A Matheuristic for the K-Drones Arc Routing Problem

Paula Segura

Dept. d'Estadística i Investigació Operativa, Universitat de València, Spain Email: paulamaths@gmail.com

James F. Campbell

University of Missouri-St. Louis, USA

Ángel Corberán

Dept. d'Estadística i Investigació Operativa, Universitat de València, Spain

Isaac Plana

Dept. de Matemáticas para la Economía y la Empresa, Universitat de València, Spain

José M. Sanchis

Dept. de Matemática Aplicada, Universidad Politécnica de Valencia, Spain

Here we deal with the K-Drones Arc Routing Problem (KDARP). This is an arc routing problem where a fleet of drones is available and, considering that the autonomy of the drones is restricted, the length of the single routes is limited by a maximum distance. Some applications for drone arc routing problems include traffic monitoring by flying over roadways, infrastructure inspection such as by flying along power transmission lines, pipelines or fences, and surveillance along linear features such as coastlines or territorial borders. Unlike the vehicles in traditional arc routing problems, drones can travel directly between any two points in the plane without following the edges of the network. Therefore, a drone route may service only part of an edge, with multiple routes being used to cover the entire edge. For this problem, we propose a matheuristic algorithm and present some computational results.