Editors' Introduction

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With spring around the corner, it is time for another issue of the SIGecom exchanges. As is tradition, we start the winter issue with the 2025 job candidate profiles. This is the ten-year anniversary of the practice; thanks to Vasilis Gkatzelis and Jason Hartline for compiling this useful resource each year. The rest of the issue contains lots of great research-related content: three research letters, three surveys, and an annotated reading list. We preview each below.

In the first of the letters, Tesary Lin and Avner Strulov-Shlain summarize their paper "Choice Architecture, Privacy Valuations, and Selection Bias in Consumer Data," which won best paper in the Empirics track at EC 2023, and has subsequently been accepted to *Marketing Science*. The paper addresses a ubiquitous concern for data collection in online platforms: when users share data by choice, this introduces selection bias in the gathered data. Through an experiment, they study how framing and pricing the choice to share data can impact the volume and biasedness of the resulting dataset.

The next letter, from Laura Doval and Alex Smolin, summarizes recent work in the *Journal of Political Economy* on the welfare impact of information design. They consider settings such as market segmentation where information disclosed about a population can impact population welfare e.g. through downstream decisions. Different disclosure policies, modeled in this work in terms of Bayesian persuasion, lead to different profiles of welfare across individuals in the population. The paper characterizes and studies the set of implementable welfare profiles.

A position piece from Soheil Feizi, Mohammadtaghi Tajiaghayi, Keivan Rezaei, and Suho Shin rounds out the letters in this issue. They consider the problem of integrating online advertising systems into information-seeking tools based on Large Language Models (LLMs). They argue that existing frameworks for online advertising systems in sponsored search are not directly applicable to LLM advertisement, and propose a novel framework to address the unique challenges that arise. The piece raises intriguing questions about design decisions and technical challenges that may be of interest to both academics and practitioners.

The first of our three surveys, by Chara Podimata, overviews the literature on strategic classification. This problem assumes the data points in a classification problem are self-interested agents who can modify their features to change their label. This leads to novel questions of interest to learning theorists, mechanism designers, and algorithmic fairness researchers alike. The survey gives a compre-

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hensive and well-organized overview of the large volume of recent work on the topic.

Next is a survey on automated mechanism design, contributed by Michael J. Curry, Zhou Fan, Yanchen Jiang, Sai Srivatsa Ravindranath, Tonghan Wang, and David Parkes. Their survey covers recent progress using optimization techniques — especially from deep learning — to design mechanisms that are nearly revenue-optimal and exactly or approximately strategyproof. The mechanisms obtained can be useful out of the box to practitioners, and can additionally be a source of structural insights for a theorist studying multiparameter mechanism design.

A survey on Randomized Apportionment by Haris Aziz concludes our collection of surveys. Apportionment is the problem of allocating seats to political parties or representatives to states in proportion to their size. Unlike traditional deterministic methods, randomized apportionment is able to simultaneously achieve multiple desirable fairness criteria, such as exactly proportional representation of groups ex ante and almost-proportional representation ex post. The survey gives an overview of this growing field by highlighting the breadth of methods and axiomatic properties that are enabled by introducing randomization.

Finally, this issue also includes an annotated reading list by Georgios Papasotiropoulos and Ulrike Schmidt-Kraepelin on liquid democracy. Liquid democracy is a hybrid approach to voting that allows voters to either cast their own votes or delegate their voting power to trusted individuals. The list gives an overview of recent work that reflects the breadth in models and methodologies being used in this active research area.

This issue marks a transition between information directors for the SIG. We'd like to thank outgoing director Yannai Gonczarowski one last time for his exceptional service in the role. We also welcome the incoming communications team taking his place, including communications chair Yang Cai, technical lead Jinzhao Wu, and social media chair Kira Goldner. Their help publishing this issue is greatly appreciated. As always, please continue to volunteer letters, surveys, annotated reading lists or position papers. We hope you enjoy this issue.