sent: Monday, January 19, 2004 11:37 PM
To: De Ruyter, Robert R.
Cc: kuramoto@ton.scphys.kyoto-u.ac.jp
Subject: reference

Dear Professor Robert R. de Ruyter van Steveninck,

I have heard from Dr. Dorjsuren Battogtokh that he is very much interested in applying for your Biocomplexity position. Because I have known Dr. Battogtokh since the year of 1997 when he joined our research group in Kyoto University, please allow me to say a few words about the applicant's scientific achievements, competence and personality.

Through the two years of his stay in the nonlinear dynamics group in Kyoto headed by myself, Dr. Battogtokh has been one of my best colleagues to work with. We have shared our common interest in statistical dynamics of spatially extended fields and large assemblies nonlinear oscillators. Our discovery of a new type of chemical turbulence with multiscaling properties was published as a couple of papers in Physical Review Letters and Physica A. In these works,

Dr. Battogtokh's contribution was decisive, especially in numerical analysis which is backed with a deep physical understanding of the problem. Since Dr. Battogtokh left Kyoto and moved to US, there has been a change in his main subject of research from nonlinear dynamics to biophysics. Still we continued collaboration by email and other means, and published a few joint papers on coupled oscillators. Although I know little about his recent works on biophysics/biochemistry, I find from a number of his recent publications that he maintains as high activity as ever.

I believe that Dr. Battogtokh's research experiences in Kyoto and also in Berlin with Professor Alexander Mikhailov gave him a strong theoretical background on nonlinear dynamics, and this important asset is now working and will continue to work in future even when he moved to quite a different research field.

Dr. Battogtokh's personality is warm and open-minded, and I remember that throughout his stay in Japan he has always been in very good relationship with the Japanese colleagues and western scientists around us. One possible problem about his application may be that he seems a little too old for an assistant professor position. In my opinion, however, this drawback could well be compensated by a number of other merits he possesses. I also believe that his experience of long-term stay in Japan which is culturally quite different from Western societies and also from his own will add an important asset to his career and have a positive effect on his future activities.

Yours sincerely,
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