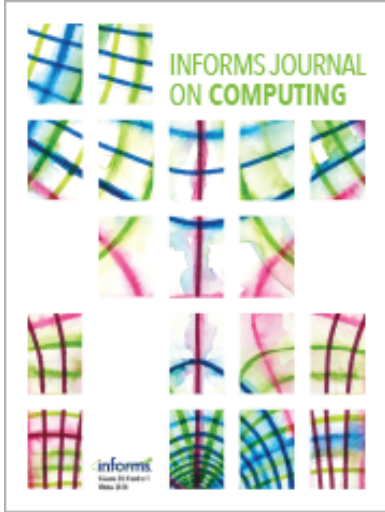




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From the Editor

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From the Editor

As pointed out in a recent edition of *The Chronicle of Higher Education*, the ISI Impact Factor is not a perfect measure of the real impact of a journal or an author, as it can be “gamed” and be otherwise misleading. However, in general terms it might offer some measure of the degree to which researchers build on and use prior work, and in this regard *JOC* is doing quite well. In the most recent summary, *JOC*’s Impact Factor was a bit over 1.5, roughly meaning that the “average” *JOC* paper is referenced in about 1.5 subsequent papers published in a wide variety of journals. This ranked third among the 56 “OR/MS” journals categorized and second among the six INFORMS journals in this category. So it seems that researchers are finding value in what our authors are writing and what we decide to publish.

Reflecting the continuing growth and evolution of research in the field, Area Editor John N. Hooker, Jr. has renamed the former Area, “Logic, Optimization, and Constraint Programming”; it is now “Constraint Programming and Optimization.” John is continuing as Area Editor, and its Editorial Statement is essentially unchanged.

We welcome Professor Meinolf Sellmann of Brown University as a new Associate Editor, working primarily in our just-renamed area, Constraint Programming and Optimization.

David Kelton.

W. David Kelton
November 21, 2005
Cincinnati