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# Tabu search heuristic for minimizing the number of vehicles in VRPTW

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## Abstract

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This thesis discusses a tabu search algorithm variant for solving the vehicle routing problem with time windows (VRPTW). First, basic theory of heuristics and metaheuristics are introduced. Thereafter the original algorithm used to solve bin packaging problems is discussed and adapted to the VRPTW setting.

The algorithm naturally focuses on the packaging dimension of the VRPTW and tries to empty a specific vehicle in order to minimize the number of vehicles in a solution. A key component of the algorithm is a so-called filling function trying to identify vehicles from which all customers are easy removable. A tuning of the filling function is performed and compared to the original filling function from the bin packaging setting. The tuned version performs significantly better on the Solomon benchmark problems, but is still far from the best-known solutions.

The adaption of the algorithm seems promising and suggestions for further research and areas of interest are provided.

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## Resume

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Denne afhandling omhandler en variant af tabu-søgningsalgoritmer til at løse vehicle routing problemer med tidsvinduer (VRPTW). Indledningsvist introduceres den grundliggende teori bag heuristikker og meta-heuristikker. Derefter diskuteres den oprindelige algoritme udviklet til at løse bin packaging problemer og denne tilpasses VRPTW omstændighederne.

Naturligt nok fokuserer algoritmen på paknings-dimensionen af VRPTW-problemet, og forsøger at tømme et udvalgt fartøj for derved at minimere antallet af fartøjer i en løsning. En nøglekomponent i algoritmen er den såkaldte fylde-funktion, der forsøger at identificere de fartøjer, hvor alle kunder let kan flyttes. En tuning af denne fylde-funktion gennemføres og sammenlignes med den oprindelige fylde-funktion fra pakningsproblemet. Den tunede fylde-funktion leverer signifikant bedre resultater på Solomons referenceproblemer, men er stadig langt fra de bedste kendte løsninger.

Tilpasningen af algoritmen virker lovende, og der gives forslag til videre forskning samt interesseområder.

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## Preface

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This thesis is written as part of a Master of Science in pure mathematics at the University of Copenhagen, even though it treats an applied field of mathematics, namely operations research. There is of course extensive use of mathematics in this thesis, but it is not a typical definition-theorem-corollary setup known from abstract mathematics. Rather, aspects from computer science and algorithmic theory are used among others to solve a model of a real life problem. In order to get as far as possible with the applications of the powerful mathematical tools the theory is presented rather than developed.

I would like to thank my adviser, Louise Kallehauge, for believing in me and posing a tough problem of applying an existing algorithm to a new area. Throughout the work on the thesis she, and often times her husband Brian Kallehauge as well, have patiently advised me, and helped me stay on track. Daniele Vigo, who originally suggested the adaption of the algorithm to the VRPTW-problem, has kindly been supervising the process and helping out whenever questions of doubt arose.

Finally, two friends deserve to be thanked. Michael Mc Donnell with his vast knowledge of Java and computer science in general has without hesitation helped me whenever technical difficulties arose. Without him the code would be significantly less elegant and on quite a few occasions technicalities would have stolen precious time from the actual work. I would also like to thank Morten Hornbech. Despite being in the middle of finishing his own thesis and having a family to look after, he took time off to understand the problem, listen to my thoughts for further development, and provide a fresh perspective.

Jerôme Baltzersen  
Copenhagen, January 2010

# CHAPTER 1

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## Introduction

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An infamous problem in operations research is the travelling salesman problem (TSP) where a salesman wishes to visit a number of customers and return to his or her home base traversing the shortest possible distance. The problem is simple enough to present to a layman. But at the same time challenging enough to pose a tough problem to the academic society.

The vehicle routing problem (VRP) has a fleet of vehicles located at a depot. These vehicles have to visit a number of customers and return to the depot using the fewest number of vehicles and/or travelling the shortest total distance. As such it is a straight-forward generalization of the TSP and thus naturally attracts a lot of academic interest. Due to its more abstract nature compared to the TSP, techniques of more complex nature are needed in order to attack the problem.

Further, the VRP is very relevant to the business world. A vast amount of businesses face the task of visiting customers to make a delivery, perform a service, or what not. While the TSP is certainly relevant it is more often the case that businesses have to attend to way more customers than what a single person/vehicle can handle. Thus multiple “salesmen” are hired turning the problem into a VRP.

There are many adaptations and generalizations of the basic VRP and in what follows we are concerned with the variant further constraining the capacity of the vehicles, and imposing a time-window during which the visit has to be made. Such a problem is called the (capacitated) vehicle routing problem with time windows usually abbreviated VRPTW.

Whereas the TSP setting only has one natural objective, namely minimizing the total distance traversed, the VRP has two natural objectives: One can try to minimize the total distance travelled or the number of vehicles used. There can be—and in realistic settings there usually is—a certain amount of correlation between the two, but nevertheless it is important to realize that the two objectives are quite different in nature. It is of course sensible, regardless of which objective is chosen, to keep the other in mind as well. That is, for example, if two configurations uses the same number of vehicles the one yielding the shorter total distance is to be preferred.



## 1 Introduction

Academics aside, these thoughts translates nicely into business objectives. Businesses wishing to maximize profits are of course interested in minimizing costs given a certain level of revenue. Costs split into fixed and variable costs, which can be seen as the number of vehicles and the total distance travelled, respectively. Having an additional vehicle in one's fleet adds to the fixed costs: you need to acquire the vehicle, buy insurance, hire a driver, and so on. The variable costs come from fuel consumption and wear on the vehicle per distance travelled. Again, regardless of which approach a business wishes to focus on, they are ultimately interested in keeping overall costs as low as possible and would therefore, for example, prefer the configuration with the smaller number of vehicles used given two configurations with the same total distance travelled.

The business world has traditionally been more concerned with the minimization of the number of vehicles used.

There might of course be further criteria to consider when solving a VRP-like problem. As an example of such the delivering company UPS prefers right turns over left turns.<sup>1</sup> It often times shaves off some distance travelled, but even when not time is saved. As one article explains:

And at stop lights, making a right turn at an intersection tends to be faster than at a left turn, since you have only to wait for an opportunity to turn in one lane of traffic. You also have the option of "right on red" in most jurisdictions, unless otherwise indicated by traffic signs. "So even if you didn't save fuel, you're going to move more quickly through a route."

Other businesses specific challenges might pose other constraints providing an interesting interplay between academia and business. What is important to a specific business and how do we model this?

In this thesis the number of vehicles serves as primary objective. This decision makes it possible to use algorithms developed for a different class of problems as is explained in the following.

To attack the problem an algorithm originally developed for the bin-packaging problem by Vigo et al. [2] is adapted to the VRPTW-setting. In bin-packaging problem it is tried to pack a number of spatial objects into as few and small bins as possible. Vigo et al.'s algorithm locates a target bin and then tries successively to place its contents among the other bins thereby reducing the total number of bins needed if the entire contents are relocated.

In light of this, the VRP and its cousins can be viewed as a reformulation of a packing problem: Given a set of customers how can we "pack" these into some vehicles? Each customer might have a unique "size" corresponding to a demand, and a vehicle has a spatial limit corresponding to its capacity constraint. While the analogy is straightforward there is one important difference. Whereas the packing problem has boxes into which the objects are packed and these boxes are free to move around this does not hold for the VRP. The physical location of the customers is a given and cannot be manipulated. This is important when trying to relocate a customer: Whereas a priori all bins are equally likely to absorb a new object not all vehicles are likely candidates for visiting the particular customer.

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<sup>1</sup>See the following articles: [http://multichannelmerchant.com/opsandfulfillment/advisor/fuel\\_conserve/](http://multichannelmerchant.com/opsandfulfillment/advisor/fuel_conserve/) and <http://abcnews.go.com/WNT/story?id=3005890&page=1>

The details of the algorithm are explained in what follows and at this point it suffices to remark that it incorporates the use of a tabu list to prevent cycling, and a diversification procedure. The intensification process is a bi-product of the search algorithm used. To assess the effectiveness of the algorithm the Solomon instances [7] are used as benchmark, while a selected few are used for parameter tuning. Performance is compared to the best known solution as well as solutions found using an approach mimicking Vigo et al.'s. The latter is done to give a feeling of the success of adopting the algorithm the VRPTW-problem.

In contrast to the original code written by Vigo et al. in C++, I have chosen Java and a purely object oriented approach. The choice of Java is due to its cross-platform capabilities easing further development of others regardless of platform. As this thesis demonstrates, the approach developed by Vigo et al. for the bin-packing problem can also be adopted with success to attack various other problems when reformulated as packaging problems. These reformulation might have specific structures allowing us to increase the efficiency of the algorithm, but rather than having to rewrite the code from scratch each time the object oriented approach allows one to replace the problem specific objects and re-run the code.

Further, it is also easy to add a user interface such as graphic representation of the algorithm. A good graphic representation aids a researcher in understanding the underlying dynamics of the algorithm and also provides students with an additional learning tool thereby increasing understanding. One will be able to step through the algorithm and see how a target vehicle is chosen and attempts to empty it are made. Many factors can be used to determine the target vehicle, but it is often extremely difficult to say anything about the significance or even the sign (!) of correlation of the factors. Having a graphical representation allows the human mind to use its pattern-recognizing abilities in addition to one's gut feeling and analytical skills.

Summing up, the author believes that the object oriented approach simplifies the use and further development of the code. As pointed out by Cordeau and Laporte in [5]

[...] the research community is used to assessing heuristics with respect to accuracy and speed alone, but simplicity and flexibility are often neglected. Yet these two attributes are essential to adoption by end-users and should be central to the design of the next generation of algorithms.

Finally, besides making the code more approachable, it also adds the possibility of using framework specific capabilities such as unit testing of code, and design patterns. Excerpts of the source code are found in Appendix A, while the full source code is available from <http://baltzersen.info/vrp.php>.

Despite a lot of time and energy being put into the tuning section, it quickly became clear that a rigorous tuning and analysis was beyond the scope of this thesis. Instead a combination of statistical analysis and gut-feeling has been used to tune the parameters. Further, not all parameters have been tuned, but rather a prioritized order has been established. Not being able to perform a rigorous tuning, this thesis at least provides a blueprint of how such one could be carried out.

After the tuning phase and with the results on the Solomon instances this thesis sums up its finding and concludes. The conclusion includes an assessment of the value of further research and how one could approach it. It is found that albeit results being relatively far from the best known, further research is likely to be fruitful.

## *1 Introduction*

This thesis consists of Chapter 2 introducing the basic theory needed to understand the algorithm. While the chapter is written for a general audience the selection of material has been dictated by the components of what follows and efforts to keep it brief are made. Chapter 3 deals with the VRP in detail: its formulation, a problem-specific heuristic, and describing the algorithm by Vigo et al. and its adaptation to VRP. The implementation of the algorithm, comments on the specific code, and other computer science issues are briefly presented and discussed in Chapter 4. The computational results are listed and discussed in Chapter 5, while Chapter 6 discusses the results. Finally, conclusions are gathered in Chapter 7.

This chapter deals with basic theory needed in the remainder of the thesis. We discuss heuristics and metaheuristics providing examples of both in particular focusing on the tabu search. The chapter aims to be unrelated to the specific discussion, but is of course developed keeping what follows in mind.

The exposition is based on a textbook by Wolsey [3]. Additional references include Glover [4], who originally proposed and coined the term tabu search, and Cordeau and Laporte who provide a useful survey [5].

### 2.1 Heuristics and metaheuristics

A vast majority of the problems of interest to both the academic society and the business world are infeasible to solve exact for all but the smallest instances. This motivates the use of heuristics. A heuristic should be thought of as an algorithm yielding a “good,” usually feasible, solution rapidly—that is typically within some seconds or, on rare occasions, minutes. For some problems that can indeed be solved exactly albeit requiring a lot of computation time one would still choose a heuristic in order to quickly find a satisfactory solution. Heuristics can be thought of as a way to increasing computational efficiency potentially at the cost of solution accuracy.

Coincidentally, a majority of the problems of interest to the business world are infeasible to solve exact,<sup>1</sup> which spawned a great interest in heuristics. In studying a heuristics interesting questions include:

- Is it possible a priori to say how close to the optimal solution our solution will be?
- Is it possible a priori to say how close to the optimal solution our solution on average will be?

Depending on the problem, the quality of a heuristic solution is sometimes questioned, while at other times any feasible solution will suffice. The latter criterion

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<sup>1</sup>They are non-polynomial time complete, NPC.

is often used even in problems where the quality of the solution is of interest. A (meta)heuristic is then used to improve the known solution. Meta-heuristics rely on an initial solution, called the incumbent, to get started.

### 2.1.1 Greedy heuristic

Two classical heuristics are the greedy heuristic and the local search heuristic. The greedy heuristic attempts to construct a feasible solution from scratch. The idea is fairly simple and best illustrated via an example. Considering the (symmetric) traveling salesman problem (STSP) we wish to construct a greedy solution: Starting at the office, we simply choose the closest customer at each iteration until all customers are visited upon which we return to the office calling it the day. The greedy heuristic thus sacrifices the big picture and always chooses the immediate “best” option. Formally, a greedy algorithm needs, among others, a function to determine the “best” option; in this particular case the Euclidean distance between two customers.

While it is easy to construct STSP instances for which the greedy algorithm always provides a feasible, but sub-optimal solution there are problems for which the greedy algorithm will always return the optimal solution. Problems for which no feasible solution is found, even though one exists, are also possible. The following are examples of both.

Consider the change problem: A customer needs to get a change of \$0.41 and we wish to use as few coins as possible. A greedy algorithm, in this case our salesclerk, first picks a quarter, then a dime, a nickel, and finally a penny. This is both a feasible and optimal solution. But consider instead a monetary system in which the available coins are 25-cent, 10-cent and 4-cent. In this case the salesclerk would fail to produce a feasible solution even though one exists.<sup>2</sup> A similar problem could arise in the VRP setting where one could imagine that feasible solutions exist, but none of them found by a greedy algorithm.

### 2.1.2 Local search heuristic

We now turn to the local search heuristic. Given an incumbent,  $S$ , the local search defines a neighborhood of solutions around the incumbent denoted by  $Q(S)$  and after examining  $Q(S)$  it moves to a new and better solution. The choice is based solely on information about the solutions in the neighborhood, hence the name local search. Typically, a neighborhood has more than one solution and if the choice is based entirely on local maximization the heuristic is sometimes referred to as a hill climber. Termination is usually controlled by either computation time or when one has reached a local optimum. Obviously, in both cases the solution is most likely not a global optimum as the examined neighborhood may be very far from the global optimum.

For such an algorithm, we need to define  $Q(S)$  for all  $S$  and a goal function denoted by  $f : N \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ , where  $N$  denotes the space of solutions. The goal function

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<sup>2</sup>The salesclerk would pick a quarter, a dime and then be stuck where as a quarter and four 4-cents would yield \$0.41. This example is of course a reformulation of the well-known knapsack problem.

is used to evaluate a particular solution and often one uses

$$f(S) = \begin{cases} c(S) & \text{if } S \text{ is feasible,} \\ \infty & \text{if } S \text{ is infeasible,} \end{cases}$$

where  $c$  simply denotes the cost/objective function of the particular problem. Which neighborhood-constructing function  $Q$  is used is problem specific.

## 2.2 Tabu search

Both the greedy heuristic and the local search have their limitations, which is why metaheuristics are introduced. “Meta” is Greek and translates into something like “higher level” or “beyond.” The term “metaheuristic” was first coined by Glover in 1986 in his article on tabu search [4]. The basic idea of a metaheuristic is to guide a heuristic to avoid its inherent pitfalls. For example, where the local search efficiently locates local minima it lacks the broader perspective, which a meta-heuristic sets out to repair. a metaheuristic therefore needs extensive knowledge of the heuristic itself.

When our heuristic only operates locally it is natural to pose the question of how to escape a local optimum in order to shift the neighborhood and discover a better solution. A first idea would be to allow moving to a solution even though it is worse than our local optimum. Doing so, the risk of cycling is faced, that is moving from  $S_0$  to  $S_1$  only to move back to  $S_0$  again and so on and so forth. Tabu search tries to avoid such cycling by marking certain solutions as tabu meaning that one is not allowed to return to the solution.

A tabu list is kept, which can be thought of as truncated list of all previous incumbents. Keeping a complete list and checking if a given solution is already listed is computationally inefficient. One parameter for the tabu search includes the length of the list. If too short, cycling is not prevented, while if too long computational efficiency suffers. The literature often cites a length of seven as a good trade off. The tabu list is sometimes referred to as short term memory.

Other parameters to be defined are, analogously to the local search heuristic, how  $Q(S)$  is chosen as well as what termination criterion should be used. A fixed number of iterations or a certain number of iterations without improvement are often chosen, while a time limit can also be used.

### 2.2.1 Diversification and intensification

The tabu search uses additional ingredients, diversification and intensification, respectively, needed to build a successful algorithm. Intensification is an algorithm that tries to find common characteristics among the good solutions found so far in order to intensify the search for an optimal solution in solutions sharing these characteristics.

In contrast, diversification looks to investigate solutions with very different properties from those already investigated in order to escape a local optimum. One way of achieving this, assuming a minimization problem, would be to decrease the objective function for solutions far from the current solution, while increasing it for those who are close. Diversification is also known as long term memory.

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## The vehicle routing problem with time windows

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This thesis focuses on using a heuristic, TSPack, originally developed in 2004 by Vigo et al. [2] for solving bin packaging problems. The algorithm is adapted to the VRP problem and tries to minimize the number of vehicles used. The only problem-specific part of the algorithm is an inner solver used to analyze smaller subsets of customers. We have chosen to use a heuristic proposed by Solomon in 1987 [6] as inner solver.

In this chapter are introduced the formulation of VRP, the TSPack algorithm, and the Solomon heuristic. We focus on explaining the algorithms in detail and motivate each choice. The code of the algorithm has been modified for various reasons. Some changes stem from the fact that implementing the code in Java is slightly different from a C++ implementation, while the fact that the code is object oriented implies changes as well.

### 3.1 Formulation and setup of VRPTW

We wish to present a mathematical formulation of the VRPTW and begin with an intuitive understanding of the problem before turning to a rigorous formulation. Vehicles start at a depot have to visit a given number of customers placed on a map. Each customer has a continuous time window during which the visit must be initiated and a certain demand for goods. The fleet consists of identical vehicles with a capacity constraint. All the vehicles have to return to the depot before a fixed point of time. The time it takes to travel between two customers is equal to the distance between them; such a problem is sometimes referred to as a Euclidean problem.

In order to formalize this, we consider a weighted graph with arcs  $A$  referred to as  $(i, j)$ . To ease the formulation the graph contains a start depot denoted by 0, and an terminal depot denoted by  $n + 1$  both at the same location. Doing so allows us to have unused vehicles travel between the two depots—corresponding to never leaving the actual depot in the first place. Further, some of the constraints in the formulation become neater this way.

The set of vehicles is denoted by  $K$ ,  $N = \{0, \dots, n+1\}$  is the set of all nodes—customers as well as both depots—while  $C$  is the set of the customers only. Customer  $i$ 's service interval is denoted by  $[a_i, b_i]$ ,  $a_i, b_i \in \mathbb{R}_+$ , while the demand is denoted  $d_i$ .  $t_{ij}$  is the time it takes to travel between customer  $i$  and  $j$ ; here, as mentioned, simply the distance between the two.  $s_{ik} \in \mathbb{R}_+$  is the time a vehicle  $k$  begins to serve customer  $i$  if  $k$  visits  $i$ . If not,  $s_{ik}$  is meaningless and simply assigned an arbitrary value satisfying the constraints below. Finally, the formulation uses binary variables  $x_{ijk}$  defined by

$$x_{ijk} = \begin{cases} 1 & (i, j) \in A \text{ is used by vehicle } k, \\ 1 & i = j, \text{ and} \\ 0 & \text{otherwise.} \end{cases}$$

The formulation as an linear integer program can now be written as:

$$z := \min \sum_{k \in K} \sum_{j \in C} x_{0jk} \quad (3.1)$$

subject to

$$\sum_{k \in K} \sum_{j \in C} x_{ijk} = 1, \quad \forall i \in N \quad (3.2)$$

$$\sum_{j \in C} x_{0jk} = 1, \quad \forall k \in K \quad (3.3)$$

$$\sum_{i \in C} x_{ihk} - \sum_{j \in C} x_{hjk} = 0, \quad \forall h \in N, \forall k \in K \quad (3.4)$$

$$\sum_{i \in C} x_{i, n+1, k} = 1, \quad \forall k \in K \quad (3.5)$$

$$\sum_{i \in N} d_i \sum_{j \in C} x_{ijk} \leq q, \quad \forall k \in K \quad (3.6)$$

$$s_{ik} + t_{ij} - (1 - x_{ijk})(b_i - a_j) \leq s_{jk}, \quad \forall i, j \in N, \forall k \in K \quad (3.7)$$

$$a_i \leq s_{ik} \leq b_i, \quad \forall i \in N, \forall k \in K \quad (3.8)$$

$$x_{ijk} \in \{0, 1\}, \quad \forall (i, j) \in A, \forall k \in K \quad (3.9)$$

$$s_{ij} \in \mathbb{Z}_+, \quad \forall i \in N, \forall k \in K \quad (3.10)$$

The objective function in (3.1) expresses the fact that we wish to minimize the numbers of vehicles leaving the start depot to visit a customer. (3.2) makes sure that each customer is visited exactly once, while (3.3)-(3.5) makes sure that each route is a connected path actually beginning in the start depot and ending in the terminal depot (for balance). The capacity constraint is given by (3.6), while (3.7) and (3.8) deal with the time window constraint. (3.9) and (3.10) define the solution space.

The complexity of this problem is NP-hard, which easily follows from the fact that the TSP, being a special case, is NP-hard.

## 3.2 The bin packaging relaxation of VRPTW

When solving the VRPTW there are three subproblems to keep in mind: the capacity constraint on the vehicles, the geographical placement of the customers, and the time intervals for the service times of each customer. Having to visit customers in the



shortest possible manner is similar to the TSP, while having to visit them in certain time intervals corresponds to a scheduling problem where one wants to minimize the tardiness of a set of machines. The third ingredient of the VRPTW is what of particular interest to us in this case, namely trying to pack the demand of the customers into vehicles with a fixed capacity.

Viewing the problem as such, it is very similar to a packaging problem as the one considered by Vigo et al. And it is this similarity that we are concerned with in the remainder of this thesis. The idea is to take the approach proved successful by Vigo et al. in the packaging setting, adapting it to solving a VRPTW, and then refine it by using the additional structure given in a VRPTW setting.

In order to give the reader a better understanding of this, we briefly introduce the packaging problem considered by Vigo et al. A more rigorous treatment is in [2].

#### 3.2.1 The multi-dimensional bin packing problem

We present the three-dimensional bin packing problem (3BP). Vigo et al.'s algorithm is designed to solve both the two and three dimensional case, but as the first is a simple special case of the latter, we focus our efforts.

Consider a boxed item  $j$ ,  $j = 1, \dots, n$  with dimensions  $w_j$ ,  $h_j$ , and  $d_j$ , and identical bins with dimension  $W$ ,  $H$ , and  $D$ . The simplest variant of the problem is to pack the  $n$  items in as few bins as possible. Additional constraints might require that the boxes have a certain orientation (relevant, for example, for containers of liquid). The same framework can be applied in cutting contexts. One starts out with a big block of material which needs to be divided into  $n$  smaller blocks. In such a context a further constraint might be that it is guillotine cuttable, that is that any cut is from edge to edge and parallel to the edges of the initial block.

It pays to keep the original context in mind as some of our vocabulary is from the original paper including, obviously, the name of the algorithm: TSpack. This is done to make comparison easy, but also to aid intuition.

### 3.3 TSpack tabu search adaption

The algorithm by Vigo et al. [2] chiefly consists of five parts described in detail below:

- Main algorithm, which is controls the flow of the program. Referred to as TSpack,
- Filling function controlling which vehicle to try to empty,
- Inner solver, denoted by  $A$ , returning solutions to subproblems,
- Search algorithm, which searches the neighborhood, and
- Diversification algorithm.

These parts are tightly weaved together and the algorithm relies on all. Unfortunately, it is not possible to introduce all concepts simultaneously and the reader has to live with the fact that a section might refer to a discussion of a following

section. To aid comprehension of the concepts much effort has put towards making it abundantly clear whenever this is the case.

Note that, the algorithm uses a non-standard tabu list, which is described in Section 3.3.6. To conclude the section parameters of interest are summarized.

### 3.3.1 TSpack, main algorithm

A bit unusual for a tabu search algorithm, TSpack itself does not directly strive to perform any local improvements, but rather relies heavily on an inner solver described in detail in Section 3.3.3. This inner solver is called repeatedly throughout the execution of the algorithm and any change to the solution is made by replacing the configuration of a specific subset of customers  $S$  by  $A(S)$ .

Keeping in mind that the algorithm strives to minimize the number of vehicles used in visiting the customers, the idea is to determine a vehicle—referred to as the target vehicle—which we will try to eliminate by reassigning customers. The criterion used is based on a filling function,  $\phi$ , such that the target vehicle is the arg optimum  $\phi(v)$  over all active vehicles  $v$ .<sup>1</sup> The filling function is described in Section 3.3.2.

The first incumbent solution,  $A_0$ , is a user controlled parameter. This is analyzed, a target vehicle is identified, and control is passed on to the search algorithm. The search algorithm potentially decreases the number of vehicles by replacing the customers of the target vehicle. At some point, though, all its options have been explored and a diversification process is initiated.

This procedure is repeated until an iteration limit, `l_max`, has been reached or, alternatively, a time limit can be used. Before beginning the algorithm a lower bound  $L$  is calculated, which in our case is simply the aggregated demand of the customers divided by the vehicle capacity. Throughout the algorithm it is checked whether the lower bound is reached and if so the algorithm terminates.<sup>2</sup>

To understand the dynamics of the algorithm it is vital to note that one iteration of the algorithm corresponds to the search algorithm completing one search of the neighborhood, and a request for diversification. The entire procedure may in pseudo code be written as

```
TSpack ()
{
    int lowerBound = max(1, (int) ceil(customers.getTotalDemand()
        / vehicleCapacity));
    vehiclesUsed = solution.numberOfWorkersUsed();
    if (vehiclesUsed == lowerBound)
        return solution;
    d = 1;
    targetVehicle = Utilities.determineTargetVehicle(solution);
```

<sup>1</sup>Where arg optimum is the operator that returns the argument for a given function such that it is optimized, that is either maximized or minimized depending on the context.

<sup>2</sup>In practice, the author has never seen the lower bound being reached and in doing so cause termination. If this would happen one could consider removing the piece of code as one might be able to find a solution with the same number of active vehicles and a shorter total distance. This is a good example of how additional structure in the VRPTW setting influences the code. As the check is computationally very cheap removing the code does not affect performance.

```

int iteration = 1;
while (iteration <= iterationLimit)
{
    if (diversify)
        Diversification();
    diversify = false;
    k = 1;
    while (!diversify && vehiclesUsed > lowerBound)
    {
        int k_in = k;
        Search();
        if (k <= k_in)
            targetVehicle = Utilities.determineTargetVehicle(solution, d);
    }
    if (vehiclesUsed == lowerBound)
        return solution;
    iteration++;
}
return optimalSolution;
}

```

### 3.3.2 Filling function

As described in Section 3.3.1, the filling function is primarily used to pick the target vehicle. One can think of many factors to consider, but the overall purpose is to design a function that picks the vehicle whose customers is relocated easily such that the vehicle can be eliminated. These factors could involve number of customers visited, used capacity, arrival times structure, and more. More generally, the filling function can depend on factors involving one or more dimensions of the VRPTW, and either be intrinsic—only involving the vehicle at hand—or extrinsic—involving one or multiple pieces of information from other vehicles. This is summarized and exemplified in Table 3.1.

Note, that this classification would also be applicable to the BPP case. Naturally, due to the absence of two of the dimensions factors belonging to these are of little use, but consider the capacity of other boxes could be relevant.

The filling function is defined for any vehicle and thereby orders the vehicles. While the search algorithm tries to empty the target vehicles using the inner solver it is of paramount importance to pick the right target vehicles. No matter how well the inner solver relocates the customers of the target vehicle we do not move closer to an optimal solution if the wrong target vehicles are picked on a consistent basis. Much effort is therefore put into finding a suitable filling function, albeit it always to a certain degree depends on the problem at hand.

As there is no such thing as a generic optimal filling function our diversification procedure described in Section 3.3.5 to some extent aids the choice of the correct target vehicle. The filling function is naturally a parameter, which is itself often parameterized.<sup>3</sup>

<sup>3</sup>The filling function originally used for the bin packing problem for the items  $S_i$  in bin  $i$  is  $\phi_\alpha(S_i) = \alpha \frac{\sum_{j \in S_i} v_j}{V} - \frac{|S_i|}{n}$  where  $v_j$  is the size of the item (area or volume),  $V$  is the total size

	INTRINSIC FACTORS	EXTRINSIC FACTORS
CAPACITY	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Capacity used by particular vehicle,</li> <li>• Distribution of capacity used among individual customers.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Other vehicles with excess capacity,</li> <li>• Clusters of customers high/low in demand.</li> </ul>
ARRIVAL TIMES	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Waiting time,</li> <li>• Size of gaps in arrival times.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Other vehicles starting late or ending soon.</li> </ul>
GEOGRAPHY	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Distance between visited customers.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Other vehicles passing nearby,</li> <li>• Isolated customers (seed customers).</li> </ul>

Table 3.1: Summary of the nature of potential factors for a filling function. The factors are split into each of the three dimensions for the VRPTW (vertical) and whether they involve additional vehicles or not (horizontal). Examples of factors are kept very abstract.

### 3.3.3 Inner solver

The inner solver is denoted by  $A$  and for any subset of customers  $S$  the corresponding solution is denoted by  $A(S)$ . Formally,  $A(S)$  can both refer to the solution itself and the number of vehicles used in the particular solution. As this is always clear from the context no additional notation is introduced.

There is nothing that dictates whether the inner solver should be a heuristic or an exact solver. There are, though, several things to keep in mind before deciding on which solver to use. The solver is run extremely often and runtime is therefore a major factor. As will become clear shortly, the size subset of customers considered very much depends on the size of the neighborhood currently being searched.

For a small number of customers it might be feasible to use an exact method where as larger subsets of customers are naturally best handled by heuristics. There are no limitations to how the inner solver can be chosen; one interesting approach could be to have it solve small instances exactly while using a heuristic for larger instances.

### 3.3.4 Search algorithm

The search algorithm is the most complex part, both conceptually as well as implementation wise. It is also this algorithm that incorporates the use of the tabu list described in Section 3.3.6.

As the aim of the algorithm is to empty the target vehicle each of its customers is considered in turn and tried to be placed on another route. A crucial ingredient in this relocation of customers is the size of the neighborhood denoted by  $k$ , which

---

available,  $n$  the number of bins, and  $\alpha > 0$  a parameter.

translates as follows: Consider the set of vehicles excluding the target vehicle. Then a  $k$ -tuple of these vehicles are considered. Their customers and the specific customer to be moved are put in a set  $S$  for which a new solution,  $A(S)$ , is produced using the inner solver  $A$ . This solution is analyzed and further behavior is divided into three cases.

Each of the three cases has to decide whether or not to execute the move and how to update the  $k$  value. Executing a move means that the current configuration of the  $k$  vehicles considered is replaced by the new configuration. It does not necessarily affect the best solution found so far as it is stored separately, but the two are of course compared and the best found solution updated accordingly.

As explained in Section 3.3.6 a real number called *penalty* is used in Case 2 and 3. It is initialized to  $\infty$  and not changed in Case 2. Case 3 is treated below.

**Case 1:**  $A(S) < k$  This case is straightforward and no tabu list is consulted. If, beginning with  $k$  vehicles, it is possible to add a customer and obtain a configuration with strictly fewer than  $k$  vehicles, the the overall number of vehicles is immediately reduced by 1. The move is executed, and  $k$  is reduced by 1 unless  $k = 1$  in which case it is left unchanged, that is  $k = \max\{1, k - 1\}$ . Control is returned to TSpack.

**Case 2:**  $A(S) = k$  If the customer considered,  $j$ , is the last visited by the target vehicle it means that a configuration has been found where the customers from the  $k$ -tuple and  $j$  can be visited using  $k$  vehicles. This leaves the target vehicle without assignments and hence cuts a vehicle. The move is therefore executed and  $k$  is adjusted as above:  $k = \max\{1, k - 1\}$ .

Otherwise the number of vehicles stays the same: The target vehicle remains and the  $k$  vehicles originally considered are all still active. At first, it might seem promising to move a customer away from the target vehicle without increasing the total number of vehicles. One might wish to go ahead and execute the move right away, but on second thought there is no guarantee that this will be an overall improvement. It could easily be that no further customers could be removed from the target vehicle, control would return to TSpack, and a new target vehicle would be identified. This might very well be the vehicle to which we have just added the customer and we might end up moving the customer back.

This is exactly the kind of cycling described in Section 2.2 and therefore a tabu list is introduced. It is first checked if the move is tabu: If so, the next  $k$ -tuple is considered, but if not the move is executed and control returns to the main algorithm.

Note that even if the move is executed  $k$  is kept unchanged. We have not decreased the numbers of active vehicles, but have only taken an uncertain step towards a potential reduction. There is no reason to believe that reductions would be found in the setting of a smaller neighborhood, which we have previously searched.

**Case 3:**  $A(S) = k + 1$  and  $k > 1$  At first glance this is a less attractive situation. Unless the specific customer is the last being visited by the target vehicle an additional vehicle is needed. Nevertheless, we allow such a move under certain circumstances.

Consider the set of the  $k + 1$  vehicles used in  $A(S)$  and determine the local target vehicle  $\bar{t}$  for this set in a similar manner to how it is done by the main algorithm.

Considering the set  $T := (S_t \setminus \{j\}) \cup S_{\bar{t}}$ , where  $j$  is the current customer and  $t$  the original target vehicle.  $T$  is the residual customers of the target vehicle plus the local target vehicle's customers. If the inner solver finds a solution for this set that only uses one vehicle, that is  $A(T) = 1$ , a new move is obtained. This move still uses  $k + 1$  vehicles, but the target vehicle  $t$  is left with a single customer to visit. Combining  $A(T)$  with  $A(S)$  this last customer is removed as well and we have succeeded in emptying the target vehicle.

Suddenly, such a move seems not good, but at least promising at the same level as Case 2. It is easy imaginable that several such moves could arise during the search of a neighborhood of fixed size, and we therefore decide to store the move and evaluate it against its peers. For each such moves that is not tabu an entity denoted by *penalty* is calculated. The original solution  $S$  has been changed such that the local target vehicle  $\bar{t}$  has been removed and instead the one vehicle making up  $T$  has been added. The minimum of the filling function over this set of these vehicles and store this number as the penalty. In formulae it reads

$$\text{penalty} := \min_{M \cup T} \{\phi(\cdot)\}, \quad (3.11)$$

where  $M$  is the set of vehicles from the original solution excluding  $\bar{t}$ . Hereafter the code does not return, but rather the search continues in hope of stumbling upon a Case 1 or 2 move.

When having searched the entire neighborhood without returning to the main algorithm, that is not having executed Case 1 or 2, it is checked whether Case 3 has ever occurred. If this is not the case it is checked if the neighborhood has reached its maximum size and if so the main algorithm calls the diversification algorithm. Otherwise the neighborhood size is increased by one and the search begins anew. If Case 3 has in fact occurred the move corresponding to the lowest penalty is executed.

The user provides the maximum neighborhood size as a parameter `k_max`. In [2], Vigo et al. uses `k_max=3`, which of course not need to be the optimal choice in a VRPTW setting, but probably a good starting point for further analysis/tuning.

Further, we wish to argue why it makes sense to require  $k > 1$  in Case 3. With  $k = 1$  the neighborhood is very small, and only very obvious relocations are possible (such as after a Case 2 diversification, see Section 3.3.5). Technically there is no problem going through all the steps of Case 3 for  $k = 1$ , but it is simply computational inefficient. When  $k = 1$  we are not looking to do too much analysis due to the simpleness of the case and as we are well-aware of the limits of a small neighborhood. We thus choose to save the gun power for later.

Due to the nature of the tabu list, the  $k > 1$  restriction also influences Case 2 as described in Section 3.3.6.

### 3.3.5 Diversification algorithm

As described in Chapter 2, diversification is a process designed to aid the search in finding a better solution by making sure the neighborhood being searched is changed radically periodically. When initializing the tabu search algorithm described above a parameter `k_max`, which determines the largest neighborhood to search, is passed. When the size of the neighborhood reaches this value the diversification algorithm is executed. `d_max` is a user specified parameter, which we refer to as “diversification limit,” and diversification is split into two cases accordingly.

**Case 1:  $d \leq z$  and  $d \leq d_{\max}$**  This is, if at all, a very mild form of diversification. Henceforth, our target vehicle is picked as the vehicle with the  $d$ th lowest filling function value instead of simply the lowest. We then increase  $d$  by 1 and return to searching the neighborhood.  $d \leq z$  makes sure that the  $d$ th lowest value is well-defined as the solution actually contains sufficient vehicles.

**Case 2: Otherwise** Otherwise we turn to a drastic kind of diversification. Here the  $\lfloor z/2 \rfloor$  vehicles with the lowest filling function value are each visited by an individual vehicle. We further reset all tabu lists and put  $d$  to 1.<sup>4</sup> The idea is to really scramble our solution space by taking the half of the most promising vehicles and start all over assigning their customers.

As noted above, diversification is executed exactly once for each new iteration. If therefore the iteration limit,  $l_{\max}$ , is less than  $d_{\max}$ , Case 2 of the diversification procedure is never reached.

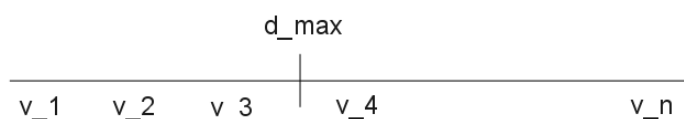


Figure 3.1: The filling function provides an ordering of the vehicles with the lower values representing the more promising vehicles. A good filling function together with  $d_{\max}$  classifies the vehicles into two groups: emptiable and non-emptiable. In the figure the vehicles to the left of the  $d_{\max}$  mark are thought to have a high potential for being emptiable.

It should also be noted that while Case 1 might not seem sensible as a diversification procedure it serves a very important purpose. Finding a filling function that picks the right target vehicle for all types of problems is impossible. The filling function orders the vehicles according to value and by introducing Case 1 the  $d_{\max}$  vehicles with the smallest value are target vehicle candidates. This means that instead of the filling function having to be perfect for all types of problems it suffices to have a function that approximately orders the vehicles according to how easy they are to empty. In other words, Case 1 introduces a certain tolerance in choice of filling function across problems. Figure 3.1 presents a graphical representation of the close interplay between the filling function and  $d_{\max}$ .

This also implies that while using a small value of  $d_{\max}$  guarantees that “real” diversification is performed more often, a larger value of  $d_{\max}$  increases the thoroughness with which the neighborhood is searched. As so many times before, choosing  $d_{\max}$  becomes a tradeoff for which it a priori is very difficult to say anything about.

```
Diversification ()
if (d <= z && d <= d_max){
    d++;
    Consider vehicles with the dth lowest filling function
    value as target vehicles.
}
else
```

<sup>4</sup>See Section 3.3.6 for details on the tabu list implementation.

```

{
  d=1;
  Visit the floor(z/2) vehicles with lowest filling function
  value with separate vehicles.
  TabuListContainer.Reset ();
}

```

### 3.3.6 Tabu list of TSpack

The tabu lists used for this particular problem differs from the norm in two ways. First a separate tabu list is maintained for each neighborhood, implying that  $k_{\max}$  tabu lists are kept. It is of course not necessary for these lists to have the same length  $tl\_length$ , but in the implementation that follows this is the case.<sup>5</sup> Secondly, it is not the solutions themselves that are stored, but rather a numerical value representing the solution. Why this works is not obvious, but explained in the following.

In computer science one often encounters the problem of checking whether a given object is member of a set. A tabu list is of course nothing else: given a move and a set of moves—the tabu list—is the move a member of the set? A naive way to do this is by iterating through the set and for each member to check if it is equal to the particular object. This works splendid for small sets and simple objects such as numbers, but as the complexity of the objects increases it might take very long to perform even a single equality check (consider for instance a 1000-node weighted graph).

To speed things up computer scientists came up with the idea of a hash function  $h$  and hash table. The hash code is the value of the hash function with a particular object as argument. A good hash function has the property that two different objects results in two different hash codes with a high probability. Note though, that the probability need not be 1 or, equivalently, the hash function does not need to be injective. Considering a 1000-node weighted graph  $G$  with weights  $w_1, \dots, w_{1000}$ , we might use  $h(G) := \sum \sqrt{w_i}$  as a hash function. Whenever an object is put in a hash table the hash value is calculated once and stored instead of the complex object.

**Example** Let  $S = \{A, \dots, G\}$  be a set of seven graphs and  $X$  a particular graph for which we wish to investigate whether  $X$  is in  $S$ . We already have the hash table  $h(S)$  storing the corresponding hash codes of the elements of  $S$ . We can therefore calculate  $h(X)$  and easily check if  $h(X) \in h(S)$ , which with high probability yields the same truth value as  $X \in S$ .

Returning to the code at hand the tabu lists essentially works the same way. Instead of storing complete information of the previous solutions the corresponding penalty is kept for  $k > 1$ . If a move from Case 2 is executed penalty being  $\infty$  is added to the list and if a move from Case 3 is executed penalty is calculated as shown in (3.11). A consequence of this implementation is that for each neighborhood size we cannot execute a move satisfying the conditions of Case 2 until  $\infty$  has disappeared from the list. This can happen either by a sufficient number of intermediate moves being executed or when executing Case 2 of the diversification procedure. For  $k = 1$  penalty is not defined and instead the value of the filling function is stored.

<sup>5</sup>In Vigo [2] they use different lengths.



But why do we introduce and store this rather strange penalty value instead of just using the total distance, which our example argues is sufficiently unique?<sup>6</sup> The answer lies in the fact that Case 2 returns a penalty of  $\infty$ , which means that if Case 2 is executed  $\infty$  is stored in the tabu list. Hence as long as the algorithm searches a neighborhood of the same size—and therefore uses the same tabu list as hash table—Case 2 cannot be executed until either the tabu lists are reseted or Case 3 returns a solution a number of times corresponding to the length of the tabu list. What usually happens in practice is that a Case 2 move is executed with a period of the tabu list’s length.

An important exception to the just presented analysis applies. When  $k = 1$ , Case 3 is never entered and therefore the one entry by Case 2 in the tabu list can never be “pushed out.” The argument of the exclusion of Case 3 for  $k = 1$  explained in Section 3.3.4 applies to Case 2 as well, but because Case 3 is never entered the tabu list ensures that a Case 2 move is executed at most once and further restriction is unnecessary.

#### 3.3.7 Summary of interesting parameters for TSpack

To conclude this chapter we list the possible parameters the user can control. While any parameter could of course be hard-coded to an arbitrary value the code is specifically designed to give the user easy and full control of certain parameters.

- Filling function,  $\phi$ .
- Inner solver,  $A$ .
- Incumbent solution,  $A_0$ .
- Tabu list length, `tl_length`.
- Iteration limit, `l_max`.
- Maximum neighborhood size, `k_max`.
- Diversification limit, `d_max`.

Some of these parameters, notably the filling function and inner solver, may themselves be parameterized. Further, one should recall from our discussion above that in order to use the full power of the diversification algorithm it must be that `l_max > d_max`.

Valuable discussion of the parameters and the intuition behind is found in Section 5.1.2.

## 3.4 Solomon heuristic

Any tabu search algorithm requires an incumbent solution usually produced by a heuristic and, as is clear from the discussion above, this specific tabu search algorithm needs an inner solver repeatedly. Solomon introduced the following heuristic in 1987, referred to as the Solomon heuristic in the following, which creates routes sequentially.

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<sup>6</sup>As the penalty value is based on the filling function it might even be that the total distance has a better distribution compared to the penalty value. In practice, though, the filling functions are just as good.

The basic idea in building the routes one by one is to begin with a seed customer determined according to some criterion such as distance from the depot. One can think of the seed customer being the “center of mass” of the route about to be build. Building a solution around this seed customer is done as a repeated two step process.

Consider the active route of length  $m$  denoted by  $R = (\rho_0, \dots, \rho_m)$  where  $\rho_i$ ,  $0 < i < m$ , are customers and  $\rho_0$  and  $\rho_m$  are the start and terminal depot, respectively. When first initialized the route consists of the start depot, the seed customer, and the terminal depot. For each customer  $u$  not yet part of a route a first criterion based on a function  $g_1$  is used to determine the optimal position in  $R$  for  $u$ . Let  $p : C \rightarrow \{1, \dots, m - 1\}$  be the optimal index with respect to  $g_1$  at which to insert the customer into  $R$ . Thus

$$p(u) = \arg \underset{k}{\text{optimum}} g_1(i_k, u, i_{k+1}).$$

$g_1$  can be chosen as a function of any change imposed by adding  $u$  to the route at the specified index, such as delay, length of detour, incremental capacity, and so on. Usually one would choose a weighted average and specifically in this thesis  $g_1$  is chosen to be the average of delay and detour.

Secondly, after the optimal index is determined for each customer, we wish to find the optimal customer  $u^*$  to insert (at  $p(u^*)$ ). A second function  $g_2$  may be used for this step, such that

$$u^* = \arg \underset{u}{\text{optimum}} g_2(i_{p(u)}, u, i_{p(u)+1})$$

Note that it is feasible to consider the situation  $g_2 \equiv g_1$ , but of course,  $g_2$  could depend on different factors or the same factors, but with different weights. Here, we use  $g_2 \equiv g_1$ .

From the above discussion it is clear that the only parameters of the Solomon heuristic is the choice of  $g_1$  and  $g_2$ , who themselves of course can be parameterized.

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### Algorithm and program structure

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This chapter describes the platform and tools used for development of the code, and the test instances used in Chapter 5. Much terminology comes from computer science and it is beyond the scope of this thesis to explain all terms in detail. The interested reader is encouraged to consult resources of the field such as [9].

Besides documenting the development process, the purpose of this chapter is to enable anybody with a basic understanding of Java to pick up the source code and use or adapt the code.

Excerpts of the source code are found in Appendix A, while the complete source code can be found online at <http://baltzersen.info/vrp.php>.

#### 4.1 Development platforms

The code is written entirely in Java using Eclipse as IDE running on Linux Ubuntu 9.10 all of which are open source. Hence any researcher or student with a computer available is able to compile and run the code. The entire code has been written from an objective programming approach in order to increase readability as well as usability. Having the code structured in objects makes it easier to read and to add or change functionality such as a graphical representation. Naturally, a basic understanding of the object oriented paradigm is a plus.

While objects can be slightly less computational efficient, keeping the quote from the introduction by Cordeau and Laporte in mind, the author believes that this is a small sacrifice to make. Further, it has made testing the use of various heuristics, and filling functions much easier using the so-called strategy pattern ensuring that objects in the code can be changed effortlessly.<sup>1</sup>

---

<sup>1</sup>The strategy pattern is a so-called “design pattern”—that is a way to solve a common problem programmers face in various situations.

## 4.2 Program and data structures

### 4.2.1 Class description

The TSPack algorithm itself is contained in the class `TabuSearch` with a constructor specifying the parameters used when running the algorithm. Though there in total are more than ten classes the following play a key role in the program. `Solution` represents a solution, but also holds methods to change a given solution, that is execute a move. The `Vehicle` class holds all information about a vehicle such as customers being visited, capacity used and so on. The strategy pattern is used for both the inner solver and filling functions where the abstract nature of both are describe by `AbstractInnerSolver` and `AbstractFillingFunction`, respectively.

The other classes of the program are added for convenience and to keep the objects as loosely coupled as possible.

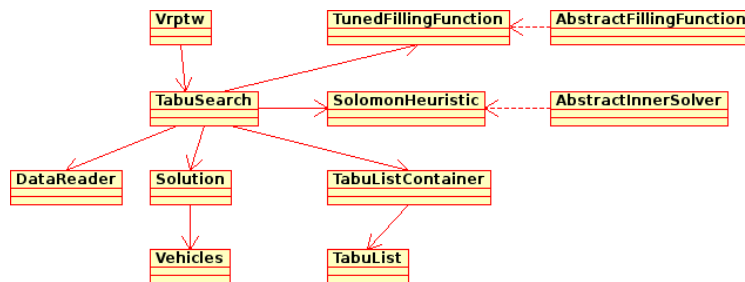


Figure 4.1: The key classes of the program depicted in pseudo-UML notation. The `Vrptw`-class initiates the `TabuSearch`-class and starts the program.

### 4.2.2 GUI implementation

In order for the author to visualize how the algorithm searches a given neighborhood a simply and unpolished graphical user interface (GUI) was implemented. It is fun to play around with, but of very limited use to anybody not familiar with the algorithm. The code is found in the `view`-package.

## 4.3 Test instances

The test instances used for benchmarking and parameter tuning are the Solomon instances provided by M. Solomon in 1987 [7]. There is a total of 56 instances available in six groups: “r1xx”, “r2xx”, “c1xx”, “c2xx”, “rc1xx”, and “rc2xx.” “r” denotes that the customers are randomly distributed, “c” that the customers are placed in clusters, while “rc” denotes random clusters. “1xx” are problems where the customers have comparably brief time windows whereas “2xx”-problems have much longer time windows. Longer time windows increases the number of possible solutions and therefore poses a tougher challenges, especially for exact methods.

The format of the Solomon data files are as follows:

```

<Instance name>
<empty line>
VEHICLE
  
```

#### 4 Algorithm and program structure

```
NUMBER      CAPACITY
  K          Q
<empty line>
CUSTOMER
CUST NO. XCOORD. YCOORD. DEMAND  READY TIME  DUE DATE  SERVICE TIME
<empty line>
  0        x0      y1      q0      e0         l0         s0
  1        x1      y2      q1      e1         l1         s1
  ...      ...      ...      ...      ...         ...         ...
  100     x100    y100    q100    e100      l100      s100
```

The best known solutions to the Solomon instances are listed in [8].

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## Computational results

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This chapter consists of two parts: Parameter tuning and comparison of the results of the algorithm to the best-known solutions of the Solomon instances. In the first section we discuss what makes a good solution and given a myriad of parameters where to focus our efforts. These findings are then discussed and summarized, while the second section contains the comparison of the Solomon instances.

### 5.1 Parameter tuning

Before we begin with the actual parameter tuning, we need to answer three fundamental questions:

1. What constitutes a good solution?
2. Which parameters should we focus on? And why?
3. Which data sets should we use for tuning the parameters?

Regarding the first question, our concern is primarily to reduce the number of vehicles and this is therefore the first objective to consider when evaluating a solution. As a second objective the total distance of a solution is naturally considered with running time being the third and last objective.

While the first two objectives are obvious choices analyzing the running time is not. We have earlier argued that the filling function is of paramount significance in finding a good solution, because it is important how quickly and correctly a useful target vehicle is located. A filling function doing a poor job of finding a target vehicle either results in a worse solution, an increase in running time, or both. As our analysis will show there is no strict correlation between a solution's quality and running time. We therefore naturally prefer a set of parameters able of finding a solution of similar quality in significantly less time.

As for the second question, we have chosen to focus on two classes of parameters: Those belonging to the filling function and `d_max`, `l_max`, and `k_max` from the search algorithm.

The length of the tabu list is already well-investigated and some off-the-record experiments quickly confirmed that values between 7 and 9 seemed promising. These are used throughout the project. An essential part of the algorithm that we do not test here due to time limitations is the inner solver. The reason for doing so is a belief that the filling function is of fundamental importance compared to the inner solver. While one could easily imagine that some choices/parameterizations of filling functions fit better with some inner solvers the filling function identifies some common features between promising target vehicles regardless of inner solver. The author also believes that if one were to investigate the effects of different inner solvers one would necessarily have to find a good filling function first; it makes little sense to compare inner solvers trying to empty poor target vehicles.

By the same argument, we have chosen to tune the parameters for the search algorithm after tuning for the filling function.

There are 56 Solomon instances described in Section 4.3, but should they be used for parameter tuning and, if so, which? Criticism of the Solomon instances is plentiful, but nevertheless they are an important benchmark set for the academic society. We picked three data sets on which the algorithm performed poorly and used these for tuning: rc108, r112, and r211. Further, it quickly turned out that we needed at least one additional data set, which we for no particular reason chose to be r101. Due to the vast amount of parameters involved in the tuning it was not feasible to perform all calculations on all sets, but on the other hand focusing on merely one would not give us sufficient data. Individual considerations are therefore needed throughout the tuning process.

### 5.1.1 Filling function

As described in Section 3.3.2 there are a myriad of potential factors to consider when constructing a filling function. Here we solely focus on intrinsic factors and try to cover each of the three dimensions as well as possible. Naturally, many others factors could have been used as indicators for the dimensions; see Table 3.1.

The notation developed does not reflect which vehicle is considered, because intrinsic factors by definition only depends on the particular vehicle. Consider a vehicle visiting  $n$  customers taking up a total capacity of  $c$ . Let  $n_t$  denote the total number of customers with aggregate demand  $c_t$ . Further, denote by  $t_0, t_1, \dots, t_{n-1}$  the realized arrival times at each of the  $n$  customers with  $t_0 = 0$  the starting time at the depot. Finally, let  $d_0, \dots, d_{n-2}$  with  $d_i$  being the distance between customer  $i$  and  $i + 1$ .

We consider the following nine factors each with a corresponding parameter  $a_j$ ,  $j = 1, \dots, 9$ . The parameters are normalized such that  $\sum a_j = 1$ .

1. “arrival time factor:”  $\prod t_{j+1} - t_j$  with parameter  $a_1$ ,
2. “distance factor:”  $\prod d_j$  with parameter  $a_2$ ,
3. “filling factor:”  $\frac{c}{c_t} - \frac{n}{n_t}$  with parameter  $a_3$ ,
4. “minimal arrival time:”  $\min(t_1 - t_0, \dots, t_n - t_{n-1})$  with parameter  $a_4$ ,
5. “average arrival time:”  $\frac{\sum t_j}{n}$  with parameter  $a_5$ ,
6. “maximal arrival time:”  $\max(t_1 - t_0, \dots, t_n - t_{n-1})$  with parameter  $a_6$ ,
7. “minimal distance:”  $\min(d_0, \dots, d_{n-2})$  with parameter  $a_7$ ,

8. “average distance:”  $\frac{\sum d_j}{n}$  with parameter  $a_8$ , and
9. “maximal distance:”  $\max(d_0, \dots, d_{n-2})$  with parameter  $a_9$ .

Most of factors are straight forward, but some require some additional interpretation. 1 and 2 are similar: Both are the product of differences either in the time or geographical dimension. If the number is small all customers are nearby each other—either in a distance or time sense. If, on the other hand, the number is large then either a few customers are very far apart or the customers are distributed very equally. 3) is the original filling function from the Vigo et al. [2] paper giving an indication of the capacity used by the vehicle compared to the ratio of customers visited. 5) and 8), too, are similar. 8) is a genuine average, whereas 5) is a bit tougher to interpret. Consider two vehicles that both check in at the depot to conclude their tour at some time  $\tilde{\tau}$  and both visit  $k$  customers. The factor given in 5) is larger for the vehicle that makes more stops towards the end. Albeit not adding a lot of intuition, the factor 5) is added for reasons of completeness.

For the most part, it seems natural that the above are some of the factors that should be studied, but a priori it is very difficult to say whether a given factor is positively or negatively correlated, if significant at all, with a vehicle being easy to empty. This is discussed in detail in Section 6.2.

To begin our analysis we simply ran the algorithm on a given data set fixing all parameters except  $a_1$  through  $a_9$  for which we required  $(a_1, \dots, a_9) \in \{0, 1\}^9$ . Figure 5.1 visualizes the data found in Table B.1. The figure shows that there is no simple correlation between running time and quality of solution. A good solution—both in terms of aggregate distance and number of vehicles used—may be found quickly as well as slowly. It further shows that the effectiveness of the algorithm is greatly influenced by the nature of the filling function.

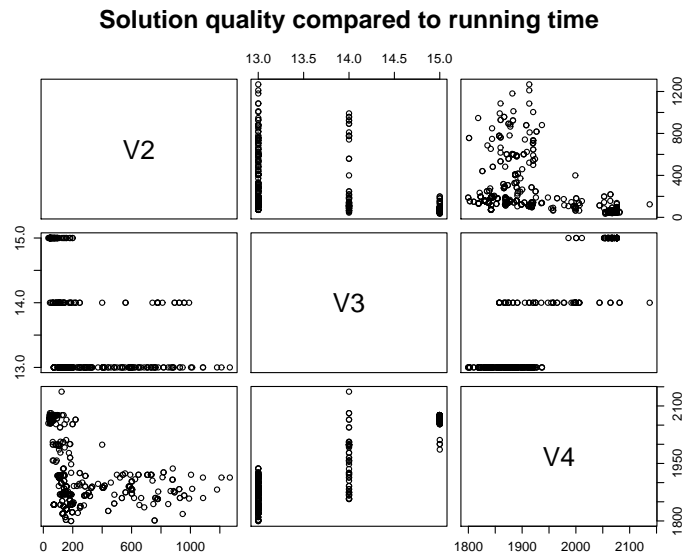


Figure 5.1: V2 is running time, V3 number of vehicles used, and V4 is the aggregate costs. All 512 observations for the rc108 data set. The data is found in Table B.1.

Looking at Table 5.1 the top 15 results are listed and we shall try to infer which



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parameters are the most significant.<sup>1</sup> We wish to derive as much information as possible from the data concerning rc108 only and when no further conclusions can be made r112 and r211 are introduced. All of the observations uses three to six factors so it seems that combining some, but not all factors is fruitful. We note that  $a_8$  only appears in two cases both having dramatically longer running times. From this  $a_8 = 0$  is inferred.

A similar analysis applies to  $a_4$ : it is only part of three observations and one of them has significantly longer running time than the others. This excludes five of the 15 potential parameter configurations with all of the remaining observations including  $a_1$  and  $a_5$ . The remaining ten configurations are now applied to r112 and r211.

CPU	V	Distance	$a_1$	$a_2$	$a_3$	$a_4$	$a_5$	$a_6$	$a_7$	$a_8$	$a_9$
188	13	1799.65	0.25	0.25	0	0	0.25	0	0.25	0	0
189	13	1799.65	0.2	0.2	0.2	0	0.2	0	0.2	0	0
756	13	1801.26	0	0.25	0	0	0	0	0.25	0.25	0.25
757	13	1801.26	0	0.2	0.2	0	0	0	0.2	0.2	0.2
153	13	1802.82	0.17	0	0.17	0	0.17	0.17	0.17	0	0.17
154	13	1802.82	0.2	0	0	0	0.2	0.2	0.2	0	0.2
149	13	1810.01	0.2	0	0	0.2	0.2	0.2	0	0	0.2
149	13	1810.01	0.17	0	0.17	0.17	0.17	0.17	0	0	0.17
947	13	1818.2	0	0.2	0	0.2	0	0.2	0.2	0	0.2
130	13	1818.97	0.33	0	0	0	0.33	0	0.33	0	0
130	13	1818.97	0.25	0	0.25	0	0.25	0	0.25	0	0
133	13	1818.97	0.33	0	0	0	0.33	0	0	0	0.33
133	13	1818.97	0.25	0	0.25	0	0.25	0	0	0	0.25
134	13	1818.97	0.25	0	0.25	0	0.25	0.25	0	0	0
135	13	1818.97	0.33	0	0	0	0.33	0.33	0	0	0

Table 5.1: Table of the top 15 solutions for the rc108-data set sorted by total costs. CPU lists the running time in seconds, and V the number of vehicles. Common for all solutions is that they have  $t1\_length=9$ ,  $l\_max=6$ ,  $k\_max=3$ , and  $d\_max=3$ .

The observations from r112 and r211 are summarized in Table 5.2. In general there is little variance in the results and the r211-observations gives very information. The stability of the results is seen as a positive indicator for the fact that we are getting closer to finding a good filling function. Luckily, the r112-observations provide more information and we focus on the six best solutions. From these we infer that  $a_2 = 0$ , that there should be three or four factors in our filling function, and that  $a_1$  and  $a_5$  are among these.

Unfortunately, it is rather difficult to say more about what set of parameters should be chosen. We therefore apply the six candidates on the data set r101. The results are summarized in Table 5.3 presenting us with two candidates for a filling function, namely the third or the fourth observation. As it would be nice to have at least one factor from each dimension in our filling function we choose the fourth observation with  $a_1$ ,  $a_3$ ,  $a_5$ , and  $a_9$  non-zero. Perhaps surprising,  $a_5$  is non-zero despite being difficult to give any intuitive interpretation.

Having argued that  $a_1$ ,  $a_3$ ,  $a_5$ , and  $a_9$  non-zero seem like a good choice for significant parameters in our filling function, we wish to investigate whether or not they should contribute with the same weight. Representing all three dimension, it might be that one dimension is more crucial to finding a good solution. The effects of changing the weights are summarized in Table 5.4 from which it is seen that doing

<sup>1</sup>In the following this is done using intuition rather than rigorous statistics. See Section 6.2 for further discussion.

	CPU	V	Distance	$a_1$	$a_2$	$a_3$	$a_4$	$a_5$	$a_6$	$a_7$	$a_8$	$a_9$
r211	183	4	1985.01	0.25	0.25	0	0	0.25	0	0.25	0	0
r211	177	4	1985.01	0.2	0.2	0.2	0	0.2	0	0.2	0	0
r211	175	4	1985.01	0.17	0	0.17	0	0.17	0.17	0.17	0	0.17
r211	177	4	1985.01	0.2	0	0	0	0.2	0.2	0.2	0	0.2
r211	180	4	1985.01	0.33	0	0	0	0.33	0	0.33	0	0
r211	181	4	1985.01	0.25	0	0.25	0	0.25	0	0.25	0	0
r211	183	4	1985.01	0.33	0	0	0	0.33	0	0	0	0.33
r211	180	4	1985.01	0.25	0	0.25	0	0.25	0	0	0	0.25
r211	182	4	1985.01	0.25	0	0.25	0	0.25	0.25	0	0	0
r211	181	4	1985.01	0.33	0	0	0	0.33	0.33	0	0	0
r112	148	12	1625.03	0.25	0.25	0	0	0.25	0	0.25	0	0
r112	142	12	1625.03	0.2	0.2	0.2	0	0.2	0	0.2	0	0
r112	159	12	1570.35	0.17	0	0.17	0	0.17	0.17	0.17	0	0.17
r112	159	12	1570.35	0.2	0	0	0	0.2	0.2	0.2	0	0.2
r112	171	12	1559.25	0.33	0	0	0	0.33	0	0.33	0	0
r112	171	12	1559.25	0.25	0	0.25	0	0.25	0	0.25	0	0
r112	171	12	1559.25	0.33	0	0	0	0.33	0	0	0	0.33
r112	173	12	1559.25	0.25	0	0.25	0	0.25	0	0	0	0.25
r112	172	12	1559.25	0.25	0	0.25	0	0.25	0.25	0	0	0
r112	171	12	1559.25	0.33	0	0	0	0.33	0.33	0	0	0

Table 5.2: Observations for the r112 and r211 data sets. CPU lists the running time in seconds, and V the number of vehicles. Common for all solutions is that they have  $\mathbf{t1\_length}=9$ ,  $\mathbf{l\_max}=6$ ,  $\mathbf{k\_max}=3$ , and  $\mathbf{d\_max}=3$ .

	CPU	V	Distance	$a_1$	$a_2$	$a_3$	$a_4$	$a_5$	$a_6$	$a_7$	$a_8$	$a_9$
r101	914	19	2020.52	0.33	0	0	0	0.33	0	0.33	0	0
r101	909	19	2020.52	0.25	0	0.25	0	0.25	0	0.25	0	0
r101	828	19	1972.31	0.33	0	0	0	0.33	0	0	0	0.33
r101	845	19	1972.31	0.25	0	0.25	0	0.25	0	0	0	0.25
r101	1898	19	1972.31	0.25	0	0.25	0	0.25	0.25	0	0	0
r101	1887	19	1972.31	0.33	0	0	0	0.33	0.33	0	0	0

Table 5.3: Observations for the r101 data set. CPU lists the running time in seconds, and V the number of vehicles. Common for all solutions is that they have  $\mathbf{t1\_length}=9$ ,  $\mathbf{l\_max}=6$ ,  $\mathbf{k\_max}=3$ , and  $\mathbf{d\_max}=3$ .

so at best keeps the quality of the solution, but increases the computation time. Our final choice of filling function is therefore  $a_1 = a_3 = a_5 = a_9 = 1$  as the only non-zero parameters.

### 5.1.2 TSpack algorithm

After having tuned the filling function, we turn our attention to the parameters of the TSpack algorithm itself recalling that the ones we wish to tune are  $\mathbf{l\_max}$ ,  $\mathbf{k\_max}$ , and  $\mathbf{d\_max}$ . Before we begin obtaining and analyzing data it is useful to think about what role each of these play and which experiments are useful in deciding what value to use.

$\mathbf{l\_max}$  has the easiest interpretation as it is simply the number of times the outer loop is run though; see Section 3.3.1. That is, given fixed  $\mathbf{d\_max}$  and  $\mathbf{k\_max}$ , increasing  $\mathbf{l\_max}$  never leads to an inferior solution as the inner calculations of the algorithm are not affected. Therefore we would also expect computation time to increase approximately linearly in  $\mathbf{l\_max}$ , that is  $\mathcal{O}(\mathbf{l\_max})$ .

$\mathbf{k\_max}$  is the upper limit for the neighborhood size considered when trying to place the customers of our target vehicle on other routes. Another way to think about  $\mathbf{k\_max}$  is how thorough the local search is. As for computation time,  $\mathbf{k\_max}$  gives the largest tuple of customers considered and therefore computation time for

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	CPU	V	Distance	$a_1$	$a_2$	$a_3$	$a_4$	$a_5$	$a_6$	$a_7$	$a_8$	$a_9$
rc108	131.0	13	1818.97	0.25	0.0	0.25	0.0	0.25	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.25
rc108	112.0	13	1917.51	0.2	0.0	0.2	0.0	0.2	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.4
rc108	317.0	13	1919.31	0.2	0.0	0.2	0.0	0.4	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.2
rc108	135.0	13	1818.97	0.2	0.0	0.4	0.0	0.2	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.2
rc108	115.0	13	1917.51	0.4	0.0	0.2	0.0	0.2	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.2
r112	173.0	12	1559.24	0.25	0.0	0.25	0.0	0.25	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.25
r112	198.0	12	1592.23	0.2	0.0	0.2	0.0	0.2	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.4
r112	251.0	12	1578.73	0.2	0.0	0.2	0.0	0.4	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.2
r112	173.0	12	1559.24	0.2	0.0	0.4	0.0	0.2	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.2
r112	198.0	12	1592.23	0.4	0.0	0.2	0.0	0.2	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.2
r211	177.0	4	1985.01	0.25	0.0	0.25	0.0	0.25	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.25
r211	176.0	4	1985.01	0.2	0.0	0.2	0.0	0.2	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.4
r211	176.0	4	1985.01	0.2	0.0	0.2	0.0	0.4	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.2
r211	178.0	4	1985.01	0.2	0.0	0.4	0.0	0.2	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.2
r211	176.0	4	1985.01	0.4	0.0	0.2	0.0	0.2	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.2

Table 5.4: Observations for the rc108, r112, and r211 data sets. CPU lists the running time in seconds, and V the number of vehicles. Common for all solutions is that they have  $\text{tl\_length}=9$ ,  $\text{l\_max}=6$ ,  $\text{k\_max}=3$ , and  $\text{d\_max}=3$ .

the inner search is  $\mathcal{O}(\binom{n}{\text{k\_max}})$ , where  $n$  is the number of customers; increasing  $\text{k\_max}$  can therefore be very costly in terms of computation time.

This is not to be confused with the claim that increasing  $\text{k\_max}$  always leads to a higher overall computation time. It might in fact be, as is explained in the following, that a higher  $\text{k\_max}$  gives a strictly shorter computation time. Nor is it the case that better solutions are necessarily obtained for larger  $\text{k\_max}$ .

One might expect the solutions to become better as  $\text{k\_max}$  is increased. There are two reasons why this is not the case. The first is that a time limit potentially tampers the results. To realize this consider a time limit of say six minutes and compare  $\text{k\_max}=4$  to  $\text{k\_max}=5$  for given  $\text{d\_max}$  and  $\text{l\_max}$ . For  $\text{k\_max}=4$  the algorithm might terminate naturally and thereby have performed all diversification steps and what not. In contrast, for  $\text{k\_max}=5$  due to the increased computation time of each search of the neighborhood, it might be that the time limit forces the algorithm to terminate prematurely. This could mean that some of the diversification mechanisms are not executed leading to a poorer solution.

The second and more important reason is that the solution space by no means is well-ordered. Consider a case where both  $\text{k\_max}=4$  and  $\text{k\_max}=5$  terminate naturally. How could it be that  $\text{k\_max}=4$  returns the better solution? While at first anti-intuitive, the reason is straightforward. The algorithm walks through the solution space trying to guess what to do in order to find a better solution. Each step is but a qualified guess, but there are no guarantees. If we were certain what to do we could improve the solution monotonically and there would be no need for the tabu search feature. This not being the case, it might happen that during the execution of  $\text{k\_max}=5$  the algorithm, in good faith, performs a step that moves us away from good solutions never to return.

The same argument also shows that a larger  $\text{k\_max}$  might lead to a shorter computation time. That such examples do in fact exist is not clear at all. The following provides an example of both:

data	CPU	#V	Distance	tl_length	l_max	k_max	d_max
rc108	518.0	13	1777.1104033062443	9	6	4	3
rc108	430.0	13	1860.249250330895	9	6	5	3

with the filling function from above.

Despite this, the author’s intuition says that increasing `k_max` will on average, considering enough data sets, increase computation time and return a better solution. Nevertheless, it is important to understand that the complex nature of the problem imposes certain randomness.

A delicate parameter described in Section 3.3.5 is `d_max`. As mentioned the algorithm performs two kinds of diversification, namely a mild form in which the target vehicle is simply chosen differently, and a stronger form in which the working solution really gets scrambled. We have earlier noted that choosing the target vehicle differently aids the filling function as the ordering of the vehicles in terms of candidates to empty becomes less significant. On the other hand standard tabu search theory tells us that diversifying by jumping to other regions of the solution space can be very fruitful.

It is therefore a trade-off between spending more time locally and changing the investigated neighborhood dramatically. As `k_max` describes how the local search is performed there could be a correlation between `d_max` and `k_max`. Note that a priori we do not know how increasing or decreasing `d_max` affects the solution. As for computation time increasing `d_max` leads to fewer changes of neighborhood each requiring more computation time. Therefore a decrease in computation time is expected when `d_max` is increased.

The above discussion raises the question of whether to impose a time limit or not. The final configuration of the algorithm should have a time limit as off-the-record experiments have shown that computation time for a few data sets might unexpectedly increase to more than an hour while most of the other instances with the same parameters terminates in minutes. The time limit would get rid of unpleasant surprises like that.

But what about during the tuning phase? In order to see the real effects of changing the parameters, which is of great importance when deciding what set of parameters to use for future problems, we have to set a very high time limit if any. It was chosen to use 40 minutes, that is 2400 seconds.

Another important question to ask before starting the experiments is whether to tune for all three parameters at once or take them sequentially? Tuning sequentially is a lot quicker and it becomes feasible to test a lot of different parameters where a simultaneous testing limits the number of parameters values for each specific parameter, but includes cross-effects; that is correlation between the factors.

The author believes that the cross-effects are of major importance and therefore by all means should be included. The iterations limit is closely related to the diversification limit as we have already seen. The diversification limit makes up for the fact that no fixed filling function will ever be able to order the vehicles correctly for all problems, but so does the neighborhood limit to some extent. If a less-promising target vehicle is picked increasing the size of the neighborhood compensates as more vehicles are included to relocate the customers. Finally, it is a priori very possible that a cross-effect between the neighborhood limit and the iteration limit exists. If one increases the neighborhood limit the search might be so thorough that fewer iterations are needed.

We therefore decide to run test on all three parameters at once on `r101`, `r112`, `r211`, and `rc108`. Using the filling function found above and fixing the tabu list length at `tl_length=9`, we vary the other parameters as follows:

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- $k_{\max}$  with values in  $\{3, 4, 5\}$ ,
- $d_{\max}$  with values in  $\{1, 3, 6\}$ ,
- $l_{\max}$  with values in  $\{6, 9, 12\}$ .

It is by no means simple to get a feeling for the output and the plot in Figure 5.2 guides us in our analysis. The first thing one notices when inspecting Figure 5.2 is that no clear tendency is apparent. We know that a truly rigorous analysis of the output is beyond the scope of this thesis and therefore combine the figure with our gut feeling and a pragmatic approach keeping computation time in mind. We begin

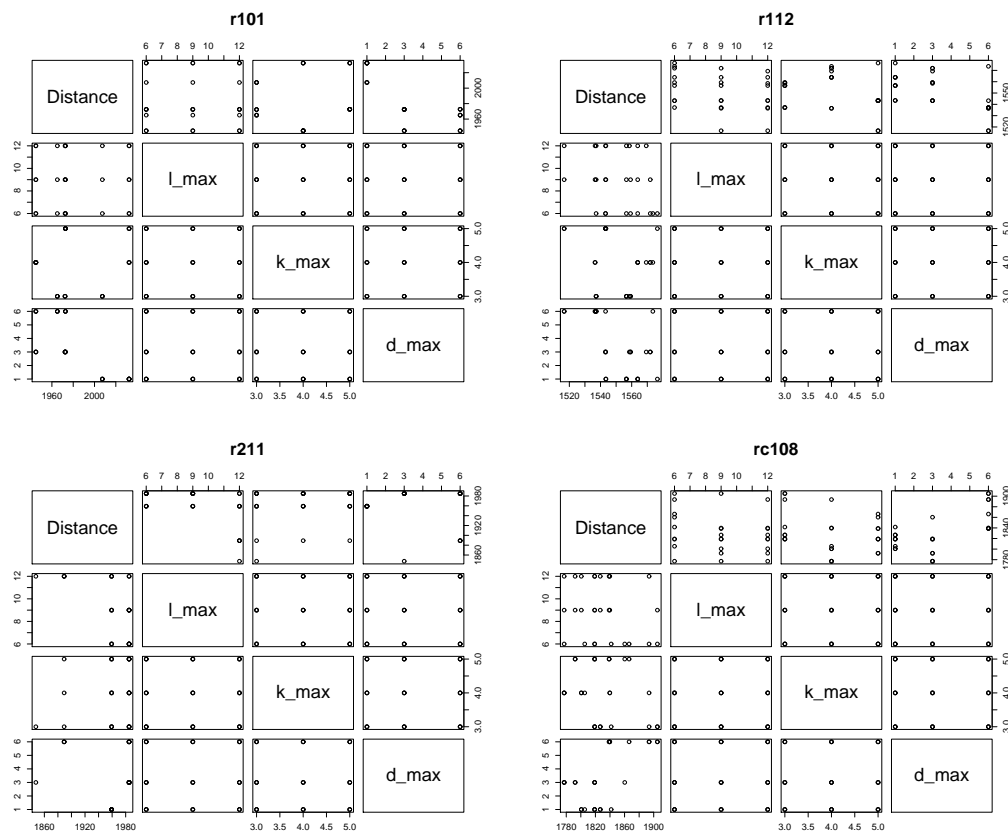


Figure 5.2: Plot of tuning of search algorithm on r101, r112, r211, and rc108. The tabu list length is fixed at 9 and the data plotted is shown in Table B.2. For each data set all solutions use the same number of vehicles and the only difference is the aggregate distance. The interesting part of the plot is of course to compare the aggregate distance to the three parameters being tuned.

by considering  $d_{\max}$ . The data in Table B.2 clearly confirms our presumption of a decrease in computation time as  $d_{\max}$  increases. This combined with the fact that for all data sets except r112,  $d_{\max}=3$  seems like a superior choice, makes us fix  $d_{\max}$  at 3. Turning to  $l_{\max}$  there seems to be little gain to increase the number of iterations above 6 except for the r211 data set. Having fixed  $d_{\max}$  at 3, we still get two rounds of diversification by fixing  $l_{\max}$  at 6.

Finally, we consider  $k_{\max}$ . Again r211 seems to fall out of category<sup>2</sup> and for the other three sets  $k_{\max}=4$  delivers better results than  $k_{\max}=3$ , which is also

<sup>2</sup>A rigorous analysis would include more r2xx sets.

what was expected a priori. By the same token we would also expect `k_max=5` to give better results, but this is only the case for `r112`. Recalling that Vigo et al. in the BPP setting ended up choosing the value 3 and not wanting to deviate too much without a very rigorous analysis, we stick to `k_max=4`. This choice is further supported by computation time being an important factor.

The final parameters then are:

- `d_max=3`,
- `k_max=4`, and
- `l_max=6`.

### 5.1.3 Summary of tuning phase

A tuning of the filling function has been done by identifying nine potential factors and testing on four data sets. The filling function was found to depend on four factors namely

- “arrival time factor:”  $\prod t_{j+1} - t_j$ ,
- “filling factor:”  $\frac{c}{c_t} - \frac{n}{n_t}$ ,
- “average arrival time:”  $\frac{\sum t_j}{n}$ , and
- “maximal distance:”  $\max(d_0, \dots, d_{n-2})$ ,

all with equal weight. Further, the tuning on the same four sets of the search algorithm with the above filling function led us to put

- `d_max=3`, `k_max=4`, and `l_max=6`.

## 5.2 Performance on the Solomon instances

After having identified what we believe is a set of promising parameters it is time to test the algorithm on all 56 Solomon instances. The time limit is put to 600 seconds, 10 minutes, and a new filling function class, `TunedFillingFunction`, representing the tuned filling function is used rather than the class itself used for tuning improving computational efficiency slightly.

Naturally, we wish to compare our solution to the best known so far, but we also list the solution found by using Vigo et al. original filling function<sup>3</sup> The findings are summarized in Table 5.5.

It should be noted that the tuned filling function delivers superior results compared to the original filling function. On average, it is quicker, uses fewer vehicles, and finds shorter routes. There are nine cases where the original filling function finds a shorter route, but no cases where it uses fewer vehicles. In contrast, the tuned filling function uses exactly one vehicle less than the original in 20 cases. There is no apparent pattern for any of these findings.

Despite the adaptations of the filling function to the VRPTW problem and the good results in doing so, we are still far from the optimal solutions deviating almost a 100 % in terms of total distance and only finding the optimal number of vehicles on a mere four instances.

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<sup>3</sup>With the  $\alpha$ -parameter cited in Vigo et al. [2] set to 5 as suggest by Mr. Daniele Vigo in an e-mail correspondence.

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Data	OPTIMAL			TUNED			VIGO			
	V*	D*	CPU	V	D	$\Delta D/D^*$	CPU	V	D	$\Delta D/D^*$
c101	10	828.94	603	11	1214.75	0.47	600	11	1214.75	0.47
c102	10	828.94	206	10	1759.17	1.12	600	11	1525.33	0.84
c103	10	828.06	600	10	1707.39	1.06	600	10	1707.39	1.06
c104	10	824.78	601	10	1374.64	0.67	609	10	1374.64	0.67
c105	10	828.94	600	11	1220.34	0.47	605	11	1220.34	0.47
c106	10	828.94	602	11	1119.87	0.35	602	11	1119.87	0.35
c107	10	828.94	600	11	1289.85	0.56	602	11	1500.33	0.81
c108	10	828.94	600	11	1535.29	0.85	600	12	1570.71	0.89
c109	10	828.94	602	11	1665.40	1.01	601	11	1817.82	1.19
c201	3	591.56	119	4	999.61	0.69	90	4	999.61	0.69
c202	3	591.56	212	4	1876.51	2.17	122	4	1856.91	2.14
c203	3	591.17	174	4	1952.45	2.30	120	4	2327.16	2.94
c204	3	590.6	222	4	2473.66	3.19	245	4	2473.66	3.19
c205	3	588.88	92	4	1332.37	1.26	74	4	1332.37	1.26
c206	3	588.49	229	4	1671.38	1.84	220	4	1671.38	1.84
c207	3	588.29	131	4	1676.23	1.85	206	4	1676.23	1.85
c208	3	588.32	256	4	1863.52	2.17	242	4	1863.52	2.17
r101	19	1645.79	601	19	1944.94	0.18	601	20	2063.81	0.25
r102	17	1486.12	600	18	1978.81	0.33	605	19	2053.67	0.38
r103	13	1292.68	602	14	1757.91	0.36	607	15	1820.51	0.41
r104	9	1007.24	349	12	1538.74	0.53	608	13	1635.57	0.62
r105	14	1377.11	283	15	1699.00	0.23	601	16	1828.32	0.33
r106	12	1251.98	600	14	1703.32	0.36	602	14	1794.09	0.43
r107	10	1104.66	242	12	1506.50	0.36	607	13	1719.95	0.56
r108	9	960.88	601	12	1472.79	0.53	600	13	1668.87	0.74
r109	11	1194.73	600	14	1684.81	0.41	600	15	1858.57	0.56
r110	10	1118.59	509	13	1654.39	0.48	606	13	1692.80	0.51
r111	10	1096.72	297	13	1627.56	0.48	600	14	1796.12	0.64
r112	9	982.14	400	12	1571.91	0.60	603	13	1696.85	0.73
r201	4	1252.37	243	5	2186.31	0.75	233	5	2255.87	0.80
r202	3	1191.7	108	5	2152.74	0.81	91	5	2152.74	0.81
r203	3	939.5	121	4	2297.74	1.45	140	4	2209.08	1.35
r204	2	825.52	205	4	1772.84	1.15	156	4	1914.25	1.32
r205	3	994.42	98	4	2183.54	1.20	81	4	2183.54	1.20
r206	3	906.14	175	4	2137.37	1.36	135	4	2126.10	1.35
r207	2	890.61	121	4	2035.41	1.29	104	4	2011.90	1.26
r208	2	726.75	164	4	1902.42	1.62	162	4	1902.42	1.62
r209	3	909.16	160	4	2228.68	1.45	113	4	2342.45	1.58
r210	3	939.34	112	4	2431.22	1.59	263	5	2273.66	1.42
r211	2	885.71	173	4	1985.01	1.24	111	4	2085.27	1.35
rc101	14	1696.94	489	16	2063.69	0.22	605	17	2146.24	0.26
rc102	12	1554.75	555	15	2001.91	0.29	600	15	2064.62	0.33
rc103	11	1261.67	163	13	1855.41	0.47	604	14	1995.14	0.58
rc104	10	1135.48	391	12	1648.93	0.45	601	14	2021.80	0.78
rc105	13	1629.44	600	15	2093.13	0.28	565	16	2211.00	0.36
rc106	11	1424.73	231	14	1964.52	0.38	486	15	2075.38	0.46
rc107	11	1230.48	600	14	1860.71	0.51	326	14	1988.42	0.62
rc108	10	1139.82	521	13	1777.11	0.56	601	14	1947.69	0.71
rc201	4	1406.91	265	5	2605.52	0.85	374	5	2545.25	0.81
rc202	3	1365.65	334	5	2507.51	0.84	434	5	2507.51	0.84
rc203	3	1049.62	153	5	2614.21	1.49	205	5	2687.35	1.56
rc204	3	798.41	172	4	2447.73	2.07	197	4	2253.30	1.82
rc205	4	1297.19	329	5	2563.63	0.98	112	5	2732.36	1.11
rc206	3	1146.32	290	5	2244.41	0.96	74	5	2479.68	1.16
rc207	3	1061.14	268	5	2506.85	1.36	208	5	2488.49	1.35
rc208	3	828.14	241	4	2186.61	1.64	185	4	2186.61	1.64
Avg	7.23	1021.09	346.70	8.79	1877.29	0.97	388.29	9.14	1940.52	1.03

Table 5.5: Performance of TSpacak algorithm on the Solomon instances. The best known solutions are listed together with a tuned version as well as TSpacak with the original filling function by Vigo et al. [2], but otherwise the same parameters, namely those found in Section 5.1.2. The running time limit was set to 600 seconds. With 56 instances, the tuned filling function finds the shorter solution in 31 of the cases, the original filling function in nine of the cases while the remaining 16 are a draw. As for number of vehicles the solution found with the tuned filling function needs one vehicle less in 20 cases with the remaining 36 being a draw.

The thesis primarily consists of two parts: the adaption of the algorithm by Vigo et al., and the tuning phase. This chapter includes a discussion of both.

### 6.1 Adaption of algorithm

The algorithm was originally developed to deal with the packing problem, but due to the additional structure of the VRPTW some parts of the algorithm can be changed.

The solution has a fixed geographical distribution of the customers and therefore it is possible to refine the search algorithm. Rather than returning all  $k$  tuple of customers it might be possible to return a significant smaller subset. It is important to understand that reducing the number of customers reduces the size of the solution space searched and thereby potentially decreases the effectiveness of the algorithm.

The basic idea therefore is to develop a trustworthy knock-out criterion rather than spend a lot of computation time in determining a very selective set of potential vehicles. The reason to reduce the number of customers returned is thus solely to increase computational efficiency. It is therefore a trade-off between pruning the set of vehicles iterated through versus identifying them. Depending on how well one would be able to do this, such a knock-out criterion might lead to a significant increase in computational efficiency.

Another simple adaption of the algorithm would be to use a solution's total distance as a hash value instead of the more artificial penalty-value. The packing problem simply lacks the notion of distance and therefore it is clear that no such thing could be done in the packing-setting. There is one behavior though that would require special attention if one would chose to use total distance as a hash value; or at least it would mean a breaking change.

Right now, any return from Case 2 of the search-algorithm returns penalty equal to infinity thereby only allowing a single return from Case 2 as long as any return from Case 2 is stored in the tabu list. Using the total distance as hash value, it is



highly unlikely that two Case 2 solutions would return the same total distance. This behavior would have to be hard coded, which should not pose any difficulties.

While this change would only provide a very small increase in computational efficiency, the real value is that the code becomes simpler. It is way more natural to consider total distance compared to the artificial penalty value depending on the filling function, which we a priori know nothing about, albeit control.

Finally, the lower bound and the check if it is reached could be omitted. That is, at least when running the Solomon instances this never gave rise to a termination and therefore seems superfluous. Again, this would primarily serve to simplify the code rather than having any noticeable impact on computational efficiency.

None of these changes have been implemented due to time restrictions. Despite the time required to implement the above is probably not too extensive the value added, as argued, is mostly in simplicity of the code. As the primary focus of this thesis was to investigate whether or not adapting the algorithm to the VRPTW-setting is fruitful at all, it was chosen to spend the time pursuing this matter.

## 6.2 Tuning phase

Despite the above tuning being done to the best of our knowledge within the time frame of this thesis a much more rigorous analysis is possible. Nevertheless there are some elements of the above analysis that the author believes would transplant to a more thorough analysis. It is the purpose of this section to highlight what these elements are and how a (more) rigorous analysis could be performed.

We have already described the close relation between the filling function and  $d_{\max}$  serving as a correction measure as depicted in Figure 3.1. In other words, the magnitude of  $d_{\max}$  depends on how well we are able to determine a filling function for the types of problems we wish to consider. As a consequence, any analysis would have to start by determining what filling function to use before tuning  $d_{\max}$ , or, at very least, it should be done simultaneously.

In the previous section, Section 5.1.2, we also concluded that a strong correlation between  $d_{\max}$ ,  $k_{\max}$ , and  $l_{\max}$  exists. This implies that even a full-scale rigorous analysis would have to keep the same order of tuning as used in the above.

We have used a mere four data sets to reach our conclusion and not even used any kind of statistical methods. The gain from using more data sets without applying some kind of statistical tools would be negligible as we have already used our gut feeling to reach the conclusions due to data complexity. Adding even more data would simply make the situation less transparent and make it even more incomprehensible for the human mind. Nevertheless the lack of proper statistical methods in the above implies that we have very little feeling of the level of significance at which the conclusions holds.

Having determined that the order of analysis in the above would carry over to a in-depth analysis we turn our attention to how to perform such one of the filling function.

The filling function's purpose is to divide the vehicles into two classes: emptiable and non-emptiable. There exists an abundance of methods to perform such an analysis of which the author only knows a fraction. The field of such analyses is

called statistical learning or machine learning.<sup>1</sup> One of the premier examples are neural networks, while others include linear discriminant analysis and the probit model (the latter known from econometrics). An in-depth discussion of statistical learning is found in [10].

The basic idea of all is to feed a computer with a vast amount of configurations where the question of interest has already been decided. Using our algorithm and the Solomon instances as an example this would correspond to parsing solutions with a target vehicle and a 0/1-variable indicating whether the target vehicle was successfully emptied or not. Note, that the data parsed would include intrinsic as well as extrinsic factors, that is complete information. There is no need to identify any specific parameters such as we have done in the analysis at hand nor to trim the data set in any way. The very idea behind machine learning algorithms are, that they will adjust the weights of all the information and thereby decide what is significant and what is not. The weights can only be properly determined if the data parsed is big and one approach might be to use half the Solomon instances for tuning and the other half for testing.

The tuning of the search algorithm has a different nature. It is not about defining two groups, but rather about optimizing a function of multiple variables under various constraints. These variables themselves are different in nature. For instance the solution never worsens as we increase `l_max`, but computation time increases and it is the task of the analysis to determine when the quality of the solution begins to flatten compared to the extra computation time.

In popular terms, one can think of this as a everywhere positive “derivative” of the solution quality with respect to `l_max` and it is further clear that this derivative must move closer and closer to zero. If `d_max` becomes very large then the diversification process is never entered, which most likely leads to worse solutions. Hence the “derivative” with respect to `d_max` is at first positive, but then turns negative. For `k_max` the situation is undecided, but certainly of interest.

This also leads to a different kind of statistical methods used in the analysis. The relevant question assemble more conventional hypothesis testing such as testing for “there is no difference in performance for `d_max=3` and `d_max=4`” closely and are as such treated in any introductory statistics book, confer [11]. With more time on our hands one would run the algorithm on a larger number of data sets as well as for a larger number of potential parameter values. The above analysis gives a ball-park figure of what ranges to consider.

Finally, one important aspect of the tuning was skipped entirely in our analysis, namely the inner solver. In general there are three possible configurations to consider:

1. an exact method,
2. a heuristic and if so which,
3. an exact method for small numbers of customers, a heuristic for large, and a value where to change between the two.

Note, that to begin with it is less important which exact method is chosen as this only affects computation time. The performance (without computation time as a factor) remains the same for all exact methods and as the number of customers

---

<sup>1</sup>As is often the case in science, the two fields have different origin, but as they were better understood and developed their differences became minute.

considered in the sub-instances usually is rather small the running time of the exact method is a minor factor.

If one uses a heuristic—as we have done—the situation is more complex. Different heuristics might very well return different solution for a given sub-instance and therefore affect performance of the algorithm greatly.

The third and composite option seems interesting. The value for which to change between an exact and a heuristic approach should be based on the computation time of the exact method. Say this turns out to be 15 customers. This would allow us to pick a heuristic that performed well in the range of 15 to 30 customers or so instead of the whole interval from two to 30. One could even take the idea one step further and introduce different heuristics for different intervals.

If more time was available we would have proceeded as follows. A rather simple heuristic was used here and a natural first step would be to compare it to one or two state-of-the-art heuristics and one exact method.

In this thesis we have concerned ourselves with adapting a bin-packaging algorithm by Vigo et al. [2] to the VRPTW. The algorithm was successfully adapted and various aspects of the algorithm were explained. Further, some additional tuning of the algorithm is possible due to the additional structure of the VRPTW-problem compared to the BPP. These were outlined and for some part implemented.

The search algorithm relies heavily on an inner solver and in this thesis we chose a very simple heuristic originally proposed by Solomon [6] in 1987, albeit any heuristic or exact algorithm would do the job. This was done for many reasons with the two dominant being that the Solomon heuristic was quick to implement and that Vigo et al. were able to find good solutions using even simple heuristics.

In this thesis we did not investigate the results of using different inner solvers and instead a discussion of this is offered in Section 6.2.

Another crucial component of the algorithm is the filling function choosing the vehicle, which is tried to be emptied. We identified some characteristics we thought would enable us to predict whether a vehicle would be easy or difficult to empty. It is this prediction aspect that is of tremendous importance. A good prediction routine ensures that we focus our energy on trying to empty the right vehicles, which increases the effectiveness—performance as well computation time—tremendously. Having identified the factors the filling function was tuned using basic statistical intuition.

Thereafter the search algorithm itself was tuned. This includes parameters such as how we wish to diversify the tabu search and how many iterations we wish to do. The parameters of the search algorithm do not have a simple interpretation and a more rigorous analysis of the algorithm in its entirety could try to investigate this area more thoroughly.

An extensive discussion of the tuning phase—both a justification of the steps taken as well as suggestions for improvement and further research—has been done.

After these simple tuning measures it is natural to ask how all this performs? Is it worth spending additional time pursuing this algorithm? And can one say anything about that already?

In order to quantify this, performance tests on the Solomon instances were performed and compared to the best known solutions. In addition—to test our tuning procedures of the filling function—the results were also compared to solutions found using Vigo’s original filling function. Throughout the thesis it was repeatedly argued that the filling function is a, if not the, key component of the search algorithm. This point was highlighted by the significantly better results of the tuned filling function we found compared to the original filling function by Vigo et al. This should not be confused with a criticism of the work of Vigo et al. as their filling function was developed for a rather different purpose, but it clearly shows that determining promising target vehicles is imperative.

This is all good, but how close does the algorithm get to the state-of-the-art results? Unfortunately, not very close. On average 1.5 additional vehicles are used corresponding to an increase of about 20 %. The total distance found by our algorithm is about twice as long as the best known solutions. One should keep in mind though, that the primary objective function was the minimize the number of vehicles and not the total distance. With these being the numbers how should they be interpreted? We quote Vigo et al.

Although very simple inner heuristics can already provide good final solutions, tuned versions of the `TSpack` using effective heuristics proved to be very effective for 2BP and 3BP, often finding state-of-the-art results.

Hence it should be expected that the algorithm is not able to find the best known solutions with a very simple inner solver. It is difficult to say what Vigo et al. mean by “good final solutions,” but the ones found by here shows that the idea of the algorithm can be used to attack VRPTW instances.

The path for future research is therefore clear. Implement a state-of-the-art heuristic as an inner solver and/or experiment with using an exact method. Then find a better filling function using modern and rigorous methods to increase the accuracy of the prediction of the target vehicles.

This chapter includes the source code from some of the key classes of the program. These are depicted in a class diagram, see Figure 4.1. The complete source code is a couple of thousand lines even for the key classes and is therefore not listed in its entirety. The most interesting features from the most interesting classes are listed below (API-documentation removed to save space), while the complete source code can be found at <http://baltzersen.info/vrp.php>.

This chapter is useful for getting a taste of how the code looks, but the interested reader wishing to understand the code in detail is strongly advised to load the source code using an IDE such as Eclipse, which will make the API-documentation available.

### A.1 TunedFillingFunction class

```
package model.fillingFunction;
import java.util.List;

public class TunedFillingFunction extends AbstractFillingFunction
{
    public TunedFillingFunction (Customers customers)
    {
        super(customers);
    }

    @Override
    public double calculate (List<Integer> customersVisiting,
        int numbersOfCustomersVisiting, List<Double> arrivalTimes,
        int capacityUsed)
    {
        double a_1 = capacityUsed / customers.getTotalDemand();
        // subtract 1 to adjust for depot.
    }
}
```

## A Source Code

```
double a_2 = numbersOfCustomersVisiting - 1;
double a_3 = customers.getNumberOfCustomers() - 1;
double fillingFunction = a_1 - a_2 / a_3;

double arrivalTimeFactor = 1.0;
double avrArrivalTime = 0.0;
double t_1;
double t_2;

double costFactor = 1.0;
double maxDistance = 0.0;
double d;

for (int i = 0; i < numbersOfCustomersVisiting - 1; i++)
{
    t_1 = arrivalTimes.get(i);
    t_2 = arrivalTimes.get(i + 1);

    arrivalTimeFactor *= (t_2 - t_1);
    avrArrivalTime += t_1;
    d = customers.Distance(customersVisiting.get(i),
        customersVisiting.get(i + 1));
    costFactor *= d;

    if (d > maxDistance)
        maxDistance = d;
}
avrArrivalTime = (avrArrivalTime +
    arrivalTimes.get(numbersOfCustomersVisiting - 1))
    / numbersOfCustomersVisiting;
return arrivalTimeFactor + fillingFunction + avrArrivalTime + maxDistance;
}

@Override
public String toString ()
{
    return "TunedFillingFunction";
}
}
```

## A.2 SolomonHeuristic class

```
package model.innerSolver;

import java.util.LinkedList;

public class SolomonHeuristic extends AbstractInnerSolver
{
    private double alpha_1 = 0.5;
```

```

private double alpha_2 = 1.0 - alpha_1;

public SolomonHeuristic (Customers customers, int capacity,
    AbstractFillingFunction fillingFunction)
{
    super(customers, capacity, fillingFunction);
}

public SolomonHeuristic (Customers customers, int capacity,
    AbstractFillingFunction fillingFunction, double alpha_1, double alpha_2)
{
    super(customers, capacity, fillingFunction);

    if (alpha_1 + alpha_2 != 1 || alpha_1 < 0 || alpha_2 < 0)
        throw new IllegalArgumentException(
            "Both alpha_1 and alpha_2 need to be positive and their sum has to be 1.
            They were; " + alpha_1 + "and " + alpha_2);
    this.alpha_1 = alpha_1;
    this.alpha_2 = alpha_2;
}

@Override
public Solution GetInitialSolution ()
{
    return GetSolution(customers.getListOfCustomers());
}

private int[] findOptimalCustomer (List<Integer> workList, Vehicle vehicle)
{
    int workSize = workList.size();
    Object[][] opt = new Object[workSize][3];

    int counter = 0;
    double d_optimal = Double.MAX_VALUE;

    // Finds optimal index for a given customer and remembers the weighted average.
    for (int customer : workList)
    {
        d_optimal = Double.MAX_VALUE;
        int index_optimal = 0;
        for (int index = 1; index <= vehicle.getNumbersOfCustomersVisiting(); index++)
        {
            if (!vehicle.canAssignCustomer(customer, index))
                continue;

            double d = alpha_1 * vehicle.getDelay(customer, index) + alpha_2
                * vehicle.getDetourCost(customer, index);
            if (d < d_optimal)
            {
                d_optimal = d;
            }
        }
    }
}

```



## A Source Code

```
        index_optimal = index;
    }
}
if (d_optimal == Double.MAX_VALUE)
    continue;

    opt[counter][0] = customer;
    opt[counter][1] = index_optimal;
    opt[counter][2] = d_optimal;
    counter++;
}
return secondCriterion(opt, workSize);
}

private int[] secondCriterion (Object[][] optimals, int workSize)
{
    int[] optimalContainer = new int[2];

    double optimalDistance = Double.MAX_VALUE;
    int optimalCustomer = 0;

    for (int i = 0; i < workSize; i++)
    {
        Double customerSpecificOptimum = optimals[i][2] != null ?
            (Double) optimals[i][2] : Double.MAX_VALUE;

        if (customerSpecificOptimum < optimalDistance)
        {
            optimalDistance = customerSpecificOptimum;
            optimalCustomer = i;
        }
    }
    if (optimalDistance == Double.MAX_VALUE)
        return null;

    for (int k = 0; k < 2; k++)
        optimalContainer[k] = (Integer) optimals[optimalCustomer][k];

    return optimalContainer;
}

private boolean placeOptimalCustomer (List<Integer> workList, Vehicle vehicle)
{
    int[] optimalContainer = findOptimalCustomer(workList, vehicle);
    if (optimalContainer == null)
        return false;

    if ((Integer) optimalContainer[0] != -1)
        placeCustomer(vehicle, optimalContainer[0], optimalContainer[1], workList);
}
```

```

    return true;
}

private void placeCustomer (Vehicle vehicle, int customer, int index,
    List<Integer> workList)
{
    vehicle.AssignCustomer(customer, index);
    workList.remove((Object) customer);
}

@Override
public Solution GetSolution (List<Integer> workList)
{
    workList = new LinkedList<Integer>(workList);

    if (workList.get(0) == 0)
        workList.remove(0); // remove depot.

    if (workList.contains((Integer) 0))
        throw new IllegalArgumentException(
            "Depot is contained multiple times in worklist");

    double distance_max = 0.0;
    int seedCustomer = 0;
    for (int customer : workList)
    {
        if (customers.Distance(customer) > distance_max)
        {
            seedCustomer = customer;
            distance_max = customers.Distance(customer);
        }
    }
    Vehicle vehicle = new Vehicle(capacity, customers, fillingFunction);
    placeCustomer(vehicle, seedCustomer, 1, workList);

    List<Vehicle> vehicles = new LinkedList<Vehicle>();
    if(workList.isEmpty())
        vehicles.add(vehicle);

    while (!workList.isEmpty())
    {
        while (placeOptimalCustomer(workList, vehicle))
        {
        }
        vehicles.add(vehicle);
        vehicle = new Vehicle(capacity, customers, fillingFunction);
    }
    return new Solution(vehicles.toArray(new Vehicle[0]),
        customers.getNumberOfCustomers());
}

```

```
}
```

### A.3 TabuListContainer class

```
package model;

public class TabuListContainer
{
    private TabuList[] container;
    private int maxNeighborhoodSize;

    public TabuListContainer (int length, int maxNeighborhoodSize)
    {
        container = new TabuList[maxNeighborhoodSize];
        this.maxNeighborhoodSize = maxNeighborhoodSize;
        for (int j = 0; j < maxNeighborhoodSize; j++)
            container[j] = new TabuList(length);
    }

    public void resetAllTabuList ()
    {
        for (TabuList tl : container)
            tl.reset();
    }

    public void addMove (double value, int neighborhood)
    {
        illegalArgument(neighborhood);
        container[neighborhood - 1].addMove(value);
    }

    public boolean contains (double value, int neighborhood)
    {
        illegalArgument(neighborhood);
        return container[neighborhood - 1].contains(value);
    }

    private void illegalArgument (int neighborhood)
    {
        if (neighborhood > maxNeighborhoodSize)
            throw new IllegalArgumentException("neighborhood must be smaller than "
                + maxNeighborhoodSize + ", but was " + neighborhood);
    }

    @Override
    public String toString ()
    {
        StringBuilder sb = new StringBuilder();

```

```

    for (int i = 0; i < maxNeighborhoodSize; i++)
        sb.append("tabu list " + (i+1) + ": " + container[i].toString() + "\n");

    return sb.toString();
}
}

```

## A.4 TabuList class

```

package model;

public class TabuList
{
    private double[] tabuList;
    private int length;
    private int pointer = 0;

    public TabuList (int length)
    {
        tabuList = new double[length];
        this.length = length;
    }

    public void reset ()
    {
        for (int j = 0; j < length; j++)
            tabuList[j] = 0.0;
    }

    public void addMove (double value)
    {
        if (contains(value))
            throw new IllegalArgumentException("TabuList for already contains the value: "
                + value);

        tabuList[pointer] = value;
        pointer = (pointer + 1) % length;
    }

    public boolean contains (double value)
    {
        for (int i = 0; i < length; i++)
            if (tabuList[i] == value)
                return true;

        return false;
    }

    @Override

```

*A Source Code*

```
public String toString ()
{
    String s = "{";
    for (Double value : tabuList)
        s += value.toString() + ", ";

    return s = s.substring(0, s.length() - 2) + "}";
}
}
```

## APPENDIX B

---

### Data

---

This chapter contains the data used in the thesis not already giving in the main text.

#### B.1 Significant factors of filling function

	CPU	V	Distance	$a_1$	$a_2$	$a_3$	$a_4$	$a_5$	$a_6$	$a_7$	$a_8$	$a_9$
rc108	188	13	1799.65	0.25	0.25	0.00	0.00	0.25	0.00	0.25	0.00	0.00
rc108	189	13	1799.65	0.20	0.20	0.20	0.00	0.20	0.00	0.20	0.00	0.00
rc108	756	13	1801.26	0.00	0.25	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.25	0.25	0.25
rc108	757	13	1801.26	0.00	0.20	0.20	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.20	0.20	0.20
rc108	153	13	1802.82	0.17	0.00	0.17	0.00	0.17	0.17	0.17	0.00	0.17
rc108	154	13	1802.82	0.20	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.20	0.20	0.20	0.00	0.20
rc108	149	13	1810.01	0.20	0.00	0.00	0.20	0.20	0.20	0.00	0.00	0.20
rc108	149	13	1810.01	0.17	0.00	0.17	0.17	0.17	0.17	0.00	0.00	0.17
rc108	947	13	1818.20	0.00	0.20	0.00	0.20	0.00	0.20	0.20	0.00	0.20
rc108	130	13	1818.97	0.33	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.33	0.00	0.33	0.00	0.00
rc108	130	13	1818.97	0.25	0.00	0.25	0.00	0.25	0.00	0.25	0.00	0.00
rc108	133	13	1818.97	0.33	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.33	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.33
rc108	133	13	1818.97	0.25	0.00	0.25	0.00	0.25	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.25
rc108	134	13	1818.97	0.25	0.00	0.25	0.00	0.25	0.25	0.00	0.00	0.00
rc108	135	13	1818.97	0.33	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.33	0.33	0.00	0.00	0.00
rc108	234	13	1820.95	0.00	0.33	0.33	0.33	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
rc108	196	13	1822.78	0.50	0.00	0.00	0.50	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
rc108	196	13	1822.78	0.33	0.00	0.33	0.33	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
rc108	197	13	1822.78	1.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
rc108	197	13	1822.78	0.50	0.00	0.50	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
rc108	441	13	1826.08	0.00	0.33	0.00	0.33	0.00	0.33	0.00	0.00	0.00
rc108	441	13	1826.08	0.00	0.25	0.25	0.25	0.00	0.25	0.00	0.00	0.00
rc108	155	13	1830.85	0.50	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.50	0.00	0.00	0.00
rc108	155	13	1830.85	0.33	0.00	0.00	0.33	0.00	0.00	0.33	0.00	0.00

*B Data*

rc108	155	13	1830.85	0.25	0.00	0.25	0.25	0.00	0.00	0.25	0.00	0.00
rc108	156	13	1830.85	0.50	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.50	0.00	0.00
rc108	156	13	1830.85	0.33	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.33	0.33	0.00	0.00
rc108	156	13	1830.85	0.25	0.00	0.25	0.00	0.00	0.25	0.25	0.00	0.00
rc108	156	13	1830.85	0.25	0.00	0.00	0.25	0.00	0.25	0.25	0.00	0.00
rc108	156	13	1830.85	0.20	0.00	0.20	0.20	0.00	0.20	0.20	0.00	0.00
rc108	156	13	1830.85	0.50	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.50	0.00
rc108	156	13	1830.85	0.33	0.00	0.33	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.33	0.00
rc108	156	13	1830.85	0.33	0.00	0.00	0.33	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.33	0.00
rc108	156	13	1830.85	0.25	0.00	0.25	0.25	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.25	0.00
rc108	156	13	1830.85	0.33	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.33	0.00	0.33	0.00
rc108	156	13	1830.85	0.25	0.00	0.25	0.00	0.00	0.25	0.00	0.25	0.00
rc108	156	13	1830.85	0.25	0.00	0.00	0.25	0.00	0.25	0.00	0.25	0.00
rc108	156	13	1830.85	0.20	0.00	0.20	0.20	0.00	0.20	0.00	0.20	0.00
rc108	156	13	1830.85	0.33	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.33	0.33	0.00
rc108	156	13	1830.85	0.25	0.00	0.00	0.25	0.00	0.00	0.25	0.25	0.00
rc108	156	13	1830.85	0.20	0.00	0.20	0.20	0.00	0.00	0.20	0.20	0.00
rc108	156	13	1830.85	0.33	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.33	0.00	0.33
rc108	156	13	1830.85	0.25	0.00	0.00	0.25	0.00	0.00	0.25	0.00	0.25
rc108	156	13	1830.85	0.20	0.00	0.20	0.20	0.00	0.00	0.20	0.00	0.20
rc108	157	13	1830.85	0.33	0.00	0.00	0.33	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.33
rc108	157	13	1830.85	0.25	0.00	0.25	0.25	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.25
rc108	157	13	1830.85	0.33	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.33	0.00	0.00	0.33
rc108	157	13	1830.85	0.25	0.00	0.00	0.25	0.00	0.25	0.00	0.00	0.25
rc108	157	13	1830.85	0.25	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.25	0.25	0.00	0.25
rc108	157	13	1830.85	0.20	0.00	0.20	0.00	0.00	0.20	0.20	0.00	0.20
rc108	157	13	1830.85	0.20	0.00	0.00	0.20	0.00	0.20	0.20	0.00	0.20
rc108	157	13	1830.85	0.25	0.00	0.25	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.25	0.25
rc108	158	13	1830.85	0.33	0.00	0.00	0.33	0.00	0.33	0.00	0.00	0.00
rc108	158	13	1830.85	0.25	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.25	0.25	0.25	0.00
rc108	158	13	1830.85	0.20	0.00	0.20	0.00	0.00	0.20	0.20	0.20	0.00
rc108	158	13	1830.85	0.20	0.00	0.00	0.20	0.00	0.20	0.20	0.20	0.00
rc108	158	13	1830.85	0.50	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.50
rc108	158	13	1830.85	0.25	0.00	0.25	0.00	0.00	0.25	0.00	0.00	0.25
rc108	158	13	1830.85	0.20	0.00	0.20	0.20	0.00	0.20	0.00	0.00	0.20
rc108	158	13	1830.85	0.20	0.00	0.20	0.20	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.20	0.20
rc108	158	13	1830.85	0.20	0.00	0.20	0.00	0.00	0.20	0.00	0.20	0.20
rc108	158	13	1830.85	0.20	0.00	0.00	0.20	0.00	0.20	0.00	0.20	0.20
rc108	158	13	1830.85	0.20	0.00	0.20	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.20	0.20	0.20
rc108	158	13	1830.85	0.20	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.20	0.20	0.20	0.20
rc108	159	13	1830.85	0.25	0.00	0.25	0.25	0.00	0.25	0.00	0.00	0.00
rc108	159	13	1830.85	0.20	0.00	0.00	0.20	0.00	0.00	0.20	0.20	0.20
rc108	159	13	1830.85	0.17	0.00	0.00	0.17	0.00	0.17	0.17	0.17	0.17
rc108	159	13	1830.85	0.14	0.00	0.14	0.14	0.00	0.14	0.14	0.14	0.14
rc108	249	13	1834.67	0.00	0.20	0.00	0.00	0.20	0.20	0.00	0.20	0.20
rc108	249	13	1834.67	0.00	0.17	0.17	0.00	0.17	0.17	0.00	0.17	0.17
rc108	686	13	1835.49	0.00	0.25	0.25	0.25	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.25
rc108	136	13	1837.79	0.33	0.00	0.33	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.33	0.00	0.00
rc108	137	13	1837.79	0.25	0.00	0.25	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.25	0.25	0.00
rc108	138	13	1837.79	0.33	0.00	0.33	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.33

B.1 Significant factors of filling function

rc108	138	13	1837.79	0.25	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.25	0.00	0.25	0.25
rc108	139	13	1837.79	0.25	0.00	0.00	0.25	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.25	0.25
rc108	139	13	1837.79	0.25	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.25	0.25	0.25
rc108	252	13	1838.84	0.00	0.33	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.33	0.33
rc108	252	13	1838.84	0.00	0.25	0.25	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.25	0.25
rc108	276	13	1840.59	0.00	0.33	0.33	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.33
rc108	653	13	1841.65	0.00	0.33	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.33	0.33	0.00	0.00
rc108	71	13	1842.17	0.20	0.20	0.20	0.20	0.00	0.00	0.20	0.00	0.00
rc108	71	13	1842.17	0.20	0.20	0.20	0.00	0.00	0.20	0.20	0.00	0.00
rc108	71	13	1842.17	0.20	0.20	0.20	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.20	0.00	0.20
rc108	72	13	1842.17	0.20	0.20	0.20	0.20	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.20
rc108	72	13	1842.17	0.20	0.20	0.20	0.00	0.00	0.20	0.00	0.00	0.20
rc108	72	13	1842.17	0.17	0.17	0.00	0.17	0.00	0.00	0.17	0.17	0.17
rc108	72	13	1842.17	0.17	0.17	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.17	0.17	0.17	0.17
rc108	72	13	1842.17	0.12	0.12	0.12	0.12	0.00	0.12	0.12	0.12	0.12
rc108	73	13	1842.17	0.14	0.14	0.14	0.14	0.00	0.14	0.14	0.14	0.00
rc108	73	13	1842.17	0.14	0.14	0.14	0.14	0.00	0.14	0.00	0.14	0.14
rc108	73	13	1842.17	0.14	0.14	0.14	0.14	0.00	0.00	0.14	0.14	0.14
rc108	73	13	1842.17	0.14	0.14	0.14	0.00	0.00	0.14	0.14	0.14	0.14
rc108	74	13	1842.17	0.14	0.14	0.00	0.14	0.00	0.14	0.14	0.14	0.14
rc108	115	13	1842.17	0.25	0.25	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.25	0.25
rc108	117	13	1842.17	0.25	0.25	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.25	0.00	0.25
rc108	184	13	1842.17	0.33	0.33	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.33	0.00	0.00
rc108	184	13	1842.17	0.25	0.25	0.25	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.25	0.00	0.00
rc108	184	13	1842.17	0.25	0.25	0.00	0.25	0.00	0.00	0.25	0.00	0.00
rc108	184	13	1842.17	0.17	0.17	0.17	0.17	0.00	0.00	0.17	0.17	0.00
rc108	185	13	1842.17	0.25	0.25	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.25	0.25	0.00	0.00
rc108	185	13	1842.17	0.20	0.20	0.00	0.20	0.00	0.20	0.20	0.00	0.00
rc108	185	13	1842.17	0.17	0.17	0.17	0.17	0.00	0.17	0.17	0.00	0.00
rc108	185	13	1842.17	0.33	0.33	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.33	0.00
rc108	185	13	1842.17	0.25	0.25	0.25	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.25	0.00
rc108	185	13	1842.17	0.20	0.20	0.20	0.20	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.20	0.00
rc108	185	13	1842.17	0.25	0.25	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.25	0.00	0.25	0.00
rc108	185	13	1842.17	0.20	0.20	0.20	0.00	0.00	0.20	0.00	0.20	0.00
rc108	185	13	1842.17	0.20	0.20	0.00	0.20	0.00	0.20	0.00	0.20	0.00
rc108	185	13	1842.17	0.17	0.17	0.17	0.17	0.00	0.17	0.00	0.17	0.00
rc108	185	13	1842.17	0.20	0.20	0.00	0.20	0.00	0.00	0.20	0.20	0.00
rc108	185	13	1842.17	0.20	0.20	0.00	0.20	0.00	0.00	0.20	0.00	0.20
rc108	185	13	1842.17	0.17	0.17	0.17	0.17	0.00	0.00	0.17	0.00	0.17
rc108	185	13	1842.17	0.17	0.17	0.17	0.00	0.00	0.17	0.17	0.00	0.17
rc108	186	13	1842.17	0.33	0.33	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.33	0.00	0.00	0.00
rc108	186	13	1842.17	0.25	0.25	0.25	0.00	0.00	0.25	0.00	0.00	0.00
rc108	186	13	1842.17	0.25	0.25	0.00	0.25	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.25	0.00
rc108	186	13	1842.17	0.25	0.25	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.25	0.25	0.00
rc108	186	13	1842.17	0.25	0.25	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.25	0.00	0.00	0.25
rc108	186	13	1842.17	0.17	0.17	0.17	0.17	0.00	0.17	0.00	0.00	0.17
rc108	186	13	1842.17	0.20	0.20	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.20	0.20	0.00	0.20
rc108	186	13	1842.17	0.14	0.14	0.14	0.14	0.00	0.14	0.14	0.00	0.14
rc108	187	13	1842.17	0.20	0.20	0.20	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.20	0.20	0.00
rc108	187	13	1842.17	0.20	0.20	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.20	0.20	0.20	0.00



*B Data*

rc108	187	13	1842.17	0.17	0.17	0.17	0.00	0.00	0.17	0.17	0.17	0.00
rc108	187	13	1842.17	0.25	0.25	0.25	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.25
rc108	187	13	1842.17	0.25	0.25	0.00	0.25	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.25
rc108	187	13	1842.17	0.20	0.20	0.00	0.20	0.00	0.20	0.00	0.00	0.20
rc108	187	13	1842.17	0.17	0.17	0.00	0.17	0.00	0.17	0.17	0.00	0.17
rc108	187	13	1842.17	0.17	0.17	0.17	0.00	0.00	0.17	0.00	0.17	0.17
rc108	187	13	1842.17	0.17	0.17	0.00	0.17	0.00	0.17	0.00	0.17	0.17
rc108	188	13	1842.17	0.17	0.17	0.00	0.17	0.00	0.17	0.17	0.17	0.00
rc108	188	13	1842.17	0.33	0.33	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.33
rc108	188	13	1842.17	0.20	0.20	0.20	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.20	0.20
rc108	188	13	1842.17	0.20	0.20	0.00	0.20	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.20	0.20
rc108	188	13	1842.17	0.17	0.17	0.17	0.17	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.17	0.17
rc108	188	13	1842.17	0.20	0.20	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.20	0.00	0.20	0.20
rc108	188	13	1842.17	0.20	0.20	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.20	0.20	0.20
rc108	188	13	1842.17	0.17	0.17	0.17	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.17	0.17	0.17
rc108	189	13	1842.17	0.25	0.25	0.00	0.25	0.00	0.25	0.00	0.00	0.00
rc108	189	13	1842.17	0.20	0.20	0.20	0.20	0.00	0.20	0.00	0.00	0.00
rc108	198	13	1844.00	0.20	0.20	0.20	0.00	0.20	0.20	0.00	0.00	0.00
rc108	199	13	1844.00	0.25	0.25	0.00	0.00	0.25	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.25
rc108	199	13	1844.00	0.20	0.20	0.20	0.00	0.20	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.20
rc108	201	13	1844.00	0.25	0.25	0.00	0.00	0.25	0.25	0.00	0.00	0.00
rc108	748	13	1844.08	0.00	0.20	0.20	0.20	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.20	0.20
rc108	849	13	1844.08	0.00	0.20	0.20	0.20	0.00	0.20	0.00	0.20	0.00
rc108	482	13	1845.41	0.00	0.17	0.00	0.17	0.17	0.17	0.00	0.17	0.17
rc108	482	13	1845.41	0.00	0.14	0.14	0.14	0.14	0.14	0.00	0.14	0.14
rc108	199	13	1848.25	0.00	0.20	0.00	0.20	0.20	0.20	0.00	0.00	0.20
rc108	206	13	1848.25	0.00	0.17	0.17	0.17	0.17	0.17	0.00	0.00	0.17
rc108	128	13	1852.11	0.14	0.00	0.00	0.14	0.14	0.14	0.14	0.14	0.14
rc108	129	13	1852.11	0.12	0.00	0.12	0.12	0.12	0.12	0.12	0.12	0.12
rc108	179	13	1854.15	0.25	0.00	0.25	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.25	0.00	0.25
rc108	180	13	1854.15	0.33	0.00	0.33	0.00	0.00	0.33	0.00	0.00	0.00
rc108	180	13	1854.15	0.17	0.00	0.17	0.17	0.00	0.17	0.17	0.17	0.00
rc108	180	13	1854.15	0.33	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.33	0.33
rc108	180	13	1854.15	0.17	0.00	0.17	0.17	0.00	0.00	0.17	0.17	0.17
rc108	181	13	1854.15	0.17	0.00	0.17	0.17	0.00	0.17	0.00	0.17	0.17
rc108	182	13	1854.15	0.17	0.00	0.17	0.17	0.00	0.17	0.17	0.00	0.17
rc108	182	13	1854.15	0.17	0.00	0.17	0.00	0.00	0.17	0.17	0.17	0.17
rc108	774	14	1857.36	0.00	0.20	0.00	0.20	0.00	0.20	0.20	0.20	0.00
rc108	777	14	1857.36	0.00	0.17	0.17	0.17	0.00	0.17	0.17	0.17	0.00
rc108	778	14	1857.36	0.00	0.20	0.00	0.20	0.00	0.00	0.20	0.20	0.20
rc108	779	14	1857.36	0.00	0.17	0.17	0.17	0.00	0.00	0.17	0.17	0.17
rc108	991	14	1858.35	0.00	0.17	0.17	0.00	0.00	0.17	0.17	0.17	0.17
rc108	534	13	1859.81	0.00	0.33	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.33	0.33	0.00
rc108	534	13	1859.81	0.00	0.25	0.25	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.25	0.25	0.00
rc108	617	13	1859.81	0.00	0.25	0.25	0.00	0.00	0.25	0.25	0.00	0.00
rc108	665	13	1859.81	0.00	0.50	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.50	0.00	0.00
rc108	1086	13	1859.81	0.00	0.33	0.33	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.33	0.00	0.00
rc108	760	13	1859.97	0.00	0.20	0.00	0.00	0.20	0.20	0.20	0.00	0.20
rc108	764	13	1859.97	0.00	0.17	0.17	0.00	0.17	0.17	0.17	0.00	0.17
rc108	928	13	1859.97	0.00	0.14	0.14	0.00	0.14	0.14	0.14	0.14	0.14

B.1 Significant factors of filling function

rc108	929	13	1859.97	0.00	0.17	0.00	0.00	0.17	0.17	0.17	0.17	0.17
rc108	317	13	1865.12	0.00	0.33	0.00	0.00	0.33	0.00	0.00	0.33	0.00
rc108	317	13	1865.12	0.00	0.25	0.25	0.00	0.25	0.00	0.00	0.25	0.00
rc108	278	13	1866.11	0.00	0.25	0.00	0.00	0.25	0.00	0.25	0.25	0.00
rc108	279	13	1866.11	0.00	0.25	0.00	0.25	0.25	0.00	0.00	0.25	0.00
rc108	279	13	1866.11	0.00	0.20	0.20	0.20	0.20	0.00	0.00	0.20	0.00
rc108	282	13	1866.11	0.00	0.20	0.20	0.00	0.20	0.00	0.20	0.20	0.00
rc108	957	14	1866.55	0.00	0.20	0.20	0.20	0.20	0.00	0.20	0.00	0.00
rc108	958	14	1866.55	0.00	0.25	0.00	0.25	0.25	0.00	0.25	0.00	0.00
rc108	292	13	1867.64	0.00	0.33	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.33	0.00	0.33	0.00
rc108	292	13	1867.64	0.00	0.25	0.25	0.00	0.00	0.25	0.00	0.25	0.00
rc108	295	13	1867.64	0.00	0.25	0.25	0.00	0.00	0.25	0.00	0.00	0.25
rc108	122	13	1868.25	0.25	0.25	0.25	0.00	0.25	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
rc108	123	13	1868.25	0.33	0.33	0.00	0.00	0.33	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
rc108	483	13	1868.44	0.00	0.50	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.50
rc108	165	13	1868.75	0.50	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.50	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
rc108	167	13	1868.75	0.33	0.00	0.33	0.00	0.33	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
rc108	191	13	1868.83	0.00	0.50	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.50	0.00
rc108	191	13	1868.83	0.00	0.33	0.33	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.33	0.00
rc108	113	14	1869.28	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.25	0.25	0.25	0.25	0.00
rc108	113	14	1869.28	0.00	0.00	0.20	0.00	0.20	0.20	0.20	0.20	0.00
rc108	132	13	1870.01	0.14	0.14	0.00	0.14	0.14	0.14	0.14	0.14	0.00
rc108	132	13	1870.01	0.12	0.12	0.12	0.12	0.12	0.12	0.12	0.12	0.00
rc108	132	13	1870.01	0.14	0.14	0.00	0.14	0.14	0.14	0.00	0.14	0.14
rc108	132	13	1870.01	0.12	0.12	0.12	0.12	0.12	0.12	0.00	0.12	0.12
rc108	132	13	1870.01	0.14	0.14	0.00	0.14	0.14	0.00	0.14	0.14	0.14
rc108	132	13	1870.01	0.12	0.12	0.12	0.12	0.12	0.00	0.12	0.12	0.12
rc108	132	13	1870.01	0.14	0.14	0.00	0.00	0.14	0.14	0.14	0.14	0.14
rc108	132	13	1870.01	0.12	0.12	0.12	0.00	0.12	0.12	0.12	0.12	0.12
rc108	145	13	1870.01	0.17	0.17	0.00	0.17	0.17	0.17	0.17	0.00	0.00
rc108	145	13	1870.01	0.14	0.14	0.14	0.14	0.14	0.14	0.14	0.00	0.00
rc108	146	13	1870.01	0.17	0.17	0.00	0.17	0.17	0.17	0.00	0.00	0.17
rc108	146	13	1870.01	0.17	0.17	0.00	0.17	0.17	0.00	0.17	0.00	0.17
rc108	146	13	1870.01	0.17	0.17	0.00	0.00	0.17	0.17	0.17	0.00	0.17
rc108	147	13	1870.01	0.14	0.14	0.14	0.14	0.14	0.14	0.00	0.00	0.14
rc108	147	13	1870.01	0.14	0.14	0.14	0.14	0.14	0.00	0.14	0.00	0.14
rc108	147	13	1870.01	0.14	0.14	0.14	0.00	0.14	0.14	0.14	0.00	0.14
rc108	178	13	1870.01	0.17	0.17	0.17	0.17	0.17	0.17	0.00	0.00	0.00
rc108	179	13	1870.01	0.20	0.20	0.00	0.20	0.20	0.00	0.20	0.00	0.00
rc108	179	13	1870.01	0.17	0.17	0.17	0.17	0.17	0.00	0.17	0.00	0.00
rc108	179	13	1870.01	0.20	0.20	0.00	0.00	0.20	0.20	0.20	0.00	0.00
rc108	179	13	1870.01	0.17	0.17	0.17	0.00	0.17	0.17	0.17	0.00	0.00
rc108	179	13	1870.01	0.17	0.17	0.00	0.17	0.17	0.17	0.00	0.17	0.00
rc108	179	13	1870.01	0.14	0.14	0.14	0.14	0.14	0.14	0.00	0.14	0.00
rc108	179	13	1870.01	0.17	0.17	0.17	0.00	0.17	0.17	0.00	0.00	0.17
rc108	179	13	1870.01	0.20	0.20	0.00	0.00	0.20	0.00	0.20	0.00	0.20
rc108	179	13	1870.01	0.17	0.17	0.17	0.00	0.17	0.00	0.17	0.00	0.17
rc108	180	13	1870.01	0.20	0.20	0.00	0.20	0.20	0.20	0.00	0.00	0.00
rc108	180	13	1870.01	0.14	0.14	0.14	0.14	0.14	0.00	0.14	0.14	0.00
rc108	180	13	1870.01	0.17	0.17	0.00	0.00	0.17	0.17	0.17	0.17	0.00

*B Data*

rc108	180	13	1870.01	0.20	0.20	0.00	0.20	0.20	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.20
rc108	180	13	1870.01	0.17	0.17	0.17	0.17	0.17	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.17
rc108	180	13	1870.01	0.20	0.20	0.00	0.00	0.20	0.20	0.00	0.00	0.20
rc108	181	13	1870.01	0.17	0.17	0.00	0.17	0.17	0.00	0.17	0.17	0.00
rc108	181	13	1870.01	0.14	0.14	0.14	0.00	0.14	0.14	0.14	0.14	0.00
rc108	181	13	1870.01	0.14	0.14	0.14	0.14	0.14	0.00	0.00	0.14	0.14
rc108	181	13	1870.01	0.17	0.17	0.00	0.00	0.17	0.17	0.00	0.17	0.17
rc108	181	13	1870.01	0.14	0.14	0.14	0.00	0.14	0.14	0.00	0.14	0.14
rc108	181	13	1870.01	0.17	0.17	0.00	0.00	0.17	0.00	0.17	0.17	0.17
rc108	181	13	1870.01	0.14	0.14	0.14	0.00	0.14	0.00	0.14	0.14	0.14
rc108	182	13	1870.01	0.17	0.17	0.00	0.17	0.17	0.00	0.00	0.17	0.17
rc108	169	13	1870.51	0.20	0.20	0.20	0.20	0.20	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
rc108	600	13	1871.22	0.00	0.17	0.00	0.17	0.17	0.17	0.17	0.00	0.17
rc108	603	13	1871.22	0.00	0.14	0.14	0.14	0.14	0.14	0.14	0.00	0.14
rc108	149	13	1871.98	0.00	0.50	0.00	0.00	0.50	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
rc108	150	13	1871.98	0.00	0.33	0.33	0.00	0.33	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
rc108	307	13	1873.39	0.00	0.33	0.00	0.00	0.33	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.33
rc108	307	13	1873.39	0.00	0.25	0.25	0.00	0.25	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.25
rc108	136	13	1873.59	0.33	0.33	0.33	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
rc108	136	13	1873.59	0.25	0.25	0.25	0.25	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
rc108	137	13	1873.59	0.50	0.50	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
rc108	137	13	1873.59	0.33	0.33	0.00	0.33	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
rc108	558	14	1874.66	0.00	0.14	0.14	0.14	0.14	0.14	0.14	0.14	0.00
rc108	560	14	1874.66	0.00	0.17	0.00	0.17	0.17	0.17	0.17	0.17	0.00
rc108	892	14	1874.66	0.00	0.12	0.12	0.12	0.12	0.12	0.12	0.12	0.12
rc108	893	14	1874.66	0.00	0.14	0.00	0.14	0.14	0.14	0.14	0.14	0.14
rc108	781	13	1876.62	0.00	0.20	0.20	0.00	0.00	0.20	0.20	0.00	0.20
rc108	155	13	1877.17	0.20	0.00	0.00	0.20	0.20	0.00	0.20	0.00	0.20
rc108	167	13	1877.17	0.17	0.00	0.17	0.17	0.17	0.00	0.17	0.00	0.17
rc108	147	13	1877.63	0.25	0.00	0.25	0.25	0.25	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
rc108	152	13	1877.63	0.25	0.00	0.25	0.25	0.25	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
rc108	865	13	1877.99	0.00	0.20	0.00	0.20	0.20	0.00	0.20	0.00	0.20
rc108	886	13	1877.99	0.00	0.17	0.17	0.17	0.17	0.00	0.17	0.00	0.17
rc108	598	13	1881.51	0.00	0.25	0.25	0.00	0.25	0.25	0.00	0.00	0.00
rc108	605	13	1881.51	0.00	0.33	0.00	0.00	0.33	0.33	0.00	0.00	0.00
rc108	1181	13	1881.83	0.00	0.20	0.20	0.20	0.00	0.20	0.00	0.00	0.20
rc108	924	14	1882.95	0.00	0.20	0.00	0.20	0.20	0.00	0.20	0.20	0.00
rc108	924	14	1882.95	0.00	0.17	0.17	0.17	0.17	0.00	0.17	0.17	0.00
rc108	1012	13	1883.76	0.00	0.17	0.17	0.17	0.00	0.17	0.17	0.00	0.17
rc108	600	13	1883.8	0.00	0.17	0.00	0.17	0.00	0.17	0.17	0.17	0.17
rc108	600	13	1883.8	0.00	0.14	0.14	0.14	0.00	0.14	0.14	0.14	0.14
rc108	141	13	1884.77	0.17	0.00	0.00	0.17	0.17	0.00	0.17	0.17	0.17
rc108	141	13	1884.77	0.14	0.00	0.14	0.14	0.14	0.00	0.14	0.14	0.14
rc108	326	13	1885.89	0.00	0.20	0.00	0.00	0.20	0.00	0.20	0.20	0.20
rc108	326	13	1885.89	0.00	0.17	0.17	0.00	0.17	0.00	0.17	0.17	0.17
rc108	403	13	1886.97	0.20	0.20	0.00	0.00	0.20	0.20	0.00	0.20	0.00
rc108	403	13	1886.97	0.17	0.17	0.17	0.00	0.17	0.17	0.00	0.17	0.00
rc108	404	13	1886.97	0.20	0.20	0.00	0.20	0.20	0.00	0.00	0.20	0.00
rc108	404	13	1886.97	0.17	0.17	0.17	0.17	0.17	0.00	0.00	0.17	0.00
rc108	407	13	1886.97	0.17	0.17	0.17	0.00	0.17	0.00	0.17	0.17	0.00

B.1 Significant factors of filling function

rc108	409	13	1886.97	0.20	0.20	0.00	0.00	0.20	0.00	0.20	0.20	0.00
rc108	409	13	1886.97	0.20	0.20	0.00	0.00	0.20	0.00	0.00	0.20	0.20
rc108	409	13	1886.97	0.17	0.17	0.17	0.00	0.17	0.00	0.00	0.17	0.17
rc108	332	13	1889.31	0.17	0.00	0.00	0.17	0.17	0.17	0.00	0.17	0.17
rc108	332	13	1889.31	0.14	0.00	0.14	0.14	0.14	0.14	0.00	0.14	0.14
rc108	156	13	1889.91	0.00	0.25	0.00	0.25	0.25	0.25	0.00	0.00	0.00
rc108	156	13	1889.91	0.00	0.25	0.00	0.00	0.25	0.25	0.25	0.00	0.00
rc108	156	13	1889.91	0.00	0.20	0.20	0.00	0.20	0.20	0.20	0.00	0.00
rc108	156	13	1889.91	0.00	0.25	0.00	0.00	0.25	0.00	0.25	0.00	0.25
rc108	156	13	1889.91	0.00	0.20	0.20	0.00	0.20	0.00	0.20	0.00	0.20
rc108	157	13	1889.91	0.00	0.25	0.00	0.25	0.25	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.25
rc108	157	13	1889.91	0.00	0.20	0.20	0.20	0.20	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.20
rc108	158	13	1889.91	0.00	0.20	0.20	0.20	0.20	0.20	0.00	0.00	0.00
rc108	283	13	1889.91	0.00	0.20	0.20	0.00	0.20	0.20	0.00	0.00	0.20
rc108	285	13	1889.91	0.00	0.25	0.00	0.00	0.25	0.25	0.00	0.00	0.25
rc108	581	13	1889.91	0.00	0.20	0.00	0.20	0.20	0.20	0.00	0.20	0.00
rc108	581	13	1889.91	0.00	0.17	0.17	0.17	0.17	0.17	0.00	0.17	0.00
rc108	586	13	1889.91	0.00	0.17	0.17	0.00	0.17	0.17	0.17	0.17	0.00
rc108	587	13	1889.91	0.00	0.20	0.00	0.00	0.20	0.20	0.20	0.20	0.00
rc108	588	13	1889.91	0.00	0.20	0.00	0.20	0.20	0.00	0.00	0.20	0.20
rc108	589	13	1889.91	0.00	0.17	0.17	0.17	0.17	0.00	0.00	0.17	0.17
rc108	105	14	1891.09	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.50	0.00	0.50	0.00	0.00
rc108	207	14	1891.09	0.00	0.00	0.33	0.00	0.33	0.00	0.33	0.00	0.00
rc108	228	13	1891.27	0.00	0.50	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.50	0.00	0.00	0.00
rc108	416	13	1892.19	0.00	0.33	0.00	0.00	0.33	0.00	0.33	0.00	0.00
rc108	417	13	1892.19	0.00	0.25	0.25	0.00	0.25	0.00	0.25	0.00	0.00
rc108	248	13	1892.75	0.00	0.50	0.00	0.50	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
rc108	244	13	1896.74	0.00	1.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
rc108	372	13	1896.74	0.00	0.50	0.50	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
rc108	121	13	1898.72	0.17	0.00	0.17	0.17	0.17	0.17	0.17	0.00	0.00
rc108	122	13	1898.72	0.20	0.00	0.00	0.20	0.20	0.20	0.20	0.00	0.00
rc108	123	13	1898.72	0.17	0.00	0.00	0.17	0.17	0.17	0.17	0.17	0.00
rc108	123	13	1898.72	0.14	0.00	0.14	0.14	0.14	0.14	0.14	0.14	0.00
rc108	459	13	1900.07	0.00	0.20	0.20	0.20	0.00	0.20	0.20	0.00	0.00
rc108	265	13	1900.19	0.00	0.33	0.33	0.00	0.00	0.33	0.00	0.00	0.00
rc108	601	13	1903.00	0.00	0.25	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.25	0.25	0.25	0.00
rc108	601	13	1903.00	0.00	0.20	0.20	0.00	0.00	0.20	0.20	0.20	0.00
rc108	603	13	1903.00	0.00	0.20	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.20	0.20	0.20	0.20
rc108	141	13	1904.22	0.00	0.25	0.00	0.00	0.25	0.00	0.00	0.25	0.25
rc108	142	13	1904.22	0.00	0.20	0.20	0.00	0.20	0.00	0.00	0.20	0.20
rc108	742	14	1905.15	0.00	0.25	0.00	0.25	0.00	0.25	0.25	0.00	0.00
rc108	877	13	1907.66	0.00	0.17	0.17	0.17	0.17	0.17	0.17	0.00	0.00
rc108	880	13	1907.66	0.00	0.20	0.00	0.20	0.20	0.20	0.20	0.00	0.00
rc108	624	13	1908.79	0.00	0.25	0.00	0.25	0.00	0.25	0.00	0.00	0.25
rc108	107	13	1912.37	0.20	0.00	0.00	0.20	0.20	0.20	0.00	0.20	0.00
rc108	107	13	1912.37	0.17	0.00	0.17	0.17	0.17	0.17	0.00	0.17	0.00
rc108	107	13	1912.37	0.20	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.20	0.20	0.20	0.20	0.00
rc108	108	13	1912.37	0.20	0.00	0.00	0.20	0.20	0.00	0.20	0.20	0.00
rc108	108	13	1912.37	0.17	0.00	0.17	0.17	0.17	0.00	0.17	0.17	0.00
rc108	108	13	1912.37	0.17	0.00	0.17	0.00	0.17	0.17	0.17	0.17	0.00

*B Data*

rc108	108	13	1912.37	0.20	0.00	0.00	0.20	0.20	0.00	0.00	0.20	0.20
rc108	108	13	1912.37	0.17	0.00	0.17	0.17	0.17	0.00	0.00	0.17	0.17
rc108	108	13	1912.37	0.17	0.00	0.17	0.00	0.17	0.00	0.17	0.17	0.17
rc108	109	13	1912.37	0.20	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.20	0.00	0.20	0.20	0.20
rc108	113	14	1912.73	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.50	0.00	0.00	0.50	0.00
rc108	521	13	1913.23	0.00	0.20	0.00	0.20	0.00	0.20	0.00	0.20	0.20
rc108	1085	13	1913.23	0.00	0.17	0.17	0.17	0.00	0.17	0.00	0.17	0.17
rc108	1211	13	1913.23	0.00	0.25	0.00	0.25	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.25	0.25
rc108	1268	13	1913.23	0.00	0.25	0.00	0.25	0.00	0.25	0.00	0.25	0.00
rc108	112	13	1913.72	0.14	0.14	0.00	0.14	0.14	0.14	0.14	0.00	0.14
rc108	112	13	1913.72	0.12	0.12	0.12	0.12	0.12	0.12	0.12	0.00	0.12
rc108	112	13	1913.72	0.12	0.12	0.00	0.12	0.12	0.12	0.12	0.12	0.12
rc108	112	13	1913.72	0.11	0.11	0.11	0.11	0.11	0.11	0.11	0.11	0.11
rc108	810	14	1913.95	0.00	0.25	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.25	0.25	0.00	0.25
rc108	110	13	1917.52	0.25	0.00	0.00	0.25	0.25	0.00	0.25	0.00	0.00
rc108	110	13	1917.52	0.25	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.25	0.00	0.25	0.00	0.25
rc108	111	13	1917.52	0.25	0.00	0.00	0.25	0.25	0.25	0.00	0.00	0.00
rc108	111	13	1917.52	0.20	0.00	0.20	0.20	0.20	0.00	0.20	0.00	0.00
rc108	111	13	1917.52	0.25	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.25	0.25	0.25	0.00	0.00
rc108	111	13	1917.52	0.20	0.00	0.20	0.00	0.20	0.20	0.20	0.00	0.00
rc108	111	13	1917.52	0.25	0.00	0.00	0.25	0.25	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.25
rc108	111	13	1917.52	0.25	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.25	0.25	0.00	0.00	0.25
rc108	111	13	1917.52	0.20	0.00	0.20	0.00	0.20	0.20	0.00	0.00	0.20
rc108	111	13	1917.52	0.20	0.00	0.20	0.00	0.20	0.00	0.20	0.00	0.20
rc108	112	13	1917.52	0.20	0.00	0.20	0.20	0.20	0.20	0.00	0.00	0.00
rc108	112	13	1917.52	0.20	0.00	0.20	0.20	0.20	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.20
rc108	137	13	1917.52	0.17	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.17	0.17	0.17	0.17	0.17
rc108	137	13	1917.52	0.14	0.00	0.14	0.00	0.14	0.14	0.14	0.14	0.14
rc108	143	13	1917.52	0.20	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.20	0.20	0.00	0.20	0.20
rc108	143	13	1917.52	0.17	0.00	0.17	0.00	0.17	0.17	0.00	0.17	0.17
rc108	285	13	1917.52	0.14	0.00	0.14	0.14	0.14	0.14	0.14	0.00	0.14
rc108	287	13	1917.52	0.17	0.00	0.00	0.17	0.17	0.17	0.17	0.00	0.17
rc108	96	13	1918.07	0.33	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.33	0.00	0.00	0.33	0.00
rc108	96	13	1918.07	0.25	0.00	0.25	0.00	0.25	0.00	0.00	0.25	0.00
rc108	103	13	1918.07	0.25	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.25	0.00	0.25	0.25	0.00
rc108	104	13	1918.07	0.25	0.00	0.00	0.25	0.25	0.00	0.00	0.25	0.00
rc108	104	13	1918.07	0.20	0.00	0.20	0.20	0.20	0.00	0.00	0.20	0.00
rc108	104	13	1918.07	0.25	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.25	0.25	0.00	0.25	0.00
rc108	104	13	1918.07	0.20	0.00	0.20	0.00	0.20	0.20	0.00	0.20	0.00
rc108	105	13	1918.07	0.20	0.00	0.20	0.00	0.20	0.00	0.20	0.20	0.00
rc108	105	13	1918.07	0.25	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.25	0.00	0.00	0.25	0.25
rc108	105	13	1918.07	0.20	0.00	0.20	0.00	0.20	0.00	0.00	0.20	0.20
rc108	118	13	1919.26	0.25	0.25	0.00	0.00	0.25	0.00	0.00	0.25	0.00
rc108	118	13	1919.26	0.20	0.20	0.20	0.00	0.20	0.00	0.00	0.20	0.00
rc108	706	13	1920.10	0.00	0.17	0.00	0.17	0.17	0.00	0.17	0.17	0.17
rc108	707	13	1920.10	0.00	0.14	0.14	0.14	0.14	0.00	0.14	0.14	0.14
rc108	141	14	1920.50	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.33	0.00	0.33	0.33	0.00
rc108	143	14	1920.50	0.00	0.00	0.25	0.00	0.25	0.00	0.25	0.25	0.00
rc108	500	13	1920.52	0.00	0.25	0.25	0.25	0.00	0.00	0.25	0.00	0.00
rc108	540	13	1920.52	0.00	0.33	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.33	0.00	0.33

B.1 Significant factors of filling function

rc108	541	13	1920.52	0.00	0.25	0.25	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.25	0.00	0.25
rc108	591	13	1920.52	0.00	0.33	0.00	0.33	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.33
rc108	647	13	1920.52	0.00	0.33	0.00	0.33	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.33	0.00
rc108	647	13	1920.52	0.00	0.25	0.25	0.25	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.25	0.00
rc108	709	13	1920.52	0.00	0.20	0.20	0.20	0.00	0.00	0.20	0.00	0.20
rc108	731	13	1920.52	0.00	0.20	0.20	0.20	0.00	0.00	0.20	0.20	0.00
rc108	732	13	1920.52	0.00	0.33	0.00	0.33	0.00	0.00	0.33	0.00	0.00
rc108	736	13	1920.52	0.00	0.25	0.00	0.25	0.00	0.00	0.25	0.25	0.00
rc108	1004	13	1920.52	0.00	0.25	0.00	0.25	0.00	0.00	0.25	0.00	0.25
rc108	556	13	1923.98	0.00	0.33	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.33	0.00	0.00	0.33
rc108	247	14	1924.99	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.50	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.50
rc108	248	14	1924.99	0.00	0.00	0.33	0.00	0.33	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.33
rc108	189	14	1925.64	0.00	0.00	0.25	0.00	0.25	0.25	0.00	0.25	0.00
rc108	817	13	1926.75	0.00	0.20	0.20	0.00	0.00	0.20	0.00	0.20	0.20
rc108	818	13	1926.75	0.00	0.25	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.25	0.00	0.25	0.25
rc108	134	14	1935.59	0.00	0.00	0.33	0.33	0.33	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
rc108	138	13	1936.82	0.00	0.25	0.00	0.00	0.25	0.25	0.00	0.25	0.00
rc108	138	13	1936.82	0.00	0.20	0.20	0.00	0.20	0.20	0.00	0.20	0.00
rc108	880	13	1936.82	0.00	0.25	0.25	0.25	0.25	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
rc108	189	14	1947.98	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.33	0.33	0.00	0.33	0.00
rc108	85	14	1954.16	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.50	0.00	0.00	0.50
rc108	64	14	1957.65	0.00	0.00	0.33	0.00	0.00	0.33	0.00	0.33	0.00
rc108	69	14	1957.65	0.00	0.00	0.33	0.00	0.00	0.33	0.00	0.00	0.33
rc108	91	14	1957.65	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.50	0.00	0.50	0.00
rc108	182	14	1965.05	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.25	0.25	0.00	0.25	0.25
rc108	182	14	1965.05	0.00	0.00	0.20	0.00	0.20	0.20	0.00	0.20	0.20
rc108	174	14	1977.35	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.50	0.50	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
rc108	116	14	1978.29	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.20	0.20	0.20	0.20	0.20
rc108	107	15	1986.20	0.00	0.00	0.17	0.17	0.17	0.17	0.00	0.17	0.17
rc108	145	14	1991.67	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.20	0.20	0.20	0.00	0.20	0.20
rc108	107	14	1995.62	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.25	0.25	0.00	0.00	0.25	0.25
rc108	107	14	1995.62	0.00	0.00	0.20	0.20	0.20	0.00	0.00	0.20	0.20
rc108	88	14	1997.71	0.00	0.00	0.17	0.00	0.17	0.17	0.17	0.17	0.17
rc108	400	14	1998.94	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.33	0.33	0.00	0.00	0.33
rc108	65	14	1999.26	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.33	0.33	0.33	0.00	0.00	0.00
rc108	65	14	1999.26	0.00	0.00	0.25	0.25	0.25	0.25	0.00	0.00	0.00
rc108	84	14	1999.26	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.25	0.25	0.25	0.00	0.25	0.00
rc108	84	14	1999.26	0.00	0.00	0.20	0.20	0.20	0.20	0.00	0.20	0.00
rc108	99	14	1999.26	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.33	0.33	0.33	0.00	0.00
rc108	100	14	1999.26	0.00	0.00	0.25	0.00	0.25	0.25	0.25	0.00	0.00
rc108	101	14	1999.26	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.20	0.20	0.20	0.20	0.20	0.00
rc108	102	14	1999.26	0.00	0.00	0.17	0.17	0.17	0.17	0.17	0.17	0.00
rc108	179	15	2000.58	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	1.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
rc108	183	15	2000.58	0.00	0.00	0.50	0.00	0.50	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
rc108	135	14	2005.52	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.50	0.50	0.00	0.00	0.00
rc108	136	14	2005.52	0.00	0.00	0.33	0.00	0.33	0.33	0.00	0.00	0.00
rc108	64	14	2006.10	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	1.00
rc108	116	14	2006.75	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.25	0.00	0.25	0.25	0.25
rc108	155	15	2011.15	0.00	0.00	0.25	0.00	0.25	0.25	0.00	0.00	0.25
rc108	113	14	2043.96	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.33	0.00	0.00	0.33	0.33

*B Data*

rc108	114	14	2043.96	0.00	0.00	0.25	0.00	0.25	0.00	0.00	0.25	0.25
rc108	86	15	2052.47	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.25	0.25	0.25	0.00	0.00	0.25
rc108	144	15	2052.47	0.00	0.00	0.20	0.20	0.20	0.20	0.00	0.00	0.20
rc108	198	15	2052.47	0.00	0.00	0.20	0.00	0.20	0.20	0.20	0.00	0.20
rc108	199	15	2052.47	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.25	0.25	0.25	0.00	0.25
rc108	34	15	2054.75	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.50	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.50
rc108	44	15	2054.75	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.33	0.00	0.00	0.33	0.00	0.33
rc108	48	15	2054.75	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.25	0.00	0.00	0.25	0.25	0.25
rc108	48	15	2054.75	0.00	0.00	0.20	0.20	0.00	0.00	0.20	0.20	0.20
rc108	49	15	2054.75	0.00	0.00	0.25	0.25	0.00	0.00	0.25	0.00	0.25
rc108	51	15	2054.75	0.00	0.00	0.33	0.33	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.33
rc108	49	15	2059.23	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.50	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.50	0.00
rc108	58	15	2059.23	0.00	0.00	0.33	0.33	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.33	0.00
rc108	44	15	2059.74	0.00	0.00	0.20	0.20	0.00	0.20	0.20	0.00	0.20
rc108	45	15	2059.74	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.25	0.00	0.25	0.25	0.00	0.25
rc108	50	15	2059.74	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.20	0.00	0.20	0.20	0.20	0.20
rc108	50	15	2059.74	0.00	0.00	0.17	0.17	0.00	0.17	0.17	0.17	0.17
rc108	54	15	2059.74	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.33	0.00	0.33	0.00	0.00	0.33
rc108	54	15	2059.74	0.00	0.00	0.25	0.25	0.00	0.25	0.00	0.00	0.25
rc108	46	15	2061.28	0.00	0.00	0.33	0.00	0.00	0.33	0.33	0.00	0.00
rc108	50	15	2061.28	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.50	0.50	0.00	0.00
rc108	64	15	2061.28	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	1.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
rc108	68	15	2061.28	0.00	0.00	0.50	0.00	0.00	0.50	0.00	0.00	0.00
rc108	157	15	2063.98	0.00	0.00	0.20	0.00	0.20	0.00	0.20	0.20	0.20
rc108	219	14	2064.29	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.33	0.33	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.33
rc108	219	14	2064.29	0.00	0.00	0.25	0.25	0.25	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.25
rc108	42	15	2064.48	0.00	0.00	1.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
rc108	45	15	2066.18	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.33	0.00	0.33	0.33	0.00	0.00
rc108	48	15	2066.18	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.25	0.00	0.25	0.25	0.25	0.00
rc108	49	15	2066.18	0.00	0.00	0.25	0.25	0.00	0.25	0.25	0.00	0.00
rc108	65	15	2066.18	0.00	0.00	0.20	0.20	0.00	0.20	0.20	0.20	0.00
rc108	40	15	2067.44	0.00	0.00	0.00	1.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
rc108	41	15	2067.44	0.00	0.00	0.33	0.33	0.00	0.00	0.33	0.00	0.00
rc108	42	15	2067.44	0.00	0.00	0.50	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.50	0.00	0.00
rc108	44	15	2067.44	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.50	0.00	0.00	0.50	0.00	0.00
rc108	47	15	2067.44	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	1.00	0.00	0.00
rc108	48	15	2067.44	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.33	0.33	0.00	0.33	0.00	0.00
rc108	49	15	2067.44	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.33	0.00	0.00	0.33	0.33	0.00
rc108	49	15	2067.44	0.00	0.00	0.25	0.25	0.00	0.00	0.25	0.25	0.00
rc108	63	15	2067.44	0.00	0.00	0.25	0.25	0.25	0.00	0.25	0.00	0.00
rc108	67	15	2067.44	0.00	0.00	0.50	0.50	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
rc108	68	15	2067.44	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.25	0.25	0.00	0.25	0.25	0.00
rc108	68	15	2067.44	0.00	0.00	0.20	0.20	0.20	0.00	0.20	0.20	0.00
rc108	93	15	2067.44	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.33	0.33	0.00	0.00	0.33	0.00
rc108	93	15	2067.44	0.00	0.00	0.25	0.25	0.25	0.00	0.00	0.25	0.00
rc108	43	15	2071.37	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.25	0.25	0.25	0.25
rc108	44	15	2071.37	0.00	0.00	0.20	0.00	0.00	0.20	0.20	0.20	0.20
rc108	53	15	2071.37	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.33	0.33	0.00	0.33
rc108	53	15	2071.37	0.00	0.00	0.25	0.00	0.00	0.25	0.25	0.00	0.25
rc108	54	15	2071.37	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.25	0.00	0.25	0.00	0.25	0.25

rc108	54	15	2071.37	0.00	0.00	0.20	0.20	0.00	0.20	0.00	0.20	0.20
rc108	43	15	2076.10	0.00	0.00	0.25	0.00	0.00	0.25	0.25	0.25	0.00
rc108	44	15	2076.10	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.50	0.00	0.50
rc108	45	15	2076.10	0.00	0.00	0.33	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.33	0.00	0.33
rc108	46	15	2076.10	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.33	0.33	0.33	0.00
rc108	47	15	2076.10	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.50	0.50	0.00
rc108	47	15	2076.10	0.00	0.00	0.33	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.33	0.33	0.00
rc108	52	15	2076.10	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.33	0.00	0.33	0.00	0.33	0.00
rc108	52	15	2076.10	0.00	0.00	0.25	0.25	0.00	0.25	0.00	0.25	0.00
rc108	62	15	2076.10	0.00	0.00	0.20	0.20	0.20	0.00	0.20	0.00	0.20
rc108	62	15	2076.10	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.33	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.33	0.33
rc108	63	15	2076.10	0.00	0.00	0.25	0.25	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.25	0.25
rc108	73	15	2076.10	0.00	0.00	0.25	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.25	0.25	0.25
rc108	74	15	2076.10	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.33	0.33	0.33
rc108	75	15	2076.10	0.00	0.00	0.50	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.50
rc108	77	15	2076.10	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.50	0.50
rc108	77	15	2076.10	0.00	0.00	0.33	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.33	0.33
rc108	77	15	2076.10	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.33	0.00	0.33	0.33
rc108	77	15	2076.10	0.00	0.00	0.25	0.00	0.00	0.25	0.00	0.25	0.25
rc108	78	15	2076.10	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.17	0.17	0.17	0.17	0.17	0.17
rc108	78	15	2076.10	0.00	0.00	0.14	0.14	0.14	0.14	0.14	0.14	0.14
rc108	81	15	2076.10	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	1.00	0.00
rc108	86	15	2076.10	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.20	0.20	0.20	0.20	0.00	0.20
rc108	86	15	2076.10	0.00	0.00	0.17	0.17	0.17	0.17	0.17	0.00	0.17
rc108	92	15	2076.10	0.00	0.00	0.17	0.17	0.17	0.00	0.17	0.17	0.17
rc108	93	15	2076.10	0.00	0.00	0.50	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.50	0.00
rc108	96	15	2076.10	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.25	0.25	0.00	0.25	0.00	0.25
rc108	97	15	2076.10	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.33	0.00	0.33	0.00	0.33
rc108	97	15	2076.10	0.00	0.00	0.25	0.00	0.25	0.00	0.25	0.00	0.25
rc108	99	15	2076.10	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.20	0.20	0.00	0.20	0.20	0.20
rc108	127	15	2076.10	0.00	0.00	0.20	0.20	0.20	0.20	0.20	0.00	0.00
rc108	137	15	2076.10	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.25	0.25	0.25	0.25	0.00	0.00
rc108	45	14	2081.22	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.50	0.00	0.50	0.00	0.00	0.00
rc108	53	14	2081.22	0.00	0.00	0.33	0.33	0.00	0.33	0.00	0.00	0.00
rc108	124	14	2137.25	0.00	0.00	0.33	0.00	0.33	0.00	0.00	0.33	0.00

Table B.1: Running through the algorithm on data set rc108 with 0 or 1 as value for each factor of the filling function. This is done in order to determine, which factors are the most significant. The data is sorted by total distance and plotted in Figure 5.1.

## B.2 Tuning of search algorithm

	CPU	V	Distance	l_max	k_max	d_max
rc108	279.0	13	1841.6390794978788	6	3	1
rc108	136.0	13	1818.9724744449716	6	3	3
rc108	98.0	13	1905.007934696568	6	3	6



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rc108	592.0	13	1805.3526045786984	6	4	1
rc108	530.0	13	1777.1104033062443	6	4	3
rc108	190.0	13	1893.6253780370464	6	4	6
rc108	987.0	13	1818.9476179847238	6	5	1
rc108	425.0	13	1860.249250330895	6	5	3
rc108	286.0	13	1866.2375815568384	6	5	6
rc108	506.0	13	1826.6503026078647	9	3	1
rc108	252.0	13	1818.9724744449716	9	3	3
rc108	134.0	13	1905.007934696568	9	3	6
rc108	1065.0	13	1800.6436324695246	9	4	1
rc108	647.0	13	1777.1104033062443	9	4	3
rc108	426.0	13	1839.7307320121433	9	4	6
rc108	1269.0	13	1818.9476179847238	9	5	1
rc108	662.0	13	1792.1648924315464	9	5	3
rc108	675.0	13	1838.8131937440876	9	5	6
rc108	710.0	13	1826.6503026078647	12	3	1
rc108	328.0	13	1818.9724744449716	12	3	3
rc108	148.0	13	1893.6867037717745	12	3	6
rc108	1330.0	13	1800.6436324695246	12	4	1
rc108	806.0	13	1777.1104033062443	12	4	3
rc108	493.0	13	1839.7307320121433	12	4	6
rc108	1831.0	13	1818.9476179847238	12	5	1
rc108	1233.0	13	1792.1648924315464	12	5	3
rc108	864.0	13	1838.8131937440876	12	5	6
r112	445.0	12	1556.593100448906	6	3	1
r112	197.0	12	1559.2476700978907	6	3	3
r112	192.0	12	1537.174526635105	6	3	6
r112	1039.0	12	1563.86073958881	6	4	1
r112	428.0	12	1571.908161149551	6	4	3
r112	234.0	12	1573.5685988560954	6	4	6
r112	885.0	12	1576.4721993104056	6	5	1
r112	964.0	12	1543.2260351367102	6	5	3
r112	443.0	12	1543.2260351367102	6	5	6
r112	648.0	12	1556.593100448906	9	3	1
r112	420.0	12	1559.2476700978907	9	3	3
r112	253.0	12	1537.174526635105	9	3	6
r112	1233.0	12	1563.86073958881	9	4	1
r112	833.0	12	1571.908161149551	9	4	3
r112	346.0	12	1536.5045708291686	9	4	6
r112	1412.0	12	1543.433344907333	9	5	1
r112	1334.0	12	1543.2260351367102	9	5	3
r112	637.0	12	1516.671917121077	9	5	6
r112	868.0	12	1556.593100448906	12	3	1
r112	461.0	12	1558.4968779992282	12	3	3
r112	286.0	12	1537.174526635105	12	3	6
r112	1526.0	12	1563.86073958881	12	4	1
r112	1051.0	12	1569.3212320166958	12	4	3
r112	411.0	12	1536.5045708291686	12	4	6
r112	1930.0	12	1543.433344907333	12	5	1
r112	2255.0	12	1543.2260351367102	12	5	3

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r112	765.0	12	1516.671917121077	12	5	6
r211	152.0	4	1959.2127537206743	6	3	1
r211	186.0	4	1985.0125943589278	6	3	3
r211	143.0	4	1985.0125943589278	6	3	6
r211	152.0	4	1959.2127537206743	6	4	1
r211	186.0	4	1985.0125943589278	6	4	3
r211	141.0	4	1985.0125943589278	6	4	6
r211	149.0	4	1959.2127537206743	6	5	1
r211	184.0	4	1985.0125943589278	6	5	3
r211	140.0	4	1985.0125943589278	6	5	6
r211	229.0	4	1959.2127537206743	9	3	1
r211	247.0	4	1985.0125943589278	9	3	3
r211	207.0	4	1985.0125943589278	9	3	6
r211	228.0	4	1959.2127537206743	9	4	1
r211	230.0	4	1985.0125943589278	9	4	3
r211	205.0	4	1985.0125943589278	9	4	6
r211	229.0	4	1959.2127537206743	9	5	1
r211	228.0	4	1985.0125943589278	9	5	3
r211	205.0	4	1985.0125943589278	9	5	6
r211	311.0	4	1959.2127537206743	12	3	1
r211	326.0	4	1847.4617030220193	12	3	3
r211	284.0	4	1889.189651189795	12	3	6
r211	312.0	4	1959.2127537206743	12	4	1
r211	334.0	4	1985.0125943589278	12	4	3
r211	285.0	4	1889.189651189795	12	4	6
r211	310.0	4	1959.2127537206743	12	5	1
r211	333.0	4	1985.0125943589278	12	5	3
r211	285.0	4	1889.189651189795	12	5	6
r101	1105.0	19	2007.3307072613225	6	3	1
r101	851.0	19	1972.306355902318	6	3	3
r101	376.0	19	1965.077508078404	6	3	6
r101	2400.0	19	2032.4341972360965	6	4	1
r101	2245.0	19	1944.9441406045821	6	4	3
r101	739.0	19	1944.9441406045821	6	4	6
r101	2413.0	19	2032.4341972360965	6	5	1
r101	2431.0	19	1972.679292748361	6	5	3
r101	2425.0	19	1972.679292748361	6	5	6
r101	2122.0	19	2007.3307072613225	9	3	1
r101	1477.0	19	1972.306355902318	9	3	3
r101	445.0	19	1965.077508078404	9	3	6
r101	2400.0	19	2032.4341972360965	9	4	1
r101	2403.0	19	1944.9441406045821	9	4	3
r101	2396.0	19	1944.9441406045821	9	4	6
r101	2400.0	19	2032.4341972360965	9	5	1
r101	2425.0	19	1972.679292748361	9	5	3
r101	2423.0	19	1972.679292748361	9	5	6
r101	2400.0	19	2007.3307072613225	12	3	1
r101	2000.0	19	1972.306355902318	12	3	3
r101	715.0	19	1965.077508078404	12	3	6
r101	2400.0	19	2032.4341972360965	12	4	1

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r101	2400.0	19	1944.9441406045821	12	4	3
r101	2402.0	19	1944.9441406045821	12	4	6
r101	2400.0	19	2032.4341972360965	12	5	1
r101	2414.0	19	1972.679292748361	12	5	3
r101	2404.0	19	1972.679292748361	12	5	6

Table B.2: Observations of rc108, r112, and r211 data sets for tuning of the search algorithm. CPU lists the running time in seconds, and V the number of vehicles. Common for all solutions is that they have `t1_length=9`. Runtime limit set to 2400 seconds, that is 40 minutes.

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