





# Metaheuristic Optimization 21. Representations

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2 Real-World VRP







- 2 Real-World VRP
- **3** Summary



• Search space G (genome, contains genotypes)

 $\begin{array}{c} {\rm Search \ Space \ } \mathbb{G} \\ {\rm Explored \ by \ Optimization \ Algorithm} \end{array}$ 





- Genotype-phenotype mapping (gpm) translate from  ${\mathbb G}$  to  ${\mathbb X}$ 







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- Solution space  $\mathbb X$  (genome, contains phenotypes=candiate solutions)





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Metaheuristic Optimization



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#### Metaheuristic Optimization



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  - domain-specific search space (+operators)?  $\implies$  **Representation** .
  - simple search space + "intelligent" GPM?  $\implies$  Representation .
  - domain-specific algorithm?
  - . . .



- Incorporation of domain-specific knowledge (into EA) essential for good performance<sup>[1]</sup>
- But where to include it?
  - "intelligent" / domain-specific/memetic search operators?

  - domain-specific algorithm?
  - ...
- Choice of representation has major impact on quality of results <sup>[2–6]</sup>



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• Finished work contributing to a freight management system <sup>[7-11]</sup>





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Metaheuristic Optimization





- Holistic Approach
- Sensor Nodes
- Middleware





- Holistic Approach
- Sensor Nodes
- Middleware
- Transportation
  Planner







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8/22



• *in.west*: real-world vehicle routing problems of logistics company





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- Orders/Containers/Trucks/ Trains/Routes for...





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• Constraints, laws, time limit: 1 day





• What is a solution/plan x for such a scenario?



### **VRP:** Representation



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- What is a solution/plan x for such a scenario?
- Solution space  $\mathbb{X}:$  set of all such solutions


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### **VRP:** Representation



- What is a solution/plan x for such a scenario?
- Search spaces such as integer or bit strings not convenient: encoding, decoding, meaningful modification too complex



#### **VRP:** Representation



- What is a solution/plan x for such a scenario?
- Use solution space  ${\mathbb X}$  also as search space  ${\mathbb G}$



• Mutation 1: Add new tour for undelivered freight to plan





• Mutation 2: Integrate delivery in existing tour





• Mutation 3: Freight exchange / Truck-meets-Truck





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• Mutation 4: Utilize trains with fixed schedules



#### • Crossover 1: Join compatible tours







• Optimization method: Evolutionary Algorithm <sup>[13]</sup>



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• Initialization: random but *valid* plans that fulfill one randomly chosen task each



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 Transportation Plan = phenotype x = genotype g ⇒ no genotype-phenotype mapping necessary



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• Pareto Ranking as fitness assignment (see Lesson 15: *Multi-Objective Optimization*)



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- Pareto Ranking as fitness assignment (see Lesson 15: *Multi-Objective Optimization*)
- Sharing in objective space: increase diversity <sup>[13]</sup>



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• Selection: tournament selection



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• 16 mutation + 3 crossover constellation-specific operators



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- 16 mutation + 3 crossover constellation-specific operators
- Each operator preserves validity; operators randomly chosen for application



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• Cycle starts again



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- 4th quarter 2007
- $\approx 800$  swap bodies
- $\approx 10$  depots
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- 4th quarter 2007
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- $\approx 10$  depots
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- $\approx 160 3000$  orders per day
- $\approx 75\%$  fill rate, lean flow of goods













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谢谢 Thank you

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