

Editor's Introduction

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Issue 14.1 of SIGecom Exchanges is not your typical issue. It includes 7 excellent research letters (rather than the usual 6), a survey/position paper on optimal multi-item auctions by Costis Daskalakis, and our newest feature: an article profiling job market candidates in the SIGecom community, co-edited by Vasilis Gkatzelis, Jason Hartline, and myself.

In his survey, Costis does a great job illustrating the intuition-defying properties of optimal auctions in multidimensional settings, before presenting a program for demystifying them. Costis's program is two-fold, involving both improved structural understanding of optimal mechanisms, as well as their exploration through the lens of computation. If you were looking for a primer to this deep and exciting research area, this article is what you've been waiting for!

In the article profiling job market candidates, our goals were two-fold: to alleviate some of the informational inefficiencies in the junior faculty and postdoc market, and to present our recent graduates as members of a cohesive community. We tried to be as inclusive as possible, the only nontrivial eligibility requirement being a paper at EC or a similar conference. We hope this experiment is well received by the community, in which case it will become a yearly undertaking. Naturally, we would appreciate any feedback on whether this effort serves the interests of our community, and how it can be done better.

I hope you enjoy this issue. Please continue to volunteer letters, surveys, and position papers — in particular if you feel your area(s) of interest have not been properly represented in Exchanges of late. Moreover, please let me know what you'd like to see more or less of in Exchanges. As usual, thanks to Felix Fischer for help putting this issue together!

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