

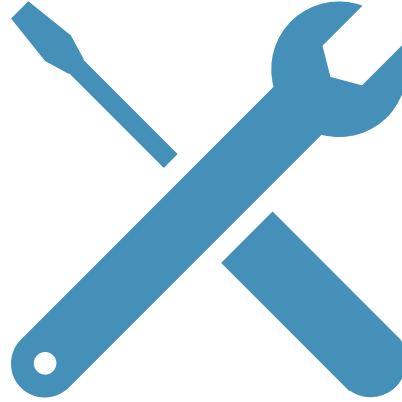
# SOLVER IMPROVEMENT APPROACHES: MILES TO GO BEFORE WE SLEEP

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EURO MEETS NEURIPS 2022 VEHICLE ROUTING COMPETITION



Measurement and  
Benchmarking



Code Refactor and  
Optimization



Heuristic  
Improvements

IMPROVEMENT HIGHLIGHTS



# MEASUREMENT AND BENCHMARKING

QUANTIFYING SOLUTION QUALITY AND COMPUTATIONAL PERFORMANCE



# MEASUREMENT AND BENCHMARKING: IDEAS

- C++ profiling and static analysis

| Function / Call Stack                                   | CPU Time ▾ | Instructions Retired | Microarchitecture Usage | Module              | Function (Full)  |
|---|------------|----------------------|-------------------------|---------------------|--|
| ▼ LocalSearch::MergeTWDataRecursive                     | 12.515s    | 93,408,000,000       | 81.2%                   | genvrp              | LocalSearch::MergeTWDataRecursive(TimeWindowData const&, TimeWindowData const&)                  |
| [No call stack information]                             | 12.515s    | 93,408,000,000       | 81.2%                   |                     |  |
| ▼ LocalSearch::MoveSingleClient                         | 3.580s     | 21,852,000,000       | 73.7%                   | genvrp              | LocalSearch::MoveSingleClient(void)  |
| [No call stack information]                             | 3.580s     | 21,852,000,000       | 73.7%                   |                     |  |
| ▶ LocalSearch::run                                      | 3.255s     | 13,740,000,000       | 48.2%                   | genvrp              | LocalSearch::run(Individual*, double, double)  |
| ▶ std::_Rb_tree_increment                               | 3.140s     | 3,432,000,000        | 11.0%                   | libstdc++.so.6.0.29 | std::_Rb_tree_increment(std::_Rb_tree_node_base const*)  |
| ▶ LocalSearch::MoveTwoClients                           | 2.990s     | 17,400,000,000       | 61.6%                   | genvrp              | LocalSearch::MoveTwoClients(void)  |
| ▶ LocalSearch::SwapTwoClientsForOne                     | 2.975s     | 15,468,000,000       | 60.5%                   | genvrp              | LocalSearch::SwapTwoClientsForOne(void)  |
| ▶ LocalSearch::MoveTwoClientsReversed                   | 2.785s     | 18,840,000,000       | 71.1%                   | genvrp              | LocalSearch::MoveTwoClientsReversed(void)  |
| ▶ LocalSearch::SwapTwoSingleClients                     | 1.890s     | 8,796,000,000        | 59.2%                   | genvrp              | LocalSearch::SwapTwoSingleClients(void)  |
| ▶ LocalSearch::setLocalVariablesRouteV                  | 1.835s     | 11,220,000,000       | 54.9%                   | genvrp              | LocalSearch::setLocalVariablesRouteV(void)   |
| ▶ LocalSearch::TwoOptBetweenTrips                       | 1.525s     | 8,676,000,000        | 62.5%                   | genvrp              | LocalSearch::TwoOptBetweenTrips(void)  |
| ▶ LocalSearch::setLocalVariablesRouteU                  | 1.480s     | 5,820,000,000        | 39.9%                   | genvrp              | LocalSearch::setLocalVariablesRouteU(void)   |
| ▶ Matrix::get   | 1.220s     | 9,228,000,000        | 74.5%                   | genvrp              | Matrix::get(int, int) const  |
| ▶ Individual::brokenPairsDistance                       | 1.180s     | 2,460,000,000        | 20.7%                   | genvrp              | Individual::brokenPairsDistance(Individual*)   |
| ▶ LocalSearch::SwapTwoClientPairs                       | 1.105s     | 7,068,000,000        | 64.9%                   | genvrp              | LocalSearch::SwapTwoClientPairs(void)  |
| ▶ LocalSearch::swapStar                                 | 0.720s     | 2,640,000,000        | 36.3%                   | genvrp              | LocalSearch::swapStar(bool)  |
| ▶ std::__detail::_Synth3way::operator()<double, double> | 0.640s     | 348,000,000          | 6.0%                    | genvrp              | std::__detail::_Synth3way::operator()<double, double>(signed char, double const&, double const&) |
| ▶ int malloc  | 0.540s     | 1,596,000,000        | 34.5%                   | libc-2.17.so        | int malloc   |

# MEASUREMENT AND BENCHMARKING: IDEAS

## ■ Achieving determinism

```
void Genetic::insertUnplannedTasks(Individual* offspring, std::unordered_set<int> unplannedTasks)
{
    // Initialize some variables
    int newDistanceToInsert = INT_MAX;    // TODO:
    int newDistanceFromInsert = INT_MAX;  // TODO:
    int distanceDelta = INT_MAX;          // TODO:

    // Loop over all unplannedTasks
    for (int c : unplannedTasks)
    {
        // Get the earliest and latest possible arrival at the client
        int earliestArrival = params->cli[c].earliestArrival;
        int latestArrival = params->cli[c].latestArrival;

        int bestDistance = INT_MAX;
        std::pair<int, int> bestLocation;

        // Loop over all routes
        for (int r = 0; r < params->nbVehicles; r++)
        {
            // Go to the next route if this route is empty
            if (offspring->chromR[r].empty())
            {
                continue;
            }
        }
    }
}
```

Undefined behavior:

Loop over unordered set

Integer overflow

```
newDistanceFromInsert = params->timeCost.get(c, offspring->chromR[r][0]);
if (earliestArrival + newDistanceFromInsert < params->cli[offspring->chromR[r][0]].latestArrival)
{
    distanceDelta = params->timeCost.get(0, c) + newDistanceToInsert
        - params->timeCost.get(0, offspring->chromR[r][0]);
    if (distanceDelta < bestDistance)
    {
        bestDistance = distanceDelta;
        bestLocation = { r, 0 };
    }
}

for (int i = 1; i < static_cast<int>(offspring->chromR[r].size()); i++)
{
    newDistanceToInsert = params->timeCost.get(offspring->chromR[r][i - 1], c);
    newDistanceFromInsert = params->timeCost.get(c, offspring->chromR[r][i]);
    if (params->cli[offspring->chromR[r][i - 1]].earliestArrival + newDistanceToInsert < latestArrival
        && earliestArrival + newDistanceFromInsert < params->cli[offspring->chromR[r][i]].latestArrival)
    {
        distanceDelta = newDistanceToInsert + newDistanceFromInsert
            - params->timeCost.get(offspring->chromR[r][i - 1], offspring->chromR[r][i]);
        if (distanceDelta < bestDistance)
        {
            bestDistance = distanceDelta;
            bestLocation = { r, i };
        }
    }
}
```

# MEASUREMENT AND BENCHMARKING: IDEAS

## ■ Achieving determinism

```
- void Genetic::insertUnplannedTasks(Individual* offspring, std::unordered_set<int> unplannedTasks)
```

```
{  
    // Initialize some variables  
    int newDistanceToInsert = INT_MAX; // TODO:  
    int newDistanceFromInsert = INT_MAX; // TODO:  
    int distanceDelta = INT_MAX; // TODO:
```

```
    // Loop over all unplannedTasks  
    for (int c : unplannedTasks)
```

```
{  
    for (int i = 1; i < static_cast<int>(offspring->chromR[r].size()); i++)  
    {  
        newDistanceToInsert = params->timeCost.get(offspring->chromR[r][i - 1], c);  
        newDistanceFromInsert = params->timeCost.get(c, offspring->chromR[r][i]);  
        if (params->cli[offspring->chromR[r][i - 1]].earliestArrival + newDistanceToInsert < latestArrival  
            && earliestArrival + newDistanceFromInsert < params->cli[offspring->chromR[r][i]].latestArrival)
```

```
{  
    distanceDelta = newDistanceToInsert + newDistanceFromInsert  
        - params->timeCost.get(offspring->chromR[r][i - 1], offspring->chromR[r][i]);  
    if (distanceDelta < bestDistance)  
    {  
        bestDistance = distanceDelta;  
        bestLocation = { r, i };  
    }  
}
```

## Undefined behavior resolved after refactor!

```
-> + void Genetic::insertUnplannedTasks2(Individual* offspring, std::vector<bool> unplannedTasks)
```

```
{  
    // Initialize some variables  
    int newDistanceToInsert; // Initialized for each route  
    int newDistanceFromInsert; // Initialized for each route  
    int distanceDelta; // Initialized for each route
```

```
    // Loop over all unplannedTasks  
    int c=0;  
    for (bool b : unplannedTasks)
```

```
{  
    if(!b){  
        c++;  
        continue;  
    }
```

```
-> + for (int i = 0; i <= static_cast<int>(offspring->chromR[r].size()); i++)
```

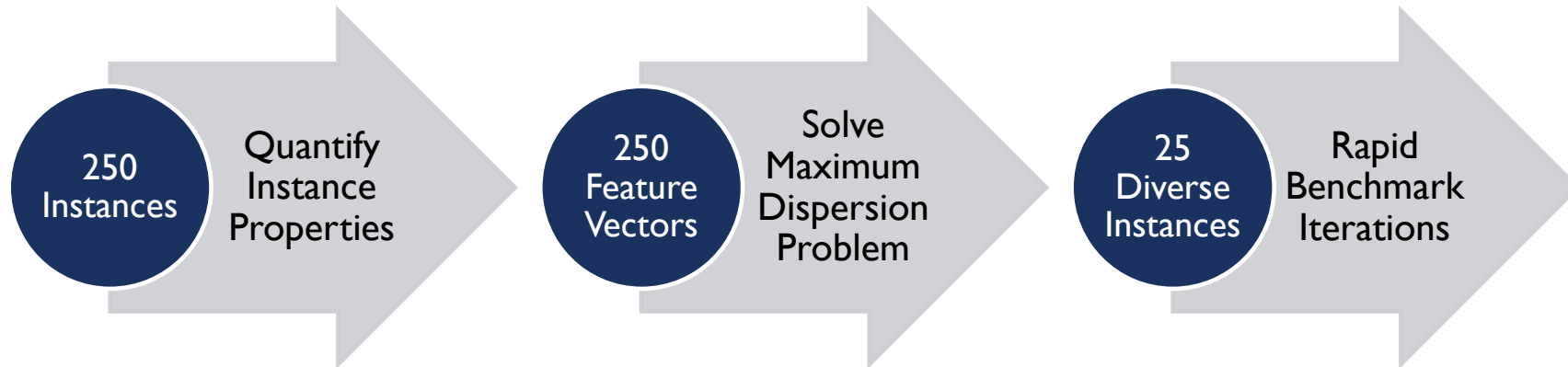
```
{  
    int previousOnRoute = (i == 0) ? 0 : offspring->chromR[r][i - 1];  
    int currentOnRoute = (i == static_cast<int>(offspring->chromR[r].size())) ? 0 : offspring->chromR[r][i];  
    newDistanceToInsert = params->timeCost.get(previousOnRoute, c);  
    newDistanceFromInsert = params->timeCost.get(c, currentOnRoute);  
    if (params->cli[previousOnRoute].earliestArrival + newDistanceToInsert < latestArrival  
        && earliestArrival + newDistanceFromInsert < params->cli[currentOnRoute].latestArrival)
```

```
{  
    distanceDelta = newDistanceToInsert + newDistanceFromInsert  
        - params->timeCost.get(previousOnRoute, currentOnRoute);  
    if (distanceDelta < bestDistance)  
    {  
        bestDistance = distanceDelta;  
        bestLocation = { r, i };  
    }  
}
```



# MEASUREMENT AND BENCHMARKING: IDEAS

- Representative subsets of benchmark instances



## Feature set:

- dimension
- capacity
- demandMeanOverCapacity
- distanceToDepotCV
- demandCV
- timeWindowCV
- serviceCV



# CODE REFACTOR AND OPTIMIZATION

ROAD TO STATIC SCORE IMPROVEMENT: SPEED THINGS UP WHEREVER POSSIBLE





# CODE REFACTOR AND OPTIMIZATION: IDEAS

- Avoid recursions and force inline execution of simple functions
- Rewrite Matrix class to speed up `Matrix::get()`, which is called all over the place
- Swap out data structures and sort algorithms for more efficient ones

# CODE REFACTOR AND OPTIMIZATION: IDEAS

- Avoid recursions and force inline execution of simple functions
- Rewrite Matrix class to speed up Matrix::get(), which is called all over the place
- **Swap out data structures and sort algorithms for more efficient ones**

```
57 -      std::multiset<std::pair<double, Individual*>> indivsPerProximity;  
    // The other individuals in the population (can not be the depot 0), ordered by  
    increasing proximity (the set container follows a natural ordering based on the  
    value of the first pair)
```

```
58 +      std::multiset<double> proximities;                                // The proximities  
    of other individuals in the population (can not be the depot 0), ordered by  
    increasing proximity (the set container follows a natural ordering based on the  
    value of the first pair)  
59 +      std::unordered_map<Individual*, double> proximityPerIndividual;
```

# CODE REFACTOR AND OPTIMIZATION: IDEAS

- Avoid recursions and force inline execution of simple functions
- Rewrite Matrix class to speed up Matrix::get(), which is called all over the place
- **Swap out data structures and sort algorithms for more efficient ones**

```
baselines/hgs_vrptw/Individual.cpp

@@ -115,15 +115,7 @@ void Individual::shuffleChromT()
115
116 void Individual::removeProximity(Individual* indiv)
117 {
118 - // Get the first individual in indivsPerProximity
119 - auto it = indivsPerProximity.begin();
120 - // Loop over all individuals in indivsPerProximity until indiv is found
121 - while (it->second != indiv)
122 - {
123 -     ++it;
124 - }
125 - // Remove indiv from indivsPerProximity
126 - indivsPerProximity.erase(it);
127 }

115
116 void Individual::removeProximity(Individual* indiv)
117 {
118 + proximities.erase(proximityPerIndividual[indiv]);
119 }
```



# HEURISTIC IMPROVEMENTS

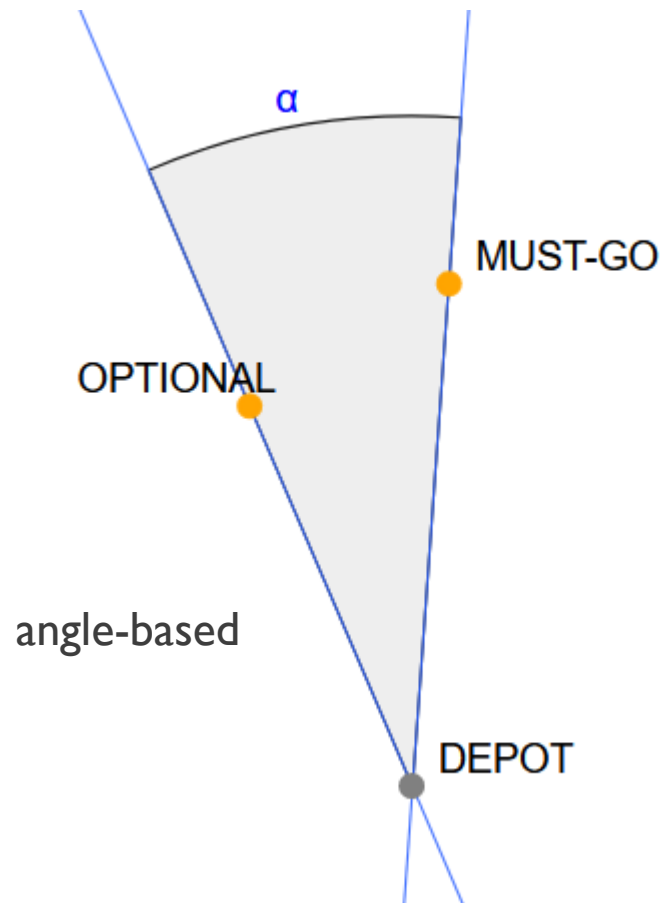
SIMPLE STRIDES TOWARD A BETTER DYNAMIC SOLVER



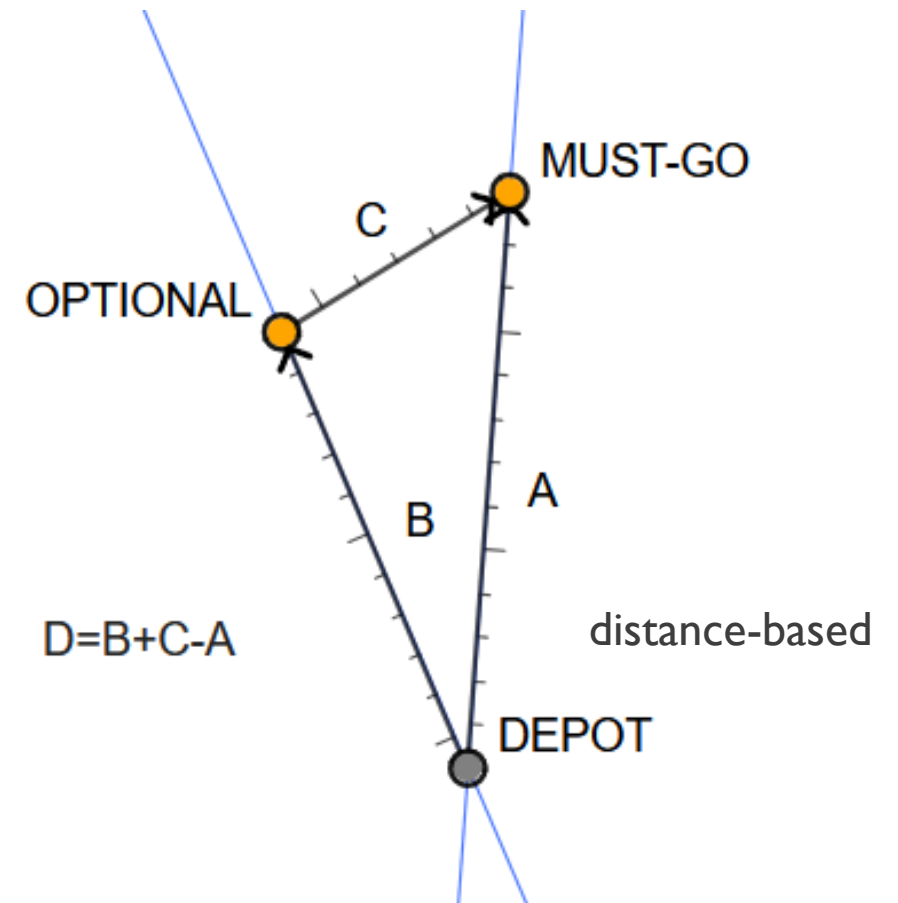
# HEURISTIC IMPROVEMENTS: IDEAS

- Postprocess: if a route contains 100% optional clients, postpone them all
- Preprocess: mark only a subset of optional clients for potential dispatch
  - choose this subset by ranking all clients via one of two simple heuristics, then:
    - select all clients with heuristic score less than a fixed parameter OR
    - select a percentage of all optional clients with smallest heuristic scores, based on a fixed parameter OR
    - select up to the N optional clients with smallest heuristic scores, where N is a multiple of the number of must-go clients

# HEURISTIC IMPROVEMENTS: IDEAS



The two heuristics



Github:

<https://github.com/steveharenberg/sas-euro-neurips-vrp-2022.git>



THANK YOU