

Call for Papers

Special issue on “Operations Research Models for Supply Chain Finance”

Guest Editors

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Operations research (OR) is the major discipline which supports the establishment of modern supply chain management. Over the past decades, supply chain management problems, such as supply chain inventory management, transportation management, facility location selection, production scheduling, demand and supply forecasting, supply chain operations–marketing interface, channel coordination, and closed-loop supply chains, have been well-addressed by OR models and analyses. However, these problems focus mainly on materials and information flows in the supply chain systems. Relatively little research has been conducted on the capital flows in the supply chain systems.

In recent years, we have witnessed the development of an area called supply chain finance. For instance, suppliers in some supply chains would finance the smaller retailers with an interest rate more favorable than the banks as a part of their strategic alliances. Some retailers purchase from manufacturers and ask for a long credit period to settle the payment but this increases the manufacturers' financial risk, etc. All of these issues are critical and can be addressed by using OR models and analyses. However, currently, the topic of supply chain finance is still emerging and is under explored in the OR literature.

Motivated by the importance of supply chain finance, this special issue of *International Transactions in Operational Research* (ITOR) has been organized. It is devoted to the development of novel OR models and the respective analyses to advance our knowledge towards the optimal mechanisms and policies for supply chain finance. Topics of interest include, but are not limited to, capital flow optimization in supply chains, default and bankruptcy in supply chains, supply chain optimization with financial constraints, supply chain financial risk management, credit risk analysis in supply chains, risk-averse attitudes in supply chain finance, trade credits in supply chains, among others.

The deadline for submissions is December 31, 2018. Papers will be peer-reviewed according to the editorial policy of *International Transactions in Operational Research* (ITOR), the flagship journal published by the International Federation of Operational Research Societies (IFORS).

They should be original, unpublished, and not currently under consideration for publication elsewhere. Contributions should be prepared according to the instructions to authors that can be found on the journal homepage. Authors should submit and upload their contributions using the submission site <http://mc.manuscriptcentral.com/itor>, indicating in their cover letter that the paper is intended for this special issue. Other inquiries should be sent directly to the Guest Editors in charge of this issue: Tsan-Ming (Jason) Choi (jason.choi@polyu.edu.hk) and Dmitry Ivanov (dmitry.ivanov@hwr-berlin.de).