EURO
The Association of European Operational Research Societies

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Special Announcements

EURO Awards 2016
EURO Doctoral Dissertation Award

The EDDA (EURO Doctoral Dissertation Award) is a EURO instrument. It consists of a prize that is awarded at each EURO-k conference. The purpose of the prize is to distinguish an outstanding doctoral dissertation in Operational Research defended in the countries having an OR society that is a member of EURO. It will be awarded at the closing session of **the 28th European Conference on Operational Research** in Poznań.

We invite you to widely disseminate this announcement.

Eligibility of applications
The EDDA 2016 jury will only consider dissertations in Operational Research defended between 28 February 2015 (i.e., the deadline for the preceding edition of the prize) and 31 January 2016. 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. An itemization of the candidate's contribution to each co-authored article if the dissertation contains co-authored articles (i.e., published papers or unpublished manuscripts);
4. 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;
5. 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;
6. An up-to-date CV of the candidate, including a list of publications.

No nomination will be considered without these items.

Since many doctoral dissertations in OR are defended each year, the jury would like to remind supervisors that only outstanding pieces of work have a reasonable chance of winning the award.

Jury
The jury consists of:

- Ahti Salo (Finland) - chair
- Richard Hartl (Austria)

- Bernardo Almada-Lobo (Portugal)
- Karl Schmedders (Switzerland)
- Emilio Carrizosa (Spain)

Selection process

The selection process consists of two phases.
Phase 1:
The material for each dissertation is studied by several members of the jury. The jury selects a shortlist of three finalists. In its evaluation, the jury takes the following criteria into account:

- Originality and novelty of the subject;
- Pertinence of the subject for OR;
- Depth and breadth of the results;
- Contributions of the dissertation to the theory and practice of OR;
- Applications and/or potential applicability of the results;
- Impact on related fields;
- Quality of the related publications.

Phase 2:
These 3 finalists are invited to present their contribution in front of the jury and any other interested participants during a special EDDA session scheduled at the EURO 2016 conference. The jury selects the final laureate after the session.

Award

The prize consists of a certificate and reward of €1,000.
There is no registration fee for each of the finalists at the EURO 2016 conference which they are expected to attend. EURO will also contribute to their travel and accommodation expenses.

Deadlines
Please submit the material (zipped file) online on
http://www.euro-online.org/awards/edda2016/registration.php before **January 31, 2016**.
The nomination of the three finalists will be made public before **15 April 2016**.

Contact
Ahti Salo
Systems Analysis Laboratory
Department of Mathematics and Systems Analysis
Aalto University School of Science
P.O. Box 11100
00076 Aalto
Finland
ahti.salo@aalto.fi

EURO Awards 2016

EURO Excellence in Practice Award

EURO
The Association of European
Operational Research Societies

Sponsored by **IBM Research - Zurich**

This is an invitation for Authors to submit a paper for the above award.

PURPOSE
The purposes of the competition are to:

- recognise outstanding accomplishments in the practice of Operational Research,
- attract more application-oriented papers to EURO-k Conferences,
- promote the practice of Operational Research in general.

GUIDELINES
All interested authors are invited to submit a detailed description of an application of Operational Research which has original features, whether in methodology, application 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 which 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 Operational Research specialists from any part of the world.

EVALUATION CRITERIA
The criteria for the evaluation of the papers are:

- real impact on practice,
- scientific quality,
- relevance to Operational Research,

- appreciation by the organisation involved with the application,
- originality in methodology, implementations and/ or field of application.

Letters of appreciation are important.

THE PROCESS
The jury selects a short-list of finalists who will present their work in a special session of **the 28th European Conference on Operational Research** in Poznań. 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 chairman of the jury during the closing session of the EURO 2016 Conference.

THE PRIZE
The prize for the winners is a distinct honour, and in material terms consists of:

- a certificate of excellence in OR practice for each author of the paper,
- an amount of €3,000 shared between the authors.

THE JURY

- Ton G. de Kok (The Netherlands) - chair
- Ulrich Dorndorf (Germany)
- Erik Demeulemeester (Belgium)
- Marco Laumanns (Switzerland)
- Markus Bohlin (Sweden)

SUBMISSION
Please submit the material online on
http://www.euro-online.org/awards/eepa2016/registration.php before **January 31, 2016**.

EURO Support for NATCOR Bursaries

EURO
The Association of European
Operational Research Societies

n NATCOR
A National Taught Course Centre in Operational Research

NATCOR, a National Taught Course Centre in Operational Research, delivers taught courses in the UK to PhD students on a number of different topics in OR. Please see the NATCOR website for more details: **http://www.natcor.ac.uk/**

EURO is pleased to announce the availability of a limited number of bursaries for PhD students to attend NATCOR courses. https://www.euro-online.org/web/pages/1568/natcor-bursaries

The NATCOR course fees and accommodation (typically bed and breakfast) will be funded by EURO for successful candidates.

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/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.

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 to **https://www.euro-online.org/awards/natcor2016/registration.php**. Applicants should declare on their application if they are receiving any additional support from their PhD funding body or other sponsor.

Important Dates
Deadline for applications: **January 15, 2016**
Notification of acceptance: January 29, 2016

COST
EUROPEAN COOPERATION
IN SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY

Call for Short Term Scientific Missions

Second period of activity, fifth call for STSMs (2015/5) of the COST Action

Expert Judgment Network:

Bridging the Gap Between Scientific Uncertainty and Evidence-Based Decision Making

http://www.expertsinuncertainty.net/

GOALS OF SHORT-TERM SCIENTIFIC MISSIONS

Short-Term Scientific Missions (STSMs) contribute to the scientific objectives of a COST Action by enabling researchers to carry out international research visits. The STSMs are intended particularly for early stage researchers, though are open to all.

A scientist fits the definition of "early-stage researcher" if the time between the date of obtaining a PhD degree (or equivalent) and the date of involvement in the COST Action does not exceed 8 years. Doctoral students are also eligible for STSMs.

SPECIFIC INFORMATION ON STSMs

*The duration of a Standard STSM can range from 5 days to 90 days.
*A STSM grant is a fixed contribution based on the requested budget which is evaluated by the STSM Committee. The grant is for travel and subsistence costs only. It does not necessarily cover all such expenses.
*For this first Call, the Management Committee of the COST Action IS1304 has allocated a budget for supporting several STSMs. The budget will be divided among the successful applicants (called Grant Holders) in accordance with COST rules.
*After the STSM, the Grant Holder must submit a scientific report to the Host and to the STSM Coordinator within 30 days after the end of his/her stay. Moreover, the Grant Holder must request a signed acceptance letter of his/her scientific report from the Host (senior researcher at the Host Institution), which the Host sends to the STSM Coordinator.
*After the visit, the STSM grant will be paid after the Grant Holder's scientific report and the acceptance letter from the Host institution have been approved by the STSM Committee. The Grant Holder must therefore pre-finance costs related to the STSM (travel, stay, meals).

APPLICATION PROCESS

Researchers are strongly encouraged to apply for STSMs as follows:

1. Applicants are required to read the instructions in Section 7 of the COST Vademecum - Short Term Scientific Mission (**http://www.cost.eu/Vademecum** , pp. 29-30).

2. Register the application online at **https://e-services.cost.eu/stsm** and send the following application documents to the STSM Coordinator Ahti Salo (**ahti.salo@aalto.fi**) and to the Host institution before the deadline of
16 December 2015:
*Motivation letter
*Detailed work plan
*Description of the expected contribution to the scientific objectives of the COST Action IS1304
*Support letter from the Home Institution
*Letter of invitation from the Host Institution
*CV (including list of publications)

3. The application will be evaluated by the STSM Committee (consisting of the STSM Coordinator, the Chair, and the Working Groups Chairs of COST Action IS 1304) based on its contribution to the objectives mentioned in the Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) for COST Action IS1304.

4. Notification of the Committee's decision will be sent to the applicants by 23 December 2015.

5. The Grant Holder will receive payment after his/her scientific report of the Grant Holder and the acceptance letter from the Host Institution have been approved by the STSM Committee. The scientific report should be about three pages long. It must include:
*Purpose of the STSM;
*Description of the work carried out during the STSM;
*Description of the main results obtained;
*Future collaboration with the Host Institution (if applicable);
*Foreseen publications/articles resulting from the STSM (if applicable);
*Other comments (if applicable).

After the approval, the STSM Committee will inform the Grant Holder.

Priority will be given to early stage researchers or doctoral students.

Deadline for applications: 16 December 2015
Notification of acceptance: 23 December 2015
Period of STSMs: Between 1 January 2016 and 30 April 2016

Contact person: STSM Coordinator, Ahti Salo (**ahti.salo@aalto.fi**)

Conferences and Meetings

EURO Working Group on Decision Support Systems (EWGDSS)

International Conference on Decision Support System Technology (ICDSST 2016)

Plymouth, UK, 23-25 May, 2016

https://icdsst2016.wordpress.com/call-for-papers/

Theme: "Decision Support Systems Addressing Sustainability & Societal Challenges"

We would like to invite you to submit full papers, short papers or posters to the EWG-DSS 2016 International Conference on Decision Support Systems Technology (ICDSST 2016) on "Decision Support Systems Addressing Sustainability & Societal Challenges" to be hosted by the Graduate School of Management, Faculty of Business, University of Plymouth, UK.

The ICDSST 2016 is organized by the EWG-DSS (EURO Working Group on Decision Support Systems) in co-operation with University of Plymouth, and sponsored by EURO (the Association of European Operational Research Societies). The EWG-DSS has already established a recognized tradition is organizing high quality conferences and workshops concerning themes of Decision Support Systems, their applications and development approaches. More details about all the organized events of the EWG-DSS can be found in the link: **https://icdsst2016.wordpress.com/about/**

The ICDSST 2016 will focus on decision making challenges regarding how DSS can help address various societal and sustainability issues (inspired by the EU Horizon 2020 programme) in order to build a better society for us and for future generations to live in. Addressing societal and sustainability issues is a daily need for each one of us. Various developments within decision systems, including collaborative decision making with the use of social networks and web resources; dynamic spatial-temporal decision making; and the scientific research behind the technical and social aspects of web-based decision processes can certainly be of great support for future developments for solving societal and sustainability challenges. Please visit the conference website for details of topics: **https://icdsst2016.wordpress.com/call-for-papers/**

Deadlines for submissions
· Full Paper submission deadline: **15 December 2015**;
· Short Paper submission deadline: 1 March 2016;
· Poster submission deadline: 25 March 2016

Full details on submissions are available online **https://icdsst2016.wordpress.com/submissions/**

There will be fantastic opportunities for publications in journal Special Issues. For more information, please visit the conference's Publications page **https://icdsst2016.wordpress.com/publications/**

EURO Working Group on Vehicle Routing and Logistics Optimization

VeRoLog 2016

Nantes, France, 6-8 June, 2016

http://verolog2016.sciencesconf.org/

The fifth meeting of the EURO Working Group on Vehicle Routing and Logistics Optimization will take place at the Mines Nantes Graduate School of Engineering, in Nantes 6-8 June 2016.

The VeRoLog conference is an annual meeting bringing together the large community of researchers and practitioners interested in vehicle routing optimization and its relationship with logistics. The conference is open to high quality methodological contributions, relevant real-world applications, and case studies from industry and the service sector.

Abstract submission

To participate, an abstract of 1/3 page (max. 250 words) must be submitted electronically via the link "Submissions". Accepted abstracts with a registered presenter will be included in the book of abstracts. At most one presentation per

registered participant will be accepted. All selected abstracts will be presented within parallel sessions during the conference.

Selected high quality papers will be included in special issues of international journals edited after the conference.

Keynote speakers

Michael Hewitt (Loyola University Chicago)
Recent advances in service network design

Stefan Ropke (Technical University of Denmark)
10 years of Adaptive Large Neighborhood Search (ALNS)

Important dates

Jan 06, 2016: submission deadline
March 01, 2016: acceptance notification
April 01, 2016: camera ready submission deadline
April 15, 2016: early bird registration closes
May 18, 2016: registration closes

Registration

Early student: 250 euros
Late Student: 350 euros
Early regular: 350 euros
Late regular: 450 euros

The fee includes lunch and coffee breaks, the social program and conference dinner.

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http://www.facebook.com/verolog2016
http://www.twitter.com/verolog2016

EURO Working Group on OR for Development

International Conference on Operational Research for Development - ICORD 2016

México City, México, 9-10 June, 2016

http://ifors.org/icord2016/

The International Conference on OR for Development 2016 (ICORD 2016) will be held on June 9-10 2016 at the facilities of Instituto Tecnologico Autonomo de Mexico (ITAM) in Mexico City.

The theme of ICORD 2016 is "Constructing pathways to advanced societies through OR". Envisioning advanced societies as organized social groups that pursue higher standards of quality of life, OR may play an important role in decision making for the development of more efficient policies regarding sustainability, healthcare, energy, mobility, education, etc.

ICORD 2016 aims to attract researchers to present their contribution for constructing the pathways to advanced societies through OR methods.

Call for Papers

Authors with papers that fit the scope of ICORD 2016 are encouraged to participate. The papers must present a problem or element that is representative of the context of developing countries.

Extended abstracts (no less than 1,500 words) will be accepted, though full papers are preferred.

Submission system is now available via the conference website: ifors.org/icord2016/call-for-papers

Guest Speakers

Rafael Epstein. Universidad de Chile
*Franz Edelman Award 1998 (Operations Optimization of Forest Companies in Chile)
*IFORS - OR for Development Prize Competition 2002 (Combinatorial Auctions Improves Schools Meals in Chile)
*Chilean Innovator of the Year, 2008
*Best paper in Natural Resources, INFORMS, 2014

*Associated Editor of the Naval Research Logistics journal

Andrés L. Medaglia. Universidad de los Andes (Colombia)
*Co-recipient of the EURO Award for the Best EJOR (Review) Paper in 2015
*Co-recipient of the First Prize in the 2011 INFORMS Railway Application Section Problem Solving Competition
*Currently serves as Liason for the Americas in the Transportation Science & Logistics Society (TSL) - INFORMS
*Currently is a member of the Best Paper Award Committee in the Transportation Science & Logistics Society (TSL) - INFORMS
*Currently serves as Vicepresident of the Colombian Operational Research Society (ASOCIO)

Important Dates

Deadline for paper submission: **January 31, 2016**.
Notification of acceptance: March 1, 2016.
Early registration: April 1, 2016.
Conference date: June 9-10, 2016.

EURO Working Group on Transportation
EWGT2016
Istanbul, Turkey, 5-7 September, 2016

http://ewgt2016.itu.edu.tr

The 19th EURO Working Group on Transportation Meeting (EWGT2016) will be held in Istanbul, Turkey from 5th to 7th September 2016.

The conference is organized by the Transportation Working Group of the Istanbul Technical University, under the patronage of the EURO Working Group on Transportation (EWGT), the Association of European Operational Research Societies (EURO), and Istanbul Technical University (ITU).

Since 1992, the annual meeting of the EWGT has been a unique opportunity for attendants to share theoretical and applied research results in the analysis, modelling, control and management of transportation and logistics systems. The 19th EWGT Meeting will offer keynote plenary talks; workshops; tutorials; and oral presentations from academics, industry experts, students, and representatives of government agencies to discuss recent methodological developments and application challenges in traffic, transportation, and logistics systems. In conjunction with the motivation of the EURO Working Group on Transportation, the main theme for the conference has been specified as the "Simulation and Optimization of Traffic and Transportation Systems".

While the19th EWGT Meeting will be providing a platform to share the breaking results on research activities in the field of traffic, transportation and logistic systems and encouraging the development both of theoretical methods and applications, the forum is expected to stimulate international cooperation superposing the mentalities of West and East as the venue is split between the continents of Europe and Asia. You are invited to participate at the meeting to learn and share your expertise with other participants, build or extend your professional network, and enjoy meeting with new and old friends. Istanbul is looking forward to welcoming you for a great conference and offering you an opportunity to explore its rich history and vibrant cultural life.

Keynotes:
In conjunction with the theme of EWGT2016, leading scientists that have confirmed keynotes are:
*Peter Wagner, German Aerospace Centre (DLR) and TU Berlin, Germany
*Jaume Barceló, UPC-Barcelona Tech, Spain
*Michel Gendreau, CIRRELT and MAGI, École Polytechnique, Montréal, Canada
*Mohamed Abdel-Aty, University of Central Florida, US

Submission:
Participants interested in contributing to the EWGT2016 with a paper should submit an extended abstract of at most 4 pages before **January 20, 2016** via '**https://easychair.org/conferences/?conf=ewgt2016**' using the template at '**http://ewgt2016.itu.edu.tr/sites/default/files/users/user78/ewgt16at.docx**'.

Important Dates:
- Deadline for extended abstract submission: **January 20, 2016**
- Notification of decisions on extended abstracts: February 29, 2016
- Deadline for full paper submission: April 01, 2016
- Notification of decisions on full papers: June 13, 2016
- Submission deadline for final manuscripts to be published at Transportation Research Procedia: June 27, 2016

Registration:
Participants interested in taking the advantage of super early bird registration should pay and get registered before February 28, 2016 via '**http://dekon.com.tr/ewgt2016/OnlineRegistration/reg.asp**'.
Deadlines & fees:
*Super Early by Feb. 28, 2016: €300 (full), €200 (student)

Belgian OR Society

ORBEL 30

Louvain-la-Neuve, Belgium, 28-29 January, 2016

http://www.orbel.be/orbel30/

The next ORBEL conference, the yearly conference of the Belgian Operational Research Society, will take place at the Université Catholique de Louvain, in Louvain-la-Neuve, on 28 and 29 January 2016.

This conference is the meeting point of the Operational Research Community in Belgium and its neighboring countries. It is an excellent opportunity for researchers, young and old, to present their work and make contact with people working on related subjects.

Conference topics include (but are not limited to):

- continuous, discrete or stochastic optimization, graphs and networks, multicriteria decision making, decision theory, game theory, simulation, queueing theory, complexity theory, data mining, ...;
- supply chain management, production planning, scheduling, project management, transportation and traffic management, energy management, DEA and performance management, financial modelling, ...;
- applications in industry, in the energy sector, in life sciences and bioinformatics, in public services, in engineering, in health care, in banking, in telecommunications, in sports, in media and entertainment, ...

ORBEL 30 will also be part of the 50th anniversary celebration of CORE, the Center for Operations Research and Econometrics, at UCL. To highlight this dual celebration, ORBEL 30 will feature three plenary speakers, including two of the best-known Belgian OR academics (who happen to be at CORE...) and an international Health OR scientist:

- Eva K. Lee, the Director of the Center for Operations Research in Medicine and HealthCare, at Georgia Tech
- Yurii Nesterov, CORE, UCL
- Laurence Wolsey, CORE, UCL

To present your work at ORBEL30, we invite you to submit a two-page abstract through the conference website: **www.orbel.be/orbel30**.

Important dates:

- Abstract submission: Tuesday, **December 15, 2015**.
- Abstract acceptance: Tuesday, December 22, 2015.
- End of early registration: Thursday, January 14, 2016.
- ORBEL 30 Conference: January 29 - 29, 2016.

2016 INFORMS Optimization Society Conference

Princeton, NJ, 17-19 March, 2016

https://orfe.princeton.edu/conferences/ios2016/

The INFORMS Optimization Society solicits abstracts and posters for its sixth conference, whose broad theme is "Optimization and Learning: New Problems, New Challenges." The meeting will be held on the Princeton University campus in Princeton, New Jersey, where some of the seminal work in optimization was conducted in the 1950's and 1960's.

We invite you to submit theoretical, computational and applied work that highlights the conference theme and other significant research. Work that introduces new problem domains or solution approaches will be featured in highlight tutorials. An effort will be made to pair tutorials with sequences of one or more sessions with research that relates to the tutorial. We encourage contributions that cut across theory, modeling, computation, and applications. Interdisciplinary research is particularly welcome, as is applied work that introduces either new modeling and algorithmic challenges, or exciting new application areas. We anticipate continuing to reach out to statistics and machine learning as well as computer science. We will also work to organize sessions around application areas such as big data, energy, health, engineering, robotics, and new challenges in transportation and logistics.

Submissions
There are three categories of submissions: (1) invited abstracts, (2) contributed abstracts, and (3) posters. Abstracts are restricted to 300 characters. Contributed abstracts and posters will be accepted based on quality, suitability to the conference, and space availability.

Deadline: **December 18, 2015**.

2016 INFORMS Conference on Business Analytics and O.R.
Orlando, Florida, 10-12 April, 2016

http://meetings2.informs.org/wordpress/analytics2016/abstracts-submissions/

You are invited to submit a proposal to present at the 2016 INFORMS Conference on Business Analytics and O.R. Speakers selected through this process receive a discount off regular registration rates.

We welcome proposals in all areas and all topics within the business analytics and O.R. arena. We encourage you to submit a proposal for review by the Selection Committee. Both presentation content and speaking expertise will be considered in selection, with priority given to real-world business topics and high-quality academic work geared to real situations.

Information you will need to provide when you submit:
*Contact information; biographical information
*Presentation title
*Abstract: a 500-word extended abstract written with the listener's perspective in mind. Your abstract should answer the listener's basic question: "What will I learn from this session? What information/knowledge/ideas will I come away with?" It's important that you describe in as much detail as possible what you will cover in your presentation. A bulleted list of topics, points, examples and issues can be an effective technique for doing this.
*Presenters must have demonstrated speaking experience.
*Speaking references are requested during the submission process.
*Potential speakers could be interviewed by phone.

Abstract Submission deadline **4th January 2016**.

8th IMA Conference on Quantitative Modelling in the Management of Health and Social Care
Challenges and Opportunities in a Big Data Era
London, UK, 21-23 March, 2016

http://www.ima.org.uk/conferences/conferences_calendar/health_and_social_2015.html

Deadline: **18 December 2015**

Aim and Scope
Health and Social Care systems are facing major challenges worldwide, due in part to changes in demography and advances in technology and in part to changes in the structure and organisation of the system whether they are hospitals, general practitioners or long-term care settings. Yet running health and social care systems efficiently and effectively is crucial to improving or even maintaining our quality of life.

Over the years, extensive research has been conducted to find immediate and long-term solutions to issues that are routinely faced by health and social care professionals, such as waiting lists and bed capacity, hospital redesign, workforce planning and scheduling, patient flow, performance management, disease monitoring, and health care technology assessment. In addition, there has been an exponential growth in the generation of data whether routinely for administrative or financial purposes or more specifically for clinical or research purposes including through devices and sensors.

Quantitative modelling and computer simulation techniques have been shown to be increasingly valuable in providing useful information to aid planning and management however studies have often been limited in their attempts to exploit the wealth of data.

The aim of the conference is to bring together health care managers, clinicians, management consultants, and mathematicians, operational researchers, statisticians, health economists, computing and data scientists from across the world with a view to bridging the gap between the respective communities and to exploring recent developments in quantitative modelling and identifying fruitful avenues for further research.

Call for Papers
We invite researchers in all relevant problem domains and methodologies to submit abstracts of 300 words by Friday **18th December 2015** by e-mail to **conferences@ima.org.uk**. Case studies and methodological papers are both welcome. Please state whether your title is intended for oral or poster presentation. Authors of accepted abstracts will be notified by the end of January 2016. Poster presentations are particularly welcome as they stimulate discussion and

feedback. We are also planning a special poster presentation session for research students and others to show their work in progress.

Invited Speakers
As usual the conference will feature a blend of internationally recognised academics, policy advisors, and decision makers from the health and social care sector.

Contact information
For conference queries please contact Lizzi Lake, Conference Officer
Email: **conferences@ima.org.uk**
Tel: +44 (0) 1702 354 020
Institute of Mathematics and its Applications, Catherine Richards House, 16 Nelson Street, Southend-on-Sea, Essex, SS1

4th International Symposium on Combinatorial Optimization

ISCO 2016

Salerno, Italy, 18-20 May, 2016

www.isco2016.it

SPRING SCHOOL
A Spring School will be organized before the conference, on May 16-17 in the same venue.

THEME AND SCOPE
ISCO is a biannual symposium whose aim is to bring together researchers from all the communities related to combinatorial optimization, including algorithms and complexity, mathematical programming and operations research. It is intended to be a forum for presenting original research in these areas and especially in their intersections. Quality papers on all aspects of combinatorial optimization, from mathematical foundations and theory of algorithms to computational studies and practical applications, are solicited.

SESSIONS
The conference is organized into plenary and parallel sessions. The conference language is English.
Each speaker can give only one talk.
Proposals for invited sessions are welcome.
Researchers who are interested to organize an invited session should contact Raffaele Cerulli (raffaele@unisa.it).

CONFERENCE IMPORTANT DATES
Submissions deadline: **February 15, 2016**
Notification of authors: March 20, 2016
Early registration deadline: April 5, 2016

SPRING SCHOOL IMPORTANT DATES
Early Registration Deadline for Spring School: **February 28, 2016**
Spring School: May 16-17, 2016
Conference: May 18-20, 2016

FOR INFORMATION: **info@isco2016.it**

14th International Conference on Data Envelopment Analysis

DEA2016

Wuhan, China, 23-26 May, 2016

http://www.deaconference.com/dea2016/home/index.html

The organizers of the 14th International Conference on Data Envelopment Analysis have the great pleasure of inviting you to participate in the DEA2016 Conference to be held at Jianghan University, China, from May 23-26, 2016.

Jianghan University is located in Wuhan, one of the largest industrial centers in China. It is recognized as the political, economic, financial, cultural, educational and transportation center of central China.

DEA2016 brings together researchers and practitioners interested in the development of the DEA methodology and its applications to performance evaluation and management, with a special emphasis on manufacturing. Theoretical and empirical papers on DEA and related fields in efficiency and productivity analysis as well as performance measurement are invited.

Important Dates

Abstract submission opens October 01, 2015
Abstract submission closes **January 15, 2016**
Notification of acceptance February 15, 2016
Early registration ends March 15, 2016
Registration for abstracts to be included in the program ends March 15, 2016

Canadian Operational Research Society Annual Conference

58th CORS Annual Conference

Banff, Canada, 30 May-1 June, 2016

http://haskayne.ucalgary.ca/cors2016

On behalf of the 2016 CORS conference organizing committee, I invite you to join us in Canada's breathtakingly beautiful, world-famous Banff National Park in Alberta, Canada.

Banff was the first national park to be established in Canada. It is one of the world's premier tourist destinations, a UNESCO World Heritage Site with stunning mountains and glacier-fed lakes, including the legendary Lake Louise. The scenery is unsurpassed.

The conference will be held at The Banff Centre, located in the town of Banff. Banff is an international community in a spectacular setting, with many museums, galleries, and boutiques for the visitor to enjoy.

This year's conference is joint with the 13th International Conference on Integration of Artificial Intelligence and Operations Research techniques in Constraint Programming (**CPAIOR 2016**).

Important Dates

Abstract submission deadline: **February 26, 2016**
Abstract acceptance notification: April 1, 2016

14th Cologne-Twente Workshop on Graphs & Combinatorial Optimization

CTW 2016

Gargnano, Italy, 6-8 June, 2016

Website: **http://ctw16.di.unimi.it**
Deadline for submission: **February 14, 2016**

The 14th CTW welcomes contributions on theory and applications of discrete optimization algorithms, graphs and combinatorial structures in a wide sense. Following a well established tradition, the 14th edition of the workshop aims to disseminate scientific results, especially by doctoral students and young researchers, in a friendly and interactive atmosphere.

If you want to submit a contribution, please prepare an extended abstract of at most 4 pages by **February 14, 2016** following the guidelines on the workshop website at **http://ctw16.di.unimi.it**

Workshop proceedings will be published as Electronic Notes in Discrete Mathematics (ISSN: 1571-0653).

A special issue of an international journal, containing selected full length papers, refereed according to high standards, is also planned.

For further details, please contact: **optlab@unimi.it**

MCDA/M Summer School

Recife, Brazil, 18-29 July, 2016

http://cdsid.org.br/mc-summer-school2016/

The MCDA/M Summer School is a two-week event, taking place July 18th through 29th, 2016 in Recife/Brazil. Details about the program and the application process are available at **http://cdsid.org.br/mc-summer-school2016/**

The aim of this school is to give graduate students/young researchers a state-of-the-art presentation of multiple criteria methods, applications and software and to stimulate a networking of young researchers in MCDA/M.

The scientific program of the summer school consists of invited lectures and teams of participants working on case studies.

Distinguished professors who have already confirmed their participation are:
* Ehrgott, Matthias;
* Figueira, José Rui;
* Geiger, Martin J.;
* Greco, Salvatore;
* Keeney, Ralph L.;
* Köksalan, Murat;
* Słowiński, Roman.

The program will include the following topics:
* Introduction to MCDA/MCDM;
* Applications in real world problems;
* Problem Structuring; Preference Modelling;
* Outranking Methods ;
* MAVT/MAUT (Multi-Attribute Value/Utility Theory);
* Robust Ordinal Regression;
* Decision Rule Approach;
* MCDM Group Decision ;
* Interactive Methods of Multiobjective Optimization (IMMO);
* Multiobjective Combinatorial Optimization (MOCO);
* Evolutionary Multiobjective Optimization (EMO);
* Decision Deck;
* Scientific writing and publication strategy;
* MCDM community and History.

We intend to limit the number of participants to roughly 50 graduate students.

The application process is already open and the deadline for applying is **December 18th, 2015**. In order to apply, please send by email to **mc-ss2016@cdsid.org.br**:

*your detailed curriculum vitae
*an abstract describing your graduate work
*a letter from your supervisor specifying in clear terms your motivations to attend the summer school
*the Application Form filled (download from **http://cdsid.org.br/mc-summer-school2016/application/**).

The result of selection process will be communicated before January 31st, 2016. If accepted, you will receive an e-mail with instructions for registration. The early registration deadline is March 15th, 2016. Registration with accommodation includes attendance to the summer school, educational material, lunches, dinners, and social activity and is highly recommended to facilitate the highest level of interaction among students.

11th International Conference on the Practice and Theory of Automated Timetabling

PATAT 2016

Udine, Italy, 23-26 August, 2016

http://www.patatconference.org/patat2016/

AIM AND SCOPE

The International Series of Conferences on the Practice and Theory of Automated Timetabling (PATAT) is held biennially as a forum for both researchers and practitioners of timetabling to exchange ideas. PATAT 2016 which is the eleventh in the conference series will be held in Udine, Italy.

Whether it is sporting events, educational institutions, transportation or employee management, the construction of efficient timetables which provide the maximum in way of flexibility for all constituent parts is as important as it is challenging. An increasingly important aspect within organisations is an automated approach which optimises all aspects of resource usage. In doing so a number of quantitative and qualitative challenges must be dealt with from both a technical and practical perspective.

An important aim of the conference is to align the needs of practitioners and the objectives of researchers. This is achieved through the presentation and application of leading edge research techniques. Practitioners and Researchers alike are encouraged to present their work and experiences with the overall goal of developing efficient and practical solutions. With this goal in mind, at PATAT 2016, researchers and practitioners will be brought together through a

number of key presentations and workshops.

IMPORTANT DATES

Paper Submission Deadline: **26 February, 2016**
Notification of Acceptance: 29 April, 2016
Early Registration Closes: 1 July, 2016
Conference: 23-26 August, 2016

Publications

European Journal on Transportation and Logistics (EJTL)

Special Issue: Call for Papers on hEART 2015: demand models

Guest Editors:
Elisabetta Cherchi and **Stefan Mabit**

Deadline for submission of proposals: **December 15, 2015**

https://www.euro-online.org/web/pages/1486/special-issues?id=13

At the occasion of hEART 2015, the 4th symposium of the European Association for Research in Transportation (**http://www.heart2015.transport.dtu.dk/**), the EURO Journal in Transportation and Logistics organizes a special issue, edited by E. Cherchi and S. Mabit. We invite interested authors to submit research papers with methodological contributions. The review process will follow the standards of the journal, in terms of originality and quality. We especially welcome papers dealing with demand models, including but not limited to discrete choice models, in transportation and logistics.

EURO Journal on Computational Optimization (EJCO)

Special Issue: Call for Papers on Computational Advances in Combinatorial Optimization

Guest Editors:
Salvatore Greco, Silvano Martello and Benedetto Matarazzo

Deadline for submission: **December 15, 2015**

https://www.euro-online.org/web/pages/1584/

This special issue will present recent computational advances in all areas of Combinatorial Optimization. The issue will be based on contributions presented at ECCO XXVIII (Catania, May 28-30, 2015), but the invitation to submit is extended to all ECCO and CO members.

The main topics of interest are (but not restricted to):
*Exact algorithms
*Approximation algorithms
*Heuristics
*Metaheuristics
*Mathematical programming
*Graphs and networks
*Scheduling
*Multi-criteria combinatorial optimization

*Real world applications

Submissions must have some computational aspect (as per the journal name).

All articles will be thoroughly refereed according to the high standards of the EURO Journal on Computational Optimization.

To submit your paper to this special issue,
1. Log on the editorial manager using the Author Login via the website
https://www.editorialmanager.com/ejco/
2. Select Submit New Manuscript in the main menu.
3. In the drop down list associated with Choose Article Type, select ("**SI: Computational Advances in CO**").

Accepted papers will be published online individually, before print publication.

European Journal of Operational Research (EJOR)

Special Issue: Call for Papers on Trends in Operational Research Approaches for Sustainability

Guest Editors:
Ernesto DR Santibanez Gonzalez, Joe Zhu, Simone Zanoni and Nelson Maculan

Deadline for submission: **July 31, 2016**

http://www.journals.elsevier.com/european-journal-of-operational-research/call-for-papers/call-for-papers-trends-in-operational-research-approaches/

How to balance economic, environmental and social impacts generated by climate change is one of the central issues addressed by sustainability. Those impacts are the major challenges faced by every company and institution in the world if they wish to survive and prevail competitive. In this setting, managers are aware that there are a lack of mathematical models and solution approaches, and in particular, operational research (OR) approaches, to properly address a wide variety of problems in the sustainability domain such as energy and water usage efficiency, scarce resource management, reverse, recycling, remanufacturing and waste management, reducing carbon emissions, disaster management, and emerging problems such as migration crisis management . Traditional strategic, tactical and operational problems frequently studied by practitioners and researchers of OR need to be revised, revisited and studied in this new perspective to generate a new and enhanced body of knowledge able to tackle the needs for a sustainable society. Scheduling, Vehicle routing, Facility Location, Supply Chain Design, Warehouse Management, Capacity Expansion and Production Planning Problems, are some of the classical OR problems where mathematical models and solution methods have to integrate all three sustainable perspectives.

During the last 20 years, sustainability concept has been evolving and current literature is rich of conceptual, qualitative and quantitative studies addressing the questions of sustainability. Howbeit there is a need to go beyond, to extend current mathematical models and build new ones that effectively address the challenges posed by sustainability, and to develop algorithms able to handle the computational complexity of this new set of problems.

This special issue has the objective to compile cutting-edge research on mathematical modelling and solution methods to generate a new body of knowledge to assist policy and decision-makers in the pathway of constructing a sustainable society. Researchers should consider this special issue as a unique opportunity to advance the understanding of the OR Community and to incentive a broader group of researchers to make outstanding contributions to achieve sustainability.

Interested authors are challenged and encouraged to modify, expand present theories and to develop a new body of knowledge that mitigate climate change and support the transition towards a more sustainable society. Therefore, high-quality papers, which propose new theoretical insights, develop new conceptual frameworks, create new solution approaches and examine emerging practices, are welcomed. Methodologies to address complex problems should be built upon OR tools and techniques.

Manuscript Preparation and Submission
Submitted manuscripts will need to conform to the usual high standard requirements of EJOR and will be peer reviewed as normal. Prospective authors are asked to follow the EJOR guide for authors and submit their papers via the EES (**http://ees.elsevier.com/ejor**).

Publication Schedule
Paper Submission Due: **July 31, 2016**
Final Decision: April 30, 2017

INFORMS: Transportation Science

Special Issue: Call for Papers on Recent Advances in Urban Transportation Through Optimization and Analytics

Guest Editors:
Ann Melissa Campbell, Tom Van Woensel

Deadline for submission: **December 31, 2015**

There has been a significant body of research on making urban transportation more efficient and sustainable. Planning of urban transportation services is challenging due to the crowded traffic infrastructure, increasing customer expectations, and rules set by municipalities. In recent years, a vast amount of urban transportation data has become available, e.g., travel times and customer demand data. At the 2015 TSL Workshop, researchers from the oftendistinct fields of urban transportation and analytics were brought together in order to discuss recent optimization approaches and how they can benefit from the increasing amount of detailed data.

In conjunction with the 2015 TSL Workshop, this special issue intends to establish the landscape for the state-of-the-art in urban transportation involving optimization and analytics. We anticipate articles on recent applications of urban transportation such as home delivery planning, shared mobility services, environmental-friendly deliveries, and city logistics concepts. We are also interested in recent advances in the use of analytics for optimization of urban transportation, such as forecasting of customer demand, use of travel time data, data aggregation, and how to use this information in optimization techniques.

Sample paper topics include (but are not limited to):
*City logistics
*Demand and traffic prediction
*Efulfillment
*Fleet management
*Network design
*Public transport
*Revenue management for logistics and public transport
*Shared mobility systems
*Vehicle routing
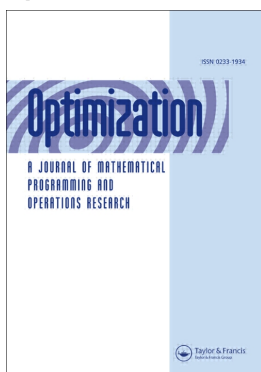*Reliability and sustainability in urban transportation

Submissions are open to all, independent of participation in the 2015 TSL Workshop. All contributions will be peer reviewed according to the usual standards of the journal.

Submission: Please submit your manuscript online via ScholarOne Manuscripts at **http://mc.manuscriptcentral.com/transci**. When choosing Manuscript Type in Step 1 of the submission procedure, enter "Special Issue - 2015 TSL Workshop Advances in Urban Transportation"; otherwise your submission will be handled as a regular manuscript.

The Instructions to Authors can be found on the Transportation Science homepage: **http://pubsonline.informs.org/page/trsc/submission-guidelines**.

Optimization: A Journal of Mathematical Programming and Operations Research

Special Issue: Call for Papers on Making an Impact with Optimization

Guest Editors:
Kerem Akartunali, Marco Laumanns, Gerhard-Wilhelm Weber

Deadline for submission: **January 15, 2016**

On the occasion of the 27th European Conference on Operational Research, EURO XXVII, which took place on July 12-

15, 2015, in Glasgow, the journal Optimization invites you to submit high quality original research papers to a special issue on Optimization models and techniques for making an impact, corresponding to a major theme of EURO XXVII.

The special issue focuses primarily on papers developing new optimization models, modeling features and/or solution techniques that were driven by the need of a particular application, as well as showing the impact these models and algorithms had for the application.

Techniques can be drawn from all areas of optimization, including:
*linear programming
*semidefinite and conic programming
*semiinfinite programming
*stochastic programming
*global optimization
*nonlinear and nonsmooth optimization
*mult-iobjective optimization
*robust optimization
*integer and mixed-integer programming
*mixed-integer non-linear programming
*game theory
*dynamic optimization and stochastic control

In order to publish in Optimization, a strong theoretical contribution of the submitted paper is required.

Optimization is abstracted and indexed in the following databases: Astrophysics Data System, SciBase, British Library Inside, Cambridge Scientific Abstracts, EBSCO Databases, ISI Current Contents, Physical, Chemical and Earth Sciences, Mathematical Reviews/MathSciNet, New Jour, Science Citation Index Expanded, Zentralblatt MATH/Mathematics Abstracts and Zetoc.

Submission Instructions
Participants of EURO XXVII are cordially invited to submit high quality original research papers. Please note that only contributions of registered participants can be accepted. The format of manuscripts for Optimization as well as guidelines and templates can be found on the journal's webpage. Each manuscript has to be submitted via the online submission system: **http://mc.manuscriptcentral.com/gopt**. Detailed instructions are provided during the submission process.

During the submission process authors have to answer the question 'Is the manuscript a candidate for a special issue?' Please tick 'yes' and select EURO 2015 from the list.

Editorial information
Kerem Akartunali, University of Strathclyde, UK (**kerem.akartunali@strath.ac.uk**)
Marco Laumanns, IBM Research, Switzerland (**mlm@zurich.ibm.com**)
Gerhard-Wilhelm Weber, Middle East Technical University, Turkey (**gweber@metu.edu**)

Please check the following page for call details and updates:
http://explore.tandfonline.com/cfp/est/gopt-special-issue-making-an-impact-with-optimization

MDPI Algorithms Journal

algorithms Special Issue: Call for Papers on Parallel Algorithms for Combinatorial Optimization Problems

Guest Editors:
Charalampos Konstantopoulos

Deadline for submission: **February 29, 2016**

http://www.mdpi.com/journal/algorithms/special_issues/parallel_algorithms
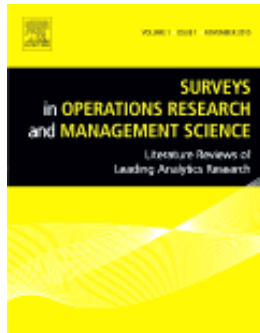
Scope

Combinatorial optimization problems model most of the application scenarios frequently arising in practice. Unfortunately, optimal solutions to these problems are hard to obtain, with most of them having high computational complexity. Even in the case of problems admitting polynomial time solutions, e.g., the classical shortest path problem, the relevant applications should now work on very large input instances or should cope with a large number of concurrent users. Thus, faster solution methods are clearly needed for achieving real time responses for problems previously considered as easy ones. The same also holds for most heuristic methods or approximation algorithms that have been proposed for obtaining approximate solutions for hard optimization problems in acceptable execution times. For large-scale problems, these techniques are inadequate, and much faster algorithmic techniques are needed again.

Due to the aforementioned limitations, parallelism has been considered a means of deriving faster algorithmic solutions. Parallel computation is virtually ubiquitous nowadays and can be found in all modern computing platforms. Although the concept of parallel execution is simple, its application on combinatorial optimization problems is not straightforward, due to the inherently irregular control flow that the algorithms for this kind of problem commonly have. In this Special Issue, we solicit contributions that will propose new methodologies for solving problems in combinatorial optimization using parallel computation, either in shared-memory systems (e.g., multi-core/many-core processors, GPUs, etc.) or in distributed-memory systems (e.g., clusters, cloud architectures, etc.).

Topics of interest include, but are not limited to:
*Parallel exact algorithms: e.g., divide-and-conquer, dynamic programming, etc.
*Parallel approximation algorithms- Parallel fixed parameter algorithms
*Parallel heuristics/metaheuristics for combinatorial optimization problems: e.g., local search, simulated annealing, evolutionary computation, swarm intelligence computation, etc.
*Parallel techniques in integer linear programming: e.g., parallelization of branch-and-bound, column generation, and cutting plane methods or their combinations (i.e., branch-and-cut or branch-and-price).
*Parallel algorithms for multi-objective optimization problems.

Surveys in Operations Research and Management Science

Special Issue: Call for Papers on Humanitarian Operations

Guest Editors:
Burcu Balcik

Deadline for submission: **April, 2016**

Surveys in Operations Research and Management Science is published twice a year in journal format, following on from the renowned Handbooks in Operations Research and Management Science series. The journal provides state-of-the-art literature reviews in operations research (OR) and management science (MS). These surveys enable educators, researchers and students to obtain an overview of subjects of current interest as well as important recent developments in established areas.

Over the past years, there has been an increasing interest in the OR/MS community to study the design of humanitarian supply chains and the management of humanitarian operations. Due to the unique aspects of the humanitarian settings, the traditional models and methods used in the OR/MS literature to address for-profit settings often do not directly apply. There is a growing literature that addresses the need for developing novel approaches to support decision making in humanitarian supply chains. The existing literature develops a variety of analytical and empirical models to study the new problems that arise in humanitarian settings. This special issue provides a state-of-the-art survey about most recent developments in the humanitarian operations management literature.

Example topics for potential submissions included, but are not limited to:
*Methodological approaches in humanitarian operations
*Performance measurement/metrics in humanitarian supply chains
*Modeling uncertainty in humanitarian supply chains
*Coordination in humanitarian supply chains
*Preparedness strategies in humanitarian supply chains
The authors are encouraged to contact the editor with ideas for papers before a full submission.

Authors should review the Surveys in Operations Research and Management Science instructions on preparing a paper at: **http://www.journals.elsevier.com/surveys-in-operations-research-and-management-science/**

Papers must be submitted online at the journal's website.

***April, 2016**: Target deadline for first round of submissions
*June 2016: First round of reviews completed, and decisions (and requests for revision, if appropriate) delivered to authors
*December, 2016: Second round of reviews delivered to authors
*April 2017: Final versions of accepted papers to be submitted

OR Spectrum

Special Issue: Call for Papers on Rail Terminal Operations

Guest Editors:
Nils Boysen, Dirk Briskorn, Sigrid Knust

Deadline for submission: **July 31, 2016**

Strengthening the railway system is among the top priority issues of many national authorities. Rail transportation relieves the often overloaded road networks and is preferred on the basis of its reduced environmental impact. An important driver to increase the attractiveness of the railway system is to establish more efficient train handling processes in existing railway terminals, e.g., by employing suitable optimization approaches and decision support systems.

The special issue on "rail terminal operations" covers all kinds of freight and passenger rail terminals, i.e., traditional shunting yards, intermodal rail-road terminals, modern rail-rail transshipment yards, rail terminals in seaports, depots for rolling stock, and (last but not least) conventional railway stations for passenger trains. We invite researchers and practitioners to contribute to this special issue by submitting papers on the development and application of quantitative approaches for planning the operations in rail terminals. While the main focus is on operational scheduling problems, also papers on long-term problems such as layout issues are welcome, if rigorously tackled with quantitative approaches.

The topics of special interest include, but are not limited to the following:
*train assembly in shunting yards
*load planning of freight trains
*gantry crane scheduling
*scheduling container delivery processes with trucks
*planning of intermediate container storage
*overnight storage of railcars in depots
*assignment of passenger trains to platforms

All papers submitted to this special issue should report original work and will be peer reviewed according to the standard of OR Spectrum. According to the politics of OR Spectrum, high quality OR papers are wanted that are relevant to the scope of the journal, rigor in applying state-of-the-art OR techniques, innovative, and promising to have an impact on future work of the scientific OR community.

Special Issue Editors

Nils Boysen
Chair of Operations Management
Friedrich-Schiller-University Jena
nils.boysen@uni-jena.de

Dirk Briskorn
Chair of Production and Logistics
Bergische University Wuppertal
briskorn@uni-wuppertal.de

Sigrid Knust
Institute of Computer Science
University Osnabrück
sknust@uos.de

Annals of Operations Research

Special Issue: Call for Papers on DEA and Its Applications in Operations and Data Analytics

Guest Editors:
Yao Chen, Wade D. Cook, Sungmook Lim

Deadline for submission: **September 30, 2016**

The DEA research community and probably other related ones have been witnessing a tremendous expansion in the volume of the DEA literature. Several excellent survey papers published in a timely manner since inception till now nicely evidence this phenomenon in informative and structured ways.

Among various business disciplines of DEA applications, we give special attention to operations and data analytics, as a promising area, in this special issue of the Annals of Operations Research.

This special issue aims to provide a forum for discussing the general applicability of DEA in operations and data analytics by compiling state-of-the-art research papers spanning models, theory, empirical studies, and application and case studies on DEA applied to both manufacturing and service organizations. We seek contributions that provide valuable insights into and implications for the practice of DEA in performance evaluation, benchmarking, and multi-criteria decision-making in all fields of operations management.

Manuscripts should be submitted no later than 30 September 2016 and should conform to the Annals of Operations Research format. See (**http://www.springer.com/business/operations+research/journal/10479).** Please submit your article via the online submission site at **http://www.editorialmanager.com/anor/default.asp**

Be sure to note when leaving a comment that your work is intended for the special volume and to select the article type: S.I. : DEA in Data Analytics.

Guest Editors:

Professor Yao Chen
Manning School of Business
University of Massachusetts at Lowell, Lowell, MA 01854, USA
Tel: +1 978 934 2764
Email: **Yao_Chen@uml.edu**

Professor Wade D. Cook
Schulich School of Business, York University, Toronto, Ontario, Canada, M3J 1P3
Tel: + 1 416-736-5074
Email: **wcook@schulich.yorku.ca**

Professor Sungmook Lim
Dongguk Business School, Dongguk University-Seoul, 30 Pildong-ro1-gil, Jung-gu,
Seoul 100-715, South Korea
Tel: +82 2 2260 3814
Email: **sungmook@dongguk.edu**

IFORS Newsletter
December 2015

The IFORS December 2015 Newsletter is available for download at:
http://ifors.org/newsletter/ifors-news-dec2015.pdf

Competitions, Prizes and Awards

VeRoLog Doctoral Dissertation Prize

http://verolog.deis.unibo.it/news-events/general-news/verolog-doctoral-dissertation-prize-2016

The VeRoLog Doctoral Dissertation Prize (VeRoLog DDP) is issued by the EURO working group on Vehicle Routing and Logistics optimization (VeRoLog) and is awarded at each VeRoLog annual conference. The purpose of the prize is to distinguish an outstanding PhD thesis on Operational Research methods applied to the Vehicle Routing and Logistics Optimization. It will be awarded for the fourth time at the VeRoLog 2016 conference (Nantes, France, June 6-8, 2016).

Eligibility of applications

The VeRoLog DDP 2016 jury will only consider PhD theses in Operational Research defended between 1 January 2015

and 31 December 2015 (the deadline for the present edition). Nominations are NOT restricted to members of societies that belong to 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 (up to 5 pages) of the dissertation; this abstract should be written in English,
3. if the dissertation is not written in English, a paper in English authored (or co-authored) by the author of the dissertation and describing the core ideas of the thesis. 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 thesis 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.

All information should be sent in electronic form to the chairman of the jury, Stefan Irnich (irnich@uni-mainz.de), using a compressed format (e.g. zip).

Since many PhD theses in OR are defended each year, the jury would like to remind supervisors that only outstanding pieces of work have a reasonable chance of winning the award.

Jury
The jury consists of:
1. Stefan Irnich, Johannes Gutenberg University Mainz, Germany (chair)
2. Geir Hasle, SINTEF, Norway
3. M. Grazia Speranza, University of Brescia, Italy

Selection process
The members of the jury will study each application in detail. The jury evaluates the applications taking the following points into account:
*Originality and novelty of the subject,
*Pertinence of the subject for VeRoLog DDP;
*Depth and breadth of the results,
*Contributions of the dissertation to the theory and practice of OR applied to Vehicle Routing and Logistics Optimization,
*Applications and/or potential applicability of the results,
*Impact on related fields,
*Quality of the related publications.
The jury may decide not to assign the prize if no thesis reaches an adequate level of quality.

Award
The prize consists in a certificate and a reward of Euro 500.

Deadlines
The deadline for submitting applications is **February 3, 2016**.

Contact
Prof. Dr. Stefan Irnich
Chair of Logistics Management, Gutenberg School of Management and Economics
Johannes Gutenberg University Mainz
Germany
Tel: +49 6131 39 22007
E-mail: **irnich@uni-mainz.de**

ROADEF/EURO CHALLENGE
2016
Inventory Routing Problem

The Association of European Operational Research Societies

http://challenge.roadef.org/2016/en/index.php

Thanks to the success of the previous challenges, the French Operational Research (OR) and Decision Support Society (ROADEF) organizes exceptionaly jointly with the European Operational Research Society (EURO), the ROADEF/EURO challenge 2016 dedicated to inventory routing problem in collaboration with **Air Liquide**.

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.

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

Second, 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.

Third, 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.

Last, a scientific prize dedicated to qualitative submissions is proposed.

SCHEDULE OF THE ROADEF/EURO CHALLENGE 2016

12th of July 2015 Challenge begins (qualification phase). Subject (version 1), checker and first instances provided. Registration starts

12th of September 2015 Full A Set Instances available.

12th of November 2015 (Optional) Sprint on first instances. Deadline for submitting computational results table, and solutions files.

12th of January 2016 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 computeur used.

12th of February 2016 Announcement of the qualification results at ROADEF Compiegne conference. Set of B instances. Subject Update (version 2). Beginning of the final phase.

16th of June 2016 Deadline for submitting final program, computational result table and an extended abstract (5 pages) describing the method, including the characteristics of the computer used.

6th of July 2016 Announcement of the final results with ranking on B and X instances. Presentation of the finalists' works and prize award at EURO Poznan Conference.

ACP-Challenge (organized in the context of CP2016)

http://cp2016.a4cp.org/program/acp-challenge/

The International Conference on Principles and Practice of Constraint Programming (CP 2016) will take place in Toulouse, France, from September 5th to September 9th 2016.

CP 2016 organizes a based on a realistic industrial grade optimization problem proposed by **n-Side** (**www.n-side.com**) and Arcellor Mittal, called The "Torpedo Scheduling Problem". This problem is a simplification, while still being challenging, of a real life application for steel production.

The challenge will focus primarily on the quality of the solution. We will provide an instance generator and a solution checker such that each participant can develop and test their own program. Some instances will be available on the challenge web-site from the beginning. The final instances used to rank the participants will only be made public one month before the deadline.

The Torpedo Scheduling Problem

Torpedo loading hot metal from blast furnace. A torpedo is used to transport hot metals in a steel production plant. The objective is to schedule optimally all the torpedo moves while satisfying all the operational constraints. The full description of the problem, instances and solution format is available via the website.

Upcoming Conferences

Event Date	Event	Location	Submission Deadline
12th-14th December 2015	6th International Conference on Optimization and Control with Applications	Changsha, China	31st October 2015
13th-15th	Multiple Objective Programming and Goal Programming	Tlemcen,	30th September

December 2015	(MOPGP 2015)	Algeria	2015
7th-9th December 2015	3rd International Symposium on Computational and Business Intelligence (ISCBI 2015)	Bali, Indonesia	30th September 2015
14th-16th December 2015	Conference on Business Analytics in Finance and Industry (BAFI 2015)	Santiago, Chile	25th July 2015
5th-8th January 2016	Humanitarian Operations Research: Decision Analytics for Crisis and Disaster Management Minitrack	Kauai, Hawaii	15th June 2015
11th-15th January 2016	5th Winter School on Network Optimization	Estoril, Portugal	30th October 2015
28th-29th January 2016	ORBEL 30	Louvain-la-Neuve, Belgium	15th December 2015
10th-12th February 2016	ROADEF 2016	Compiègne, France	9th November 2015
25th-26th February 2016	Second Karlsruhe Service Summit Research Workshop - KSS 2016	Karlsruhe, Germany	25th November 2015
29th February 2016	New Studies on Lotka Volterra Experiments; E-Cube EWG Workshop	Klagenfurt, Austria	
4th-5th March 2016	EURO HOpe mini-conference	Hamburg, Germany	
7th-11th March 2016	1st International Workshop on Bi-level Programming (IWOBIP'16)	Nuevo Leon, Mexico	17th December 2015
13th-17th March 2016	LAND - TRANSLOG III	Santa Cruz, Chile	20th October 2015
17th-19th March 2016	INFORMS Optimization Society Conference 2016	Princeton, NJ, USA	18th December 2015
20th-22nd March 2016	2016 INFORMS Telecommunications Conference	Boca Raton, FL	31st January 2016
21st-23rd March 2016	8th IMA Conference on Quantitative Modelling in the Management of Health and Social Care	London, UK	18th December 2015
31st March-2nd April 2016	83rd Meeting of EURO Working Group on MCDA	Barcelona, Spain	
6th-8th April 2016	International Conference on Control, Decision and Information Technologies. CoDIT'16	Saint Julian's, Malta	7th December 2015
6th-8th April 2016	SIGOPT 2016	Trier, Germany	31st January 2016

10th-12th April 2016	2016 INFORMS Conference on Business Analytics and O.R.	Orlando, Florida	4th January 2016
19th-22nd April 2016	PMS 2016 - the 15th International Conference on Project Management and Scheduling	Valencia, Spain	29th November 2015
11th-13th April 2016	OR Society Simulation Workshop (SW16)	Stratford-Upon-Avon, UK	6th November 2015
20th-28th April 2016	EURO PhD School on Matheuristics and Web-Services	Lorient, France	30th November 2015
21st-22nd April 2016	Operations Research / Industrial Engineering Doctoral Students Colloquium	Istanbul, Turkey	1st February 2016
3rd-5th May 2016	Big Data 2016 - International Conference on Big Data	Alicante, Spain	
9th-13th May 2016	ELAVIO 2016	Cali, Colombia	30th November 2015
18th-20th May 2016	13th ESICUP Meeting	Ibiza, Spain	
18th-20th May 2016	4th International Symposium on Combinatorial Optimization (ISCO 2016)	Salerno, Italy	15th February 2016
23rd-25th May 2016	EWG-DSS 2016 International Conference on Decision Support System Technology - ICDSST 2016	Plymouth, UK	15th December 2015
23rd-26th May 2016	14th International Conference on Data Envelopment Analysis. DEA2016.	Wuhan, China	30th January 2016
23rd-26th May 2016	Mixed Integer Programming Workshop (MIP 2016)	Miami, Florida	
26th-28th May 2016	ECCO XXIX - 2016	Budapest, Hungary	1st March 2016
29th-30th May 2016	ORSIS 2016 - Operations Research Society of Israel	Jerusalem, Israel	
30th May-1st June 2016	Canadian Operational Research Society Annual Conference (CORS2016)	Banff, Canada	26th February 2016
31st May-2nd June 2016	CMS 2016 - Computational Management Science	Salamanca, Spain	29th February 2016
1st-3rd June 2016	Conference on Integer Programming and Combinatorial Optimization IPCO XVIII	Liège, Belgium	20th November 2015
6th-8th June 2016	VeRoLog 2016	Nantes,	6th January

		France	2016
6th-8th June 2016	[14th Cologne-Twente Workshop on Graphs & Combinatorial Optimization](#)	Gargnano, Italy	14th February 2016
8th-10th June 2016	[HM 2016 - 10th International Workshop on Hybrid Metaheuristics](#)	Plymouth, UK	18th January 2016
9th-10th June 2016	[International Conference on OR for Development, ICORD 2016](#)	México City, México	31st January 2016
12th-15th June 2016	[INFORMS International Conference](#)	Hawaii, USA	8th February 2016
13th-17th June 2016	[TRISTAN 2016](#)	Oranjestad, Aruba	30th November 2015
16th-17th June 2016	[2016 INFORMS Revenue Management and Pricing Section Conference](#)	New York, USA	31st March 2016
19th-23rd June 2016	[EngOpt 2016, the 5th International Conference on Engineering Optimization"](#)	Iguassu Falls, Brazil	15th January 2016
25th June-1st July 2016	[XIV International Conference on Stochastic Programming](#)	Rio de Janeiro, Brazil	15th January 2016
27th June-2nd July 2016	EURO PhD School on Sustainable Supply Chains	Aachen, Germany	
28th-30th June 2016	[8th IFAC Conference on Manufacturing Modelling, Management, and Control (MIM 2016)](#)	Troyes, France	1st December 2015
1st-2nd July 2016	[EUROPT 2016](#)	Warsaw, Poland	15th March 2016
2nd-5th July 2016	[Data Envelopment Analysis International Conference 2016 (DEAIC2016)](#)	Nanjing, China	30th April 2016
3rd-6th July 2016	[EURO XXVIII Annual Conference. EURO 2016](#)	Poznan, Poland	1st March 2016
4th-6th July 2016	[StochMod 2016](#)	Louvain-la-Neuve, Belgium	
12th-14th July 2016	[9th IMA International Conference on Modelling in Industrial Maintenance and Reliability (MIMAR)](#)	London, UK	1st February 2016
13th-15th July 2016	36th National Operations Research and Industrial Engineering Congress (ORIE 2016)	Izmir, Turkey	
18th-29th July 2016	[12th MCDA/M Summer School 2016](#)	Recife, Brazil	18th December 2015

23rd-26th July 2016	[10th International Conference on Optimization: Techniques and Applications.](#)	Ulaanbaatar, Mongolia	31st May 2016
24th-29th July 2016	[ORAHS 2016](#)	Pamplona, Spain	
6th-11th August 2016	[ICCOPT 2016, The fifth International Conference on Continuous Optimization](#)	Tokyo, Japan	15th April 2016
17th-19th August 2016	["Modeling and OPtimization: Theory and Applications" (MOPTA)](#)	Bethlehem, Pennsylvania	20th May 2016
21st-24th August 2016	V CBBM Conference on Operational Research in Computational Biology, Bioinformatics and Medicine	Istanbul, Turkey	
23rd-26th August 2016	[PATAT 2016](#)	Udine, Italy	26th February 2016
30th August - 2nd September 2016	[OR 2016](#)	Hamburg, Germany	30th April 2016
5th-7th September 2016	[19th EURO Working Group on Transportation Meeting (EWGT2016)](#)	Istanbul, Turkey	20th January 2016
5th-9th September 2016	[22nd International Conference on Principles nand Practice of Constraint Programming (CP 2016)](#)	Toulouse, France	13th April 2016
6th-8th September 2016	[OR58](#)	Portsmouth, UK	
6th-9th September 2016	[AIRO 2016](#)	Trieste, Italy	
28th-30th September 2016	[16th International Conference on Operational Research (KOI 2016)](#)	Osijek, Croatia	July 15th 2016
2nd-6th October 2016	[XVIII CLAIO, the Latin-Iberoamerican Conference on Operations Research](#)	Santiago, Chile	

Contact Us

Do you have an item to be included in the next newsletter? Just contact us at manager@euro-online.org. We reserve the right to edit submissions to suit the presentation and available space.

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