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Steve Alpern ("Rendezvous Search: A Personal Perspective") is a Professor of Mathematics and Operational Research at the London School of Economics. His recent work on rendezvous search (where agents want to meet each other) follows earlier work on "Princess and Monster" games (where one of the agents does not want to be found).

Harry G. Barker III ("The Circuit-Switched Network Design and Analysis Model: A Chronology of Its Development and Use") is a Senior Network Design Engineer at Defense Information Systems Agency, Falls Church, Virginia. Harry Barker and David Calabrese have been the main users of the CSNDAM modeling tool since 1976. The modeling tool is used to assess the monthly performance of the worldwide DoD voice network, the Defense Switched Network (DSN). The model has also been used for reconfiguring and resizing the operational DSN, near term capacity planning, and future DSN network topological designs.

Arjan Berkelaar ("A Primal-Dual Decomposition-Based Interior Point Approach to Two-Stage Stochastic Linear Programming") is an Investment Officer at The World Bank, Washington, DC. His interest in stochastic programming started while he was writing a Ph.D. thesis at the Erasmus University on the subject of asset liability management and asset allocation for pension funds.

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Alberto Caprara ("Modeling and Solving the Train Timetabling Problem") is an Associate Professor of Operations Research in the School of Engineering of the University of Bologna. His main research interest is combinatorial optimization, with particular emphasis on practical solution methods based on graph-theoretic and integer linear programming models. The present article grew out of joint research with the Italian railway company within the EU Esprit Project EUROPE-TRIS.

Charles J. Corbett ("Achieving Environmental and Productivity Improvements Through Model-Based Process

Redesign") is an Assistant Professor of decisions, operations and technology management at the Anderson School at UCLA. This work is part of a larger stream of research examining how best practices in operations and supply chain management coincide with improving environmental performance. Other work in this stream has looked at the role of SPC methods, ISO 9000 and ISO 14000 standards, and supply chain contracting in improving environmental performance.

Cees Dert ("A Primal-Dual Decomposition-Based Interior Point Approach to Two-Stage Stochastic Linear Programming") is the Global Head of ABN-AMRO Structured Asset Management and a Professor of Equity Derivatives at Vrije Universiteit Amsterdam. His research interests include all topics related to asset management, including asset liability management for financial institutions, optimal portfolio choice, and the use of financial derivatives. The subject of this paper was motivated by one of the real-life portfolio management problems that the author ran into at ABN-AMRO Asset Management.

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Soumyadip Ghosh ("Chessboard Distributions and Random Vectors with Specified Marginals and Covariance Matrix") is a Ph.D. candidate in the Department of Operations Research and Industrial Engineering at Cornell University. He has an MS in IE from the University of Michigan. He is currently studying, under the supervision of his coauthor, Shane Henderson, how dependence may be induced among the inputs to a stochastic simulation.

Shane G. Henderson ("Chessboard Distributions and Random Vectors with Specified Marginals and Covariance Matrix") is an Assistant Professor in the School of Operations Research and Industrial Engineering at Cornell University. This paper is an outcome of his continuing research, with his coauthor Soumyadip Ghosh, in methods for inducing dependence among the inputs to a stochastic simulation.

Rajnish Kamat ("Exotic Options for Interruptible Electricity Supply Contracts") is a doctoral candidate in Industrial Engineering and Operations Research at the University of California at Berkeley. His research interests include economic and financial modeling with applications to risk management, auctions, and market design. His dissertation research focuses on market mechanisms in restructured electricity markets.

J. Edward Knepley ("The Circuit-Switched Network Design and Analysis Model: A Chronology of Its Development and Use") is retired as a Chief Engineer at the Defense Communications Engineering Center. Ed Knepley and Marty Fischer developed the initial version of CSNDAM in 1971 and 1972. It has been used by the Defense Information Systems Agency since that time and has resulted in substantial savings for the United States government.

Kevin F. McCardle ("Structural Properties of Stochastic Dynamic Programs") is a Professor at the Anderson School at UCLA. This paper is an outgrowth of earlier research, most recently with James E. Smith, that would often perform comparative statics in dynamic programs on an ad hoc basis. Much to his pleasure, the research relationship with Prof. Smith has survived McCardle's move from Duke to UCLA.

Sanjay Mehrotra ("On the Value of Binary Expansions for General Mixed-Integer Linear Programs") is a Professor at the Industrial Engineering and Management Sciences Department of Northwestern University. His research interests include continuous and discrete optimization, as well as visual modeling. He is known for his predictor-corrector interior-point method for linear programming.

Yiannis Nikolaidis ("Comparing the Effectiveness of Various Bayesian $\bar{X}$ Control Charts") is a Teaching Associate at

Aristotle University of Thessaloniki. His research interests lie in the area of statistical quality control with an emphasis on the analysis of control charts. The paper in this issue is partly based on his Ph.D. dissertation written under the direction of his coauthor George Tagaras.

Bart Oldenkamp ("A Primal-Dual Decomposition-Based Interior Point Approach to Two-Stage Stochastic Linear Programming") is a Senior Research Analyst at ABN-AMRO Asset Management. His research interests concern the use of financial derivatives in portfolio management. The subject of this paper was motivated by one of the real-life portfolio management problems that the author ran into at ABN-AMRO Asset Management.

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Jonathan H. Owen ("On the Value of Binary Expansions for General Mixed-Integer Linear Programs") is a Senior Research Engineer in the Enterprise Systems Laboratory of the General Motors Research and Development Center. His research interests include optimization algorithms, simulation, and the modeling and analysis of manufacturing systems.

Kumar Rajaram ("Achieving Environmental and Productivity Improvements Through Model-Based Process Redesign") is an Assistant Professor of decisions, operations and technology management at the Anderson School at UCLA. For his earlier work on productivity improvement of process operations, he was awarded the Franz Edelman Finalist Award for achievement in the practice of operations research and the management sciences by INFORMS in 1998. His other research interests include developing models to better match supply with demand for products with short life cycles and highly unpredictable demand.

James E. Smith ("Structural Properties of Stochastic Dynamic Programs") is an Associate Professor and Associate Dean for the Daytime MBA Program at the Fuqua School of Business, Duke University. This paper was motivated by earlier work with Kevin F. McCardle and others that use dynamic programming or real options models to evaluate investment opportunities. The theoretical framework developed in the current paper provides a formal structure for establishing the qualitative properties that we

often observed in these models but either proved on an ad hoc basis or merely speculated to hold broadly.

Jing-Sheng Song (“Performance Analysis and Optimization of Assemble-to-Order Systems with Random Lead Times”) is a Professor at the University of California–Irvine. This paper is part of the research output from the authors’ joint project on assemble-to-order systems funded by the National Science Foundation.

Gregor W. Swinsky (“The Circuit-Switched Network Design and Analysis Model: A Chronology of Its Development and Use”) is a consultant. He has been associated with this model, off and on, for most of its existence, as a user and enhancer, while employed at DISA. The model, with great care given by all the authors, has experienced a long life of usefulness and adaptability to changing conditions through the years.

George Tagaras (“Comparing The Effectiveness of Various Bayesian $\bar{X}$ Control Charts”) is a Professor and Head of the Industrial Management Division at Aristotle University of Thessaloniki, Department of Mechanical Engineering. His research interests include quality control, inventory distribution systems, and stochastic models in production and operations management. Prior to joining the Aristotle University, Professor Tagaras held faculty positions at the Wharton School of the University of Pennsylvania and at INSEAD.

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Chris Walshaw (“A Multilevel Approach to the Traveling Salesman Problem”) is a Senior Research Fellow at the School of Computing and Mathematical Sciences, University of Greenwich. The paper in this issue forms part of a larger project to generalize and extend multilevel techniques as a new metaheuristic for combinatorial problems. It is both orthogonal and complementary to existing techniques such as tabu search and genetic algorithms and investigates possible solutions through a hierarchy of approximations to the problem.

David D. Yao (“Performance Analysis and Optimization of Assemble-to-Order Systems with Random Lead Times”) is a Professor at Columbia University. This paper is part of the research output from the authors’ joint project on assemble-to-order systems funded by the National Science Foundation.

Shuzhong Zhang (“A Primal-Dual Decomposition-Based Interior Point Approach to Two-Stage Stochastic Linear Programming”) is a Professor in the Department of Systems Engineering and Engineering Management, The Chinese University of Hong Kong. His research interests cover theory, methods, and applications of optimization. The current paper is part of a research project that applies the power of state-of-the-art optimization techniques, e.g., primal-dual interior point methods, to solve real-life decision-making problems under uncertainty.