

CHAPTER 5

CONCLUSION

5.1. Conclusion

This research evaluated two optimization algorithms, Genetic Algorithm (GA) and Firefly Algorithm (FA), both enhanced with K-Means clustering, to solve the Traveling Salesman Problem (TSP). Both algorithms demonstrated good performance in finding optimal solutions, with distinct characteristics based on the problem's complexity. GA exhibited slower computational time with fewer clusters (1-5), this is due to its broader search space, but as the number of clusters increased (10-15), it became more efficient, achieving a travel distance of 407.871.

FA, on the other hand, showed its strength with larger clusters (15-25). Although it took longer than GA in smaller clusters, its swarm-based nature allowed it to explore the solution space more thoroughly, leading to highly optimized solutions. The optimal route for FA achieved a travel distance of 418.665. FA is better suited for more complex problems, where extensive exploration is needed, despite its higher computational cost.

While both algorithms benefit from clustering to enhance optimization, excessive clustering can lead to inefficient solutions. This occurs due to fragmented routes and excessive inter-cluster travel. Therefore, while clustering can improve optimization, it's important to avoid over-clustering to maintain a balance between exploration and exploitation and prevent inefficiencies.

For further research, the researcher suggests using advanced parameter tuning methods, such as grid search or Bayesian optimization to optimize the hyperparameters of both GA and FA, and exploring a hybrid approach that combines the strengths of GA and FA. Since this study is limited to a cluster size of 25 due to computational constraints, future research could explore larger cluster sizes to determine if the optimal route lies in higher cluster counts. This would also help avoid local minima and ensure the discovery of the global minimum.

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