

VEHICLE ROUTING AND DEMAND FORECASTING IN RECYCLABLE WASTE COLLECTION

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CIRRELT
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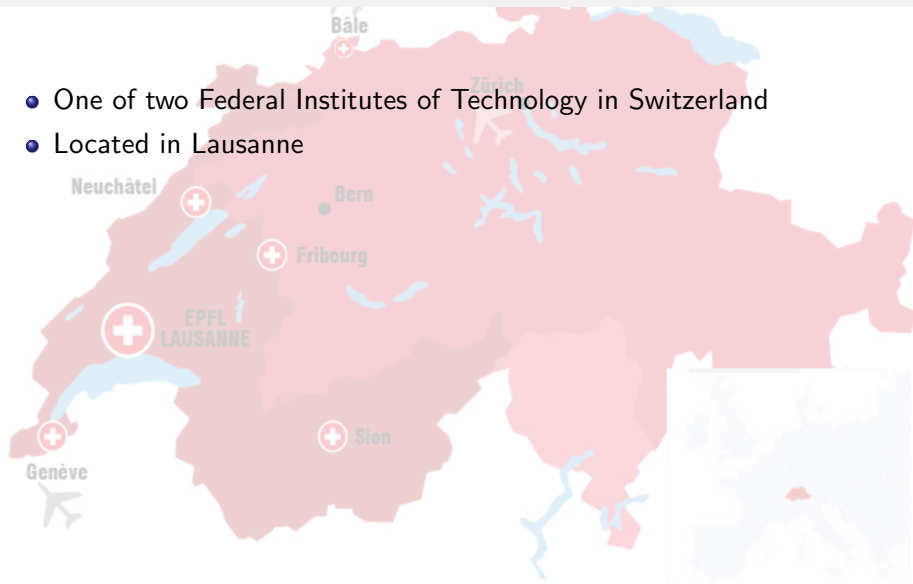
Source: EPFL Facebook page





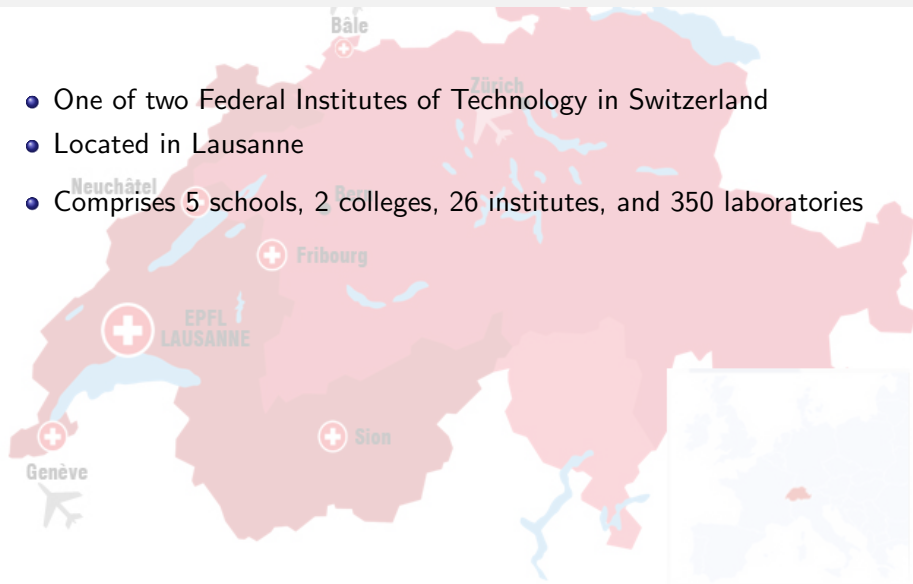
EPFL facts and figures

- One of two Federal Institutes of Technology in Switzerland
- Located in Lausanne



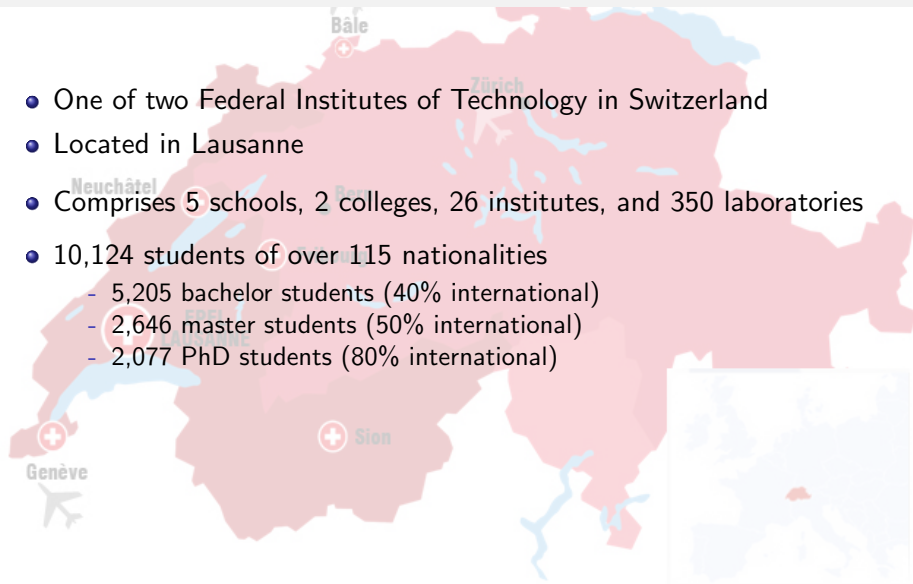
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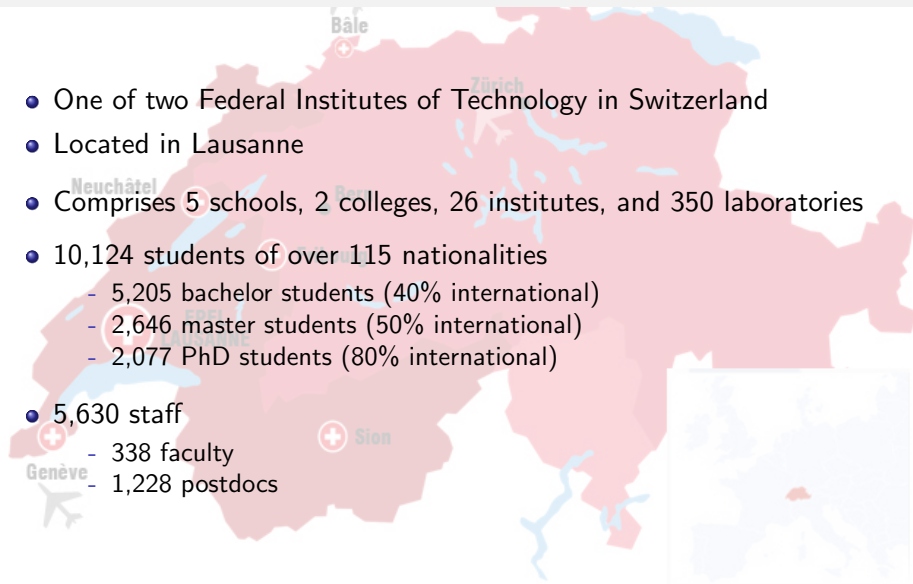
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- 5,630 staff
 - 338 faculty
 - 1,228 postdocs



TRANSP-OR

Michel
full professor



Mila
secretary



Anne
IT



Matthieu
postdoc



Eva
PhD student



Anna
PhD student



Meritxell
PhD student



Riccardo
postdoc



Marija
PhD student



Flurin
PhD student



Antonin
PhD student



Yousef
postdoc



Iliya
PhD student



Shadi
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Tomáš
PhD student



Stefan
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Discrete Choice

Pedestrians

Operations Research

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- 2 Vehicle Routing
- 3 Demand Forecasting
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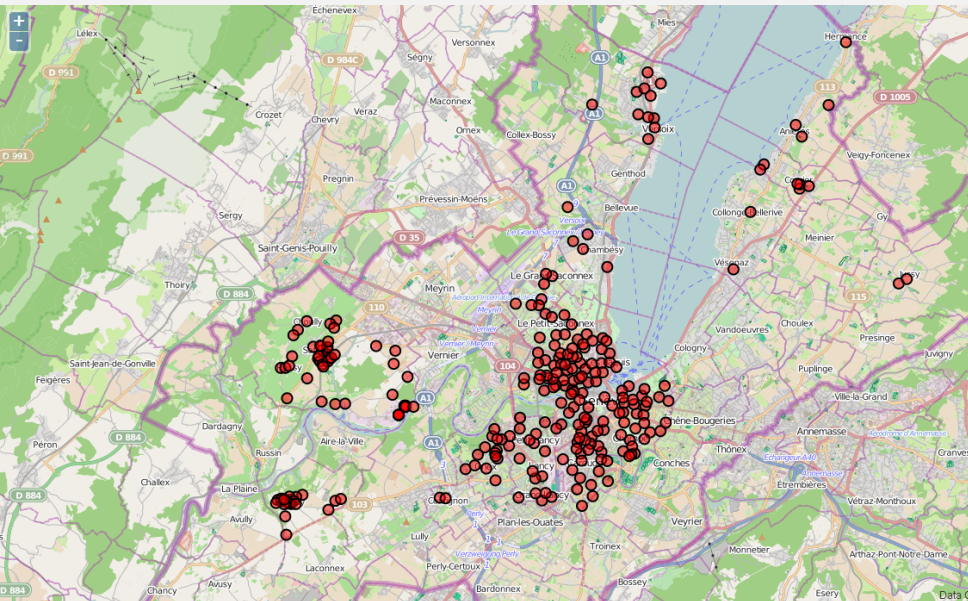
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Ecological waste management (CTI project)

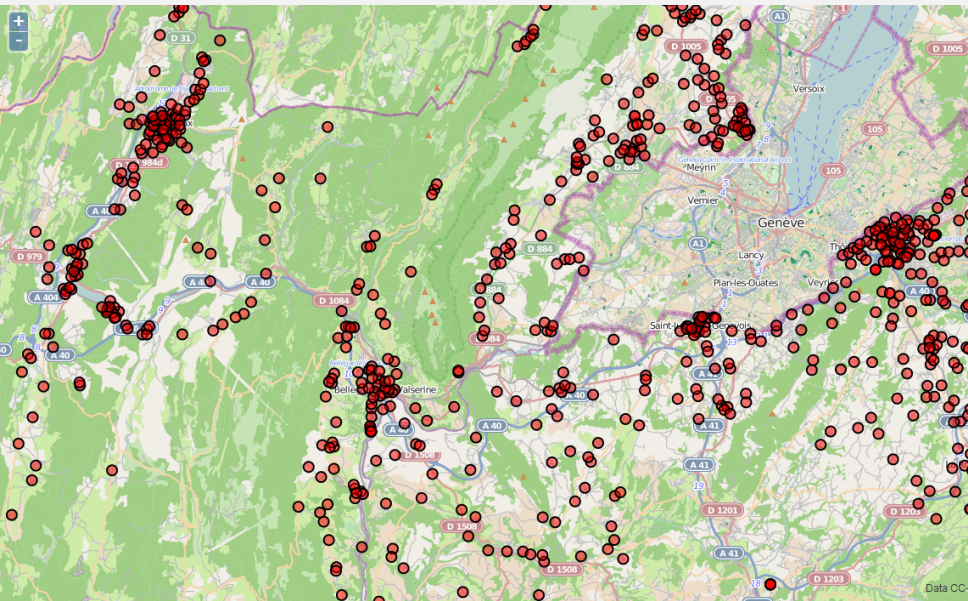


Ecopoint in Rue de Neuchâtel, Geneva; Source: self

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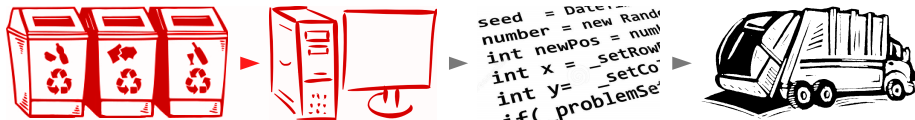


Ecological waste management (CTI project)



Introduction

- Sensorized containers for recyclables periodically send waste level data to a central database.



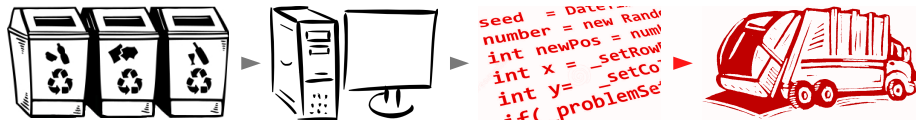
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- Level data is used for container selection and vehicle routing, with tours *often planned several days in advance*.
- Vehicles are dispatched to carry out the daily schedules produced by the routing algorithm.
- Efficient waste collection thus depends on the ability to
 - make **good forecasts** of the container levels at the time of collection,
 - and **optimally route** the vehicles to serve the selected containers.



```
seed = Date...  
number = new Rand...  
int newPos = num...  
int x = _setRow...  
int y = _setCo...  
if( _problemSe
```



Contents

- 1 Introduction
- 2 **Vehicle Routing**
- 3 Demand Forecasting
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Problem description

- Multiple depots, containers, and dumps (recycling plants) with TW
- Maximum tour duration, interrupted by a break
- Site dependencies (accessibility restrictions)
- Tours are sequences of collections and disposals at the available dumps, with a mandatory disposal before the end.

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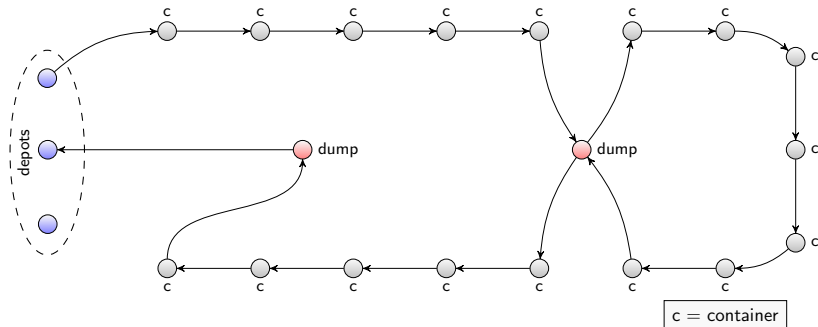
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- *There is a heterogeneous fixed fleet.*
 - different volume and weight capacities, speeds, costs, etc...

Problem description

Figure 1: Tour illustration



State of the art

- VRP with intermediate facilities (VRP-IF)
 - Bard et al. (1998), Kim et al. (2006), Crevier et al. (2007)
- Electric and alternative fuel VRP
 - Conrad and Figliozzi (2011), Erdoğan and Miller-Hooks (2012), Schneider et al. (2014), Schneider et al. (2015)
- Heterogeneous fixed fleet VRP
 - Taillard (1996), Baldacci and Mingozzi (2009), Subramanian et al. (2012), Penna et al. (2013)
 - Hiermann et al. (2014) and Goeke and Schneider (2014) use some form of heterogeneity in the electric VRP
- Flexible assignment of depots
 - Kek et al. (2008)

Contributions

- Integration of dynamic destination depot assignment into the VRP-IF
 - consideration of relocation costs
- Integration of heterogeneous fixed fleet into the VRP-IF
 - challenges posed by intermediate facility visits
- Benchmarking to several classes of simpler problems from the literature and state of practice
 - E-VRPTW (modified from Schneider et al., 2014)
 - MDVRPI (Crevier et al., 2007)
 - optimal solutions, state of practice, etc...

Formulation

Sets

\mathcal{O}' = set of origins

\mathcal{D} = set of dumps

$\mathcal{N} = \mathcal{O}' \cup \mathcal{O}'' \cup \mathcal{D} \cup \mathcal{P}$

\mathcal{O}'' = set of destinations

\mathcal{P} = set of containers

\mathcal{K} = set of vehicles

Parameters

π_{ij} = length of arc (i, j)

τ_{ijk} = travel time of vehicle k on arc (i, j)

$[\lambda_i, \mu_i]$ = time window lower and upper bound at point i

ε_i = service duration at point i

ρ_i = pickup quantity at point i

Ω_k = capacity of vehicle k

ϕ_k = fixed cost of vehicle k

β_k = unit-distance running cost of vehicle k

θ_k = unit-time running cost of vehicle k

α_{ik} = 1 if point i is accessible for vehicle k , 0 otherwise

H = maximum tour duration

η = maximum continuous work limit after which a break is due

δ = break duration

Ψ = weight of relocation cost term

Formulation

Decision variables: binary

$$x_{ijk} = \begin{cases} 1 & \text{if vehicle } k \text{ traverses arc } (i,j) \\ 0 & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$

$$z_{ijk} = \begin{cases} 1 & \text{if } i \text{ and } j \text{ are, respectively, the origin and destination of vehicle } k \\ 0 & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$

$$b_{ijk} = \begin{cases} 1 & \text{if vehicle } k \text{ takes a break on arc } (i,j) \\ 0 & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$

$$y_k = \begin{cases} 1 & \text{if vehicle } k \text{ is used} \\ 0 & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$

Decision variables: continuous

S_{ik} = start-of-service time of vehicle k at point i

Q_{ik} = cumulative quantity on vehicle k at point i

Formulation

$$\min \quad r = \sum_{k \in \mathcal{K}} \left(\phi_k y_k + \beta_k \sum_{i \in \mathcal{N}} \sum_{j \in \mathcal{N}} \pi_{ij} x_{ijk} + \theta_k \left(\sum_{j \in \mathcal{O}_k''} S_{jk} - \sum_{i \in \mathcal{O}_k'} S_{ik} \right) \right) \quad (1)$$

$$+ \Psi \sum_{k \in \mathcal{K}} \sum_{i \in \mathcal{O}_k'} \sum_{j \in \mathcal{O}_k''} (\beta_k \pi_{ji} + \theta_k \tau_{jik}) z_{ijk}$$

$$\text{s.t.} \quad \sum_{k \in \mathcal{K}} \sum_{j \in \mathcal{D} \cup \mathcal{P}} x_{ijk} = 1, \quad \forall i \in \mathcal{P} \quad (2)$$

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$$0 \leq \sum_{j \in \mathcal{O}''_k} S_{jk} - \sum_{i \in \mathcal{O}'_k} S_{ik} \leq H, \quad \forall k \in \mathcal{K} \quad (16)$$

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$$\lambda_i \sum_{j \in \mathcal{N}} x_{ijk} \leq S_{ik}, \quad \forall k \in \mathcal{K}, i \in \mathcal{O}'_k \cup \mathcal{P} \cup \mathcal{D} \quad (14)$$

$$S_{jk} \leq \mu_j \sum_{i \in \mathcal{N}} x_{ijk}, \quad \forall k \in \mathcal{K}, j \in \mathcal{P} \cup \mathcal{D} \cup \mathcal{O}''_k \quad (15)$$

$$0 \leq \sum_{j \in \mathcal{O}''_k} S_{jk} - \sum_{i \in \mathcal{O}'_k} S_{ik} \leq H, \quad \forall k \in \mathcal{K} \quad (16)$$

Formulation

$$\text{s.t.} \left(S_{ik} - \sum_{m \in \mathcal{O}'_k} S_{mk} \right) + \varepsilon_i - \eta \leq M(1 - b_{ijk}), \quad \forall k \in \mathcal{K}, i \in \mathcal{O}'_k \cup \mathcal{P} \cup \mathcal{D}, j \in \mathcal{P} \cup \mathcal{D} \cup \mathcal{O}''_k \quad (17)$$

$$\eta - \left(S_{jk} - \sum_{m \in \mathcal{O}'_k} S_{mk} \right) \leq M(1 - b_{ijk}), \quad \forall k \in \mathcal{K}, i \in \mathcal{O}'_k \cup \mathcal{P} \cup \mathcal{D}, j \in \mathcal{P} \cup \mathcal{D} \cup \mathcal{O}''_k \quad (18)$$

$$b_{ijk} \leq x_{ijk}, \quad \forall k \in \mathcal{K}, i, j \in \mathcal{N} \quad (19)$$

$$\left(\sum_{j \in \mathcal{O}''_k} S_{jk} - \sum_{i \in \mathcal{O}'_k} S_{ik} \right) - \eta \leq (H - \eta) \sum_{i \in \mathcal{N}} \sum_{j \in \mathcal{N}} b_{ijk}, \quad \forall k \in \mathcal{K} \quad (20)$$

$$x_{ijk}, z_{ijk}, b_{ijk}, y_k \in \{0, 1\}, \quad \forall k \in \mathcal{K}, i, j \in \mathcal{N} \quad (21)$$

$$S_{ik} Q_{ik} \geq 0, \quad \forall k \in \mathcal{K}, i \in \mathcal{N} \quad (22)$$

Formulation

$$\text{s.t.} \left(S_{ik} - \sum_{m \in \mathcal{O}'_k} S_{mk} \right) + \varepsilon_i - \eta \leq M(1 - b_{ijk}), \quad \forall k \in \mathcal{K}, i \in \mathcal{O}'_k \cup \mathcal{P} \cup \mathcal{D}, j \in \mathcal{P} \cup \mathcal{D} \cup \mathcal{O}''_k \quad (17)$$

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$$\left(\sum_{j \in \mathcal{O}''_k} S_{jk} - \sum_{i \in \mathcal{O}'_k} S_{ik} \right) - \eta \leq (H - \eta) \sum_{i \in \mathcal{N}} \sum_{j \in \mathcal{N}} b_{ijk}, \quad \forall k \in \mathcal{K} \quad (20)$$

$$x_{ijk}, z_{ijk}, b_{ijk}, y_k \in \{0, 1\}, \quad \forall k \in \mathcal{K}, i, j \in \mathcal{N} \quad (21)$$

$$S_{ik} Q_{ik} \geq 0, \quad \forall k \in \mathcal{K}, i \in \mathcal{N} \quad (22)$$

Solution methodology: Exact approach

- We apply variable fixing and several additional inequalities
- Impossible traversals

$$x_{iik} = 0, \quad \forall k \in \mathcal{K}, i \in \mathcal{N} \quad (23)$$

$$x_{ijk} = 0, \quad \forall k \in \mathcal{K}, i \in \mathcal{O}'_k, j \in \mathcal{D} \cup \mathcal{O}''_k \quad (24)$$

$$x_{ijk} = 0, \quad \forall k \in \mathcal{K}, i \in \mathcal{P}, j \in \mathcal{O}''_k \quad (25)$$

$$x_{ijk} = 0, \quad \forall k \in \mathcal{K}, i \in \mathcal{D}, j \in \mathcal{D}: i \neq j \quad (26)$$

- Time-window infeasible traversals

$$x_{ijk} = 0, \quad \forall k \in \mathcal{K}, i \in \mathcal{O}'_k \cup \mathcal{P} \cup \mathcal{D}, j \in \mathcal{P} \cup \mathcal{D} \cup \mathcal{O}''_k: \lambda_i + \varepsilon_i + \tau_{ijk} > \mu_j \quad (27)$$

- Bounds on time

$$\sum_{j \in \mathcal{O}''_k} S_{jk} - \sum_{i \in \mathcal{O}'_k} S_{ik} \geq \sum_{i \in \mathcal{N}} \sum_{j \in \mathcal{N}} x_{ijk} (\varepsilon_i + \tau_{ijk}), \quad \forall k \in \mathcal{K} \quad (28)$$

$$S_{ik} \leq \max_{m \in \mathcal{P}} (\mu_m - \tau_{imk}) y_k, \quad \forall k \in \mathcal{K}, i \in \mathcal{O}'_k \quad (29)$$

$$S_{jk} \geq \min_{m \in \mathcal{D}} (\lambda_m + \varepsilon_m + \tau_{mjk}) \sum_{m \in \mathcal{D}} x_{mjk}, \quad \forall k \in \mathcal{K}, j \in \mathcal{O}''_k \quad (30)$$

Solution methodology: Exact approach

- Symmetry breaking for subsets \mathcal{K}' of identical vehicles

$$\sum_{i \in \mathcal{P}} \sum_{j \in \mathcal{P} \cup \mathcal{D}} \rho_i^v x_{ijk'_g} \geq \sum_{i \in \mathcal{P}} \sum_{j \in \mathcal{P} \cup \mathcal{D}} \rho_i^v x_{ijk'_{g+1}}, \quad \forall g \in 1, \dots, (|\mathcal{K}'| - 1) \quad (31)$$

- Symmetry breaking for replications of the same dump \mathcal{D}'

$$\sum_{i \in \mathcal{P}} ix_{ij'_g k} \leq \sum_{i \in \mathcal{P}} ix_{ij'_{g+1} k}, \quad \forall k \in \mathcal{K}, g \in 1, \dots, (|\mathcal{D}'| - 1) \quad (32)$$

- Bounds on dump visits

$$\sum_{i \in \mathcal{P}} x_{ijk} \leq 1, \quad \forall k \in \mathcal{K}, j \in \mathcal{D} \quad (33)$$

$$\sum_{i \in \mathcal{D}} \sum_{j \in \mathcal{P}} x_{ijk} \leq \min(|\mathcal{D}| - 1, |\mathcal{P}| - 1), \quad \forall k \in \mathcal{K} \quad (34)$$

Solution methodology: Heuristic approach

- To solve instances of realistic size, we developed a heuristic algorithm.
- It constructs a feasible initial solution using an insertion procedure.
- It improves the initial solution through a multiple neighborhood search procedure admitting intermediate infeasibility with a dynamically evolving penalty.
- Periodically, we restart from the best feasible solution because feasibility may be hard to restore.
- Periodically, we also reassign dump visits and evaluate vehicle reassignments because the fleet is heterogeneous and fixed.

Results

- We test the heuristic against the mathematical model on modifications of the Schneider et al. (2014) E-VRPTW instances.
 - recharging facilities are regarded as dumps
 - additional features relevant to our problem are added
- Additionally, we test the heuristic on
 - the Crevier et al. (2007) instances for the purpose of evaluating the benefit of flexible depot assignment,
 - and on state-of-practice data
- For each instance, the heuristic is run 10 times.

Results: Modified Schneider et al. (2014) instances

- 36 instances derived from the Solomon (1987) VRPTW instances
- 3 groups of 12 instances with 5, 10, and 15 customers
- Number of recharging stations: 2 to 8

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Results: Modified Schneider et al. (2014) instances

Table 1: Heuristic vs solver on modified Schneider et al. (2014) instances with 5 customers

Instance	Vehicles	Heuristic			Solver on model with adtl inequalities				Solver on model without adtl inequalities			
		Best	Average	Runtime avg(s.)	Objective	MIP Gap(%)	Runtime (s.)	Improvement(%)	Objective	MIP Gap(%)	Runtime (s.)	Improvement(%)
c101C5	4	489.70	489.70	0.05	489.70	0.00	0.39	0.00	489.70	35.71	7,200.01	0.00
c103C5	2	281.33	281.33	0.04	268.09	0.00	0.17	-4.94	268.09	0.00	4,910.40	-4.94
c206C5	2	374.67	374.67	0.06	360.09	0.00	0.24	-4.05	360.09	0.00	90.27	-4.05
c208C5	2	343.20	343.20	0.06	343.20	0.00	0.49	0.00	343.20	38.57	7,200.04	0.00
r104C5	1	182.81	182.81	0.02	182.81	0.00	0.04	0.00	182.81	0.00	1.90	0.00
r105C5	2	251.15	251.15	0.05	251.15	0.00	0.08	0.00	251.15	0.00	0.22	0.00
r202C5	1	176.52	176.52	0.02	176.52	0.00	0.05	0.00	176.52	0.00	2.67	0.00
r203C5	1	228.05	228.05	0.03	228.05	0.00	0.12	0.00	228.05	0.00	1,504.85	0.00
rc105C5	2	327.19	327.19	0.05	327.19	0.00	0.15	0.00	327.19	25.27	7,200.04	0.00
rc108C5	2	345.87	345.87	0.04	345.87	0.00	0.15	0.00	345.87	0.00	2,069.22	0.00
rc204C5	1	223.17	223.17	0.09	223.17	0.00	0.17	0.00	223.17	0.00	1,327.76	0.00
rc208C5	1	212.67	212.67	0.02	212.67	0.00	0.25	0.00	212.67	0.00	1,156.35	0.00

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r202C5	1	176.52	176.52	0.02	176.52	0.00	0.05	0.00	176.52	0.00	2.67	0.00
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rc105C5	2	327.19	327.19	0.05	327.19	0.00	0.15	0.00	327.19	25.27	7,200.04	0.00
rc108C5	2	345.87	345.87	0.04	345.87	0.00	0.15	0.00	345.87	0.00	2,069.22	0.00
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c208C5	2	343.20	343.20	0.06	343.20	0.00	0.49	0.00	343.20	38.57	7,200.04	0.00
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r105C5	2	251.15	251.15	0.05	251.15	0.00	0.08	0.00	251.15	0.00	0.22	0.00
r202C5	1	176.52	176.52	0.02	176.52	0.00	0.05	0.00	176.52	0.00	2.67	0.00
r203C5	1	228.05	228.05	0.03	228.05	0.00	0.12	0.00	228.05	0.00	1,504.85	0.00
rc105C5	2	327.19	327.19	0.05	327.19	0.00	0.15	0.00	327.19	25.27	7,200.04	0.00
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r202C5	1	176.52	176.52	0.02	176.52	0.00	0.05	0.00	176.52	0.00	2.67	0.00
r203C5	1	228.05	228.05	0.03	228.05	0.00	0.12	0.00	228.05	0.00	1,504.85	0.00
rc105C5	2	327.19	327.19	0.05	327.19	0.00	0.15	0.00	327.19	25.27	7,200.04	0.00
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rc204C5	1	223.17	223.17	0.09	223.17	0.00	0.17	0.00	223.17	0.00	1,327.76	0.00
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Results: Modified Schneider et al. (2014) instances

Table 1: Heuristic vs solver on modified Schneider et al. (2014) instances with 10 customers

Instance	Vehicles	Heuristic			Solver on model with adtl inequalities				Solver on model without adtl inequalities			
		Best	Average	Runtime avg(s.)	Objective	MIP Gap(%)	Runtime (s.)	Improvement(%)	Objective	MIP Gap(%)	Runtime (s.)	Improvement(%)
c101C10	6	846.10	846.10	0.61	837.13	0.00	5,489.48	-1.07	846.10	77.21	7,200.48	0.00
c104C10	3	456.86	456.86	0.43	456.86	0.00	37.28	0.00	456.86	53.05	7,200.08	0.00
c202C10	4	549.74	549.74	0.42	549.74	18.44	7,200.09	0.00	549.74	67.71	7,200.31	0.00
c205C10	4	568.92	568.92	0.58	568.58	0.00	2,788.37	-0.06	568.92	64.77	7,200.11	0.00
r102C10	3	391.14	391.14	0.40	391.14	0.00	158.70	0.00	391.14	47.69	7,200.16	0.00
r103C10	2	288.67	288.67	0.50	288.67	0.00	18.39	0.00	288.67	43.72	7,200.04	0.00
r201C10	2	310.16	310.16	0.45	310.16	0.00	45.22	0.00	310.16	43.64	7,200.46	0.00
r203C10	2	329.78	329.78	1.13	329.78	0.00	5,757.28	0.00	329.78	47.26	7,200.08	0.00
rc102C10	3	534.75	534.75	0.40	534.75	0.00	6.25	0.00	534.75	38.77	7,200.09	0.00
rc108C10	2	429.79	429.79	0.42	429.79	0.00	6.94	0.00	429.79	25.30	7,200.09	0.00
rc201C10	2	502.45	502.45	0.40	499.88	0.00	147.43	-0.51	502.45	58.48	7,200.09	0.00
rc205C10	2	428.80	428.80	0.45	421.36	0.00	26.00	-1.77	428.80	40.52	7,201.11	0.00

Results: Modified Schneider et al. (2014) instances

Table 1: Heuristic vs solver on modified Schneider et al. (2014) instances with 10 customers

Instance	Vehicles	Heuristic			Solver on model with adtl inequalities				Solver on model without adtl inequalities			
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Results: Modified Schneider et al. (2014) instances

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rc205C10	2	428.80	428.80	0.45	421.36	0.00	26.00	-1.77	428.80	40.52	7,201.11	0.00

Results: Modified Schneider et al. (2014) instances

Table 1: Heuristic vs solver on modified Schneider et al. (2014) instances with 10 customers

Instance	Vehicles	Heuristic			Solver on model with adtl inequalities				Solver on model without adtl inequalities			
		Best	Average	Runtime avg(s.)	Objective	MIP Gap(%)	Runtime (s.)	Improvement(%)	Objective	MIP Gap(%)	Runtime (s.)	Improvement(%)
c101C10	6	846.10	846.10	0.61	837.13	0.00	5,489.48	-1.07	846.10	77.21	7,200.48	0.00
c104C10	3	456.86	456.86	0.43	456.86	0.00	37.28	0.00	456.86	53.05	7,200.08	0.00
c202C10	4	549.74	549.74	0.42	549.74	18.44	7,200.09	0.00	549.74	67.71	7,200.31	0.00
c205C10	4	568.92	568.92	0.58	568.58	0.00	2,788.37	-0.06	568.92	64.77	7,200.11	0.00
r102C10	3	391.14	391.14	0.40	391.14	0.00	158.70	0.00	391.14	47.69	7,200.16	0.00
r103C10	2	288.67	288.67	0.50	288.67	0.00	18.39	0.00	288.67	43.72	7,200.04	0.00
r201C10	2	310.16	310.16	0.45	310.16	0.00	45.22	0.00	310.16	43.64	7,200.46	0.00
r203C10	2	329.78	329.78	1.13	329.78	0.00	5,757.28	0.00	329.78	47.26	7,200.08	0.00
rc102C10	3	534.75	534.75	0.40	534.75	0.00	6.25	0.00	534.75	38.77	7,200.09	0.00
rc108C10	2	429.79	429.79	0.42	429.79	0.00	6.94	0.00	429.79	25.30	7,200.09	0.00
rc201C10	2	502.45	502.45	0.40	499.88	0.00	147.43	-0.51	502.45	58.48	7,200.09	0.00
rc205C10	2	428.80	428.80	0.45	421.36	0.00	26.00	-1.77	428.80	40.52	7,201.11	0.00

Results: Modified Schneider et al. (2014) instances

Table 1: Heuristic vs solver on modified Schneider et al. (2014) instances with 15 customers

Instance	Vehicles	Heuristic			Solver on model with adtl inequalities				Solver on model without adtl inequalities			
		Best	Average	Runtime avg(s.)	Objective	MIP Gap(%)	Runtime (s.)	Improvement(%)	Objective	MIP Gap(%)	Runtime (s.)	Improvement(%)
c103C15	5	823.82	823.82	0.92	823.82	34.38	7,200.18	0.00	823.82	73.45	7,200.84	0.00
c106C15	5	653.46	653.46	0.69	653.46	17.67	7,200.19	0.00	653.46	63.86	7,200.07	0.00
c202C15	6	932.30	932.30	0.77	932.30	36.39	7,200.23	0.00	932.30	68.58	7,200.51	0.00
c208C15	5	725.23	725.23	1.55	725.23	25.75	7,200.17	0.00	725.23	68.69	7,200.38	0.00
r102C15	5	678.40	678.40	0.83	678.40	27.89	7,200.17	0.00	678.40	64.94	7,200.22	0.00
r105C15	3	462.52	462.52	0.70	462.52	0.00	56.82	0.00	462.52	53.50	7,200.10	0.00
r202C15	3	528.59	535.08	1.41	528.59	30.25	7,200.11	0.00	528.59	54.05	7,200.95	0.00
r209C15	2	369.29	371.60	1.26	369.29	7.10	7,200.11	0.00	369.29	37.62	7,201.49	0.00
rc103C15	3	556.87	556.87	0.83	556.87	16.41	7,200.10	0.00	556.87	58.12	7,200.06	0.00
rc108C15	3	510.41	511.03	1.19	510.41	3.47	7,200.07	0.00	510.41	49.31	7,200.14	0.00
rc202C15	3	601.71	601.71	1.30	598.83	27.55	7,200.18	-0.48	601.71	58.77	7,200.24	0.00
rc204C15	2	421.54	422.22	5.67	421.54	25.44	7,201.01	0.00	421.54	49.29	7,201.67	0.00
Average		453.82	454.10	0.66	452.43	7.52	2,803.97	-0.36	453.05	39.11	5,707.60	-0.25

Results: Modified Schneider et al. (2014) instances

Table 1: Heuristic vs solver on modified Schneider et al. (2014) instances with 15 customers

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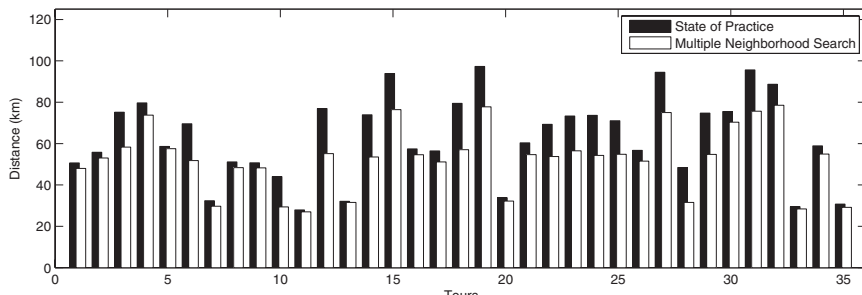
Results: Crevier et al. (2007) instances

- 22 instances, with a limited homogeneous fleet stationed at one depot
- All depots can act as intermediate facilities.
- BKS by Hemmelmayr et al. (2013)
- We apply the MNS heuristic to evaluate the benefits from flexible destination depot assignments.
- Keeping the home depot and optimizing the destination depot obtains
 - 0.37% average savings over 10 runs
 - 1.77% savings in the best case
- Optimizing the home depot and the destination depot obtains
 - 1.37% average savings over 10 runs
 - 2.54% savings in the best case

Results: Comparison to the state of practice

- 35 tours planned by specialized software for the canton of Geneva
- 7 to 38 containers per tour, up to 4 dump visits per tour
- MNS heuristic improves tours by 1.73% to 34.91%, on avg 14.75%
- Extrapolating annually, cost reductions of at least 300,000 USD

Figure 2: Comparison to the state of practice (average of 10 runs per tour)



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- 1 Introduction
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State of the art

- Much of it is focused on city and regional level.
- And a fairly small amount on the container (micro) level, e.g.
 - inventory levels in pharmacies (Nolz et al., 2011, 2014)
 - recyclable materials from old cars (Krikke et al., 2008)
 - charity donation banks (McLeod et al., 2013)
 - waste container levels (Johansson, 2006; Faccio et al., 2011; Mes, 2012; Mes et al., 2014)
- Contributions
 - operational level forecasting rather than critical levels
 - estimated and validated on real data, compared to most of the literature which uses simulated data

Methodology

- Let n_{itg} denote the number of deposits in container i on day t of size q_g . The data generating process of the daily demands is

$$\rho_{it} = \sum_{g=1}^m q_g n_{itg} \quad (35)$$

- Let $n_{itg} \stackrel{\text{iid}}{\sim} \text{Pois}(\lambda_{itg})$ and have a probability π_{itg} . Then we obtain

$$\mathbb{E}(\rho_{it}) = \sum_{g=1}^m q_g \lambda_{itg} \pi_{itg} \quad (36)$$

- We minimize the sum of squared errors between observed ρ_{it}° and expected $\mathbb{E}(\rho_{it})$ for p containers and h days

$$\min_{\lambda, \pi} \sum_{i=1}^p \sum_{t=1}^h \left(\rho_{it}^{\circ} - \sum_{g=1}^m q_g \lambda_{itg} \pi_{itg} \right)^2 \quad (37)$$

assuming strict exogeneity and errors modeled as white noise.

Methodology

- Given vectors of covariates \mathbf{c}_{it} and vectors of parameters β_g^λ and β_g^π , we define Poisson rates and logit-type probabilities

$$\lambda_{itg} = \exp(\mathbf{c}_{it}^\top \beta_g^\lambda) \quad (38)$$

$$\pi_{itg} = \frac{\exp(\mathbf{c}_{it}^\top \beta_g^\pi)}{\sum_{j=1}^m \exp(\mathbf{c}_{it}^\top \beta_j^\pi)} \quad (39)$$

- Then, in compact form, the minimization problem writes as

$$\min_{\mathbf{B}} \sum_{i=1}^p \sum_{t=1}^h \left(\rho_{it}^o - \sum_{g=1}^m \frac{\exp(\mathbf{c}_{it}^\top \beta_g^\lambda + \mathbf{c}_{it}^\top \beta_g^\pi + \ln(q_g))}{\sum_{j=1}^m \exp(\mathbf{c}_{it}^\top \beta_j^\pi)} \right)^2 \quad (40)$$

- $\mathbf{B} = (\beta_g^\lambda, \beta_g^\pi : \forall g)$, and $\beta_{g^*}^\pi = \mathbf{0}$ for one arbitrarily chosen g^* .
- We will refer to this minimization problem as the *mixture model*.

Methodology

- In case of only one deposit quantity, it degenerates to a pseudo-count data process

$$\min_{\mathbf{B}} \sum_{i=1}^p \sum_{t=1}^h \left(\rho_{it}^o - \exp \left(\mathbf{c}_{it}^T \boldsymbol{\beta} + \ln(q) \right) \right)^2 \quad (41)$$

- We will refer to this minimization problem as the *simple model*.

Methodology

- Using new sets of covariates $\dot{\mathbf{c}}_{it}$, we can generate a forecast as

$$\mathbb{E}(\rho_{it}) = \sum_{g=1}^m \frac{\exp(\dot{\mathbf{c}}_{it}^T \boldsymbol{\beta}_g^\lambda + \dot{\mathbf{c}}_{it}^T \boldsymbol{\beta}_g^\pi + \ln(q_g))}{\sum_{j=1}^m \exp(\dot{\mathbf{c}}_{it}^T \boldsymbol{\beta}_j^\pi)} \quad (42)$$

- Given the operational nature of the problem, the covariates should be quick and easy to obtain.
- Examples include days of the week, months, weather data, holidays, etc...

Data

- 36 containers for PET in the canton of Geneva with capacity of 3,040 or 3,100 liters
- Balanced panel covering March to June, 2014 (122 days), which brings the total number of observations to 4,392
- The final sample excludes unreliable level data (removed after visual inspection).
- Missing data is linearly interpolated for the values of ρ_{it}^o .

Residual plots

Figure 3: Residual plot of the mixture model

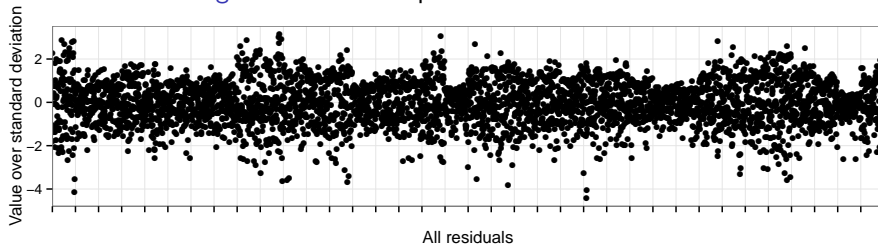
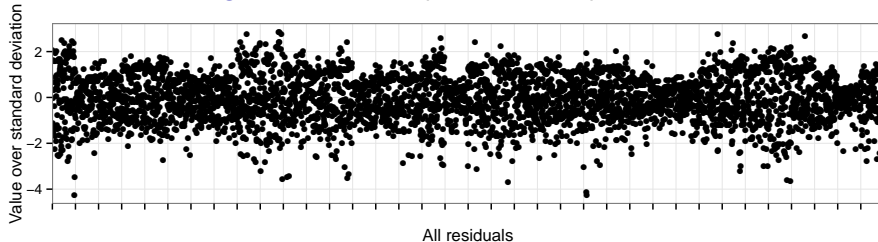


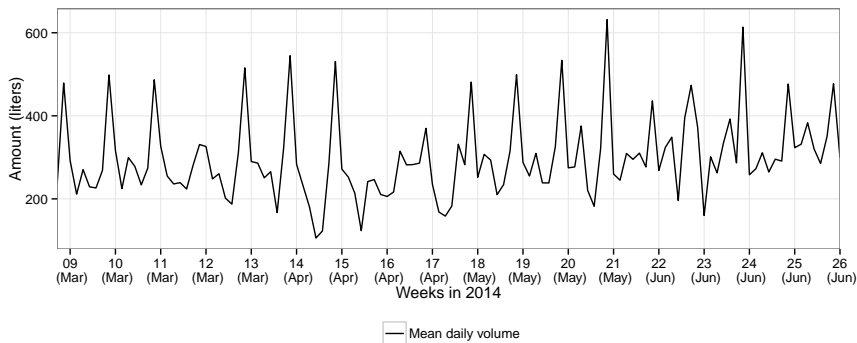
Figure 4: Residual plot of the simple model



Seasonality pattern

- Waste generation exhibits strong weekly seasonality.
- Peaks are observed during the weekends.
- There also appear to be longer-term effects for months.

Figure 5: Mean daily volume deposited in the containers



Covariates

Table 2: Table of covariates

Variable	Type
Container fixed effect	dummy
Day of the week	dummy
Month	dummy
Minimum temperature in Celsius	continuous
Precipitation in mm	continuous
Pressure in hPa	continuous
Wind speed in kmph	continuous

Evaluating the fits

- Coefficient of determination

$$R^2 = 1 - \frac{SS_{\text{res}}}{SS_{\text{tot}}} \quad (43)$$

with higher values for a better model.

- Akaike information criterion (AIC):

$$\text{AIC} = \left(\frac{SS_{\text{res}}}{\# \text{obs}} \right) \exp \left(\frac{2 * \# \text{param}}{\# \text{obs}} \right) \quad (44)$$

with lower values for a better model. The exponential penalizes model complexity.

- SS_{res} is the residual sum of squares.
- SS_{tot} is the total sum of squares.

Estimation on full sample

- Mixture model: R^2 of 0.341 (AIC 52,900) with 5L and 15L
- Simple model: R^2 of 0.300 (AIC 53,700) with 10L

Table 3: Estimated coefficients of mixture model

	$\hat{\beta}_1^\lambda$ (5L)***	$\hat{\beta}_2^\lambda$ (15L)***	$\hat{\beta}_2^\pi$ (15L)***
Minimum temperature in Celsius	1,461.356	0.022	-0.037
Precipitation in mm	-0.821	-0.009	0.018
Pressure in hPa	-13.724	-0.001	0.010
Wind speed in kmph	7.580	-0.004	0.020
Monday	402.235	2.166	-9.693
Tuesday	1,908.233	2.293	-9.977
Wednesday	-844.662	1.432	0.202
Thursday	1,937.385	1.198	1.453
Friday	1,876.162	1.239	4.419
Saturday	-6,981.339	1.358	4.723
Sunday	1,831.715	1.905	2.832
March	-27.136	2.955	-1.453
April	1,071.406	2.746	-1.532
May	1,689.979	2.988	-1.603
June	-2,604.520	2.901	-1.452

Validation

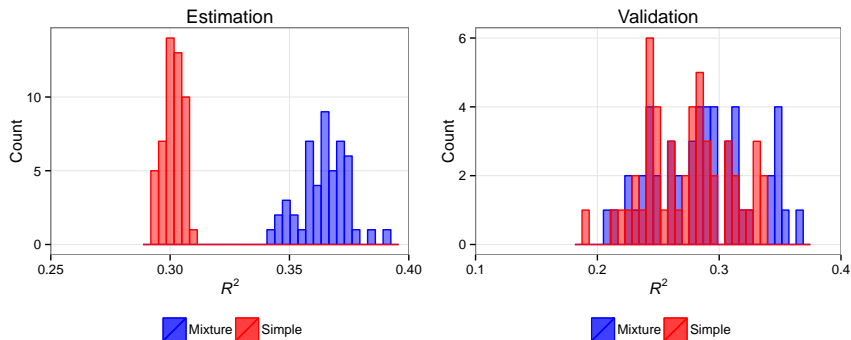
- 50 experiments
- The mixture and the simple model are estimated on a random sample of 90% of the panel, and validated on the remaining 10%.
- In both cases the values are significantly different at 90% confidence level.

Table 4: Mean R^2 for estimation and validation sets

	Mixture model mean R^2	Simple model mean R^2
Estimation	0.364 (AIC 51,400)	0.302 (AIC 53,600)
Validation	0.286	0.274

Validation

Figure 6: Histograms for estimation and validation samples



Work so far

- Markov, I., Varone, S., and Bierlaire, M. (under review). Integrating a heterogeneous fixed fleet and a flexible assignment of destination depots in the waste collection VRP with intermediate facilities.
- Markov, I., Lapparent, M. (de), Bierlaire, M., and Varone, S. (2015). Modeling a waste disposal process via a discrete mixture of count data models. *Proceedings of the 15th Swiss Transport Research Conference (STRC)*, April 15-17, 2015, Ascona, Switzerland.

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Inventory routing: Setup

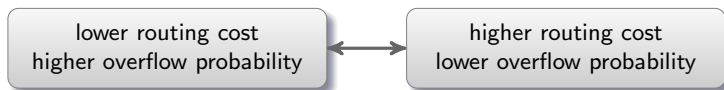
- Integration of forecasting, container selection and routing over a planning horizon adds up to solving an IRP.

Inventory routing: Setup

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- We do not allow overflows in expected terms.

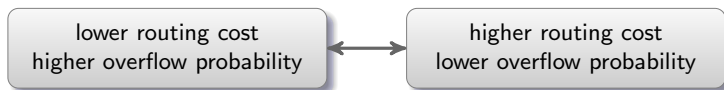
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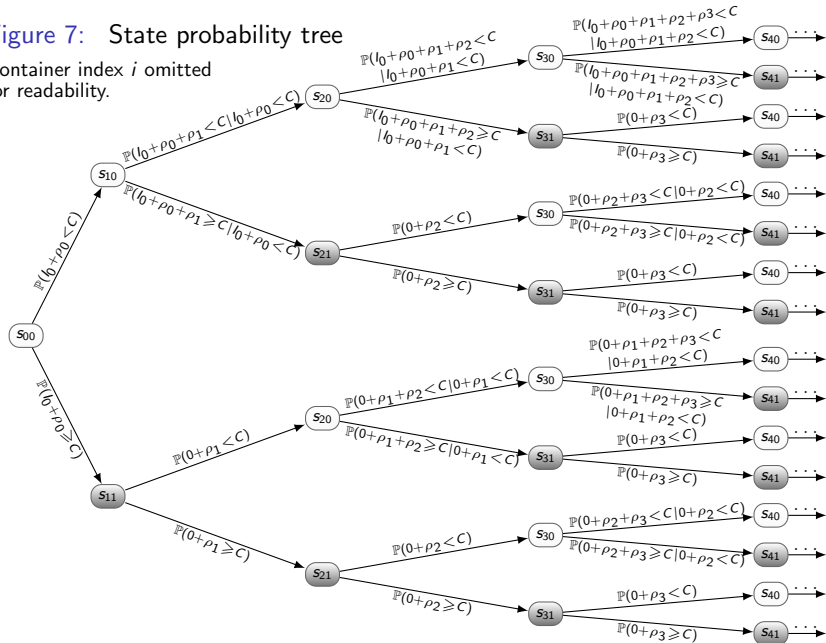
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- We do not allow overflows in expected terms.
- But container demands are stochastic and we *cannot* ignore the probability of overflow.



- To achieve this balance, we need to penalize a state of overflow weighted by its probability.
- Notation
 - I_{it} inventory of container i on day t
 - s_{it0} container i on day t is in a state of *no overflow*
 - s_{it1} container i on day t is in a state of *overflow*

Figure 7: State probability tree

Container index i omitted for readability.



Calculating the probabilities

- The forecasting errors are assumed to be iid normal, therefore

$$\rho_{it}^o = \mathbb{E}(\rho_{it}) + \varepsilon_{it}, \quad \varepsilon_{it} \stackrel{\text{iid}}{\sim} \text{Normal}(0, \sigma^2) \quad (45)$$

- An unbiased and consistent estimate of the variance, with p containers and h days of historical data, is given by

$$\sigma^2 = \frac{\sum_{i=1}^p \sum_{t=1}^h (\rho_{it}^o - \mathbb{E}(\rho_{it}))^2}{ph - \#\text{params}} \quad (46)$$

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- An unconditional probability can be calculated simply as

$$\begin{aligned} \mathbb{P}(l_{i0} + \rho_{i0} \geq C_i) &= \mathbb{P}(\varepsilon_{i0} \geq C_i - l_{i0} - \mathbb{E}(\rho_{i0})) \\ &= 1 - \Phi\left(\frac{C_i - l_{i0} - \mathbb{E}(\rho_{i0})}{\sigma}\right) \end{aligned} \quad (47)$$

Calculating the probabilities

- To calculate a conditional probability, we need to evaluate

$$\begin{aligned} \mathbb{P} \left(I_{i0} + \sum_{t=0}^h \rho_{it} \geq C_i \mid I_{i0} + \sum_{t=0}^{h-1} \rho_{it} < C_i \right) = \\ = \mathbb{P} \left(\sum_{t=0}^h \varepsilon_{it} \geq C_i - I_{i0} - \sum_{t=0}^h \mathbb{E}(\rho_{it}) \mid \sum_{t=0}^{h-1} \varepsilon_{it} < C_i - I_{i0} - \sum_{t=0}^{h-1} \mathbb{E}(\rho_{it}) \right) \end{aligned} \quad (48)$$

- Substitute $a = C_i - I_{i0} - \sum_{t=0}^{h-1} \mathbb{E}(\rho_{it})$ and $X = \sum_{t=0}^{h-1} \varepsilon_{it}$, where $X \sim \mathcal{N}(0, h\sigma^2)$ and X is independent of ε_{ih} . After a standardization, expression (48) rewrites as

$$\begin{aligned} \mathbb{P}(X + \varepsilon_{ih} \geq a - \mathbb{E}(\rho_{ih}) \mid X < a) &= \frac{\mathbb{P}(\varepsilon_{ih} \geq a - \mathbb{E}(\rho_{ih}) - X, X < a)}{\mathbb{P}(X < a)} = \\ &= \frac{1}{2\pi\Phi(a/\sigma\sqrt{h})} \int_{-\infty}^{a/\sigma\sqrt{h}} \int_{\frac{a - \mathbb{E}(\rho_{ih}) - x\sigma\sqrt{h}}{\sigma}}^{\infty} \exp(-x^2/2) \exp(-y^2/2) dx dy = \\ &= \frac{1}{2\sqrt{2\pi}\Phi(a/\sigma\sqrt{h})} \int_{-\infty}^{a/\sigma\sqrt{h}} \exp(-x^2/2) \operatorname{erfc} \left(\frac{a - \mathbb{E}(\rho_{ih}) - x\sigma\sqrt{h}}{\sigma\sqrt{2}} \right) dx \end{aligned} \quad (49)$$

Formulation outline

- All unconditional and conditional probabilities in the tree can be precomputed.

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$$\begin{array}{|c|} \hline \text{Expected overflow} \\ \text{and emergency} \\ \text{visit cost} \\ \hline \end{array} + \begin{array}{|c|} \hline \text{Routing cost} \\ \hline \end{array} + \begin{array}{|c|} \hline \text{Expected route} \\ \text{failure cost} \\ \hline \end{array}$$

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- Constraints use expected values only.
- We add a day-index and inventory constraints to the VRP model.

Formulation outline

- Expected overflow and emergency visit cost

$$\sum_{t \in \mathcal{T}} \sum_{i \in \mathcal{P}} \left(\mathbb{P}(s_{it1} \mid \max(0, g < t: \exists k \in \mathcal{K}: y_{ikg} = 1)) \left(B + \chi - B \sum_{k \in \mathcal{K}} y_{ikt} \right) \right) \quad (50)$$

where

- \mathcal{T} set of days in the planning horizon
- \mathcal{P} set of containers
- \mathcal{K} set of vehicles
- χ overflow cost
- B emergency visit cost
- $y_{ikt} = 1$ if vehicle k visits container i on day t , 0 otherwise

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- Routing cost remains the same.

Formulation outline

- Expected route failure cost

$$\sum_{t \in \mathcal{T} \setminus 0} \sum_{k \in \mathcal{K}} \sum_{\mathcal{S} \in \mathcal{S}_{kt}} \left(C_S \mathbb{P} \left(\sum_{s \in \mathcal{S}} I_{st} > \Omega_k \mid \max(0, g < t: y_{skg} = 1) \right) \right) \quad (51)$$

where

- \mathcal{T} set of days in the planning horizon
- \mathcal{K} set of vehicles
- Ω_k capacity of vehicle k
- \mathcal{S}_{kt} set of depot-to-dump or dump-to-dump trips for vehicle k on day t
- \mathcal{S} set of containers in a particular trip
- C_S average cost of a BF visit to nearest dump
- $y_{ikt} = 1$ if vehicle k visits container i on day t , 0 otherwise

Classification: Coelho et al. (2014b) scheme

- Structural classification

Table 5: Structural classification

Criterion	Classification
Time horizon	Finite (Rolling)
Structure	Many-to-one
Routing	Multiple
Inventory policy	Order-up-to
Inventory decisions	Back-order with penalty and limit
Fleet composition	Heterogeneous
Fleet size	Multiple (Fixed)

- Information-based classification

- stochastic
- dynamic with information revealed each day

Contributions

- With respect to related research
 - Trudeau and Dror (1992): we do not impose the assumption of a single container visit and single overflow in the planning horizon
 - Coelho et al. (2014a): we include forecasting uncertainty
 - Campbell and Savelsbergh (2004): we use a similar decomposition approach, including uncertainty in both the short and long-term
- Our IRP includes a lot of rich features.
- It integrates real-time forecasting.
 - much of the literature focuses on known distributions
 - in our case the rates are non-stationary and there is no unique optimal service frequency

Contents

- 1 Introduction
- 2 Vehicle Routing
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- 5 Conclusion**

Conclusion

- At the moment, the forecasting model can produce future levels, for which the routing problem is solved.
- We have almost finalized the development of an ALNS for the IRP.

Conclusion

- At the moment, the forecasting model can produce future levels, for which the routing problem is solved.
- We have almost finalized the development of an ALNS for the IRP.
- Future research will focus on:
 - analyzing alternative formulations of the forecasting model, e.g. more deposit sizes or a continuous distribution
 - analyzing alternative IRP formulation, e.g. chance constraints, robust optimization, two-stage stochastic model
 - testing the ALNS on benchmark and real-life data
 - hybridizing the ALNS with some exact operators (especially for dump insertion)
- Once integrated at the partnering company, the available data will allow for additional extensive testing and results.

Thank you.
Questions?

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