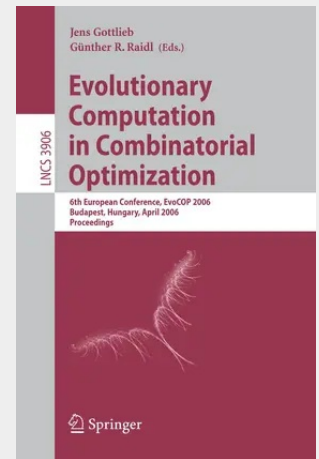


Evolutionary Computation in Combinatorial Optimization

6th European Conference, EvoCOP 2006, Budapest, Hungary, April 10-12, 2006, Proceedings

This book constitutes the refereed proceedings of the 6th European Conference on Evolutionary Computation in Combinatorial Optimization, EvoCOP 2006, held in Budapest, Hungary in April 2006. The 24 revised full papers presented were carefully reviewed and selected from 77 submissions. The papers include coverage of evolutionary algorithms as well as various other metaheuristics, like scatter search, tabu search, and memetic algorithms.

Metaheuristics have often been shown to be effective for difficult combinatorial optimization problems appearing in various industrial, economical, and scientific domains. Prominent examples of metaheuristics are evolutionary algorithms, simulated annealing, tabu search, scatter search, memetic algorithms, variable neighborhood search, iterated local search, greedy randomized adaptive search procedures, estimation of distribution algorithms, and ant colony optimization. Successfully solved problems include scheduling, timetabling, network design, transportation and distribution problems, vehicle routing, the traveling salesman problem, satisfiability, packing and cutting problems, planning problems, and general mixed integer programming. The EvoCOP event series started in 2001 and has been held annually since then. It was the first specifically dedicated to the application of evolutionary computation and related methods to combinatorial optimization problems. Evolutionary computation involves the study of problem-solving and optimization techniques inspired by principles of natural evolution and genetics. Following the general trend of hybrid metaheuristics and diminishing boundaries between the different classes of metaheuristics, EvoCOP has broadened its scope over the last years and invited submissions on any kind of metaheuristic for combinatorial optimization problems.



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