



INFORMS Journal on Computing

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

Note from the Editor

Alice Smith

To cite this article:

Alice Smith (2022) Note from the Editor. INFORMS Journal on Computing 34(6):2867-2867. <https://doi.org/10.1287/ijoc.2022.1247>

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Note from the Editor

Alice Smith^a

^aDepartment of Industrial and Systems Engineering, Auburn University, Auburn, Alabama 36849

Contact: smithae@auburn.edu,  <https://orcid.org/0000-0001-8808-0663> (AS)

Published Online in Articles in Advance:

October 13, 2022

<https://doi.org/10.1287/ijoc.2022.1247>

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This issue coincides with the Annual INFORMS Conference. For each of these conferences, I prepare an annual report for the INFORMS Publications Committee. I also give a state-of-the-journal short presentation at the Editors Meeting of *INFORMS Journal on Computing (IJOC)* and also at the Computing Society meeting, both taking place at the conference. A few highlights from this year's annual report are that full text downloads increased to 106,345 for the first three quarters of 2022. This is a record high for *IJOC* and, in fact, is a huge jump. The latest impact factor for *IJOC* is 3.288, which is a record high for the journal and much higher than in 2020, with an increase of over 40%, and more than double the impact factor of 2019. (Note that impact factor lags in one year from the current years.) We thank you, our authors and readers, for recognizing the value of the publications in *IJOC* and for continuing to choose the journal as the preferred outlet for your work.

To improve the service to our research community, we began several years ago to populate the *IJOC* GitHub repository, <https://github.com/INFORMSJoC>, which contains code and data from accepted papers. This initiative is progressing incrementally by journal technical area and builds on the pioneering work done by Ted Ralphs for his software tools area. We have now expanded this initiative to 8 of the 10 areas, and plan to complete this transition in 2023 with the remaining two areas. I invite you to visit the repository as it provides a wealth of resources to further computational investigations with the computational details on

more than 35 accepted *IJOC* papers. This initiative keeps *IJOC* at the forefront of research transparency and will no doubt aid the efforts of countless future inquiries.

This issue contains the second of four “challenge papers,” each authored by a plenary speaker at the 2022 INFORMS Computing Society Conference held in Tampa, Florida, in January. To inspire and guide researchers in our field, the journal invited each speaker to write a short challenge paper related to her or his area of expertise. The plenary speakers are Katya Scheinberg (whose paper appeared in the last issue), Illya Hicks (whose paper appears in this issue), and Andrea Lodi and Ojas Parekh (whose papers will appear in the subsequent issues). Each paper is published open access so all can benefit from them.

We are grateful for the wisdom and ideas of these four leaders in our field (and their coauthors) and hope that all readers derive value from this challenge collection. Our ultimate aim is for these articles to be the seed of interesting and impactful investigations that will be published in future issues of the journal. Only time will tell the success of this initiative—I invite you to contact me directly with your response to these papers and the concept of occasional challenge papers appearing in *INFORMS Journal on Computing*.

All my best,

