

Operations and Supply Chain Research Newsletter

1 October – 31 December 2020

Grants

Andrew Lyons and **Gopalakrishnan Narayanamurthy** are Co-Investigators on a Natural Environment Research Council (NERC) award of £975K for a project that aims to make the plastic packaging used in products, such as shampoo bottles, more sustainable and environmentally friendly. The project, led by Tom McDonald from the Department of Chemistry, is a three-year, Smart Sustainable Plastic Packaging study. It aims to develop new approaches to prevent the degradation of plastics during recycling, and to design and test new recycling operations and supply network configurations. In addition to being the principal industry sponsor, Unilever & its partners provide a route to market for the research.



Bruce Pinnington and **Jo Meehan** have secured a £108K research grant funding from the AHRC's Modern Slavery Policy and Evidence Centre for a project to explore the challenges faced by firms in addressing modern slavery in their supply chains, whilst also responding to Covid-19 disruptions. The research is being undertaken in partnership with The University of Nottingham's Rights Lab (Dr Alex Trautrim), the Ethical Trading Initiative, Crown Commercial Service, and the Home Office's Modern Slavery Unit. The Chartered Institute of Procurement and Supply (CIPS) are working with the team to ensure timely dissemination of recommendations to 200,000 professional buyers, along with Fifty-Eight, who work on the ground with individuals and organisations to combat modern slavery through training and education.



Awards / Recognitions

Paul Cousins and **Tolga Bektaş** are included in the World's Top 2% Scientists List by Stanford University (full list available at <https://data.mendeley.com/datasets/btchxktzyw/2>).

Ian McHale had one of his papers covered in the Independent newspaper article available at: <https://www.independent.co.uk/sport/football/premier-league/manchester-united-liverpool-tv-audience-b1728615.html>. The paper was written with colleagues in the Economics group and is on explaining television audiences in football.

Supervised by **Jo Meehan** and **Bruce Pinnington**, one of our ESRC CASE PhD students, **Olly Kennedy**, won the Student of the Year Prize and the Outstanding Dissertation of the Year Prize for his recently completed MRes.

Conference Attendance or Presentations

Ian McHale gave a talk at the Manchester Statistical Society on analytics in sport in December 2020, attended by over a hundred people. The MSS is the oldest statistical society in the world.

Jo Meehan gave a talk in October 2020 to faculty at the Marketing and Supply Chain Management seminar series at Maastricht University entitled "Exploring critical perspectives in PSM: Metaphor, language, and art?", and also delivered a workshop to their doctoral and early career researchers on "Doing socially relevant research".

Dongping Song gave an invited talk on "Container Shipping Supply Chain: Decarbonisation and Optimisation" at the Operation Management and Research UK Summit 2020, Newcastle University, 28–30 December 2020.

Publications (Accepted or Published)



Akhavan Kazemzadeh, M. R., **Bektaş, T.**, Crainic, T. G., Frangioni, A., Gendron, B., & Gorgone, E. (2021). Node-based Lagrangian relaxations for multicommodity capacitated fixed-charge network design. Forthcoming in *Discrete Applied Mathematics*. doi:10.1016/j.dam.2020.12.024



Guo, S., Sun, X., & **Lam, H.K.S.** (2020). Applications of blockchain technology in sustainable fashion supply chains: Operational transparency and environmental efforts. Forthcoming in *IEEE Transactions on Engineering Management*, 1-17. doi:10.1109/tem.2020.3034216



Knight, L., Vos, F., **Meehan, J.** New procurement directions in supply chain management. Forthcoming book chapter in: "Global Logistics: New Directions in Supply Chain Management" Ed Sweeney and Donald Waters (editors).



Turkes, R., Sorensen, K., Hvattum, L., Barrena, E., Chentli, H., Coelho, L., Dayarian, I., Grimault, A., Gullhav, A., **Iris, C.**, Keskin, M., et al. (2020). Data for a meta-analysis of the adaptive layer in adaptive large neighborhood search. *Data in brief*, 33, 106568.



Ye, F., Xia, Q., Zhang, M., **Zhan, Y.**, & Li, Y. Harvesting online reviews to identify the competitor set in a service business: Evidence from the hotel industry. Forthcoming in *Journal of Service Research*. doi:10.1177/1094670520975143