Preface

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Published online: 2 February 2012
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Born in July 1941, Professor Enyu Yao started her undergraduate study at the Zhejiang University in 1958. She graduated in 1963 with a Bachelor of Science, mathematics major, and became an instructor in the Mathematics Department at the Zhejiang University.

Since 1970s, Professor Yao initiated the research program in operations research in the Mathematics Department. Her research interests include nonlinear programming and combinatorial optimization. On the latter, she has contributed a series of works on set partitioning problem, bin packing problem, scheduling problem, Steiner tree problem, and a number of network optimization problems. In the meantime, under her leadership, the operations research group at the Zhejiang University has grown steadily into one of the strongest in China. Professor Yao has supervised, co-supervised, and helped to advise more than one hundred graduate theses. Thirty four PhDs and seventy five masters graduated from her group are now active in operations research and beyond.

This special issue is dedicated to Professor Yao's seventieth birthday.

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