

## Appendix of Section 5.2.4 (A Two-layer Heterogeneous Ant Colony System with Applications in Tape Carrier Packaging)

**Appendix A. The experimental results of the  $3 \times 1$  sucker matrix configuration.**

No.	Amount	Methods	$e_n$	$e_{max}$	$std$	$\bar{n}$	$\overline{N_c}$	$t_w$	$e_t$	p-value
1	250	THACS	3.328	3.367	0.033	177.020	51.560	53.193	3.042	—
		ACS	3.044	3.292	0.115	174.260	6.040	57.245	2.800	9.96E-24
		IMMAS	3.054	3.285	0.149	176.960	6.820	57.949	2.811	6.23E-18
		GA	3.024	3.281	0.161	172.600	6.260	57.073	2.781	3.62E-18
		SA	3.037	3.301	0.145	172.500	5.800	56.808	2.791	2.08E-19
		PSO	3.053	3.321	0.153	171.960	6.060	56.330	2.804	1.88E-17
		Greedy	2.992	3.315	0.165	206.200	672.040	68.928	2.789	1.22E-19
2	275	THACS	3.305	3.383	0.037	194.260	43.340	58.780	3.046	—
		ACS	3.037	3.281	0.103	195.100	4.120	64.253	2.817	2.16E-29
		IMMAS	3.054	3.285	0.149	193.660	4.100	63.415	2.831	7.04E-19
		GA	3.024	3.281	0.161	190.100	3.920	62.860	2.801	2.59E-19
		SA	3.037	3.301	0.145	189.360	4.020	62.357	2.811	1.13E-20
		PSO	3.053	3.321	0.153	189.000	3.980	61.911	2.825	1.86E-18
		Greedy	3.033	3.283	0.142	227.200	569.480	74.903	2.843	1.82E-21
3	300	THACS	3.303	3.406	0.047	212.100	35.760	64.223	3.064	—
		ACS	3.048	3.312	0.137	208.300	3.540	68.343	2.840	2.16E-19
		IMMAS	3.058	3.291	0.164	210.160	3.360	68.731	2.850	2.93E-15
		GA	3.064	3.285	0.138	205.240	3.100	66.981	2.851	5.95E-18
		SA	3.068	3.321	0.156	203.160	3.060	66.227	2.852	2.11E-15
		PSO	3.073	3.320	0.155	202.980	30.540	66.049	2.857	3.62E-15
		Greedy	2.990	3.262	0.121	257.700	520.820	86.183	2.826	6.09E-27
4	325	THACS	3.346	3.457	0.045	231.240	29.580	69.110	3.120	—
		ACS	3.090	3.315	0.117	229.300	2.800	74.203	2.895	1.35E-21
		IMMAS	3.092	3.301	0.148	229.000	2.720	74.049	2.897	9.44E-17
		GA	3.079	3.318	0.125	226.500	2.600	73.576	2.883	5.62E-21
		SA	3.090	3.265	0.160	227.020	2.540	73.476	2.893	1.84E-15
		PSO	3.087	3.294	0.156	229.340	2.600	74.287	2.892	3.03E-16
		Greedy	2.945	3.135	0.146	265.500	403.820	90.159	2.790	4.48E-26
5	350	THACS	3.377	3.459	0.040	246.600	25.800	73.015	3.161	—
		ACS	3.140	3.341	0.121	246.120	2.340	78.392	2.951	2.37E-19
		IMMAS	3.130	3.312	0.158	244.980	2.280	78.261	2.942	4.00E-15
		GA	3.108	3.307	0.106	241.120	2.160	77.580	2.920	4.28E-25
		SA	3.106	3.271	0.142	241.360	2.220	77.694	2.919	1.32E-18
		PSO	3.110	3.315	0.161	243.620	2.180	78.327	2.924	3.89E-16
		Greedy	3.105	3.358	0.122	281.180	366.560	90.570	2.942	9.27E-22

**Appendix B. The experimental results of the  $3 \times 2$  sucker matrix configuration.**

No.	Amount	Methods	$e_n$	$e_{max}$	$std$	$\bar{n}$	$\bar{N}_c$	$t_w$	$e_t$	p-value
1	250	THACS	4.898	4.961	0.053	168.820	86.460	34.464	4.278	—
		ACS	4.208	4.341	0.120	161.320	10.120	38.337	3.722	1.38E-46
		IMMAS	4.244	4.362	0.113	163.160	10.140	38.441	3.756	1.36E-47
		GA	4.164	4.321	0.107	158.320	9.800	38.018	3.680	1.15E-53
		SA	4.115	4.308	0.132	158.660	8.700	38.557	3.643	1.41E-46
		PSO	4.126	4.312	0.137	159.840	9.900	38.743	3.654	9.36E-45
		Greedy	3.354	3.613	0.147	186.300	1196.720	55.546	3.077	2.67E-60
2	275	THACS	4.843	4.935	0.060	185.900	73.280	38.385	4.285	—
		ACS	4.192	4.326	0.133	182.360	7.000	43.499	3.760	2.27E-42
		IMMAS	4.220	4.351	0.136	179.200	7.060	42.464	3.776	2.27E-40
		GA	4.139	4.315	0.126	178.000	6.500	43.010	3.708	8.86E-47
		SA	4.124	4.312	0.132	181.300	6.680	43.967	3.703	2.00E-45
		PSO	4.126	4.312	0.137	183.100	6.480	44.380	3.708	6.15E-44
		Greedy	3.383	3.783	0.221	212.700	936.340	62.875	3.134	7.95E-46
3	300	THACS	4.760	4.852	0.077	203.120	54.980	42.672	4.261	—
		ACS	4.146	4.401	0.115	197.260	5.280	47.578	3.752	1.17E-48
		IMMAS	4.190	4.385	0.123	202.300	5.120	48.284	3.797	2.34E-43
		GA	4.115	4.295	0.101	195.000	4.380	47.391	3.722	1.49E-55
		SA	4.107	4.322	0.125	192.320	5.360	46.832	3.710	3.43E-47
		PSO	4.121	4.306	0.112	193.760	4.400	47.015	3.725	7.08E-51
		Greedy	3.741	4.125	0.157	235.520	605.320	62.950	3.466	4.72E-51
4	325	THACS	4.870	4.997	0.079	214.620	51.900	44.074	4.373	—
		ACS	4.202	4.326	0.138	216.540	4.580	51.530	3.830	3.17E-44
		IMMAS	4.227	4.365	0.137	214.200	4.680	50.673	3.848	2.51E-43
		GA	4.140	4.325	0.127	213.320	4.440	51.532	3.773	2.12E-50
		SA	4.135	4.321	0.135	215.620	4.500	52.149	3.773	3.12E-48
		PSO	4.129	4.351	0.140	215.180	4.460	52.118	3.767	6.94E-47
		Greedy	3.292	3.772	0.217	257.380	573.400	78.180	3.094	1.09E-50
5	350	THACS	4.886	4.968	0.066	233.740	44.460	47.834	4.424	—
		ACS	4.241	4.398	0.117	237.220	3.920	55.468	3.893	3.30E-48
		IMMAS	4.277	4.389	0.126	235.620	4.000	55.563	3.921	2.66E-43
		GA	4.169	4.331	0.122	232.420	3.600	54.346	3.826	1.04E-49
		SA	4.148	4.356	0.128	234.160	3.700	56.169	3.810	1.16E-48
		PSO	4.152	4.366	0.137	230.100	3.800	55.480	3.809	1.03E-45
		Greedy	3.437	3.775	0.169	279.620	502.000	81.353	3.238	5.26E-56

**Appendix C. The experimental results of the  $3 \times 3$  sucker matrix configuration.**

No.	Amount	Methods	$e_n$	$e_{max}$	$std$	$\bar{n}$	$\overline{N_c}$	$t_w$	$e_t$	p-value
1	250	THACS	5.407	5.549	0.074	160.420	87.380	29.670	4.627	—
		ACS	4.632	4.812	0.101	158.120	10.240	34.136	4.040	2.51E-62
		IMMAS	4.630	4.825	0.146	159.320	9.560	34.408	4.043	9.37E-46
		GA	4.616	4.815	0.128	160.300	11.120	34.729	4.035	2.82E-52
		SA	4.590	4.765	0.129	157.520	9.940	34.322	4.006	7.96E-53
		PSO	4.601	4.781	0.150	158.100	10.180	34.368	4.016	4.90E-46
		Greedy	3.423	4.047	0.326	181.620	1506.020	53.055	3.128	6.90E-43
2	275	THACS	5.450	5.607	0.111	176.400	77.200	32.366	4.721	—
		ACS	4.671	4.822	0.126	173.200	7.980	37.080	4.116	2.55E-54
		IMMAS	4.670	4.831	0.151	175.620	7.580	37.608	4.122	5.74E-48
		GA	4.648	4.832	0.118	172.320	6.880	37.073	4.096	3.32E-57
		SA	4.609	4.810	0.128	171.880	7.060	37.296	4.064	1.24E-56
		PSO	4.614	4.781	0.126	173.000	6.920	37.491	4.071	7.52E-57
		Greedy	3.295	3.549	0.204	201.200	1225.500	61.062	3.046	1.80E-68
3	300	THACS	5.448	5.570	0.071	191.400	67.320	35.134	4.769	—
		ACS	4.619	4.794	0.087	188.460	7.480	40.796	4.115	1.07E-71
		IMMAS	4.641	4.822	0.121	189.320	6.340	40.791	4.134	3.67E-55
		GA	4.625	4.817	0.108	186.160	5.820	40.250	4.114	3.19E-61
		SA	4.596	4.798	0.134	185.700	6.040	40.408	4.090	6.82E-52
		PSO	4.603	4.805	0.153	187.260	6.000	40.683	4.099	5.92E-46
		Greedy	3.370	3.900	0.324	225.260	1157.400	66.850	3.135	6.07E-44
4	325	THACS	5.476	5.685	0.125	208.860	60.220	38.144	4.841	—
		ACS	4.635	4.811	0.116	209.560	5.900	45.212	4.174	7.11E-57
		IMMAS	4.654	4.835	0.125	207.160	5.700	44.513	4.184	8.43E-55
		GA	4.642	4.832	0.112	206.320	4.980	44.446	4.173	5.49E-57
		SA	4.614	4.780	0.100	205.160	5.200	44.461	4.148	1.03E-58
		PSO	4.591	4.761	0.139	207.560	5.080	45.204	4.134	6.40E-55
		Greedy	3.371	3.879	0.304	245.620	1131.220	72.860	3.155	5.75E-51
5	350	THACS	5.510	5.674	0.077	222.800	53.800	40.436	4.904	—
		ACS	4.699	4.832	0.115	223.160	5.400	47.494	4.251	2.03E-58
		IMMAS	4.746	4.901	0.122	222.600	5.060	46.904	4.289	1.99E-53
		GA	4.672	4.832	0.130	219.320	4.400	46.943	4.222	1.21E-53
		SA	4.669	4.810	0.084	218.160	4.560	46.727	4.217	3.31E-73
		PSO	4.611	4.788	0.117	221.500	4.420	48.038	4.176	4.13E-61
		Greedy	3.443	3.773	0.174	268.700	1008.060	78.054	3.235	3.20E-67

**Appendix D. The experimental results of the  $3 \times 4$  sucker matrix configuration.**

No.	Amount	Methods	$e_n$	$e_{max}$	$std$	$\bar{n}$	$\bar{N}_c$	$t_w$	$e_t$	p-value
1	250	THACS	6.225	6.306	0.108	154.300	59.800	24.788	5.180	—
		ACS	5.426	5.615	0.165	151.160	8.400	27.859	4.600	2.862E-45
		IMMAS	5.434	5.713	0.130	153.620	7.600	28.270	4.617	8.205E-54
		GA	5.274	5.431	0.101	153.460	6.760	29.098	4.500	1.959E-67
		SA	5.260	5.410	0.121	149.820	6.900	28.481	4.475	4.649E-64
		PSO	5.272	5.425	0.100	151.320	6.780	28.702	4.490	9.197E-68
		Greedy	4.029	5.564	0.594	170.120	766.880	42.224	3.602	2.619E-31
2	275	THACS	6.076	6.228	0.085	169.500	52.780	27.897	5.152	—
		ACS	5.315	5.531	0.159	166.420	5.640	31.312	4.583	2.742E-43
		IMMAS	5.318	5.566	0.164	167.320	5.260	31.461	4.589	6.971E-42
		GA	5.303	5.485	0.148	167.240	4.760	31.536	4.577	9.530E-47
		SA	5.289	5.477	0.149	164.560	4.960	31.111	4.557	1.033E-46
		PSO	5.290	5.486	0.149	164.780	4.860	31.152	4.558	5.667E-47
		Greedy	4.075	5.316	0.591	195.200	619.360	47.896	3.690	3.454E-29
3	300	THACS	6.065	6.250	0.101	185.100	45.500	30.521	5.211	—
		ACS	5.285	5.475	0.138	183.540	5.160	34.730	4.620	2.860E-51
		IMMAS	5.288	5.459	0.135	182.200	4.720	34.459	4.618	6.951E-52
		GA	5.284	5.451	0.137	185.140	4.200	35.039	4.624	1.501E-51
		SA	5.277	5.463	0.157	183.240	4.360	34.722	4.613	2.747E-46
		PSO	5.288	5.472	0.147	184.540	4.280	34.897	4.625	1.764E-48
		Greedy	3.529	4.558	0.410	219.000	578.700	62.051	3.266	1.073E-43
4	325	THACS	6.073	6.243	0.105	198.700	41.560	32.718	5.268	—
		ACS	5.334	5.491	0.143	198.260	3.980	37.170	4.701	4.928E-48
		IMMAS	5.313	5.510	0.144	200.160	3.820	37.672	4.690	9.701E-49
		GA	5.305	5.488	0.139	195.240	3.440	36.806	4.670	1.822E-50
		SA	5.293	5.471	0.141	194.240	3.360	36.695	4.658	1.714E-50
		PSO	5.323	5.475	0.116	196.360	3.500	36.889	4.687	1.699E-55
		Greedy	3.704	3.893	0.161	235.120	517.600	63.470	3.434	3.004E-84
5	350	THACS	6.131	6.252	0.127	215.100	38.700	35.085	5.366	—
		ACS	5.323	5.513	0.148	215.320	3.760	40.447	4.738	1.529E-49
		IMMAS	5.323	5.498	0.120	213.660	3.500	40.143	4.733	2.184E-54
		GA	5.305	5.500	0.141	211.160	3.200	39.803	4.713	7.583E-52
		SA	5.203	5.461	0.337	210.540	3.300	40.469	4.630	1.092E-26
		PSO	5.320	5.470	0.112	213.140	3.240	40.066	4.729	2.054E-55
		Greedy	3.591	4.142	0.255	257.200	482.620	71.632	3.356	1.418E-64

**Appendix E. The experimental results of the  $3 \times 5$  sucker matrix configuration.**

No.	Amount	Methods	$e_n$	$e_{max}$	$std$	$\bar{n}$	$\bar{N}_c$	$t_w$	$e_t$	p-value
1	250	THACS	6.318	6.424	0.110	150.100	41.080	23.759	5.219	—
		ACS	5.415	5.631	0.140	141.240	5.060	26.083	4.544	2.277E-56
		IMMAS	5.438	5.655	0.134	144.600	4.980	26.593	4.577	7.920E-57
		GA	5.372	5.561	0.121	142.300	4.740	26.490	4.519	6.880E-63
		SA	5.221	5.461	0.105	141.240	4.800	27.053	4.406	3.993E-72
		PSO	5.321	5.471	0.115	132.500	4.780	24.905	4.431	1.572E-66
		Greedy	3.486	4.829	0.718	162.800	418.060	46.702	3.149	2.003E-32
2	275	THACS	6.372	6.513	0.090	160.320	36.020	25.160	5.316	—
		ACS	5.472	5.654	0.131	158.300	3.560	28.930	4.666	1.844E-57
		IMMAS	5.459	5.637	0.110	161.500	3.460	29.587	4.670	6.290E-66
		GA	5.413	5.573	0.103	158.400	3.360	29.264	4.623	3.292E-70
		SA	5.261	5.471	0.100	159.320	3.380	30.284	4.515	1.797E-77
		PSO	5.350	5.477	0.114	158.400	3.380	29.608	4.577	7.542E-69
		Greedy	3.484	4.936	0.682	187.900	382.260	53.932	3.188	1.052E-33
3	300	THACS	6.299	6.410	0.099	177.300	32.940	28.149	5.349	—
		ACS	5.449	5.621	0.115	173.200	3.200	31.788	4.708	3.440E-61
		IMMAS	5.448	5.605	0.120	175.340	3.140	32.181	4.716	8.546E-60
		GA	5.404	5.521	0.104	174.400	2.980	32.272	4.679	1.937E-66
		SA	5.264	5.500	0.107	173.440	3.020	32.949	4.570	1.420E-71
		PSO	5.349	5.465	0.081	174.240	3.000	32.572	4.637	8.751E-72
		Greedy	3.691	5.092	0.692	210.320	333.780	56.982	3.393	2.211E-31
4	325	THACS	6.325	6.457	0.115	192.100	31.480	30.372	5.431	—
		ACS	5.454	5.676	0.125	187.260	2.940	34.332	4.761	2.257E-58
		IMMAS	5.459	5.637	0.110	189.300	2.860	34.680	4.771	7.296E-61
		GA	5.412	5.562	0.102	186.640	2.700	34.484	4.727	5.479E-64
		SA	5.261	5.468	0.100	188.320	2.740	35.798	4.616	2.765E-70
		PSO	5.338	5.435	0.071	187.200	2.740	35.071	4.672	3.154E-64
		Greedy	3.626	4.325	0.392	227.300	319.280	62.679	3.359	2.499E-47
5	350	THACS	6.212	6.431	0.098	211.400	25.400	34.030	5.416	—
		ACS	5.279	5.432	0.099	205.300	2.280	38.894	4.677	1.370E-68
		IMMAS	5.294	5.368	0.055	208.400	2.280	39.370	4.697	4.260E-63
		GA	5.218	5.322	0.064	207.160	2.180	39.702	4.634	1.111E-68
		SA	5.213	5.315	0.070	208.540	2.200	40.004	4.634	9.135E-71
		PSO	5.290	5.433	0.068	209.420	2.200	39.586	4.697	3.344E-67
		Greedy	3.512	4.576	0.528	249.600	267.960	71.065	3.281	1.607E-38

**Appendix F. The experimental results of the  $3 \times 6$  sucker matrix configuration.**

No.	Amount	Methods	$e_n$	$e_{max}$	$std$	$\bar{n}$	$\bar{N}_c$	$t_w$	$e_t$	p-value
1	250	THACS	6.418	6.530	0.111	132.000	15.920	20.567	5.163	—
		ACS	5.520	5.731	0.116	130.160	1.940	23.578	4.554	5.259E-62
		IMMAS	5.544	5.702	0.118	130.640	1.890	23.564	4.574	2.372E-60
		GA	5.471	5.650	0.126	131.260	1.860	23.990	4.527	1.053E-61
		SA	5.469	5.631	0.123	129.460	1.860	23.669	4.515	1.942E-62
		PSO	5.496	5.710	0.133	129.860	1.860	23.628	4.536	7.934E-59
		Greedy	4.181	4.671	0.467	146.280	190.020	34.985	3.658	1.113E-37
2	275	THACS	6.288	6.393	0.089	145.800	13.940	23.186	5.173	—
		ACS	5.306	5.463	0.104	143.360	1.380	27.017	4.477	4.194E-71
		IMMAS	5.321	5.465	0.114	146.340	1.360	27.503	4.502	6.438E-67
		GA	5.298	5.420	0.118	145.840	1.220	27.525	4.484	7.571E-66
		SA	5.237	5.417	0.083	145.640	1.300	27.805	4.439	1.592E-79
		PSO	5.294	5.453	0.113	146.660	1.220	27.705	4.484	4.531E-68
		Greedy	4.194	4.874	0.697	158.120	164.880	37.703	3.703	1.072E-26
3	300	THACS	6.203	6.331	0.078	159.260	13.180	25.674	5.192	—
		ACS	5.267	5.437	0.089	259.740	1.260	49.311	4.782	4.584E-75
		IMMAS	5.296	5.453	0.100	160.740	1.220	30.349	4.547	7.317E-70
		GA	5.277	5.398	0.089	159.440	1.080	30.214	4.528	2.692E-75
		SA	5.227	5.387	0.077	158.260	1.180	30.278	4.486	5.994E-81
		PSO	5.299	5.432	0.074	159.140	1.100	30.033	4.543	2.261E-78
		Greedy	3.512	4.576	0.528	184.700	141.540	52.587	3.207	7.383E-38
4	325	THACS	6.428	6.530	0.095	171.400	12.080	26.666	5.413	—
		ACS	5.544	5.745	0.115	170.300	1.280	30.721	4.768	7.315E-63
		IMMAS	5.560	5.775	0.132	171.160	1.120	30.785	4.783	1.381E-56
		GA	5.493	5.661	0.114	171.240	1.080	31.171	4.734	1.558E-65
		SA	5.472	5.655	0.127	169.400	1.140	30.962	4.711	7.718E-62
		PSO	5.498	5.730	0.137	170.560	1.100	31.020	4.735	1.200E-57
		Greedy	4.181	4.671	0.467	204.260	127.460	48.852	3.793	3.158E-37
5	350	THACS	6.383	6.527	0.099	187.800	11.000	29.420	5.456	—
		ACS	5.509	5.688	0.126	184.640	1.240	33.513	4.794	4.769E-59
		IMMAS	5.532	5.702	0.131	185.400	1.120	33.519	4.813	1.183E-56
		GA	5.479	5.621	0.098	183.020	1.060	33.406	4.765	4.888E-68
		SA	5.465	5.638	0.128	171.000	1.100	31.293	4.712	2.117E-60
		PSO	5.494	5.685	0.129	183.780	1.060	33.453	4.779	8.602E-59
		Greedy	4.078	5.541	0.760	222.060	115.940	54.447	3.735	6.747E-27