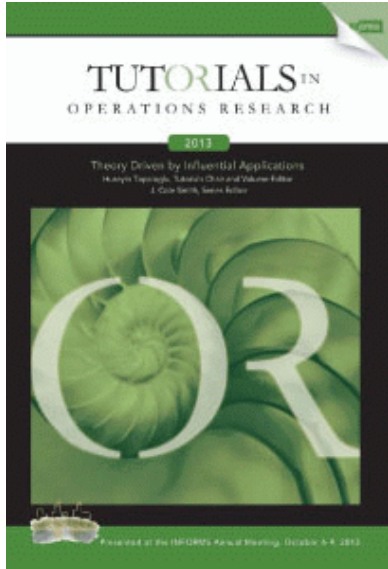




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Foreword

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Foreword

Each year, the INFORMS Annual Meeting offers a unique and valuable tutorials track, which comprises several full-session presentations given by a selection of the field's most talented researchers and educators. Experts in the INFORMS community are invited to give 90-minute presentations in which they introduce a new topic of interest, or recap new developments in contemporary fields of study to the conference participants. These sessions have also served to share educational perspectives, outline future research challenges, and provide a historical perspective of our field. The now-branded "TutORials" track is consistently a well-attended track that continues to flourish through 2013.

INFORMS conferences have very many parallel tracks, and its participants are inevitably engaged in a wide array of other activities, including society meetings, research collaborations, and various networking opportunities. The conflicts for time during the meeting can become nearly intractable, and conference participants simply cannot attend all of the sessions they would like. Harvey Greenberg, the 2004 TutORials chair, lamented that many of our preeminent researchers were giving truly valuable tutorial seminars at INFORMS conferences that were not recorded in any way beyond the slides that accompanied the presentations. Harvey saw the opportunity to capture these tutorials in chapter form and make them available to INFORMS members. I worked as the 2005 TutORials Chair, and served as the volume editor for the first TutORials book published by INFORMS, with Harvey working closely by my side as Series Editor. It was indeed Harvey's experience in 2004 in revitalizing the edited book series (along with his persistence and hard work) that allowed the TutORials series to take off as an INFORMS publication.

Paul Gray took over as the series editor in 2006, and enhanced the book series by having a peer review system for the chapters, transitioning from hard copy books to CDs, and electronically archiving past chapters for download by members. (If you are viewing this on a computer or PDA, the credit goes to Paul and the INFORMS publication team. If not, try downloading the past chapters at <https://www.informs.org/Pubs/Tutorials-in-OR>.) In 2011, Paul stepped down from the role that he so capably served for six years, and was an invaluable resource to me in getting started as the third TutORials Series Editor. In addition to being a remarkably productive and innovative editor, 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.

This year's volume editor is Huseyin Topaloglu, an Associate Professor in the School of Operations Research and Information Engineering at Cornell University. Huseyin is an internationally recognized scholar who leads high-profile research in revenue management, network optimization, dynamic programming, and stochastic optimization. For the 2013 volume, Huseyin assembled a strong team of researchers to give tutorials at the INFORMS Annual Meeting, including authors from Brunel University, Drexel University, Massachusetts Institute of Technology, National University of Singapore, Naval Postgraduate School, Pennsylvania State University, Rutgers University, University of Bologna, University of California, Berkeley, University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, University of Warwick, University of Washington, and Virginia Tech.

I would like to commend Huseyin for putting together a truly outstanding slate of tutorial topics this year, which are not just confined to those chapters published in this book, but

also include several sessions that were presented at the INFORMS Annual Meeting with no chapter appearing in this volume. Huseyin accomplished a substantial amount of work for this volume, under a tight deadline (due to the early date of the 2013 conference). Additionally, the chapter authors were responsible for producing top quality work, under the same tight production deadline. Their service to the community is truly what makes this series possible, and INFORMS is very sincerely indebted to them.

The tutorial series benefits from the work of its Advisory Committee, consisting of Joseph Geunes (University of Florida), Harvey J. Greenberg (University of Colorado at Denver and Health Sciences Center, emeritus), John Hasenbein (University of Texas at Austin), and Pitu Mirchandani (Arizona State University). Miranda Walker, in her role as director of publications, and Cho Chee Cheung, in his role as production coordinator, were invaluable resources in helping to keep the production of this volume on track. We also note the efforts of Ellen Tralongo in scheduling the TutORials sessions during the annual meeting itself. 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.

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