Visit our Website

We welcome submissions to the following journals published by EURO.

European Journal of Operational Research (EJOR), published by Elsevier. Created as an independent journal in 1976, EJOR became a EURO journal in 1990. Its coordinating Editor is Roman Slowinski.

EURO Journal on Computational Optimization (EJCO), published by Springer. It was officially launched in 2011. Its Editor in Chief is Martine Labbé.

EURO Journal on Decision Processes (EJDP), published by Springer. It was officially launched in 2011. Its Editor in Chief is Vincent Mousseau.

EURO Journal on Transportation and Logistics (EJTL), published by Elsevier. It was officially launched in 2011. Its Editor in Chief is Dominique Feillet.

We now have 10 **tutorials** published in the series of EURO Advanced Tutorials. Please take a look at our titles:

*<u>**Orienteering Problems: Models and Algorithms for Vehicle Routing Problems with Profits**</u>
*<u>**Nonlinear Programming Techniques for Equilibria**</u>
*<u>**Analytical Techniques in the Assessment of Credit Risk**</u>
*<u>**Traffic Flow Modelling**</u>
*<u>**Supply Chain Finance**</u>
*<u>**Metaheuristics for Business Analytics**</u>
*<u>**Compact Extended Linear Programming Models**</u>
*<u>**Multiobjective Linear and Integer Programming**</u>
*<u>**Dual-Feasible Functions for Integer Programming and Combinatorial Optimization**</u>
*<u>**Linear and Mixed Integer Programming for Portfolio Optimization**</u>
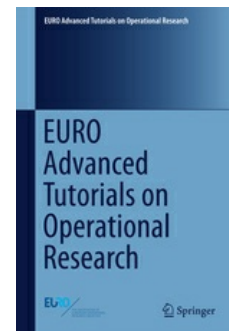
Series Editors

- M. Grazia Speranza, Dipartimento de Economia e Management. Università di Brescia. Italy. (e-mail: **grazia.speranza@unibs.it**)
- José Fernando Oliveira, Faculdade de Engenharia. Universidade do Porto, Portugal. (e-mail:**jfo@fe.up.pt**)

Please contact the editors for more information or to submit ideas for topics.

It is important to include reminders about particular EURO events and publications as the deadlines approach but these will now be shaded slightly so that regular readers can more easily see the new items.

Special Announcements

**EURO 2021
Athens, Greece, 11-14
July, 2021**

Website

FIRST ANNOUNCEMENT AND CALL FOR PAPERS

We have the great pleasure of inviting you to take part in the 31st EURO conference to be held in Athens.

The Program Committee, chaired by Rudolf Vetchera, and the Organizing Committee, co-chaired by Nikolaos Matsatsinis and John Psarras, are preparing a high-quality scientific program and an exciting social program for the Conference.

After a year of lockdowns and limited travel, we are optimistic that the EURO 2021 Conference will again provide an excellent opportunity for the OR community to meet in person in a city that in a unique way stands for the identity of Europe. EURO 2021 acknowledges that virtual conferences can't entirely replicate the conference experience, which normally involves face to face meetings and networking opportunities. However, Euro 2021 is fully prepared to adjust its strategy in case of any similar situation and to convert the physical congress to a hybrid or virtual one, with the main objective that the new format will continue to meet the needs of the EURO 2021 community and to ensure a viable future for the association's activities in scientific education and professional support. Registered participants will still be eligible to participate, authors whose abstracts were accepted will be published in the digital abstract book, with e-posters available for virtual consultation and industry to have a wide selection of sponsorship opportunities.

PLENARY, KEYNOTE & TUTORIAL SPEAKERS:

We have selected several outstanding Plenaries & Tutorial Speakers that will present the state-of-the-art in Operations Research and outline pathways of its future developments. More information on speakers and their presentations will be announced soon. Please follow up further information at the EURO 2021 Conference webpage:
https://euro2021athens.com/.

CALL FOR PAPERS AND SESSIONS:

Researchers, academics, practitioners, and students interested in any branch of Operational Research, mathematical modelling or economic analysis are invited to submit abstracts or organize sessions.

Invited and contributed papers will be organized in parallel sessions. In general, sessions will be a part of the Conference streams, and streams are grouped into different areas. The list of areas and streams will be available shortly.

Abstract submission system is available online, via the Conference web page
(**https://euro2021athens.com/**).

Abstracts must be written in English and contain no more than 1,500 characters in plain text format (no formulas are allowed). Submission deadline: February 28.

Researchers who wish to organize a stream or an invited session or contribute with a paper within an invited session should contact a Program Committee member of the corresponding area.

KEY DATES AND DEADLINES:

Abstract submissions start 20.09.2020
Abstract submission deadline **28.02.2021**
Notification of abstract acceptance deadline 28.03.2021
Registration Opens 14.02.2021
Early bird registration deadline 02.05.2021
Late registration deadline 16.05.2021
Delegate registration deadline 20.06.2021

REGISTRATION FEES:

Registration fees (including VAT) apply:
Regular Early until May 2nd, 2021 (inclusive): 400 €
Regular Late until May 16th, 2021 (inclusive, only authors): 500 €
Regular Late until June 20th, 2018 (inclusive, just for attendants) 500 €
Student/retired Early until May 2nd, 2021 (inclusive): 200 €
Student/retired Late until May 16th, 2021 (inclusive, only authors): 300 €
Student/retired Late until June 20th, 2021 (inclusive, just for attendants): 300 €
Accompanying persons: 120 €
Conference Dinner: 80 €

Regulations for Participants
Author registration: For each accepted paper at least one registration is required, and each participant may present one paper.

CALL FOR EXHIBITORS:

Parties interested in having a booth or exhibition area during the Conference are kindly requested to contact **sponsors@euro2021athens.com**. An exhibitor's guide will be available shortly.

FURTHER INFORMATION:

For detailed information about EURO 2021, please, visit the Conference webpage.
For any further information: **info@euro2021athens.com**
We look forward to welcoming you to our very exciting conference in Athens!
Rudolf Vetschera, Nikolaos Matsatsinis, John Psarras

EURO Award for the Best EJOR Paper 2020

Sponsored by Elsevier

Website

This year we had an online awards ceremony, on 14th September, for the 3 award winning papers. The session was introduced by the President of EURO, Immanuel Bomze and also Simon Jones from Elsevier. Then the jury Chair, Stavros Zenios, proceeded to describe the competitive process and presented the winning papers which can now be freely downloaded for a limited time from EJOR:
https://www.journals.elsevier.com/european-journal-of-operational-research/highlighted-articles/best-paper-awards-2020-european-journal-operational-research

With huge thanks to the 2020 jury:

Stavros Zenios (chair), Markus Leitner, Veronica Piccialli, Steffen Rebennack, and Sophie Parragh.

The **video presentation** is available.
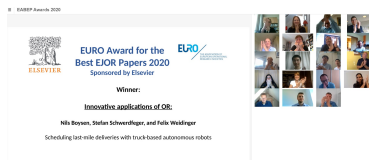
Innovative Applications of OR:
Nils Boysen,
Stefan Schwerdfeger,
Felix Weidinger
Scheduling last-mile deliveries with truck-based autonomous robots

Theory and Methodology:
Lipan Feng
Kannan Govindan
Chunfa Li
Strategic planning: Design and coordination for dual-recycling channel reverse supply chain considering consumer behavior
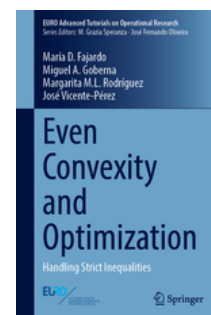
Review:
Ana Paula Barbosa-Póvoa
Cátia da Silva
Ana Carvalho
Opportunities and challenges in sustainable supply chain: An operations research perspective

EURO Advanced Tutorials on Operational Research

NEW Title:
Even Convexity and Optimization

Authors: Fajardo, M.D., Goberna, M.A., Rodríguez, M.M.L., Vicente-Pérez, J.

Website

This tutorial is the first comprehensive introduction to (possibly infinite) linear systems containing strict inequalities and evenly convex sets. The book introduces their application to convex optimization. Particular attention is paid to evenly convex polyhedra and finite linear systems containing strict inequalities. The book also analyzes evenly convex and quasiconvex functions from a conjugacy and duality perspective. It discusses the applications of these functions in economics. Written in an expository style the main concepts and basic results are illustrated with

suitable examples and figures.

EURO Advanced Tutorials on Operational Research

NEW Title:
Risk Management for Pension Funds

Author: Menoncin, Francesco
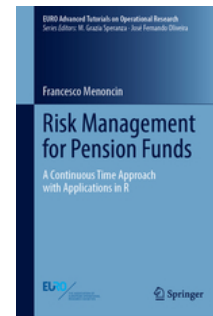
Website

This book presents a consistent and complete framework for studying the risk management of a pension fund. It gives the reader the opportunity to understand, replicate and widen the analysis. To this aim, the book provides all the tools for computing the optimal asset allocation in a dynamic framework where the financial horizon is stochastic (longevity risk) and the investor's wealth is not self-financed. This tutorial enables the reader to replicate all the results presented. The R codes are provided alongside the presentation of the theoretical framework. The book explains and discusses the problem of hedging longevity risk even in an incomplete market, though strong theoretical results about an incomplete framework are still lacking and the problem is still being discussed in most recent literature.

IFORS Global Webinar Series

Website

Several times each year, IFORS will offer free webinars on topics of key interest to those developing and applying Operational Research and Analytics methodologies and models. Speakers from each of the IFORS regions will provide our worldwide community with updates on exciting new challenges, methodologies and solution approaches that impact their region and the world.

Regional representatives on the Administrative Council of IFORS will select speakers and host the webinar. We hope to highlight research on topics relevant to a wide audience (e.g. epidemiological and supply chain research associated with the COVID-19 pandemic, new approaches to improving health worldwide, impacts of global warming, approaches to conservation, etc.). Some webinars may highlight outstanding issues that need new solutions. Some of these webinars may have a single speaker providing new research and/or application results while other webinars may be panel discussions. Each regional representative will organize at least one such talk per year with the goal of updating our entire community on important OR activities.

The overall aim of this webinar series is to strengthen research activities and foster potential collaboration by encouraging the exchange of ideas and the sharing our successes and challenges.

IFORS Global Webinar Series

O.R. in Latin America:
From Theory to Practice
July 29, 2020 11 a.m. – 12:30 p.m. GMT(-3)

Hosts
Grazia Speranza, Italy (IFORS President)
Guillermo Duran, Argentina (ALIO President)
Rosiane de Freitas, Brazil (VP IFORS-ALIO)

Register for this free webinar on the IFORS website: www.ifors.org

Invited Speakers

Marcia Fampa
Universidade Federal do Rio de Janeiro - UFRJ Brazil

Parametric relaxation for the quadratic knapsack problem

Andres Medaglia
Universidad de los Andes – UNIANDES, Colombia

Level of traffic stress in Bogotá: towards a friendlier city for cyclists

Roger Rios
Universidad Autonoma de Nuevo Leon – UANL, Mexico

A case study on the potential impact of a kidney exchange program in Mexico

Several times each year, IFORS will offer free webinars on topics of key interest to those developing and applying Operational Research and Analytics methodologies and models.

SAVE THE DATE
EURO will host the next IFORS Global Webinar on November 30th 2020. Details to follow.

IFORS Developing Countries OR Resources Website

The aim of the Developing Countries On-Line Resources page is to offer the OR worker all publicly-available materials on the topic of Operations Research for Development. It also aims to provide a venue for people who are working in the area to share their completed or in-process work, learn from others, and stimulate comments and discussions on the work. The IFORS activity links with that of the EURO Working Group on OR for Development. This has been a classical connection reflected both in and around all our last EURO and IFORS conferences. And ("free", not prevented by copyright, etc.) submissions to IFORS DC online resources by EURO friends are very much especially.welcome.

Conferences, Schools and Meetings

EWG POR, EURO working group on Practice of OR

3rd conference of the EURO Working Group on the Practice of Operations Research

28-29 September, 2020

The third edition of the EURO Practice of OR working group conference will be a virtual conference and will focus on OR projects that have met with difficulties during their implementation - including particularly tricky or unusual technical requirements that had to be addressed during the development phase or issues related to the use or acceptance by non-OR-expert end-users. Presenters will also discuss their experiences with the management of change in operations due to the introduction of an optimisation or analytics application in an organisation.

To register for the virtual conference please use the following **link**

Autumn School on Bilevel Optimization

12-14 October, 2020

Bilevel optimization problems have attracted considerable attention over the last decades since their structure allows the modeling of a large number of real-life problems involving two types of decision makers, a leader and a follower, interacting sequentially in a hierarchical setting. This rather young and highly active field at the interfaces between mathematical optimization, computer science, and operations research has grown a lot in the last few years. The studied problems are constrained optimization problems in which some constraints specify that a subset of variables constitutes an optimal solution of another (nested) optimization problem. Bilevel problems constitute a class of very difficult problems because they are inherently nonconvex and nondifferentiable. They are already NP-hard even if both levels are linear problems.

In the ALOP autumn school on bilevel optimization we will have introductory talks on the topics of linear as well as mixed-integer linear bilevel problems and on the relation between bilevel optimization, MPECs, and variational inequalities. The confirmed speakers are Martine Labbé (Université Libre de Bruxelles), Ivana Ljubic (ESSEC Business School of Paris), and Didier Aussel (Université de Perpignan).

Due to the current circumstances, the autumn school will take place online via Zoom meetings. Registration and

participation is free of charge and we will provide certificates of participation. The registration deadline is **September 28, 2020**.

We also plan to have an elevator pitch session, where all participants can present their current research in short talks of 3 minutes.

EURO working group on Agriculture and Forest Management

VI Workshop on OR in Agriculture and Forest Management

14-16 October, 2020

Website

The BigDSSAgro conference is devoted to decision support systems in agriculture, which combine models, databases (Bigdata) and algorithms to support many real-world decision-making problems.

The access to cheap sensor technology, drones, climate data and forecasts, satellite information about soils, humidity and more is provoking a revolution with the irruption of Big Data and opening the door to the development and application of novel optimization and simulation models in Agriculture and the Agri-food industries.

The main question to solve is how to transform the huge amount of data into useful information to decision-makers. Current applications cover a wide range of different areas, from food production or animal welfare to sustainability or climate change impact; and they are expected to still increase in future. The scope of the conference includes findings on established and new Operations Research, Big Data and Analytics methods ineffective decision-making applications in Agriculture and in the Agri-food industry, including their supply chain, and also problems in Forestry and in Environment studies.

Important dates:
30 September 2020: Abstract submission deadline
10 October 2020: Paper notification
14-16 October 2020: Conference

There's more information here: **CFP Seminar 2020.pdf**

Abstracts must be submitted electronically in English (as well as the presentation to be made at the conference) and in PDF format at the following link: **https://easychair.org/conferences/?conf=bigdssagro2020**, and it should be 1 page long, using the template below:
Word format: **BigDSSAgro2020.dot**
or
LaTeX: **bigDSSagro-2020.zip**

Applications of Semi–Infinite Optimization

Kaiserslautern, Germany, 12-13 November, 2020

Website

Semi-infinite optimization, i.e., the solution of optimization problems with infinitely many constraints (SIP), has been intensively studied over the last decades. The progress of computer technology has enhanced SIP methodology significantly. On the one hand, solution methods for this problem class have been increasingly developed and refined. On the other hand, high-dimensional problems, as they often occur in practice, have become numerically tractable. As a result, the range of possible applications has evolved considerably and semi-infinite optimization has been increasingly applied to practical problems in recent years.

In addition to the standard applications of semi-infinite optimization such as model approximation, design centering, robust optimization, and optimal control, SIP techniques have been recently used in machine learning, design of experiments, coverage issues and mixed stochastic-robust optimization. Thereby, SIP methods have been applied in application areas such as product portfolio optimization and process engineering.

The one and a half day workshop provides the opportunity to discuss and promote the use of semi-infinite optimization in practice with outstanding international scientists and application experts.

If you would like to give a talk on methods or applications of semi-infinite optimization, you are welcome. The time for presentation is 20 minutes + 5 minutes discussion. Please submit the title and a short description (max. 1.000 characters) of your presentation until **September 30, 2020** using our **online registration form**.

ICO 2020. 3rd International Conference on Intelligent Computing & Optimization 2020

Hua Hin, Thailand, 17-18 December, 2020

Website

Innovative optimization approaches have attracted many research scientists, decision makers, managers, executives, engineers, academicians, officers and practicing researchers in recent years as powerful intelligent computational techniques for solving several complex real-world problems.

The International Conference on Intelligent Computing and Optimization (ICO2020) highlights the latest research innovations and applications of algorithms designed for optimization applications within the fields of Science, Computer Science, Engineering, Information Technology, Management, Finance and Economics. Focusing on a variety of methods and systems as well as practical examples, this conference is a significant resource for post graduate-level students, decision makers, and researchers in both public and private sectors who are seeking research-based methods for modelling uncertain and unpredictable real-world problems.

The submission Web page for ICO 2020 is **https://easychair.org/conferences/?conf=ico2020**

Submission Deadline: **24 September 2020**

Dynamic Control and Optimization International Conference 2021 (DCO 2021)

Aveiro, Portugal, 3-5 February, 2021

Website

The Dynamic Control and Optimization International Conference 2021 (DCO 2021) will take place at University of Aveiro, Campus of Santiago, from 3 to 5 February, 2021 (Wednsday-Friday). The conference is dedicated to the 65th birthday of **Andrey V. Sarychev**, Professor in University of Aveiro until 2002.

The conference will consist of **invited plenary talks** (40 minutes + 5 minutes of q&a) and contributed paper presentations (20 minutes + 5 minutes of q&a).
Selected full papers of this conference will be published in an international journal.

Due to the COVID-19 situation and the possible lockdown, the conference is planned to be held in two simultaneous ways:
*attended at the University of Aveiro, Aveiro, Portugal;
*virtually using Zoom

To ensure that all conference attendees have access to all sessions, it is planned to transmit the sessions online or provide access to their recordings.

Regardless of how we handle the conference, we want to assure everyone that there will be a forum for contributors to share their work and participants to learn and network.

EWG Hope, EURO working group on Humanitarian Operations

EURO HOpe conference

Helsinki, Finland, March, 2021

EURO HOpe conference date has changed to March 2021

Due to the pandemics the EURO Hope conference has been postponed, new date is Spring 2021 (exact days will be confirmed).

The European Working Group on Humanitarian Logistics (EURO HOpe) and the HUMLOG Institute at Hanken School of Economics are planning the fifth EURO HOpe mini conference in Helsinki, Finland.

Main theme of 2021 conference is: Financial, Cash and Voucher Assistance in Humanitarian Supply Chains.
Other topics including, but not limited to:
- Factors that influence modality selection
- Technology-based solutions for cash and voucher assistance
- Local procurement in humanitarian supply chains
- Market assessment and resilience of local supply chains and infrastructure
- The business models of preparedness and prevention for sustainable operations
-

We hope to be able to welcome researchers and practitioners to interesting presentations and discussion on how to improve humanitarian response in an increasingly complex and dynamic world.

We are monitoring the COVID-19 situation and will send out the final confirmation and Call for Papers as soon as possible. More information to follow!

UK Operational Research Society

10th Anniversary Simulation Workshop 2021 (SW21)

Loughborough, UK, 22-24 March, 2021

Website

The postponed 10th anniversary Simulation Workshop has been rescheduled to run on Mon 22 – Wed 24 Mar 2021 at the Burleigh Court Conference Centre & Hotel in Loughborough. To reflect the change of year it will be called SW21.

Authors of already accepted papers have the option to retain their submissions. We are now inviting new paper submissions and posters, presenting academic research and industrial case studies in the field of modelling & simulation. More details are in the CFP attached.

There will be a special track dedicated to the topic of the COVID-19 pandemic. We invite submissions related to this theme.

Deadline for submitting new papers: **October 2, 2020**
Deadline for submitting new posters (title & abstract): January 12, 2021
Submissions to be made through EasyChair: **https://easychair.org/conferences/?conf=sw21**

META'2021 - International Conference on Metaheuristics and Nature Inspired Computing

Marrakech, Morocco, 5-8 April, 2021

Website

META is one of the most popular conference focusing in the area of metaheuristics and their applications. As in the previous six editions, META will provide an opportunity to the international research community in metaheuristics for optimization and machine learning to discuss recent research results, to develop new ideas and collaborations, and to meet researchers from diverse countries in a friendly and excellent atmosphere.

META welcomes submissions that cover any aspects of metaheuristic research such as new algorithmic design and implementation, real-life and academic applications in science and industry, theoretical developments, and experimental analysis. META strives for a high-quality program completed by a number of tutorials, workshops and special sessions.

Submission papers: We will accept submissions in three different formats:
- S1: Extended abstracts of work-in-progress and position papers of a maximum of 3 pages

- S2: Original research contributions of a maximum of 10 pages
- S3: High-quality manuscripts that have recently, within the last year, been submitted or accepted for journal publication

Important dates:
Invited session organization Oct 1, 2020
Paper submission deadline **Oct 16, 2020**
Notification of acceptance Dec 11, 2020

EWG EU/ME, EURO Working Group on Metaheuristics

5th International Conference on Intelligent Systems, Metaheuristics & Swarm Intelligence (ISMSI 2021)

Victoria, Seychelles, 10-11 April, 2021

Website

The main objective of ISMSI 2021 is to present the latest research and results of scientists related to Intelligent Systems, Metaheuristics & Swarm Intelligence topics. This conference provides opportunities for the delegates to exchange new ideas face-to-face, to establish business or research relations as well as to find global partners for future collaborations. We hope that the conference results will lead to significant contributions to the knowledge in these up- to- date scientific fields.

Technically Sponsored by EU/ME, the Euro Working Group on Metaheuristics

All the authors are to submit your full papers or abstracts (in case of poster presentation) to us via the **Easychair Submission System**. Papers must be submitted electronically in PDF format.
1. To publish the full paper into conference proceedings & give the oral presentations, please send us the full paper.
2. To give an oral presentation without publication, please just send us the abstract.

Important Dates
Submission Deadline **November 20, 2020**
Acceptance Notification December 15, 2020
Registration Deadline January 5, 2021
Conference Dates April 10-11, 2021
Why should you attend ISMSI 2021?
- Learn about products, implementation strategies, industry trends
- Build Relationship with Colleagues who are Specialists in Different Areas of Intelligent Systems, Metaheuristics & Swarm Intelligence
- Share your experiences and lessons learned with other enthusiasts
- Discover innovative solutions to enhance the performance
- Maximize returns on investment for system upgrades, operations, and maintenance

EWG PMS, EURO Working Group on Project Management and Scheduling

The 17th International Workshop on Project Management and Scheduling (PMS)

Toulouse, France, 21-23 April, 2021

Website

PMS is an international Workshop series initialized by the EURO PMS Working Group, devoted to project management and scheduling. The Workshop is held every two years in different locations around Europe. This event brings together researchers and practitioners from different disciplines of Computer Science, Operational Research, Optimisation Engineering, Mathematical Programming and Industrial Engineering. The Workshop covers theoretical results and algorithmic developments in the fields of Project Management and Scheduling, including

project management and scheduling practice and applications to real-life situations.

Confirmed plenary speakers (abstracts available on the web site):
* * **Stéphane Dauzère-Pérès** (Ecole des Mines de Saint-Etienne) - Modeling and solving complex job-shop scheduling problems
** **Marjan van den Akker** (Utrecht University) - Robustness in Scheduling
** **Mario Vanhoucke** (Ghent University) - Data Driven Project Management

Confirmed industrial plenary talk (abstract available on the web site)
** **Philippe Laborie** (IBM) - Industrial project and machine scheduling with Constraint Programming

EWG DSS, EURO Working Group on Decision Support Systems

7th International Conference on Decision Support System Technology (ICDSST 2021)

Loughborough, UK, 26-28 May, 2021

EWG
DSS
DECISION SUPPORT SYSTEMS

Website

Topic: Decision Support Systems, Analytics and Technologies in response to Global Crisis Management

The **EURO Working Group on Decision Support Systems** invites you to participate in the ICDSST 2021 International Conference on Decision Support System Technology on Decision Support Systems, Analytics and Technologies in response to Global Crisis Management in Loughborough, UK. The Conference will be hosted at the School of Business and Economics, Loughborough University, during the period of May 26th to May 28th, 2021.

The Organizing Committee of the ICDSST 2021 invites researchers, developers and specialists in the related areas of decision making, including its methodologies and technologies, as well as application oriented practitioners directed to the implementation of solutions for DSS challenges to submit their work to the ICDSST 2021.
Authors are requested to submit full papers, short papers or posters.
All papers and posters should be submitted to the ICDSST 2021 via the following EasyChair account:
https://easychair.org/conferences/?conf=icdsst2021.

Deadlines for Submissions:
Submission of full papers: **30 November 2020**
Notification of acceptance: 15 February 2021
Camera ready version: 28 February 2021
Submission of short papers: 1 March 2021
Notification of acceptance: 9 April 2021
Camera ready version: 20 April 2021
Submission of posters: 15 March 2021
Notification of acceptance: 9 April 2021
Camera ready version: 20 April 2021

Odysseus 2021, the 8th Workshop on Freight Transportation and Logistics

Tangier, Morocco, 31 May - 4 June 2021

Website

We kindly invite you to Odysseus 2021, the 8th Workshop on Freight Transportation and Logistics, which will be held from May 31 to June 4, 2021 in Tangier, Morocco. The submissions for Odysseus 2021 are now open. The deadline for the submission of extended abstracts is **October 18th, 2020**.

The extended abstracts should be written in English and not exceed 4 pages. The extended abstracts will be peer-reviewed. The acceptance of the contributions will be based on originality of the work, suitability regarding the main topic of the workshop, and overall quality of the submission.

EWG ECCO, EURO Working Group on Combinatorial Optimization

ECCO XXXIV, the 34th Conference of the European Chapter on Combinatorial Optimization

Madrid, Spain, 9-11 June, 2021

Website

The ECCO annual meetings aim to bring together researchers in the field of Combinatorial Optimization to present their work, share experiences, and discuss recent advances in theory and applications. The primary objectives are:

- exchanging results and experiences in solving real-world combinatorial optimization problems
- reporting on development and implementation of appropriate models and efficient solution methods for combinatorial optimization problems
- establishing networking contacts between individuals and research groups working on related topics
- promoting the work on combinatorial optimization (theory and applications) to the broader scientific community
- identifying challenging research problems for the field, as well as promising research outlets (both in theory and applications)
- promoting interactions with researchers in other related fields

Confirmed plenary speakers:
Martine Labbé
Mihalis Yannakakis

The conference budget includes a limited amount of funds for fee waivers for PhD students. Priority will be given to students presenting their work at the conference.

Important Dates
February 1, 2021: Abstract submission deadline
March 1, 2021: Notification of Acceptance.
March 15, 2021: Early registration deadline.
May 15, 2021: Registration deadline.

EWG EUROPT, EURO Working Group on Continuous Optimization

18th Workshop on Advances in Continuous Optimization

Toulouse, France, 7-9 July, 2021

Website

SAVE THE DATE

EUROPT 2021, the 18th international workshop on continuous optimization will take place in Toulouse, France.

The workshop is the annual event of the EUROPT **continuous optimization working group** of EURO (The Association of European Operational Research Societies).

It will be hosted at ENAC (Ecole Nationale de l'Aviation Civile), the french National School of Civil Aviation.

Publications

Mathematical Methods of Operations Research

Special Issue: Call for Papers onEnergy Networks

Website

Energy networks represent one of the main backbones of modern infrastructures. Their operation requires complex decision making including economic, environmental, sociological, as well as fairness aspects. Some of the mathematical challenges arise from the fact that energy networks are usually large-scale, the relevant laws of physics are nonlinear, the control actions are of mixed discrete-continuous nature, and various sources of uncertainties are present. The aim of this special issue is to extend and broaden the mathematical methodologies in modelling, simulation, and optimization for energy networks. Preference will be given to high-quality contributions with new results on mathematical operations research methods for energy networks broadly interpreted.

Of great interest for this special issue are topics around energy network design, energy transportation, energy markets and energy sector coupling.

Please submit manuscripts through the Springer online system (if you are a new author to the system you will be required to create a system login) **https://www.editorialmanager.com/mmor** and, when asked to "Choose Article Type", select "**S.I.: Energy Networks**".
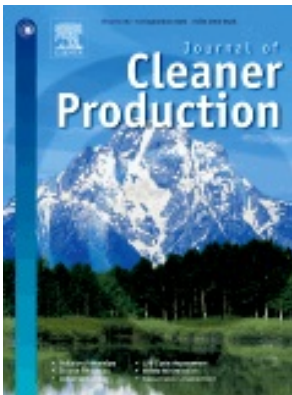
Journal of Cleaner Production

Special Issue: Call for Papers on Sustainable food supply chains – Emerging technologies and strategies toward low-carbon ecosystems

Website

Climate change is massively altering the dynamics of natural ecosystems. These systems are collapsing under an increasing human pressure, resulting in pollution of air, water, and soil as well as unsustainable exploitation of non-renewable natural and abiotic resources. Meanwhile, population growth and rising per-capita consumption of animal products is expected to double global food demand by 2050 (Koning and Van Ittersum, 2009). The agri-food industry, heavily tied to climate issues and dependent on natural ecosystems, is growing and expanding to fulfil this food demand, hereby exacerbating the environmental pressure and burdening this vicious cycle.

These trends result in many challenges in managing food supply chains: from cultivating agricultural materials to food treatment, processing, and distribution, as well as packaging, storage, and the valorization of by-products and wastes. A new holistic design and management paradigm, able to transcend the boundaries of the current practice and methodologies and to shift the focus from the pure profitability of food operations to their environmental and social externalities, is expected.

Indeed, sustainable food supply chains must address food security, promote environmentally sustainable development, and balance growers and consumers participation with ecosystem services and biodiversity (FACCE-JPI, 2011).

These ambitious challenges require always more holistic and multi-disciplinary support-decision tools for optimizing and greening the entire food supply chain as a spatially unbounded ecosystem.

This Special Issue aims at collecting emerging models, methods, and decision support tools, but also advanced technology able to incorporate environmental sustainability targets in the design and operation of food supply chain ecosystems. Articles are allowed to focus on part of the supply chain, but are expected to place their work in the context of the larger food supply chain, using environmental sustainability as the primary lens of assessment. Preference will be given to those contributions providing quantitative methodologies and practical tools able to

measure and reduce the environmental pressure of food industries.

Furthermore, this Special Issue values interdisciplinarity, and is intended for researchers operating in the wide field of food and agricultural ecosystems, connecting disciplines like decision sciences, data sciences, energy engineering, industrial engineering, environmental engineering, packaging and material science, and agricultural science.

Journal of the Operational Research Society

Special Issue: Call for Papers on Operational Research in times of crisis: Experiences with COVID-19

Guest Editors: **John Boylan, Martin H. Kunc, Said Salhi, Zhe George Zhang**

Deadline for submission: **November 1, 2020**

Website

The history of OR began in the times of crisis when scientific research was used to improve military operations. One of the founders of OR, Patrick Blackett, advocated for scientists to advise on matters of strategy and tactics. Since the war, OR has spread into business, government, public services, education, defence and beyond, improving performance and helping people make evidence-based decisions.

Most of the problems OR tackles are messy and complex, often involving considerable uncertainty. OR uses advanced analytics, modelling, problem structuring, simulation, optimisation and data science to determine the best solution to the problem and the best practical course of action. OR is also called the Science of Better. Science of Better implies improving business, government, society, etc., by using models, proposing interventions, implementing them, and determining the actual improvements.

COVID-19 represents an unprecedented time of crisis and OR scholars and practitioners have taken an active role in developing models, proposing interventions and implementing them during this time. This special issue (SI) will publish rigorous accounts of OR practice through high quality, original papers not published or submitted elsewhere.

We are interested especially in:
1. The interplay between models and judgement. In times of crisis, judgements are important in scoping a problem, making forecasts, and assessing the impact of alternative actions. In all of these areas, data may be scarce and so judgement is inescapable, but well-designed models can reflect, inform, and challenge these judgements.
2. OR tackles messy and complex problems that may require the combination of one or more methods. Applications of multiple OR and non-OR methods that provide strong advancements of OR theory and methodology. Applications from interdisciplinary teams using relevant data and multiple perspectives.
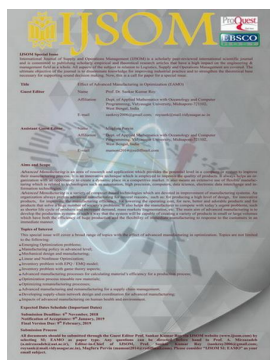
International Journal of Supply and Operations Management

Special Issue: Call for Papers on Managing supply chain and logistics systems in COVID-19 situation

Guest Editors: **Gerhard-Wilhelm Weber, Vijay Kumar, Rahul S Mor, Aalok Kumar**

Deadline for submission: **November 30, 2020**

The Coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic is testing the supply chain and logistics systems like no other crisis in recent history and the current situation due to COVID-19 necessitates agile supply chain planning to minimize disruptions and nourishing a balance in demand & supply systems.

This kind of planning allows manufacturing and service organizations to make strategic, timely, and fact-based decisions to meet their corporate goals. The pandemic has affected the global economies very badly and the resulting disruptions are now a challenge for such organizations to get their supply chain and logistics systems back on the right track. This has evolved to vast uncertainties in demand and supply equations, transportation & trade restrictions, change in consumers' behavior, stock-outs, etc. To overcome such challenges, organizations now

need unprecedented efforts in managing their supply chain and logistics operations including procurement, manufacturing, service operations, distribution, etc. Significant changes in demand and supply create more crisis than opportunities for existing supply chain & logistics to manage through. All the same, the COVID-19 pandemic has evolved to technological innovations, alternate and sustainable business strategies, and most importantly, digital technologies and artificial intelligence. The sustainable consumption and production of manufacturing and service operations is a prime research agenda currently, and the studies having practical and managerial implications can help manage the supply chain and logistics systems, and hence strengthening global economies in this crisis. Thus, this special issue attempts to report the challenges and strategic supply chain & logistics systems that help in managing through disruptions. The issue would be instrumental in managing supply chain and logistical systems for the manufacturing & service organizations as well as for academia by discussing empirical models with implications.

Topics of Interest (Please list core topics of your special issue)
The papers correlating 'COVID-19 and supply chain & logistics' issues and proposing strategic systems on the following topics, but not limited to, are welcome:
*Sourcing, manufacturing, material management and distribution during COVID-19
*Artificial intelligence and expert systems technologies and issues in pandemics
*Stochastic models for designing the supply chain network in pandemics
*Supply chain traceability issues in pandemics
*Capacity analysis and optimization methods
*Simulation and system-dynamic models
*Technological innovations and in-depth case studies
*Multi-criteria decision-making for supply chain resilience
*Management information systems and performance measurement
*Big data analytics to optimize supply chain & logistics decisions
*Demand forecasting, allocation and rationing, transportation
*Factors attributing to change in consumers' behavior in pandemics

Regarding the submission guidelines and other details, authors should refer to
http://www.ijsom.com/journal/authors.note

Algorithms

Special Issue: Call for Papers on Stochastic Algorithms and their Applications in Statistical Learning

Guest Editor: **Stephanie Allassonniere**

Deadline for submission: **November 30, 2020**

Website

We are looking for new developments on stochastic algorithms, including stochastic gradient descent and expectation–maximization algorithms, and their applications in computer vision (CV), natural language processing (NLP), and targeting emerging applications.

We warmly welcome submissions, including original research papers and reviews, on this topic.

EURO Journal on Transportation and Logistics

Special Issue: Call for Papers on Advances in Facility Location and Logistics

Guest Editors: **Isabel Correia, Teresa Melo, Olivier Péton**

Deadline for submission: **December 15, 2020**

Website

In recent years, advances in technology have had a tremendous impact on transportation and logistics systems.

Digital transformation, data analytics, cloud computing, and new business models are creating new challenges and opportunities, also for Operational Researchers. At the same time, social and environmental sustainability are also affecting how logistics systems and supply chain networks are configured and operated. Operational Research can make a valuable contribution to improving the quality of decision-making through developing new optimization models and solution techniques that capture the complexity of the new problems and interactions among different parts of the supply chain.

This special issue aims to publish original, high-quality manuscripts presenting innovative research and addressing theoretical achievements, algorithmic development, and real-world applications in the context of logistics, with a special focus on facility location.

Topics of interest
Papers submitted to this special issue should include facility location models and solution methods. The list of possible fields comprises (but is not limited to):
- Applications, e.g. in health care, in the public sector
- Data-driven approaches
- Design of innovative logistics systems
- Green logistics
- Humanitarian logistics
- Integration of location decisions with logistics operations (e.g. location-routing, location-inventory)
- Intralogistics
- Reverse logistics
- Supply chain design and service network design

Manuscript Preparation and Reviewing
Prospective authors are asked to follow the journal's guide for authors:
(**https://www.elsevier.com/journals/euro-journal-on-transportation-and-logistics/2192-4376/guide-for-authors**) and submit their papers via the editorial site (**https://www.editorialmanager.com/jtl/default.aspx**). Please select "Advances in Facility Location and Logistics" as the "Article Type" during the submission process. Submitted papers should not have previously been published nor be currently under consideration for publication elsewhere.

Submitted papers will undergo a regular review process according to the high standards of EJTL.

The EURO Journal on Transportation and Logistics is an open access journal that offers a forum for the presentation of original mathematical models, methodologies and computational results, focusing on advanced applications in transportation and logistics. The journal is published in collaboration with the Association of European Operational Research Societies (EURO). For articles submitted by 31 December 2021, EURO covers the open access Article Publishing Charge (APC) fee.

International Journal of Physical Distribution & Logistics Management

Special Issue: Call for Papers on Supply Chain Management in an Era of Reglobalization

Guest Editors: **Sobhan (Sean) Asian, Tsan-Ming Choi (Jason), Richard Oloruntoba**

Deadline for submission: **December 31, 2020**

Website

Global supply chains (GSCs), which emerged from and thrived with globalization, are associated with technological changes and affected by industrial and trade policies. One lesser-known fact is that the cycle of globalization took place in waves, each has sequentially been followed by a downturn that eventually reshaped the cross-border flow of goods, capital, and people (Martin et al., 2018; Witt, 2019). The so-called second phase of globalization, which was empowered largely by the ICT revolution and politico-economical openness, has evidently faltered and slowed in the post-2008 financial crisis (The Economist, 2019). Recent development of trade tensions, such as the U.S.-China conflict, the Brexit process, Japan-South Korea trade dispute, and other business dynamics towards deglobalization (Hendry et al., 2019; Witt, 2019) are readily affecting and will continue to affect GSCs (Lund et al., 2019).

Despite widespread research on GSCs, the O&SCM literature has so far seen only a limited discussion of impacts of reglobalization on SCs and possible implications (Charpin, 2018; Dong and Kouvelis, 2019). How can modern SCs capitalize on breakthrough technologies and enhancing infrastructure connectivity, and adopt inclusive mechanisms to counterbalance the losses from deglobalization and pave new frontiers? Will this give rise to new SC strategies, cultivate innovations, and flourish opportunities for the SCs of the future? Will the interaction between evolving trade policies, technology advancing and progressing logistics connectivity reshape and give rise to new forms of SCs? Can overall economic benefits of resultant reglobalized SCs be maximized, while also paying regard to domestic social welfare? Will reconfigured SCs be able to preserve their minimum level of horizontal

ownership, yet gain the benefits of both globalization and deglobalization at an equilibrium? Or will we observe regionally-integrated SCs more at the expense of deglobalization?

Special Issue: Call for Papers on Sustainability in Synchromodal Logistics and Transportation

sustainability

Guest Editors: **Daniele Manerba, An Caris**

Deadline for submission: **December 31, 2020**

Synchromodal logistics and transportation has recently emerged as a paradigm able to improve flexibility in long-haul supply chains, cooperation among stakeholders, and efficient utilization of resources. In fact, as supply-chain management is becoming strongly demand driven, logistics service providers (LSPs) are forced to use real-time information efficiently and integrate new technologies into their business.

Synchromodality is an evolution of other well-known transportation paradigms such as intermodality, multimodality, and co-modality, mainly developed and established in the Benelux region during the last decade. Synchromodality can be seen as the provision of efficient, reliable, flexible, and sustainable services through the coordination and cooperation of stakeholders and the synchronization of operations within one or more supply-chains driven by information and communication technologies (ICT) and intelligent transportation system (ITS) technologies.

Since the environmental, social, and economic sustainability is a strong driver for the development and implementation of synchromodal solutions, all the business strategies, the planification, and the optimization of classical logistics operations should be all redefined and studied under this perspective. Hence, this Special Issue mainly focuses on presenting new developments and scientific works from different fields (e.g., operations research, operation management, transportation engineering, ICT) that can provide innovative contributions in the sustainable adoption of logistics solutions taking into account specific aspects regarding synchromodality (e.g., flow synchronization, dynamic and real-time optimization, LSP integration and cooperation, a-modal booking, etc.).
We kindly invite you to submit a manuscript for this Special Issue. Covered topics include (but are not limited to) business and operational models, ports, and inter-ports management, planning and design problems, real-time optimization, ICT solutions and decision support systems in synchromodal logistics and transportation environments.

Research papers, short communications, and reviews are all taken into consideration. Moreover, scientific articles reporting on the results of research projects or real case implementations concerning synchromodality are also welcome.

Prizes and Awards

George B. Dantzig Prize - Nomination Deadline: October 15, 2020

siam.

Prize Description
The George B. Dantzig Prize is awarded ever three years to one or more individuals for original research which by its originality, breadth, and depth is having a major impact on the field of mathematical optimization. MOS administers the prize and it is awarded jointly by MOS and SIAM.

Eligibility Criteria
The George B. Dantzig Prize may be awarded to any member of the scientific community who meets the general guideline of the prize description. The contribution(s) for which the award is made must be publicly available and may belong to any aspect of mathematical optimization in its broadest sense.

Required Materials
- Nominator's letter of recommendation for candidate
- CV of the candidate

Lagrange Prize in Continuous Optimization:

SIAM

Prize Description

The Lagrange Prize in Continuous Optimization is awarded every three years for an outstanding contribution in the area of continuous optimization published in the six calendar years prior to the award year. The MOS administers the prize and it is awarded jointly by MOS and SIAM.

The award is based primarily on the work's mathematical quality, significance, and originality. Clarity and excellence of the exposition and the value of the work in practical applications may be considered as secondary attributes. The extended period of six years reflects the fact that the value of fundamental work cannot always be immediately assessed.

Eligibility Criteria

The work must have been published as the final publication of the main result(s) within the six calendar years preceding the award year. The work should be published as an article in a peer-reviewed journal, or other peer-reviewed publication, intended to publish final papers only; or as a monograph publishing original results.

For the 2021 award, the work must have been published between the dates of January 1, 2015 – December 31, 2020.

Required Materials

- Nominator's letter of recommendation for candidate publication
- Bibliographic citation of the publication to be considered

16th annual "COIN-OR Cup"

CALL FOR NOMINATIONS: 16th annual "COIN-OR Cup" competition sponsored by the COIN-OR Foundation.

The COIN-OR Cup recognizes and celebrates the best contributions to open source operations research software development and use associated with the COIN-OR software collection. To remind you, COIN-OR stands for "COmputational INfrastructure for OPerations Research". It is the definitive collection of free open source operations research software that lets you concentrate on your research instead of re-implementing software. See **https://www.coin-or.org**. Get on board!

GUIDELINES FOR COIN-OR CUP SUBMISSIONS:

A submission or nomination must contain:

1. A synopsis of an effective use of COIN-OR or valuable contribution to COIN-OR (or both!), including an explanation of its significance. Maximum 3 pages (pdf format).
2. Copies of relevant papers or documents (pdf format).

We especially encourage nominations describing effective use of COIN-OR that the community may not know about.

Self-nominations are welcome and encouraged.

Submission deadline: **Friday, October 23, 2020**.

Please e-mail your submissions to **coin-cup@coin-or.org** in a single zipped archive, containing a description of your submission and copies of all relevant papers/documents in pdf format.

The 2020 COIN-OR Cup will be awarded at a celebration on Monday, November 16 after the INFORMS Annual meeting, which will be held virtually this year. All entrants, supporters, and other interested parties are welcome to join the celebration! Details of the event will be announced later.

Twelfth DIMACS Implementation Challenge: Vehicle Routing Problems. Held in Memory of David S. Johnson

The 12th DIMACS Implementation Challenge on the Vehicle Routing Problem has officially launched!

The website is not yet complete as we continue to add details, but I want to call your attention to the CVRP variant.

The test instances and rules are posted, and Eduardo Uchoa (leader for CVRP) is ready to roll. Other variants are nearly complete.

The date for the concluding workshop is now set for June 14-16, 2021. Given the collaborative nature of the Implementation Challenges, we hope for it to be in person, but we will adjust our plans as needed.

So...check out the website, follow the VRP Challenge on twitter (@DIMACSChallenge), and stay tuned for more.

Upcoming Conferences

Click on the table below to download a pdf of upcoming events