



Operations Research

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

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To cite this article:

(2007) Contributors. Operations Research 55(5):997-999. <https://doi.org/10.1287/opre.1070.0492>

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Alessandro Avenali (“Resolution Branch and Bound and an Application: The Maximum Weighted Stable Set Problem”) is a researcher at the University of Rome “La Sapienza.” This work is inspired by recent papers of different authors (in particular J. N. Hooker and V. Chvátal). It focuses on investigating whether the integration of approaches coming from mathematical logic and mathematical programming may suggest unexplored opportunities to improve search techniques.

Vicki M. Bier (“Balancing Terrorism and Natural Disasters—Defensive Strategy with Endogenous Attacker Effort”) is a professor in the Department of Industrial and Systems Engineering at the University of Wisconsin–Madison. Her current research interests include the application of game theory to identify optimal resource allocation strategies for protecting critical infrastructure from intentional attacks. Other interests include: the use of accident “precursors” or near misses in probabilistic risk analysis; the use of expert opinion; and methods for effective risk communication, both to decision makers and to the general public.

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