Journal of the Operational Research Society (1999) 50, 283
http://www.stockton-press.co.uk/jor

Viewpoint

Comments on 'Fast heuristics for protection networks for dynamic routing' (Ouveysi and Wirth)—JORS 50: pp 262–267

The results give averages over a set of 5 or 10 test instances of sizes 15 up to 40 but do not describe how the test instances (interval of the coefficients) have been constructed. For the type of heuristics that have been described, computational results are essential. It is also essential that—in principle—these results can be (re)computed by any interested reader of the article, so it has to be explained how the test has been constructed, for example, on which interval the cost co-efficients and the requirement coefficients have been drawn. Furthermore it is necessary to have average results over 5 or 10 test instances for a set of instances of the same size and coefficients of the same type (interval), because the result for one problem instance per problem indicator can give a false impression of the quality of the considered heuristics.

Except for the small problem instances the extra results that are needed can be generated very easily and quickly if the computer codes for the heuristics and the lower bounds are available. I understand that the computation of the optimal solutions for $n > 15$ can be time consuming.

A Volgenant
University of Amsterdam

1 Ouveysi I and Wirth A. (1999) Fast heuristics for protection networks for dynamic routing. *J Opl Res Soc* **50**: 262–267

Editor's note: The authors have been unable to carry out the additional computations suggested because of illness. In the circumstances I decided to accept and publish the paper.