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Prestigious chemometrics award for FOSS scientist

Martin Andersson, PhD, of FOSS Japan has been awarded the Kowalski Prize for a paper providing new insight into calibration methods.

Andersson's winning paper entitled "A comparison of nine PLS1 algorithms" was selected as the winner of the 2010 Kowalski prize for the "Best Theoretical" paper to be published in the *Journal of Chemometrics* in 2008 and 2009.

Editor in chief of the Journal Professor Gemperline explained the basis for the award: "The selection committee liked your paper's new look at one of chemometric's oldest, most central and important methods. In their justification for selecting this paper the committee noted that the paper was clearly written, was based on a sound theoretical understanding of the properties of numerical methods, and provided many useful insights into the numerical stability of PLS." An abstract of the paper can be found here .

The Kowalski Prize is awarded each year, and alternates between the 'best theoretical paper' and 'best applied paper' published in the *Journal of Chemometrics* in the previous two years.

Andersson joined FOSS in 1999 and has worked extensively with calibration development within image analysis and artificial neural networks. He said:"The award is not only important to me. I am just one of the many application specialists in the FOSS organization and the award confirms that the people behind our solutions always strive for, and can obtain, world-class results."

Martin Andersson has been working at FOSS Japan since in 2004

Calibration research on the train

The research behind the paper was done alongside Andersson's regular calibration support work. "I thought it was good to keep in touch with the "real" chemometrics working with customers data as much as possible," he said.

His daily 90 minute commute to work on the train provided an opportunity to develop ideas but the crowded carriages forced him to find new ways of doing research. "In such a train, you can't even read a book because the person next to you is standing too close to you; I could only choose between listening to my iPod or closing my eyes and trying to do the mathematics. I'm sure that I was the only one in the train thinking about PLS."

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