

A Review of Optimization Methods and their Role in Logistics and Supply Chains

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Abstract—In the past decades, our ability to solve large and hard optimization problems has enhanced intensely. The paper addresses a review of optimization methods and their role in logistics, supply chain management, and transportation. The main aim is to inform interested readers about a quite huge class of existing optimization methods that have been developed for solving of various types of optimization problems. It is believed that a comprehensiveness of the overview of the optimization methods is one of the major contributions of this paper. In the context of real practice, it is also shortly stressed where and how these methods can be efficiently used in the field of logistics and supply chain management.

Key words—Optimization Methods, Metaheuristics, Logistics, Supply Chain Management, Transportation.

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