# GENETIC ALGORITHM FOR SOLVING UNCAPACITATED MULTIPLE ALLOCATION HUB LOCATION PROBLEM* 

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#### Abstract

Hub location problems are widely used for network designing. Many variations of these problems can be found in the literature. In this paper we deal with the uncapacitated multiple allocation hub location problem (UMAHLP). We propose a genetic algorithm (GA) for solving UMAHLP that uses binary encoding and genetic operators adapted to the problem. Overall performance of GA implementation is improved by caching technique. We present the results of our computational experience on standard ORLIB instances with up to 200 nodes. The results show that GA approach quickly reaches all optimal solutions that are known so far and also gives results on some large-scale instances that were unsolved before.


[^0]Keywords: Hub location problem, genetic algorithms, evolutionary computation, discrete location and assignment, network design, combinatorial optimization

## 1 INTRODUCTION

Computer and communication systems, DHL services and postal delivery networks, transportation systems may be observed as hub networks. They include a set of interacting nodes (facilities) with given distance and flow cost between each pair of nodes. The nodes in the network denoted as hub nodes serve as consolidation and connection points between two locations. Each node in the network is assigned to one or more hubs. All of the flow between any pair of nodes can only be realized via specified hubs. Since transportation cost between hubs is lower, consolidating traffic through hub nodes results in lower transportation cost per unit and efficient exploitation of the network.

There are various hub location problems, depending on the imposed constraints in the hub network. For example, number of hubs may be predetermined, capacity restrictions or fixed costs on both hub and/or non-hub nodes may be imposed, etc. Hub location problems can assume one of two allocation schemes:

- single allocation scheme, where each node must be assigned to exactly one hub node. All of flows from/to each node go only via assigned hub;
- multiple allocation scheme, which allows each facility to communicate with more than one hub.

Detailed review of hub location problems and their classification can be found in [5] and [6].

There are several papers in the literature considering UMAHLP. The problem was first formulated in [4]. Dual ascent techniques within a Branch-and-Bound scheme were first applied for solving UMAHLP in [11] on ORLIB ([2]) hub instances with $n \leq 25$ nodes. Similar approach is used in [14], with tighter lower bounds and improved upper bounds. The results are presented on instances with up to 40 nodes.

A new quadratic integer formulation of the problem, based on the idea of multicommodity network flows was introduced in [1]. This new formulation showed to be suitable for using Branch-and-Bound procedure. The authors present results on their own randomly generated instances with $n \leq 80$ size.

In [3] the mixed integer linear programming (MILP) formulations for three multiple allocation hub location problems, including UMAHLP, are used. For each problem preprocessing procedure and tightening constraints were developed. This approach was tested on standard hub data set including up to 50 nodes.

The main idea in paper [13] was to tighten MILP formulation and reduce the number of constraints using results from the field of the polyhedral structure of set packing problem. Another idea presented in [7] was to consider the dual problem of a MILP formulation. The authors first construct a heuristic method, based on
a dual-ascent technique, which produces almost $70 \%$ optimal solutions on ORLIB instances with up to 120 nodes. Heuristic was later embedded in Branch-and-Bound algorithm, that provides optimal solutions in all cases.

## 2 MATHEMATICAL FORMULATION

In this paper we consider the uncapacitated multiple allocation hub location problem. In this case, no capacities on the nodes are imposed, the number of hubs is not fixed and each non-hub node may be assigned to more than one hub (multiple allocation scheme). Traffic between origin and destination node can be routed via one or more hubs (switching points). Every hub node is located with certain expenses (fixed cost hub problem). The objective is to choose set of hubs and allocate non-hub nodes to the chosen set, so that the sum of total transportation cost and fixed costs is minimized.

Various formulations of UMAHLP arise in the literature and one mixed integer linear programming formulation [7] is used in this paper.

Consider a set $I=\{1, \ldots, n\}$ of $n$ distinct nodes in the network, where each node represents origin/destination or potential hub location. The distance from node $i$ to node $j$ is $C_{i j}$, and triangle inequality may be assumed [6]. The demand from location $i$ to $j$ is denoted as $W_{i j}$. Decision variables $y_{k}$ and $x_{i j k m}$ are used in the formulation as follows:

$$
y_{k}= \begin{cases}1 & \text { if a hub is located at node } k, \\ 0 & \text { if not. }\end{cases}
$$

$x_{i j k m}$ is the fraction of flow $W_{i j}$ from node $i$ that is collected at hub $k$, and distributed by hub $m$ to node $j$.

Each path from demand to destination node consists of three components: transfer from an origin to the first hub, transfer between the hubs and finally distribution from the last hub to the destination location. Parameters $\chi$ and $\delta$ denote unit costs for collection and distribution, while $1-\alpha$ represents discount factor for transport between hubs. The fixed cost of establishing hub $k\left(y_{k}=1\right)$ is denoted as $f_{k}$. The objective is locating some hub facilities in order to minimize the sum of total flow cost and the total cost of location hubs. Using the notation mentioned above, the problem can be written as:

$$
\begin{equation*}
\min \sum_{i, j, k, m} W_{i j} \cdot\left(\chi \cdot C_{i k}+\alpha \cdot C_{k m}+\delta \cdot C_{m j}\right) \cdot x_{i j k m}+\sum_{k} f_{k} \cdot y_{k} \tag{1}
\end{equation*}
$$

subject to

$$
\begin{gather*}
\sum_{k, m} x_{i j k m}=1 \quad \text { for every } i, j  \tag{2}\\
\sum_{m} x_{i j k m}+\sum_{m, m \neq k} x_{i j m k} \leq y_{k} \quad \text { for every } i, j, k  \tag{3}\\
y_{k} \in\{0,1\} \quad \text { for every } k \tag{4}
\end{gather*}
$$

$$
\begin{equation*}
x_{i j k m} \geq 0 \quad \text { for every } i, j, k, m . \tag{5}
\end{equation*}
$$

The objective function (1) minimizes the sum of the origin-hub, hub-hub and hub-destination flow costs multiplied with $\chi, \alpha$ and $\delta$ factors respectively and the sum of fixed costs for establishing hubs. Constraint (2) specify that all the flow is sent between every pair of nodes, while constraint (3) ensures that flow is only sent via opened hubs. Constraints (4) and (5) reflect binary and/or non-negative representation of decision variables. Note that the fact $x_{i j k m} \leq 1$ is implied by constraint (2), and is omitted.

UMAHLP is known to be NP-hard, with exception of special cases (for example when matrix of flows $W_{i j}$ is sparse) that are solvable in polynomial time. If the set of hubs is fixed, the related subproblem can be polynomially solved using shortest-path algorithm in $\mathrm{O}\left(n^{3}\right)$ time ([8]).

## 3 ACCOMPLISHED GA IMPLEMENTATION

### 3.1 Representation and Objective Function

The binary encoding of the individuals is used in this GA implementation. Each solution is represented by the binary string of length $n$. Digit 1 in the genetic code denotes that particular hub is established while 0 shows it is not.

Since users can be assigned only to opened hub facilities, only array $y_{k}$ is obtained from the genetic code. There are no capacities, so the values of $x_{i j k m}$ can be calculated during the evaluation of objective function.

For fixed set of hubs $\left(y_{k}\right)$ the modified version of the well-known Floyd-Warsall shortest path algorithm described in [8] is used. After finding shortest paths between all pair of nodes, it is simple to evaluate objective function. It is done by summing shortest distances multiplied with flows and corresponding $\chi, \alpha$, and $\delta$ parameters, and adding fixed cost $f_{k}$ of established hubs $\left(y_{k}=1\right)$.

### 3.2 Genetic Operators

Selection operator chooses the individuals that will produce offsprings in the next generation, according to their fitness. Low fitness-valued individuals have less chance to be selected than high fittness-valued ones. We use an improved tournament selection operator, known as fine-grained tournament selection (FGTS). This selection scheme showed to be successful in cases when it is desirable that the size of tournament group has rational instead of integer values. This operator uses real (rational) parameter $F_{\text {tour }}$ which denotes desired average tournament size. The first type is held $k_{1}$ times and its size is $\left[F_{\text {tour }}+1\right]$. The second type is performed $k_{2}$ times with the $\left[F_{\text {tour }}\right]$ individuals participated. Since the value $F_{\text {tour }}=5.4$ is used in this implementation of FGTS, the corresponding values $k_{1}$ and $k_{2}$ (for $N=50$ nonelitist individuals) are 20 and 30 , respectively. Running time for FGTS operator is
$O\left(N \times F_{\text {tour }}\right)$. In practice, $F_{\text {tour }}$ is considered to be constant (not depending on $N$ ) that gives $O(N)$ time complexity. For detailed information about FGTS see [10].

After a pair of parents is selected, crossover operator is applied to them producing two offsprings. The operator we use in this GA implementation is one-point crossover. This operator is performed by exchanging segments of two parents' genetic codes after randomly chosen crossover point. One-point crossover is realized with probability $p_{\text {cross }}=0.85$. It means that approximately $85 \%$ pairs of individuals exchange their genetic material.

Modified simple mutation operator used in this GA concept is performed by changing a randomly selected gene in the genetic code of the individual, with certain mutation rate. It may happen during the GA execution that (almost) all individuals in the population have the same gene on certain position. These genes are called frozen. If the number of frozen genes is $l$, the search space becomes $2^{l}$ times smaller and the possibility of premature convergence increases rapidly. The selection and crossover operators cannot change the bit value of any frozen gene and basic mutation rate is often too small to restore lost subregions of search space. If the basic mutation rate is increased significantly, genetic algorithm becomes random search. For this reason, the mutation rate is increased only on frozen genes. Therefore, in this implementation mutation rate for frozen genes is 2.5 times higher $(1.0 / n)$, compared to non-frozen ones $(0.4 / n)$.

### 3.3 Generation Replacement Strategy

The population size is 150 individuals. Steady-state generation replacement with elitist strategy is used. Initial population is randomly generated, providing maximal diversity of genetic material. Since the number of hubs to be located is significantly smaller compared to total number of nodes, the probability of generating them in the genetic codes of individuals in the initial population is set to $3.0 / n$. This way we obtain "better" individuals for starting GA.

Two thirds of the population are directly passing in the next generation (elite individuals). Genetic operators are applied on the rest of the population, so that only one third of the population is replaced in every generation. Objective value of every elite individual is calculated only once, and this provides significant time savings.

Duplicated individuals are removed in every generation. Their fitness values are set to zero so that selection operator avoids them to enter the next generation. This is very effective method for saving the diversity of genetic material and keeping the algorithm away from premature convergence. Individuals with the same objective function, but in some cases different genetic codes may dominate in the population. If their codes are similar, GA can lead to local optimum. For that reason, it is useful to limit their appearance to some constant $N_{r v}$ (it is set to 40 in this GA application).

### 3.4 Caching GA

Run-time performance of GA is optimized by caching technique. The main idea is to avoid computing the same objective function value every time when genetic operators produce an individual with same genetic code. The evaluated function values are stored in hash-queue data structure using Least Recently Used (LRU) caching technique. When the same code is obtained again its objective value is taken from the caching table, that provides time-savings. In this implementation the number of individuals stored in the caching table is limited to constant 5000 . For detailed information about caching GA see [12].

| Inst. | Opt sol | GA best $^{t}$ | $t$ <br> $(\mathrm{sec})$ | $t_{\text {tot }}$ <br> $(\mathrm{sec})$ | gen <br> gap <br> avg | $\sigma_{\text {avg }}$ <br> $(\%)$ | eval | cache <br> $(\%)$ |  |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | ---: | ---: |
| 10L | 221032.734 | opt | 0.003 | 0.113 | 503 | 0.000 | 0.000 | 664 | 97.4 |
| 10T | 257558.086 | opt | 0.001 | 0.114 | 501 | 0.000 | 0.000 | 709 | 97.2 |
| 20L | 230385.454 | opt | 0.007 | 0.206 | 504 | 0.000 | 0.000 | 2547 | 89.9 |
| 20T | 266877.485 | opt | 0.010 | 0.204 | 506 | 0.000 | 0.000 | 2585 | 89.8 |
| 25L | 232406.746 | opt | 0.015 | 0.313 | 505 | 0.000 | 0.000 | 3401 | 86.6 |
| 25T | 292032.080 | opt | 0.014 | 0.295 | 506 | 0.000 | 0.000 | 3483 | 86.3 |
| 40L | 237114.749 | opt | 0.065 | 0.833 | 517 | 0.000 | 0.000 | 5302 | 79.6 |
| 40T | 293164.836 | opt | 0.017 | 0.792 | 501 | 0.000 | 0.000 | 5217 | 79.3 |
| 50L | 233905.303 | opt | 0.072 | 1.434 | 510 | 0.000 | 0.000 | 6650 | 74.1 |
| 50T | 296024.896 | opt | 0.072 | 1.339 | 512 | 0.000 | 0.000 | 6626 | 74.3 |
| 60L | 225042.310 | opt | 0.075 | 2.149 | 506 | 0.000 | 0.000 | 7248 | 71.5 |
| 60T | 243416.450 | opt | 0.130 | 2.417 | 516 | 0.000 | 0.000 | 7568 | 70.8 |
| 70L | 229874.500 | opt | 0.309 | 3.691 | 531 | 0.000 | 0.000 | 8980 | 66.3 |
| 70T | 249602.845 | opt | 0.152 | 3.629 | 513 | 0.000 | 0.000 | 8100 | 68.6 |
| 80L | 225166.922 | opt | 0.809 | 5.119 | 565 | 0.000 | 0.000 | 9613 | 66.1 |
| 80T | 268209.406 | opt | 0.515 | 4.992 | 539 | 0.000 | 0.000 | 9488 | 65.0 |
| 90L | 226857.465 | opt | 0.368 | 6.693 | 518 | 0.000 | 0.000 | 10266 | 60.5 |
| 90T | 277417.972 | opt | 0.424 | 6.619 | 522 | 0.000 | 0.000 | 10017 | 61.9 |
| 100L | 235097.228 | opt | 1.205 | 8.381 | 561 | 0.000 | 0.000 | 10930 | 61.2 |
| 100T | 305097.949 | opt | 0.155 | 7.946 | 505 | 0.000 | 0.000 | 9746 | 61.6 |
| 110L | 218661.965 | opt | 0.557 | 9.695 | 517 | 0.000 | 0.000 | 10022 | 61.5 |
| 110T | 223891.822 | opt | 1.103 | 10.731 | 539 | 0.000 | 0.000 | 10877 | 59.8 |
| 120L | 222238.922 | opt | 0.885 | 12.609 | 524 | 0.000 | 0.000 | 10443 | 60.4 |
| 120T | 229581.755 | opt | 2.343 | 15.077 | 564 | 0.000 | 0.000 | 12188 | 57.0 |
| 130L | - | 223814.109 | 3.117 | 21.566 | 563 | 0.000 | 0.000 | 12198 | 56.9 |
| 130T | - | 230865.451 | 2.789 | 22.765 | 552 | 0.000 | 0.000 | 12651 | 54.4 |
| 200L | - | 230204.343 | 25.202 | 81.456 | 667 | 0.696 | 1.239 | 16374 | 51.2 |
| 200T | - | 268787.633 | 28.688 | 93.926 | 701 | 0.000 | 0.000 | 18778 | 46.5 |

Table 1. GA results on $A P$ instances with $\chi=3, \alpha=0.75$ and $\delta=2$

## 4 COMPUTATIONAL RESULTS

In this section we present results of our GA, tested on a AMD Athlon K7/1.33 GHz with 256 MB of internal memory. The code was written in C programming language. The tests are based on standard ORLIB ([2]) data set AP (Australian Post) which is used for testing larger problems. It is obtained from Australian Post delivery system, containing up to 200 nodes representing post code districts. Smaller size AP instances are generated by aggregating basic AP data set. The distances between cities satisfy triangle inequality, but the traffic (flow) between ordered pair of origindestination nodes is not symmetric. Fixed costs are included in AP data set, as in [9]. The coefficients $\chi, \delta$ and $\alpha$ that correspond to flow collection, distribution and transportation between hubs take same values as in [7].

| Inst. | Opt sol | $G A_{\text {best }}$ | $\begin{gathered} \hline t \\ (\mathrm{sec}) \end{gathered}$ | $\begin{aligned} & \hline t_{\text {tot }} \\ & (\mathrm{sec}) \end{aligned}$ | gen | gapavg <br> (\%) | $\begin{array}{\|c} \sigma_{a v g} \\ (\%) \end{array}$ | eval | cache (\%) |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| 10L | 221032.734 | opt | 0.003 | 0.113 | 503 | 0.000 | 0.000 | 664 | 7 |
| 10T | 257558.086 | opt | 0.001 | 0.114 | 501 | 0.000 | 0.000 | 709 | 97. |
| 20L | 230385.454 | opt | 0.007 | 0.206 | 504 | 0.000 | 0.000 | 2547 | 89.9 |
| 20T | 266877.485 | opt | 0.010 | 0.204 | 506 | 0.000 | 0.000 | 2585 | 89.8 |
| 25L | 232406.746 | opt | 0.015 | 0.313 | 505 | 0.000 | 0.000 | 3401 | 86. |
| 25 T | 292032.080 | opt | 0.014 | 0.295 | 506 | 0.000 | 0.000 | 3483 | 86.3 |
| 40L | 237114.749 | opt | 0.065 | 0.833 | 517 | 0.000 | 0.000 | 5302 | 79.6 |
| 40T | 293164.836 | opt | 0.017 | 0.792 | 501 | 0.000 | 0.000 | 5217 | 79.3 |
| 50L | 233905.303 | opt | 0.072 | 1.434 | 510 | 0.000 | 0.000 | 6650 | 74.1 |
| 50T | 296024.896 | opt | 0.072 | 1.339 | 512 | 0.000 | 0.000 | 6626 | 74.3 |
| 60L | 225042.310 | opt | 0.075 | 2.149 | 506 | 0.000 | 0.000 | 724 | . 5 |
| 60 T | 243416.450 | opt | 0.130 | 2.417 | 516 | 0.000 | 0.000 | 7568 | 70 |
| 70L | 229874.500 | opt | 0.309 | 3.691 | 531 | 0.000 | 0.000 | 8980 | 66.3 |
| 70T | 249602.845 | opt | 0.152 | 3.629 | 513 | 0.000 | 0.000 | 8100 | 68 |
| 80L | 225166.922 | opt | 0.809 | 5.119 | 565 | 0.000 | 0.000 | 9613 | 66.1 |
| 80 T | 268209.406 | opt | 0.515 | 4.992 | 539 | 0.000 | 0.000 | 9488 | 65.0 |
| 90L | 226857.465 | opt | 0.368 | 6.693 | 518 | 0.000 | 0.000 | 10266 | 60.5 |
| 90T | 277417.972 | opt | 0.424 | . 619 | 52 | 0.000 | 0.000 | 10017 | 61.9 |
| 100L | 235097.228 | opt | 1.205 | 8.381 | 561 | 0.000 | 0.000 | 10930 | 61.2 |
| 100T | 305097.949 | opt | 0.155 | 7.946 | 505 | 0.000 | 0.000 | 974 | 61.6 |
| 110L | 218661.965 | opt | 0.557 | 9.695 | 517 | 0.000 | 0.000 | 10022 | 61.5 |
| 110T | 223891.822 | opt | 1.103 | 10.731 | 539 | 0.000 | 0.000 | 10877 | 59 |
| 120L | 222238.922 | opt | 0.885 | 12.609 | 524 | 0.000 | 0.000 | 10443 | 60.4 |
| 120T | 229581.755 | opt | 2.343 | 15.077 | 564 | 0.000 | 0.000 | 12188 | 57.0 |
| 130L |  | 223814.109 | 3.117 | 21.566 | 563 | 0.000 | 0.000 | 12198 | 56.9 |
| 130T | - | 230865.451 | 2.789 | 22.765 | 552 | 0.000 | 0.000 | 12651 | 54 |
| 200L | - | 230204.343 | 25.202 | 81.456 | 667 | 0.696 | 1.239 | 16374 | 51.2 |
| 200 T | - | 268787.633 | 28.688 | 93.926 | 701 | 0.000 | 0.000 | 1877 | 46.5 |

Table 2. GA results on $A P$ instances with $\chi=3, \alpha=0.75$ and $\delta=2$

The columns in Tables 1-4 contain the following data (in the presented order):

- dimension of the current AP instance, with L denoting "loose" and T "tight" fixed cost;
- optimal solution $\left(O p t_{\text {sol }}\right)$, if it is known in advance, otherwise "-" is written;
- the best GA solution $\left(G A_{\text {best }}\right)$, with mark "opt" in cases when GA reaches optimum for the current instance;
- average time $t$ (in seconds) needed to obtain the best GA value;
- average total time $t_{\text {tot }}$ (in seconds) for finishing GA;
- average total number of generations;
- average percentage gap of GA solution with respect to $O p t_{\text {sol }}$ or $G A_{\text {best }}$;

| Inst. | Opt sol | $G A_{\text {best }}$ | $\begin{gathered} \hline t \\ (\mathrm{sec}) \\ \hline \end{gathered}$ | $\begin{gathered} t_{\text {tot }} \\ (\mathrm{sec}) \\ \hline \end{gathered}$ | gen | gapavg $(\%)$ | $\begin{aligned} & \sigma_{\text {avg }} \\ & (\%) \\ & \hline \end{aligned}$ | eval | cache (\%) |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| 10L | 122038.940 | opt | 0.002 | 0.107 | 501 | 0.000 | 0.000 | 649 | 97.4 |
| 10T | 127425.939 | opt | 0.005 | 0.109 | 503 | 0.000 | 0.000 | 633 | 97.5 |
| 20L | 125309.816 | opt | 0.009 | 0.182 | 506 | 0.000 | 0.000 | 2465 | 90.3 |
| 20T | 129079.794 | opt | 0.004 | 0.182 | 501 | 0.000 | 0.000 | 2431 | 90.3 |
| 25L | 126821.800 | opt | 0.012 | 0.254 | 506 | 0.000 | 0.000 | 3252 | 87.2 |
| 25 T | 143422.390 | opt | 0.016 | 0.254 | 509 | 0.000 | 0.000 | 3157 | 87.7 |
| 40L | 124994.499 | opt | 0.075 | 0.689 | 527 | 0.000 | 0.000 | 5097 | 80.8 |
| 40T | 140962.910 | opt | 0.017 | 0.674 | 501 | 0.000 | 0.000 | 4841 | 80.8 |
| 50L | 120871.926 | opt | 0.054 | 1.143 | 508 | 0.000 | 0.000 | 6155 | 75.9 |
| 50T | 152294.536 | opt | 0.024 | 1.114 | 501 | 0.000 | 0.000 | 6021 | 76. |
| 60L | 112991.944 | opt | 0.086 | 1.708 | 510 | 0.000 | 0.000 | 6798 | 73.5 |
| 60 T | 124961.384 | opt | 0.092 | 2.076 | 511 | 0.000 | 0.000 | 7395 | 71.2 |
| 70L | 114595.951 | opt | 0.238 | 2.702 | 527 | 0.000 | 0.000 | 7950 | 70.0 |
| 70 T | 134324.296 | opt | 0.168 | 3.162 | 516 | 0.000 | 0.000 | 8279 | 68.1 |
| 80L | 116505.953 | opt | 0.553 | 3.985 | 554 | 0.000 | 0.000 | 9225 | 66.9 |
| 80T | 138970.736 | opt | 0.300 | 4.295 | 523 | 0.000 | 0.000 | 9041 | 65.6 |
| 90L | 115225.601 | opt | 0.195 | 5.149 | 509 | 0.000 | 0.000 | 9465 | 63. |
| 90 T | 130558.600 | opt | 0.428 | 5.95 | 526 | 0.000 | 0.000 | 10153 | 61.6 |
| 100L | 123822.587 | opt | 0.714 | 7.028 | 540 | 0.000 | 0.000 | 10595 | 60.9 |
| 100T | 143119.855 | opt | 0.152 | 7.351 | 505 | 0.000 | 0.000 | 9826 | 1.3 |
| 110L | 110192.705 | opt | 0.989 | 8.662 | 544 | 0.000 | 0.000 | 10686 | 60.9 |
| 110T | 114895.505 | opt | 0.642 | 9.162 | 524 | 0.000 | 0.000 | 10511 | 60. |
| 120L | 111758.347 | opt | 2.845 | 12.624 | 620 | 0.000 | 0.000 | 12749 | 59.0 |
| 120T | 118376.769 | opt | 1.011 | 11.567 | 531 | 0.000 | 0.000 | 11425 | 57.2 |
| 130L |  | 115286.957 | 1.863 | 18.069 | 543 | 0.000 | 0.000 | 11938 | 56.3 |
| 130T | - | 119538.946 | 0.688 | 17.641 | 511 | 0.000 | 0.000 | 11525 | 55.1 |
| 200L | - | 120377.895 | 15.616 | 69.237 | 625 | 0.000 | 0.000 | 15578 | 50.4 |
| 200 T | - | 133716.442 | 9.944 | 67.294 | 573 | 0.000 | 0.000 | 14964 | 48.0 |

Table 3. GA results on $A P$ instances with $\chi=1, \alpha=0.1$ and $\delta=1$

- standard deviation $\sigma$ of the average gap;
- average number of objective function evaluation (eval);
- average percentage of savings (cache) obtained by using the caching technique.

On each AP instance GA was run 20 times. The maximal number of generations is set to $N_{\text {gen }}=1000$ in this GA implementation. The repetition of best objective function value is limited to constant $N_{\text {rep }}=500$.

As can be seen from Tables 1-4, the proposed GA quickly reaches all known optimal solutions ( $n \leq 120$ ) in $t \leq 3.5$ seconds. For other large-scale instances, for which the optimum is not known, GA obtains solutions in $t \leq 28.7$ seconds. The GA concept cannot prove optimality and adequate finishing criterion that will fine-tune the solution quality does not exist. Therefore, as column $t_{\text {tot }}$ in Tables 1-4 shows,

| Inst. | Opt sol | $G A_{\text {best }}$ | $\begin{gathered} \hline t \\ (\mathrm{sec}) \\ \hline \end{gathered}$ | $\begin{gathered} t_{\text {tot }} \\ (\mathrm{sec}) \end{gathered}$ | gen | $\mid \text { gapavg }$ $(\%)$ | $\begin{gathered} \hline \sigma_{a v g} \\ (\%) \\ \hline \end{gathered}$ | eval | cache (\%) |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| 10L | 125591.591 | opt | 0.003 | 0.107 | 501 | 0.000 | 0.000 | 628 | 97.5 |
| 10T | 127425.939 | opt | 0.002 | 0.106 | 503 | 0.000 | 0.000 | 624 | 97.5 |
| 20L | 126058.465 | opt | 0.004 | 0.176 | 501 | 0.000 | 0.000 | 2307 | 90.8 |
| 20 T | 129079.794 | opt | 0.005 | 0.184 | 501 | 0.000 | 0.000 | 2379 | 90. |
| 25L | 126900.890 | opt | 0.020 | 0.247 | 514 | 0.000 | 0.000 | 2958 | 88.6 |
| 25 T | 143422.390 | opt | 0.016 | 0.261 | 509 | 0.000 | 0.000 | 3132 | 87 |
| 40L | 125199.814 | opt | 0.015 | 0.630 | 501 | 0.000 | 0.000 | 4522 | 82. |
| 40T | 140962.910 | opt | 0.016 | 0.686 | 501 | 0.000 | 0.000 | 4781 | 81.0 |
| 50L | 124917.187 | opt | 0.024 | 1.108 | 501 | 0.000 | 0.000 | 5851 | 76.8 |
| 50 T | 152294.536 | opt | 0.025 | 1.132 | 501 | 0.000 | 0.000 | 5943 | 76.4 |
| 60L | 116799.121 | opt | 0.073 | 1.623 | 507 | 0.000 | 0.000 | 6330 | 75.2 |
| 60 T | 124961.384 | opt | 0.090 | 2.124 | 510 | 0.000 | 0.000 | 7368 | 71.3 |
| 70L | 120503.243 | opt | 0.340 | 2.742 | 543 | 0.000 | 0.000 | 7995 | 70.7 |
| 70T | 135016.621 | opt | 0.138 | 3.148 | 12 | 0.000 | 0.000 | 8085 | 68. |
| 80 L | 119405.594 | opt | 0.100 | 3.623 | 504 | 0.000 | 0.000 | 8290 | 67. |
| 80T | 138970.736 | opt | 0.249 | 4.374 | 518 | 0.000 | 0.000 | 8989 | 65.5 |
| 90L | 118611.695 | opt | 0.554 | 5.270 | 539 | 0.000 | 0.000 | 9579 | 64.7 |
| 90 T | 130558.600 | opt | 0.410 | 6.035 | 524 | 0.000 | 0.000 | 10061 | 61.8 |
| 100L | 125484.484 | opt | 0.888 | 6.890 | 554 | 0.005 | 0.023 | 10448 | 62.4 |
| 100T | 143119.855 | opt | 0.161 | 7.485 | 505 | 0.000 | 0.000 | 9795 | 61.4 |
| 110L | 116255.117 | opt | 0.906 | 8.330 | 541 | 0.000 | 0.000 | 10338 | 62.0 |
| 110T | 121484.974 | opt | 1.252 | 9.516 | 553 | 0.000 | 0.000 | 11092 | 60. |
| 120L | 118048.051 | opt | 3.500 | 12.866 | 651 | 0.000 | 0.000 | 12985 | 60.3 |
| 120T | 122850.043 | opt | 1.274 | 11.522 | 541 | 0.000 | 0.000 | 11377 | 58.2 |
| 130L | - | 120773.444 | 0.922 | 16.714 | 519 | 0.000 | 0.000 | 11094 | 57.5 |
| 130T | - | 126138.979 | 0.561 | 17.268 | 508 | 0.000 | 0.000 | 11269 | 55.9 |
| 200L | - | 122401.965 | 13.764 | 65.355 | 614 | 0.201 | 0.412 | 14873 | 51.7 |
| 200 T | - | 133772.797 | 0.637 | 58.482 | 501 | 0.000 | 0.000 | 12889 | 48.9 |

Table 4. GA results on $A P$ instances with $\chi=1, \alpha=0.5$ and $\delta=1$
our algorithm runs through additional $t_{\text {tot }}-t$ time (until the finishing criterion is satisfied), although it already reached the optimal solution.

The proposed GA approach cannot verify optimality of obtained solutions, but represents significant contribution to existing methods for solving UMAHLP, because it is able to solve large-scale instances unsolved before.

| Inst. | Opt $t_{\text {sol }}$ | $G A_{\text {best }}$ | $\begin{gathered} t \\ (\mathrm{sec}) \\ \hline \hline \end{gathered}$ | $\begin{gathered} t_{t o t} \\ (\mathrm{sec}) \\ \hline \end{gathered}$ | gen | gapavg <br> (\%) | $\begin{aligned} & \sigma_{a v g} \\ & (\%) \end{aligned}$ | eval | cache <br> (\%) |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| 10L | 125591.591 | opt | 0.001 | 0.105 | 501 | 0.000 | 0.000 | 621 | 97.5 |
| 10T | 127425.939 | opt | 0.001 | 0.108 | 503 | 0.000 | 0.000 | 625 | 97.5 |
| 20L | 126058.465 | opt | 0.003 | 0.179 | 501 | 0.000 | 0.000 | 2300 | 90.9 |
| 20T | 129079.794 | opt | 0.004 | 0.184 | 501 | 0.000 | 0.000 | 2325 | 90.8 |
| 25L | 126900.890 | opt | 0.021 | 0.252 | 513 | 0.000 | 0.000 | 2942 | 88.6 |
| 25T | 143422.390 | opt | 0.017 | 0.266 | 508 | 0.000 | 0.000 | 3115 | 87.8 |
| 40L | 125199.814 | opt | 0.018 | 0.642 | 501 | 0.000 | 0.000 | 4455 | 82.3 |
| 40T | 140962.910 | opt | 0.018 | 0.704 | 501 | 0.000 | 0.000 | 4767 | 81.1 |
| 50L | 124917.187 | opt | 0.023 | 1.134 | 501 | 0.000 | 0.000 | 5820 | 76.9 |
| 50 T | 152294.536 | opt | 0.025 | 1.154 | 501 | 0.000 | 0.000 | 5891 | 76.6 |
| 60L | 116799.121 | opt | 0.088 | . 645 | 510 | 0.000 | 0.000 | 6251 | 75.6 |
| 60 T | 124961.384 | opt | 0.090 | 2.178 | 509 | 0.000 | 0.000 | 7313 | 71.5 |
| 70L | 121858.663 | opt | 0.236 | 2.683 | 527 | 0.000 | 0.000 | 7657 | 71. |
| 70 T | 135016.621 | opt | 0.194 | 3.295 | 518 | 0.000 | 0.000 | 8216 | 68.5 |
| 80L | 119405.594 | opt | 0.101 | 3.710 | 504 | 0.000 | 0.000 | 8303 | 67.2 |
| 80T | 138970.736 | opt | 0.280 | 4.540 | 520 | 0.000 | 0.000 | 9028 | 65.5 |
| 90L | 118611.695 | opt | 0.520 | . 245 | 536 | 0.000 | 0.000 | 9369 | 65.2 |
| 90T | 130558.600 | opt | 0.323 | 6.085 | 517 | 0.000 | 0.000 | 9887 | 62.0 |
| 100L | 125484.484 | opt | 1.025 | 7.044 | 563 | 0.000 | 0.000 | 10519 | 62.8 |
| 100T | 143119.855 | opt | 0.186 | 7.701 | 506 | 0.000 | 0.000 | 9850 | 61.3 |
| 110L | 119007.810 | opt | 0.864 | 8.363 | 538 | 0.000 | 0.000 | 10221 | 62.2 |
| 110T | 122257.504 | opt | 0.309 | 8.712 | 509 | 0.000 | 0.000 | 10188 | 60.2 |
| 120L | 119561.474 | opt | 2.130 | 11.762 | 588 | 0.000 | 0.000 | 11699 | 60.4 |
| 120T | 122850.043 | opt | 1.188 | 11.610 | 537 | 0.000 | 0.000 | 11243 | 58.4 |
| 130L |  | 120773.444 | 0.907 | 16.659 | 519 | 0.000 | 0.000 | 10980 | 57.9 |
| 130T |  | 126138.979 | 0.642 | 17.569 | 510 | 0.000 | 0.000 | 11290 | 55.9 |
| 200L |  | 122401.965 | 20.330 | 71.403 | 675 | 0.050 | 0.225 | 16167 | 52.2 |
| 200 T | - | 133772.797 | 0.647 | 59.471 | 501 | 0.000 | 0.000 | 12896 | 48.8 |

Table 5. GA results on $A P$ instances with $\chi=1, \alpha=0.9$ and $\delta=1$

## 5 CONCLUSIONS

An efficient evolutionary meta-heuristic for solving UMAHLP is presented. Binary representation, mutation with frozen genes, limited number of different individuals with same objective value and caching technique were used. The proposed GA
quickly obtains solutions that match optimal ones known in literature. It is also able to solve practical size problems that were out of reach for exact methods.

Further research should be directed to parallelization of genetic algorithm and implementation to multiprocessor systems and applying presented approach to similar hub and other location problems.

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