



Department of Decision Sciences

HONPR2C

Project II

# **An analysis of heuristics for the *p*-median problem**

Assignment 3: Final Report

Assignment Unique Number: 705004

**Gemma Dawson**

**50223909**

**Study Leader: Ms J L le Roux**

29 November 2017

## Signed Declaration

I hereby declare that this project is my own work and that all the sources that I have used or quoted have been indicated and acknowledged by means of complete references.

Signed:

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Gemma Dawson', written in a cursive style.

Gemma Dawson

Student Number: 50223909

## Contents

<b>1</b>	<b>Introduction</b>	<b>1</b>
<b>2</b>	<b>Description of the Problem</b>	<b>1</b>
<b>3</b>	<b>Literature Study</b>	<b>2</b>
<b>4</b>	<b>Methodology</b>	<b>2</b>
<b>5</b>	<b>Classical Heuristics and Metaheuristics</b>	<b>3</b>
5.1	Overview . . . . .	3
5.2	Pseudocode Notation . . . . .	4
<b>6</b>	<b>Classical Heuristics: Constructive</b>	<b>5</b>
6.1	The Greedy Algorithm . . . . .	5
6.1.1	Pseudocode . . . . .	5
6.1.2	Complexity . . . . .	6
6.1.3	Results . . . . .	6
6.2	The Fast Greedy Algorithm . . . . .	9
6.2.1	Pseudocode . . . . .	9
6.2.2	Complexity . . . . .	10
6.2.3	Results . . . . .	10
6.3	The Stingy Algorithm . . . . .	13
6.3.1	Pseudocode . . . . .	13
6.3.2	Complexity . . . . .	14
6.3.3	Results . . . . .	14
6.4	Comparison of Results from Constructive Heuristics . . . . .	15
<b>7</b>	<b>Classical Heuristics: Local Search</b>	<b>18</b>
7.1	The Interchange Algorithm of Teitz and Bart . . . . .	18
7.1.1	Pseudocode . . . . .	19
7.1.2	complexity . . . . .	21
7.1.3	Results . . . . .	21
7.2	The Fast Interchange Algorithm . . . . .	23
7.2.1	Pseudocode . . . . .	23
7.2.2	Results . . . . .	23
7.3	The Alternate Algorithm . . . . .	25
7.3.1	Pseudocode . . . . .	25
7.3.2	Results . . . . .	25
7.4	Computational Results . . . . .	25
<b>8</b>	<b>Conclusion</b>	<b>27</b>
<b>9</b>	<b>Remaining Work</b>	<b>28</b>
<b>10</b>	<b>References</b>	<b>29</b>
<b>11</b>	<b>Index of Terms</b>	<b>31</b>

<b>12 Index of Authors</b>	<b>32</b>
<b>Appendices</b>	<b>33</b>
<b>A Constructive Heuristics Results</b>	<b>33</b>
A.1 Greedy Algorithm . . . . .	33
A.2 Fast Greedy Algorithm . . . . .	36
A.3 Stingy Algorithm . . . . .	39
<b>B Local Search Heuristics Results</b>	<b>41</b>
B.1 Interchange Algorithm of Teitz and Bart . . . . .	41
B.2 Fast Interchange Algorithm . . . . .	46
B.3 Alternate Algorithm . . . . .	51

## 1 Introduction

The network facility location problem of finding a location for facilities or public services within a given space by optimising some predefined objective, is not a simple one. Within the single-objective branch of network location problems, there is a plethora of papers exploring minisum, minimax, and covering problems.

If the number of facilities needed is known, and these facilities need to be located in the manner of minimising the total distance between demand nodes and their assigned facility, then the decision-maker is facing a  $p$ -median problem.

The  $p$ -median problem is well studied and many different approaches to finding both exact and approximate solutions have been proposed, but determining which method would be best for a particular problem is not clear.

This study will analyse and compare several heuristics applied to the  $p$ -median problem in the hope that this decision may be made more clear.

## 2 Description of the Problem

The uncapacitated  $p$ -median problem has been widely studied and many different approaches to finding an acceptable, if not optimal, solution have been presented over the past fifty years.

The focus of this study is to statistically analyse and compare the results obtained from various constructive and local search heuristic algorithms applied to the  $p$ -median problem.

Different heuristics applied to  $p$ -median problems can produce varying quality of results dependant on the size of the original problem. As algorithms take a considerable amount of time and research to be suitably set-up and run, it may be of benefit to have some prior knowledge of which heuristics may be suitable for the problem on hand.

As such, the main objective of this study would be to provide an indication of which method would be best suited to a given problem.

This study will also investigate the computational time each algorithm requires to generate a solution, taking into account the size of the problem being solved.

Since parametrisation of heuristics play a crucial part of the efficiency of the algorithm and the quality of the results it produces, this will be explained in detail in the study. Given time, different approaches to the same heuristic may be explored as well.

### 3 Literature Study

While the  $p$ -median problem may have been tackled by academics before 1964, it was first formally defined and formulated by Hakimi [1]. It was also in this paper that Hakimi proved that the optimal location of a facility in a connected discrete network would always be found to correspond to the location of a demand node. This considerably reduces the solution search space.

A few years later, ReVelle and Swain [2] formulated the  $p$ -median problem as an integer programme which provided the answers to both the question of where the optimal medians were located as well as which demand nodes should be allocated to each median. In this paper, the solution properties of solving this problem with linear programming using the branch-and-bound technique was also discussed.

Later that decade, it was shown that the  $p$ -median problem is NP-hard and as such there exists no algorithm that can find the optimal solution within polynomial time. Since most real-world problems are very large in nature, this poses a great problem. Well developed heuristics can provide satisfactory solutions and many such approaches have been proposed. Mladenović et al. [3] produced a comprehensive survey of the heuristics that have been used to solve the  $p$ -median problem. This survey divides heuristics into two groups, Classical Heuristics and Metaheuristics. The classical heuristics group consists of constructive heuristics, such as the greedy algorithm, local search, and mathematical programming. The metaheuristics group lists tabu search, variable neighbourhood search, and simulated annealing among others.

There do exist studies that analysis the efficiency of heuristics in solving the  $p$ -median. Simulated annealing was analysed by Chiyoshi and Galvão [4] while Alp et al. [5] investigated their proposed genetic algorithm. Hansen and Mladenović [6] applied the variable neighbourhood search algorithm to the  $p$ -median problem as well as heuristic concentration, tabu search, and the greedy interchange algorithm. These studies used Beasley's test problem dataset although Hansen and Mladenović's review only used a portion of the available test problems.

Rolland et al. [7] explored the efficiency of tabu search using randomly generated datasets as test problems, and this was compared to results obtained from a two-exchange heuristic and an integer programming algorithm. A heuristic concentration was compared to tabu search by Rosing et al. [8]. Since datasets were independently and randomly generated for each of these studies, it makes it very difficult to compare results.

### 4 Methodology

All algorithms have been coded in R [9], an open source programming language, due to its ease of use, extensive availability of online resources as well as the functionality provided by downloadable packages that provide useful data handling and visualisation.

As the results of the algorithms under investigation are to be compared, identical problems have been presented to each algorithm to solve. Beasley [10] offers a forty-instance dataset which comprises of problems ranging from 100 to 900 demand nodes that require the locations of between five and 200 medians to be determined. These datasets are given in a text format presenting the pairs of nodes along with the associated cost of traversing this node pair. These text files were converted to cost matrices using the R package igraph [11]. These matrices provide the cost of travel from one node to any other node in each network of the forty instances.

Beasley's library also provides the optimal solution's weighted total cost objective function value for each of the forty instances in the dataset. This allows the results obtained from the algorithms to be objectively assessed against the optimal solution.

As all algorithms require nodes associated with a minimum cost to be identified, a function in R was written to deal with the issue when more than one nodes offer the same minimum cost. R's base package offers a minimum function, but if more than one element in the vector that is passed to this function equals the minimum value, only the first of such elements will be returned and all subsequent elements will be ignored. However, the new function will return a randomly selected element. A direct consequence of having this element of randomness is that an algorithm may produce different results and as such, for every problem in the forty-instance dataset, each algorithm will be run 50 times and the resulting objective function value was recorded, which allowed the deviation of each algorithm's solution from the optimal solution to be analysed. In addition, the computational time required for each of the 50 runs was timed.

## 5 Classical Heuristics and Metaheuristics

### 5.1 Overview

As previously mentioned, a review of approaches to solving the  $p$ -median problem was presented by Mladenović et al. [3] in 2007. This paper divided heuristics into one of two groups, Classical Heuristics and Metaheuristics. This classification has been utilised in this study.

An algorithm can be classified as a Classical Heuristic if it is developed for the purpose of solving the  $p$ -median problem, while a heuristic that was developed independent of the  $p$ -median problem can be termed a Metaheuristic.

## 5.2 Pseudocode Notation

For each algorithm examined in this study, a pseudocode will be presented using notation given below. This notation is similar to that used by Whitaker [12].

- $G$  : the problem network
- $n$  : the number of nodes within the network
- $m$  : the number of nodes that are available to be assigned as a median
- $p$  : the number of medians required by the solution
- $M$  : the set of nodes that are available to be assigned as a median
- $P^*$  : the set of medians where  $P^* \subset M$
- $P$  : the set of free nodes not in the solution median set where  $P \subset M$   
and  $P \cup P^* = M$
- $S^*$  : objective function value for supplying the network  $G$
- $k$  : an iteration parameter
- $\infty$  : an arbitrarily large number
- $d_{ij}$  : the cost of travelling from node  $i$  to potential median  $j$
- $u_i^k$  : the cost of travelling from node  $i$  to the closest median  $j$   
where  $j \in P^*$  during iteration  $k$
- $w_i^k$  : the cost of travelling from node  $i$  to the second closest median  
 $j$  where  $j \in P^*$  during iteration  $k$
- $c_j^k$  : the potential value of  $S^*$  if node  $j$  is added to the median set  $P^*$  during  
iteration  $k$
- $S_r$  : the value of  $S^*$  after adding node  $r$  to the median set  $P^*$
- $S_{rt}$  : the potential change to  $S^*$  resulting from the interchange of node  $r$  with  
median  $t$
- $S^k$  : the change in the value of  $S^*$  during iteration  $k$
- $I, J, K_j$  : subsets of the  $n$  nodes defined as needed in the pseudocode
- $a, b, z, q$  : indices and parameters defined as needed in the pseudocode
- $\emptyset$  : an empty set



## 6 Classical Heuristics: Constructive

A constructive heuristic is a technique that starts with an empty solution and each iteration extends this solution until a complete solution has been found. Within the context of the unconstrained  $p$ -median problem, for each iteration of the algorithm, a median is identified by some deterministic method and added to the current solution. This process continues until the median set contains  $p$  elements.

### 6.1 The Greedy Algorithm

The greedy algorithm, as described by Whitaker [12], is a simple recursive algorithm that starts with an empty median set and, with each iteration of the algorithm, adds a node to the median set. The node that is added to the median set is the one that decreases the objective function value the most when compared to the other non-median nodes.

#### 6.1.1 Pseudocode

---

##### Algorithm 1 Greedy Algorithm

---

INPUT: Cost Matrix

STEP 0: Initialisation

Set  $P^* = \emptyset$ ;  $k = 1$ ; and  $u_i^1 = \infty$  for all  $i = 1, 2, \dots, n$

STEP 1: For each free node, the objective function value resulting from selecting this node as a median is determined. This objective function value is calculated by summing the cost of travel for each node in the network to either the closest median or the free node under investigation, whichever is smallest.

$$c_j^k = \sum_{i=1}^n \min(d_{ij}, u_i^k) \quad \forall j \in M, j \notin P^*$$

STEP 2: The free node that will result in the smallest possible objective function value is identified, and the objective function value is updated.

$$S_r = \min_{j \notin P^*} (c_j^k) \quad \text{for } r \in M, r \notin P^*$$


---

STEP 3: Add node  $r$  to the set of medians and then determine if the algorithm has completed the number of required iterations.

$$P^* = P^* \cup r$$

**if**  $k = p$  **then**  
go to STEP 5 [  
**else**  
go to STEP 4 ]  
**end if**

STEP 4: Increase the value of iteration parameter and update the cost of travelling from any node to its closet median given that node  $r$  has been added to the median set.

$$k = k + 1$$

$$u_i^k = \min(d_{ir}, u_i^{k-1}) \quad \text{for } i = 1, 2, 3 \dots, n$$

Go to STEP 1

STEP 5: Once  $p$  iterations are complete, set the final objective function value equal to the current iteration's objective function value and stop the algorithm.

$$S^* = S_r \text{ and STOP}$$

### 6.1.2 Complexity

The greedy algorithm has a complexity of  $\mathcal{O}(n.p)$  since for each median that is required, the algorithm will assess the network of  $n$  nodes until a set of  $p$  medians have been found.

### 6.1.3 Results

The results from running the greedy algorithm for each of the forty test problems can be seen in table 1.

As can be seen, the computational time is very quick for the test problems that require a small number of medians. The problem that took the longest to run was pmed30 which took on average over 5 seconds to find a solution. This problem requires that two-thirds of the 600 nodes in its network be assigned as medians. It can be seen from figure 1 that the ratio network size to the number of required medians affects the computational time of the algorithm.

Computational time will obviously increase as the network size increases as there are simply more nodes that need to be assessed and as the number of medians required increases in addition to this, it can quickly become a time-consuming algorithm.

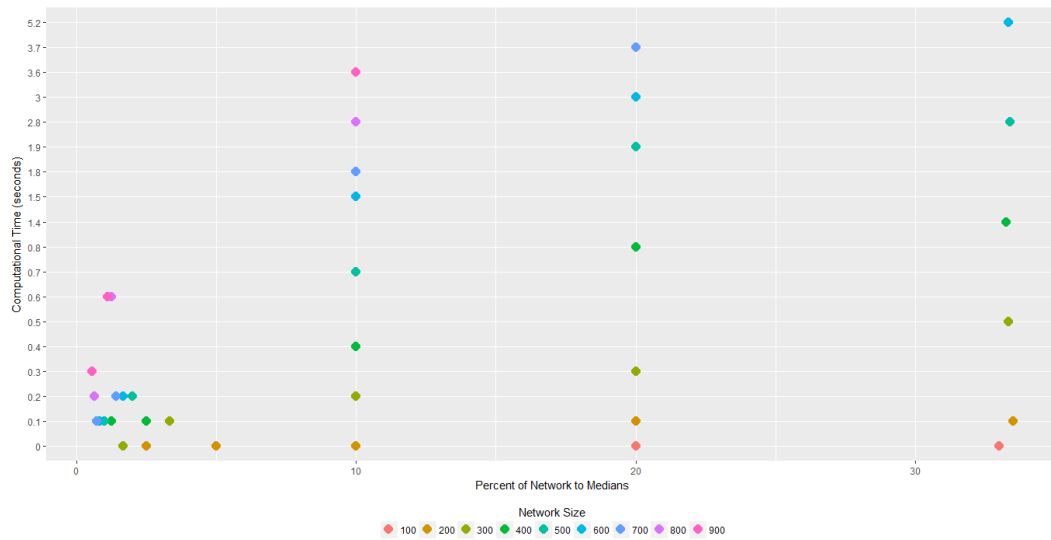


Figure 1: Percentage of Medians required in a Network versus Computational Time

The results obtained from using the greedy algorithm are reasonably good for problems that require a low number of medians. As expected, the accuracy declines as the number of medians required increases. This can be seen in figure ???. This can be attributed to a constructive heuristic never reassessing whether medians found in previous iterations should remain in the median set.

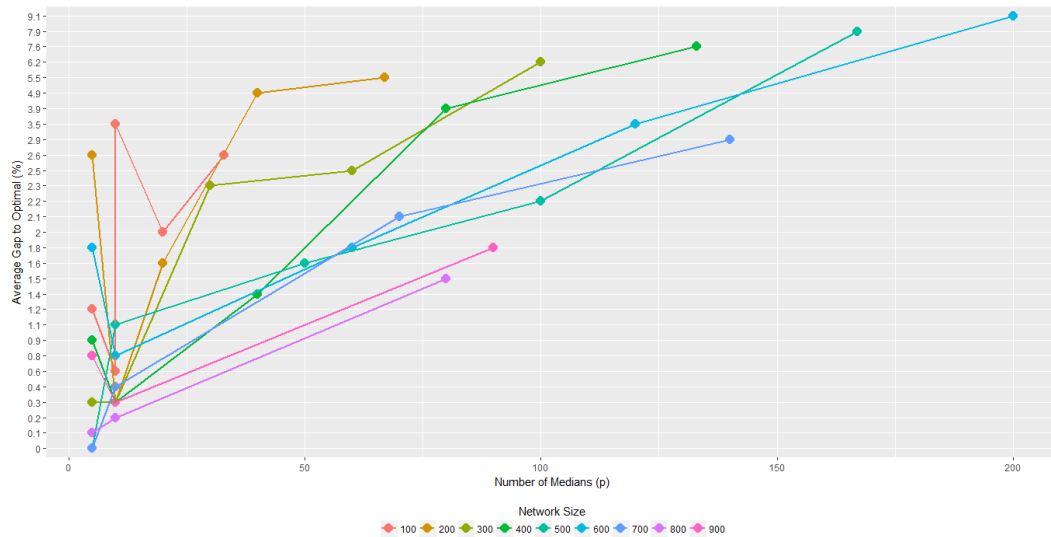


Figure 2: Percentage of Medians required in a Network versus Average Gap to the Optimal Solution

Overall, the greedy algorithm appears to be a good method to obtain a starting solution which can be improved upon by using a local search algorithm.

Table 1: Results of Greedy Algorithm (50 Runs)

Test Problem	p	n	Edges	Optimal Value	Computational Time (seconds)	Gap to Optimal (%)
1	5	100	198	5819	$0 \pm 0.01$	$1.2 \pm 0$
2	10	100	193	4093	$0 \pm 0.01$	$0.6 \pm 0$
3	10	100	198	4250	$0 \pm 0.01$	$3.5 \pm 0$
4	20	100	196	3034	$0 \pm 0.01$	$2 \pm 0.2$
5	33	100	196	1355	$0 \pm 0.01$	$2.6 \pm 0.69$
6	5	200	786	7824	$0 \pm 0.02$	$2.6 \pm 0$
7	10	200	779	5631	$0 \pm 0.02$	$0.3 \pm 0$
8	20	200	792	4445	$0 \pm 0.02$	$1.6 \pm 0.16$
9	40	200	785	2734	$0.1 \pm 0.02$	$4.9 \pm 0.48$
10	67	200	786	1255	$0.1 \pm 0.02$	$5.5 \pm 1.6$
11	5	300	1772	7696	$0 \pm 0.02$	$0.3 \pm 0$
12	10	300	1758	6634	$0.1 \pm 0.03$	$0.3 \pm 0$
13	30	300	1760	4374	$0.2 \pm 0.03$	$2.3 \pm 0$
14	60	300	1771	2968	$0.3 \pm 0.03$	$2.5 \pm 0.26$
15	100	300	1754	1729	$0.5 \pm 0.04$	$6.2 \pm 0.83$
16	5	400	3153	8162	$0.1 \pm 0.03$	$0.9 \pm 0$
17	10	400	3142	6999	$0.1 \pm 0.04$	$0.3 \pm 0$
18	40	400	3134	4809	$0.4 \pm 0.07$	$1.4 \pm 0.07$
19	80	400	3134	2845	$0.8 \pm 0.06$	$3.9 \pm 0.19$
20	133	400	3144	1789	$1.4 \pm 0.07$	$7.6 \pm 0.69$
21	5	500	4909	9138	$0.1 \pm 0.04$	$0 \pm 0$
22	10	500	4896	8579	$0.2 \pm 0.04$	$1.1 \pm 0$
23	50	500	4903	4619	$0.7 \pm 0.05$	$1.6 \pm 0.11$
24	100	500	4914	2961	$1.9 \pm 0.36$	$2.2 \pm 0.16$
25	167	500	4894	1828	$2.8 \pm 0.12$	$7.9 \pm 0.65$
26	5	600	7069	9917	$0.1 \pm 0.03$	$1.8 \pm 0$
27	10	600	7072	8307	$0.2 \pm 0.04$	$0.8 \pm 0$
28	60	600	7054	4498	$1.5 \pm 0.1$	$1.8 \pm 0.12$
29	120	600	7042	3033	$3 \pm 0.17$	$3.5 \pm 0.53$
30	200	600	7042	1989	$5.2 \pm 0.22$	$9.1 \pm 0.55$
31	5	700	9601	10086	$0.1 \pm 0.03$	$0 \pm 0$
32	10	700	9584	9297	$0.2 \pm 0.04$	$0.4 \pm 0$
33	70	700	9616	4700	$1.8 \pm 0.1$	$2.1 \pm 0.11$
34	140	700	9585	3013	$3.7 \pm 0.13$	$2.9 \pm 0.56$
35	5	800	12548	10400	$0.2 \pm 0.06$	$0.1 \pm 0$
36	10	800	12560	9934	$0.6 \pm 0.03$	$0.2 \pm 0$
37	80	800	12564	5057	$2.8 \pm 0.25$	$1.5 \pm 0.2$
38	5	900	15898	11060	$0.3 \pm 0.02$	$0.8 \pm 0$
39	10	900	15896	9423	$0.6 \pm 0.04$	$0.3 \pm 0$
40	90	900	15879	5128	$3.6 \pm 0.22$	$1.8 \pm 0.18$

## 6.2 The Fast Greedy Algorithm

Whitaker [12] proposed the fast greedy algorithm. This algorithm differs from the greedy algorithm in that only the nodes that were re-assigned to a new median in the preceding iteration are investigated. From these nodes, the new median is determined to be the one that will maximise the decrease in the objective function value.

### 6.2.1 Pseudocode

---

**Algorithm 2** Fast Greedy Algorithm

---

INPUT: Cost Matrix

STEP 0: Initialisation

Set  $P^* = \emptyset$ ;  $I = \emptyset$ ;  $k = 1$   
 $c_j^0 = c_j^1 = 0$  for  $j \in M$   
 $u_i^0 = 0$ ;  $u_i^1 = \infty$  for all  $i = 1, 2, \dots, n$   
 $I = I \cup i$  for  $i = 1, 2, \dots, n$

STEP 1: For each free node that was reassigned to a new median in the previous iteration, the objective function value resulting from selecting this node as a median is determined. This objective function value is calculated by summing the cost of travel for each node in the network to either the closest median or the free node under investigation, whichever is smallest. For the first iteration, all nodes in the network are considered part of the reassigned set.

$$c_j^k = \sum_{i \in I} \min(d_{ij}, u_i^k) + c_j^{k-1} - \sum_{i \in I} \min(d_{ij}, u_i^{k-1}) \quad \forall j \in M, j \notin P^*$$

STEP 2: The free node that will result in the smallest possible objective function value is identified, and the objective function value is updated.

$$S_r = \min_{j \notin P^*} (c_j^k) \quad \text{for } r \in M, r \notin P^*$$


---

STEP 3: Add node  $r$  to the set of medians and then determine if the algorithm has completed the number of required iterations.

$$P^* = P^* \cup r$$

**if**  $k = p$  **then**  
go to STEP 5 [  
**else**  
Set  $I = \emptyset$  and go to STEP 4 ]  
**end if**

STEP 4: Increase the value of iteration parameter and update the cost of travel from any node to its closet median given that node  $r$  has been added to the median set.

$$k = k + 1$$
$$u_i^k = \min(d_{ir}, u_i^{k-1}) \quad \text{for } i = 1, 2, 3, \dots, n$$

**if**  $d_{ir} < u_i^{k-1}$  **then** [  
 $I = I \cup i$   
go to STEP 1]  
**end if**

STEP 5: Once  $p$  iterations are complete, set the final objective function value equal to the current iteration's objective function value and stop the algorithm.

$$S^* = S_r \text{ and STOP}$$

---

### 6.2.2 Complexity

The fast greedy algorithm has a complexity of at most  $\mathcal{O}(n.p)$ , since it is possible that almost all nodes are assigned to the set  $I$  during each iteration. It is expected that the performance of this algorithm would be better than that of the greedy algorithm as the  $I$  set from which a new median is selected each iteration would be typically be smaller than the network.

### 6.2.3 Results

The fast greedy algorithm proves true to its name and even for very large networks and networks requiring a high number of medians, the algorithm produces a solution set on average of less than 1 second.

Where the fast greedy fails in the the quality of the solution. At best, the algorithm provide a solution set with an associated objective function value that was 4.3% worse than the optimal objective function value and at worst the solution set's objective function value was over 500% worse.

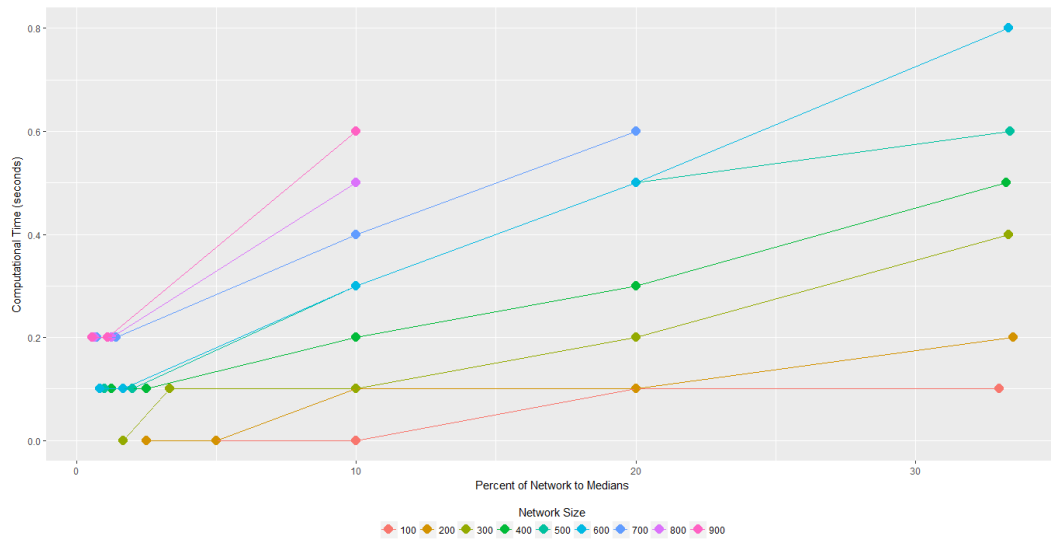


Figure 3: Percentage of Medians required in a Network versus Computational Time

This poor performance may not be an issue if these results are used as a starting solution for a local search heuristic but these solutions are certainly not to be used as a final solution unless there are legitimate reasons for doing so.

Table 2: Results of Fast Greedy Algorithm (50 Runs)

Test Problem	p	n	Edges	Optimal Value	Computational Time (seconds)	Gap to Optimal (%)
1	5	100	198	5819	$0 \pm 0.01$	$20.3 \pm 0$
2	10	100	193	4093	$0 \pm 0.01$	$66.3 \pm 0$
3	10	100	198	4250	$0 \pm 0.01$	$64.9 \pm 0$
4	20	100	196	3034	$0.1 \pm 0.01$	$178.3 \pm 0$
5	33	100	196	1355	$0.1 \pm 0.01$	$376.4 \pm 0$
6	5	200	786	7824	$0 \pm 0.01$	$10.1 \pm 0$
7	10	200	779	5631	$0 \pm 0.01$	$41.8 \pm 0$
8	20	200	792	4445	$0.1 \pm 0.01$	$108.4 \pm 0$
9	40	200	785	2734	$0.1 \pm 0.01$	$221.2 \pm 0$
10	67	200	786	1255	$0.2 \pm 0.02$	$457.9 \pm 0$
11	5	300	1772	7696	$0 \pm 0.01$	$11.1 \pm 0$
12	10	300	1758	6634	$0.1 \pm 0.02$	$36.2 \pm 0$
13	30	300	1760	4374	$0.1 \pm 0.02$	$110.1 \pm 0$
14	60	300	1771	2968	$0.2 \pm 0.02$	$262.5 \pm 0$
15	100	300	1754	1729	$0.4 \pm 0.03$	$417.7 \pm 0.4$
16	5	400	3153	8162	$0.1 \pm 0.03$	$6.8 \pm 0$
17	10	400	3142	6999	$0.1 \pm 0.03$	$37.1 \pm 0$
18	40	400	3134	4809	$0.2 \pm 0.03$	$122.7 \pm 0$
19	80	400	3134	2845	$0.3 \pm 0.03$	$262.5 \pm 0$
20	133	400	3144	1789	$0.5 \pm 0.05$	$547 \pm 0$
21	5	500	4909	9138	$0.1 \pm 0.04$	$7.6 \pm 0$
22	10	500	4896	8579	$0.1 \pm 0.02$	$24.9 \pm 0.06$
23	50	500	4903	4619	$0.3 \pm 0.03$	$142.3 \pm 0$
24	100	500	4914	2961	$0.5 \pm 0.08$	$286.1 \pm 0.2$
25	167	500	4894	1828	$0.6 \pm 0.04$	$499 \pm 0$
26	5	600	7069	9917	$0.1 \pm 0.04$	$5.4 \pm 0$
27	10	600	7072	8307	$0.1 \pm 0.02$	$24.1 \pm 0$
28	60	600	7054	4498	$0.3 \pm 0.04$	$132.7 \pm 0.55$
29	120	600	7042	3033	$0.5 \pm 0.04$	$279.7 \pm 0$
30	200	600	7042	1989	$0.8 \pm 0.04$	$542.6 \pm 0$
31	5	700	9601	10086	$0.2 \pm 0.03$	$7.4 \pm 0$
32	10	700	9584	9297	$0.2 \pm 0.03$	$28.5 \pm 0$
33	70	700	9616	4700	$0.4 \pm 0.04$	$167.8 \pm 0$
34	140	700	9585	3013	$0.6 \pm 0.05$	$302.9 \pm 0$
35	5	800	12548	10400	$0.2 \pm 0.04$	$4.3 \pm 0$
36	10	800	12560	9934	$0.2 \pm 0.04$	$26.4 \pm 0$
37	80	800	12564	5057	$0.5 \pm 0.03$	$172.2 \pm 0.02$
38	5	900	15898	11060	$0.2 \pm 0.03$	$5.9 \pm 0$
39	10	900	15896	9423	$0.2 \pm 0.03$	$23.3 \pm 0$
40	90	900	15879	5128	$0.6 \pm 0.04$	$167.6 \pm 0$



## 6.3 The Stingy Algorithm

The stingy algorithm was suggested by Feldman, Lehrer, and Ray in their paper [13] published in 1966. Instead of starting with an empty median set and recursively adding a node until all  $p$  medians are assigned, the stingy algorithm begins with all nodes in the network being designated as a median. Nodes are removed one at a time until only required  $p$  medians remain in the median set.

### 6.3.1 Pseudocode

---

#### Algorithm 3 Stingy Algorithm

---

INPUT: Cost Matrix

STEP 0: Initialisation

Set  $P^* = M$ ;  $P = \emptyset$  and  $u_i = 0$  for all  $i = 1, 2, \dots, n$

STEP 1: For each node that belongs to the median set, find the value of the objective function if this node were to be removed from the median set.

$$c_j^* = \sum_{i=1}^n \min_{j \in P^*, j \neq i} d_{ij}$$

STEP 2: Identify which node results in the smallest possible objective function value.

Find node  $r$  such that

$$S_r = \min_{j \in P^*} (c_j^k) \quad \text{for } r \in P^*, r \notin P$$

STEP 3: Remove this node from the set of medians.

$$P^* = P^* \setminus \{r\} \qquad P = P \cup \{r\}$$

STEP 4: Update the iteration parameter.

$$k = k + 1$$

STEP 5: Once  $p$  iterations are complete, set the final objective function value equal to the current iteration's objective function value and stop the algorithm.

$$S^* = S_r \text{ and STOP}$$


---

### 6.3.2 Complexity

Like the greedy algorithm, there are  $\mathcal{O}(n)$  lookups in each iteration of the stingy algorithm. There will be  $n - p$  iterations and as such this algorithm will have a complexity of  $\mathcal{O}(n.(n - p))$ .

For problems with a low number of required medians, this will be much slower than the greedy algorithm but for problems with a high number of required medians, this algorithm may prove useful.

### 6.3.3 Results

The time required by the stingy algorithm to find a feasible solution increased dramatically as the network size of the problem increased. This can be seen in figure 4. The expected decrease in computational time as the number of medians increases is visible, particularly in the test problem with 400 nodes, but does not offer much of a saving to justify the use of this algorithm to solve the  $p$ -median problem.

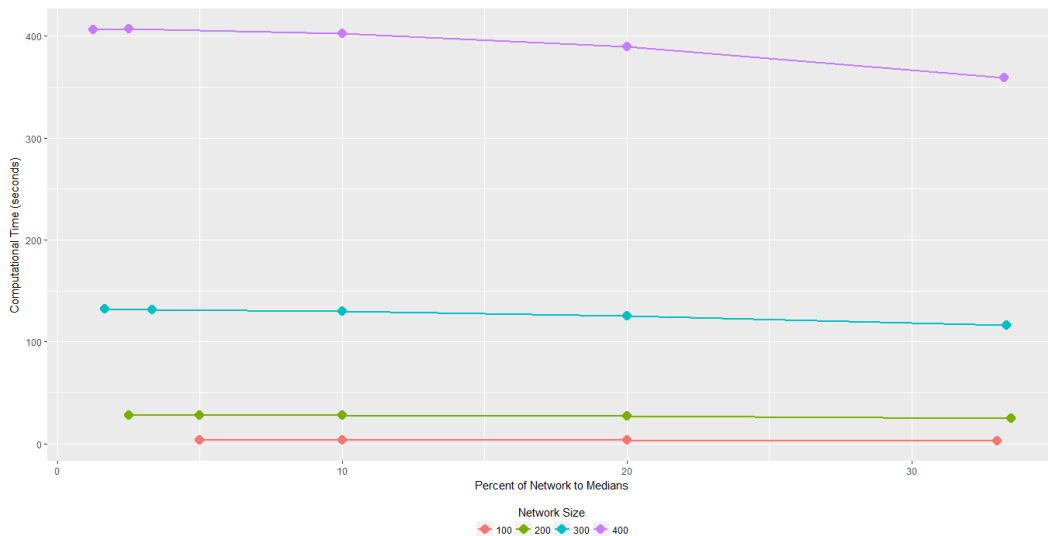


Figure 4: Percentage of Medians required in a Network versus Computational Time

Due to the excessive computational time taken by this algorithm when solving large networks, only the first twenty test problems were run and the results thereof can be seen in table 3.

The value of the objective function from the solution set found by the stingy algorithm is at best 99.2% worse than the optimal value and at worse, it is 173.2% worse than the optimal. So, like the fast greedy algorithm, the stingy algorithm is not useful in any situation other than a problem with a small network size that requires a large number of medians.

Table 3: Results of Stingy Algorithm (50 Runs)

Test Problem	p	n	Edges	Optimal Value	Computational Time (seconds)	Gap to Optimal (%)
1	5	100	198	5819	$3.3 \pm 0.16$	$116.1 \pm 0$
2	10	100	193	4093	$3.3 \pm 0.11$	$131.9 \pm 3.4$
3	10	100	198	4250	$3.3 \pm 0.11$	$130.6 \pm 0.29$
4	20	100	196	3034	$3.1 \pm 0.12$	$108.5 \pm 1.78$
5	33	100	196	1355	$2.9 \pm 0.15$	$145 \pm 8.07$
6	5	200	786	7824	$28.2 \pm 0.47$	$99.2 \pm 0$
7	10	200	779	5631	$28.1 \pm 0.36$	$125.3 \pm 0.81$
8	20	200	792	4445	$27.8 \pm 0.34$	$131.3 \pm 2.1$
9	40	200	785	2734	$26.9 \pm 0.37$	$135.3 \pm 2.34$
10	67	200	786	1255	$25 \pm 0.77$	$173.2 \pm 0$
11	5	300	1772	7696	$131.8 \pm 0.38$	$154.2 \pm 12.12$
12	10	300	1758	6634	$131.4 \pm 0.23$	$163 \pm 0$
13	30	300	1760	4374	$130.1 \pm 0.44$	$149.6 \pm 0$
14	60	300	1771	2968	$125.5 \pm 0.26$	$138.7 \pm 1.97$
15	100	300	1754	1729	$116.4 \pm 0.38$	$125.8 \pm 1.03$
16	5	400	3153	8162	$406.3 \pm 0.17$	$149.7 \pm 0$
17	10	400	3142	6999	$406.8 \pm 1.41$	$136.8 \pm 2.79$
18	40	400	3134	4809	$402.4 \pm 3.86$	$135.7 \pm 1.26$
19	80	400	3134	2845	$389.6 \pm 0.69$	$124.3 \pm 0.33$
20	133	400	3144	1789	$359 \pm 0.19$	$128.2 \pm 0$

#### 6.4 Comparison of Results from Constructive Heuristics

Figure 5 shows the average gap between the solution's objective function value and the optimal solutions objective function for each of the forty test problems. It can be seen that the greedy algorithm was able to produce results that were very close to the optimal value with very slight decreases as the number of medians required increased.

The fast greedy algorithm produced adequate results for the test problems that demanded five medians. The massive difference in accuracy for the fast greedy algorithm is clearly visible in figure 5.

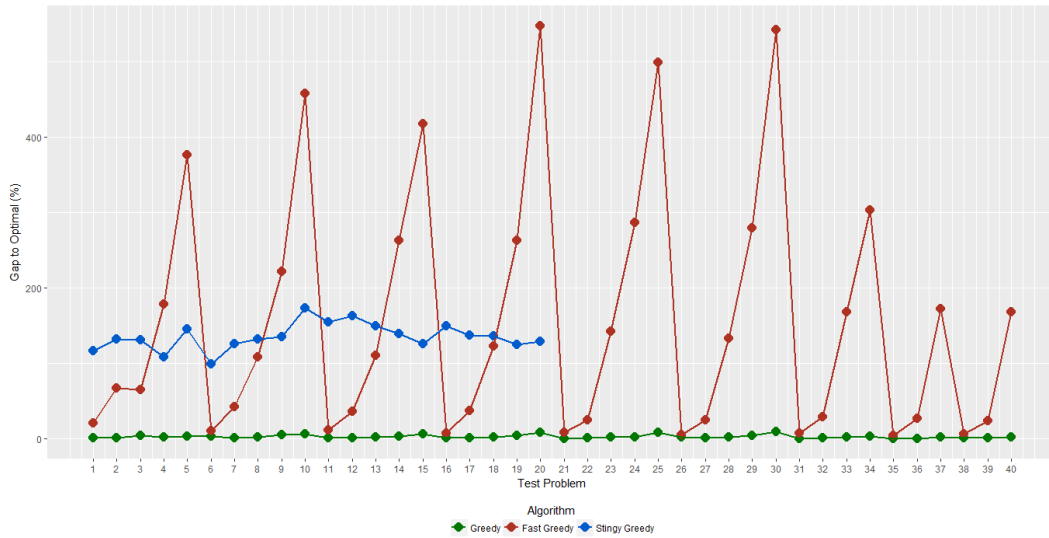


Figure 5: Average Gap to Optimal per Test Problem

In figure 6, the average computational time for the greedy algorithm, the fast greedy algorithm and the stingy algorithm is shown. It can clearly be seen that the stingy algorithm takes far longer than the other two algorithm and increases dramatically as the network size increases. It can be seen that the computational time for the stingy algorithm does decrease as the value of  $p$  increases.

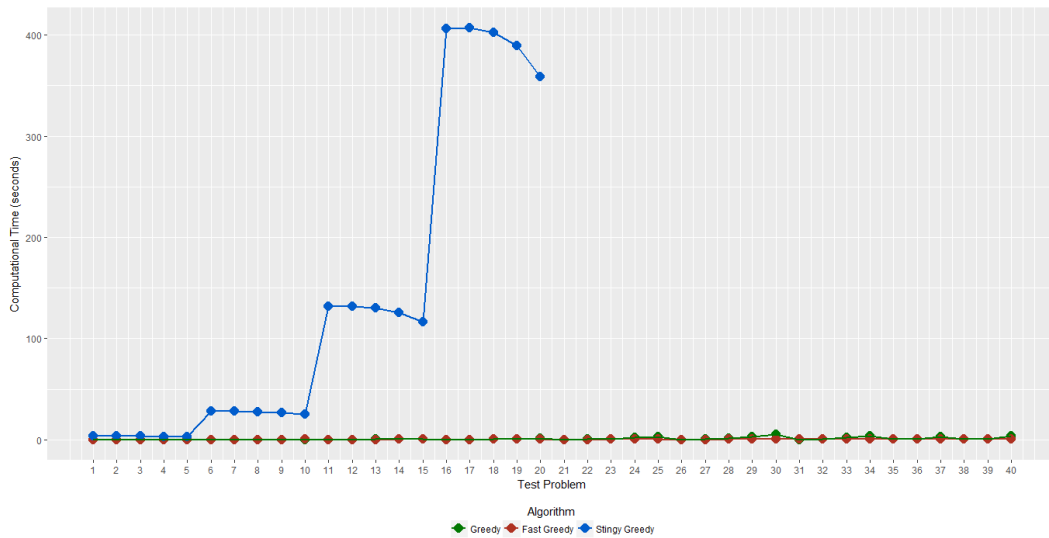


Figure 6: Average Computational Time per Test Problem for Greedy, Fast Greedy and Stingy Algorithms

The computational times for the greedy algorithm and the fast greedy algorithm can be better compared in figure 7. In this graph, it can be seen that the fast greedy algorithm usually solves faster than the greedy algorithm especially as the network size and value of the required number of medians,  $p$ , increases.

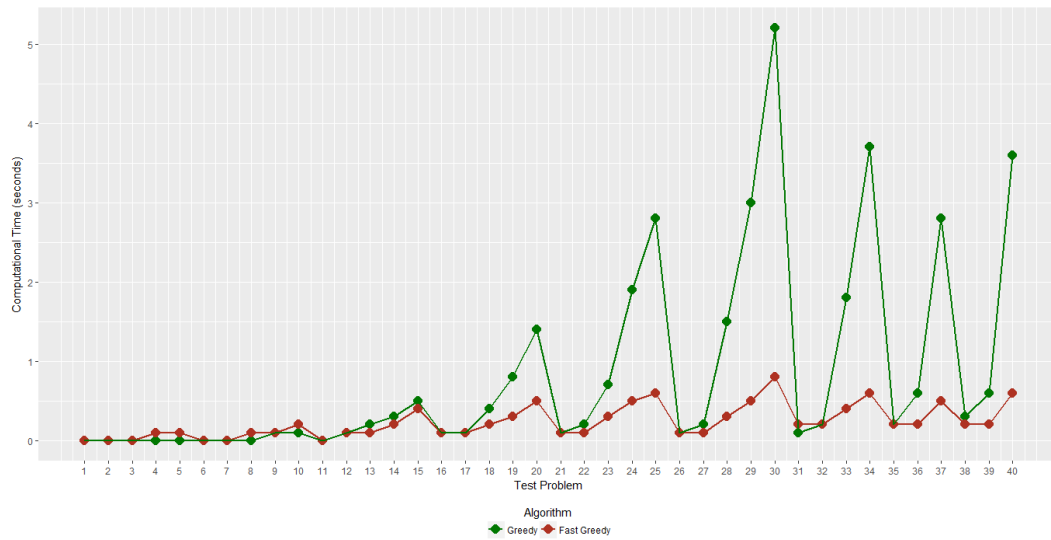


Figure 7: Average Computational Time per Test Problem for Greedy and Fast Greedy Algorithms

Figure 8 compares the average computational time for each test problem against the average accuracy of the solution produced. Figure 9 removes the results from the stingy algorithm to allow for the performance of the greedy and the fast greedy algorithms to be assessed easily.

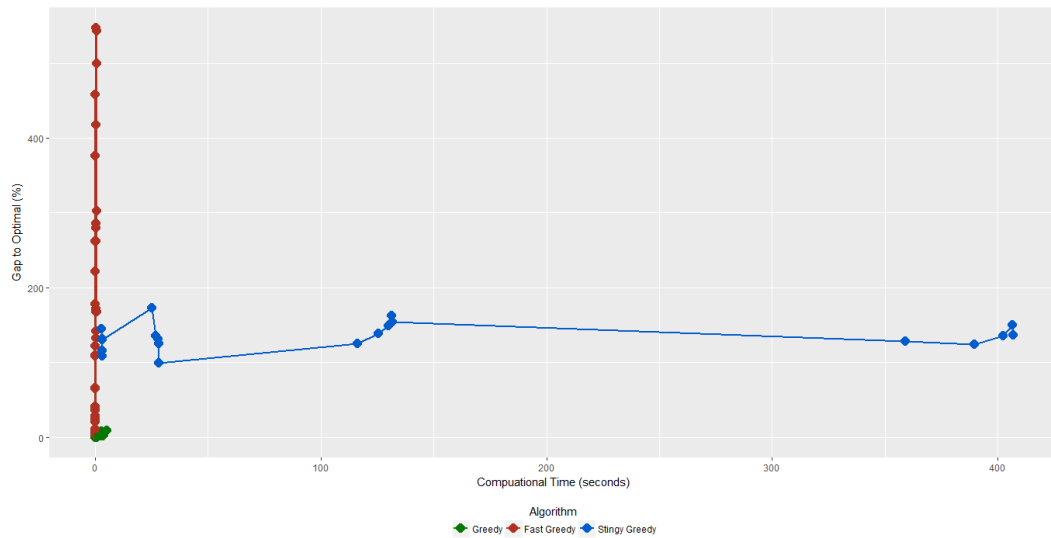


Figure 8: Average Computational Time against Average Gap to the Optimal Solution

It can be seen that the greedy algorithm provides a very accurate solution but does require more time to complete than the faster greedy algorithm when solving problems with large networks. The faster greedy algorithm completes the required number of iterations far quicker but at the loss of the accuracy of the solution.

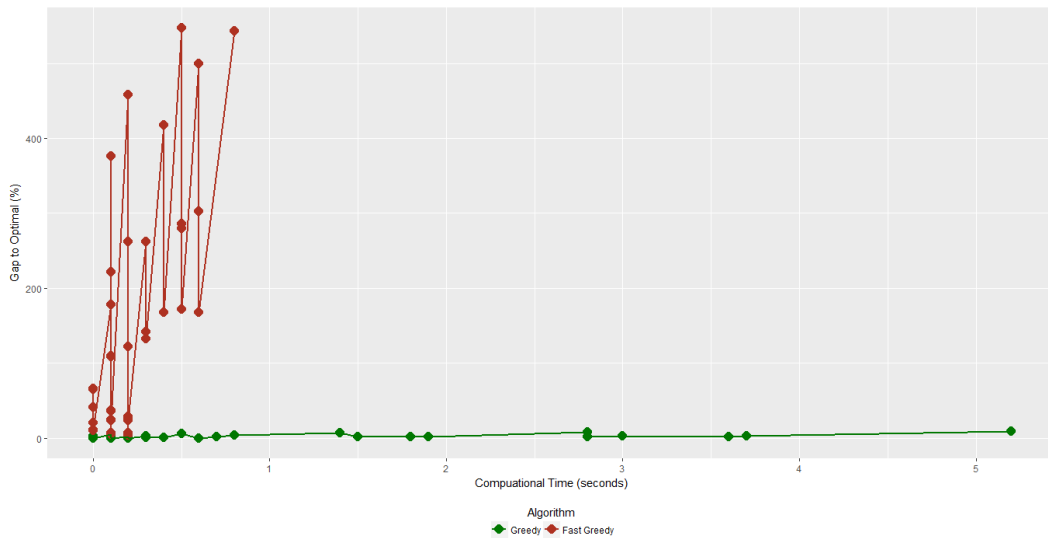


Figure 9: Average Computational Time against Average Gap to the Optimal Solution

Based on the work done by Whitaker [12], it was expected that the fast greedy algorithm would produce results quicker than the greedy algorithm. The trade-off in finding a solution faster would be an objective function value that is less accurate when compared to the optimal objective function value. This trade-off may be acceptable in certain situations.

## 7 Classical Heuristics: Local Search

A local search heuristic differs from a constructive heuristic in that it starts with a feasible solution and each iteration attempts to improve this solution by some deterministic method. This process continues until there is no better solution within reach of the current solution or some predetermined time-out is reached.

The algorithms analysed in this section were run once with a solution median set that was generated using the greedy algorithm described in subsection 6.1 and then a second time using a median set that was generated randomly from all the nodes in the network.

### 7.1 The Interchange Algorithm of Teitz and Bart

The following interchange algorithm was proposed by Teitz and Bart [14] and the amended algorithm was presented by Whitaker [12] fifteen years later. It is Whitaker's algorithm that was used in this study.

Using the input solution, the algorithm assesses what the change in objective function would be if one of the free nodes was changed with one of the median nodes. If this change results in a decreased objective function value, then the switch is

made, and the algorithm then starts assessing whether there exist any free nodes that should be interchanged with the new median set. The process continues until no improvement in the objective function can be found.

### 7.1.1 Pseudocode

---

**Algorithm 4** Interchange Algorithm of Teitz and Bart

---

INPUT: Cost Matrix;  $P^*$ ;  $S^*$

STEP 0: Initialisation

Set  $q = a = 0$ ;  $k = 1$ ;  $b = m - p$ ;  $S = S^*$  and  $P = M - P$

STEP 1: For all nodes in the network, find the closest and second medians.

$$u_i^k = d_{ix} = \min_{j \in P^*}$$

$$w_i^k = d_{iy} = \min_{j \in P^*, j \neq x}$$

STEP 2: The value of  $q$  is updated until it is equal to the number of nodes in the network minus the number of nodes required for the median.

**if**  $q = b$  **then**

go to STEP 5 [

**else**

Set  $q = q + 1$  and go to STEP 3 ]

**end if**

STEP 3: Determine which node currently in the median set,  $P^*$ , should possibly be interchanged with the  $q^{\text{th}}$  node in the set of free nodes. The change in the objective function value if this interchange were to proceed is calculated.

$$r = P_q$$

$$S_{rt} = \min_{j \in P^*} \left[ \sum_{i \in I} [\min(d_{ir}, u_i^k) - u_i^k] + \sum_{i \in J} [\min(d_{ir}, w_i^k) - u_i^k] \right]$$

where  $I = \{\text{all } i \in G : d_{ij} > u_i^k\}$  and  $J = \{\text{all } i \in G : d_{ij} = u_i^k\}$

---

STEP 4: If the proposed node switch from STEP 3 results in a decrease of the objective function value, then proceed with the interchange and update the objective function value as well as the iteration parameter. If the interchange would result in an increase in the objective function value, then go back to STEP 2 and update  $q$ .

**if**  $S_{rt} \geq 0$  **then**  
go to STEP 2 [  
**else if**  $S_{rt} < 0$  **then**

$$\begin{aligned} k &= k + 1 \\ S^* &= S^* + S_{rt} \\ P_q &= t \\ P^* &= P^* \setminus \{t\} \cup \{r\} \end{aligned}$$

go to STEP 1 ]  
**end if**

STEP 5: If, after all nodes in the free node set have been investigated (i.e.  $q = b$ ), increase the value of  $a$  by one and then assess whether the objective function improved in the prior iteration. If there was an improvement, then repeat the algorithm again but if there was no improvement stop.

$$a = a + 1$$

**if**  $S > S^*$  **then**  
Set  $q = 0$  and go to STEP 2 [  
**else if**  $S \leq S^*$  **then**  
Set  $S = S^*$  and STOP ]  
**end if**

### 7.1.2 complexity

### 7.1.3 Results

The average accuracy of the solution obtained from the interchange algorithm of Teitz and Bart when presented with a solution from the greedy algorithm from section 6 as opposed to a feasible random solution can be seen in table 4. This table also presents the average computational time the algorithm took to complete given the two different input solutions.

Figure 10 shows the average computational time taken to produce a final result by the Teitz and Bart algorithm when presented with a solution that was produced by the greedy algorithm. When the value of  $p$  is small, the computational time required is very low and this is quite likely due to the good quality of the greedy algorithm solution. The number of interchanges required to improve the starting solution was



Table 4: Local Search Heuristic Results - Interchange Algorithm of Teitz & Bart

Test Problem	Medians (p)	Network (nodes)	GREEDY		RANDOM	
			Av. Sol. Accuracy	Av. Comp. Time (sec)	Av. Sol. Accuracy	Av. Comp. Time (sec)
01	5	100	1.00	0.07	1.00	0.08
02	10	100	1.00	0.07	1.00	0.15
03	10	100	1.00	0.16	1.00	0.19
04	20	100	1.00	0.12	1.00	0.22
05	33	100	1.00	0.17	0.99	0.32
06	5	200	1.00	0.15	1.00	0.16
07	10	200	1.00	0.18	1.00	0.25
08	20	200	1.00	0.29	1.00	0.59
09	40	200	0.99	0.79	0.99	0.94
10	67	200	0.99	0.71	0.99	1.39
11	5	300	1.00	0.16	1.00	0.24
12	10	300	1.00	0.30	1.00	0.41
13	30	300	1.00	0.81	1.00	1.44
14	60	300	1.00	1.41	1.00	2.89
15	100	300	0.99	2.30	0.99	4.22
16	5	400	1.00	0.39	1.00	0.35
17	10	400	1.00	0.49	1.00	0.70
18	40	400	1.00	2.33	1.00	2.84
19	80	400	0.99	4.26	0.99	4.97
20	133	400	1.00	5.78	0.99	7.67
21	5	500	1.00	0.16	1.00	0.42
22	10	500	0.99	0.63	0.99	1.54
23	50	500	1.00	4.56	1.00	8.92
24	100	500	1.00	7.07	0.99	10.98
25	167	500	0.99	15.23	0.99	14.53
26	5	600	1.00	0.51	1.00	0.68
27	10	600	1.00	1.38	1.00	1.58
28	60	600	1.00	6.32	1.00	14.04
29	120	600	1.00	15.45	0.99	15.97
30	200	600	0.99	15.47	0.99	20.10
31	5	700	1.00	0.28	1.00	0.79
32	10	700	1.00	1.09	1.00	2.02
33	70	700	0.99	9.91	1.00	15.23
34	140	700	1.00	21.84	1.00	20.61
35	5	800	1.00	0.75	1.00	1.42
36	10	800	1.00	1.49	1.00	1.91
37	80	800	1.00	18.56	1.00	21.28
38	5	900	1.00	1.34	1.00	1.99
39	10	900	1.00	1.59	1.00	2.11
40	90	900	1.00	24.19	0.99	27.81

not recorded for these results but this statistic will be included and analysed in the final report. What is expected is that as the number of demanded medians increases, the number of interchanges required to find the final result will increase. The number of interchanges processed will directly affect the computational time.

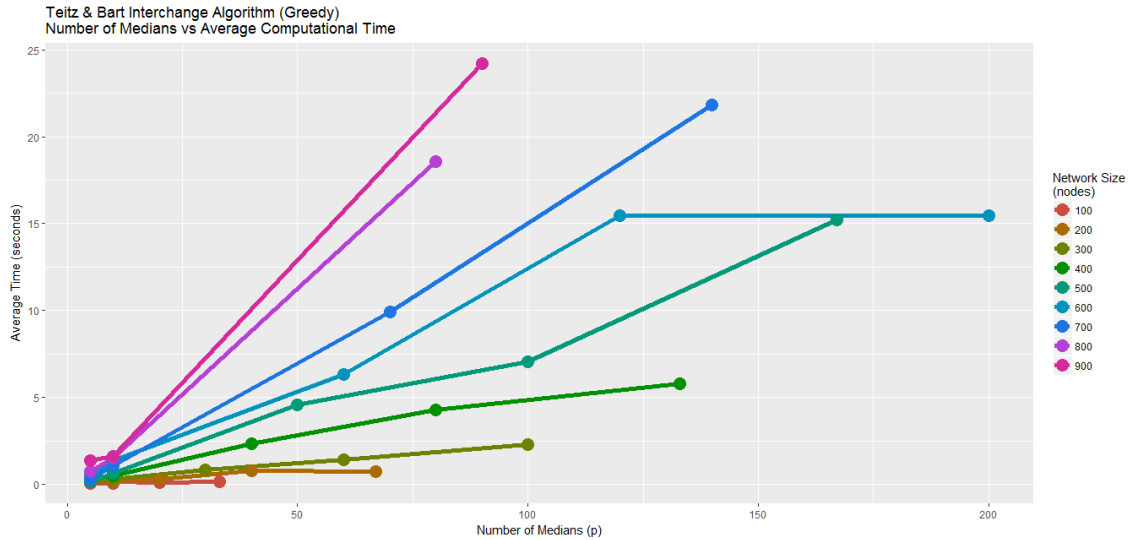


Figure 10: Interchange Algorithm of Teitz and Bart with a Greedy Starting Solution

Figure 11 shows the average computational time taken to produce the final result by the Teitz and Bart algorithm when presented with a solution that was produced by random feasible solution. Clearly, more interchanges will be required before the algorithm finds a good solution and stops and as such, more time is required. This can be seen in the bigger spread in computational time for the  $p = 5$  test problems.

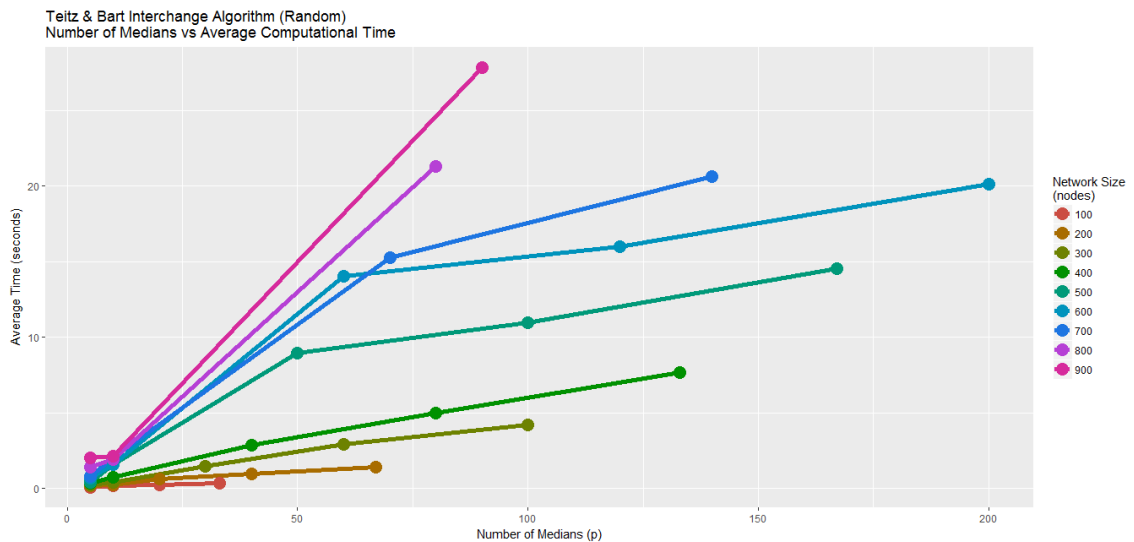


Figure 11: Interchange Algorithm of Teitz and Bart with a Random Starting Solution

Generally, using a greedy starting solution does result in some computational time savings during the local search when compared to using a random solution. However, there are some exceptions with test problems 25, 29, and 30. These three problems have large networks and demand a high number of medians.

## 7.2 The Fast Interchange Algorithm

The fast interchange algorithm, proposed by Whitaker [12], is based on the Teitz and Bart algorithm from subsection 7.1. When searching for a free node that should be swapped with a node in the median set, only free nodes that have yet to be examined are considered.

### 7.2.1 Pseudocode

### 7.2.2 Results

Table 5 presents the average solution accuracy and the average computational time for the fast interchange algorithm. The results from using a solution obtained from the greedy algorithm given in section 6 as well as a randomly created feasible solution are provided alongside one another for comparison.

A comparison of the number of required medians versus the average computational time is given in figure 12 for a greedy starting solution and in figure 13 for a random starting solution. Once again, when the algorithm was presented with a good solution it was quicker to find a final answer. It can also be seen that as the size of the network and required number of medians increases, so does the computational time required by the algorithm.

Figure 12 and figure 13 are very similar, but when the algorithm is presented with a random solution, it does take longer for every test problem. Generally, the larger the number of nodes in the network along with the higher the number of required medians, the bigger the difference in time between the greedy solution and the random solution with the biggest difference occurring in test problem 30 which has the highest value of  $p$  out of all the forty test problems. When given the greedy solution for test problem 30, the fast interchange completed after 21.16 seconds compared to the 24.51 seconds for the random solution.

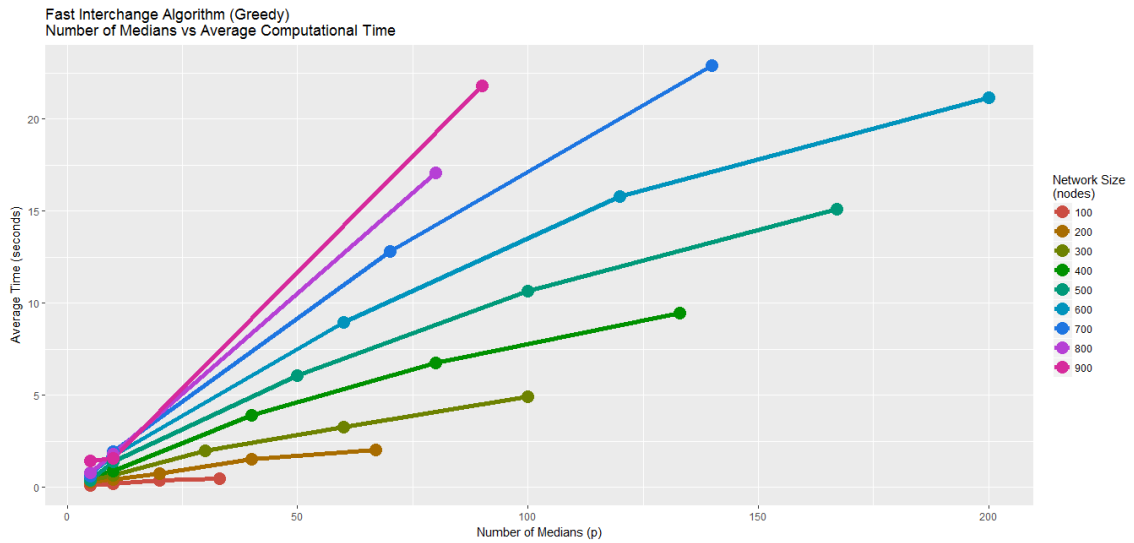


Figure 12: Fast Interchange Algorithm with a Greedy Starting Solution

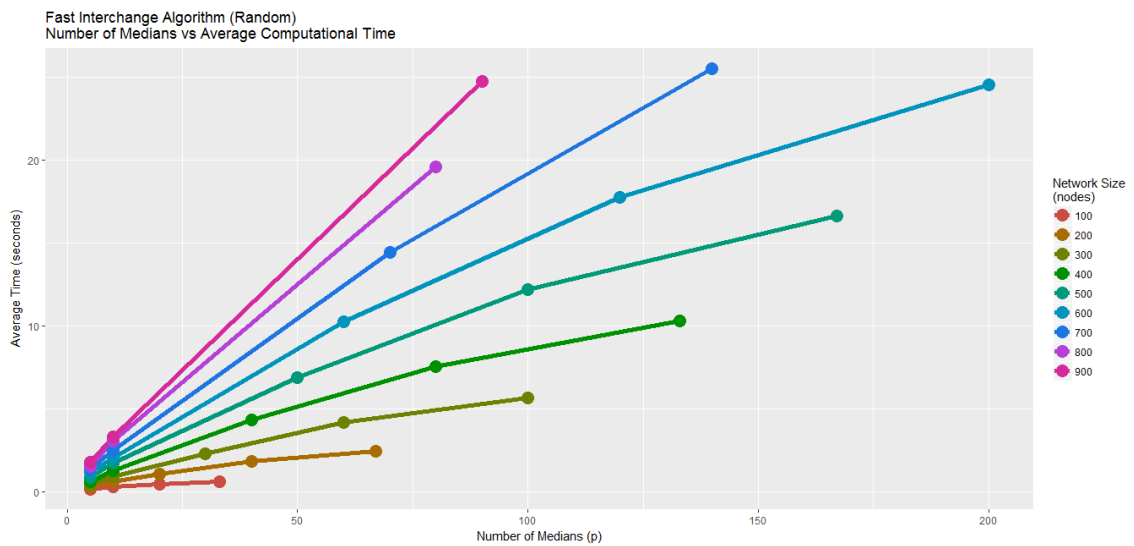


Figure 13: Fast Interchange Algorithm with a Random Starting Solution

Once again, this algorithm does not live up to its name with the fast interchange algorithm producing results faster than the interchange of Teitz and Bart on only four occasions. As such, the design and code of this algorithm needs to be reviewed in order to see where possible savings can be found.

### 7.3 The Alternate Algorithm

The alternate algorithm was presented in a paper by Maranzana in 1964 [15] and begins with creating a random median set and assigning all nodes in the network to one of these median nodes. The group of free nodes associated with each median

Table 5: Local Search Heuristic Results - Fast Interchange Algorithm

Test Problem	Medians (p)	Network (nodes)	GREEDY		RANDOM	
			Av. Sol. Accuracy	Av. Comp. Time (sec)	Av. Sol. Accuracy	Av. Comp. Time (sec)
01	5	100	1.00	0.11	1.00	0.16
02	10	100	1.00	0.16	1.00	0.29
03	10	100	1.00	0.19	0.97	0.28
04	20	100	1.00	0.37	0.99	0.44
05	33	100	1.00	0.45	0.97	0.61
06	5	200	1.00	0.27	1.00	0.30
07	10	200	1.00	0.40	1.00	0.60
08	20	200	1.00	0.71	1.00	1.06
09	40	200	0.99	1.52	0.99	1.81
10	67	200	0.99	2.00	0.98	2.45
11	5	300	1.00	0.36	1.00	0.44
12	10	300	1.00	0.62	1.00	0.92
13	30	300	1.00	1.99	0.99	2.30
14	60	300	1.00	3.24	0.99	4.18
15	100	300	0.99	4.93	0.97	5.64
16	5	400	1.00	0.58	1.00	0.58
17	10	400	1.00	0.86	1.00	1.26
18	40	400	1.00	3.89	1.00	4.31
19	80	400	0.99	6.76	0.99	7.56
20	133	400	0.99	9.44	0.97	10.31
21	5	500	1.00	0.38	1.00	0.86
22	10	500	0.99	1.37	0.99	1.72
23	50	500	1.00	6.06	0.99	6.89
24	100	500	1.00	10.66	0.99	12.19
25	167	500	0.99	15.12	0.98	16.59
26	5	600	1.00	0.76	1.00	1.15
27	10	600	1.00	1.68	1.00	2.05
28	60	600	1.00	8.95	0.99	10.24
29	120	600	1.00	15.80	0.99	17.73
30	200	600	0.99	21.16	0.98	24.51
31	5	700	1.00	0.57	1.00	1.35
32	10	700	1.00	1.93	1.00	2.49
33	70	700	0.99	12.82	0.99	14.42
34	140	700	0.99	22.89	0.99	25.48
35	5	800	1.00	0.78	1.00	1.50
36	10	800	1.00	1.79	1.00	3.05
37	80	800	1.00	17.07	0.99	19.58
38	5	900	0.99	1.43	0.99	1.79
39	10	900	1.00	1.56	1.00	3.28
40	90	900	1.00	21.83	0.99	24.73

node is evaluated and the median for this group is determined and replaces the node in the median set if different from the current median. All nodes in the network are then reassigned to the closest median in the new median set and once again each group's true median is determined and replaces the current node in the median set. This process continues until there is an iteration with no changes to the median set.

### 7.3.1 Pseudocode

### 7.3.2 Results

The code for this algorithm has not been completed and as such there are no results that can be presented at this time.

## 7.4 Computational Results

Figure 14 shows the average accuracy of the objective function value obtained from the two algorithms that were run for both of the different starting solutions. The results fluctuate between returning a result that is 3% worse than the optimal and the perfect solution. The fast interchange algorithm using a random starting solution produced the most variation. It is the fast interchange with a random starting solution that results in the greatest variation in accuracy, while the fast interchange with a greedy solution along with both variations in the interchange algorithm of Teitz and Bart produce consistently accurate results.

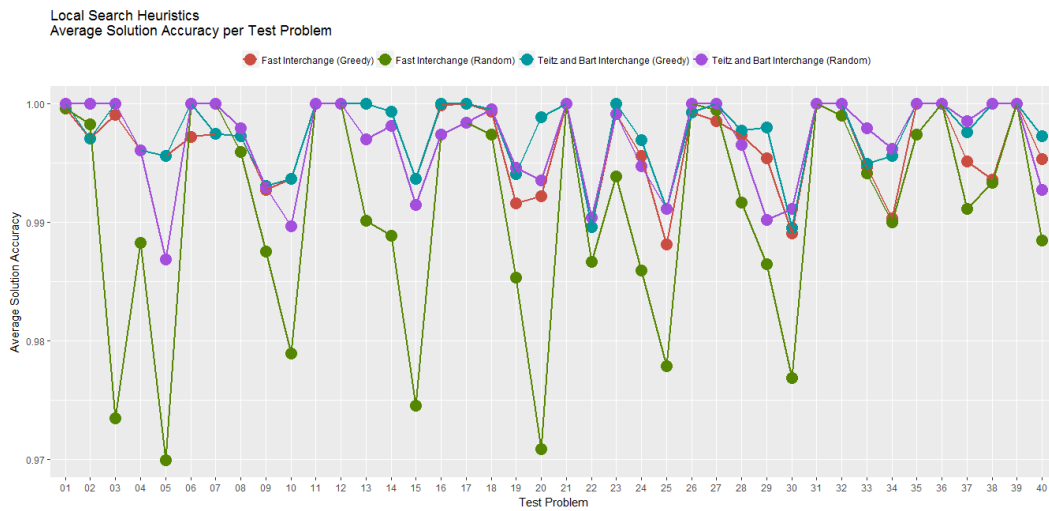


Figure 14: Average Solution Accuracy per Test Problem

The average computational time required by the two algorithms shows similar results to that of the constructive greedy algorithm when the value of  $p$  is small, but as the network size increases along with the value of  $p$ , the computational time increases dramatically.

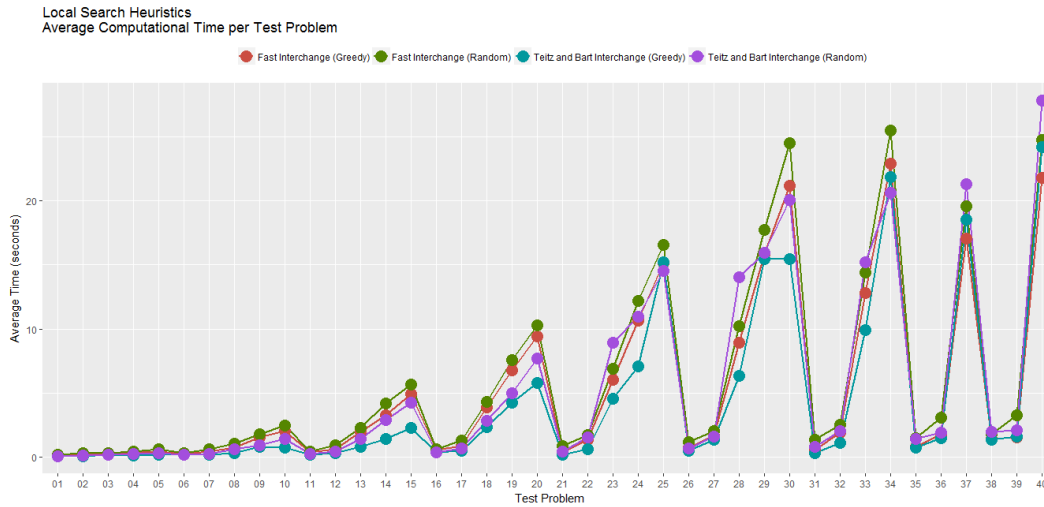


Figure 15: Average Computational per Test Problem

## 8 Conclusion

The results from the local search heuristics offer only a small improvement on those produced by the constructive greedy algorithm from section 6 as that algorithm produced solutions that were up to 4% worse than the optimal value. The increase in time between the constructive greedy algorithm and the local search algorithms are significantly large particularly for larger networks that require a lot of medians. Test problem 30 took just over 2 seconds to produce a solution that was on average 97% accurate while the interchange algorithm of Teitz and Bart and the fast interchange algorithm both improved this accuracy by 2%, but at a cost of an additional 13 and 19 seconds respectively. Of course, context is king and for many real-world problems a 2% improvement could equate to vast amounts of savings and as such this small improvement may be worth the additional computational time that is required.

Looking at the difference in time between both local search algorithms starting with a random solution and a greedy solution, it can be seen that the additional time taken to improve the random solution is generally greater than the time taken by the greedy algorithm to find a starting solution.

## 9 Remaining Work

In the coming weeks, the literature study in section 3 will be extended to give more background into the algorithms investigated in this study and the section giving an overview of heuristics may also be broadened.

Of the six algorithms currently included in this study, only the alternate algorithm needs to be coded. This will be done and the results from running this code will be added to the local search computational results. The stingy algorithm code has been completed, but needs to be revised as the computational time required for even small

problems is excessively high. The results from this algorithm will also be included and analysed, even if code cannot be improved.

The complexity of all the algorithms will be added to their respective subsections and may be referred to in the subsection comparing the results if appropriate.

As has already been mentioned, the fast greedy algorithm and the fast interchange algorithm are taking longer to run than the original algorithm. This goes against what was expected and the reason that this is occurring needs to be determined. Current thoughts are that algorithm code could be improved as well as the fact that the design R language is able to determine the closest median for all nodes in the network a computationally inexpensive which makes the proposed improvements offered by the two "fast" algorithms redundant. R code can be profiled to determine where bottlenecks slowing down the processing time exist and from this information, hopefully, the code can be improved. Vectorisation is a key component of the R language as it allows for an increase in speed. It is currently not known if this has been fully exploited in the code that has been written for this study and as such this needs to be assessed and applied.

Given time, a section on metaheuristics used to solve the  $p$ -median problem will also be added. At least two metaheuristics will be coded and used to solve the forty test problems. These results will also be added to the final report and compared to those produced in the classic heuristic sections.



## 10 References

- [1] S. L. Hakimi, "Optimum locations of switching centers and the absolute centers and medians of a graph," *Operations Research*, vol. 12, no. 3, pp. 450–459, 1964.
- [2] C. S. ReVelle and R. W. Swain, "Central facilities location," *Geographical Analysis*, vol. 2, no. 1, pp. 30–42, 1970.
- [3] N. Mladenović, J. Brimberg, P. Hansen, and J. A. Moreno-Pérez, "The p-median problem: A survey of metaheuristic approaches," *European Journal of Operational Research*, vol. 179, no. 3, pp. 927–939, 2007.
- [4] F. Chiyoshi and R. D. Galvão, "A statistical analysis of simulated annealing applied to the p-median problem," *Annals of Operations Research*, vol. 96, no. 1, pp. 61–74, 2000.
- [5] O. Alp, E. Erkut, and Z. Drezner, "An efficient genetic algorithm for the p-median problem," *Annals of Operations Research*, vol. 122, no. 1, pp. 21–42, 2003.
- [6] P. Hansen and N. Mladenović, "Variable neighborhood search: Principles and applications," *European Journal of Operational Research*, vol. 130, no. 3, pp. 449–467, 2001.
- [7] E. Rolland, D. A. Schilling, and J. R. Current, "An efficient tabu search procedure for the p-median problem," *European Journal of Operational Research*, vol. 96, no. 2, pp. 329–342, 1997.
- [8] K. E. Rosling, C. S. ReVelle, E. Rolland, D. Schilling, and J. Current, "Heuristic concentration and tabu search: A head to head comparison," *European Journal of Operational Research*, vol. 104, no. 1, pp. 93–99, 1998.
- [9] R Core Team, *R: A Language and Environment for Statistical Computing*, R Foundation for Statistical Computing, Vienna, Austria, 2013. [Online]. Available: <http://www.R-project.org/>
- [10] J. E. Beasley, "OR-Library: distributing test problems by electronic mail," *Journal of the Operational Research Society*, vol. 41, no. 11, pp. 1069–1072, 1990.
- [11] G. Csardi and T. Nepusz, "The igraph software package for complex network research," *InterJournal*, vol. Complex Systems, p. 1695, 2006. [Online]. Available: <http://igraph.org>
- [12] R. Whitaker, "A fast algorithm for the greedy interchange for large-scale clustering and median location problems," *INFOR: Information Systems and Operational Research*, vol. 21, no. 2, pp. 95–108, 1983.
- [13] E. Feldman, F. Lehrner, and T. Ray, "Warehouse location under continuous economies of scale," *Management Science*, vol. 12, no. 9, pp. 670–684, 1966.

- [14] M. B. Teitz and P. Bart, “Heuristic methods for estimating the generalized vertex median of a weighted graph,” *Operations Research*, vol. 16, no. 5, pp. 955–961, 1968.
- [15] F. Maranzana, “On the location of supply points to minimize transport costs,” *OR*, pp. 261–270, 1964.

## 11 Index of Terms

- algorithm, 1, 3
- alternate algorithm, 24
- Beasley's test problem dataset, 2, 3
- complexity analysis
  - fast greedy algorithm, 10
  - greedy algorithm, 6
  - stingy algorithm, 14
- constructive heuristic, 1, 5
  - fast greedy algorithm, 9, 16, 18
  - greedy algorithm, 16
  - stingy algorithm, 13, 16
- fast greedy algorithm, 9, 16, 18
  - complexity analysis, 10
  - pseudocode, 9
  - results, 16, 18
- fast interchange, 23, 25, 26
  - results, 23, 25, 26
- greedy algorithm, 2, 5, 16
  - complexity analysis, 6
  - pseudocode, 5
  - results, 16
- greedy interchange algorithm, 2
- heuristic, 1–3
  - alternate algorithm, 24
  - classical heuristic, 3
  - constructive, 1, 2, 5
  - fast greedy algorithm, 9, 16, 18
  - fast interchange, 23, 25, 26
  - greedy algorithm, 2, 5, 16
  - interchange algorithm of Teitz and Bart, 18, 20–23, 26
  - local search, 1, 2, 18
  - metaheuristic, 3
  - stingy algorithm, 13, 16
- heuristic concentration, 2
- integer programme, 2
- integer programming, 2
- interchange algorithm of Teitz and Bart, 18, 20–23, 26
  - pseudocode, 19
  - results, 20–22, 26
- linear programme
  - branch-and-bound, 2
- linear programming, 2
- local search, 1, 2, 18, 23, 24
- local search heuristic
  - interchange algorithm of Teitz and Bart, 20–22
- mathematical programming, 2
- metaheuristic, 2
  - simulated annealing, 2
  - tabu search, 2
  - variable neighbourhood search, 2
- NP-hard, 2
- p-median, 3
- p-median problem, 1
- R (programming language), 2, 3
- simulated annealing, 2
- stingy algorithm, 13, 16
  - complexity analysis, 14
  - pseudocode, 13
  - results, 16
- tabu search, 2
- variable neighbourhood search, 2

## 12 Index of Authors

Alp, O., 2

Bart, P., 18

Beasley, J., 3

Chiyoshi, F., 2

Galvão, R., 2

Hakimi, S., 2

Hansen, P., 2

Mladenović, N., 2, 3

ReVelle, C., 2

Rolland, E., 2

Rosing, K. E., 2

Swain, R., 2

Teitz, M., 18

Whitaker, R., 4, 9, 18

# Appendices

## A Constructive Heuristics Results

### A.1 Greedy Algorithm

Table 6: Greedy Algorithm (50 Runs)

Test Problem	p	n	Edges	Optimal Solution	Computational Time (seconds)				Gap to Optimal (%)			
					Mean	Min	Max	Std Dev	Mean	Min	Max	Std Dev
1	5	100	198	5819	0	0	0.1	0.01	1.2	1.2	1.2	0
2	10	100	193	4093	0	0	0.0	0.01	0.6	0.6	0.6	0
3	10	100	198	4250	0	0	0.1	0.01	3.5	3.5	3.5	0
4	20	100	196	3034	0	0	0.1	0.01	2	1.8	2.2	0.2
5	33	100	196	1355	0	0	0.1	0.01	2.6	1.7	4.4	0.69
6	5	200	786	7824	0	0	0.1	0.02	2.6	2.6	2.6	0
7	10	200	779	5631	0	0	0.1	0.02	0.3	0.3	0.3	0
8	20	200	792	4445	0	0	0.1	0.02	1.6	1.5	2.3	0.16
9	40	200	785	2734	0.1	0	0.1	0.02	4.9	4.1	5.2	0.48
10	67	200	786	1255	0.1	0.1	0.2	0.02	5.5	3.6	7.8	1.6
11	5	300	1772	7696	0	0	0.1	0.02	0.3	0.3	0.3	0
12	10	300	1758	6634	0.1	0	0.1	0.03	0.3	0.3	0.3	0
13	30	300	1760	4374	0.2	0.1	0.2	0.03	2.3	2.3	2.3	0
14	60	300	1771	2968	0.3	0.2	0.4	0.03	2.5	2.1	3.1	0.26
15	100	300	1754	1729	0.5	0.4	0.6	0.04	6.2	4.5	7.9	0.83
16	5	400	3153	8162	0.1	0	0.1	0.03	0.9	0.9	0.9	0
17	10	400	3142	6999	0.1	0.1	0.2	0.04	0.3	0.3	0.3	0
18	40	400	3134	4809	0.4	0.3	0.6	0.07	1.4	1.3	1.5	0.07
19	80	400	3134	2845	0.8	0.6	0.9	0.06	3.9	3.6	4.3	0.19
20	133	400	3144	1789	1.4	1.3	1.6	0.07	7.6	5.8	8.9	0.69

Table 6: Greedy Algorithm (50 Runs)

Test Problem	p	n	Edges	Optimal Solution	Computational Time (seconds)				Gap to Optimal (%)			
					Mean	Min	Max	Std Dev	Mean	Min	Max	Std Dev
21	5	500	4909	9138	0.1	0	0.2	0.04	0	0	0	0
22	10	500	4896	8579	0.2	0.1	0.2	0.04	1.1	1.1	1.1	0
23	50	500	4903	4619	0.7	0.5	0.8	0.05	1.6	1.5	1.8	0.11
24	100	500	4914	2961	1.9	1.4	2.5	0.36	2.2	1.8	2.5	0.16
25	167	500	4894	1828	2.8	2.6	3.2	0.12	7.9	6.6	9.6	0.65
26	5	600	7069	9917	0.1	0.1	0.2	0.03	1.8	1.8	1.8	0
27	10	600	7072	8307	0.2	0.2	0.3	0.04	0.8	0.8	0.8	0
28	60	600	7054	4498	1.5	1.2	1.7	0.1	1.8	1.7	2.2	0.12
29	120	600	7042	3033	3	2.7	3.5	0.17	3.5	2.5	4.5	0.53
30	200	600	7042	1989	5.2	4.9	5.8	0.22	9.1	7.1	10.1	0.55
31	5	700	9601	10086	0.1	0.1	0.2	0.03	0	0	0	0
32	10	700	9584	9297	0.2	0.1	0.3	0.04	0.4	0.4	0.4	0
33	70	700	9616	4700	1.8	1.6	2.0	0.1	2.1	2	2.3	0.11
34	140	700	9585	3013	3.7	3.5	4.1	0.13	2.9	2	3.8	0.56
35	5	800	12548	10400	0.2	0.1	0.4	0.06	0.1	0.1	0.1	0
36	10	800	12560	9934	0.6	0.5	0.7	0.03	0.2	0.2	0.2	0
37	80	800	12564	5057	2.8	2.4	3.9	0.25	1.5	1.2	1.9	0.2
38	5	900	15898	11060	0.3	0.3	0.4	0.02	0.8	0.8	0.8	0
39	10	900	15896	9423	0.6	0.5	0.7	0.04	0.3	0.3	0.3	0
40	90	900	15879	5128	3.6	3.2	4.1	0.22	1.8	1.3	2	0.18

## A.2 Fast Greedy Algorithm



Table 7: Fast Greedy Algorithm Results (50 Runs)

Test Problem	p	n	Edges	Optimal Solution	Computational Time (seconds)				Gap to Optimal (%)			
					Mean	Min	Max	Std Dev	Mean	Min	Max	Std Dev
1	5	100	198	5819	0	0	0.1	0.01	20.3	20.3	20.3	0
2	10	100	193	4093	0	0	0.1	0.01	66.3	66.3	66.3	0
3	10	100	198	4250	0	0	0.1	0.01	64.9	64.9	64.9	0
4	20	100	196	3034	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.01	178.3	178.3	178.3	0
5	33	100	196	1355	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.01	376.4	376.4	376.4	0
6	5	200	786	7824	0	0	0.1	0.01	10.1	10.1	10.1	0
7	10	200	779	5631	0	0	0.1	0.01	41.8	41.8	41.8	0
8	20	200	792	4445	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.01	108.4	108.4	108.4	0
9	40	200	785	2734	0.1	0.1	0.2	0.01	221.2	221.2	221.2	0
10	67	200	786	1255	0.2	0.2	0.3	0.02	457.9	457.9	457.9	0
11	5	300	1772	7696	0	0	0.1	0.01	11.1	11.1	11.1	0
12	10	300	1758	6634	0.1	0	0.1	0.02	36.2	36.2	36.2	0
13	30	300	1760	4374	0.1	0.1	0.2	0.02	110.1	110.1	110.1	0
14	60	300	1771	2968	0.2	0.2	0.3	0.02	262.5	262.5	262.5	0
15	100	300	1754	1729	0.4	0.3	0.5	0.03	417.7	417.4	418.2	0.4
16	5	400	3153	8162	0.1	0	0.1	0.03	6.8	6.8	6.8	0
17	10	400	3142	6999	0.1	0	0.1	0.03	37.1	37.1	37.1	0
18	40	400	3134	4809	0.2	0.1	0.2	0.03	122.7	122.7	122.7	0
19	80	400	3134	2845	0.3	0.3	0.4	0.03	262.5	262.5	262.5	0
20	133	400	3144	1789	0.5	0.5	0.7	0.05	547	547	547	0

Table 7: Fast Greedy Algorithm Results (50 Runs)

Test Problem	p	n	Edges	Optimal Solution	Computational Time (seconds)				Gap to Optimal (%)			
					Mean	Min	Max	Std Dev	Mean	Min	Max	Std Dev
21	5	500	4909	9138	0.1	0	0.2	0.04	7.6	7.6	7.6	0
22	10	500	4896	8579	0.1	0.1	0.2	0.02	24.9	24.8	24.9	0.06
23	50	500	4903	4619	0.3	0.2	0.3	0.03	142.3	142.3	142.3	0
24	100	500	4914	2961	0.5	0.4	0.8	0.08	286.1	285.9	286.3	0.2
25	167	500	4894	1828	0.6	0.6	0.8	0.04	499	499	499	0
26	5	600	7069	9917	0.1	0.1	0.2	0.04	5.4	5.4	5.4	0
27	10	600	7072	8307	0.1	0.1	0.2	0.02	24.1	24.1	24.1	0
28	60	600	7054	4498	0.3	0.3	0.4	0.04	132.7	132.2	133.3	0.55
29	120	600	7042	3033	0.5	0.5	0.6	0.04	279.7	279.7	279.7	0
30	200	600	7042	1989	0.8	0.7	0.9	0.04	542.6	542.6	542.6	0
31	5	700	9601	10086	0.2	0.1	0.2	0.03	7.4	7.4	7.4	0
32	10	700	9584	9297	0.2	0.1	0.2	0.03	28.5	28.5	28.5	0
33	70	700	9616	4700	0.4	0.3	0.5	0.04	167.8	167.8	167.8	0
34	140	700	9585	3013	0.6	0.6	0.9	0.05	302.9	302.9	302.9	0
35	5	800	12548	10400	0.2	0.1	0.3	0.04	4.3	4.3	4.3	0
36	10	800	12560	9934	0.2	0.2	0.3	0.04	26.4	26.4	26.4	0
37	80	800	12564	5057	0.5	0.4	0.5	0.03	172.2	172.2	172.2	0.02
38	5	900	15898	11060	0.2	0.2	0.3	0.03	5.9	5.9	5.9	0
39	10	900	15896	9423	0.2	0.2	0.3	0.03	23.3	23.3	23.3	0
40	90	900	15879	5128	0.6	0.5	0.7	0.04	167.6	167.6	167.6	0

### A.3 Stingy Algorithm

Table 8: Stingy Algorithm Results (50 Runs)

Test Problem	p	n	Edges	Optimal Solution	Computational Time (seconds)				Gap to Optimal (%)			
					Mean	Min	Max	Std Dev	Mean	Min	Max	Std Dev
1	5	100	198	5819	3.3	3.2	4.2	0.16	116.1	116.1	116.1	0
2	10	100	193	4093	3.3	3.2	3.6	0.11	131.9	126.3	138.1	3.4
3	10	100	198	4250	3.3	3.2	3.6	0.11	130.6	130.4	131	0.29
4	20	100	196	3034	3.1	3	3.7	0.12	108.5	106.7	110.2	1.78
5	33	100	196	1355	2.9	2.8	3.4	0.15	145	138.5	155.6	8.07
6	5	200	786	7824	28.2	27.8	30.2	0.47	99.2	99.2	99.2	0
7	10	200	779	5631	28.1	27.6	28.7	0.36	125.3	124.5	126.1	0.81
8	20	200	792	4445	27.8	27.4	28.4	0.34	131.3	128.7	133	2.1
9	40	200	785	2734	26.9	26.5	27.5	0.37	135.3	132.2	137.1	2.34
10	67	200	786	1255	25	24.4	28.5	0.77	173.2	173.2	173.2	0
11	5	300	1772	7696	131.8	131.5	132.3	0.38	154.2	148.2	172.4	12.12
12	10	300	1758	6634	131.4	131.1	131.6	0.23	163	163	163	0
13	30	300	1760	4374	130.1	129.7	130.7	0.44	149.6	149.6	149.6	0
14	60	300	1771	2968	125.5	125.2	125.9	0.26	138.7	137	140.6	1.97
15	100	300	1754	1729	116.4	115.8	117.4	0.38	125.8	123.7	127.3	1.03
16	5	400	3153	8162	406.3	406.1	406.5	0.17	149.7	149.7	149.7	0
17	10	400	3142	6999	406.8	405.4	408.1	1.41	136.8	135.4	141	2.79
18	40	400	3134	4809	402.4	400.1	408.2	3.86	135.7	134.2	136.9	1.26
19	80	400	3134	2845	389.6	388.9	390.5	0.69	124.3	124	124.7	0.33
20	133	400	3144	1789	359	358.8	359.2	0.19	128.2	128.2	128.2	0

## **B Local Search Heuristics Results**

### **B.1 Interchange Algorithm of Teitz and Bart**

Table 9: Interchange Algorithm of Teitz and Bart - Greedy (50 Runs)

Test Problem	p	n	Edges	Optimal Solution	Computational Time (seconds)				Gap to Optimal (percent)				Iterations			
					Mean	Min	Max	Std Dev	Mean	Min	Max	Std Dev	Mean	Min	Max	Std Dev
1	5	100	198	5819	0.1	0	0.1	0.02	0	0	0	0	0.1	0	6	0.85
2	10	100	193	4093	0.1	0	0.1	0.01	0.3	0.3	0.3	0	0.1	0	3	0.42
3	10	100	198	4250	0.1	0.1	0.2	0.02	0	0	0	0	0.1	0	7	0.99
4	20	100	196	3034	0.1	0.1	0.2	0.02	0.4	0.4	0.4	0	0.1	0	3	0.42
5	33	100	196	1355	0.1	0.1	0.2	0.02	0.4	0.4	0.4	0	0.1	0	3	0.42
6	5	200	786	7824	0.1	0.1	0.2	0.02	0	0	0	0	0.2	0	8	1.13
7	10	200	779	5631	0.2	0.1	0.2	0.02	0.2	0.2	0.2	0	0	0	2	0.28
8	20	200	792	4445	0.3	0.2	0.3	0.02	0.3	0.3	0.3	0	0.1	0	4	0.57
9	40	200	785	2734	0.7	0.7	0.9	0.04	0.7	0.7	0.7	0	0.2	0	12	1.7
10	67	200	786	1255	0.6	0.6	0.7	0.02	0.6	0.6	0.6	0	0.2	0	10	1.41
11	5	300	1772	7696	0.1	0.1	0.2	0.02	0	0	0	0	0.1	0	3	0.42
12	10	300	1758	6634	0.3	0.2	0.4	0.03	0	0	0	0	0.1	0	4	0.57
13	30	300	1760	4374	0.7	0.7	0.9	0.04	0	0	0	0	0.2	0	10	1.41
14	60	300	1771	2968	1.2	1.2	1.5	0.07	0.1	0.1	0.1	0	0.3	0	16	2.26
15	100	300	1754	1729	1.7	1.6	2	0.07	0.6	0.6	0.6	0	0.2	0	12	1.7
16	5	400	3153	8162	0.4	0.3	0.5	0.03	0	0	0	0	0.1	0	6	0.85
17	10	400	3142	6999	0.4	0.4	0.5	0.02	0	0	0	0	0.1	0	3	0.42
18	40	400	3134	4809	2.1	2	2.4	0.08	0	0	0	0	0.2	0	12	1.7
19	80	400	3134	2845	3.7	3.6	4.1	0.12	0.6	0.6	0.6	0	0.4	0	21	2.97
20	133	400	3144	1789	5.1	5	5.9	0.19	0.1	0.1	0.1	0	0.6	0	30	4.24

Table 9: Interchange Algorithm of Teitz and Bart - Greedy (50 Runs)

Test Problem	p	n	Edges	Optimal Solution	Computational Time (seconds)				Gap to Optimal (percent)				Iterations				
					Mean	Min	Max	Std Dev	Mean	Min	Max	Std Dev	Mean	Min	Max	Std Dev	
21	5	500	4909	9138	0.2	0.1	0.2	0.02	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0.14
22	10	500	4896	8579	0.6	0.5	0.7	0.04	1	1	1	0	0	0	0	2	0.28
23	50	500	4903	4619	3.7	3.6	4.1	0.1	0	0	0	0	0.4	0	18	2.55	
24	100	500	4914	2961	6.3	6.2	6.9	0.19	0.3	0.3	0.3	0	0.4	0	18	2.55	
25	167	500	4894	1828	10.1	8.6	12.3	1.43	0.9	0.7	1	0.07	0.6	0	29	4.1	
26	5	600	7069	9917	0.4	0.4	0.6	0.03	0.1	0.1	0.1	0	0.1	0	7	0.99	
27	10	600	7072	8307	1.2	1.1	1.4	0.06	0	0	0	0	0.2	0	8	1.13	
28	60	600	7054	4498	5.8	5.7	6.5	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.2	0	0.3	0	17	2.4	
29	120	600	7042	3033	11.8	10	14	1.65	0.2	0.2	0.2	0	0.6	0	28	3.96	
30	200	600	7042	1989	13.9	13.7	15.6	0.44	1.1	1.1	1.1	0	0.3	0	17	2.4	
31	5	700	9601	10086	0.3	0.2	0.3	0.02	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0.14	
32	10	700	9584	9297	1	1	1.2	0.05	0	0	0	0	0.1	0	6	0.85	
33	70	700	9616	4700	8.8	8.6	9.4	0.21	0.5	0.5	0.5	0	0.5	0	23	3.25	
34	140	700	9585	3013	19.5	15.2	20.9	1.88	0.4	0.4	0.5	0.01	0.8	0	38	5.37	
35	5	800	12548	10400	0.7	0.6	0.7	0.03	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	0.28	
36	10	800	12560	9934	1.2	1.2	1.4	0.05	0	0	0	0	0.1	0	4	0.57	
37	80	800	12564	5057	17.9	12.4	21.2	3.65	0.2	0.2	0.3	0.01	0.6	0	28	3.96	
38	5	900	15898	11060	1.3	1.2	1.5	0.06	0	0	0	0	0.2	0	9	1.27	
39	10	900	15896	9423	1.5	1.5	1.7	0.05	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	0.28	
40	90	900	15879	5128	22.9	22.6	23.6	0.3	0.3	0.3	0.3	0	0.5	0	24	3.39	

Table 10: Interchange Algorithm of Teitz and Bart - Random (50 Runs)

Test Problem	p	n	Edges	Optimal Solution	Computational Time (seconds)					Gap to Optimal (percent)					Iterations				
					Mean	Min	Max	Std Dev		Mean	Min	Max	Std Dev		Mean	Min	Max	Std Dev	
1	5	100	198	5819	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.01	0	0	0	0	0	0.3	0	17	2.4	2.4	
2	10	100	193	4093	0.1	0.1	0.2	0.02	0	0	0	0	0	0.6	0	31	4.38	4.38	
3	10	100	198	4250	0.2	0.1	0.2	0.01	0	0	0	0	0	0.6	0	30	4.24	4.24	
4	20	100	196	3034	0.2	0.2	0.3	0.02	0.4	0.4	0.4	0.4	0	0.6	0	32	4.53	4.53	
5	33	100	196	1355	0.3	0.2	0.3	0.02	1.3	1.3	1.3	1.3	0	0.8	0	40	5.66	5.66	
6	5	200	786	7824	0.2	0.1	0.2	0.03	0	0	0	0	0	0.5	0	24	3.39	3.39	
7	10	200	779	5631	0.2	0.2	0.3	0.02	0	0	0	0	0	0.6	0	32	4.53	4.53	
8	20	200	792	4445	0.6	0.5	0.6	0.03	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.2	0	1	0	50	7.07	7.07	
9	40	200	785	2734	0.9	0.9	1.1	0.06	0.7	0.7	0.7	0.7	0.02	1.1	0	57	8.06	8.06	
10	67	200	786	1255	1.4	1.2	1.8	0.19	1.1	0.8	0.8	1.2	0.16	1.3	0	66	9.33	9.33	
11	5	300	1772	7696	0.2	0.2	0.3	0.02	0	0	0	0	0	0.4	0	21	2.97	2.97	
12	10	300	1758	6634	0.4	0.4	0.5	0.02	0	0	0	0	0	0.7	0	33	4.67	4.67	
13	30	300	1760	4374	1.5	1.4	1.7	0.08	0.3	0.3	0.3	0.3	0	1.3	0	63	8.91	8.91	
14	60	300	1771	2968	2.6	2.4	3.4	0.27	0.2	0.1	0.2	0.2	0.05	2	0	100	14.14	14.14	
15	100	300	1754	1729	4.2	3.3	5.7	0.78	0.8	0.5	0.5	1.2	0.17	2.3	0	116	16.4	16.4	
16	5	400	3153	8162	0.3	0.3	0.4	0.02	0.3	0.3	0.3	0.3	0	0.4	0	20	2.83	2.83	
17	10	400	3142	6999	0.6	0.5	0.6	0.02	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.2	0	0.7	0	33	4.67	4.67	
18	40	400	3134	4809	2.7	2.6	3.1	0.1	0	0	0	0	0	1.6	0	82	11.6	11.6	
19	80	400	3134	2845	4.7	4.6	6	0.25	0.6	0.4	0.4	0.6	0.09	2.5	0	123	17.39	17.39	
20	133	400	3144	1789	7.5	6.3	8.9	0.83	0.6	0.4	0.4	1	0.13	2.7	0	134	18.95	18.95	



Table 10: Interchange Algorithm of Teitz and Bart - Random (50 Runs)

Test Problem	p	n	Edges	Optimal Solution	Computational Time (seconds)				Gap to Optimal (percent)				Iterations			
					Mean	Min	Max	Std Dev	Mean	Min	Max	Std Dev	Mean	Min	Max	Std Dev
21	5	500	4909	9138	0.4	0.4	0.5	0.02	0	0	0	0	0.3	0	17	2.4
22	10	500	4896	8579	1.5	1.5	1.8	0.06	1	1	1	0	1	0	49	6.93
23	50	500	4903	4619	8.7	8.5	9.3	0.21	0.1	0.1	0.1	0	2.3	0	113	15.98
24	100	500	4914	2961	10.8	10.4	12.8	0.65	0.5	0.3	0.7	0.13	3	0	152	21.5
25	167	500	4894	1828	13.8	11	17.3	1.62	1	0.6	1.4	0.2	3.1	0	155	21.92
26	5	600	7069	9917	0.6	0.6	0.7	0.03	0	0	0	0	0.6	0	28	3.96
27	10	600	7072	8307	1.6	1.5	1.8	0.05	0	0	0	0	0.9	0	43	6.08
28	60	600	7054	4498	10.3	9.8	12.3	0.8	0.3	0.2	0.4	0.08	2.8	0	140	19.8
29	120	600	7042	3033	15.5	13.4	18	1.9	1	0.9	1.1	0.07	3.8	0	189	26.73
30	200	600	7042	1989	20.6	18.1	28.4	2.98	0.9	0.5	1.3	0.2	4.1	0	204	28.85
31	5	700	9601	10086	0.7	0.7	0.8	0.03	0	0	0	0	0.5	0	25	3.54
32	10	700	9584	9297	1.9	1.8	2.3	0.09	0	0	0	0	0.9	0	47	6.65
33	70	700	9616	4700	13.9	10.9	16.8	0.74	0.2	0.1	0.5	0.08	3.4	0	168	23.76
34	140	700	9585	3013	19.6	18.8	24.8	1.63	0.4	0.2	0.5	0.07	4.3	0	213	30.12
35	5	800	12548	10400	1.3	1.2	1.5	0.06	0	0	0	0	0.5	0	25	3.54
36	10	800	12560	9934	1.8	1.7	2.1	0.08	0	0	0	0	1	0	52	7.35
37	80	800	12564	5057	21.2	15.6	25.1	3.31	0.1	0	0.2	0.04	3.7	0	186	26.3
38	5	900	15898	11060	1.9	1.8	2.2	0.06	0	0	0	0	0.6	0	30	4.24
39	10	900	15896	9423	2	1.9	2.3	0.09	0	0	0	0	0.9	0	46	6.51
40	90	900	15879	5128	28.4	19.7	43.1	7.87	0.7	0.3	1.1	0.24	3.9	0	196	27.72

## **B.2 Fast Interchange Algorithm**

Table 11: Fast Interchange Algorithm - Greedy (50 Runs)

Test Problem	p	n	Edges	Optimal Solution	Computational Time (seconds)				Gap to Optimal (percent)				Iterations			
					Mean	Min	Max	Std Dev	Mean	Min	Max	Std Dev	Mean	Min	Max	Std Dev
1	5	100	198	5819	0.1	0.1	0.2	0.02	0	0	0	0	5	5	5	0
2	10	100	193	4093	0.2	0.1	0.2	0.02	0.3	0.3	0.3	0	3	3	3	0
3	10	100	198	4250	0.2	0.1	0.2	0.02	0.1	0.1	0.1	0	5	5	5	0
4	20	100	196	3034	0.2	0.2	0.3	0.02	0.4	0.4	0.4	0	3	3	3	0
5	33	100	196	1355	0.3	0.3	0.4	0.03	0.4	0.4	0.4	0	3	3	3	0
6	5	200	786	7824	0.2	0.2	0.3	0.02	0.3	0.3	0.3	0	7	7	7	0
7	10	200	779	5631	0.3	0.3	0.4	0.02	0.2	0.2	0.2	0	2	2	2	0
8	20	200	792	4445	0.5	0.5	0.7	0.03	0.3	0.3	0.3	0	4	4	4	0
9	40	200	785	2734	0.9	0.9	1.2	0.05	0.7	0.7	0.7	0	11	11	11	0
10	67	200	786	1255	1.2	1.2	1.4	0.05	0.6	0.6	0.6	0	10	10	10	0
11	5	300	1772	7696	0.3	0.3	0.4	0.02	0	0	0	0	3	3	3	0
12	10	300	1758	6634	0.5	0.5	0.6	0.04	0	0	0	0	4	4	4	0
13	30	300	1760	4374	1.2	1.2	1.5	0.06	0	0	0	0	10	10	10	0
14	60	300	1771	2968	2	2	2.4	0.08	0.1	0.1	0.1	0	16	16	16	0
15	100	300	1754	1729	2.7	2.6	3.1	0.11	0.6	0.6	0.6	0	12	12	12	0
16	5	400	3153	8162	0.5	0.4	0.6	0.03	0	0	0	0	5	5	5	0
17	10	400	3142	6999	0.7	0.6	0.7	0.02	0	0	0	0	3	3	3	0
18	40	400	3134	4809	2.1	2	2.4	0.09	0.1	0.1	0.1	0	11	11	11	0
19	80	400	3134	2845	3.6	3.5	4.1	0.11	0.8	0.8	0.8	0	16	16	16	0
20	133	400	3144	1789	4.9	4.8	5.6	0.15	0.8	0.8	0.8	0	24	24	24	0

Table 11: Fast Interchange Algorithm - Greedy (50 Runs)

Test Problem	p	n	Edges	Optimal Solution	Computational Time (seconds)				Gap to Optimal (percent)				Iterations			
					Mean	Min	Max	Std Dev	Mean	Min	Max	Std Dev	Mean	Min	Max	Std Dev
21	5	500	4909	9138	0.5	0.5	0.7	0.04	0	0	0	0	1	1	1	0
22	10	500	4896	8579	0.8	0.8	0.9	0.02	1	1	1	0	2	2	2	0
23	50	500	4903	4619	3.3	3.2	3.9	0.14	0.1	0.1	0.1	0	16	16	16	0
24	100	500	4914	2961	5.6	5.5	6.3	0.2	0.4	0.4	0.5	0.03	14	14	14	0
25	167	500	4894	1828	7.8	7.6	8.4	0.22	1.2	1	1.3	0.08	23.8	23	25	0.48
26	5	600	7069	9917	0.7	0.7	0.9	0.04	0.1	0.1	0.1	0	7	7	7	0
27	10	600	7072	8307	1.1	1	1.3	0.07	0.1	0.1	0.1	0	6	6	6	0
28	60	600	7054	4498	4.8	4.6	5.6	0.22	0.3	0.3	0.3	0	16.5	16	17	0.51
29	120	600	7042	3033	8.3	8.1	9	0.22	0.5	0.5	0.5	0	21.9	21	22	0.35
30	200	600	7042	1989	11.2	11	11.9	0.25	1.1	1.1	1.1	0	16	16	16	0
31	5	700	9601	10086	0.7	0.7	0.9	0.04	0	0	0	0	1	1	1	0
32	10	700	9584	9297	1.3	1.2	1.5	0.06	0	0	0	0	6	6	6	0
33	70	700	9616	4700	6.7	6.5	7.2	0.18	0.5	0.5	0.5	0	22	22	22	0
34	140	700	9585	3013	11.5	11.3	12.2	0.29	1	0.9	1	0.03	28.3	28	29	0.47
35	5	800	12548	10400	0.9	0.8	0.9	0.03	0	0	0	0	2	2	2	0
36	10	800	12560	9934	1.5	1.4	1.7	0.08	0	0	0	0	4	4	4	0
37	80	800	12564	5057	8.8	8.6	9.6	0.24	0.5	0.4	0.6	0.07	20.8	19	22	1.33
38	5	900	15898	11060	1.1	1	1.2	0.05	0.6	0.6	0.6	0	4	4	4	0
39	10	900	15896	9423	1.7	1.6	1.9	0.07	0	0	0	0	2	2	2	0
40	90	900	15879	5128	11.2	11	11.7	0.21	0.5	0.4	0.5	0.02	18.5	18	19	0.5

Table 12: Fast Interchange Algorithm - Random (50 Runs)

Test Problem	p	n	Edges	Optimal Solution	Computational Time (seconds)				Gap to Optimal (percent)				Iterations			
					Mean	Min	Max	Std Dev	Mean	Min	Max	Std Dev	Mean	Min	Max	Std Dev
1	5	100	198	5819	0.2	0.1	0.2	0.02	0	0	0	0	16	16	16	0
2	10	100	193	4093	0.2	0.2	0.3	0.02	0.2	0.2	0.2	0	30	30	30	0
3	10	100	198	4250	0.2	0.2	0.3	0.02	2.7	2.3	3.1	0.38	24.9	24	26	1
4	20	100	196	3034	0.3	0.3	0.4	0.02	1.2	1.2	1.2	0	31	31	31	0
5	33	100	196	1355	0.4	0.4	0.5	0.02	3.1	3.1	3.1	0	37	37	37	0
6	5	200	786	7824	0.3	0.3	0.4	0.02	0	0	0	0	24	24	24	0
7	10	200	779	5631	0.5	0.4	0.6	0.03	0	0	0	0	32	32	32	0
8	20	200	792	4445	0.7	0.7	0.8	0.03	0.4	0.4	0.4	0	47	47	47	0
9	40	200	785	2734	1.1	1	1.3	0.06	1.3	1.2	1.3	0.02	54.5	54	55	0.5
10	67	200	786	1255	1.4	1.4	1.7	0.06	2.2	2.2	2.2	0	61	61	61	0
11	5	300	1772	7696	0.4	0.4	0.6	0.04	0	0	0	0	21	21	21	0
12	10	300	1758	6634	0.7	0.7	0.7	0.02	0	0	0	0	33	33	33	0
13	30	300	1760	4374	1.5	1.4	1.7	0.06	1	0.9	1.1	0.07	61.2	60	62	0.98
14	60	300	1771	2968	2.5	2.4	2.9	0.12	1.1	1.1	1.2	0.04	93.4	90	95	1.3
15	100	300	1754	1729	3.2	3.1	3.6	0.13	2.6	2	3.3	0.33	95.8	94	98	1.02
16	5	400	3153	8162	0.6	0.6	0.6	0.02	0.3	0.3	0.3	0	20	20	20	0
17	10	400	3142	6999	0.9	0.9	1.1	0.04	0.2	0.2	0.2	0	33	33	33	0
18	40	400	3134	4809	2.6	2.5	3.3	0.16	0.3	0.2	0.3	0.01	78.3	78	79	0.46
19	80	400	3134	2845	4.3	4.2	4.8	0.13	1.5	1.3	1.7	0.12	112.7	110	116	1.5
20	133	400	3144	1789	5.6	5.5	6.3	0.17	3	2.8	3.4	0.16	119.2	117	122	1.13

Table 12: Fast Interchange Algorithm - Random (50 Runs)

Test Problem	p	n	Edges	Optimal Solution	Computational Time (seconds)				Gap to Optimal (percent)				Iterations			
					Mean	Min	Max	Std Dev	Mean	Min	Max	Std Dev	Mean	Min	Max	Std Dev
21	5	500	4909	9138	0.7	0.7	0.9	0.04	0	0	0	0	17	17	17	0
22	10	500	4896	8579	1.3	1.2	1.5	0.06	1.4	1.4	1.4	0	45	45	45	0
23	50	500	4903	4619	4	3.9	4.6	0.14	0.6	0.5	0.7	0.1	101.4	100	102	0.93
24	100	500	4914	2961	6.7	6.6	7.5	0.2	1.4	1.3	1.5	0.07	141.2	138	144	1.84
25	167	500	4894	1828	8.9	8.8	9.6	0.25	2.2	1.8	2.8	0.24	142.3	139	144	1.24
26	5	600	7069	9917	1	1	1.2	0.05	0	0	0	0	28	28	28	0
27	10	600	7072	8307	1.5	1.4	1.8	0.08	0	0	0	0	42	42	42	0
28	60	600	7054	4498	5.9	5.8	6.6	0.2	0.8	0.7	0.9	0.07	131.3	129	133	1.25
29	120	600	7042	3033	9.9	9.8	10.7	0.24	1.4	1.2	1.6	0.1	183	180	187	1.95
30	200	600	7042	1989	13.2	13	13.8	0.22	2.4	2	2.9	0.22	179.1	176	184	2
31	5	700	9601	10086	1.2	1.1	1.3	0.05	0	0	0	0	25	25	25	0
32	10	700	9584	9297	1.8	1.8	2.1	0.07	0.1	0.1	0.1	0	46	46	46	0
33	70	700	9616	4700	8.1	8	8.7	0.15	0.6	0.5	1	0.12	156.4	155	161	0.99
34	140	700	9585	3013	13.8	13.5	14.4	0.25	1	0.7	1.4	0.17	204.7	200	211	2.8
35	5	800	12548	10400	1.3	1.3	1.5	0.05	0.3	0.3	0.3	0	24	24	24	0
36	10	800	12560	9934	2.3	2.2	2.7	0.1	0	0	0	0	52	52	52	0
37	80	800	12564	5057	10.7	10.5	11.4	0.25	0.9	0.7	1	0.1	171.4	169	178	2.69
38	5	900	15898	11060	1.6	1.5	1.9	0.06	0.7	0.7	0.7	0	26	26	26	0
39	10	900	15896	9423	2.4	2.3	2.7	0.1	0	0	0	0	46	46	46	0
40	90	900	15879	5128	13.5	13.2	14	0.25	1.2	1	1.3	0.07	175	173	178	1.7

### **B.3    Alternate Algorithm**

Table 13: Alternate Algorithm - Greedy (50 Runs)

Test Problem	p	n	Edges	Optimal Solution	Computational Time (seconds)				Gap to Optimal (percent)				Iterations			
					Mean	Min	Max	Std Dev	Mean	Min	Max	Std Dev	Mean	Min	Max	Std Dev
1	5	100	198	5819	0	0	0.1	0.01	1.2	1.2	1.2	0	2	2	2	0
2	10	100	193	4093	0.2	0.1	0.3	0.06	0.3	0.3	0.3	0	3.9	3	5	0.81
3	10	100	198	4250	0.2	0.1	0.4	0.09	2	2	2	0.03	4.4	3	7	1.31
4	20	100	196	3034	0.4	0.1	0.5	0.09	1.8	1.8	1.8	0	3.7	2	4	0.56
5	33	100	196	1355	1.1	0.8	1.6	0.21	0.5	0.4	0.6	0.04	6.1	5	8	0.95
6	5	200	786	7824	0	0	0.1	0.01	2.6	2.6	2.6	0	2	2	2	0
7	10	200	779	5631	0.1	0	0.2	0.04	0.3	0.2	0.3	0.01	2.4	2	3	0.5
8	20	200	792	4445	0.5	0.2	0.6	0.11	0.3	0.3	0.3	0	4.3	3	5	0.84
9	40	200	785	2734	1.3	1	1.9	0.25	1.9	1.9	2.4	0.07	5.8	5	8	0.94
10	67	200	786	1255	2.9	1.8	4.4	0.7	1.9	1.8	3	0.3	7.5	5	11	1.55
11	5	300	1772	7696	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.01	0.2	0.2	0.2	0	3	3	3	0
12	10	300	1758	6634	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.01	0.3	0.3	0.3	0	2	2	2	0
13	30	300	1760	4374	0.7	0.4	1	0.17	1.9	1.9	1.9	0	4.4	3	5	0.78
14	60	300	1771	2968	2.2	1.6	3.7	0.55	0.9	0.9	1	0.02	6.4	5	10	1.35
15	100	300	1754	1729	4.5	2.6	7.2	1.12	0.8	0.8	1.3	0.08	7.8	5	12	1.71
16	5	400	3153	8162	0	0	0.1	0.01	0.9	0.9	0.9	0	2	2	2	0
17	10	400	3142	6999	0.1	0.1	0.2	0.01	0.2	0.2	0.2	0	3	3	3	0
18	40	400	3134	4809	1.3	0.8	1.6	0.13	0.5	0.5	0.5	0	5.9	4	6	0.48
19	80	400	3134	2845	3.4	2.1	4.8	0.67	0.8	0.8	1.2	0.08	7.3	5	10	1.25
20	133	400	3144	1789	7	3.5	11.3	1.7	1.7	1.1	2.3	0.35	8.9	5	13	1.87



Table 13: Alternate Algorithm - Greedy (50 Runs)

Test Problem	p	n	Edges	Optimal Solution	Computational Time (seconds)					Gap to Optimal (percent)					Iterations				
					Mean	Min	Max	Std Dev		Mean	Min	Max	Std Dev		Mean	Min	Max	Std Dev	
21	5	500	4909	9138	0	0	0.1	0.01		0	0	0	0		2	2	2	0	
22	10	500	4896	8579	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.01		1.1	1.1	1.1	0		2	2	2	0	
23	50	500	4903	4619	1.2	0.7	2.4	0.33		1	1	1.1	0.03		4.6	3	8	0.99	
24	100	500	4914	2961	4.1	2.7	5.8	0.87		1	0.9	1.1	0.04		7.1	5	9	1.25	
25	167	500	4894	1828	7.3	4.4	10.5	1.45		1.8	1.8	1.9	0.04		7.5	5	10	1.31	
26	5	600	7069	9917	0	0	0.1	0.01		1.8	1.8	1.8	0		2	2	2	0	
27	10	600	7072	8307	0.1	0.1	0.2	0.01		0.6	0.6	0.6	0		3	3	3	0	
28	60	600	7054	4498	2	0.8	3.5	0.56		0.6	0.5	0.6	0.03		5.9	3	9	1.34	
29	120	600	7042	3033	4.8	3.1	7.1	1.13		1.1	1.1	1.4	0.05		7	5	10	1.4	
30	200	600	7042	1989	8.4	5.3	11.9	1.61		1.5	1.5	1.7	0.06		7.3	5	10	1.19	
31	5	700	9601	10086	0	0	0.1	0.01		0	0	0	0		2	2	2	0	
32	10	700	9584	9297	0.2	0.1	0.2	0.02		0.2	0.2	0.2	0.02		3	3	3	0	
33	70	700	9616	4700	2.8	1.4	5.2	0.65		1.3	1.3	1.4	0.03		6.8	4	11	1.33	
34	140	700	9585	3013	6.3	3.9	10.2	1.53		1.5	1.5	1.6	0.05		7.8	5	12	1.64	
35	5	800	12548	10400	0	0	0.1	0.01		0.1	0.1	0.1	0		2	2	2	0	
36	10	800	12560	9934	0.2	0.1	0.2	0.02		0.1	0.1	0.1	0		3	3	3	0	
37	80	800	12564	5057	3.1	2.1	5.2	0.65		1.1	1.1	1.1	0.01		6.7	5	10	1.16	
38	5	900	15898	11060	0	0	0.1	0.01		0.8	0.8	0.8	0		2	2	2	0	
39	10	900	15896	9423	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.01		0.3	0.3	0.3	0		2	2	2	0	
40	90	900	15879	5128	2.8	1.2	4.5	0.69		0.9	0.9	0.9	0.02		5.6	3	8	1.13	

Table 14: Alternate Algorithm - Random (50 Runs)

Test Problem	p	n	Edges	Optimal Solution	Computational Time (seconds)				Gap to Optimal (percent)				Iterations			
					Mean	Min	Max	Std Dev	Mean	Min	Max	Std Dev	Mean	Min	Max	Std Dev
1	5	100	198	5819	0.1	0.1	0.2	0.03	2.9	2.9	2.9	0	4.3	4	5	0.44
2	10	100	193	4093	0.3	0.2	0.5	0.09	22.8	21.8	26.4	1.78	5.2	4	8	1.2
3	10	100	198	4250	0.3	0.1	0.5	0.1	13.5	11.4	22.6	3.08	5.8	3	9	1.49
4	20	100	196	3034	0.9	0.5	1.5	0.26	16.8	7.2	25	3.57	7.4	5	12	1.89
5	33	100	196	1355	2.1	1.1	3.3	0.53	23.4	14.4	33.1	5.87	10.7	6	16	2.43
6	5	200	786	7824	0.1	0.1	0.3	0.05	14.8	13.8	17.6	1.66	4.6	3	9	1.26
7	10	200	779	5631	0.3	0.2	0.5	0.06	13.5	12	19	2.42	4.9	4	7	0.77
8	20	200	792	4445	0.9	0.4	1.6	0.25	10.4	9.1	11.8	0.98	7.6	4	13	1.86
9	40	200	785	2734	1.9	1.3	3.2	0.37	22.2	20.8	23.8	1.37	8	6	13	1.37
10	67	200	786	1255	4.4	2.2	7	0.99	39.1	38.3	45.6	1.24	10.8	6	17	2.2
11	5	300	1772	7696	0.2	0.1	0.2	0.02	2.1	2.1	2.1	0	5	5	5	0
12	10	300	1758	6634	0.3	0.3	0.5	0.07	14	13.1	14.6	0.73	5.6	5	7	0.84
13	30	300	1760	4374	2	0.8	4	0.74	14.6	11.5	19.2	2.43	10.6	5	21	3.69
14	60	300	1771	2968	4	2.4	6	0.94	25.2	22.5	28.2	1.3	11	7	16	2.31
15	100	300	1754	1729	6.4	3.9	9.1	1.12	34.3	29	37.7	1.88	10.7	7	14	1.64
16	5	400	3153	8162	0.1	0.1	0.2	0.02	3.2	3.2	3.2	0	5	5	5	0
17	10	400	3142	6999	0.3	0.2	0.4	0.05	12.6	12.4	12.9	0.22	4.8	4	6	0.77
18	40	400	3134	4809	2.4	1.3	4.8	0.66	14.6	9.6	19.5	3.06	10	6	19	2.33
19	80	400	3134	2845	5.7	3.7	8.1	1.04	22.7	19.3	26.1	1.74	11.6	8	16	1.88
20	133	400	3144	1789	10.2	6.1	14.9	1.88	26	23.5	28.7	1.45	12.5	8	18	2.13

Test Problem	P	n	Edges	Optimal Solution	Computational Time (seconds)				Gap to Optimal (percent)				Iterations			
					Mean	Min	Max	Std Dev	Mean	Min	Max	Std Dev	Mean	Min	Max	Std Dev
21	5	500	4909	9138	0.2	0.1	0.2	0.04	12.4	12.4	12.4	0	5.8	5	7	0.93
22	10	500	4896	8579	0.2	0.2	0.3	0.03	15.5	15.5	15.5	0	4	4	4	0
23	50	500	4903	4619	2.6	1.6	4.3	0.56	13.8	11.6	16.2	1.2	8.7	6	14	1.62
24	100	500	4914	2961	6.9	4.6	11.4	1.23	18.8	17.3	20.5	0.66	11.4	8	17	1.74
25	167	500	4894	1828	13.4	7.6	20.9	2.42	29.1	24.7	32.8	2.03	13.1	8	20	2.15
26	5	600	7069	9917	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.02	4.3	4.3	4.3	0	3	3	3	0
27	10	600	7072	8307	0.3	0.2	0.4	0.08	11.9	11.7	12.2	0.22	5.4	4	7	1.03
28	60	600	7054	4498	3.6	1.6	5.2	0.73	17.3	16	18.7	0.79	9.8	5	14	1.8
29	120	600	7042	3033	9.1	5	13	1.52	20	17.9	23.1	1.15	12.3	7	17	1.86
30	200	600	7042	1989	15.5	10.6	19.9	2.18	29	25.8	31.9	1.49	12.6	9	16	1.62
31	5	700	9601	10086	0.2	0.1	0.3	0.05	13.5	13	15.1	0.86	6	4	8	1.37
32	10	700	9584	9297	0.3	0.3	0.4	0.03	14.2	14.1	14.2	0.04	5.2	5	6	0.43
33	70	700	9616	4700	4.4	2.8	6.6	0.97	19.1	17.7	21.1	0.85	10.1	7	15	1.91
34	140	700	9585	3013	11.3	8.3	15.8	1.82	20.9	19.3	22.9	0.88	13.1	10	18	1.94
35	5	800	12548	10400	0.1	0.1	0.2	0.03	1.4	1.4	1.4	0	4.5	4	5	0.5
36	10	800	12560	9934	0.2	0.2	0.3	0.02	15.5	15.5	15.5	0	4	4	4	0
37	80	800	12564	5057	5.1	2.2	9.1	1.46	13.2	11.6	15.1	0.81	10.5	5	18	2.76
38	5	900	15898	11060	0.2	0.2	0.3	0.03	4.4	4.4	4.4	0	6	6	6	0
39	10	900	15896	9423	0.5	0.4	0.6	0.03	13.8	13.6	14.2	0.26	7	7	7	0
40	90	900	15879	5128	7.1	4.8	9	1.02	14.3	12.4	15.6	0.93	12.7	9	16	1.73