DESCRIPTION

The European Journal of Operational Research (EJOR) publishes high quality, original papers that contribute to the methodology of operational research (OR) and to the practice of decision making. EJOR contains the following types of papers:

- Invited Reviews, explaining to the general OR audience the developments in an OR topic over the recent years
- Innovative Applications of OR, describing novel ways to solve real problems
- Theory and Methodology Papers, presenting original research results contributing to the methodology of OR and to its theoretical foundations,
- Short Communications, if they correct important deficiencies of papers previously published in EJOR

The Theory and Methodology Papers are classified into one of the seven headings:

- Continuous Optimization
- Discrete Optimization
- Production, Manufacturing and Logistics
- Stochastics and Statistics
- Decision Support
- Computational Intelligence and Information Management
- Interfaces with Other Disciplines

In addition to these types of papers, EJOR contains Book Reviews.

Benefits to authors
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Researchers and practitioners working in the area of operational research/management science
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GUIDE FOR AUTHORS

INTRODUCTION

Editorial policies
The European Journal of Operational Research (EJOR) publishes high quality, original papers that contribute to the methodology of operational research (OR) and to the practice of decision making. Extended versions of papers published in conference proceedings are not solicited. The relation with ongoing research should be demonstrated by providing proper reference to the recent OR literature. With application papers, originality should be demonstrated by applying OR to a problem with interesting new aspects or by providing fresh insights leading to successful implementation. Practitioners often suffer from the need to conceal commercial secrets. Referees will take this into sympathetic consideration when advising on an application paper, but it will not be allowed to detract from the clarity of the presentation.

Types of paper
EJOR includes the following types of papers:

• Theory and Methodology Papers
  Papers presenting original research results contributing to the methodology of OR and to its theoretical foundations. The Theory and Methodology Papers will be classified by the Editors into one of seven sub-headings, based on the List of EJOR Keywords:
  1. Continuous Optimization
  2. Discrete Optimization
  3. Production, Manufacturing, Transportation and Logistics
  4. Stochastics and Statistics
  5. Decision Support
  6. Analytics, Computational Intelligence and Information Management
  7. Interfaces with Other Disciplines

• Innovative Applications of OR
  Papers describing novel ways to solve real problems. A paper presenting an Innovative Application of OR may be worthy of publication simply because it can be used to convince managers of the value to be gained by applying OR to particular problems.

• Short Communications
  Short Communications are considered, but only if they correct important deficiencies of papers published in EJOR during the last 5 years.

• Invited Reviews
  An Invited Review is expected to be a creative synthesis of the work recently done in an important field. Presentation of models and solution methods proposed up to now should be followed by definition of open problems, and indication of prospective research directions. It should also be strongly based on papers previously published in OR journals, including EJOR. A literature review cannot be just a list of papers with their short summaries and classification statistics, but should also contain an outline of adopted methodologies, their reference to practice, and a thorough analysis of their properties. Usually, the Invited Review papers are written by authors having a strong record of publications in the field and well known to EJOR as authors and reviewers. Note: Anyone interested in writing a review is requested to suggest a topic to one of the Editors, or to a member of the editorial board of EJOR before submitting a paper. If the topic is considered suitable, an invitation to submit will then be given by one of the editors. Unsolicited review papers will be returned to the authors.

• Special Issue Papers
  EJOR occasionally publishes groups of papers on topical themes. Submissions are handled by one or more Guest Editors. Special issues that are open for new submissions will each have their own paper type available in the submission system. Please visit the current list of Calls for Papers to see which special issues are open for new submissions.

Advice from the Editors
EJOR has a very high volume of submissions and acceptance is competitive. Therefore, papers that do not contain a major new research finding, or novel approach to the application of OR, are likely to be rejected. A paper may also be rejected because - in the opinion of the Editor - it does not make a sufficient scientific contribution.

All papers will be subject to an initial screening and technical check by the EJOR Managing Editor. Please carefully read the guidelines for NEW SUBMISSIONS below. If your article is written in poor English or does not contain all of the required components, it will not progress to peer review stage.
Articles that do not pass the Managing Editor screening or do not conform to the Editorial Policy are likely to be rejected without peer review.

- **Are you making a new submission?**
  All papers will be screened by the EJOR Managing Editor to make sure they conform to all Journal requirements. Please carefully read the PREPARATION section of this Guide for Authors for more details on each of the required components for New Submissions. We recommend you check this even if you have submitted to EJOR recently, as some requirements may have changed.

- **Has your submission been returned by the Managing Editor?**
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- **Have you received an Editorial decision of Revise?**
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**BEFORE YOU BEGIN**

*Ethics in publishing*

Please see our information pages on Ethics in publishing and Ethical guidelines for journal publication.

*Ethical statement*

Papers going through the peer-review process, before being accepted for publication, obtain an average of over five reports from three reviewers. For each paper that enters the review process, several fellow scientists devote their time and efforts to reading this work and providing comments. To keep this process operational and ensure a fair distribution of the workload, we expect that all submitting authors and co-authors are willing to review papers. We understand there may be reasons you cannot accept a request at certain times, however, refusing many requests over a long period of time is unwanted and not fair on other reviewers. After all, if you have time to write papers, then there should be time to review other papers, despite other teaching, administrative or editorial duties.

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PREPARATION
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• Has figures and tables embedded next to relevant text
• Includes references in APA format, with an alphabetical reference list*
• Includes a Title Page, containing all of the essential title page information*
• Includes one keyword from the list of EJOR Keywords and no more than 4 additional keywords*
• Does not contain formulae, abbreviations or acronyms in the Title
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*Please see the relevant sections in MORE INFORMATION for details.

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In order for the Editor and/or referees to be certain that the requested changes have been carried out, please clearly outline all of the changes made to the article since its last submission, for example by colouring any new text in red. Changes should also be referred to in the 'Comments to reviewers' file. If there are too many changes, please explain this in the 'Comments to reviewers' file. Note that there is no need to include an additional, clean, version of the manuscript.

At revision stage, several additional components are needed. These should be submitted as separate files:
• Highlights
A short collection of bullet points that convey the core findings of the article.
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• Highlights*
• Comments to reviewers
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Optional
• Cover letter
• Graphical abstract*
• Supplementary materials*

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Before submitting a revised manuscript to EJOR, please ensure that your article (still):
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• Is written in good British or American English
• Does not exceed 30 manuscript pages (or 10 pages if a Short Communication)
• Uses single column formatting, 11pt font, 1.5 line spacing, and has no line numbers
• Has figures and tables embedded next to relevant text
• Includes references in APA format, with an alphabetical reference list*
• Includes a Title Page, containing all of the essential title page information*
• Includes one keyword from the list of EJOR Keywords and no more than 4 additional keywords*
• Does not contain formulae, abbreviations or acronyms in the Title
• Does not contain formulae or unqualified abbreviations or acronyms in the Abstract
• Does not contain unqualified abbreviations or acronyms in the main text
• Shows changes made to the manuscript
• Includes a separate Highlights* file
• Includes a separate Comments to reviewers file
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  formulae and acronyms are not permitted.
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Abstract
A concise and factual abstract of between 50 and 250 words is required for all New and Revised
Submissions. The abstract should state briefly the purpose of the research, the principal results and
major conclusions. An abstract is often presented separately from the article, so it must be able to
stand alone. For this reason, references should be avoided, but if essential, the full reference must
be included. (For Short Communications, which address deficiencies in previous EJOR papers, the full
reference to the original paper should always be included.)
Abstracts should not contain any formulae, or any unqualified abbreviations or acronyms.
Abbreviations and acronyms used and defined within the abstract should be defined for a second time
within the manuscript main text.
Graphical abstract
Although a graphical abstract is optional, its use is encouraged as it draws more attention to the online article. The graphical abstract should summarize the contents of the article in a concise, pictorial form designed to capture the attention of a wide readership. Graphical abstracts should be submitted as a separate file in the online submission system. Image size: Please provide an image with a minimum of 531 × 1328 pixels (h × w) or proportionally more. The image should be readable at a size of 5 × 13 cm using a regular screen resolution of 96 dpi. Preferred file types: TIFF, EPS, PDF or MS Office files. You can view Example Graphical Abstracts on our information site. Authors can make use of Elsevier's Illustration Services to ensure the best presentation of their images and in accordance with all technical requirements.

Highlights
Highlights are optional for New Submissions but mandatory for Revised Submissions, as they are included within all accepted papers in this Journal. They consist of a short collection of bullet points that convey the core findings of the article and should be submitted in a separate editable file in the online submission system. Please use 'Highlights' in the file name and include 3 to 5 bullet points (maximum 85 characters, including spaces, per bullet point). You can view example Highlights on our information site. Highlights must not contain acronyms, abbreviations, formulae, or references.

Keywords
Keywords are required for all New Submissions and Revised Submissions. Selected keyword should be the first keyword in other 2 keyword sections (i.e., during submission process as well in manuscript after abstract). At least the first keyword should be selected from the official list of EJOR Keywords, below. Please note that the first keyword should also be entered separately under ?Section/Category? in the submission system. Some keywords from outside the list may be added but the total number of keywords should not exceed five.

The letters before the keywords represent the Editor who will receive the paper, if it progresses through the initial screening process.

Codes of Editors: (R) - Steffen Rebennack; (B) - Emanuele Borgonovo; (D) - Robert Dyson; (O) - José Fernando Oliveira; (S) - Roman Slowinski; (T) - Ruud Teunter

List of EJOR keywords
• (S) Analytics
• (R) Applied probability
• (S) Artificial intelligence
• (S) Assignment
• (R) Auctions/bidding
• (D) Behavioural OR
• (R) Bioinformatics
• (S) Branch and bound
• (O) Combinatorial optimization
• (D) Community operational research
• (S) Complexity theory
• (R) Computing science
• (R) Conic programming and interior point methods
• (D) Control
• (R) Convex programming
• (D) Cost benefit analysis
• (O) Cutting
• (D) Data envelopment analysis
• (R) Data science
• (B) Decision analysis
• (D) Decision processes
• (S) Decision support systems
• (B) Distributed decision making
• (O) Distribution
• (S) Dynamic programming
• (D) E-commerce
• (O) Education
• (D) Ethics in OR
• (S) Evolutionary computations
• (R) Facilities planning and design
• (B) Finance
• (O) Flexible manufacturing systems
• (T) Forecasting
• (R) Fractional programming
• (S) Fuzzy sets
• (B) Game theory
• (O) Genetic algorithms
• (R) Global optimization
• (S) Goal programming
• (R) Graph theory
• (S) Group decisions and negotiations
• (O) Heuristics
• (D) Human resource planning
• (O) Humanitarian logistics
• (R) Integer programming
• (T) Inventory
• (B) Investment analysis
• (S) Knowledge-based systems
• (R) Large scale optimization
• (R) Linear programming
• (O) Location
• (T) Logistics
• (R) Machine learning
• (T) Maintenance
• (T) Manufacturing
• (R) Markov processes
• (O) Metaheuristics
• (D) Multi-agent systems
• (S) Multiple criteria analysis
• (S) Multiple objective programming
• (R) Multivariate statistics
• (R) Networks
• (R) Nonlinear programming
• (D) OR in agriculture
• (R) OR in airlines
• (B) OR in banking
• (T) OR in defence
• (D) OR in developing countries
• (O) OR in disaster relief
• (R) OR in energy
• (B) OR in entertainment
• (R) OR in environment and climate change
• (D) OR in government
• (O) OR in health services
• (O) OR in maritime industry
• (D) OR in marketing
• (S) OR in medicine
• (R) OR in natural resources
• (B) OR in organization theory
• (D) OR in research and development
• (R) OR in scientometrics
• (O) OR in service industries
• (D) OR in societal problem analysis
• (D) OR in sports
• (R) OR in telecommunications
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• (D) Pricing
• (D) Problem structuring
• (T) Production
• (D) Productivity and competitiveness
• (B) Project management
• (S) Project scheduling
• (T) Purchasing
• (R) Quality control
• (T) Quality management
• (R) Queueing
• (B) Reliability
• (R) Replacement
• (O) Retailing
• (D) Revenue management
• (B) Risk analysis
• (D) Risk management
• (R) Robustness and sensitivity analysis
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• (R) Semi-infinite programming
• (B) Simulation
• (R) Stochastic processes
• (R) Stochastic programming
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