

Call for Papers – Annals of Operations Research

Special issue on

Innovative OR Methods for Information-Transparent Supply Chains

Information transparency is very important for supply chain operations. To gain competitive advantages in today's complex global markets, it is crucial for firms to effectively manage and utilize business information in supply chains. However, due to self-interests, firms are commonly reluctant to share or reveal their private information. Therefore, various mechanisms or contracts have been designed to entice supply chain members to either share their private information or to reveal their information willingly. A well-designed information revelation mechanism is hence critical as it makes information available in the supply chain, which potentially enhances supply chain operations efficiency.

Despite being helpful, information revelation mechanisms are far from perfect. For example, supply chain members may misinterpret information. Even worse, moral hazard issues such as fake information sharing may occur. Thus, it is commonly believed that information revelation mechanisms are not sufficient, and achieving full information transparency in the supply chain is the best solution. Nowadays, with the advent of Blockchain technology, for example, permanent records of all transactions can be stored and made available to all supply chain members in a trustworthy manner. This creates the information-transparent supply chain.

Motivated by the importance of information transparency in supply chain operations, we plan for this special issue to feature research on how information transparency can be used to effectively improve supply chain performances by employing innovative operations research (OR) methods. We invite papers that focus on all topics related to the use of innovative OR methods for information-transparent supply chains. We are particularly interested in scientifically sound OR studies uncovering the value of information transparency for firms in supply chain operations. Contributions on the interface of information transparency with other functions (e.g., finance or marketing) in the supply chain are also encouraged.

Following the high standards of AOR, we seek original and high quality manuscripts that have not been published and are not under review at other journals or

peer-reviewed conferences. The special issue is open to papers based on all types of mainstream OR methodologies, including theoretical, empirical, and field based research.

Potential topics (but are not limited to):

- Current information transparency initiatives in supply chain operations
- Blockchain technology supported supply chain operations
- Mechanism designs for voluntary disclosure and impacts on information transparency
- Advantages and disadvantages of information transparency in supply chains
- Supply chain members' behaviors under asymmetric information
- The impact of availability information on customer behavior
- Contracting under asymmetric information
- Values of information sharing in supply chains with the use of technologies
- Information leakage, signaling, and screening in supply chains
- Values of information flow in supply chains under competition
- Information transparency in supply chains for new product launching
- Interfaces of information transparent supply chain operations and other areas

Instructions for Authors

Instructions for authors can be found at:

<http://www.springer.com/business/operations+research/journal/10479>

Authors should submit a cover letter and a manuscript by 31 December 2019 via the Journal's online submission site. Manuscripts submitted after the deadline may not be considered for the special issue and may be transferred to a regular issue. Please see the Author Instructions on the website if you have not yet submitted a paper through Springer's web-based system, Editorial Manager. Be sure to note when leaving a comment that your work is intended for the special issue and to select the article type **Information-Transparent Supply Chains**. Papers will be subject to a rigorous review process managed by the Guest Editors and all accepted papers will be published online individually, before print publication.

Guest Editors (Listed in an alphabetical order)

Tsan-Ming Choi, The Hong Kong Polytechnic University, Hong Kong

Guo Li, Beijing Institute of Technology, China

Suresh P. Sethi, University of Texas at Dallas, USA

Bin Shen, Donghua University, China, and Technical University of Munich, Germany