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Special Announcements

28th European Conference on Operational Research
EURO 2016
Poznań, Poland, July 3-6, 2016

http://www.euro2016.poznan.pl/

The Programme and Organising Committees continue to work hard to prepare all of the scientific and social activities so that you will have an excellent experience at the 28th European Conference on Operational Research which will start in just over 4 weeks.

Take a look at the schedule and start to plan your event.
Look at ways in which you can engage with the Making an Impact activities.
Support the EURO and ROADEF award finalists.
Arrange to chat to our wonderful sponsors and exhibitors.
And squeeze in some time to explore the wonderful city of Poznań.

The scientific programme promises to be extremely strong with eminent Plenary and Keynote speakers, our distinct flavour of parallel sessions which relate to active working groups, and special sessions such as the Memorial Session in honour of two EURO Past Presidents as well as the EURO Laureates who will be honoured in the Opening Session. The Get Together on the Sunday will be a great opportunity to catch up with old and new friends and colleagues, and the Conference Dinner on the Tuesday will include a short musical performance and Polish-themed locally sourced three course meal with after dinner coffee. A few remaining dinner tickets will be available during registration on Sunday.

We are all ready to welcome you to the beautiful city of Poznań and we wish you a safe journey.

Some practical information is available on the website, and please contact us if we can be of any further help with your plans.
Since the EURO 2015 conference in Glasgow we have been saddened by the death of two former presidents, the first to have passed away. A session to honour the contributions to EURO, and OR more generally, of Rolfe Tomlinson (president 1981-82) and Maurice Shutler (president 1993-94) will be held during the EURO 2016 conference in Poznan. It is scheduled on Monday 4th July 10:30-12:00 in room 123, 1st floor building CW.

Material supplied by John Ranyard and George Mitchell will cover Rolfe Tomlinson’s time at the OR group in the UK’s National Coal Board, whilst Robert Dyson will reflect on his leadership of the OR group at the University of Warwick. Finally, Paul Shutler and Jakob Krarup will give personal reminiscences of Maurice Shutler’s contributions to OR in the UK and Europe.

Links to two obituaries are provided below. Both have appeared in EJOR.

You are invited to join us at this session if you attend the conference and your schedule allows.

Rolfe Tomlinson:

Maurice Shutler:

EURO Mini Conference
DA2PL’2016
Paderborn, Germany, 7-8 November, 2016

https://homepages.uni-paderborn.de/kiudee/

The DA2PL workshop has been launched with the goal of bringing together researchers from operations research and the decision sciences with scholars from machine learning. It aims at providing a forum for discussing recent advances and identifying new research challenges in the intersection of both fields, which is marked by the growing field of preference learning, thereby supporting a cross-fertilisation of these disciplines.

Following the two previous editions of this workshop, which took place in Mons in 2012 and Paris in 2014, DA2PL’2016 will be held at the University of Paderborn, Germany. Supported by the Association of European Operational Research Societies, it will this time be organized in the form of a EURO Mini Conference.

DA2PL’2016 solicits contributions to the usage of theoretically supported preference models and formalisms in preference learning as well as communications devoted to innovative preference learning methods in decision analysis and multicriteria decision aiding.

Submissions
We solicit full research papers as well as extended abstracts reporting on more preliminary results. Submissions must be written in English and formatted according to the electronic template. The page limit is 6 for full papers and 2 for extended abstracts. Submissions must be submitted through EasyChair and will be reviewed by at least two referees. This year, DA2PL will provide a special opportunity for doctoral students to explore and develop their research interests. A special session at the conference will be devoted for PhD students to present and discuss their ongoing research work. Therefore, we specifically encourage young researchers to submit their work (as full paper or extended abstract, depending on the maturity of the PhD project); the submission site will offer a possibility to mark a submission as a student paper.

Important dates
Paper submission: August 22, 2016
Author notification: September 30, 2016
Camera-ready version: October 21, 2016
Call for Short Term Scientific Missions

Fourth period of activity, first call for STSMs (2016/1) 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 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 21 June 2016:

   * 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 28 June 2016.

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);
European Study in OR/MS Education
Brief Results and Preliminary Trends

In the light of recent improvements in OR/MS Education, a survey was conducted amongst European universities and other higher education institutions (see https://ec.europa.eu/eusurvey/runner/ORMSeducation), from June to October 2015. The survey and related activities constituted the first phase of the "European Study on OR/MS Education", being the study's purpose to gain detailed insight into the current state of OR/MS Education in Europe.

Some results and preliminary trends are to be presented in OR/MS conferences, namely EURO 2016 and KOI 2016. In sharing this way the relevant elements from the survey, a more general and broader discussion can be initiated both on future developments and on OR/MS Education enhancements.

Working Groups

EURO Working Group on Multiple Criteria Decision Aiding
MCDA 84
Vienna, Austria, 22-24 September, 2016

http://mcda2016.univie.ac.at/

The University of Vienna is very pleased to host the 84th Meeting of the EURO Working Group on Multiple Criteria Decision Aiding and extends a warm welcome to all the participants. The meeting will take place from September 22nd to 24th at the Faculty of Business, Economics and Statistics.

The overall topic of this meeting is From Axioms to Applications: Bridging the gap between theory and practice in MCDA. In accordance with this topic, we invite you to contribute papers that discuss new theoretical and methodological developments and their possible applications, as well as papers on practical applications of new methods, or applications that can stimulate new theoretical development.

In addition to the established methods and application areas of multiple criteria decision aid, we also look for papers exploring the relationship of MCDA to related areas like group decisions or decisions under risk and uncertainty, and papers that deal with the application of MCDA in new and innovative areas. Following the tradition of the working group, we particularly encourage to submit and present not only papers resulting from completed research projects, but also papers describing ongoing research and work in progress.

The organizers can also be contacted at mcda2016@univie.ac.at (main organizer - Rudolf Vetschera).

Submission of abstracts: June 17, 2016

EURO Working Group: EU/ME: the metaheuristics community
ICVNS'16 - 4th International Conference on Variable Neighborhood
The 4th International Conference dedicated to Variable Neighborhood Search (ICVNS) will be held in Malaga (Spain) October 3-5, 2016. VNS is a metaheuristic based on systematic changes of the neighborhood structure within the search, for solving optimization problems and related tasks. The fourth edition of this conference consolidates its position as the most outstanding conference dedicated to VNS. The main goal of the ICVNS 2016 is again, to provide a stimulating environment where researchers coming from different scientific fields can share and discuss their knowledge, expertise and ideas related to the VNS methodology and its applications. The aim of the 4th ICVNS is to allow specialists and practitioners on Variable Neighborhood Search to effectively screen papers and participate in lively debates. Additionally, it is a great opportunity to disseminate recent results and to introduce the methodology to new researchers.

Participation fee amounts:
* 300 EUR (250 EUR for Students), for payments made by September 5, 2016.
* 400 EUR (350 EUR for Students), for payments made after this date, with the notice that, for the authors who wish their papers are published in the Proceedings, the deadline for payment is September 11, 2016.

The submission system is open now! You can submit your paper through: https://easychair.org/conferences/?conf=vns2016
Please, find further instructions for your submission in the following link: http://www.vnsconference2016.com/contributions/submissions

Important Dates:
June 01, 2016 Paper and/or Abstract submission (Final extension!)

(NOTICE: This conference is organized by the "EURO Working Group on Metaheuristics", so EURO members can contact with the organization for special extension of the deadline if needed).

July 01, 2016 - Acceptance notice
September 05, 2016 - Early registration ends
September 05, 2016 - Submission of papers for the proceedings ends
September 12, 2016 - Preliminary program schedule notice
October 03, 2016 - October 05, 2016 - Conference Date

Contact Information
Abraham Duarte: abraham.duarte@urjc.es
Eduardo G. Pardo: eduardo.pardo@upm.es

EURO Working Group: European Network Optimization Group (ENO)
8th International Network Optimization Conference (INOC2017)
Lisbon, Portugal, 26-28 February, 2017


The aim of this conference is to provide researchers from different areas of Operations Research with the opportunity to present and discuss their results and research on the field of Network Optimization, in an inspiring and bridge building environment where fruitful ideas may flow freely.

Conference Chairs: Luis Gouveia (Faculty of Sciences, University of Lisbon-CMAF/CIO) and Pedro Moura (Faculty of Sciences, University of Lisbon-CMAF/CIO)

In this edition, the keynote speakers are:
- W. Cook, University of Waterloo (Canada)
- A. Martin, Friedrich-Alexander-Universität (Germany)
- R. Möhring, TU Berlin (Germany)
- A. Schrijver, University of Amsterdam (The Netherlands)

The authors are invited to submit their papers describing original, previously unpublished research results and not currently under review. There are two types of submission: full papers (8-10 pages) and extended abstracts (1-2 pages). Accepted full papers and extended abstracts will be available in the conference material. Accepted full papers
will be published in the Eletronic Notes in Discrete Mathematics (ENDM), Elsevier. There will be a special issue of the Networks journal, Wiley, associated with the conference.

The important dates are:

ENDM paper submission deadline: **October 31, 2016**
Paper submission deadline: January 20, 2017
Acceptance Notification: January 25, 2017
Early Registration: January 31, 2017

INOC is the conference of the European Network Optimization Group (ENOG), a working group of EURO and the previous editions were held in Warsaw (2015), Tenerife (2013), Hamburg (2011), Pisa (2009), Spa (2007), Lisboa (2005) and Paris (2003). The conference is also part of the activities of the CMAFCIO (Centro de Matemática e Aplicações Fundamentais e Centro de Investigação Operacional), University of Lisbon.

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**EURO Working Group on Preference Handling**

**ADT 2017 -- 5th International Conference on Algorithmic Decision Theory**

Luxembourg, 25-27 October, 2017


The ADT 2017 conference seeks to bring together researchers and practitioners coming from diverse areas such as Artificial Intelligence, Database Systems, Operations Research, Discrete Mathematics, Theoretical Computer Science, Decision Theory, Game Theory, Multiagent Systems, Computational Social Choice, Argumentation Theory, and Multiple Criteria Decision Aiding in order to improve the theory and practice of modern decision support. Some of the scientific challenges facing the Algorithmic Decision Theory (ADT) community include big preference data, combinatorial structures, partial and/or uncertain information, distributed decision making, and large user bases. Such challenges occur in real-world decision making in domains like electronic commerce, recommender systems, argumentation tools, network optimization (communication, transport, energy), risk assessment and management, and e-government.

ADT 2017 provides a multi-disciplinary forum for sharing knowledge in this area with a special focus on algorithmic issues in Decision Theory. The first four International Conferences on Algorithmic Decision Theory (ADT 2009 Venice, ADT 2011 Rutgers (DIMACS), ADT 2013 Brussels, ADT 2015 Lexington (Kentucky US)) brought together researchers and practitioners from diverse areas of computer science, economics, and operations research from around the globe.

**Important Dates:**

- Title and abstract submission: **April 9, 2017**
- Full paper submission: **April 9, 2017**
- Notification: May 14, 2017
- Final version of accepted papers: June 2, 2017
- ADT 2017 Tutorial and Doctoral Consortium day: October 24, 2017

**Keynote Speakers:**

* Eleni Pratsini, Lab Director, IBM Research - Ireland
  Tentative title: Algorithmic Decision Theory and IoT

* Carmine Ventre, Teesside University, Middlesbrough, UK
  Tentative title: Novel Mechanism Design Paradigms

* Toby Walsh, NICTA and University of New South Wales, Sydney, Australia
  Tentative title: Deceased Organ Matching in Australia

All papers will be peer-reviewed.

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**Conferences and Meetings**

**UK Operational Research Society (ORS)**

**OR58 Annual Conference**
Portsmouth, UK, 6-8 September, 2016

http://www.theorsociety.com/Pages/Conferences/OR58/OR58.aspx

TITLE and ABSTRACT SUBMISSION SYSTEM is OPEN!
Please go to the website and click on the red 'Submit Title/Abstract' button. Full papers are not compulsory. Abstract text: maximum number of words is 300.

STREAMS
You will see a very full and comprehensive list of streams available on our website.

Information sheets for Stream Organisers, Presenters and Keynote Speakers can be found on the website along with the registration rates.

KEYNOTE PAPER or EXTENDED ABSTRACT
Both are welcome and very much encouraged to enhance your stream! Guidelines for Keynote Speakers can be found on the website. Keynote papers (maximum six pages) and Extended Abstracts (about 1000 words), will be highlighted in the Conference Programme and indexed with an ISB Number. Copies are sent to some libraries and agencies and to Elsevier under an agreement which allows them to index and extract data from selected full text articles and integrate such data into Elsevier products. Additional time in the Schedule may be provided if required.

DEADLINES
13 JUN 2016 - Extended Deadline - for submission of full Keynote Papers and Extended Abstracts.
20 JUN 2016 - Notification of Acceptance to be sent re Keynote Papers and Extended Abstracts.
30 JUN 2016 - Deadline for submission of titles and abstracts in time to appear in the Conference Programme.
30 JUN 2016 - Deadline for early reduced registration fee

Croatian Operational Research Society (CRORS)
16th International Conference on Operational Research KOI 2016
Osijek, Croatia, 27-29 September, 2016

http://hdoi.hr/koi2016

The International Conference on Operational Research (KOI) brings together researchers and practitioners from various aspects of OR with the aim of establishing contacts, presenting scientific ideas and experiences. In conjunction with the KOI conference, the Round Table "OR in Education" will be organized.

Keynote Speakers
Jakob Krarup, Department of Computer Science DIKU University of Copenhagen, Denmark
Andrew R. Barron, Department of Statistics, Yale University, New Haven, USA
Francisco Martinez Alvarez, School of Engineering, Pablo de Olavide University, Sevilla, Spain
Marko Bohanec, Jozef Stefan Institute, Ljubljana, Slovenia
Tibor Illes, Department of Differential Equations, Mathematical Institute, Budapest University of Technology and Economics (BME), Hungary

Instructions for Authors
Authors who wish to present a paper at the Conference should submit the extended abstract of not more than one page. Please follow instructions to authors and submit your abstract via the conference web site: http://www.hdoi.hr/koi2016.

Full papers should be submitted after the conference through the Online submission system for a double-blinded review process. Upon acceptance, the full papers will be published in the Croatian Operational Research Journal (CRORR), indexed in Current Index to Statistics, EBSCO host, EconLit, DOAJ, Genamics Journal Seek, Hrcak, INSPEC,Mathematical Reviews/Current Mathematical Publications (MathSciNet), Proquest, Web od Science Core Collection (through Book Citation Index), and Zentralblatt fuer Mathematik/Mathematics Abstract (CompactMath). Best papers selected by the reviewers will be sent for a special issue of the Central European Journal of Operations Research (CEJOR) published by Springer Verlag.

Important Dates
July 15, 2016 - Submission of abstracts
July 30, 2016 - Notification of acceptance
September 5, 2016 - Registration
September 10, 2016 - Registration fee payment
September 27-29, 2016 - Conference days
September 30, 2016 - Submission of full papers

Conference Contact
16th International Conference on Operational Research KOI 2016
Rudolf Scitovski, chair of the Program Committee
APDIO (the Portuguese Operations Research Society)

Optimization 2017
Lisbon, Portugal, 6-8 September, 2017

http://optimization2017.fc.ul.pt

Optimization 2017 is the ninth edition of a series of Optimization international conferences held every three or four years, in Portugal. This meeting aims to bring together researchers and practitioners from different areas and with distinct backgrounds, but with common interests in optimization. This conference series has international recognition as an important forum of discussion and exchange of ideas, being organized under the auspices of APDIO (the Portuguese Operations Research Society).

In this edition, we feel honored to celebrate the 60th birthday of our dear colleague Luís Gouveia (Univ. of Lisbon).

Confirmed plenary speakers:
Immanuel Bomze | Universität Wien
Marco Campi | Università degli Studi di Brescia
Donald Goldfarb | Columbia University
Jacek Gondzio | The University of Edinburgh
Martine Labbé | Université Libre de Bruxelles
Giovanni Rinaldi | IASI Roma, CNR

Invited and contributed presentations will be scheduled during the three days.

Important Dates:
Deadline for abstract submission - May 15, 2017
Notification of acceptance - June 15, 2017
Early registration - before June 30, 2017

Additional information regarding registration, contributed talks, deadlines, and accommodation will be available from the conference web site.

For any questions regarding Optimization 2017, please contact:
opt2017@fc.ul.pt

Workshop on Recent Advances in Multi-objective Optimization
Lancaster, UK, 24 June, 2016

http://moo.univie.ac.at/

In the tradition of the previous workshops, it will be a small, single-day, single-stream meeting focusing on recent advances in exact methods in multi-objective (mixed) integer and continuous optimization. Keynote talks will be given by Gabriele Eichfelder (Technische Universität Ilmenau, Germany) and Firdevs Ulus (Bilkent Üniversitesi, Turkey).

We cordially invite you to participate in the workshop.

The scientific programme lasts from 9am to 6pm and takes place at Lancaster University Management School. It comprises the two keynote talks as well as 10 regular presentations. The registration is free of charge in order to make a high level workshop available to the interested public (academics, PhD students, master students). Coffee breaks between sessions and lunch are provided. Please see the website moo.univie.ac.at for more information on the programme, venue, travel and accommodation.

Important Dates:
* 10 June 2016: Registration deadline
* 24 June 2016: Workshop

For catering purposes, we ask you to please register online at moo.univie.ac.at. Please do not hesitate to contact us for additional information.

Best regards,
Matthias Ehrgart and Marc Goerigk
{m.ehrgart,m.goerigk}@lancaster.ac.uk
The workshop on Algorithmic Approaches for Transportation Modeling, Optimization, and Systems (ATMOS) is an annual event bringing together researchers and practitioners who are interested in all aspects of algorithmic methods and models for transportation optimization. The workshop provides a forum for the exchange and dissemination of new ideas and techniques. The aim of making transportation better gives rise to very complex and large-scale optimization problems requiring innovative solution techniques and ideas from mathematical optimization, theoretical computer science, and operations research. Applicable tools and concepts include those from graph and network algorithms, combinatorial optimization, approximation and online algorithms, stochastic and robust optimization.

We invite authors to present work that advances optimization methods and algorithms to facilitate planning and operational management of freight and passenger transportation and traffic. The workshop welcomes but is not limited to papers applying and advancing the following techniques: Graph and Network Algorithms, Combinatorial Optimization, Mathematical Programming, Approximation Algorithms, Methods for the Integration of Planning Stages, Stochastic and Robust Optimization, Online and Real-time Algorithms, Algorithmic Game Theory, Heuristics for Real-world Instances, Simulation Tools.

Authors are invited to submit an extended abstract or full paper of at most 12 pages (including title page, abstract, references, but not counting an optional appendix). Submissions must be formatted in LaTeX, using the OASIcs style file. The paper should contain a succinct statement of the issues and of their motivation, a summary of the main results, and a brief explanation of their significance, accessible to non-specialist readers. Proofs omitted due to space constraints can be put into an appendix to be read by the program committee members at their discretion. Papers must be submitted electronically via the EasyChair submission system at https://easychair.org/conferences/?conf=atmos2016

By submitting a paper the authors acknowledge that in case of acceptance at least one of the authors must register at ALGO 2016 or ATMOS 2016, attend the conference, and present the paper. The proceedings will be published online and as open-access in the Dagstuhl Open Access Series in Informatics (OASIcs).

Important dates
Submission: 16 June 2016
Notification of acceptance: early July
Final version: 29 July 2016
Symposium: 25 August 2016

2016 IEEE Symposium on Computational Intelligence in Multicriteria Decision-Making (IEEE MCDM'2016)

Athens, Greece, 6-9 December, 2016

IEEE MCDM'2016 will be held simultaneously with over 30 other symposia and workshops in one location at the 2016 IEEE Symposium Series on Computational Intelligence (IEEE SSCI 2016). This international event promotes all aspects of the theory and applications of computational intelligence. Sponsored by the IEEE Computational Intelligence Society, this event will attract top researchers, professionals, practitioners and students from around the world. The registration to SSCI 2016 will allow participants to attend all the symposia, including the complete set of the proceedings of all the meetings, coffee breaks, lunches, and the banquet.

Scope
IEEE MCDM'2016 aims to bring together scientists, engineers and students from around the world to discuss the latest advances in the field of CI applied to issues in multiple criteria decision making (MCDM). Topics covered include applications of computational intelligence technologies, such as neural networks and learning algorithms, fuzzy systems, evolutionary computation, and other emerging techniques.

Important Dates:
18 July 2016 - Paper submissions due
12 September 2016 - Notification to authors
10 October 2016 - Camera-ready papers due

Program Chairs:
Piero Bonissone, Piero P Bonissone Analytics LLC, USA
Kaisa Miettinen, University of Jyvaskyla, Finland
Machine Learning and Network Analytics in Finance Minitrack
Hawaii, US, 4-7 January, 2017

http://www.hicss.org/#!machine-learning-in-finance/c1qzb

Machine Learning and Network Analytics in Finance Minitrack
at Hawaii International Conference on System Sciences HICSS-50: January 4-7, 2017 | Hilton Waikoloa Village

This minitrack covers contributions on the use and extension of machine learning and network analytics in financial and econometric analysis. Advanced analytics has been present in the finance literature for decades. However, as a result of developments in the last 15 years, such as the emergence of technological advances and the 2008 financial crisis, the importance of contributions utilizing these techniques have increased significantly. In recent years, it has become crucial to be able to tackle problems in the financial context involving an unprecedented amount of both structured and unstructured data. Likewise, the past financial turmoil with global repercussions has stimulated an interest in advanced approaches for systemic risk measurement. Machine learning and network analysis techniques offer tools for the analysis of a wide range of topics in interconnected financial markets. The purpose of this minitrack is to disseminate significant results on new models relying on machine learning and network analytics, together with relevant and important applications of these models. The scope of the potential contributions to the minitrack is broad and covers most recent advances in analytics, big data, visual analytics, soft computing and network analytics in a financial context.

Minitrack Co-Chairs:

Peter Sarlin (Primary Contact)
Hanken School of Economics, Finland
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József Mezei
Åbo Akademi University, Finland
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Schools and Courses

Algorithmic Optimization Autumn School
Trier, Germany, 19-22 September, 2016

http://alop.uni-trier.de/event/autumn-school-algorithmic-optimization/

We are pleased to announce the 2016 Autumn School organized by the research training group (Graduiertenkolleg) "Algorithmic Optimization" in Trier taking place on September 19-22, 2016.

The Autumn School will introduce participants to the main ideas from various fields of mathematical optimization. Ranging from PDE-constrained, discrete and multicriteria optimization to optimization in statistics, a broad overview will be provided.

The list of speakers consists of Göran Kauermann, LMU Munich, Winnfried Wollner, TU Darmstadt, Sven Krumke, TU Kaiserslautern and Gabriele Eichfelder, TU Ilmenau.

Publications

European Journal of Operational Research (EJOR)

Special Issue: Call for Papers on Trends in Operational Research Approaches for Sustainability
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**
The full papers must be submitted through the Elsevier Editorial System http://ees.elsevier.com/dam. When submitting your paper, be sure to specify that the paper is a contribution for the Special Issue of ECCO-CO, so that your paper is assigned to the guest editors. Please see the Author Instructions on the site if you have not yet submitted a paper through this web-based system. Be sure to note that your work is intended for the Special Issue and to select the article type Special Issue: SI: ECCO2016.

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

We are looking forward to receiving your contribution.

Journal of Heuristics

Special Issue: Call for Papers on Metaheuristics for Combinatorial Optimization

Guest Editors:
Bin Hu, Francisco Chicano

Deadline for submission: July 15, 2016

http://www.franciscochicano.es/joh-metacop

Combinatorial Optimization Problems consist in finding an optimal solution (according to some objective function) from a finite search space. These problems arise in Industry and Academia and, unfortunately, most of them cannot be solved efficiently, that is, they are NP-hard and no polynomial time algorithm is known to solve them. For this reason, in the last decades researches have investigated the use of approximated algorithms to find near optimal solutions to these problems. In particular, a great research effort has been devoted to the development of metaheuristic algorithms to solve combinatorial optimization problems, like Evolutionary Algorithms, Ant Colony Optimization, Particle Swarm Optimization, Iterated Local Search, Variable neighbourhood Search, Hybrid Metaheuristics, etc.

Successfully solved problems include scheduling, timetabling, network design, transportation and distribution problems, vehicle routing, traveling salesman, graph problems, satisfiability, energy optimization problems, packing problems and planning problems.

Prominent examples of metaheuristics include evolutionary algorithms, simulated annealing, tabu search, scatter search, memetic algorithms, ant colony optimization, particle swarm optimization, variable neighbourhood search, iterated local search, greedy randomized adaptive search procedures, estimation of distribution algorithms, hyperheuristics and hybrid algorithms.

We encourage authors to submit original high-quality research on the application of metaheuristic algorithms to combinatorial optimization problems.

Submission Guidelines

All submissions have to be prepared according to the "instructions for authors" as published in the journal website. Authors should submit their manuscripts to the Journal of Heuristics Editorial Manager. When submitting a paper, please select the special issue article type "S.I. : Metaheuristics for Combinatorial Optimization".

Tentative Schedule
15 July 2016 Submission deadline
15 November 2016 Authors notification
15 February 2017 Authors' revisions
5 June 2017 Final notification
12 June 2017 Final manuscript
Fall 2017 Tentative publication

OR Spectrum
Special Issue: Call for Papers on Airport Operations Management

Guest Editors:
Raik Stolletz, Jason Atkin, Han Hoogeveen

Deadline for submission: July 31, 2016

The airline industry is important for the global economy. Airports, in particular hub airports, are the backbone of air transportation. Operations in the terminal and at the airfield as well as the runways need to be planned in an efficient way.

Operations research techniques are important to model, optimize and evaluate such systems and processes. The special issue aims to bring together contributions developing methodology and applications in the field of airport operations management considering operations involving passengers, baggage, cargo, and aircraft.

Papers can address but are not confined to the following topics:
* Check-in and passenger control
* Security and screening processes
* Baggage and freight handling
* Turnaround process management
* Ground handling management
* Optimized take-off and departure methods
* Gate assignment and check-in counter assignment
* Intermodal transport connection
* Green airport operations management
* Planning of uncertain and dynamic airport operations

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 aims of OR Spectrum, high quality OR papers are wanted that are relevant to the scope of the journal, show rigor in applying state-of-the-art OR techniques, are innovative, and promise to have an impact on future work of the scientific OR community.

Further information:
http://www.springer.com/291

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 railroad terminals, modern railrail 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
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IEEE Transactions on Engineering Management

Special Issue: Call for Papers on Shortages of Resources, Routines, Reputation or Regulations: Threats or Opportunities for Tech Entrepreneurs

Guest Editors:
Moren Lévesque and Nitin Joglekar

Deadline for submission: September 1, 2016

Resources in the form of human (e.g., talented engineers or scientists) or financial capital (e.g., through in-kind, government grants, private individuals or financing institutions) are often at the root of new business ventures within established firms or as independent startups. Routines in the form of organizational and technical processes or knowhow are often at the root of building these new ventures. Reputation in the form of one's accomplishments or network is often at the root of acquiring needed resources and developing the necessary routines to initiate, commit to, organize and grow the resulting business startups. Moreover, regulations in the form of public policies or incentive structures at private firms are often at the root of spurring efforts in entrepreneurial or corporate venture settings.

In either developed or emerging economies, technology entrepreneurs are often being credited and praised for creating innovative solutions to be the foundation for new business ventures that can drive economic growth. But at one time or another, independent or corporate entrepreneurs face shortages of resources, routines, reputation or regulations, which can hamper firm or industry growth potential. However, the constant praising of technology entrepreneurs may not be without foundation, because their ingenuity can play an even more crucial role when resources are lacking, routines are nonexistent, reputation has not been established or regulations are inadequate.

In fact, such ingenuity can transform many issues associated with shortages of resources, routines, reputation or regulations from being a threat to becoming an opportunity. Not only can this take place because the shortages are internal to the business enterprise being formed, but also when the shortages are triggered by events external to the entrepreneur and the business venture. A crisis like September 11, for instance, created a shortage of routines to effectively process people through more rigorous security at airports, which created an opportunity for technology entrepreneurs to use their ingenuity to find new ways to screen people. The shortage of a natural resource like oil has also become an opportunity for technology entrepreneurs to develop bolt-on features to 18-wheeled trailer trucks and road trains to reduce wind resistance and increase gas mileage. In some countries, public policies have addressed such
shortages by offering early-stage funding for basic sciences and technology commercialization efforts, either through funding bodies such as the Advanced Research Projects Agency-Energy (ARPA-E) or through the release of health data to encourage business startups. However, it is not clear if such policies create more impactful technological entrepreneurship than in settings where such policies are lacking. We can thus debate whether these shortages are bad, because they limit the ease of starting businesses and thus economic prosperity, or they are good, because they rely on people being more socially responsible, more ingenious, or forced to start in a leaner manner. Policymakers, practitioners and researchers need to better understand this threat vs. opportunity debate.

The purpose of the special issue is to compile a body of emerging work that explores the impacts of shortages of resources, routines, reputation or regulations all broadly defined, and how these shortages create threats or opportunities for new business ventures, or their emergence, within established firms or as independent startups. The topics of these studies are expected to be interdisciplinary and fill gaps in existing research. We welcome studies that address multiple aspects of technology and engineering management from a diverse set of methodologies ranging from analytical, empirical and experimental. The work should contribute to theory and create practical insights for managers in the technology arena.

Review Process: The special issue's guest editors, the journal's editorial review board members, and ad hoc reviewers will referee the submitted papers. We anticipate no more than 3 months each for the first two rounds of review, and 1 month for the final round. If invited to revise their manuscript, the authors will be given 3 months for the first revision, 2 months for the second revision, and 1 month for the final submission.

Submission Process: Please prepare the manuscript according to IEEE-TEM's guidelines (http://ieeetmc.org/tem-guidelines) and submit it by September 1, 2016. Please submit your manuscript at the journal's Manuscript Central site (https://mc.manuscriptcentral.com/tem-ieee), select both Moren Lévesque and Nitin Joglekar as preferred editors, and clearly state in the cover letter that the submission is for this special issue. Questions regarding this special issue can be sent tomlevesque@schulich.yorku.ca or joglekar@bu.edu.

Competitions, Prizes and Awards

ROADEF/EURO CHALLENGE 2016
Inventory Routing Problem


Thanks to the success of the previous challenges, the French Operational Research (OR) and Decision Support Society (ROADEF) organizes exceptionally 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 industrialized 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 computer used.


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.

INFORMS Optimization Society Prizes

The INFORMS Optimization Society awards four prizes annually at the INFORMS annual meeting. Each of the four awards includes a cash amount of US$ 1,000 and a citation certificate. The award winners will be invited to give a presentation in a special session sponsored by the Optimization Society during the INFORMS annual meeting in Nashville, TN, in November 2016 (the winners will be responsible for their own travel expenses to the meeting). Award winners are also asked to contribute an article about their award-winning work to the annual Optimization Society newsletter. The four awards are listed below.

The Khachiyan Prize, for outstanding lifetime contributions to the field of optimization by an individual or team;

The Farkas Prize, for outstanding contributions by a mid-career researcher to the field of optimization, over the course of their career;

Prize for Young Researchers, awarded to one or more young researcher(s) for an outstanding paper in optimization that is submitted to and accepted, or published in a refereed professional journal;

Student Paper Prize, awarded to one or more student(s) for an outstanding paper in optimization that is submitted to and received or published in a refereed professional journal within three calendar years preceding the year of the award.

8th AIMMS/MOPTA International Optimization Modeling Competition

http://coral.ie.lehigh.edu/~mopta/competition

We have the pleasure to announce the eighth AIMMS/ MOPTA Optimization Modeling Competition. The competition is jointly organized by the conference organizers of MOPTA (http://coral.ie.lehigh.edu/~mopta/) and AIMMS (http://www.aimms.com). Finalists are expected to attend and present their results at the 2016 MOPTA Conference to be held August 17-19, 2016 at Lehigh University, Bethlehem, PA, USA. This year we also intend to organize a rerun session at the INFORMS annual meeting in Nashville.

Teams of at most three students can participate. The team leader has to be a graduate student, though the other members of the team can be advanced undergraduate students. Each member of the team must be registered as a full-time student at a recognized educational institution during the Spring term of the 2015-2016 academic year. Students with a background in optimization, regardless of their actual field of study, are eligible. Collaboration between students from different departments is strongly encouraged. Each team must declare a team advisor with which the team may consult about the problem and their solution. It is the team advisor's responsibility to ensure that the students have appropriate knowledge for the competition. The team advisor should not be involved as a participant in the solution process.

As the conference is international, so is the competition. Teams from all over the world can participate, as long as at least one team member can come to the conference, should the team make it to the final round. The official language of the competition is English.

The competition problem has been posted. The topic is “Multiobjective Network Disruption”.

All teams must register for the competition in order to participate.
The registration to the competition will be possible through the competition webpage.

**Important Dates:**
- Case posted: Jan 13, 2016.
- Registration Due: Please register as soon as you start working on the problem.
- Solutions Due: **Jun 15, 2016**, 23:55 EDT.

**Contact:**
- For questions about the competition: Boris Defourny, defourny@lehigh.edu
- For questions about the conference: Martin Takac, takac@lehigh.edu, or Sasha Stolyar, als714@lehigh.edu
- For questions about the AIMMS software: support@aimms.com
- For questions about travel & accommodation: Kathy Rambo, kgr0@lehigh.edu

### Upcoming Conferences

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<tr>
<td>27th-28th October 2016</td>
<td>Workshop on “Optimization challenges in the evolution of energy networks to smart grids”</td>
<td>Coimbra, Portugal</td>
<td>9th September 2016</td>
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<td>7th-8th November 2016</td>
<td>EURO Mini Conference DA2PL'2016 (From Multiple Criteria Decision Aid to Preference Learning)</td>
<td>Paderborn, Germany</td>
<td>22nd August 2016</td>
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<tr>
<td>11th-12th November 2016</td>
<td>First EAI International Conference on Computer Science and Engineering</td>
<td>Penang, Malaysia</td>
<td>15th April 2016</td>
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<tr>
<td>13th-16th November 2016</td>
<td>INFORMS Annual Meeting</td>
<td>Nashville, USA</td>
<td>15th May 2016</td>
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<tr>
<td>6th-8th December 2016</td>
<td>ICAMIS 2016 - International Conference on Applied Mechanics and Industrial Systems</td>
<td>Muscat, Oman</td>
<td>20th June 2016</td>
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<td>6th-9th December 2016</td>
<td>2016 IEEE Symposium on Computational Intelligence in Multicriteria Decision-Making</td>
<td>Athens, Greece</td>
<td>18th July 2016</td>
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<td>11th-14th December 2016</td>
<td>Winter Simulation Conference (WSC) 2016</td>
<td>Virginia, USA</td>
<td>6th April 2016</td>
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<tr>
<td>16th-18th December 2016</td>
<td>The second Tunisian Operational Research Society (TORS) annual conference</td>
<td>Sousse, Tunisia</td>
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<td>4th-7th January 2017</td>
<td>Machine Learning and Network Analytics in Finance Mintrack</td>
<td>Hawaii, USA</td>
<td>15th June 2016</td>
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<tr>
<td>15th-17th January 2017</td>
<td>2017 INFORMS Computing Society Conference</td>
<td>Austin, USA</td>
<td>1st July 2016</td>
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<tr>
<td>26th-28th February 2017</td>
<td>8th International Network Optimization Conference (INOC2017)</td>
<td>Lisbon, Portugal</td>
<td>20th January 2017</td>
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<td>4th-6th May 2017</td>
<td>Joint EURO/ORSC/ECCO International Conference 2017 on Combinatorial Optimization</td>
<td>Koper, Slovenia</td>
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<td>17th-21st July 2017</td>
<td>IFORS 2017</td>
<td>Québec, Canada</td>
<td>10th February 2017</td>
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<td>6th-8th September 2017</td>
<td>Optimization 2017</td>
<td>Lisbon, Portugal</td>
<td>15th May 2017</td>
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<td>6th-8th September 2017</td>
<td>OR 2017 International Annual Meeting of the German OR Society (GOR)</td>
<td>Berlin, Germany</td>
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<tr>
<td>25th-27th October 2017</td>
<td>ADT 2017 -- 5th International Conference on Algorithmic Decision Theory</td>
<td>Luxembourg</td>
<td>9th April 2017</td>
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