

Upcoming Events

- CP 2025
- CPAIOR 2025*
- ACP Summer School 2025
- CP 2026

CP 2025 Details

- **Location:** Glasgow, Scotland
- **Venue:** University of Glasgow, Scotland
- **Dates:** Sunday, August 10 – Friday, August 15
 - SMT Workshop: 10th-11th August
 - CP Workshops
 - Doctoral Program: 11th August (+10th?)
 - Main Conferences: 12th-15th August
- Co-located with SAT and SoCS
 - Single registration fee



CP 2025 Organizers

- **Conference Chairs:** Ciaran McCreesh and Blair Archibald



- **Program Chair:** Maria Garcia de la Banda



CP 2025 Social Events

- Drinks Reception at the **City Chambers**



- Banquet at the **Kelvingrove Art Gallery and Museum**



Next Stop: Glasgow





CPAIOR 2025

9 - 14 November

Melbourne, Victoria, Australia

Venue

Melbourne Connect

Central location in Melbourne

Part of University of Melbourne

Close to accommodation, public transport,
restaurants, cafes, bars



9-14 November???

Co-located with **ICAPS 2025!**



Joint keynotes, access to sessions, doctoral consortium

Summer school (week before or after, TBD)

Southern hemisphere spring!

Exact dates to be confirmed (likely Mon 10 Nov-Thu 13 Nov)

Ok, but... November?

Paper submissions, reviewing, publishing follow the usual timeline:

- Submissions due in December 2024
- Notification January/February

(Not disrupting the sequencing with other conferences)

Organisation

Guido Tack (Program Chair and Local Chair)

Supported by team at Monash University

Close collaboration with ICAPS Program Chair (Daniel Harabor, Monash University) and Conference Chair (Nir Lipovetzky, University of Melbourne)

More details and website coming soon!

See you in Melbourne!

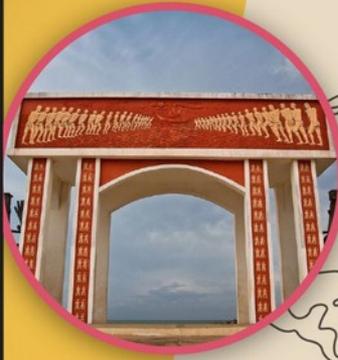


ACP SUMMER SCHOOL IN BENIN

25th - 29th August, 2025

Here is where the magic happens!

BENIN (IN AFRICA)



01

HISTORY

A major slave trading port in Africa

02

CULTURE

Center for Vodun (Voodoo) religion

03

FOOD

Impressive variety of different African food

MAIN TOPICS



CP REVISITED

Learn and Traverse CP
Basics and intermediate



CP 4 SUSTAINABILITY

Discover how CP can be
applied for sustainability



CP & NEW APPLICATIONS

Learn new domains (e.g.,
data) combine with CP



THANKS!

FOR ANY QUESTIONS, CONTACT US?

acpsummerschool2025@uac.bj
+229 620 421 838

Program Comittee



Ratheil Houndji, Ph.D.



John Aoga, Ph.D.



CP 2026

- **Location:** Lisbon, Portugal
- **Venue:** Técnico
- **Dates:** July 2024
- **Part of FLOC 2026: Federated Logic Conference**

38th International Conference on Computer Aided Verification (CAV)

32nd International Conference on Principles and Practice of Constraint Programming (CP)

39th IEEE Computer Security Foundations Symposium (CSF)

11th International Conference on Formal Structures for Computation and Deduction (FSCD)

42nd International Conference on Logic Programming (ICLP)

13th International Joint Conference on Automated Reasoning (IJCAR)

17th International Conference on Interactive Theorem Proving (ITP)

23th International Conference on Principles of Knowledge Representation and Reasoning (KR)

41st Annual ACM/IEEE Symposium on Logic in Computer Science (LICS)

29th International Conference on Theory and Applications of Satisfiability Testing (SAT)

- **Conference Chair:** Ines Lynce



Association for Constraint Programming

Annual General Meeting
CP 2024 – September 5, 2024



David Bergman, President of the ACP
David.bergman@uconn.edu

Thanks to CP2024 Organizers!

- Conference Chair
 - **Miquel Bofill**
 - **Mateu Villaret**



- Program Chair
 - **Paul Shaw**



Other Committee Chairs

- Workshop Chair
 - **Carlos Ansótegui**



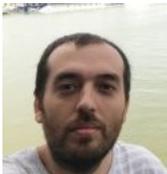
- Tutorial Chair
 - **Pierre Schaus**



- Application Chair
 - **Louis-Martin Rousseau**



- Publicity/Website Chair
 - **Jordi Coll**



- CP/ML Chair
 - **Quentin Cappart**



- CP/Quantum Computing Chair
 - **Philippe Codognet**



- Doctoral Program Chair
 - **Edward Lam**



- DEI Chairs
 - **Özgür Akgün**
 - **María Andreína Francisc**



Agenda

| | |
|---|--------------|
| ACP Executive Committee (EC) Intro | 5 min |
| ACP Awards | 5 min |
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| EC/CP Initiatives | 10 min |
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Governing Documents of ACP

- Statutes of the ACP
 - Establishes our legal entity
 - Dictates a few high-level governing policies
- Bylaws
 - Define membership rules
 - Establish Executive Committee (EC) requirements
 - Define voting rules
 - Summarize conference rules, etc.

EC Details from Bylaws

- Seven voting members, elected to four-year terms
 - Non-voting members as needed
 - President, Secretary, Treasurer, Conference Coordinated
- Bylaws Responsibilities for EC
 - **Promote CP**
 - Coordinate CP conferences
 - Otherwise carryout the duties of the EC as outlined in the bylaws

Executive Committee Members



David Bergman
President



Nadjib Lazaar
Treasurer (non-
voting)



Tias Guns
Secretary



H el ene Verhaeghe
Conference
Coordinator



Zeynep Kiziltan
Diversity, Equity, &
Inclusion Delegate



Chris Beck
Member, Past
president



Gilles Pesant
Member



Ines Lynce
Member

Why be on the EC – My Reasons

- Impact the Constraints community
- Work with leaders in the field
- Have fun

What Do We Do? (1/2)

- **Promote CP**
- Find organizers, chairs: main conference, summer school
- Coordinate EC elections
- Oversee finances
- Sponsor events, conferences, etc.
- Colocation efforts

What Do We Do? (2/2)

- Set up awards committees
- Publish quarterly reports
- Promote DEI
- Maintain website
- Coordinate with *Constraints* journal

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ACP Early Career Award

- Committee
 - Zeynep Kiziltan (c), Ferdinando Fioretto, and Mats Carlsson
- **Winner**
 - Quentin Cappart
 - *For fundamental contributions to the integration of Reinforcement Learning with Constraint Programming and the development of influential open-source tools, for developments on graph neural networks with broad implications beyond Constraint Programming in Artificial Intelligence and Machine Learning, and for applications to impactful real-world problems with industrial relevance.*



ACP Doctoral Research Award

- Committee
 - Gilles Pesant (c), Andre Cire and Clément Carbonnel
- **Winner**
 - Jayanta Mandi
 - *For the depth and breadth of his contribution, its potential impact in the fields of Operations Research and Machine Learning, and the number and quality of his publications*
- **Runner Up**
 - Ruwei Wang



ACP Distinguished Service Award

- Committee
 - Tias Guns (c), David Bergman, Paul Shaw, Chris Beck, Thomas Schiex
- **Winner**
 - Maria Garcia de la Banda
 - *For her leading role in shaping the CP community, in her role as ACP President amongst others, for her driving force in making CP research openly accessibly by transitioning to the LIPIcs publisher and for putting the topic of Diversity, Equity and Inclusion on the table, leading to positive discussions and initiatives; for serving in various editorial roles and being a bridge between CP and other communities such as the logic programming community. Your actions and drive make you a role model and an inspiration to the community.*



Agenda

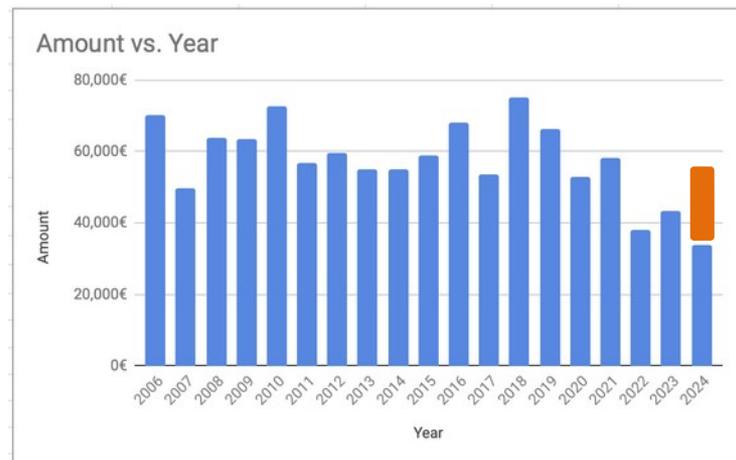
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Financial Overview

- Why have finances?
 - Things cost money 😊
- What we pay for?
 - Run our annual conference: profit or loss
 - Sponsor conferences (e.g., CPAIOR)
 - Awards
 - Summer schools
 - Extraneous costs (e.g., websites)
- Target
 - ~ €50K Euro
 - Buffer for unexpected expenses
 -

Financial update

| Last year | 22/09/2023 | | 43,472.58 | | |
|------------------------------------|------------|---------|-----------|------|---------|
| | | IN | OUT | Year | Amount |
| Finalized transactions | | | | 2006 | 70,093€ |
| Interest 2023 | | | €508 | 2007 | 49,626€ |
| CP23 sponsorship | | | €941 | 2008 | 63,742€ |
| LIPICS: proceedings CP'23 | | | €2,940 | 2009 | 63,530€ |
| ACP doctoral award | | | €500 | 2010 | 72,489€ |
| ACP Early Career award | | | €500 | 2011 | 56,747€ |
| ACP sponsoring for CPAIOR24 | | | €2,000 | 2012 | 59,528€ |
| sponsorings for CPAIOR24 | | €28,214 | €28,214 | 2013 | 54,949€ |
| sponsoring for ACP school24 | | | €4,000 | 2014 | 55,102€ |
| CP24 sponsorship - Google Research | | €1,200 | | 2015 | 58,940€ |
| Banking Fees | | | €358 | 2016 | 68,031€ |
| Web Provider | | | €1,000 | 2017 | 53,511€ |
| ACP EC dinner | | | €1,080 | 2018 | 75,169€ |
| End Balance (CP 2024 GIRONA) | | | €33,743 | 2019 | 66,310€ |
| Ongoing | | IN | OUT | 2020 | 52,826€ |
| AIJ dotation for CP23 | | | €10,000 | 2021 | 58,099€ |
| AIJ dotation for CP25 | | | €4,500 | 2022 | 38,111€ |
| CP24 sponsorship | | | €15,000 | 2023 | 43,473€ |
| Sponsorship for ACP summer school | | | €3,000 | 2024 | 33,743€ |
| Website upgrade | | | €3,000 | | €57,243 |
| Expected | | | €57,243 | | |



We take donations: <http://a4cp.org/sponsorships-donations>

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Website Update and Upgrade

UPDATE

- The 'menu' structure was reworked last year in line with a previous CP 'hackathon'

UPGRADE

- The operating system and Drupal version were 5+ years old and no longer received security updates
 - Migrated to a new virtual machine with recent OS and Drupal version
 - ACP membership management had to be redone with another 'rules' system
 - **Please log on now re-activate your membership - we currently have 12 members**
 - <https://www.a4cp.org/>
- Next: the website could use a new 'theme' and restructured frontpage
- Cost: ~ €3K

Communication

- ACP mailing list: <https://www.a4cp.org/>
- ACP YouTube: <https://www.youtube.com/@associationforconstraintpr9021>
- CP YouTube: <https://www.youtube.com/@intlconferenceonprinciples6805>
- CP Twitter: [@cp_conf](#)
- Constraints google group: <https://groups.google.com/g/constraints>

Documentation

- Handbooks
- Website
- Election system

Diversity, Equity, Inclusion (1/2)

- ACP established DEI leadership in the form of
 - DEI delegate in the ACP Executive Committee
 - DEI chairs for the CP conference
- Impact on the community
 - Ran surveys to collect demographic information, feedback and suggestions
 - Affected policy change (DEI policy, anti-harassment policy, scholarships)
 - We invite contributions to these ongoing efforts, please get in touch if you are interested.
 - Planning meetings in underrepresented regions.

Diversity, Equity, Inclusion (2/2)

- Positions

- Conference Chairs: Özgür Akgün, María Andreína Francisco Rodríguez



- ACP EC Delegate: Zeynep Kiziltan



Re-prioritization of EC and ACP

- We do a lot
- But what should we focus on?
- Gilles has re-envisioned the list and we are iterating

Teaching Constraint Programming (1/2)

- Tejas Santanam, Helmut Simonis
 - Organized workshop at CP 2023
 - Have preprint of paper: ***Survey of Methods, Resources, and Formats for Teaching Constraint Programming***
- <https://arxiv.org/abs/2403.12717>



Teaching Constraint Programming (2/2)



- Artificial Intelligence Doctoral Academy
 - Pierre Schaus, Pascal Van Hentenryck, Laurent Michel

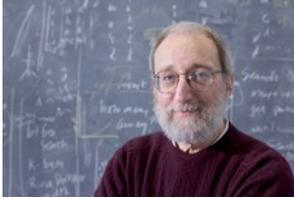


The four ICT-48 networks ([AI4Media](#), [ELISE](#), [HumanE-AI NET](#), [TAILOR](#)) and the [VISION](#) project joined forces and, under the joint initiative of VISION and AI4Media, founded a new joint instrument to support a world-level AI education and research programme.

The International AI Doctoral Academy (AIDA) has been created for offering access to knowledge and expertise and attracting PhD talents in Europe.

Video Project

- Eugene Freuder, Pascal Van Hentenryck, Helmut Simonis



- Series of videos on the ACP YouTube channel
- ACP Research Excellence Awardee Interviews

Association for Constraint Programming · Playlist

Association for Constraint Programming

@associationforconstraintpr9021 · 637 subscribers · 74 videos

This channel features videos from the Association for Constraint Programming. ...more

acp.org

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ACP Awardee Interviews

Research Excellence Awardee Interviews

Association for Constraint Programming · Playlist · Updated 7 days ago

Interview with Eugene Freuder 2005 Research Excellence Awardee · 1:13:13

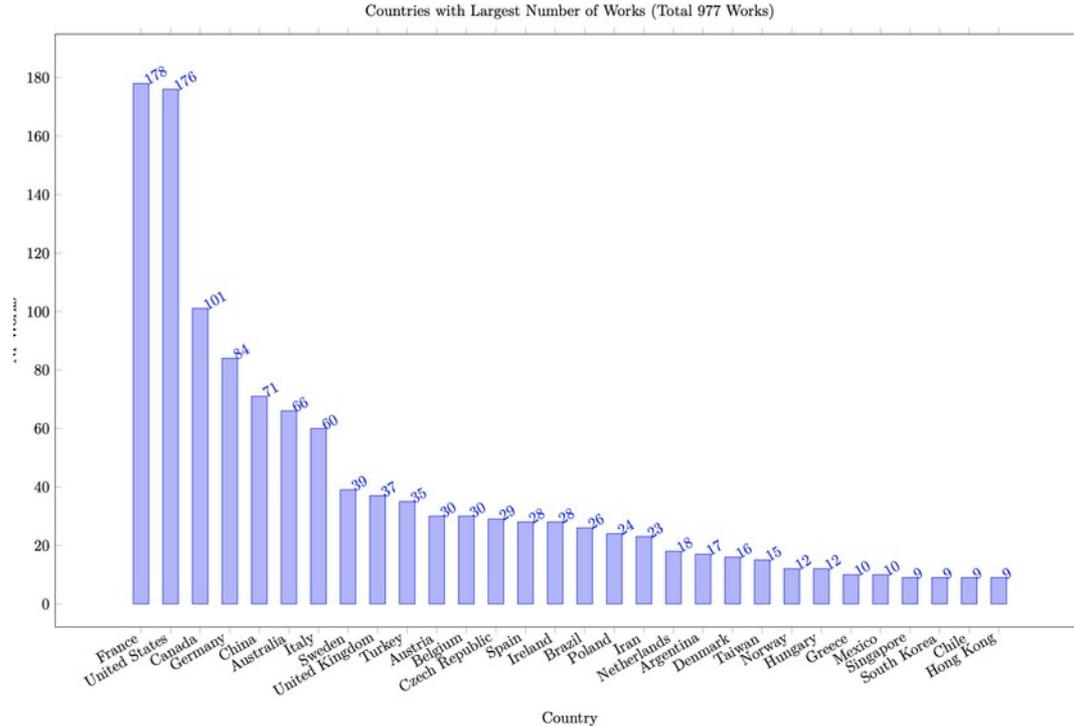
Interview with Rina Dechter 2007 Research Excellence Awardee · 1:31:44

7 videos VIEW FULL PLAYLIST

CP & Scheduling Survey (1/3)

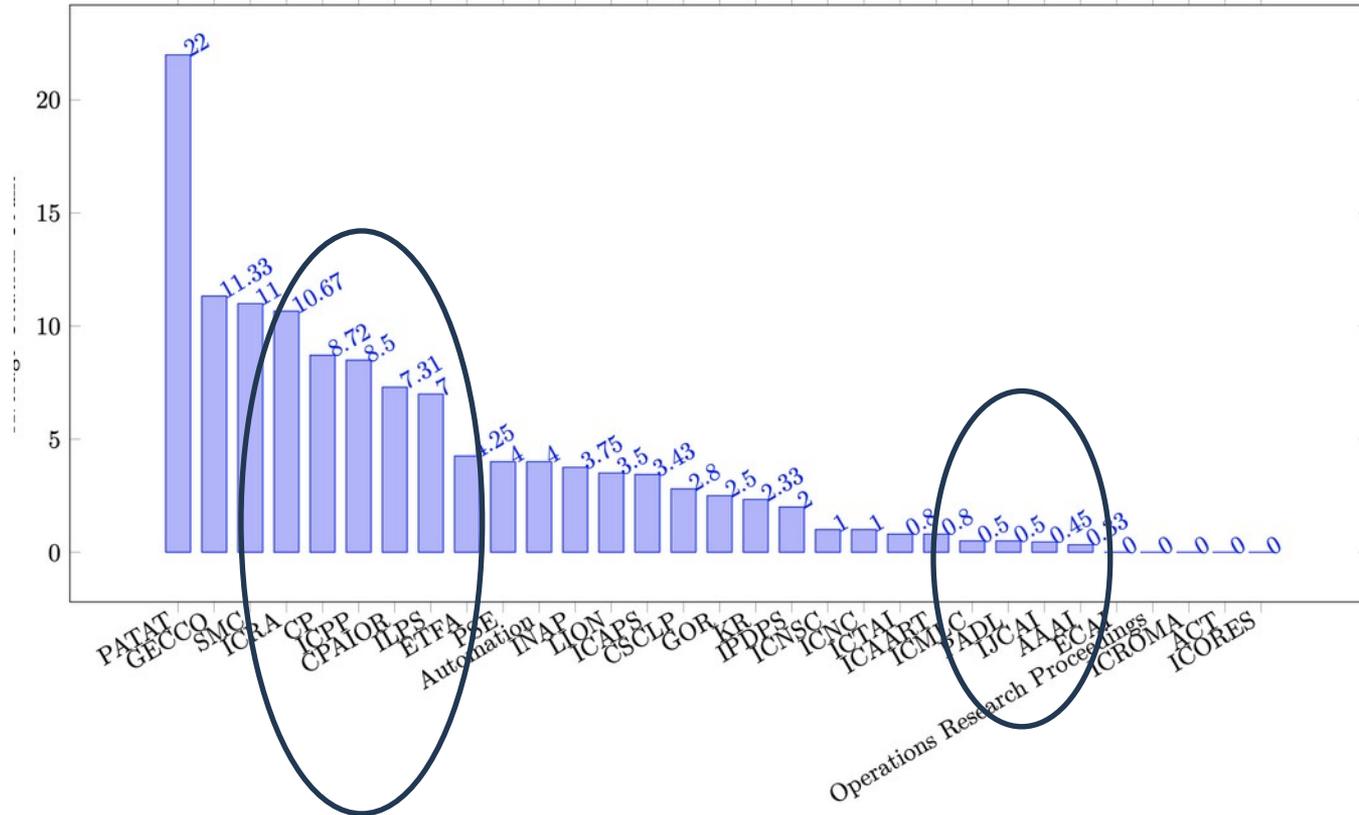
- Composed by Helmut Simonis and Cemalettin Öztürk
- Massive survey on “Constraint Programming and Scheduling”
 - 1227 papers
 - Documented, matched, merged, topic modeling, application areas, etc.
 - Survey is 3438 pages 😊

CP & Scheduling Survey (2/3)



CP & Scheduling Survey (3/3)

Average Citation Count per Paper by Conference Series (Paper Count > 1)



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First the conference: *LIPICs*

- In 2021 we switched from Springer to LIPICs for conference proceedings
- Open-source publication
- Cost for 2024: ~ €3K
- Quality of experience very positive
 - Ask Paul Shaw
- Challenges
 - Searching and referencing not totally worked out yet

Constraints Journal

EiC Mark Wallace



Path Forward for Journal – CP 2023

- Last General Assembly we discussed several options
 - Status quo
 - Change publisher
 - No longer support a journal
- Decision
 1. Explore options with a few senior members of the community
 2. Dedicate ourselves to submitting more articles

Reason for staying with Springer

- Positive Reasons to stay
 - Shared IT Initiative:
<https://www.springernature.com/gp/researchers/sharedit>
 - Open Access Agreements:
<https://www.springernature.com/gp/open-research/oa-agreements>
11 articles from 2023-24 are open access
- Reasons not to move
 - Loss of profile (need new publisher and title)
 - (from previous experience with JLP): Springer could keep Constraints going

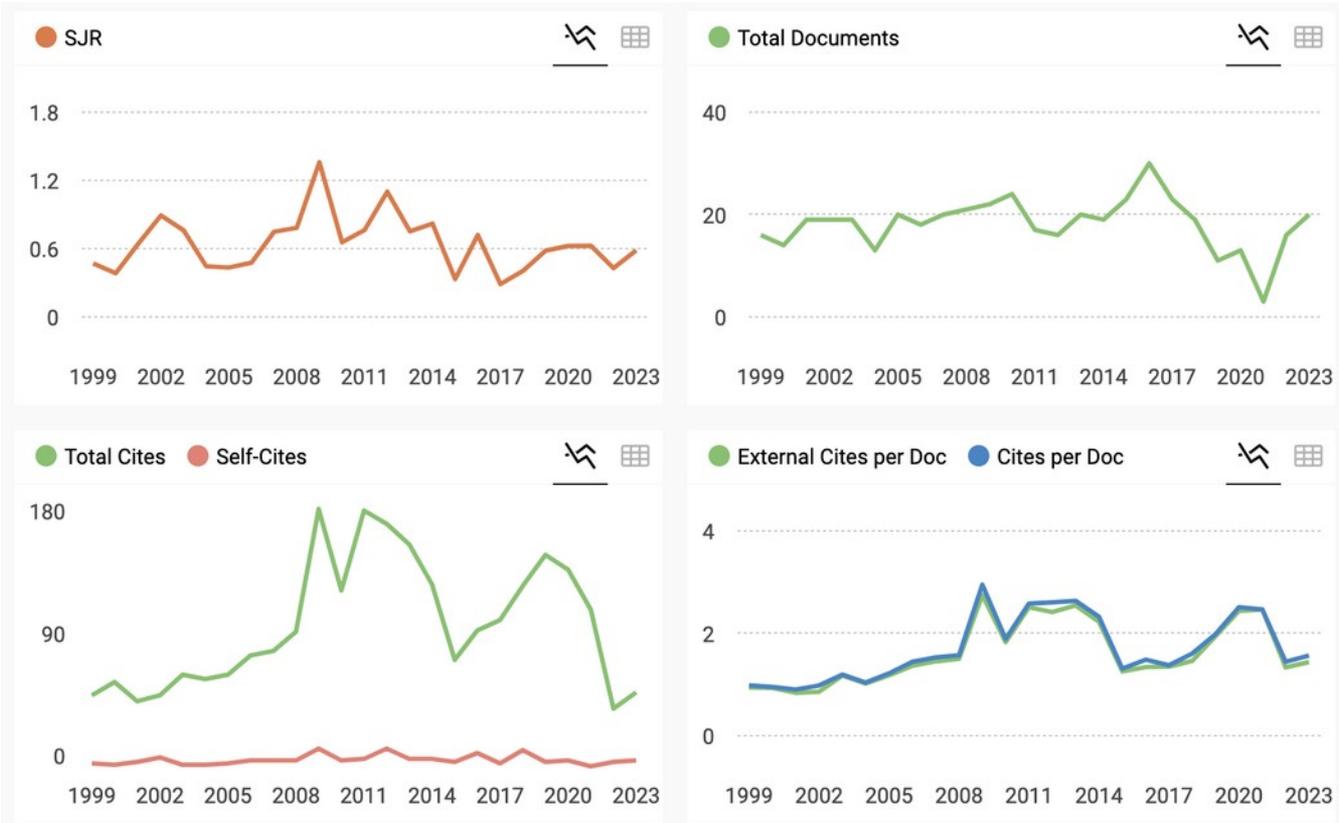
Constraints Journal Statistics

| Year | Issues | Papers | Thesis Abstracts | Corrections |
|------|--------|--------|------------------|-------------|
| 2021 | 1 | 3 | 0 | 1 |
| 2022 | 3 | 15 | 0 | 0 |
| 2023 | 4 | 17 | 8 | 1 |
| 2024 | 0 | 2* | 0* | 0 |

- Impact factor
 - 5 year: 1.8
 - Current: 0.5
- Downloads
 - 50,000

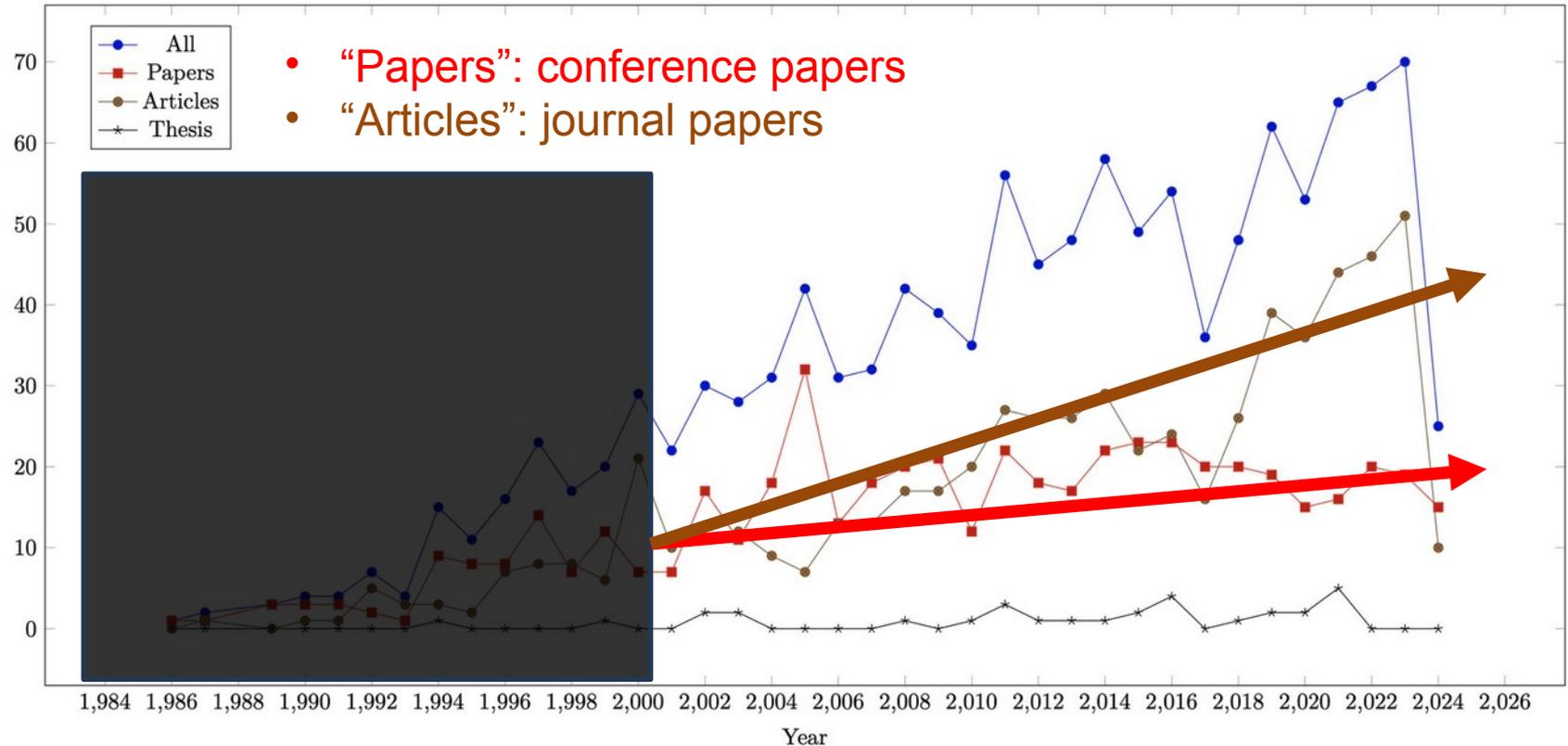
* The number of accepted papers in 2024 is 4 and there is 1 thesis abstract that will be published

SCIMAGO



From CP & Scheduling Survey

Works by Year



What is happening?

- My observation: There is a big group of people who want journal papers, but not *Constraints* publications
- Hypotheses:
 - **Better recognition elsewhere**
 - **The community is stopping at conference papers**
 - **Other communities are using our technology**
- Result:
 - The journal is not getting the traction it deserves
 -

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Bylaws 5 - Summarized

1. Election committee should be established by EC
2. Election period ends September 1st, unless determined by July 1
3. The EC must nominate at least one person for every vacancy
4. Nominations circulated at least 30 days prior to the election
5. Elections should occur on even numbered years
6. Approval voting is employed, using ordinary or electronic means

Executive Committee Members



David Bergman
President



Nadjib Lazaar
Treasurer (non-voting)



Tias Guns
Secretary



Hélène Verhaeghe
Conference
Coordinator



Zeynep Kiziltan
Diversity, Equity, &
Inclusion Delegate



Chris Beck
Member, Past
president



Gilles Pesant
Member



Ines Lynce
Member

Good news

- A committee was assembled
- Four positions will be vacated, and EC secured 4 nominations
 - Roland Yap
 - Nadjib Lazaar
 - Miquel Bofill Arasa
 - Roie Zivan
- Nomination statements were circulated to the Constraints community

Issues

- Names circulated 28 days ago (not 30 days ago as required)
- Election will hopefully occur today (Sept 5, not before Sept 1)
- This was not decided prior to July 1 (suggested August 7)

Why

- A confluence of factors
 - Several people who expressed interest eventually didn't join election
 - Conversations throughout the summer to increase candidate pool
 - Website upgrade removed membership - timing was challenging
 - 1st EC election with exactly the number of candidates as vacant positions – I think
- Each individual factor presented a challenge, and in unison led to the current situation

What is Approval Voting

- In multi-winner approval voting, each voter can approve as many candidates as they like. The candidates with the most approvals win until all positions are filled.
- For our context: **If there are exactly four candidates for four positions, each candidate will be elected if each receives at least one approval**

Election Motion

I Move to:

- Waive the requirement that nominations be circulated 30 days before the Election Date for the current election cycle (2024 only) and accept the 28-day circulation period as valid.
- Extend the voting deadline to September 5th, 2024 from September 1, 2024 for the current election cycle (2024 only).
- Have a live vote at this year's General Assemble to vote all four candidates into the EC – one approval for all candidates from any voting ACP member will determine approval of all four candidates.

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Other Topics

- **What do we do with the journal**
- Ideas for growing the community?
- What can we do differently that would excite the community?
- What is CP's role in the AI / OR world?
- Other things!