



SHORT CURRICULAR NOTE

Manuel **SILVA** Industrial-Chemical Engineer (University of Seville, 1974) has a Ph.D. in Control Engineering (Institut National Polytechnique de Grenoble, 1978). In 1978 he started the group of Systems Engineering and Computer Science at the University of Zaragoza, now Department of Informatics and Systems Engineering, where he was appointed professor in 1981. Director of the Centro Politécnico Superior (higher engineering school), from 1986 to 1992, was president of the Aragonese Research Council (CONAI) and of the Research and Innovation Committee of the French-Spanish Comisión de Trabajo de los Pirineos/Comité de Travail des Pyrénées (CTP), from 1993 to 1995. Interested on System Theory and Automatic Control, is specialist on Discrete Event Systems. In historical terms, this is a relatively new and peculiar “view” of dynamic systems, initially motivated to deal with human made (artificial) systems as: manufacturing, telecommunication, logistic, or computer hardware and software systems, for example.

Expert on the Petri nets modelling paradigm, his research interests include modelling, validation, performance evaluation, control (logic and performance) and implementation (eventually fault-tolerant) of large concurrent and distributed systems. Belonging to the set of pioneers at the international level, his book *Las Redes de Petri en la Automática y la Informática* (AC, 1985; Thomson/AC, 2003), introduced the field in the literature in Spanish. Co-author of *Practice of Petri Nets in Manufacturing* (Chapman & Hall, 1993), and *Control of Discrete-Event Systems: Automata and Petri-Net Perspectives*, (Springer, 2013), edited several special issues and sections on journals as *IEEE Trans. on Robotics and Automation*, *European Journal of Control*, *Discrete Event Dynamic Systems*, *Control Engineering Practice*, or *Annual Reviews in Control*, for example.

Promoter of the robotics research group of Zaragoza (1982-1992), was co-editor and co-author of *Inteligencia Artificial y Robótica Industrial* (Publicaciones de la Universidad de Zaragoza, 1985), and member of the organizer group and technical responsible of Robótica, the first *International Exhibition of Technology and Applications of Robotics* in Spain (Feria Nacional y Oficial de Muestras de Zaragoza, 1984-1991).

Interested in the history of engineering and technology, among other initiatives, is author of *Uniformes y Emblemas de la Ingeniería Civil Española* (IFC, 1999), and director and editor of the series *Técnica e Ingeniería en España* (7 vols., some 6.000 pages). This collection of books considers external and internal historical perspectives on the topic: philosophical, linguistic, literary, artistic, sociological, economic, scientific, technological, etc. It covers the themes from the Modern Age: Renaissance (vol. I), Enlightenment (*Siglo de las Luces*, vols. II & III), and Nineteenth century (*El Ochocientos*, vols. IV to VII). In 2018 will appear the first volume devoted to the XXth century (till the beginning of the '70s): *Del Noventaiochismo al Desarrollismo*.

Distinguished with a medal from Lille, also by the Association of Telecommunication Engineers of Aragón, is Doctor Honoris Causa by the Université de Reims-Champagne-Ardennes. Prof. Silva is member of the Royal Academy of Engineering of Spain (2000) and of the Royal Academy of Sciences of Zaragoza (2014).