



INFORMS TutORials in Operations Research

Publication details, including instructions for authors and subscription information:
<http://pubsonline.informs.org>

Foreword

To cite this entry: Foreword. *In* INFORMS TutORials in Operations Research. Published online: 14 Oct 2014; iv-v.
<https://doi.org/10.1287/educ.1120.foreword>

Full terms and conditions of use: <https://pubsonline.informs.org/Publications/Librarians-Portal/PubsOnLine-Terms-and-Conditions>

This article may be used only for the purposes of research, teaching, and/or private study. Commercial use or systematic downloading (by robots or other automatic processes) is prohibited without explicit Publisher approval, unless otherwise noted. For more information, contact permissions@informs.org.

The Publisher does not warrant or guarantee the article's accuracy, completeness, merchantability, fitness for a particular purpose, or non-infringement. Descriptions of, or references to, products or publications, or inclusion of an advertisement in this article, neither constitutes nor implies a guarantee, endorsement, or support of claims made of that product, publication, or service.

Copyright © 2012, INFORMS

Please scroll down for article—it is on subsequent pages



With 12,500 members from nearly 90 countries, INFORMS is the largest international association of operations research (O.R.) and analytics professionals and students. INFORMS provides unique networking and learning opportunities for individual professionals, and organizations of all types and sizes, to better understand and use O.R. and analytics tools and methods to transform strategic visions and achieve better outcomes.

For more information on INFORMS, its publications, membership, or meetings visit <http://www.informs.org>

Foreword

The Tutorials track at the INFORMS Annual Meetings is designed to give experts in the operations research and management science fields an expanded forum in which to introduce a topic of interest to the community. These sessions have served to recap mature fields of research, introduce emerging research and practical topics, and outline new challenges facing the next generation of researchers. Regardless of their purpose, the Tutorials sessions have consistently been one of the biggest draws of the conference and still continues to flourish.

Brief History of TutORials

In any conference having parallel tracks—the national meeting now certainly has plenty of those—there are inevitable conflicts for time when participants simply cannot make the sessions they most want to attend. Harvey J. Greenberg, the 2004 Tutorials chair, saw the opportunity to capture these invaluable tutorial seminars in chapter form and make them available to INFORMS members. I was lucky enough to serve as the 2005 Tutorials chair, and I served as the volume editor for the first *TutORials* book published by INFORMS, with Harvey working closely by my side as series editor. Beginning in 2006, Paul Gray served as the series editor and steadily improved the series by instituting peer reviews for the chapters, working to electronically archive past chapters, and making the series even more accessible than ever by transitioning from hard-copy books to CDs to the INFORMS PubsOnLine system.

In 2011, Paul stepped down in the role that he so capably served for six years, and he helped me tremendously in getting started as the third TutORials series editor in 2012. Sadly, Paul passed away in May 2012. It is impossible to imagine this series having the magnitude of impact it has had without Paul. In addition to being remarkably productive and innovative, Paul demonstrated through his stewardship of this series an excellent capacity for leadership. The task of introducing a Tutorials track chair to the task of putting together a volume according to the high standards expected of the authors—and doing it within a tight time window—is challenging. Paul met this challenge time and again with effectiveness, cheer, and grace; we will miss him dearly.

This Year's Volume

This year's volume editor is Pitu B. Mirchandani, a professor at Arizona State University and a senior sustainability scientist in their Global Institute of Sustainability. Pitu has made innumerable research contributions to our field in areas including facility location optimization, transportation, network algorithms, and control of stochastic systems. It is thus no surprise that Pitu was able to collect a strong set of chapter contributions for the 2012 *TutORials* volume, including authors from the Aalto University School of Business, Air Force Institute of Technology, Arizona State University, Delft University of Technology, Georgia Institute of Technology, Middle East Technical University, North Carolina State University, University of Chicago, University of Florida, University of Siena, and Wake Forest Institute for Regenerative Medicine.

On behalf of the INFORMS membership, I sincerely thank Pitu for creating this year's exciting tutorial program, including those tutorials presented at the meeting without a chapter in this volume, and for doing the enormous amount of work required to create this volume. INFORMS is also indebted to each of the authors who contributed the 10 chapters.

The tutorial series benefits from the work of its advisory committee, consisting of Harvey J. Greenberg (University of Colorado at Denver and Health Sciences Center, emeritus), Frederick S. Hillier (Stanford University, emeritus), Mohammad R. Oskoorouchi (California State University, San Marcos), and S. Raghavan (University of Maryland). Patricia Shaffer served once again as director of publications while this volume was being launched, and after her retirement, Miranda Walker took over her duties and played a crucial role in helping Pitu and I keep this publication on track. A final note of sincere thanks goes to the members of the publications staff at the INFORMS office for the physical preparation of this volume and its publication in both print and electronic form in a timely manner.

J. COLE SMITH
University of Florida
Gainesville, FL