Special Issue

Metaheuristics for Real-World Optimization Problems

Message from the Guest Editors

Optimization problems found in real-world applications frequently have features that make them hard to be solved with exact techniques. The alternative is to use approximate techniques and, in this context, metaheuristics have emerged as a broad family of optimization algorithms that have gained many attention in the last 30 years. This Special Issue on "Metaheuristics for Real-World Optimization Problems" is aimed at presenting recent advances in the application of metaheuristics to real-world problems. We are interested in studies and developments which can offer new insights and tools, leading to fostering the adoption of modern techniques in fields including Engineering, Medicine, Bioinformatics, Telecommunication, Logistics, Agriculture, etc. Hot topics we would like to cover include large-scale search spaces, Big Data applications, combination of metaheuristics and machine learning, and dealing with fitness fuctions that are costly to compute. Use cases describing successful applications of metaheuristics in complex scenarios are welcome.

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Message from the Editor-in-Chief

As the world of science becomes ever more specialized, researchers may lose themselves in the deep forest of the ever increasing number of subfields being created. This open access journal *Applied Sciences* has been started to link these subfields, so researchers can cut through the forest and see the surrounding, or quite distant fields and subfields to help develop his/her own research even further with the aid of this multi-dimensional network.

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