ALMA MATER STUDIORUM
UNIVERSITÀ DI BOLOGNA | DEPARTMENT
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prof. R. Słowiński
Editor-in-Chief
European Journal of Operational Research

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Subject: Submission of Manuscript for Publication

Dear Professor Słowiński,

We are pleased to submit our manuscript, "Bootstrap Enhanced Scenario Optimization, a Case Study in Two-Echelon Logistics" for consideration in *European Journal of Operational Research*. This paper contributes to the field of distributionally robust optimization by presenting a novel theoretical framework that integrates forecasting and stochastic optimization in an interconnected loop. We posit that this framework offers significant potential for enhancing research and management practice and stimulating further studies within the operations research community.

The manuscript introduces a novel approach to distributionally robust optimization. The proposed framework leverages Maximum Entropy Bootstrap with bagging—a potentially underutilized yet statistically robust and readily defensible forecasting method—to deliver a computationally efficient that avoids explicit parametric ambiguity-set specification. While demonstrated in a real-world logistics context, the methodology has broader applicability and offers a credible alternative to prevailing DRO formulations when suitable historical data series are available. A computational study assessing scalability and performance is included.

The manuscript fully conforms to the journal's submission guidelines. The application makes use of real-world data already used in a prior work in a different application context (Maniezzo, Zhou, 2023), but it contains a completely different approach, with different objective and constraints, that significantly advances the state-of-the-art by introducing entirely novel forecasting and optimization methodologies. This work has not been previously published nor is it currently under review elsewhere. We affirm that no generative AI was used in the preparation of the manuscript besides style and syntax checking and that all ethical guidelines of the journal were meticulously followed.

We appreciate your consideration and look forward to your feedback.

Sincerely,

Vittorio Maniezzo, University of Bologna
Livio Fenga, University of Exeter Business School