Special Issue on Smart Coordination for Logistics Operational Control in Manufacturing
under the Evolution Trend of Digital Economy

Logistics operations are a critical component of manufacturing systems. As the digital economy evolves, advances in automation technologies offer new opportunities to strengthen the collaborative material, production, and information flows. In such an interconnected digital environment, automation can enhance logistics operations to become more flexible, adaptable, and scalable, and a vast amount of industrial data can be exploited, analyzed, and utilized to build smarter manufacturing systems.

However, there are still several challenges when coordinating logistics operations in modern manufacturing systems. First, traditional logistics operations are optimized for high-volume, low-variety production modes, while the increasing demand for customized products and small-batch production requires automation in logistics operations to be more flexible and adaptable. Moreover, traditional logistics operations are often characterized by a lack of real-time coordination and synchronization between material, production, and information flows, which can further exacerbate these challenges. Last but not least, effectively processing and learning from the huge amount of industrial data can be facilitated through the implementation of automation technologies, which has the expectation to significantly enhance the capability of logistics operation control.

To address these challenges and expectations, this Special Issue aims to present emerging and smart coordination technologies for manufacturing logistics operations. Topics of interest include, but are not limited to:

- Coordination of material handling in manufacturing
- Cooperative operations of logistics and manufacturing automation
- Multirobot logistics planning in manufacturing
- Real-time coordination of material, production, and information flows
- Digital twins for logistics automation
- Machine learning for optimizing logistics operations in manufacturing
- Collaborative operational planning for intermodal transport
- Cyber-physical systems for logistics automation
- Big data-driven smart coordination for logistics operational control

Important Dates
- Paper submission deadline: Jan. 1, 2024
- Completion of the first-round review: March. 30, 2024
- Completion of the second-round review: May. 30, 2024
- Final submission due: July. 30, 2024
- Tentative publication date: Oct. 30, 2024
Guest Editors

Dr. Wenfeng Li
Professor, IEEE Senior Member
School of Transportation and Logistics
Wuhan University of Technology, Wuhan, China
Email: liwf@whut.edu.cn
Google Scholar: https://scholar.google.com/citations?user=JlGOBS0AAAAJ&hl=en&oi=ao

Dr. Mariagrazia Dotoli
Professor, IEEE Senior Member, Senior Editor - IEEE Transaction on Automation Science and Engineering, and Associate Editor of IEEE Transactions of Systems, Man, and Cybernetics: Systems
Department of Electrical and Information Science Engineering
Politecnico di Bari, Bari, Italy
Email: mariagrazia.dotoli@poliba.it
Google Scholar: https://scholar.google.com/citations?user=857b4i4AAAAJ&hl=it

Dr. Xiaoou Li
Professor, IEEE Senior Member, Associate Editor - IEEE Transaction on Automation Science and Engineering, and Editor of Engineering Applications of Artificial Intelligence
Department of Compute Science
CINVESTAV-IPN, Mexico City, Mexico
Email: lixo@cs.cinvestav.mx
Google Scholar: https://scholar.google.com/citations?user=R9Td938AAAAJ&hl=es&oi=ao

Dr. Walter Lucia
Associate Professor, IEEE Member, Associate Editor- Control System Society - Conference Editorial Board, IEEE Systems Journal and Springer Journal of Control, Automation and Electrical Systems.
Concordia Institute for Information Systems Engineering
Concordia University, Montreal, Canada
Email: walter.lucia@concordia.ca
Google Scholar: https://scholar.google.com/citations?user=Tof-IKYAAAAJ&hl=eng

Dr. Jianbin Xin
Associate Professor, IEEE Member, Editor-Journal of Advanced Transportation
School of Electrical and Information Engineering
Zhengzhou University, Zhengzhou, China
Email: j.xin@zzu.edu.cn
Google Scholar: https://scholar.google.com/citations?user=UXVtdUAAAAJ&hl=en&oi=ao
Paper Submission
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