EURO Newsletter # 85
October 15, 2020

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 Słowiński.

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>Risk Management for Pension Funds</u>
*<u>Even Convexity and Optimization</u>
*<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**

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 Journal on Computational Optimization

Welcome to New Editor-in-Chief

The EURO Executive Committee are extremely pleased to announce that Professor Immanuel Bomze has accepted the position of Editor-in-Chief of the EURO Journal on Computational Optimization. Immanuel is eminent in the field of continuous optimization and has vast experience as a former editor of the European Journal of Operational Research. Immanuel will also retain close contact with EURO as Past EURO President. He will make an excellent Editor-in-Chief taking the journal forward into the future.

We also want to take this opportunity to thank Professor Martine Labbé for her dedication and leadership as Editor-in-Chief since the journal was formed in 2012. Her vision and hard work, together with strong support of the entire Editorial Board, have helped make the EURO Journal on Computational Optimization a successful and highly reputable journal. We are grateful to Martine also for helping with the transition period before Immanuel formally takes over the role. We are sad to say goodbye to Martine in this role but wish her every success.

It will be an exciting time and we look forward to supporting Immanuel in continuing to strengthen the reputation of the journal, which will transfer to Elsevier in January 2021.

IFORS Global Webinar Series

O.R. In Europe: Topics that Matter

November 30th 2020, 15:00 UTC+1/CET

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.

Call for Applications for the EURO Excellence in Practice Award 2021

Website

All interested authors are invited to submit a detailed description of an application of OR with a real impact on practice, which has original features, whether in methodology, field of application and/or implementation. This may be in the form of a paper written for publication (although not necessarily published at the time of submission), a client report, or other appropriate documentation. The documentation must describe the work in a way that illustrates how it meets the criteria outlined below. The age limit for published papers is four years. The work must not have been submitted concurrently to another competition. The application is open to OR specialists from any part of the world. Please also check the **guidelines**.

The criteria for the evaluation of the submissions are:
- the real impact on practice,
- the scientific quality of the paper,
- the relevance to Operational Research,
- the appreciation by the organisation involved with the application,
- the originality in methodology, implementations and/or field of application.

Letters of appreciation are important.

The jury selects a shortlist of finalists who will present their work in a special session at the 31st European Conference on Operational Research in Athens. There is no registration fee for one author of each of the finalist presentations. The winner will be determined by the jury at the end of the special session and will be announced by the chair of the jury during the closing session of the EURO 2021 Conference.

Applications should be submitted (as a zip file or equivalent single submission) online **http://www.euro-online.org/awards/eepa2021/registration.php** by the deadline of **January 31, 2021**.

Call for Applications for the EURO Doctoral Dissertation Award 2021

The EDDA 2021 jury will only consider dissertations in Operational Research defended between 1 February 2019 and 31 January 2021. The dissertation must have been defended in a University located in a **member country of EURO**. The author of the dissertation must be a member of a member society of EURO.

To be considered, a dissertation should be nominated by the supervisor of the thesis (one of them in case of multiple supervisors). The supervisor of the dissertation is asked to provide the jury with the following information:

1. The text of the dissertation;
2. An extended abstract (3 to 5 pages) of the dissertation; this abstract should be written in English and should include precise keywords;
3. If the dissertation is not in English, a paper in English which has been authored or co-authored by the candidate and which describes the core ideas of the dissertation. This paper should preferably have been published in or submitted to an international journal;
4. Nomination letters (or reports) from two referees selected by the dissertation supervisor, supporting the submission and stating their assessment of why the dissertation should win the award;
5. An up-to-date CV of the candidate, including a list of publications.

No nomination will be considered without these items. Please also check the **guidelines**.

Since many doctoral dissertations in OR are defended each year only outstanding pieces of work are expected to be submitted. The jury would like to remind supervisors that only high-quality theses might have a chance of winning the award.

The jury selects a shortlist of finalists who will present their work in a special session at the 31st European Conference on Operational Research in Athens. There is no registration fee for each finalist. EURO will also contribute to the travel and accommodation expenses. The winner will be determined by the jury at the end of the special session and will be announced by the chair of the jury during the closing session of the EURO 2021 Conference.

Applications should be submitted (as a zip file or equivalent single submission) online **http://www.euro-online.org/awards/edda2021/registration.php** by the deadline of **January 31, 2021**.

EURO Support for
NATCOR Bursaries 2021

NATCOR (**http://www.natcor.ac.uk/**), a National Taught Course Centre in Operational Research, delivers taught courses to PhD students, from across Europe, on a number of different topics in OR. In 2021, it is anticipated that all courses will be offered online, at least until summer, with the potential for residential courses in the UK after that time. EURO is advertising a competition for bursaries. The NATCOR course fees and accommodation (if applicable) will be funded by EURO for successful candidates. (Typically, accommodation for any residential courses will be for bed and breakfast). Any extra costs incurred will need to be settled personally.

Eligibility
Applicants must be PhD students, from one of the EURO member countries or studying in one of the EURO member countries (see **https://www.euro-online.org/web/pages/1457/current-member-societies**). Applicants must have good English Language skills as all NATCOR courses will be in English. Preference will be given to students in their first or second years but all are welcome to apply. Preference will also be given to applicants who have not previously received support from EURO for NATCOR or other PhD schools.

Application
To apply for a bursary, candidates from a EURO member society country, or studying in a EURO member society country, should submit a zip file containing the application form, their curriculum vitae (including their academic track record), a letter outlining their motivation to attend, and a letter of recommendation from their supervisor. Applicants should declare on their application if they are receiving any additional support from their PhD funding body or other sponsor.

Selection Process
The EURO VP2 selects and ranks (in the case of more than one accepted from the same country) the candidates. When accepting the candidates the VP2 should aim at a good distribution of the participants among the EURO member societies.

Current Call - Important Dates

Submit documents (see above) to **https://www.euro-online.org/awards/natcor2021/registration.php**.
Deadline for applications: **January 20, 2021**
Notification of acceptance: February 15, 2021

Call for Nominations

Editor-in-Chief - Sustainability Analytics and Modeling (SAM)

Deadline for Nominations: 31st of October 2020

IFORS is launching a new journal together with Elsevier,/Sustainability Analytics and Modeling (SAM)/, and is seeking candidates for the inaugural editor-in-chief. The search committee intends to propose a candidate for approval by IFORS by end of November 2020.

Qualifications for the editor-in-chief of/Sustainability Analytics and Modeling/ include:

* demonstrated interest in a broad range of topics and methods related to sustainability analytics and modeling,
* demonstrated record of excellence in interdisciplinary research,
* significant prior editorial experience in high-quality journals,
* vision for the new journal, for the intersection of sustainability analytics modeling and operational research, and for the role of scholarly publications in the electronic and open-access age,
* commitment to the workload involved,
* ability to effectively and efficiently manage the editorial process, and
* strong communication skills and demonstrated ability to work with and lead groups of people.

Members of the search committee

* Rosiane de Freitas, VP representing ALIO, Federal University of Amazonas
* Karla Hoffman, VP representing NORAM, George Mason University
* Stefan Nickel, VP representing EURO, Karlsruhe Institute of Technology
* Sunity Shrestha Hada, VP representing APORS, Tribhuvan University
* Grazia Speranza, IFORS President, University of Brescia

Please submit nominations (including self-nominations), comments, and recommendations by **31st of October 2020**. The information may be sent by email to the chair of the Editorial Search Committee:

Stefan Nickel
Stefan.Nickel@kit.edu

Conferences, Schools and Meetings

Italian Operations Research Society

ODS 2020 - Operations Research, Machine Learning, and Analytics

ONLINE, 19 November, 2020

[Website]

The Program Committee of the International Conference on Optimization and Decision Sciences 2020 is very glad to announce the first Call for Papers. The ODS 2020, International Conference, will be held in a virtual presence on the 19th of November 2020.

The deadline for submission of abstracts is **October 30th, 2020**.

ODS2020 Programme Committee will select the contributions to be presented and included in the e-book of Abstracts published by Springer.
An accepted abstract will be included in the e-book of Abstracts only if the registration (and payment) of the corresponding author has been concluded within the registration deadline.

A participant can present only one contribution (abstract). Hence a participant can submit as a corresponding author only one abstract.

Joint ACP, CNRS, GDR IA and RO International Autumn School on Constraint Programming, Combinatorial Optimization and Machine Learning

ONLINE/Toulouse, France, 24-27 November, 2020

Website

The international autumn school on Constraint Programming, Combinatorial Optimization and Machine Learning is a joint autumn school of the Association for Constraint Programming (ACP) and 4 working groups of the CNRS research networks on Artificial Intelligence (GDR IA) and Operations Research (GDR RO). These working groups are CAVIAR (Constraints and Learning), RAP (Representation and Algorithms in Practice), ROCT (Operations Research and Constraints), GT2L (Transportation and Logistics). The Artificial and Natural Intelligence Toulouse Institute (ANITI) is also co-organizer. The purpose of the school is, first, to cover the basics of Constraint programming, Discrete Optimization and Machine learning and, second, to present advanced combinations of at least two approaches to attack complex problems. Applications in scheduling and vehicle routing will be addressed. Training sessions and software tutorials will be organized.

The school will take place at LAAS-CNRS, 7 avenue du Colonel Roche 31031 Toulouse France from 24 to 27 November 2020.

There will be two possible participation modes:
- online participation
- onsite participation (limited number of persons subject to future unknown restrictions)

Registration if free in both cases. Please register by following instructions on the school web site.

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 (Wednesday-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.

Abstract submission deadline: **December 1, 2020**

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.

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 16, 2020**
Deadline for submitting new posters (title & abstract): January 12, 2021
Submissions to be made through EasyChair: **https://easychair.org/conferences/?conf=sw21**

EvoCOP 2021 - The 21st European Conference on Evolutionary Computation in Combinatorial Optimisation

Seville, Spain, 7-9 April, 2021

Website

The 21st European Conference on Evolutionary Computation in Combinatorial Optimisation is a multidisciplinary conference that brings together researchers working on applications and theory of evolutionary computation methods and other metaheuristics for solving difficult combinatorial optimisation problems appearing in various industrial, economic, and scientific domains.

The EvoCOP 2021 conference will be held in the city of Seville, Spain, together with EuroGP (the 24th European Conference on Genetic Programming), EvoMUSART (the 10th European conference on evolutionary and biologically inspired music, sound, art and design) and EvoApplications (the 24th European Conference on the Applications of Evolutionary Computation), in a joint event collectively known as EvoStar (Evo*).

EvoCOP welcomes submissions in all experimental and theoretical aspects of evolutionary computation and other metaheuristics to combinatorial optimisation problems

Notice that, by tradition, continuous/numerical optimisation is *not* part of the topics of interest of EvoCOP. Interested authors might consider submitting to other EvoStar conferences such as EvoApplications.

Paper submissions must be original and not published elsewhere. The submissions will be peer reviewed by members of the program committee. The reviewing process will be double-blind, please omit information about the authors in the submitted paper. Submit your manuscript in Springer LNCS format:
http://www.springer.com/computer/lncs?SGWID=0-164-6-793341-0

Page limit: 16 pages

Submission deadline: **November 1, 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

UK Operational Research Society

3rd IMA and OR Society Conference on Mathematics of Operational Research

Birmingham, UK, 22-23 April, 2021

Website

Innovating Mathematics for New Industrial Challenges

CALL FOR PAPERS AND POSTERS

Building on the success of the two previous conferences held in 2017 and 2019 this conference will draw together the considerable community of researchers and practitioners who develop new mathematics of relevance to, and

which underpin applications in Operational Research (OR). It will take a comprehensive view, it will showcase activity from across OR, and will welcome both contributions which have a clear application focus as well as those which are theoretically driven.

Contributions will be expected to showcase both significant new mathematics and OR relevance. The conference will host plenaries from leading international experts.

Invited Speakers
Jakob Blaavand (The Smith Institute)
Claudia D'Ambrosio (École Polytechnique, Paris)
Kevin Glazebrook (Lancaster University)
Nick Harris (Dstl)
Dolores Romero Morales (Copenhagen Business School)

Professor Edmund Burke (University of Leicester), President of the Operational Research Society will be giving an after dinner speech on the evening of the 22nd April 2021.

Call for Papers: Papers will be considered for the conference based on a 300 word abstract for oral presentation. Abstracts should be submitted by **Thursday 31 December 2020** via **https://my.ima.org.uk/**

Call for Posters: Papers will be considered for the conference based on a 300 word abstract for poster presentation. Posters are encouraged particularly from PhD students, and a prize for the best poster presentation will be awarded. Abstracts should be submitted by **Friday 26 February 2021** via **https://my.ima.org.uk/**

LAGOS 2021 - The XI Latin and American Algorithms, Graphs and Optimization Symposium

Sao Paulo, Brazil, 17-21 May, 2021

Website

This year's edition will be very special because we will celebrate the 70th anniversary of our beloved **Yoshiko Wakabayashi**.

INVITED SPEAKERS
Jose R. Correa - Universidad de Chile, Chile
Martin Grötschel - Berlin-Brandenburgische Akademie der Wissenschaften, Germany
Silvano Martello - Università di Bologna, Italy
Joseph S. B. Mitchell - the State University of New York at Stony Brook, USA
Kirk Pruhs - University of Pittsburgh, USA
Laura Sanità - University of Waterloo, Canada/Eindhoven University of Technology, Netherlands
Jayme Luiz Szwarcfiter - Universidade Federal do Rio de Janeiro, Brazil
Eduardo Uchoa - Universidade Federal Fluminense, Brazil
Kristina Vušković - University of Leeds, United Kingdom
Xingxing Yu - Georgia Institute of Technology, USA

IMPORTANT DATES
Submission: **November 15, 2020**
Notification: February 15, 2021
Camera Ready: March 15, 2021

Conference on Integer Programming and Combinatorial Optimization - IPCO XXII

Georgia, USA, 19-21 May, 2021

Website

The IPCO conference is a forum for researchers and practitioners working on various aspects of integer programming and combinatorial optimization. The aim is to present recent developments in theory, computation, and applications. The scope of IPCO is viewed in a broad sense, to include algorithmic and structural results in integer programming and combinatorial optimization as well as revealing computational studies and novel applications of discrete optimization to practical problems.

Authors are invited to submit extended abstracts of their recent work by **November 11, 2020** (23:59 Hawaii

Standard Time). The Program Committee will select the papers to be presented on the basis of the submitted extended abstracts. Contributions are expected to be original, unpublished and not under review by journals or conferences with proceedings before the notification date (January 31, 2021). Papers violating these requirements will not be considered by the Program Committee.

During the conference, approximately 33 papers will be presented in single-track sessions. Each lecture will be 30 minutes long. The proceedings will be published as a volume of Springer Lecture Notes in Computer Science. They will contain extended abstracts of all accepted submissions. It is expected that revised and extended versions will subsequently be submitted for publication in appropriate journals.

Abstracts should be submitted through the submission website at **https://easychair.org/conferences/?conf=ipco2021**.

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

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

OLA'2021 - International Conference on Optimization and Learning: Challenges and Applications

Catania (Sicilia), Italy, 21-23 June, 2021

Website

OLA is a conference focusing on the future challenges of optimization and learning methods and their applications. The conference OLA'2021 will provide an opportunity to the international research community in optimization and learning to discuss recent research results and to develop new ideas and collaborations in a friendly and relaxed atmosphere.

OLA'2021 welcomes presentations that cover any aspects of optimization and learning research.

Submission papers: We will accept two different types of submissions:
- 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

Important dates:
Invited session organization Dec 18, 2020
Paper submission deadline **Dec 18, 2020**
Notification of acceptance March 24, 2021

Publications

Energies

Special Issue: Call for Papers on Optimization Models to Foster Demand Response in Power Systems

Guest Editor: **Carlos Henggeler Antunes**

Deadline for submission: **November 20, 2020**

Website

The management of demand-side resources, by making the most of the flexibility of end-users in the operation of some loads, is increasingly becoming a relevant issue in face of the penetration of distributed renewable generation and the need to ensure a high level of system efficiency in the evolution to smart(er) grids. For this purpose, adequate optimization models and algorithms embedded in automated energy management systems are required for the integrated optimization of all available energy resources (grid, loads, local generation and storage) considering dynamic time-of-use tariff schemes, with potential benefits for the end-users, retailers, and grid operators. Moreover, encompassing the participation of end-users in emerging energy, capacity, and ancillary service markets conveys an additional challenge for those models. Also, new entities as aggregators and energy communities are being developed, with potential impact on the reconfiguration of the relationships between the stakeholders (including generators, grid operators, prosumers) and market architectures, leading to the empowerment of formerly passive consumers who will gain a more proactive role through demand response and market participation mechanisms. The ultimate aim is to develop more sustainable, reliable, and efficient grids, with potential benefits for all players globally.

Contributions to this Special Issue are expected to cover novel models and optimization tools for addressing a wide range of topics in demand-side management and demand response, namely concerning load scheduling, the integrated optimization of energy resources, issues associated with the location of equipment, as well as communications, system reliability and provision of ancillary services, and market design and operation in the realm of the evolution to smart grids. Contributions reporting real-world case studies are also welcome.

All papers will undergo a stringent peer review procedure in accordance with the quality standards of Energies. Papers must contain original research results including comprehensive mathematical models, algorithmic advances, and extensive numerical experiments. Numerical illustrations cannot be toy examples, but must be real or realistic case studies for which all data should be provided (in the paper or as supplementary material) to ensure the replicability of results. The research reported in contributed papers should convey novel and significant work with respect to the relevant literature.

Annals of Operations Research

Special Issue: Call for Papers on Data Mining and Decision Analytics

Guest Editors: **Victoria Chen, Asil Oztekin, Seoung Bum Kim**

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

PDF

The decision-making capabilities of operations research methods can enhance the learning and representation of patterns and structure in data.

Vice-versa, the characterizations identified and modeled by data mining and analytics can improve the efficiency of decision-making algorithms.

This special issue seeks challenging applied and methodological papers focused on any aspect of the interplay between operations research and data mining or decision analytics. Methodologies include, but are not limited to, business analytics, web analytics, text mining, learning analytics, intelligent systems, pattern recognition, kernel methods, computing, simulation, optimization, operations management, and natural language processing. Contributions arising from papers given at a conference should be substantially extended, and should cite the conference paper where appropriate.

This special issue welcomes all high quality submissions in this area. In particular, participants of the INFORMS Workshop on Data Mining & Decision Analytics, and/or any of the following conferences DSI, ICIS, AMCIS, ECIS, and HICSS are strongly encouraged to submit their extended and enriched papers to this special issue, fully conforming to the specifications of the Annals of Operations Research journal as outlined by its Author Guidelines.

Submission Instructions: Manuscripts should be submitted online. Please see instructions on the journal's website **www.springer.com/journal/10479.**

Please select article type "**S.I.: Data Mining and Decision Analytics**" when uploading your paper.

All submitted papers will be rigorously peer reviewed according to the high standards of the Annals of Operations Research.

Annals of Operations Research

Special Issue: Call for Papers on Risk Models in Banking and Finance: Networks, Data Analytics and Complex Systems

Guest Editors: **Stéphane Goutte, Duc Khuong Nguyen, Ahmet Sensoy, Nikolas Topaloglou**

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

PDF

Submitted papers should not have been published previously nor be currently under consideration for publication elsewhere. Papers arising from a conference should be substantially extended, and should cite the conference paper where appropriate.

The area of banking and finance features many complex, nonlinear, dynamic and stochastic problems that often call for the applications of advanced operations research (OR) methods for better understanding of the underlying processes of the data. This becomes particularly critical when we enter the era of big data with huge challenges of analytics, visualization and interpretations. The variety in big data types such high-frequency, structured, unstructured, geographic, real-time, weather, time series, event, network, sentiment and linked data also make the data analytics much more challenging.

This special issue aims to represent a collection of papers that exploit recent advances in the application of OR to state-of-the-art modeling techniques in banking and finance.

Instructions for authors can be found at: https://**www.springer.com/journal/10479/submission-guidelines**

Authors should submit a cover letter and a manuscript by December 31, 2020 via the Journal's online submission site, Editorial Manager. Manuscripts submitted after the deadline may not be considered for the special issue and may be transferred to a regular issue.

Please see the Author instructions on the Web site, if you have not submitted a paper through Editorial Manager. When prompted for the article type, please select Original Research. You will then be asked if the manuscript belongs to a special issue, please choose the special issue's title, Risk Models in Banking and Finance: Networks, Data Analytics and Complex Systems to ensure that it will be reviewed for this special issue.

Papers will be subject to a strict review process managed by the Guest Editors and accepted papers will be published online individually, prior to print publication.

International Transactions in Operational Research

Special Issue: Call for Papers on Multidimensional Finance, Insurance and Investment

Guest Editors: **Davide La Torre, Sabri Boubaker, Blanca Pérez Gladish, Constantin Zopounidis**

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

PDF

A large number of researchers have investigated methods and procedures designed to solve problems in finance, insurance and investment, formulated through analytical operational research models in a multidimensional framework that takes into consideration multiple conflicting and incommensurable decision objectives.

In order to promote the development of multidimensionality within these research fields, the International Transactions in Operational Research will publish a special issue devoted to this subject.

This special issue will host the best papers that will be presented at the upcoming ICMFII 2020 conference, the 8th International Conference on Multidimensional Finance, Insurance and Investment, see **http://icmfii2020.sciencesconf.org/.**
However, the special issue is also open to submissions from other researchers working in these fields and we strongly encourage contributions from the entire community.

Each paper will be peer-reviewed according to the editorial policy of the International Transactions in Operational Research (ITOR), published by the International Federation of Operational Research Societies (IFORS). Papers should be original, unpublished, and not currently under consideration for publication elsewhere. Contributions should be prepared according to the instructions to authors that can be found on the journal homepage. Authors should upload their contributions using the submission site **http://mc.manuscriptcentral.com/itor,** indicating in their cover letter that the paper is intended for this special issue.

Algorithms

Special Issue: Call for Papers on Algorithmic Game Theory 2020

Guest Editors: **Tami Tamir, Vittorio Bilò**

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

Website

We are looking for latest and original results on Algorithmic game theory (AGT).

We encourage submissions concerning algorithmic thinking with game-theoretic or economic concepts. The study of AGT motivated by decentralized computer networks are also encouraged.

Papers will be published on an ongoing basis, so you can submit your paper at any point before the deadline.

Applied Sciences

Special Issue: Call for Papers on Planning and Scheduling Optimization

Guest Editors: **Farouk Yalaoui, Taha Arbaoui, Yassine Ouazene**

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

We invite you to submit your work to the Special Issue of Applied Sciences that is devoted to recent research, current developments, and applications of complex systems planning and scheduling. This includes the principles and practice of the design, implementation, and analysis of exact and approximate optimization methods.

This Special Issue is also devoted to the optimization challenges of modern manufacturing, engineering, and healthcare systems. It also aims to present the most recent developments of operations research models and other applications of intelligent computing techniques used for planning and scheduling in a variety of manufacturing, engineering, and healthcare systems.

Manuscripts should be submitted online at **www.mdpi.com** by registering **https://www.mdpi.com/user/register/** and logging in to this website **https://www.mdpi.com/user/login/**. Once you are registered, click here to go to the submission form **https://susy.mdpi.com/user/manuscripts/upload/?journal=applsci**. Manuscripts can be submitted until the deadline. All papers will be peer-reviewed. Accepted papers will be published continuously in the journal (as soon as accepted) and will be listed together on the special issue website. Research articles, review articles as well as short communications are invited. For planned papers, a title and short abstract (about 100 words) can be sent to the Editorial Office for announcement on this website.

Submitted manuscripts should not have been published previously, nor be under consideration for publication elsewhere (except conference proceedings papers). All manuscripts are thoroughly refereed through a single-blind peer-review process. A guide for authors and other relevant information for submission of manuscripts is available on the Instructions for Authors **https://www.mdpi.com/journal/applsci/instructions** page. Applied Sciences **https://www.mdpi.com/journal/applsci/** is an international peer-reviewed open access semi-monthly journal published by MDPI.

This special issue is now open for submission and papers will be processed as they are submitted.

OR Spectrum

Special Issue: Call for Papers on Predicting and Optimizing Marketing Performance in Dynamic Markets

Guest Editors: **Friederike Paetz, Daniel Guhl, Udo Wagner, Michel Wedel**

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

Our world is turbulent: ecological, social, economic, and business environments change continuously and sometimes rapidly. Consumers have changing preferences, learn from experiences and interactions with other consumers, build (or lose) trust in brands, and adopt new technologies. Firms innovate and introduce new products, grow, fail, merge with other firms, and respond to competition. Exogenous events such as dramatic changes in economic conditions (e.g., stock market crash of 2008), regulations (e.g., GDPR in Europe, US-Chinese import tariffs), man-made crises (e.g., VW diesel emissions scandal), as well as natural disasters (e.g., Hurricane Katrina in the US or the COVID19 pandemic), cause major shifts in markets. Market turbulence has not only immediate effects on manufacturing, distribution, product portfolios, pricing, competition, and consumer behavior but has long-term strategic consequences for firms having to anticipate and address the uncertainty caused by market dynamics. To address dynamics and shifts in markets, firms need to be able to analyze and predict changes and their impact on market behaviors and reallocate resources accordingly. To this end modern technologies (e.g., Internet of Things, mobile and GPS technologies, virtual and other digital environments) enable firms to faster identify market shifts and better track and capitalize on dynamics.

The special issue focuses on novel marketing data and modern methodologies from OR, statistics, econometrics, and/or computer science that help companies respond to market dynamics and market shifts more efficiently. In particular, we encourage new research incorporating big, high velocity, or unstructured data, as well as further development of models and methods that account for dynamics (e.g., dynamic linear models, vector autoregression, or hidden Markov models) and market shifts (e.g., regime switching models), uncertainty (e.g., Bayesian learning, dynamic discrete choice models, dynamic programming), as well as heterogeneity (e.g., Bayesian hierarchical modeling). We encourage research that involves large scale applications that have direct practical relevance in business practice in industries such as retailing, transportation, inventory management, entertainment and tourism. Boundary spanning applications of machine learning combined with more classical approaches from marketing and OR, are of great interest to the special issue.

Submission Guidelines and Review Process: Papers must be submitted at **http://www.editorialmanager.com/orsp/** under the category "**S.I. Predicting and Optimizing Marketing Performance in Dynamic Markets**" by December 31, 2021. All papers submitted to this special issue should report original work and make a contribution to the journal OR Spectrum by using a quantitative research paradigm and OR methodologies. According to the aims of OR Spectrum, high quality papers are wanted that match the

scope of the journal, show rigor in applying state-of-the-art OR techniques, and promise to have an impact on future work of the OR community.

Papers will be screened by the Editor-in-Chief and one special issue editor. If the paper is deemed to be of sufficient quality, it will be reviewed according to the standards of OR Spectrum by at least two experienced reviewers. We will adopt a rapid and fair review process striving to provide reviews within three months of submission. Accepted papers will be available online prior to the publication of the special issue.

Annals of Operations Research

Special Issue: Call for Papers on Operations Research and Management Science Approaches for Fighting Against Epidemic Outbreaks Such as COVID-19

Guest Editor: **Kannan Govindan**

Deadline for submission: **January 1, 2021**

PDF

OR and MS approaches can play significant roles in improving the design and operations of many activities related to epidemic outbreaks: improving the operation of the healthcare system, reducing the performance loss of industries, and supporting the corresponding governmental decision makers.

Three main research streams are introduced for this issue:
1- During epidemic outbreaks, many planning problems related to non-business supply chain systems, such as public and governmental ones, have emerged to support healthcare systems and affected populations. Although there is a wealth of works in the planning of humanitarian relief chains under disaster events, some specialized problems under epidemic outbreaks (e.g., planning of distribution systems to supply essential items and main resources for the self-quarantined population and/or medical centers, and inventory control and stockpiling of medical and essential items) are scarcely addressed.
2- Streamlining healthcare operations is another primary goal of OR/MS applications. Some potential works are: dispatching ambulances through the healthcare system for quick response, siting temporary medical centers, delivering medical home care, allocating resources effectively [7, 8], and planning the workload of hospitals and treatment staff.
3- OR and MS tools can also support governmental decision makers to: lockdown or regulate some stores, restaurants, and public services, public facilities, and organizations; quarantine the population in some areas; manage the operation of public transportation fleets to prevent the virus spread; and address online retailing challenges in the face of greater demand and decrease of drivers in epidemic outbreaks.

In most of the above mentioned problems, decision makers are faced with various uncertainties related to the impacts of epidemic outbreaks. Therefore, to deal with them, in addition to traditional modeling approaches, such as facility location, vehicle routing, queuing, and integer programming, advanced approaches in dealing with existing uncertainties are welcome.

Instructions for authors can be found at:
http://www.springer.com/business/operations+research/journal/10479

Authors should submit a cover letter and a manuscript by 01 January 2021 via the Journal's online submission site. Manuscripts submitted after the deadline may not be considered for the special issue and may be transferred to a regular issue.

Please see the Author Instructions on the website if you have not yet submitted a paper through Springer's web-based system, Editorial Manager. When prompted for the article type, please select Original Research. You will then be asked if the manuscript belongs to a special issue, please choose the special issue's title, OR and MS Approaches for Fighting Against Epidemic Outbreaks Such as COVID-19, to ensure that it will be reviewed for this special issue.

Papers will be subject to a strict review process managed by the Guest Editor and accepted papers will be published online individually, before print publication.

Annals of Operations Research

Special Issue: Call for Papers on Optimization and Artificial Intelligence in Logistics Management

PDF

We invite all participants of the 11th International Conference on Computational Logistics (ICCL 2020) to submit an extended version of their accepted paper for ICCL 2020 to this special issue. However, this call is also open to authors that did not participate in this conference, provided the paper fits within the scope of this conference.

Nowadays, the increasing volume of information, as well as complexity around logistics, makes it imperative to jointly use optimization and artificial intelligence for devising data-driven and intelligent decision support approaches. In the last decade, relevant efforts and initiatives from all sides of optimization and artificial intelligence have been undertaken to improve logistics operations and services by means of systems, platforms, algorithms and tools. This resulted in advances in both theoretical and practical aspects as well as technical innovations in several logistics sectors such as maritime shipping, freight transportation, urban distribution multi-modal transportation, to name just a few.

The main goal of this special issue is to publish comprehensively collected cutting-edge research and recent advances in optimization and AI in logistics. This issue will provide readers with high-quality contributions exploring and dealing with optimization problems in the field of logistics while discussing advanced methods for solving them. Examples involve the joint use of machine learning and mathematical programming, integrating information systems with optimization algorithms, theoretical or empirical studies in modern operations research, developing truly-brained systems to support logistics decisions, etc. Thus, this special issue seeks to contribute to the literature with relevant theoretical and practical works promoting the progress of operations research and artificial intelligence towards intelligent and adaptive decision support systems in all types of logistics fields.

Instructions for authors can be found at:
https://www.springer.com/journal/10479/submission-guidelines

Authors should submit a cover letter and a manuscript from September 30, 2020 to January 15, 2021, via the Journal's online submission site. Manuscripts submitted after the deadline may not be considered for the special issue and may be transferred to a regular issue.

Please see the Author Instructions on the web site if you have not yet submitted a paper through Springer's web-based system Editorial Manager. When prompted, please select the special issue's title, Optimization and Artificial Intelligence in Logistics Management to ensure that it will be reviewed for this special issue.

Papers will be subject to a strict review process managed by the Guest Editors and accepted papers will be published online individually, before print publication. Please keep in mind that the quality and relevance to the special issue's topic are the two most important criteria for accepting contributions. Moreover, for those papers, related to a conference contribution, they are required to provide a substantial contribution, citing the conference work, and providing a novel and incremental contribution listed in the cover letter.

Prizes and Awards

ROADEF/EURO Challenge 2020

Grid operation-based outage maintenance planning

Website

Thanks to the success of the previous challenges, the French Operational Research (OR) and Decision Support Society (**ROADEF**) organizes exceptionally jointly with the Association of European Operational Research Societies (**EURO**) the ROADEF/EURO challenge 2020 dedicated to maintenance planning optimization problem in collaboration with **RTE**.

This challenge is *open* to everyone, and particularly to young researchers, excluding people professionally involved with the industrial partners.

The goal of this challenge has multiple aspects.

Firstly, it allows some of our industrial partners to follow recent developments in the fields of Operations Research and Decision Analysis.

Secondly, through the **junior** category young researchers have the opportunity to face up to a complex industrial optimization problem. The challenge will give them an opportunity to explore the requirements and difficulties encountered in industrial applications. We hope that this challenge will help to establish a permanent partnership between manufacturers and young scientists on industrial-sized projects which require both high scientific qualification and the real-life practices in companies making use of decision analysis.

Thirdly, through the **senior** category, this challenge allows qualified researchers to demonstrate their knowledge and share their know-how and expertise on the practical problems. This also gives them the opportunity to establish partnerships with industrial companies.

Lastly, a **scientific** prize dedicated to qualitative submissions is proposed.

December, 31 2020 Deadline for registration.
December, 31 2020 End of qualification phase. Deadline for submitting a first version of computer program, computational results table and a short (2 pages) description of the method, including the characteristics of the computer used.
February, 20 2021 ROADEF 2021 Announcement of the qualification results. Set of B instances available. Beginning of the final phase.
June, 01 2021 Deadline for submitting final program, computational results table and an extended abstract (5 pages) describing the method, including the characteristics of the computer used.
July, 14 2021 EURO 2021 Announcement of the final results with ranking on B and X instances.
November, 01 2021 Deadline for paper submission for scientific prize.
February 2022 ROADEF 2022 Final Results Awards and Scientific Prize Awards. Presentation of the finalists' works and prize award.

2021 UPS George Smith Prize
Nomination Deadline: November 8, 2020

Website

Eligibility
Any academic unit that includes OR/MS/Analytics in its program is eligible. The applicant must specify the scope of the academic unit that is applying. The cash award must go to the unit that is applying. The parent academic institution of the winner, as a condition of accepting the cash award, must agree not to deduct institutional overhead or to reduce the budget of the program as a result. As part of the application process, the applicant will indicate how they would use the money, preferably in a way that would benefit their students. Although this proposal of use may be general in description, the applicant will be bound by their intent unless they receive permission from the prize committee for specific changes that are proposed in the use of the prize money.

Previous non-winning applicants are encouraged to reapply. Each year's competition will be judged based on the comparative quality of the applicant pool for that year without prejudice for or against an entry based on its possible status as a previous applicant or finalist. Cases for innovation will not be discounted if they have been described in a previous non-winning application.

2021 Applications Deadline November 8, 2020 (11:59 pm, Pacific)

Application shall be made by means of a submission packet, which should include the following:
1. A summary description of the applying academic unit with other basic information such as the nature of the parent academic institution, the number of students enrolled and annually graduated in the program, and the nature of degrees given. This summary should also specify the lead contact.
2. A summary of the role of operations research and advanced analytics in the program, and why competency in operations research practice is at least one of the goals of the program.
3. A summary of faculty familiarity and competence in operations research, management science, and analytics practice.
4. A description of what is innovative in their program in regards to O.R. and Analytics practitioner preparation.
5. A summary of why they feel that their students are prepared to be effective practitioners of advanced analytics and operations research, whether or not students choose to become practitioners.
6. Contact information for 2 current and 2 graduated students and permission to contact them for candid assessments of the program.
7. A statement describing the funding sources and scope of the program and how it is used to most effectively achieve the programs' goals.
8. A statement of the proposed use of the money if awarded.

9. A short proposal of the *INFORMS Journal on Applied Analytics* (formerly *Interfaces)* article intended to be submitted in the event of being awarded first place.
10. Other information and documentation that they feel will support the case that they deserve this award.

Winners

An applicant agrees that, if it is judged to be the winner, it will participate in the fall keynote address, and will submit a draft of a quality article to the prize committee two weeks prior to the fall meeting. The committee will consider the submitted draft to be a "quality article" if the committee is comfortable recommending the article (with possible minor editing) for publication in the journal *INFORMS Journal on Applied Analytics (formerly Interfaces)* or another appropriate journal.

Prize

The designated winner will be presented with an un-engraved trophy at the practice meeting, which will be returned for engraving. The designated winner will be presented with the engraved trophy at the fall meeting if the following two conditions have been met:
1) the required keynote address has been delivered, and
2) the required draft of a quality article has been submitted to the committee.
Failure to meet either of these requirements will result in forfeiture of the trophy, the cash award and future recognition as a UPS George D. Smith Prize winner.
The cash award will be granted after completion of the previous two requirements and, in addition, the receipt of the agreement of the parent institution to respect the conditions of the cash award. If the parent institution refuses to agree to the conditions of the cash award, the cash award will be forfeited, but not the trophy or future recognition as a UPS George D. Smith Prize winner.

2020-2021 Committee Chair
Rob Dell
Dell@nps.edu

Upcoming Conferences

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