EURO Mini Conference (MEC XXVIII) on Variable Neighborhood Search

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Abstract

We are presenting in this volume selected, peer-reviewed, short papers that were presented at the EURO Mini Conference XXVIII on Variable Neighborhood Search (MEC XXVIII - VNS) which was held during October 4-7, 2012, in Herceg Novi, Montenegro.

Keywords: Variable Neighborhood Search, Metaheuristics, Combinatorial Optimization, Global optimization.

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1   MEC XXVIII - VNS

Variable Neighborhood Search (VNS) is a metaheuristic based on systematic changes in the neighborhood structure within a search, for solving optimization problems and related tasks [1]. The main goal of the MEC XXVIII - VNS

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was to provide a stimulating environment in which researchers coming from various scientific fields can share and discuss their knowledge, expertise and ideas related to the VNS Metaheuristic and its applications.

The conference was chaired by Nenad Mladenović, (UK and Serbia) and José A. Moreno-Pérez, (Spain), while Pierre Hansen, (Canada) was the Honorary Chair of the conference. The Program Committee of MEC XXVIII - VNS was chaired by Emilio Carrizosa (Spain) and Belén Melián Batista (Spain). Moreover, the Organizing Committees of MEC XXVIII - VNS was chaired by Dragan Urošević (Serbia).

The conference program included 83 talks across 14 contributed sessions, during the four days of the conference. The following plenary talks were given by invited speakers at the conference:

- Panos M. Pardalos, University of Florida, USA: "The Road Less Traveled: From Local to Global in Optimization".

- Richard F. Hartl, University of Vienna, Austria: "VNS approaches for rich vehicle routing".

- Stefan Voß, University of Hamburg, Germany: "Neighborhood Selection in Variable Neighborhood Search".

This was the second EURO Mini Conference (MEC XXVIII) dedicated to Variable Neighborhood Search. The previous EURO Mini Conference (MEC XVIII) on VNS, was held during November 23-25, 2005, in the city of Puerto de La Cruz, in the island of Tenerife, Spain.

2 Organizers and Sponsors

The conference was organized and sponsored by the Association of European Operational Research Societies (EURO), the Group for Research in Decision Analysis (GERAD) in Montreal, the EURO working group on Metaheuristics (EU/ME), the Yugoslav Society for Applied and Industrial Mathematics (JUPIM) in Belgrade, the Mathematical Institute of the Serbian Academy of Sciences and Arts (SANU) in Belgrade, the University La Laguna, and the Faculty of Organizational Sciences in Belgrade.

3 Program Committee and peer reviewers

The Program Committee and peer reviewers are as follows:

Daniel Aloise (Canada)

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Jésica de Armas (Spain)

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4 Organizing Committee

The Organizing Committee consisted of the following members:

Dragan Urošević (Serbia)	Jose Moreno-Perez (Spain)
Gordana Nasić (Serbia)	Igor Grujičić (Serbia)
Sanja Roksandić (Serbia)	R. Todosijević (Serbia)
Milica Milinković (Serbia)	J. Marcos Moreno-Vega (Spain)
Julio Brito Santana (Spain)	

5 Acknowledgments

Herceg Novi, Montenegro,   *The Editors*
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References

[1] Hansen, P., N. Mladenović, and J. A. M. Perez, *Variable neighborhood search: methods and applications*, Annals of Operations Research **175** (2010), 367–407.