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## **Quantitative insights into the integrated push and pull production problem for lean supply chain planning 4.0**

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#### **ABSTRACT**

Validated quantitative models for lean supply chain planning (LSCP) are still scarce in the literature, particularly because conventional *push* systems have not been widely integrated and tested with *pull* systems in sustainable and resilient environments in the Industry 4.0 context. Hence the main contribution of this paper is to develop an optimisation model that is able to contribute to the LSCP with the combination of *push* and *pull* strategies. Here we present an integrated just-in-time (JIT) production system with material requirement planning (MRP) for a SC that takes a traditional fivelevel structure based on a mixed-integer linear programming model (MILP) dubbed as LSCP 4.0. The model is able to simultaneously plan the production and inventory of materials and finished goods to satisfy demand from forecasts and firm orders. The selection of alternative suppliers as a proactive measure to face disruptive events is also considered. Furthermore, sustainable practices are included in the objective function for profit maximisation by considering  $CO<sub>2</sub>$  emissions. This proposal is tested in the footwear sector. The results demonstrate that the combined use of JIT and MRP through a quantitative approach improve performance in leanness, sustainability and resilience by decreasing the bullwhip effect at different SC levels.

### <span id="page-1-1"></span>**ARTICLE HISTORY**

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#### **KEYWORDS**

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## **1. Introduction**

<span id="page-1-11"></span>Supply chains (SCs) are inherently vulnerable to lead times and order quantities (Reyes, Mula, and Díaz-Madroñero [2023b\)](#page-24-0), disruptions in network structures and demand fluctuations (Ivanov and Dolgui [2021\)](#page-23-0). This means that organisations are challenged to find new ways to distribute production and diversify SC disruption risks to satisfy demand on time with the least amount of waste. Here the performance benefits of lean manufacturing (LM) tools are often remarkable because they greatly improve quality (Psomas [2021\)](#page-24-1), and the cost and delivery of goods or services (Lander and Liker [2007\)](#page-23-1) and inventory levels (Green et al. [2019\)](#page-23-2). Of these objectives, just-in-time (JIT) for production planning and control (PPC) occupies a prominent place (Sugimori et al. [1977\)](#page-24-2), more specifically to reduce the bullwhip effect along the SC, as suggested by Lee, Padmanabhan, and Whang [\(1997\)](#page-23-3).

<span id="page-1-12"></span><span id="page-1-7"></span>In this context, using JIT together with Industry 4.0 (I4.0) enabling technologies is a new scenario that confers operational processes flexibility to improve collaborative relationships in the SC structure (Reyes,

<span id="page-1-8"></span><span id="page-1-4"></span>Mula, and Díaz-Madroñero [2023b\)](#page-24-0) when facing possible disruptions (Ivanov and Dolgui [2021\)](#page-23-0). As such, it is necessary to efficiently integrate these practices into SCs' PPC processes from raw material procurement to the fulfilment of customer demands (Lobo Mesquita et al. [2021\)](#page-24-3). In this sense, new digital technologies create new challenges for the application of quantitative analysis techniques, such as optimisation and simulation to improve SC performance (Dunke et al. [2018\)](#page-23-4). Here, based on the conceptual proposal by Ivanov, Dolgui, and Sokolov [\(2019\)](#page-23-5) for the digital SC, we adopt optimisation and cloud technology as I4.0 technologies to support lean SC planning (LSCP).

<span id="page-1-10"></span><span id="page-1-9"></span><span id="page-1-6"></span><span id="page-1-5"></span><span id="page-1-3"></span><span id="page-1-2"></span>Thus the development of optimisation models for LSCP is uncommon in the scientific literature (Reyes, Mula, and Díaz-Madroñero [2023b\)](#page-24-0), which contemplates lean, resilient and sustainable criteria at strategic, tactical and operational decision levels in an integrated manner. The literature also shows that when a quantitatively validated LM theory is lacking, there are many theories to be tested and, therefore, opportunities for further research (Pearce and Pons [2019\)](#page-24-4). Consequently, there is a

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very wide research gap about employing material requirement planning (MRP) and JIT approaches to improve the performance of existing SCs.

<span id="page-2-18"></span><span id="page-2-17"></span><span id="page-2-16"></span><span id="page-2-12"></span><span id="page-2-9"></span><span id="page-2-8"></span><span id="page-2-6"></span><span id="page-2-2"></span>In this context, the mathematical modelling, analysis and new mathematical solutions for SCs' PPC have been the focus of significant efforts made by researchers (Díaz-Madroñero, Mula, and Peidro [2014;](#page-23-6) Díaz-Madroñero, Peidro, and Mula [2015;](#page-23-7) Guzman, Andres, and Poler [2022\)](#page-23-8). Some of these studies address lean sustainable SCs (Das [2018;](#page-23-9) Fahimnia, Sarkis, and Eshragh [2015;](#page-23-10) Vafaeenezhad, Tavakkoli-Moghaddam, and Cheikhrouhou [2019\)](#page-24-5), lean-resilient SC (Das [2018;](#page-23-9) Kaur et al. [2020;](#page-23-11) Shafiee, Zare Mehrjerdi, and Keshavarz [2021;](#page-24-6) Zamanian et al. [2020\)](#page-25-0), flexible SCs in an environment with I4.0 digital technologies (Oh and Jeong [2019\)](#page-24-7) and agile SCs (Malmir and Zobel [2021;](#page-24-8) Rabbani, Aghamohamadi-Bosjin, and Manavizadeh [2021\)](#page-24-9). Consequently, no lean optimisation model has been addressed in an integrated manner to date with two different sources of demand, as well as criteria to improve multilevel SCs' resilience and sustainability. It is also important to highlight the considerations for future research on mixed deterministic inventory models of the MRP and JIT logistics in collaborative SCP proposed by Pahl and Voß [\(2014\)](#page-24-10). Here this new SCP proposal, which integrates *push* and *pull* strategies, focuses mainly on providing a comprehensive deterministic model to be used as a real or potential application and to be, ultimately, transferable to production systems.

<span id="page-2-13"></span>Hence the objective of this study is to design and develop a new optimisation model that simultaneously manages two sources of demand to improve an SC's performance in raw material supply and finished product flow terms by applying lean, sustainable and resilient practices. Here, the economic, environmental and social aspects of sustainability, are addressed in terms of minimisation of costs, reduction of  $CO<sub>2</sub>$  emissions and improvement in the service level of inventories according <span id="page-2-15"></span><span id="page-2-11"></span><span id="page-2-5"></span><span id="page-2-4"></span><span id="page-2-1"></span>to Becerra, Mula, and Sanchis [\(2021\)](#page-22-0), respectively. To reduce supplier disruptions, the model increases resilience to SCs through back-up suppliers in line with Ivanov and Dolgui [\(2021\)](#page-23-0). Specifically, the proposed model, dubbed as LSCP 4.0 uses a JIT production approach capable of simultaneously managing a *push* and *pull* demand system for decreasing inventory waste at the tactical and operational decision levels in a traditional multilevel SC context, the characteristics of highly fragmented industrial sectors, such as the footwear or textile sector, among others. Thus demand management separately considers demand from forecasts and demand from firm customer orders (Rota, Thierry, and Bel [1997\)](#page-24-11) compared to an MRP context (Mula, Poler, and Garcia [2006\)](#page-24-12). The main research objectives of this paper are oriented to: (i) design and formulate a new optimisation model, LSCP 4.0, to improve SCs' performance under multiple demand conditions, based on the previous work by Reyes, Mula, and Díaz-Madroñero [\(2023b\)](#page-24-0) that provides an LSCP 4.0 conceptual proposal; (ii) experiment the proposed mixed-integer linear programming (MILP) model; (iii) apply it functionally to a real-world SC from the footwear sector by comparing the JIT and MRP SC modelling approaches. Alternative models are compared in Table [1](#page-2-0) (Das [2019;](#page-23-12) [2018;](#page-23-9) Fahimnia, Sarkis, and Eshragh [2015;](#page-23-10) Oh and Jeong [2019;](#page-24-7) Shafiee, Zare Mehrjerdi, and Keshavarz [2021\)](#page-24-6). Nevertheless, the proposed model also contemplates criteria for sustainable and resilient SC paradigms.

<span id="page-2-14"></span><span id="page-2-10"></span><span id="page-2-3"></span>The rest of the article is organised as follows. Section [2](#page-3-0) provides a literature review on the optimisation models taken as references and discusses the contribution of several authors to the LSCP paradigm according to resilience and/or sustainability improvement criteria. Section [3](#page-4-0) introduces the methodology. Section [4](#page-4-1) presents the description of the addressed problem and proposes the design of its modelling. Section [5](#page-10-0) formulates the new LSCP 4.0 model and provides a solution approach.

<span id="page-2-0"></span>

<span id="page-2-7"></span>

Section [6](#page-15-0) presents and analyses the results applied in an SC in the footwear sector by comparing the JIT and MRP approaches. Finally, Section [7](#page-20-0) draws conclusions and indicates future research directions.

## <span id="page-3-0"></span>**2. Background and related literature**

This section discusses the main theoretical foundations on which this proposal is based, i.e. push and pull production strategies, lean paradigms and mathematical programming in the SCP context.

<span id="page-3-15"></span><span id="page-3-12"></span><span id="page-3-10"></span><span id="page-3-5"></span>The SC is a multilevel network of facilities in which inventories of raw materials, work-in-process and/or finished goods are managed mainly through two major PPC philosophies: *push* and *pull* (Ganeshan [1999\)](#page-23-14). In this context, the *push* approach is associated with multistage production systems based on demand forecasts, such as MRP (Orlicky [1975\)](#page-24-13), while the *pull* approach relies on JIT to create products based on firm demands (W. Wang, Fung, and Chai [2004\)](#page-25-1). So the implementation and integration of MRP and JIT have always been positively related to manufacturers' performance in an intracompany context (Roy [2020;](#page-24-14) Z. Chen and Shang [2008\)](#page-23-15). Additionally in an SC context, changes in customer demand constantly trigger JIT operations from distributors, manufacturers and suppliers (Yang et al. [2021\)](#page-25-2). Other stochastic (Govindan and Cheng [2018\)](#page-23-16) or fuzzy SC PPC approaches (Alavidoost, Jafarnejad, and Babazadeh [2021\)](#page-22-1), and fuzzy sustainable lean SC approaches (Ghahremani-Nahr and Ghaderi [2022\)](#page-23-17), have also been proposed to deal with uncertainty. Implementing optimisation under uncertainty requires a detailed characterisation of the uncertain parameters by stochastic or fuzzy approaches, which can result in very large and computationally demanding mathematical models (Lejarza, Kelley, and Baldea [2022\)](#page-24-15) that require the implementation of complex solution algorithms (Shapiro [2004\)](#page-24-16). Thus deterministic inventory models have been used mainly to solve cost reduction problems in *push* systems, such as economic order quantity (EOQ), and to improve service levels. Stochastic inventory models address relevant aspects, such as the evaluation of operations and inventory policies, by focusing on SC management (Vidal [2023\)](#page-25-3).

<span id="page-3-17"></span><span id="page-3-14"></span><span id="page-3-11"></span><span id="page-3-9"></span><span id="page-3-6"></span>Most studies on lean paradigms (Reyes, Mula, and Díaz-Madroñero [2023b\)](#page-24-0) related to resilient (Shafiee, Zare Mehrjerdi, and Keshavarz [2021\)](#page-24-6), sustainable, flexible, and agile perspectives conclude that they are management methods capable of increasing SCs' performance (Reyes, Mula, and Díaz-Madroñero [2023a](#page-24-17) ; Zekhnini et al. [2021\)](#page-25-4). Thus recent studies have established future research directions related to the use of lean tools in conjunction with digital technologies adopted by companies from an SC perspective, which demonstrates the recent growing interest in these fields (Danese, Manfè, and Romano [2018\)](#page-23-18).

<span id="page-3-3"></span>Here the main mathematical programming models for LSCP are identified and analysed (Table [1\)](#page-2-0). Psomas [\(2021\)](#page-24-1) provides future LM research methodologies and mathematical modelling techniques. In this regard, and given the importance of optimisation in LSCP to improve SCs' performance, the reviewed literature can be classified in terms of decision levels. SCs' PPC decision levels can be classified as strategic, tactical and operational according to the time horizon that is taken into account (Govindan and Cheng [2018\)](#page-23-16). Thus MILP solution approaches incorporate tactical and operational decisions (Gholami-Zanjani, Jabalameli, and Pishvaee [2021;](#page-23-13) Shafiee, Zare Mehrjerdi, and Keshavarz [2021;](#page-24-6) Vafaeenezhad, Tavakkoli-Moghaddam, and Cheikhrouhou [2019;](#page-24-5) Zamanian et al. [2020\)](#page-25-0), and mixed-integer non-linear programming (MINLP) (Fahimnia, Sarkis, and Eshragh [2015;](#page-23-10) Oh and Jeong [2019\)](#page-24-7). Strategical or long-term planning models have also been addressed by Das [\(2019;](#page-23-12) [2018\)](#page-23-9). In addition, some practical applications of optimisation models for strategic, tactical and operational decision levels in real production contexts are identified.

<span id="page-3-16"></span><span id="page-3-13"></span><span id="page-3-8"></span><span id="page-3-7"></span><span id="page-3-4"></span><span id="page-3-2"></span><span id="page-3-1"></span>Of the reviewed works, Fahimnia, Sarkis, and Eshragh [\(2015\)](#page-23-10) propose MINLP using lean and green criteria for tactical LSCP. Subsequently, an MILP scenario for SC planning with JIT raw material supply is put forward by Hein and Almeder [\(2016\)](#page-23-19). Das [\(2018\)](#page-23-9) develops MILP for integrating LM into sustainable SC planning. Optimising SC performance from the economic, environmental and social sustainability points of view has remarkably attracted researchers' attention (Das [2018;](#page-23-9) Fahimnia, Davarzani, and Eshragh [2018;](#page-23-20) Fahimnia, Sarkis, and Eshragh [2015;](#page-23-10) Gholami-Zanjani, Jabalameli, and Pishvaee [2021\)](#page-23-13). Therefore, models based on environmental sustainability in terms of minimising carbon emissions have generally posed a research gap in the supplier selection process (Das [2019;](#page-23-12) Kaur et al. [2020\)](#page-23-11). Consequently, recent studies have used methods to evaluate the importance of sustainability criteria for selecting alternative suppliers with an MILP model (Shafiee, Zare Mehrjerdi, and Keshavarz [2021\)](#page-24-6). However, the applied criteria are limited to cost minimisation and this could be detrimental to financial performance. Additionally, understanding the causes of waste and waste generation points facilitates production planning and control. Here LM tools like JIT that impact the management of SC operations in an I4.0 context occupy a prominent place (Reyes, Mula, and Díaz-Madroñero [2023b\)](#page-24-0). Yet in practice, most models currently only address I4.0 technologies in the LM context from a conceptual or descriptive

<span id="page-4-4"></span>point of view (Oh and Jeong [2019\)](#page-24-7), which also makes the impact of digitisation and I4.0 on SC disruption risk management a promising research line (Llaguno, Mula, and Campuzano-Bolarin [2022\)](#page-24-18). From our perspective, although LM optimisation models are still employed mainly for SC inventory control purposes (Brunaud et al. [2019;](#page-22-2) Gholami-Zanjani, Jabalameli, and Pishvaee [2021\)](#page-23-13), other researchers have also shown that LM is especially useful for reducing costs by eliminating other waste types, such as energy uses and greenhouse gases (Vafaeenezhad, Tavakkoli-Moghaddam, and Cheikhrouhou [2019\)](#page-24-5). Other mathematical modelling approaches have used MINLP to minimise lead times using smart SC performance (Oh and Jeong [2019\)](#page-24-7), and underutilised capacity in terms of SCs' environmental sustainability and resilience (Zamanian et al. [2020\)](#page-25-0).

Regarding the PPC system, on the one hand the LM literature has indicated that JIT could be positively applied to manage customer demand in activities such as raw material supply (S. Wang and Sarker [2006\)](#page-25-5), warehousing (Bortolotti, Danese, and Romano [2013\)](#page-22-3) and finished goods distribution (Biswas and Sarker [2020\)](#page-22-4). However, balancing demand variations is a major challenge for implementing LM practices (Panwar et al. [2015\)](#page-24-19). Thus changes in demand affect both sustainability and resilience aspects, which verifies the need to combine these concepts (Mehrjerdi and Shafiee [2021\)](#page-24-20). Therefore, to reduce the risk of inventory depletion (Brunaud et al. [2019\)](#page-22-2), companies can implement JIT processes driven by *pull* strategies to manage demand (Yang et al. [2021\)](#page-25-2) or for improving the service level by minimising lateness of orders (Karakutuk and Ornek [2023\)](#page-23-21). Based on this approach, sourcing from multiple sources is especially important when suppliers suffer disruptions and are unable to supply the necessary raw materials (Mehrjerdi and Shafiee [2021\)](#page-24-20). The advantage of this system is the reduction in inventory costs (Das [2018\)](#page-23-9), the lead time of customer orders and the improvement of after-sales service (Shafiee, Zare Mehrjerdi, and Keshavarz [2021\)](#page-24-6), but research into this topic is still constantly being conducted. On the other hand, MILP with MRP processes based on *push* strategies of buffer stocks to prevent peaks in demand (Lahrichi, Damand, and Barth [2022\)](#page-23-22) and bullwhip effect reduction (Mula et al. [2014\)](#page-24-21), and to manage demand in SCs, has also been addressed (Gholami-Zanjani, Jabalameli, and Pishvaee [2021;](#page-23-13) Vafaeenezhad, Tavakkoli-Moghaddam, and Cheikhrouhou [2019\)](#page-24-5). These approaches do not, however, consider resilient actions to cope with demand variations from multiple sources. Unlike these authors, LSCP 4.0 considers the comparison of JIT and MRP modelling approaches (see Table [1\)](#page-2-0). As a consequence of the aforementioned reasons, the combination of *push* and *pull* strategies in optimisation models for an SC planning problem is still a research gap.

## <span id="page-4-0"></span>**3. Methodology**

<span id="page-4-13"></span><span id="page-4-8"></span><span id="page-4-5"></span>In the methodological context, process modelling is described in several stages by Cameron and Hangos [\(2001\)](#page-22-5) to be applied in engineering processes. Winston [\(2004\)](#page-25-6) presents the process of building mathematical models to solve business problems. From these approaches, a systematic three-step methodology has emerged to develop the LSCP 4.0 model (Figure [1\)](#page-5-0).

The key thought that lies behind this methodology is the problem definition, which explains the need for research based on a previous literature review. So the modelling objective is limited with the appropriate assumptions and necessary information to develop the model's mathematical equations.- Here from the literature or *via* parameter estimation, the sets of values of the model's input and output variables for SCP are defined. Then a suitable analytical or numerical method is selected to solve the developed mathematical model through equations. Finally, to examine the effects of the solution obtained in a case study of the footwear industry, the model is experimented with in several scenarios, and the consistency of the results obtained is analysed to support the findings and conclusions of this research.

## <span id="page-4-12"></span><span id="page-4-11"></span><span id="page-4-3"></span><span id="page-4-2"></span><span id="page-4-1"></span>**4. Model definition**

## <span id="page-4-9"></span>*4.1. Problem description*

<span id="page-4-6"></span>Based on the conceptual model for LSCP 4.0 developed by Reyes, Mula, and Díaz-Madroñero [\(2023b\)](#page-24-0), it is established that the problem under study is to determine the maximum profit in a traditional SC by employing lean, sustainable and resilient practices to cope with possible interruptions in the supply of raw materials and the flow of finished goods through correct LSCP. So the importance of minimising emissions, namely carbon dioxide (CO2) (Fahimnia, Sarkis, and Eshragh [2015\)](#page-23-10), and inventory waste (Oh and Jeong [2019\)](#page-24-7) in SC planning is highlighted. Consequently, this research proposes an LSCP approach based on a new MILP model that places emphasis on JIT production which separately considers demand forecasts and firm customer orders for four SC levels. Hence the considered costs are classified as follows: production, inventory, backorder, transportation or supply of raw materials and finished goods, and carbon emissions from suppliers.

<span id="page-4-10"></span><span id="page-4-7"></span>In resilience and sustainability terms, for the *push* system, and in order to manage demand variability, safety inventories proportional to the expected service level are incorporated (Brunaud et al. [2019\)](#page-22-2), which is done with the flow of finished goods from warehouses to retailers that mitigate delays in the delivery of firm orders. However in the *pull* system, safety inventory is not considered because the essential success factor of

<span id="page-5-0"></span>

**Figure 1.** LSCP 4.0 modelling and experimentation methodology.

JIT is stock minimisation (Z. Chen and Shang [2008\)](#page-23-15). So a JIT model will provide a solution with zero safety inventory (Brunaud et al. [2019\)](#page-22-2). The economic aspect also contemplates the maximisation of SC profits. For the environmental aspect, the selection of suppliers based on their CO<sub>2</sub> emissions is incorporated into the model (Das [2019;](#page-23-12) Fahimnia, Sarkis, and Eshragh [2015\)](#page-23-10). Finally, the social sustainability aspect is addressed by, on the one hand, increasing service levels and, on the other hand, enhancing the incorporation of alternative SC suppliers to address local suppliers' raw material supply problems (Shafiee, Zare Mehrjerdi, and Keshavarz [2021\)](#page-24-6).

The main novelties of this study's proposal are manifested in three distinct areas related to LM, sustainability and resilience practices:

(i) a mixed approach with two sources of *push* and *pull* demand in a traditional five-level SC context: second-level suppliers, first-level suppliers, manufacturers, warehouses or logistics operators and retailers. As such, demand management separately contemplates demand forecasts and firm orders from retailers at four levels. This is due to the fact that when taking the bullwhip effect as the variability of demand upstream at the SC levels (Fransoo and Wouters [2000\)](#page-23-23), the further upstream one goes at the SC levels, the wider the variability <span id="page-5-2"></span><span id="page-5-1"></span>of orders will be. This is aligned with F. Chen et al. [\(2000\)](#page-22-6), who show that it is adequate to centralise demand information to reduce the magnitude of the bullwhip effect. For this reason, SC level five, which corresponds to second-level suppliers, has been designed with the aggregated demands (forecasts and firm order; see Figure [2\)](#page-6-0). Additionally, to decrease variability in demand (Boutsioli [2010\)](#page-22-7), an integrated inventory system for both sources of demand proposed by Rota, Thierry, and Bel [\(1997\)](#page-24-11) is established, which takes into account firm orders and forecasts at the same time through the SC. This is specified as a combination of tactical and operational decisions based on forecasts and driven by firm order demand (Alavidoost, Jafarnejad, and Babazadeh [2021\)](#page-22-1). Thus waste reduction in terms of waiting times and excess inventories is contemplated with the application of LM practices, such as JIT production, to meet the demand for firm orders at all levels where raw materials or finished goods are produced;

<span id="page-5-3"></span>(ii) economic considerations for SC profit maximisation. This includes sales revenue from the *push* demand from forecasts and the *pull* demand from firm orders from retailers, which are analysed based on the conditions of each order and prioritised according to the profit they make;

<span id="page-6-0"></span>

**Figure 2.** LSCP 4.0 design.

(iii) a social approach to satisfying service levels in warehouse safety inventories is also included. Moreover, proactive measures for disruptive events (Llaguno, Mula, and Campuzano-Bolarin [2022\)](#page-24-18) in the supply of raw materials are contemplated. Therefore, the selection of qualified first-level suppliers for the production of raw materials is based on their availability and ability to supply production plants. Finally, raw material supply problems are addressed by using alternative first-level suppliers.

Figure [2](#page-6-0) shows the flow of raw materials and finished goods of the SC under study, which has five levels: second-level suppliers, first-level suppliers, manufacturers, warehouses and retailers. Thus based on the LSCP 4.0 conceptual model of Reyes, Mula, and Díaz-Madroñero [\(2023b\)](#page-24-0), the logistic flow of raw materials from different second-level suppliers to local and alternative first-level suppliers through several production plants is shown. Finally, finished goods are sent to warehouses to be delivered to retailers (see the model notation in Table [2\)](#page-7-0).

Firm orders and retailer forecasts can be viewed as two complementary types of external demands. This consequently generates two sources of demand for raw materials, which motivate the integration of resilient practices to cope with disruptive events from local first-level suppliers during disruptive events *via* the supply of raw materials from alternative suppliers. To pay more attention to sustainable practices, local first-level suppliers are prioritised based on lean and sustainability criteria. Firstly, each local supplier is rated based on its availability to supply raw materials; secondly, each local supplier is

rated based on its availability to supply raw materials. Next when demand exceeds the local first-level suppliers' supply capacity, part of production is allocated to qualified alternative suppliers to provide materials. To take into account the environmental aspect, the costs of direct  $CO<sub>2</sub>$  emissions from first-level suppliers' production and logistics system are considered. Additionally, multitier production allows the sourcing of raw materials from second-level suppliers. This implies that finished goods manufacturers have limited production and storage capacity, and can operate on a regular or overtime basis. In addition, finished goods warehouses have limited storage capacity and are located at different distances from each production plant to supply retailers.

For a lean scheme, the SC in Figure [2](#page-6-0) includes a JIT production system for firm order demand at all levels, which includes first- and second-level suppliers, and manufacturers that transport raw materials and finished goods to warehouses. One of the advantages of this system is the reduction in inventory costs. For this purpose, the proposed model allows the service level to be controlled through the simultaneous optimisation of safety inventory levels, which are calculated based on the quantities of finished goods supplied to distributors.

## *4.2. Assumptions*

The parameters that characterise the different strategic decisions for supplying raw materials from secondlevel suppliers (selection of the local first-level suppliers), tactical (security inventories) and operational (manufacturing orders and shipments, among others) of LSCP are

## <span id="page-7-0"></span>**Table 2.** Notation of the LSCP 4.0 model.



## 8  $\bigodot$  J. REYES ET AL.

## **Table 2.** Continued.



(*continued*).





considered in the LSCP model, including the application of proactive resilience measures (alternative suppliers) to supply raw materials and the production of finished goods on a given planning horizon with *t* time periods. Finally, the proposed LSCP 4.0 model is based on the following key model inputs and assumptions:

- First- and second-level suppliers are considered to determine first- and second-tier requirements, deliveries and inventories in a synchronised manner, which can be beneficial for the SC (Coronado Mondragon and Lyons [2008\)](#page-23-24)
- <span id="page-9-0"></span>• First-level suppliers' supply capacity is finite and known. There is an ignorable risk of disruption for alternative suppliers. Therefore, the capacity of these alternative suppliers is considered infinite; i.e. they

are always available to supply the necessary raw materials

- The production capacity of first-level suppliers is finite and known because most, if not all, production goes to the manufacturer
- The supply capacity of second-tier suppliers is not known because their production is not primarily for the manufacturer, and is considered to be unlimited
- There are regular and overtime production capacity constraints of finished goods manufacturers to minimise backorders
- Pre-established lot sizes are contemplated for producing raw materials and finished goods to satisfy manufacturing and logistics processes
- The variety of types of finished goods to be produced is known
- The number, location and capacity of production plants and warehouses are known
- The number and location of retailers are known
- Manufacturers and warehouses have storage capacity limitations due to space constraints
- Retailers' finished goods demand forecasts are known, but irregular, because they present a variability coefficient over 0.2 (Winston [2004\)](#page-25-6)
- The firm order demand for finished goods from retailers behaves like a JIT production system, which can also use the inventory generated from demand forecasts whenever necessary. A variability coefficient of firm order demand higher than 0.2 is also assumed (Winston [2004\)](#page-25-6)
- The selling price of finished goods, the costs of raw materials, labour, storage, backorder and  $CO<sub>2</sub>$  emissions, are predetermined
- Production costs, which include standard production, and JIT production slack costs, inventory and transportation of raw materials and finished goods for demand from forecasts and firm orders, are considered to be the same
- The lead time of a finished good from warehouses to retailers is known during each planning time period
- To emulate JIT delivery for firm order demand, the local first-level suppliers who do not have supply availability are not assigned to produce raw materials. So alternative suppliers are assigned such orders. Disruptive events that affect lead time or capacity in the flow of raw materials from local suppliers may occur. In this case, alternative suppliers would also be assigned
- Due to the JIT delivery system, there is no lead time from manufacturing plants to finished goods warehouses
- JIT production is considered for first-level suppliers and firm order manufacturers. This is another LM aspect that MILP considers. Thus finished goods are produced as closely as possible to demand generation. For this purpose, pre-established penalty costs are considered for the possible need of slack for JIT production
- Manufacturing plants maintain raw materials inventories
- Finished goods warehouses maintain safety inventories only for the production that results from firm order demand, i.e. no safety inventories are considered for demand forecasts
- $\bullet$  CO<sub>2</sub> emissions from first-level suppliers in production and logistics processes are known

## <span id="page-10-0"></span>**5. Mathematical formulation**

The MILP formulation of the LSCP 4.0 model uses the following mathematical notation (see Table [2\)](#page-7-0).

The aim of the optimisation model in Equation (1) is to maximise the total profit as a measure of operational performance. Total profit, which considers the total incomes (TI) as defined in Equation (2), minus the total costs (TC) as defined in Equation (3), is a measure of overall economic sustainability. It is calculated based on the total revenues from the sale of finished goods warehouses to retailers to satisfy forecast demand and firm orders. A production profit is also considered for finished goods, which provides a production priority to satisfy firm orders. Costs are classified as follows: production planning costs (AC) from the suppliers and manufacturers detailed in Equation (4); inventory costs (IC) set out in Equation (5); cost of backorder demand (BC) defined in Equation (6); cost of the supply of raw materials and finished goods (MC) determined in Equation (7); cost of carbon emissions from the local and alternative firstlevel suppliers (LC) expressed in Equation (8); penalty costs (CC) for the need for slack to ensure that production is always as close as possible to the firm order demand requirement as a criterion for the JIT production expressed in Equation (9).

 $Max Z = Total Income (TI) - Total Costs (TC)$  (1)

$$
TI = \sum_{i\in I} \sum_{w\in W} \sum_{j\in J} \sum_{t\in T} V p_{ij}sj_{i wjt}
$$
  
+ 
$$
\sum_{o\in O} \sum_{i\in I} \sum_{w\in W} \sum_{j\in J} \sum_{t\in T} V p_{ij}sj a_{0i wjt}
$$
  
+ 
$$
\sum_{o\in O} \sum_{i\in I} \sum_{m\in M} \sum_{t\in T} b_{im} y_{oimt}
$$
 (2)

$$
TC = AC + IC + BC + MC + LC + CC \tag{3}
$$

$$
AC = \sum_{g \in G} \sum_{x \in X} \sum_{t \in T} (Cpx_{gx}px_{gxt})
$$
  
+ 
$$
\sum_{k \in K} \sum_{l \in L} \sum_{m \in M} \sum_{t \in T} (Cpl_{kl}pl_{klmt})
$$
  
+ 
$$
\sum_{o \in O} \sum_{k \in K} \sum_{l \in L} \sum_{m \in M} \sum_{t \in T} (Cpl_{kl}pla_{oklmt}ba_{oklmt})
$$
  
+ 
$$
\sum_{k \in K} \sum_{n \in N} \sum_{m \in M} \sum_{t \in T} (Cpn_{kn}pn_{oknmt})
$$
  
+ 
$$
\sum_{o \in O} \sum_{k \in K} \sum_{n \in N} \sum_{m \in M} \sum_{t \in T} (Cpn_{kn}pna_{oknmt}bb_{oknmt})
$$
  
+ 
$$
\sum_{i \in I} \sum_{m \in M} \sum_{t \in T} (Cp_{im}p_{imt} + Cp_{im}p_{emt})
$$
  
+ 
$$
\sum_{o \in O} \sum_{i \in I} \sum_{m \in M} \sum_{t \in T} (Cp_{im}g_{oimt} + Cp_{im}g_{oimt})
$$
(4)

$$
IC = \sum_{g \in G} \sum_{x \in X} \sum_{t \in T} (Cx_{gx}ix_{gxt})
$$
  
+ 
$$
\sum_{g \in G} \sum_{l \in L} \sum_{t \in T} (Cx_{lgl}il_{glt})
$$
  
+ 
$$
\sum_{g \in G} \sum_{n \in N} \sum_{t \in T} (Cx_{lgl}il_{glt})
$$
  
+ 
$$
\sum_{k \in K} \sum_{l \in L} \sum_{t \in T} (Cx_{lgl}ilb_{klt})
$$
  
+ 
$$
\sum_{o \in O} \sum_{k \in K} \sum_{l \in L} \sum_{t \in T} (Ckl_{kl}ilc_{oklt})
$$
  
+ 
$$
\sum_{o \in O} \sum_{k \in K} \sum_{l \in L} \sum_{t \in T} (Ckl_{kl}ilc_{oklt})
$$
  
+ 
$$
\sum_{o \in O} \sum_{k \in K} \sum_{n \in N} \sum_{t \in T} (Ckn_{kn}inc_{oknt})
$$
  
+ 
$$
\sum_{k \in K} \sum_{m \in M} \sum_{t \in T} (Ckn_{kn}inc_{oknt})
$$
  
+ 
$$
\sum_{o \in O} \sum_{k \in K} \sum_{m \in M} \sum_{t \in T} (Ckn_{im}imb_{okmt})
$$
  
+ 
$$
\sum_{i \in I} \sum_{w \in W} \sum_{t \in T} (Cw_{iw}iwb_{okwt})
$$
  
+ 
$$
\sum_{o \in O} \sum_{i \in I} \sum_{v \in T} \sum_{t \in T} (Cjj_{ij}ij_{bi})
$$
  
+ 
$$
\sum_{o \in O} \sum_{i \in I} \sum_{t \in T} (Cjj_{ij}ij_{bi})
$$
  
+ 
$$
\sum_{g \in G} \sum_{x \in X} \sum_{t \in T} (Cjj_{gl}rl_{glt})
$$
  
+ 
$$
\sum_{g \in G} \sum_{n \in N} \sum_{t \in T} (Cfd_{gl}rl_{glt})
$$
  
+ 
$$
\sum_{o \in O} \sum_{k \in K} \sum_{l \in T} (Cfd_{kl}rla_{klt})
$$
  
+ 
$$
\sum_{o \in O} \sum_{k \in K} \sum_{t \in T} (Cfd_{kl}rla_{klt})
$$

) (5)

+ 
$$
\sum_{o \in O} \sum_{k \in K} \sum_{m \in M} \sum_{t \in T} (Gf h_{kmr r m a_{okmt}})
$$
  
+ 
$$
\sum_{i \in I} \sum_{w \in W} \sum_{t \in T} (Gf w_{iw} r w_{ivrt})
$$
  
+ 
$$
\sum_{o \in O} \sum_{i \in I} \sum_{w \in W} \sum_{t \in T} (Gf x_{iw} r w a_{oivrt})
$$
  
+ 
$$
\sum_{o \in O} \sum_{i \in I} \sum_{j \in V} \sum_{t \in T} (Gf x_{iw} r w a_{oivrt})
$$
  
+ 
$$
\sum_{o \in O} \sum_{i \in I} \sum_{j \in K} \sum_{t \in T} (Gf i_{ij} r j_{ijt})
$$
  
+ 
$$
\sum_{o \in O} \sum_{k \in I} \sum_{j \in K} \sum_{t \in T} (Cl x_{gxl} q x_{gxtl})
$$
  
+ 
$$
\sum_{g \in G} \sum_{x \in X} \sum_{k \in I} \sum_{t \in T} (Cl y_{gxn} q y_{gxttl})
$$
  
+ 
$$
\sum_{k \in K} \sum_{l \in L} \sum_{m \in M} \sum_{t \in T} (Cl_{klm} q_{klmt})
$$
  
+ 
$$
\sum_{o \in O} \sum_{k \in K} \sum_{l \in I} \sum_{m \in M} (Cl_{klm} q b L_{oklmt})
$$
  
+ 
$$
\sum_{o \in O} \sum_{k \in K} \sum_{m \in M} \sum_{t \in T} (Cn_{klm} q a L_{klmt})
$$
  
+ 
$$
\sum_{e \in O} \sum_{k \in K} \sum_{m \in M} \sum_{t \in T} (Cn_{klm} q b L_{oklmt})
$$
  
+ 
$$
\sum_{e \in O} \sum_{l \in I} \sum_{m \in M} \sum_{w \in W} \sum_{t \in T} (Cn_{limw} s m_{invt})
$$
  
+ 
$$
\sum_{o \in O} \sum_{l \in I} \sum_{m \in M} \sum_{w \in W} \sum_{t \in T} (Cs_{iwj} s j a_{oiwjt})
$$
  
+ 
$$
\sum_{e \in C} \sum_{l \in I} \sum_{m
$$

*oO iI mM tT*

The model is subject to the following constraints:

$$
qbL_{oklmt}SL_{klm} \leq Lol_{oklt}ba_{oklmt} \quad \forall o \in O, k \in K, l \in L,
$$
  

$$
m \in M, t > 1
$$
 (10)

 $qbN_{oknmt}SN_{knm}$  ≤  $Lon_{oknt}bb_{oknmt}$  ∀*o* ∈ *O*,  $k \in K$ ,  $n \in N, m \in M, t > 1$  (11)

$$
q_{klmt-LTI} + \sum_{o \in O} q b L_{oklmt-LTI} \leq L o l_{klm}
$$

$$
\forall k \in K, l \in L, m \in M, t > 1 \tag{12}
$$

$$
qa_{knmt-LTn} + \sum_{o \in O} qbN_{oknmt-LTn} \leq Lon_{knm}
$$

$$
\forall k \in K, n \in N, m \in M, t > 1 \tag{13}
$$

$$
\sum_{g \in G} TSG_{gx} p x_{gxt} \le LX_x \quad \forall g \in G, x \in X, t \in T \qquad (14)
$$

$$
\sum_{k \in K} TSL_{kl}pl_{klmt} + \sum_{o \in O} \sum_{k \in K} TSL_{kl}pla_{oklmt} \le LC_l
$$
  
\n
$$
\forall o \in O, l \in L, t \in T
$$
 (15)

$$
\sum_{k \in K} TSN_{kn} p n_{knt} + \sum_{o \in O} \sum_{k \in K} TSN_{kn} p n a_{oknt} \le NC_n
$$

$$
\forall o \in O, n \in N, t \in T \tag{16}
$$

$$
\sum_{i \in I} TS_{im}p_{imt} + \sum_{o \in O} \sum_{i \in I} TS_{im}g_{oimt} \leq PC_m
$$

$$
\forall m \in M, t \in T \tag{17}
$$

$$
\sum_{i \in I} TS_{im}pe_{imt} + \sum_{o \in O} \sum_{i \in I} TS_{im}ge_{oimt} \le EC_m
$$

$$
\forall m \in M, t \in T \tag{18}
$$

$$
px_{gxt} = Lg_{gxt} * Lotg_g \quad \forall g \in G, x \in X, t \in T \tag{19}
$$

 $pl_{klmt} = Lkl_{klmt} * Lotk_k$ 

$$
\forall k \in K, l \in L, m \in M, t \in T \tag{20}
$$

*plaoklmt* = *Lkla*0*klmt* ∗ *Lotkk*

$$
\forall o \in O, \forall k \in K, l \in L, m \in M, t \in T \tag{21}
$$

 $p n_{k n m t} = L k n_{k n m t} * L o t k_k$ 

$$
\forall k \in K, n \in n, m \in M, t \in T \tag{22}
$$

*pnaoknmt* = *Lkna*0*knmt* ∗ *Lotkk*

$$
\forall o \in O, \forall k \in K, n \in N, m \in M, t \in T \tag{23}
$$

$$
p_{imt} = Li_{imt} * Loti_i \quad \forall i \in i, m \in M, t \in T \tag{24}
$$

 $g_{oimt} = Lia_{oimt} * Loti_i$ 

$$
\forall o \in O, \forall i \in i, m \in M, t \in T \tag{25}
$$

$$
px_{gxt} + ja_{gxt} = \sum_{l \in L} qx_{gxtl} + \sum_{n \in N} qy_{gxtrt}
$$
  

$$
\forall g \in G, x \in X, t \in T
$$
 (26)

$$
pla_{oklmt} + jb_{oklmt} = \sum_{m \in M} qbL_{oklmt}
$$
  

$$
\forall o \in O, \forall k \in K, l \in L, m \in M, t \in T
$$
 (27)

$$
pna_{oknmt} + jc_{oknmt} = \sum_{m \in M} qbN_{oknmt}
$$

$$
\forall o \in O, \forall k \in K, n \in N, m \in M, t \in T \tag{28}
$$

$$
g_{oimt} + j d_{oimt} = \sum_{w \in W} sm2_{oimwt}
$$
  
\n
$$
\forall o \in O, \forall i \in i, m \in M, t \in T
$$
 (29)

 $px_{gxt} + ix_{gxt-1} + Hx_{gxt} - rx_{gxt-1}$ 

$$
= \sum_{l \in L} q x_{gxlt} + \sum_{n \in N} q y_{gxnt} \quad \forall g \in G, x \in X, t \in T
$$

$$
+ ix_{gxt} - rx_{gxt}
$$
(30)

$$
\sum_{x \in X} q x_{gxlt - LTx} + il_{glt-1} + Hl_{glt} - il_{glt-1}
$$
\n
$$
= \sum_{k \in K} A a_{gk} \left( \sum_{m \in M} pl_{klmt} \quad \forall g \in G, l \in L, t \in T
$$
\n
$$
+ \sum_{o \in O} \sum_{m \in M} pl a_{oklmt} \right) + il_{glt} - rl_{glt} \tag{31}
$$
\n
$$
\sum q y_{gxnt - LTy} + in_{gnt-1} + Hn_{gnt} - r n_{gnt-1}
$$

$$
x \in X
$$
  
\n
$$
\forall g \in G, n \in N, t \in T
$$
  
\n
$$
= \sum_{k \in K} A a_{gk} \left( \sum_{m \in M} p n_{knmt} + \sum_{o \in O} \sum_{m \in M} p n a_{oknmt} \right)
$$
  
\n
$$
+ i n_{gnt} - r n_{gnt}
$$
  
\n
$$
\sum_{m \in M} p l_{klmt - LTI} + i l b_{klt-1} + H l a_{klt} - \sum_{o \in O} i l a_{oklt}
$$
  
\n
$$
- r l a_{klt-1} \quad \forall k \in K, l \in L, t \in T
$$
  
\n
$$
= \sum_{m \in M} q_{klmt} + i l b_{klt} - r l a_{klt}
$$
\n(33)

$$
\sum_{m \in M} pla_{oklmt-LTI}ba + ilc_{oklt-1} + Hlb_{oklt} + ila_{oklt}
$$

*mM*

$$
- rlb_{klt-1} \quad \forall o \in O, \forall k \in K, l \in L, t \in T
$$

$$
= \sum_{m \in M} qbL_{oklmt} + ilc_{oklt} - rlb_{oklt}
$$
(34)

$$
\sum_{m \in M} pn_{knmt-LTn} + inb_{knt-1} + Hna_{knt}
$$
  
- 
$$
\sum_{o \in O} ina_{oknt} - rna_{knt-1} \quad \forall k \in K, n \in N, t \in T
$$
  
= 
$$
\sum_{m \in M} qa_{knmt} + inb_{knt} - rna_{knt}
$$
 (35)

 $\sum$ *mM pnaoknmt*−*LTnbb* + *incoknt*<sup>−</sup><sup>1</sup> + *inaoknt* + *Hnboknt*

$$
\forall o \in O, \forall k \in K, n \in N, t \in T - rnb_{knt-1}
$$

$$
=\sum_{m\in M} qbN_{oknmt} + inc_{oknt} - rn_{oknt} \tag{36}
$$

$$
\sum_{l \in L} q_{klmt} + \sum_{n \in N} q a_{knmt} + Im_{kmt-1} + Hma_{kmt}
$$

$$
- \sum_{o \in O} i m c_{okmt} \quad \forall k \in K, m \in M, t \in T - Rm_{kmt-1}
$$

$$
= \sum_{i \in I} Ab_{ki}(p_{imt} + p e_{imt}) + im_{kmt} - rm_{kmt} \quad (37)
$$

$$
\sum_{l \in L} qbL_{oklmt} + \sum_{n \in N} qbN_{oknmt} + Imb_{okmt-1} + Hmb_{okmt}
$$

$$
+ imc_{okmt} \quad \forall o \in O, k \in K, m \in M,
$$
  
\n
$$
t \in T - rma_{okmt-1}
$$
  
\n
$$
= \sum_{i \in I} Ab_{ki}(g_{oimt} + ge_{oimt}) + imb_{okmt}
$$
  
\n
$$
- rm2_{okmt}
$$
\n(38)

 $p_{imt} + p e_{imt} + i p_{imt-1} + Hmc_{imt} - \sum$ *oO ipcoimt*

$$
- Rm_{kmt-1} \quad \forall i \in I, m \in M, t \in T - rp_{imt-1}
$$

$$
= \sum_{w \in W} sm_{imwt} + ip_{imt} - rp_{imt} \tag{39}
$$

 $g_{oimt} + g e_{oimt} + i p b_{oimt-1} + Hmd_{oimt} + i p c_{oimt}$ 

$$
- rpa_{oimt-1} \quad \forall o \in O, i \in I, m \in M, t \in T
$$

$$
= \sum_{w \in W} sma_{oimwt} + ipb_{oimt} - rpa_{oimt} \tag{40}
$$

$$
\sum_{m \in M} sm_{imwt} + iw_{iwt-1} + Hwa_{iwt} - \sum_{o \in O} iw_{oivt}
$$
  
-  $rw_{iwt-1} \quad \forall i \in I, w \in W, t \in T$   
= 
$$
\sum_{j \in J} sj_{iwt} + iw_{iwt} - rw_{iwt}
$$
 (41)

 $\sum$  $m \in M$ *smaoimwt* + *iwboiwt*<sup>−</sup><sup>1</sup> + *Hwboiwt* + *iwcoiwt*

$$
-rwa_{oiwt-1} \quad \forall o \in O, i \in I, w \in W, t \in T
$$

$$
= \sum_{j \in J} sja_{oiwjt} + iwb_{oiwt} - rwa_{oiwt} \tag{42}
$$

$$
\sum_{w \in W} s j_{iwjt - LTj} + ij_{ijt-1} + Hja_{ijt} - \sum_{o \in O} ij c_{oijt} - r j_{ijt-1}
$$
  
=  $D_{ijt} \quad \forall i \in I, j \in J, t \in T + ij_{ijt} - r j_{ijt}$  (43)

 $\sum$  $w \in W$ *sjaoiwjt*<sup>−</sup>*LTj* + *ijboijt*<sup>−</sup><sup>1</sup> + *Hjboijt* + *ijcoijt*

$$
- rja_{oijt-1} \quad \forall o \in O, i \in I, w \in W, j \in J,
$$

$$
= Do_{oijt} + ijb_{oijt} - rja_{oijt} \quad t \in T
$$
(44)

$$
\sum_{o \in O} ila_{oklt} + ild_{klt} = ilb_{klt} \quad \forall k \in K, l \in L, t \in T \quad (45)
$$

$$
\sum ina_{oknt} + ind_{knt} = inb_{knt} \quad \forall k \in K, n \in N, t \in T
$$

$$
\sum_{o \in O} (46)
$$

$$
\sum_{o \in O} imc_{okmt} + ima_{kmt} = im_{kmt}
$$
  

$$
\forall k \in K, m \in M, t \in T
$$
 (47)

$$
\sum_{o \in O} i p c_{oimt} + i p a_{imt} = i p_{imt} \quad \forall i \in I, m \in M, t \in T
$$
\n(48)

$$
\sum_{o \in O} i w c_{o i w t} + i w a_{i w t} = i w_{i w t} \quad \forall i \in I, w \in W, t \in T
$$
\n(49)

$$
\sum_{o \in O} ij c_{oijt} + ij a_{ijt} = ij_{ijt} \quad \forall i \in I, j \in J, t \in T \tag{50}
$$

$$
sso_{iw} = \frac{\beta\sqrt{L_{iw}}}{|T|} \sum_{o \in O} \sum_{j \in J} \sum_{t \in T} sja_{oiwjt}
$$

$$
\forall i \in I, w \in W, j \in J, t \in T \tag{51}
$$

$$
\sum_{o \in O} i w o_{o i w t} \geq s s o_{i w} \quad \forall i \in I, w \in W, t \in T \tag{52}
$$

$$
\sum_{g \in G} ix_{gxt} \le IX_x \quad \forall x \in X, t \in T \tag{53}
$$

$$
\sum_{g \in G} i l_{glt} \le IL_l \quad \forall l \in L, t \in T \tag{54}
$$

$$
\sum_{g \in G} in_{gnt} \leq IN_n \quad \forall n \in N, t \in T \tag{55}
$$

$$
\sum_{k \in K} ilb_{klt} + \sum_{o \in O} \sum_{k \in K} ilc_{oklt} \le ILA_l \quad \forall l \in L, t \in T \quad (56)
$$

$$
\sum_{k \in K} inb_{knt} + \sum_{o \in O} \sum_{k \in K} inc_{oknt} \leq INA_n \quad \forall n \in N, t \in T
$$
\n(57)

$$
\sum_{k \in K} im_{kmt} + \sum_{o \in O} \sum_{k \in K} imb_{okmt} \le IM_m \quad \forall m \in M, t \in T
$$
\n(58)

$$
\sum_{i \in I} i p_{kmt} + \sum_{o \in O} \sum_{i \in I} i p b_{oimt} \leq I M A_m
$$
  

$$
\forall m \in M, t \in T
$$
 (59)

$$
\sum_{i \in I} i w_{iwt} + \sum_{o \in O} \sum_{i \in I} i w b_{oiwt} \leq I W_w \quad \forall w \in W, t \in T
$$
\n(60)

$$
\sum_{i\in I} ij_{ijt} + \sum_{o\in O} \sum_{i\in I} ijb_{oijt} \le JC_j \quad \forall j \in J, t \in T
$$
 (61)  

$$
\sum_{w\in W} \sum_{t\in T} sj_{iwjt} + \sum_{o\in O} \sum_{w\in T} \sum_{t\in T} sja_{oiwjt}
$$
  

$$
\le \sum_{t\in T} D_{ijt} + \sum_{o\in T} \sum_{t\in T} Do_{oijt} \quad \forall i \in I, j \in J
$$
 (62)

 $g_{oimt} \le E_{oimt} y_{oimt}$   $\forall o \in O, i \in I, m \in M, t \in T$  (63)

$$
rj_{ijT} = 0 \quad \forall i \in I, j \in J, T \tag{64}
$$

$$
rja_{\text{oij}T} = 0 \quad \forall o \in O, i \in I, j \in J, T \tag{65}
$$

*goimt*, *geoimt*, *Hjaijt*, *Hjboijt*, *Hnaknt*, *Hlglt*, *Hlaoklt*,

*Hma<sub>kmt</sub>*,  $\forall g \in G, i \in I, j \in J, k \in K$ ,

*Hmbokmt*, *Hmcimt*, *Hmdoimt*, *Hngnt*, *Hnaknt*, *Hnboknt*, *Hwa*<sub>iwt</sub>,  $l \in L$ ,  $m \in M$ ,  $n \in N$ ,  $o \in O$ ,

*Hwboiwt*, *Hxgxt*, *ilglt*, *ilaoklt*, *ilbklt*, *ilcoklt*, *ildklt*, *imkmt*, *ima<sub>kmt</sub>*,  $w \in W, t \in T$ 

 $\int$ *imb*<sub>okmt</sub>, *imc*<sub>okmt</sub>, *ingnt*, *ina*<sub>0knt</sub>, *inb*<sub>knt</sub>, *ind<sub>knt</sub>*, *ind*<sub>knt</sub>, *ipimt*, *ipboimt*, *ixgxt*, *jagxt*, *jboklmt*, *jcoknmt*, *jdoimt*, *lggxt*, *liimt*, *liboimt*, *lklklmt*, *lklboklmt*, *lknknmt*, *lknboknmt*,*ssoiw*, *pimt*, *peimt*, *plklmt*, *plaoklmt*, *pnknmt*, *pnaoknmt*, *pxgxt*, *rwiwt*, *qklmt*, *qaknmt*, *qbLoklmt*, *qbNoknmt*, *qxgxlt*, *qygxnt*, *rjijt*,*rjaoijt*,*rlglt*,*rlaklt*,*rlboklt*,*rmkmt*,*rmaokmt*,*rngnt*, *rnaknt*,*rnaoknt*,*rpimt*,*rpaoimt*,*rwiwt*,*rwaoiwt*,*rygxt*,  $sj_{iwjt}$ *, sja<sub>oiwjt</sub>*, *sm<sub>imwt</sub>*, *sma*<sub>oimwt</sub>, *sso*<sub>iw</sub>  $\geq 0$  (66)

*goimt*, *geoimt*, *ipimt*, *ipaimt*, *ipboimt*, *ipcoimt*, *ijijt*, *ijaijt*,

 $i\gamma b_{\text{o}\text{ijt}}, \quad \forall \mathbf{o} \in \mathbf{O}, i \in I, j \in J, m \in M,$ 

*ijcoijt*, *iwiwt*, *iwaiwt*, *iwboiwt*, *iwcoiwt*, *jdoimt*, *pimt*,

 $pe_{imt}$ *, rj*<sub>iit</sub>*,*  $w \in W, t \in T$ 

*rjaoijt*,*rpimt*,*rpaoimt*,*rwiwt*,*rwaoiwt*,*sjiwjt*, *sjaoiwjt*,

 $sm_{imwt}$ *sma*<sub>oimwt</sub> $\epsilon Z$  (67)

 $ba_{klt} \in \{0, 1\}, bb_{knt} \in \{0, 1\}, y_{oint} \in \{0, 1\}$ 

∀*i* ∈ *I*, *k* ∈ *K*, *l* ∈ *L*, *m* ∈ *M*, *n* ∈ *N*, *o* ∈ *O*, *t* ∈ *T* (68)

<span id="page-14-1"></span><span id="page-14-0"></span>Equations (10) and (11) represent the local and alternative first-level suppliers that qualify in time (Tirkolaee et al. [2020\)](#page-24-22) for the supply of raw materials to fulfil firm order demand. Equations (12) and (13) ensure that shipments of the materials for forecast demands and firm orders do not exceed the supply capacity during each planning period from each local and alternative firstlevel supplier to all the production plants (Farahani and Elahipanah [2008\)](#page-23-25). Unlike conventional SCP models, in

this research five-level SC constraints are developed for the first time for two types of finished goods demand: the first one from demand forecasts and the second one for firm orders. Equations (14)–(16) limit the capacity for the raw materials production by the first- and second-level suppliers. Equations (17) and (18) limit the capacity for the finished goods production in regular working hours and overtime, respectively. Equations (19)–(25) allow the total production of the first-level and second-level materials, as well as finished goods, during each period of time to be multiples of a given lot that may be required for the needs of each production process. This group of lot-size constraints is deactivated at the different SC levels when they are not required.

Equations (26)–(29) correspond to the JIT production of raw materials and finished goods. This contemplates a penalty cost in the objective function due to the need for slack to cover parts production. Here the function of penalty costs is to ensure that the parts production levels at the end of each time period come as close as possible to the sum of the demands during the following time periods according to the supply cover. This group of lean constraints is activated at the different SC levels when the model is *pull* and deactivated in the *push* model.

<span id="page-14-2"></span>With raw materials, Equations (30)–(32) represent the inventory balances of the second-level suppliers, where the requirements to produce first-level raw materials are entered. In Equations (33)–(38), the inventory balances of the first-level suppliers are detailed, where inputs correspond to the quantities of raw materials to be ordered, and come from the finished goods production needs of each planning period. Equations (34) and (36) present a product of a binary decision variable and a continuous decision variable, which result in an MINLP model. To avoid such non linearity, this variable relation can be converted into a linear expression by adding an auxiliary variable according to (Williams [2013\)](#page-25-7). Equations (39) and (40) consider the inventory balances of finished goods manufacturers. Equations (41) and (42) establish the inventory balances of warehouses for finished goods demand forecasts and firm orders, respectively. Equations (43) and (44) determine retailers' inventory balances, where inputs correspond to shipped quantities, the backorder of firm orders, the quantities required to meet demand forecasts and the inventory during the previous period. Outputs refer to the demand forecasts and firm orders for each finished good. Here the delivery time from warehouses to distributors is considered. It should be noted that Constraints (33) through to (44) integrate inventories from both demand sources, i.e. forecasts and firm orders. Equations (45) through to (50) ensure that the total amount of inventory does not exceed the inventory level capacity levels at the first-level suppliers, manufacturers, warehouses and distributors.

Regarding the safety inventory in finished goods warehouses for the firm orders of the *push* model, and considering that the service level is given, the lead time  $(L_{iw})$  is constant and the standard deviation is proportional to the flow of finished goods that must cover variation in demand. Thus the safety inventory is proportional to the production flow proposed by (Brunaud et al. [2019\)](#page-22-2). Parameter  $\beta$  indicates the level of risk of stockouts defined as a percentage and *T* is the final planning period. In this case, the safety inventory would be a percentage of the quantity supplied from warehouses to retailers multiplied by the square root of the replenishment lead time. In previous works, the safety inventory was not a variable, but a given parameter. Equation (51) provides a method to optimise the safety inventory according to the flow to the retailer. In the proposed formulation, safety inventory is used as the lower inventory limit (51) and the upper inventory level is limited by Equation (52). These two equations are deactivated at warehouse levels when they are not required.

Equations (53) through to (55) limit the storage capacity of the second-level raw materials by suppliers. Equations (56) through to (58) set limits on the storage of the first-level raw materials at the local, alternative suppliers and finished goods manufacturers. Consequently, Equations (59), (60) and (61) ensure that the inventory for both firm orders and forecasts does not exceed the storage capacity at manufacturers, warehouses and retailers, respectively. Equation (62) ensures that the finished goods supplied from warehouses to distributors do not exceed demand. Equation (63) guarantees production prioritisation for the demand from firm orders in relation to the demand from forecasts. This generates a fixed extra profit charge when a firm order is produced, which is discounted from TI at the end of the model run to obtain the real total profit. Equation (64) ensures that the forecast demand of the production plan will be satisfied during the last planning period *T*. This is a *pull* criterion because it allows a delay in the demand for firm orders so that this production will be planned whenever required. Equation (65) ensures that the firm orders of the production plan will be satisfied during the last time period *T.* These two last constraints are activated or deactivated according to production system requirements.

Equation (66) establishes the non-negativity condition for the decision variables. Equation (67) refers to the integer condition for the decision variables. Finally, the formulations in Equation (68) establish the condition of the binary variables.

## <span id="page-15-0"></span>**6. Experimentation and solution**

#### *6.1. Solution approach*

The established solution approach is the exact resolution of the MILP model through the CPLEX solver. So the LSCP4.0 model was implemented in modelling language MPL (mathematical programming language). Finally, the model's input and output data are managed with a relational database. The multilevel MILP was solved on a computer with 12 Gb RAM and an Intel® Core® i7-1065G7 microprocessor CPU@1.30 GHz frequency.

<span id="page-15-1"></span>In addition, the input data are provided in the form of a normalised metastructure (see appendices) for LSCP 4.0 cloud computing to be integrated into the C2NET manufacturing platform (Andres, Poler, and Sanchis [2021;](#page-22-8) Reyes et al. [2024\)](#page-24-23).

#### <span id="page-15-2"></span>*6.2. Real-world case study*

The case company (BUF) is engaged in the manufacture and distribution of leather and thermoplastic safety footwear, among others. The company traditionally follows a serial production strategy for manufacturing safety footwear based on forecast demand. However, customers constantly diversify their orders in terms of quantity and variety of models. This has led decision makers to plan demand for firm orders with production prioritisation from a lean perspective for waste reduction, which forces suppliers to respond more quickly. With the COVID-19 pandemic however, severe fluctuations in demand, disruptions in SC structures, and changes in delivery times from suppliers, took place. BUF has two production plants  $(M = 2)$  and a central warehouse  $(W = 1)$  that consolidate all the finished goods to be shipped to a variety of retailers, namely the six main retailers  $(J = 6)$ , to which the three main footwear models  $(I = 3)$  are delivered from two sources of demand: (a) forecasted *push* demand; (b) *pull* demand from firm orders  $(O = 16)$ . BUF imports or produces directly most of its raw materials. However, on the bill of materials (BOM) for footwear manufacturing there is a group of eight essential raw materials  $(K = 8)$  that are supplied by several local firstlevel suppliers  $(L = 5)$ , as well as a group of alternative suppliers  $(N = 4)$  that can supply these materials if needed. Of these materials, two of them, given their importance (leather and soles), are exploded on a second BOM to be supplied by second-level suppliers  $(X = 4)$ , for which 15 raw materials are produced  $(G = 15)$ . For the planning horizon, a 16-week tactical and operational decision level  $(T = 16)$  is considered. In inventory management terms, BUF and all the first- and second-level material suppliers have established policies, such as limited storage capacity, scheduled receipts and a predefined

<span id="page-16-0"></span>**Table 3.** Design of the experiments for each SC level.

Scenario code	Production strategy (MRP/JIT)	<b>Backorders</b>	Suppliers level 2(x)	Local suppliers level $1(l)$	Alternative suppliers level $1(n)$	Plants $(m)$	Warehouses (w)	Retailers (j)
e1	<b>MRP</b>					X	SS	
e <sub>2</sub>	<b>MIXED</b>						SS	
e3	<b>MIXED</b>						SS	
e4	<b>MIXED</b>						SS	
e5	<b>MIXED</b>						SS	
e6	JIT							
e7	<b>MIXED</b>							
e8	<b>MIXED</b>							
e9	<b>MIXED</b>							
e10	<b>MIXED</b>							
e11	JIT						SS	
e12	MRP ϧ						SS	
e13	BEST MIXED IS							
e14	$MRP$ $*$						SS	
e15	JIT *							
e16	<b>MRP</b>						SS	
e17	ЛL							
e18	<b>BEST MIXED</b>						SS	
e19	<b>MRP</b>	$^{++}$					SS	
e20	ЛL	$^{++}$						
e21	<b>BEST MIXED</b>	$++$					<b>SS</b>	

Note: O: *pull* system with JIT production; X: *push* system with MRP tools; SS: safety inventory; +: null backorders during the last time period for demand forecasts;  $\dagger$ : null backorders during the last time period for firm orders;  $++$ : null backorders during the last time period for forecasts and firm orders; is: all the demand consolidated for firm orders; ∗without lot-sizing production; BLANK: with no safety inventory.

supply time. The harmful emissions measured as kilograms of  $CO<sub>2</sub>$  from manufacturing footwear raw materials at the local and alternative first-level suppliers are based on the results of (Cheah et al. [2013\)](#page-22-9). Additionally, production capacity, which is lot-based, is limited at all the levels, and overtime can be worked only in BUF's production plants.

The other features that lead to different size problems in BUF are described in Table [3.](#page-16-0) The small-sized problem comprises demand forecasts and minimum firm orders to obtain a solution. The medium-sized problem specifies the actual values of both demand sources. The large-sized problem details a scenario with such demand increases that the production system is brought to its maximum capacity. So to perform experiments, 21 scenarios were designed at each SC level for every problem type, which consider applying MRP criteria for a *push* system and JIT production for a *pull* system (see Table [3\)](#page-16-0).

Table [4](#page-17-0) shows the optimality gap value, runtime, costs, revenues and final profit in each scenario for the three tested size problems. Here in a demand variability context, mixed strategy e7 generates the lowest inventory and backorder costs, which provides the highest economic profit. There is, however, a cost improvement from changes in the production plan when consolidating demand from forecasts into demand from firm orders (see scenario e13). It is also worth noting that when fully MRP and JIT scenarios are experimented (e1 and e6), but without production lot sizes (e14 and e15), there is improvement in profits. Thus, the fact that the results obtained from the best scenarios are the same for the

<span id="page-16-1"></span>three tested size problems is confirmed. However, when experimenting with the scenarios with the highest economic profit (e1, e6 and e7) of medium- and large-sized problems in the scenarios with null backorders during the last time period for firm orders (e16, e17 and e18), an improvement in e1 is noticed (MRP strategy), which is depicted in e16. Thus MRP scenarios perform better with lot sizing and null backorders for demand forecasts during the last time period constraints. Moreover for the small-sized problem, e17 improves performance on e6 (JIT strategy). Hence JIT scenarios perform better without lot-sizing constraints and with null backorders for firm orders during the last time period. Regarding the MRP and BEST MIXED strategies, scenarios e19 and e2 with null backorders constraints during the last time period for forecasts and firm orders improve profits in large-sized problems by producing more and diminishing backorders along the time horizon. Finally for the JIT scenarios with null backorders constraints for demand forecasts and firm orders during the last time period for large-sized problems, no solution is obtained with the current computation resources. Thus it can be stated that JIT scenarios are computationally more costly than MRP and MIXED ones.

By considering the cost with the highest standard deviation in the scenarios under study, Figure [3](#page-19-0) provides the results of the experiments in inventory cost and total profit terms for the medium-sized problem. The total profit results are grouped in descending order across the studied scenarios. This analysis shows that the BEST MIXED scenarios (e13, e7, e18 and e21), which provide





<span id="page-17-0"></span>17

#### **Table 4.** Continued.



Note: Total profit  $=$  Sales – Total costs (TC); N/A: non-feasible solution.

<span id="page-19-0"></span>

**Figure 3.** Relation between inventory cost and profits for the medium-sized problem.

<span id="page-19-1"></span>



the highest overall profits are the mixed scenarios, which have lower inventory costs. Thus our results support the approach of (Ganeshan [1999\)](#page-23-14), which states that a mixed *push*–*pull* system generates better profits due to lower costs.

In terms of the solver's solution optimisation, Table [5](#page-19-1) illustrates the computational efficiency related to the three main scenarios of the proposed SC planning model: (a) MRP; (b) JIT; (c) the best MIXED. The computational efficiency for each model at the three tested size problems is also included. The data are related to the iterations that the solver uses to find the solution, number of constants, variables, integers, non-zero elements and the density of the constraint set to execute the model. These iteration values are the same for the medium and large sizes, which implies that the model needs more time to obtain an optimal solution due to the large amounts of data. So a time limit of 9 h is set in each run.

It is important to highlight the analysis of the bullwhip effect measure (BEM) according to the method proposed by Fransoo and Wouters [\(2000\)](#page-23-23). In line with this, the BEM calculation is determined for the products and orders aggregated in the set of SC levels as the quotient of the coefficient of variation of demand generated by this set of levels  $(C_{out})$  and the coefficient of variation of demand received by this level (*Cin*), using the expressions presented in Equations (69)–(71). Here the  $C_{out}$  calculation is made with the standard deviation ( $\sigma$ ) of the demand going out to the next upstream level *Dout*, and with the average  $(\mu)$  of such demand during the time interval  $(t, t + T)$ . In addition,  $C_{in}$  is calculated in a similar way, but with demand coming from the next downstream level.

$$
BEM = \frac{C_{out}}{C_{in}} \tag{69}
$$

$$
C_{out} = \frac{\sigma (D_{out}(t, t+T))}{\mu (D_{out}(t, t+T))}
$$
(70)

$$
C_{in} = \frac{\sigma(D_{in}(t, t+T))}{\mu(D_{in}(t, t+T))}
$$
\n(71)

Table [6](#page-20-1) shows the BEM at each SC level for the three main scenarios experienced in the medium-sized problem. So for the second-level suppliers, there is no demand variability due to the availability of the inventory from scheduled receipts at the SC's downstream level. For the first-level suppliers, the BEM is lower in the JIT (e6) optimisation model, but variability of demand is slightly amplified from 1.64 with MRP (e1) to 1.66 in the MIXED

#### <span id="page-20-1"></span>**Table 6.** Bullwhip effect measures.



Note: †values of scenario e1 (MRP) when considering null backorders during the last time period for firm orders.

(e7) approach, which implies that the inventory at this SC level increases due to scheduled receipts. Thus in warehouses, the BEM increases from 1.54–1.64 due to safety inventories. With finished goods in production plants, the BEM is lower in the JIT approach (e6) with a value of 1.64. Retailers decrease demand variability slightly from 1.42 in MRP (e1) to 1.33 in JIT(e6), but this rises to 1.35 in MIXED (e7) due to increased safety inventories in warehouses. It is important to highlight that the BEM remains constant at 1.66 at the production plant and firstlevel supplier levels in the MIXED (e7) scenario, which implies that inventory levels do not have marked variation because the supply of materials from suppliers is appropriate and final products are moved immediately to warehouses. Additionally, when profit is higher in MRP (scenario e16), the BEM remains the same, but slightly lowers at suppliers level 1. Finally, the JIT strategy cannot be improved in any other scenario in BEM terms.

In particular, we demonstrate that the BEM is lower to a greater extent at the SC levels corresponding to the first-level suppliers, production plants and retailers in the models that use JIT production *versus* traditional MRP. However, the further upstream at the SC levels, the higher the BEM is.

Based on the highest total profit from Table [4,](#page-17-0) Figure [4](#page-20-2) shows the amplification of the net inventory value at three levels of the downstream SC under study for scenario e7 addressed in Table [6.](#page-20-1) As expected, the amplification of inventory variations of finished goods is progressive from retailers to warehouses and to plants. These results also illustrate JIT production system behaviour, which is performed as close to production orders as possible. Thus inventories are generated during the latter time periods of each scenario because null backorders during the last time period are constrained.

Finally, after replicating this BEM analysis to the other three main experienced scenarios (e1, e6 and e16), the amplification of the net inventory value is also similar at each SC level (see Table [6\)](#page-20-1).

Regarding the managerial implications for BUF, the presented SCP model demonstrates that by combining the *push* and *pull* strategies to manage inventories, costs can be reduced (scenarios e7 and e13), even with multiple demand sources of firm orders and forecasts, as well as sourcing from suppliers in disruptive situations. Managers should consider using MRP systems with JIT production to ensure operational performance improvements in terms of the total profit for all the involved problem sizes compared to using a traditional MRP strategy (see Tables [3](#page-16-0) and [4\)](#page-17-0).

## <span id="page-20-0"></span>**7. Conclusions**

The first research objective of this paper is the design and formulation of a new tactical and operational mathematical model, LSCP 4.0 for PPC in a traditional multilevel SC context (Section [5\)](#page-10-0). Then by experimenting with LSCP 4.0, which is the second research objective (Section [6\)](#page-15-0), we demonstrate that using mixed MRP and JIT planning systems can serve as a proactive measure of resilience to possible demand variability disruptions in SCs. In particular, into MILP we integrate the orders from firm orders with *pull* demand and the forecasts with *push* demand in a five-level SC. Other resilient practices are also applied to select the first-level backup suppliers in a profit maximisation problem. In sustainability terms, the model incorporates costs related to carbon emissions in the first-level suppliers' production processes. The novelty of the applied case studies, which is the third research objective (Subsection [6.](#page-15-0)[2\)](#page-3-0), lies in demonstrating that applying lean practices, such as JIT production, can improve the performance of a traditional footwear SC in terms of decreased inventory costs and the bullwhip effect.

<span id="page-20-2"></span>

**Figure 4.** Supply chain net inventory amplification in scenario e7.

## *7.1. Implications to theory and practice*

The main results from this study are summarised as follows:

- Providing a novel multilevel model for SC planning that considers a combination of *push* and *pull* strategies for inventory control, which integrates lean, resilient and sustainable aspects. Here the computational results show that inventory costs tend to be lower when using MRP systems at higher SC levels, while JIT production systems applied at lower SC levels stabilises inventory levels and improves overall performance costs.
- The LSCP 4.0 model obtains feasible expected profit solutions for a real case study in the footwear industry with three different problem sizes based on irregular demand datasets: small, medium and large. The outcomes indicated that as problem size grows, inventory levels tend to stabilise in the MRP and JIT scenarios. Consequently, when comparing both strategies, the mixed approach is recommended for LSCP because it offers lower backorder and penalty costs for the possible need of slack for JIT production for all the problem sizes.
- The measurements of the bullwhip effect in the best mixed SC scenario under study reflect a fluctuation of orders caused by upstream demand amplification, which amounts to 18.6% at the fourth SC level (suppliers level 1). These values improve the SC's performance compared to the theoretical foundations that present 35% in, for example, the textile industry (Towill and McCullen [1999\)](#page-24-24).

## <span id="page-21-0"></span>*7.2. Key lessons learnt*

LM can be applied to a traditional five-level SC with positive effects on performance. Nevertheless, researchers and practitioners should implement combined JIT and MRP operations strategies to achieve better SC performance in terms of reducing production, inventory, backorders, transportation and environmental costs. Consequently, the knowledge acquired from this study can be used to foster the experimentation and validation of SC operations strategies at the three decision levels, i.e. strategic, tactical and operational, by mathematical programming models, which support the decision-making processes effectively in real-world problems that target other industry types.

## *7.3. Limitations and future research*

Regarding the limitations and further research of our proposal, firstly the data about all the footwear company's

demands are limited to operational decisions. This implies that more information can be experimented with in a tactical and strategic environment. The model has also been designed with a single objective, that of profit maximisation. So the next stage can be extended to multiple objectives of the LSCP 4.0 model by, for instance, considering the social aspect of the sustainability in the objective function. Additionally, future work aims to extend experimentation to other types of SC structures, such as lean, e-procurement-based, electronic point of sales and vendor management inventory. In line with this, we encourage other researchers to apply the model presented herein to case studies from other industrial sectors by using other LM tools, for example Kanban. Moreover, future research could consider using other I4.0 technologies, such as big data analytics and trace and tracking systems, to address the problem of information exchange between supply network nodes. Future work could also incorporate decision making under uncertainty for supplier selection in the event of disruptions through robust, stochastic or fuzzy optimisation. Last but not least, other potential research would be related to approach a decentralised and collaborative SC, in which factories perform the BOMs explosion to first-level and second-level suppliers to diminish the bullwhip effect along the upstream SC. Finally, a forthcoming work aims to generate a Python code using Pyomo and Gurobi to provide our model with more flexibility and computational efficiency during operational processes through the C2NET manufacturing platform.

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## **Data availability statement**

The authors confirm that the data supporting the findings of this study are available in the article and in Appendix.

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