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Preface

Operational Research is an important scientific discipline with many new theoretical developments and practical applications. The International Conference on Applied Operational Research (ICAOR) is an annual forum bringing together academics and practitioners from around the world to discuss the most recent developments in operational research and management science (OR/MS). The conference covers all aspects of our subject, but with a particular emphasis on applications. This year, the fourth event in our planned series of conferences – ICAOR 2012 – takes place in the city of Bangkok, Thailand.

We received quality submissions from 28 countries around the world and finally could accept 37 papers for presentation at the conference and publication in these proceedings. The papers that appear in this volume were carefully and thoroughly refereed. Our sincere thanks go to the members of the scientific programme committee who gave a significant amount of their valuable time to this task. We are also very grateful to all those who have helped in organising the conference. We are sure that their contributions will add significantly to the success of the conference.

We very much hope that you will enjoy the conference programme and the planned social events. We wish you all a very pleasant stay in Bangkok and trust that you will find the conference to be of value and leave us having made many new friends.

> Pongchanun Luangpaiboon ICAOR'12 Local Chair

> > Kaveh Sheibani ICAOR General Chair

July 2012

4th International Conference on Applied Operational Research (ICAOR'12)

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Contents

Preface	III
Operations research and dynamic project scheduling: When research meets practice	1
Transition and reversion of Japanese corporate rating structure under the recent credit crises	9
Optimisation of a strictly concave quadratic form Belabbaci Amel, Djebbar Bachir and Mokhtari Abdelkader	16
Simple fuzzy input scorecard for intellectual property rights evaluation Mikael Collan	21
A computationally efficient modelling-to-generate-alternatives method using the firefly algorithm Raha Imanirad and Julian Scott Yeomans	30
EBITDA based on commercial margin prediction by hybrid model for ready mixed concrete business Pratchaya Chanprasopchai and Walailak Atthirawong	37
Trainees assignment problem in Information Technology (IT) service organizations	46
The discrete-event simulation model of a health screening center Thanon Wongsammacheep, Juta Pichitlamken and Waressara Weerawat	54
A Simulation model of a hospital's clinical laboratory Kanyarat Luangmul, Juta Pichitlamken and Waressara Weerawat	64
Competence building with the use of nurse re-rostering Hilde Elise Sæther Lilleby, Patrick Schittekat, Tomas Eric Nordlander, Lars Magnus Hvattum and Henrik Andersson	70
Designing rotatable machine layout in multiple row environment Srisatja Vitayasak and Pupong Pongcharoen	78

Heuristic ordering for ant colony based timetabling tool
Additive preemptive possibilistic programming in assemble-to-order production planning: A case study
Fuzzy multi-objective assignment model for manufacturing cell formation with duplicated machines
Planning of work schedules for toll booth collectors
An investigation of optimum cutting conditions in face milling aluminum 7075-t6 using design of experiment
Coordination buyer and supplier with vendor managed inventory from the net present value perspective
Increasing uncertainty in cash flow simulation-based volatility estimation for real options: Actual increase in volatility or symptom of excess unresolved ambiguity uncertainty
Stochastic search mechanisms on the bee algorithm for optimising noisy multi-response surfaces
An evaluation of hospital locations with respect to proximity, coverage, and equality of service
Differences between financial options and real options
Comparison of effectiveness of different implementations of a heuristic forest harvest scheduling search procedure with different number of decision choices simultaneously changed per move

VI

Efficient multivariate modeling of cross border effects in European bond volatility spillover: A multiple objective artificial neural network approach
On the behavioral specification and multivariate neural network estimation of cognitive scale economies
A hybrid metaheuristic for the partitioning problem with homogeneity constraints on the number of objects
A contribution to general repair models and their application
Integrated location distribution and investment model for new distribution centers using possibilistic programming
Fuzzy facility location-allocation for biomass transformation plant of the central region of Thailand
Planning elective surgeries in a Portuguese hospital: Study of different mutation rules for a genetic heuristic
 University efficiency evaluation with using its reputational component
Efficiency evaluation of Greek commercial banks using data envelopment analysis
Common-knowledge, communication and moral hazard in principal-agent model
A branch and bound approach for the sequential ordering problem

VII

A hybrid variable neighborhood search path-relinking for solving the capacitated single allocation hub location problem Ornurai Sangsawang and Sunarin Chanta	274
Shelter-site selection during flood disaster Sunarin Chanta and Ornurai Sangsawang	282
Optimized patient transport Patrick Schittekat and Tomas Eric Nordlander	289
Advances in stochastic modelling for maintenance Frank Beichelt	292
Author Index	300