

ISIRNEWSLETTER

December 2005 Vol. 23. No.2.

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EDITORIAL

2006 - a Symposium year again. It is always exciting, even though we are organizing the fourteenth already. Preparations this time were and will be even more thorough then earlier. Many suggestions arrived at the 2004 General Assembly meeting and via the consequent, very successful survey question. We have discussed these proposals with members of the Executive Committee and found that some can be introduced immediately, while some other need further classification, discussion. The timetable of the meeting did not change the vast majority of respondents want to keep the traditional schedule and the proposals have shown to very different directions. The financial structure is changed, we offer more options to meet individual demand you can see the changes in the Announcement in this newsletter. Also, perhaps more importantly, we use a more sophisticated quality assurance process in the acceptance of paper, by formally involving proposal that submission of "in absentia" papers be possible only for ISIR members.

Various other changes will be appropriately formalized and put on the table of the General Assembly of the next meeting in August 2006. I am sure that our members agree that program of the basically successful series of Symposia needs regular revisions but no dramatic changes from one meeting to the next.

We can be optimistic about the future: it is very nice to see from the list of participants of the great Summer School held in Mannheim, how many new people are interested in inventory research. We certainly hope to see many of them at the Symposium as well.

Wishing you a Happy New Year and hoping to see you in August.

Attila Chikán



REPORT ON THE 7TH ISIR SUMMER SCHOOL ON SUPPLY CHAIN INVENTORY MANAGEMENT

Mannheim Business School, University of Mannheim, Germany, August 14-19, 2005

Hosting the seventh ISIR Summer School, the Department of Logistics Mannheim Business School pleased to welcome inventory researchers from 13 countries for five days in Mannheim (Germany). summer school was financially supported by SAP and the University of Mannheim. Professor Stefan Minner (Mannheim) was able to gather a good mix between voung doctoral students and senior



academics in the broad field of "Supply Chain Inventory Management", among them four distinguished researchers who accepted the invitation to give tutorials in their special field of research interest. Somewhat unexpectedly, in his presentation *Edward Silver* (Calgary) skipped any inventory-control-related formula and instead gave non-quantitative but practical advice for improving research productivity from his own experience. Tuesday's tutorial given by *Charles Corbett* (UCLA) focused on the implication of information asymmetry on supply chain issues, followed by an overview on the emerging research in the field of joint pricing and inventory optimization on Wednesday (*Moritz Fleischman*, Rotterdam). On Thursday, *Ton de Kok* (Eindhoven) discussed the general case of multi-echelon multi-item inventory models under both stochastic demand and leadtimes. The bulk of presentation time, however, was devoted to doctoral students to discuss ideas and results from their own research projects. According to the successful format of the previous summer schools, each presentation was followed by comments of a fellow Ph.D. student as well as one senior researcher, both of which having been assigned to the complete working paper in advance.

The Summer School proved once again to be valuable beyond mere academic purposes by providing an ideal platform for social networking with interesting people from all over the world. This was promoted by and reflected in a diverse social program with, amongst other activities, an excursion to the beautiful city of Heidelberg on Wednesday. The week's cultural highlight took place already at an early stage of the week when the school's participants visited the castle of Hambach on Tuesday. In a guided tour through and around the castle the participants' obvious thirst for German history was satisfied, and so was the appetite for more basic needs during the conference dinner in the castle's glamorous banqueting hall.

Find below all abstracts of the working papers (in the order of the presentations given) as well as a list of all participants. The full abstracts can be found in the detailed report downloadable from the ISIR website (www.isir.hu)

Mirko Kremer, Mannheim



Abstracts

Edward A. Silver: Some suggestions for improving research productivity

Mojisola Otegbeye, Layek Abdel-Malek: On supply chain inventory management utilizing extensions of the multi-product newsboy models

Bas Verheijen, R. Kuik: A model for transport costs with consolidation effects

Mohamed Zied Babai, Yves Dallery: A study of flow management policies with advance demand information

Baris Selcuk, Jan C. Fransoo, A.G. de Kok: Linear & nonlinear work-in-process (WIP) clearing in supply chain operations planning (SCOP) with planned lead times

Dragana Makajic-Nikolic, Mirko Vujosevic: Experimenting with different supply chain parameters using Colored Petri Net simulator

Michael K"ampf: Computer-aided modeling of supply chains in a hierarchical decision making process

Charles Corbett: Incentives and information asymmetry in inventory control

Kobe Naesens, Ludo Gelders, Liliane Pintelon: A framework for collaboration in a supply network

Mirko Kremer, Diedrich Bremer, Stefan Minner. Supply chain contracting under mild behavioral assumptions

Sandra Transchel, Stefan Minner: The impact of dynamic pricing on economic ordering decisions

Patrik Tydesjö, Fredrik Olsson: Inventory problems with perishable items; fixed lifetimes and backlogging

Moritz Fleischmann: Revenue management and operations - integrating pricing and inventory control

Yacine Rekik, Zied Jemai, Evren Sahin, Yves Dallery: Inventory inaccuracy in the retail supply chain: coordination versus auto-ID technology

Jan Arnold, Stefan Minner. Raw materials procurement with commodity options - a risk management approach

Hussein Naseraldin, Yale T. Herer. Optimal size, location, and inventory decisions in an infinite-horizon newsvendor-type environment

Fredrik Olsson: Optimal asymmetric policies for inventory systems with lateral transshipments

A.G. de Kok: Optimization of multi-echelon multi-item inventory systems

Alejandro Parodi, Liliane Pintelon, Ludo Gelders: Service parts supply systems and maintenance logistics

Ivan Ferretti, Simone Zanoni: Lot-sizing for inventory systems with multi-level item remanufacturing

Umut Corbacioglu, E.A. van der Laan: Optimal ordering decision using returns information: the value of quantity information

Irena Okhrin, Knut Richter. Inventory models in the mobile business environment

Grigori Pichtchoulov, Knut Richter. Economic effects of mobile technologies in pre-sell distribution

Ondrej Myslivecek: Innovation of supply chains in computer-manufacturing industry

The summer school was organized by

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FUTURE EVENTS



NEXT ISIR Session at the Allied Social Science Associations Meetings

January 6-8, 2006, Boston, MA, USA

Session Title: Inventories and the Aggregate Economy

Presiding: Huntley Schaller, Carleton University

Aubhik Khan, Federal Reserve Bank of Philadelphia, and Julia K. Thomas, University of Minnesota, Federal Reserve Bank of Minneapolis, and NBER -- "Modeling Inventories over the Business Cycle"

Matteo Iacoviello, Boston College, Fabio Schiantarelli, Boston College, and Scott Schuh, Federal Reserve Bank of Boston -- "Input Output Inventories in General Equilibrium"

Louis Maccini, Johns Hopkins University, Bart Moore, Fordham University, and Huntley Schaller, Carleton University -- "Monetary Policy and Inventory Investment"

Discussants:

James Kahn, Federal Reserve Bank of New York Andreas Hornstein, Federal Reserve Bank of Richmond Martin Eichenbaum, Northwestern University

Expected attendance: 30-40

Presiding: Huntley Schaller

Department of Economics, Carleton University 1125 Colonel By Drive, Ottawa ON K1S 5B6, Canada

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Email: schaller@ccs.carleton.ca



14th International Working Seminar on **Production Economics**

February 20-24, 2006, Congress und Messe Innsbruck, Austria

The purpose of the seminar is to provide an opportunity for research scientists and practitioners to meet, present and develop their ideas on subjects within the field of Production Economics. Papers submitted will be distributed to all participants in advance. A discussant will be appointed for each paper. The intention is, that models and methods presented, and the discussion of them, will result in concrete ideas for future research and developments in this area. Participants of the Seminar are expected to act as discussants within their field of expertise.

The sessions will cover the six main areas:

- Production and Inventory Control
- Investment and Financial Planning in Production
- Manufacturing Strategy
- Supply Chain Management
- Productivity Measurement and Analysis
- Innovation and Technology Management

Official mailing address:

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http://www.ipe.liu.se/wg/igls/igls.htm



CALL FOR PAPERS

14th International Symposium on Inventories

August 21-25, 2006 Budapest, Hungary

Objectives

The professional objectives of organizing this meeting are similar to those of the previous symposia: to provide a forum for an international exchange of ideas on various aspects of inventories. Papers on macroand microeconomics, econometrics, economic policy, business management and operational research aspects of inventory problems and related fields (production, logistics, etc.) are invited.

Program

The professional program will start on **August 21, 2006** with plenary sessions to be addressed by internationally acknowledged scholars. On the following days there will be parallel sessions of the three sections of ISIR:

- I. Economics of Inventories
- II. Inventory Management
- III. Mathematical Models of Inventories

Besides the regular paper presentations we plan to have a few special sessions, roundtables and free discussions. Until now the following special sessions are planned:

- Demand Forecasting for Inventory Management (see "Call for papers" on page 8.)
- Some Suggestions for Improving Research Productivity: Professor Edward Silver gives a tutorial presentation requesting the active participation of the audience. This presentation has been given by Ed at previous occasions (including the 2005 ISIR Summer School in Mannheim) with great success. His vast experience and celebrated research results provide a remarkable background for this presentation, useful for professors and PhD students alike.
- Practitioners' roundtable
- Educators meeting

Those who wish to propose or organize a special session, are kindly invited to contact the Secretariat as soon as possible but not later than January 31, 2006.

All sessions will be held in **Sofitel Atrium Budapest Hotel.** The conference language is English.

ISIR Official Meetings

The **ISIR Executive Committee** will have its meeting on Monday, August 21 evening. The **ISIR General Assembly** meeting will be held on Thursday, August 24 in the afternoon.

Social Program

According to the wish of the vast majority of members expressed in the surveys conducted a few months ago we have not made any substantial change in the structure of the social programs. We will have a gettogether party on Monday, August 21, an optional full day excursion with company visit on Wednesday, August 23, and a banquet on Thursday, August 24 evening.

Spouses' program will also be offered (details will be available in the 2nd announcement.)



Papers

There will be a change in the traditional procedure of accepting papers. If you wish to present a paper please send us an extended abstract (400-500 words) before March 15, 2006. Abstracts will undergo a blind review. Executive Committee members will act as reviewers. Decisions regarding acceptance will be made by April 30, 2006. The volume of abstracts will be available at the Symposium.

The abstract should not contain the name of the author(s), affiliation, address, phone, fax and e-mail, these should be placed on a separate page. If the paper has several authors, please indicate the corresponding author. Please also include three keywords. Abstracts can be submitted as an attachment via e-mail sent to: <u>isir@isir.hu</u> or can be uploaded onto the website (<u>www.isir.hu</u>) from January 15, 2006.

Proceedings - A selection of the submitted papers will be published in a Special Issue of the respected International Journal of Production Economics. The selection will be based on a refereeing procedure after the symposium. Those who wish to have their papers published will be requested to submit their paper (approximately 25.000 characters) by email before July 31, 2006.

Those who wish to present their paper "in absentia" should also submit an abstract before March 15, 2006 and if accepted, send the full paper (also 25.000 characters) not later than July 31, 2006. These papers will be copied and distributed among the participants, and can also be included in the Proceedings. Processing and handling fee (EUR 100) is to be paid with the "in absentia" papers. This option is open only for ISIR members – see the registration form for membership criteria.

Participation

We have introduced a new, four-layer registration fee system. The basic fee covers lunches and coffee breaks, the Abstracts of Papers, the get-together and the farewell parties. The banquet dinner (Thursday evening) and the full day excursion with company visit (on Wednesday) are optional programs. There is also a full registration fee including both optional programs as well. You will save **EUR 60** if you register and pay the registration fee before April 30, 2006.

Registered PhD students can participate for a reduced fee. The registration form of PhD Students should come with a certification from the institute he/she is a Phd student at. There is no early bird fee for Phd students.

		Symposiu	Symposium fees	
	(in EUR incl. VAT)	Before	After	
		May 15, 2006		
ISIR members	Basic registration fee	340	400	
	With company visit	425	485	
	With banquet dinner	410	470	
	Full registration fee	460	520	
Non-members	Basic registration fee	420	480	
	With company visit	505	565	
	With banquet dinner	490	550	
	Full registration fee	540	600	

		ISIR member	Non-member
PhD Students	Basic registration fee	200	240
	With company visit	285	325
	With banquet dinner	270	310
	Full registration fee	320	360



The fee can be paid by credit card (VISA, EC/MC, JCB) or by sending a check payable to ISIR or transferring the money (free of bank charges) to our bank account: EUR 10300002-50100219-21004885 of the Hungarian Foreign Trade Bank Ltd. (H-1056 Budapest, Váci utca 38., Hungary, Swiftcode: MKKB HUHB)

In case of **cancellation** not later than **July 31, 2006** 90%, after that 50% of the registration fee will be refunded.

Accommodation

Special rates have been negotiated with **SOFITEL ATRIUM BUDAPEST**, the symposium hotel and a block of rooms has been reserved in the nearby **Hotel Taverna** and **Marco Polo Hostel** as well. For your information please find below their rates. Rooms should be booked directly with the hotels. Please quote "**ISIR Symposium**" when making your reservation. The number of rooms available is limited so you are advised to make your reservation before **June 30, 2006**. After that deadline we cannot ensure available rooms.

Prices are subject to change as a consequence of exchange rate changes of the EUR.

Hotels	Prices in EUR	
	Single	Double
Sofitel Atrium Budapest****	150	170/per room
Hotel Taverna ****	109	121/per room
Marco Polo Hostel	50	35/per person

Sofitel Atrium Budapest

H-1051 Budapest, Roosevelt tér. 2. T: +36 1 235 5600; F: +36 1 266 8762

www.sofitel.hu

Hotel Taverna

H-1052 Budapest, Váci u. 20, T: +36 1 485-3160, F: +36 1 485-3111

www.hoteltaverna.hu

Hostel Marco Polo

H-1072 Budapest, Nyár u. 6., T: +36 1 413-2555, F: +36 1 413 6058

www.marcopolohostel.com

More information on hotels, events and sights in Budapest can be found at

www.hotels.hu or www.hungarytourism.hu or www.budapestinfo.hu

Symposium Secretariat

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SPECIAL SESSION

DEMAND FORECASTING FOR INVENTORY MANAGEMENT

Many inventory systems cater for uncertain demand. The inventory parameters in these systems require estimates of the demand and forecast error distributions. The two stages of these systems, forecasting and stock control, are often examined independently. Most studies tend to look at demand forecasting as if this were an end in itself, or at stock control models as if there were no preceding stages of computation. Nevertheless, it is important to understand the interaction between demand forecasting and inventory control, since the performance of the inventory system is not only determined by the two components separately.

We are organising a special session on demand forecasting for inventory management in the forthcoming 14th International Symposium on Inventories, August 2006, and we would like to invite theoretical and/or empirical contributions that consider this interface. If you wish to present a paper in this special session, please send us an extended abstract (400-500 words) before **March 15, 2006**. Decisions regarding acceptance will be made (in consultation with the ISIR executive committee) by **April 30, 2006**. Abstracts can be submitted as an attachment via e-mail to either Aris Syntetos or John Boylan (see details below), copying also to ISIR (info@isir.hu). We look forward to seeing you at the conference!

Professor John E. Boylan

(Buckinghamshire Chilterns Univ. Coll.) e-mail: john.boylan@bcuc.ac.uk tel. no: + 44 (0) 14194 60 51 30

Dr Aris A. Syntetos

(University of Salford, UK) e-mail: a.syntetos@salford.ac.uk tel. no: + 44 (0) 161 295 58 04

REPORT ON THE GMRG 2005 MEETING

Phoenix, Arizona, USA ❖ August 3-6, 2005

The GMRG Sixteenth Annual Workshop was coordinated by Jack Wacker. The meeting focused on academic research developed from the questionnaire. The program theme was "International Manufacturing Research."

An interesting program was set up for a really international group of people. The more than 30 participants arrived from more than 10 countries. We could hear the views and vision on manufacturing and supply chain management of people who work in practice and of researchers during the meeting. We had some discussion on how to go to web with the questionnaire; how to regulate access to data; how to persuade companies to fill in questionnaires; how to finance the research by searching for governmental, university, industry or inter-country research funds and other support; how to develop the network to involve more countries and to increase the scientific level of publications. We also dealt with research methods used, for example statistical methods for on country and multi-country analyses, longitudinal analysis, data envelopment analysis. The last day of the meeting was devoted to improve the statistical capabilities of participants.

One of the primary purposes of the meeting was to discuss the new modules for GMRG III. Module developers had the chance to share their ideas and the background research model in their specific area. Beside the required basic module, forecasting, purchasing, outsourcing, environment and innovation modules were discussed.

Finally, I think the most important purpose of GMRG meetings from the very beginning is to get together and become friends. The organizers provided a lot of opportunities for this. Beside all the breakfasts, lunches and dinners we could have a look at the ASU (Arizona State University) Art Museum together. Thanks for all the organizers, especially for Jack Wacker and Danny Samson for the efforts they make.

Krisztina Demeter



NEWS FROM MEMBERS

Recent PhD theses from the Katholieke Universiteit Leuven

Jeroen Vits: Process Improvement Strategies to Enhance Manufacturing Capabilities

The objective of this thesis is the search for strategies to enhance the manufacturing capabilities of a firm. That objective is approached from two perspectives. Firstly concepts and theories developed and proved in the field of technology management are used to structure the manufacturing environment. Given those dynamics and properties of the manufacturing environment, a decision model is developed and analyzed to explore optimal process change planning. The research prescribes how management through changes of the process specifications can increase the maximum output level of the firm's manufacturing system. Where existing literature only focuses on either short term or long term optimal process change planning, this research considers both and identifies conditions under which optimal long term planning differs from optimal short term planning. Secondly the objective is approached from the field of quality management. The research proposes strategies for process quality improvement using the cost of quality framework while considering the effect of learning for process quality improvement. The research starts from the central idea that inspection for defect removal and learning for process quality improvement are interrelated issues and approaches the management in an integrated way. A decision model is formulated to help management decide where to inspect in a multi-stage manufacturing system and where to improve the process quality and for how long.



Geert Waeyenbergh: CIBOCOF: A Framework for Maintenance Concept Development

well-considered maintenance concept extremely important, because it helps structuring the maintenance problem and gives guidance in such a way that no important aspects are forgotten. During the past decennia, quite a lot of maintenance concepts were developed and described in literature (RCM, TPM, BCM, LCC, etc.). Although these concepts offer interesting and useful ideas, most of them are highly resource intensive in terms of manpower and management attention. Moreover, many of the concepts are only valid for a special class of equipment or a specific industry. In this thesis, a framework for maintenance concept development is developed and described. framework helps practitioners to focus on major aspects of a specific maintenance situation and to develop a suitable 'customized' maintenance concept. The framework combines elements of several maintenance concepts from literature in a decision support model.

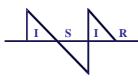
http://www.mech.kuleuven.be/dept/phds



ISIR member, Graham Rand, of Lancaster University, UK, has ended 25 years service to the International Federation of Operational Research Societies (IFORS).

He was editor of the proceedings and member of the scientific programme committee for the triennial conference in Buenos Aires in 1987, and chairman of the committee for the following conference in Athens (1990). He served as Vice President of IFORS from 1998 - 2000. Most of his service, however, has been devoted to publications. Uniquely he has been editor of both IFORS' journals. From 1980 he was the

editor of International Abstracts of Operations Research (IAOR) for eleven years. In more recent years he has been managing editor of International Transactions in Operational Research (ITOR). A significant contribution in this role has been the creation of the IFORS' Operational Research Hall of Fame. More recently, he acted as General Editor, following the retirement of the previous editor.



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CONFERENCE ANNOUNCEMENTS

INCOM'2006

Special session on Inventory Control May 17-19, 2006, Saint Etienne, France

A special session on "Inventory Control" will be held during the 12th IFAC Symposium on Information Control Problems in Manufacturing.

Control of manufacturing systems is often decomposed by time-scales. By naturally integrating production and demand over some time horizon, inventories reflect the mid-time evolution of manufacturing systems, and inventory control appears as a major mechanism for their tactical management. A key problem for production networks is how to control fluctuations of stock levels due to the distributed nature of inventory control policies, possibly with different lot sizes, base stock levels, review times... Other dynamical effects on inventories may reflect demand and supply randomness. Inventories have fixed and variable costs but they also provide the system with rapidity and robustness. Through the diversity of assumptions and models used to represent reality and objectives, inventory control is deeply rooted both in theory and practice.

Inventory control thus appears as a key topic in this conference and the special session is open to contributions in inventory control models, policies, theory and practice.

Submission policy: papers should be directly submitted to INCOM'2006, with the special mention of the session title: 'Inventory Control Session'. The deadline for submission was november 15th, 2005. For instructions, see the Conference page: (www.emse.fr/incom06/call_for_papers.html).

The scientific coordinator is:

Jean-Claude Hennet

Directeur de Recherche CNRS /

LISA - ISTIA

Tel. (33) (0)2 41 22 65 87

E-mail: hennet@laas.fr http://www.laas.fr/~hennet

INFORMS International Meeting

June 25-28, 2006, Hong Kong

Next summer, the INFORMS meeting will take place at the Sheraton Hong Kong Hotel and Towers from June 25-28. Nesim Erkip is organizing a cluster of sessions on "Operations Management". If you would like to organize an invited session on a particular theme within this area, please let him know.

Submission deadline is January 15, 2006.

Nesim Erkip

Middle East Technical University
Department of Industrial Engineering
e-mail: erkipn@metu.edu.tr
http://www.informs.org/Conf/Hongkong06/

2nd European Conference on Management of Technology / EuroMOT 2006

September 10-12, 2006, Birmingham, UK

The conference is being organised and hosted by Aston Business School on behalf of the International Association for Management of Technology (IAMOT). The conference theme is "Technology and Global Integration" and will focus on European and international technology management issues. Research based papers are welcome from both academia and industry.

Key dates are:

Abstracts by 20th March 2006

Decisions on abstracts by 24th April 2006 Full papers by 16th June 2006 Please find the call for papers on the IAMOT website www.iamot.org.

Conference contact at Aston Business School: **Pat Clark**

(Aston Academy for Research into Management) p.a.clark@aston.ac.uk



CALL FOR PAPERS

International Journal of Production Economics Special Issue: Operations Management in China

World attention is increasingly focused on the rapid growth of the Chinese economy and trade. The management of manufacturing, services, and distribution operations is a critical element of this sustained expansion, but is poorly understood, at least outside of China. Much of the extant literature has quickly dated with the rapid development and events such as WTO accession.

This special issue of the International Journal of Production Economics provides a focused and timely forum for researchers to explore issues concerning the management of manufacturing and services operations management in China. In line with the objectives of the journal we seek papers that will improve decision making and practice ofenterprises with operations in China, or dealing with operations in China. A wide variety of papers in conceptual and strategic theories, empirical research, case studies and analytical models focusing on the key issues of the theme of this special issue will be considered for publication. Papers that are interdisciplinary in nature in terms of content or in terms of research methodologies are particularly encouraged.

Potential topics include, but are not limited to:

1. Internal Operations Management Issues in China

- capacity planning, enterprise systems, inventory management, outsourcing, process improvement, production planning and scheduling, productivity and performance measurement, project management, quality management, services operations, technology management, and their relationship with corporate strategy

2. Inter-organizational Operations issues in China

- distribution systems, information exchange, logistics management, purchasing, supplier relationships, third party logistics

3. Interfaces between Operations and other functional areas in China

- customer relationship management, engineering, environmental management, finance, foreign investment, human resources, international trade, marketing, organizational design, product development, research and development

Manuscript Preparation and Submission

In preparing their manuscript, authors are asked to closely follow the "Instructions to Authors" presented at the back ofany recent issue ofthe International Journal of Production Economics. Manuscripts will be refereed according to the standards of the Journal. Completed papers should be sent to the Guest Editor before 31 December, 2005. Send your submission as a single attachment file to an email to David Robb, The University of Auckland (d.robb@auckland.ac.nz). In your email, please include (1) the full title, (2) abstract, (3) three key words of your paper, and (4) full name and postal address, including email and fax, of all authors. Manuscript (the attachment file) should be prepared in English, to ensure that:

- 1. The first page should include the title and abstract only. The text starts from the second page, including the title. No author identification information should be included to facilitate anonymous review process. Acknowledgements can be added after the paper is accepted for publication.
- 2. When saving the file, any author identifying information has been removed from the attachment.
- 3. The manuscript is doubled spaced, with all pages numbered, and formatted correctly in the form of a Word file, using Word 2000 (or an earlier version).or in PDF format.
- 4. The length is limited to 30 double-spaced pages including text, references, tables and figures.
- 5. The file prints out correctly (check especially to be sure imported figures and tables print, as you want them to!).

Publication Schedule - Manuscript submission 31 December, 2005

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