

Special Issue on Optimization with Variable Neighborhood Search

Call for Papers

Variable neighborhood search (VNS) is a metaheuristic for solving combinatorial and global optimization problems. It is based on a systematic change of the neighborhood structures within a search. The main goal of this special issue is to present recent advances in theory, methodology, and applications of the VNS approach. Researches coming from various scientific fields can contribute their knowledge, expertise, and ideas related to the VNS metaheuristic and its applications.

We invite investigators to contribute original research articles as well as review articles that will stimulate the continuing efforts to understand the variable neighborhood search, the development of strategies, comparison made with other approaches, design of hybrid and parallel heuristics, and so forth. We are particularly interested in articles describing the new neighborhood structures or new combination of neighborhoods used for solving some particular combinatorial or global optimization problem. We are also interested in problems where VNS approach is used for the first time, but providing results at least as good as state-of-the-art heuristics. Potential topics include, but are not limited to:

- Theory and methodology
 - Theoretical or empirical analysis of VNS
 - New variants of deterministic and stochastic VNS
 - Continuous global VNS
 - Convergent VNS methods
 - Metaheuristics and VNS
 - Formulation space VNS
 - Multiobjective VNS
 - Parallel VNS
 - VNS hybrids
- Applications
 - Mixed integer programming
 - Graphs, communication networks
 - Clustering, data mining, location
 - Inventory, routing, supply chains
 - Packing and covering
 - Discovery sciences
 - Other real world problems

Before submission authors should carefully read over the journal's Author Guidelines, which are located at <http://www.hindawi.com/journals/jam/guidelines/>. Prospective authors should submit an electronic copy of their complete manuscript through the journal Manuscript Tracking System at <http://mts.hindawi.com/> according to the following timetable:

Manuscript Due	Friday, 14 September 2012
First Round of Reviews	Friday, 7 December 2012
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