2018-00393 - PhD - Dynamic Pickup-and-Delivery Problems: efficient decomposition based algorithms to tackle hard variants with rendez-vous and online requests

Niveau de diplôme exigé : Bac + 5 ou équivalent
Fonction : Doctorant

A propos du centre ou de la direction fonctionnelle

Our aim is to develop tight formulations for combinatorial problems by combining the latest reformulation techniques, such as Lagrangian and polyhedral approach, non-linear programming tools and graph theoretics tools. Through industrial partnerships, the team targets large scale problems such as those arising in logistics (routing problems), in planning and scheduling, in network design and control, and in placement problems (cutting stock problems).

Contexte et atouts du poste

Scientific Priorities :
Stochastic mutli-scale models ; environement and sustainable development in urban logistics.

Scientific Research Context :
The Pickup-and-Delivery Problem is an extension of capacitated vehicle routing with time-windows where a fleet of vehicles has to cover a set of requests defined by their pick-up and delivery locations along with their vehicle capacity consumption. The coupling of two service nodes associated with pick-up and delivery locations make the problem very hard. Solving realistic size problems that arise in logistics with uncertainty on the requests is beyond today's achievements with exact optimization methods. Our challenge is to make significant progress on solving realistic size instances to near optimality by developing a complex blend of restricted exact optimization tools, strong relaxations, efficient primal heuristics and filtering techniques, along with parallelisation. Our second axis of contribution is to extend such methodologies to a dynamic context of accepting online requests, and considering possible transshipments between vehicles (this requires to setup rendez-vous between routes).

Mission confiée

The research will build on the body of highly efficient tools for vehicle routing, planning and scheduling problems that are developed within the team [1], while generalizing them :
- dynamic programs for resource constraint shortest path [3] that requires extension to the pick-up-and-delivery context
- branch-and-price-and-cut algorithms including non robust cuts that would need to be generalized to this context
- restriction and relaxation strategies to achieve primal & dual bounds on the pricing subproblem
- master program updating scheme and filtering to limit the size of the formulation; stabilization schemes to reduce the number of iterations [2];
- parallelization to reduce the time of an iteration
- hybridization between branch-and-price, branch-and-bound, and primal heuristics to accelerate the process of achieving “good solutions”.

Beyond these extensions, the second part of thesis shall focus on novel research advances that are required to handle transshipments/rendez-vous between routes and to deal with online requests, including ways to make the original plan robust to dynamic request inclusion; along with the evaluation of the gain that can be expected from transshipments and the robustness of the plannings in their ability to handle online requests.

Principales activités

Key words: Vehicle Routing, Mixed Integer Programming, Dantzig-Wolfe Decomposition, Dynamic Programming, Parallelisation

Informations générales
- Thème/Domaine : Optimisation, apprentissage et méthodes statistiques
- Ville : Talence
- Centre Inria : CRI Bordeaux - Sud-Ouest
- Date de prise de fonction souhaitée : 01-10-2018
- Durée de contrat : 3 ans
- Date limite pour postuler : 24-05-2018

Contacts
- Équipe Inria : REALOPT
- Recruteur : Sadykov Ruslan / ruslan.sadykov@inria.fr

Conditions pour postuler

Advisors : Ruslan Sadykov and Francois Vanderbeck.

The PhD shall be a co-tutelle with Universidade Federal Fluminense, Brazil, where the advisor shall be Prof E Uchoa (of our associated team project SAMBA - https://realopt.bordeaux.inria.fr/?page_id=573).

Thank you to send :
- Copy of master thesis diploma
- Master marks and ranking
- 2 pages CV
- Cover letter
- Support letter(s)

Sécurité défense :
Ce poste est susceptible d'être affecté dans une zone à régime restrictif (ZRR), telle que définie dans le décret n°2011-1425 relatif à la protection du potentiel scientifique et technique de la nation (PPST). L'autorisation d'accès à une zone est délivrée par le chef d'établissement, après avis ministériel favorable, tel que défini dans l'arrêté du 03 juillet 2012, relatif à la PPST. Un avis ministériel défavorable pour un poste affecté dans une ZRR aurait pour conséquence l'annulation du recrutement.

Politique de recrutement :
Dans le cadre de sa politique diversité, tous les postes Inria sont accessibles aux personnes en situation de handicap.

Attention : Les candidatures doivent être déposées en ligne sur le site Inria. Le traitement des candidatures adressées par d'autres canaux n'est pas garanti.
References:
3. A Bucket Graph Based Labeling Algorithm with Application to Vehicle Routing R Sadykov, E Uchoa, A Pessoa Research Report Cadernos do LOGIS 2017/7, Universidade Federal Fluminense 2017

Compétences
Required knowledge and background:
The PhD candidate should have a strong background in mathematical optimization: linear and mixed integer programming, dynamic programming, and constraint programming. Furthermore, strong skills in algorithm implementation and numerical work are required.

Avantages sociaux
- Subsidised catering service
- Partially-reimbursed public transport

Rémunération
1982€ / month (before taxs) during the first 2 years, 2085€ / month (before taxs) during the third year.