Editors' Introduction

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Happy and productive 2026 to the SIGecom community. We're thrilled to present this year's winter issue of the SIGecom Exchanges. Per tradition, we start the winter issue with the eleventh annual SIGecom job candidate profiles. Thanks to Vasilis Gkatzelis and Jason Hartline for preparing the profiles. Next, the letters section of the issue contains four contributions, each highlighting awarded work from the SIG across the last two years. Finally, the issue concludes two annotated reading lists.

The first letter is from Kei Ikegami, Atsuchi Iwasaki, Akira Matsushita, and Kyohei Okumura, whose paper "Evaluating the efficiency of regulation in matching markets with distributional disparities" won the award for best empirical paper at EC 2025. This work studies matching for medical residency with two twists: first, there are quotas restricting the number of residents assigned to hospitals and regions, and second, the work allows monetary subsidies. In the note, the authors give a wonderful overview of previous work on these topics, then sketch the main contributions of their EC paper.

Next is a letter from Bryan Wilder and Pim Welle, authors of the exemplary AI paper award at EC 2025 ("Learning Treatment Effects While Treating Those in Need"). This paper studies resource allocation problems such as those faced in provision of public services. The focus is two objectives: on the one hand, resources should be allocated to those for whom the effect will be greatest, and on the other, experimentation is necessary to infer who to target in the first place. The authors give a framework for systematically trading off these two objectives, and apply their approach on real data to get nearly the best of both worlds.

The third letter comes from Eshwar Ram Arunachaleswaran, Natalie Collina, Yishay Mansour, Mehryar Mohri, Balasubramanian Sivan, and Jon Schneider, the authors of the EC 2025 best paper "Swap Regret and Correlated Equilibria Beyond Normal-Form Games." The authors go beyond the content of this latter paper to discuss what they call "menus," a technique at the core of this and several related works. Menus give a clean distillation of outcomes achievable from play of an optimizer against a learning agent.

Our final letter is by Gabriele Farina. Gabriele won the SIGecom dissertation award in 2024, and we're delighted that he contributed a note surveying some of his recent work. The note is titled "Turning defense into offense in $O(\log 1/\varepsilon)$ steps: Efficient constructive proof of the minimax theorem," and presents another survey by way of a useful tool. In this case, the tool is an oracle-efficient method

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for solving zero-sum games over convex strategy spaces. Gabriele shows us several applications, including to equilibrium computation and approximate solution to variational inequalities.

We have two annotated reading lists in this issue. The first is from Tao Lin and Yiling Chen. Their reading list is a foray into the emerging literature on LLMs as economic agents. The end goal is to study their applications to information design and persuasion. Along the way, though, the authors cover related applications of LLMs to preference elicitation and decisionmaking.

The second list is from Rabanus Derr and Jessie Finocchiaro. They consider the multiple-class variant of calibrated prediction. Calibration with binary labels has received much recent attention at conferences like EC, with several recent breakthroughs (including many surveyed in the last issue of the Exchanges). The multiclass variant presents several new technical issues. The authors of this list give us a nice view into the diversity of approaches that have arisen in response.

This issue marks a transition in the editorial team for the Exchanges. Irene Lo is rotating out, after leading the newsletter through six excellent issues. We'd like to thank her for all she has done. Rotating onto the editorial team is Nick Arnosti. Nick is assistant professor in Industrial and Systems Engineering at the University of Minnesota. Thanks also go out as usual to communications chair Yang Cai, technical lead Jinzhao Wu, and social media chair Kira Goldner. Their help publishing this issue is greatly appreciated. Please continue to volunteer letters, surveys, annotated reading lists or position papers; your contributions make the Exchanges what it is. We hope you enjoy this issue.