

Contents

1	Introduction	1
1.1	Context and motivation	1
1.2	Hypotheses	4
1.3	Objectives	5
1.3.1	Main Objective	5
1.3.2	Specific Objectives	5
1.4	Thesis outline	5
2	Electric Vehicles and the Vehicle Routing Problem	6
2.1	Introduction	6
2.2	Electric Vehicles	6
2.2.1	Fuel Cell Electric Vehicles	6
2.2.2	Plug-in Hybrid Electric Vehicles	6
2.2.3	Battery Electric Vehicles	7
2.3	Batteries: Basic Concepts and Definitions	7
2.3.1	Technology Types and Applications	7
2.3.2	State of Charge (SOC)	7
2.3.3	Battery Degradation: Factors and Operation Recommendations	8
2.4	The Shortest Path Problem	9
2.5	The Vehicle Routing Problem (VRP)	11
2.6	The Electric VRP (E-VRP): Variants and Solution Approaches	13
2.6.1	What makes the E-VRP so different from the VRP?	13
2.6.2	Variants and State of the Art	13
2.7	Discussion	16
3	Genetic Algorithms: A Brief Review and its Applications in VRPs	17
3.1	Introduction	17
3.2	Hard Optimization	17
3.3	Basic Concepts	18
3.3.1	Terminology	18
3.3.2	Genetic Operators	19
3.3.3	Generic GA	20
3.4	Common Representations and Their Genetic Operations	20
3.4.1	Binary Encoding	21
3.4.2	Real Encoding	22
3.4.3	Integer Encoding	23
3.5	Applications of GA to the VRP	23
3.6	Discussion	25
4	Problem Formulation	26
4.1	Introduction	26

4.2	Problem Statement	26
4.2.1	Offline E-VRP	26
4.2.2	Online E-VRP (On-E-VRP)	28
4.3	Travel Times and Energy Consumption Between Nodes	29
4.3.1	Travel Time and Energy Consumption in Straight Line Arcs	30
4.3.2	Travel Time and Energy Consumption from Shortest Paths	31
4.4	Electric Vehicle State Space Model	33
4.4.1	Initial Conditions in the On-E-VRP	35
4.5	Counting the number of vehicles at each node	36
4.6	Formulation as Non-linear Program	37
4.6.1	Cost Function and Decision Variables	37
4.6.2	Off-E-VRP Constraints	38
4.6.3	On-E-VRP Constraints	40
4.7	Discussion	41
5	Solution Scheme for the Off-E-VRP and the On-E-VRP	42
5.1	Introduction	42
5.2	Fitness Evaluation and Constraint Handling	42
5.3	Encoding Partial Recharging Operations	44
5.3.1	Charging Path Block: Type 1	44
5.3.2	Charging Path Block: Type 2	45
5.4	Considerations for Genetic Operations	46
5.5	α GA	46
5.5.1	Encoding	46
5.5.2	Initial Population	47
5.5.3	Mutation and Crossover Operations	47
5.5.4	Algorithm Overview	49
5.6	β GA	49
5.6.1	Encoding	49
5.6.2	Initial Population	50
5.6.3	Mutation and Crossover Operations	51
5.6.4	Algorithm Overview	52
5.7	onGA	52
5.7.1	Encoding scheme	52
5.7.2	Initial Population	55
5.7.3	Mutation and Crossover Operations	55
5.7.4	Algorithm	56
5.8	Discussion	56
6	Online Decision-Making System for the E-VRP	58
6.1	Introduction	58
6.2	Pre-operation Stage	59
6.3	Online Stage	59
6.3.1	Synchronization Layer	61
6.3.2	Simulation Framework	63
7	Simulation Tests	65

7.1	Experimental Setup	65
7.1.1	Cost function weights	65
7.1.2	Artificially Generated Instances	65
7.1.3	Instances Based on Real-data	67
7.2	Study of the Pre-operation Stage	68
7.3	Study of the Online Stage	75
7.3.1	Effect of time windows in the final cost	80
8	Conclusions and Future Work	83
	Bibliography	85
A	Development of Mass-dependent Energy Consumption Equations	89
B	Initial Population Algorithms	92
B.1	α GA	92
B.2	β GA	93
B.3	OnGA	94