Preface

The operations research conference OR2015, jointly organized by the Austrian Operations Research Society (ÖGOR), the German Operations Research Society (GOR, former DGOR), and the Swiss OR Society (SVOR/ASRO), took place during September 2–4, 2015 at the University of Vienna, Austria.

Nearly 900 participants from 48 countries attended the conference. More than 650 presentations were given in 27 streams, including 2 plenary and 12 semi-plenary talks. The motto “Optimal Decisions and Big Data” was given a special emphasis.

This conference series of DGOR/GOR started in 1971 and the Vienna conference was number 43 in a row. It is now a tradition that every 4 years this conference is jointly organized by the sister societies of the three German speaking countries, the last one of this type was Zürich 2011. All the past conferences were documented by the proceedings volumes edited by Springer. Since 1994 the proceedings have been called OR Proceedings and since 2005 they have appeared in the new yellow/blue design.

Although looking back to a long tradition, this proceedings volume contains timely research of more than 100 selected participants of the conference. All contributions are peer-reviewed and show the broad scope of the OR discipline, ranging from structural and algorithmic issues in optimization and simulation to various applications areas, such as transportation and logistics, cutting and packing, production, supply chains, energy, finance, and more.

The German GOR Society awards excellent PhD and MSc theses with a special prize. This year, three among seven award winners, Gregor Hendel, Heide Hoppmann, and Timo Berthold submitted their extended abstracts to our proceedings, and their contributions can be found in the first chapter of this volume.
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