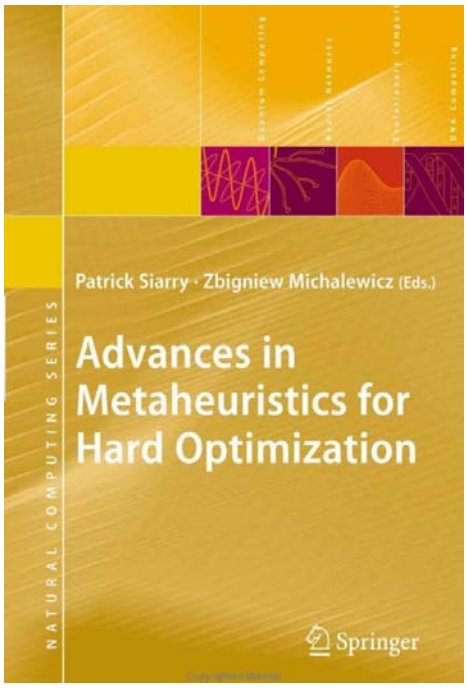
PATRICK SIARRY, ZBIGNIEW MICHALEWICZ (EDITORS) ADVANCES IN METAHEURISTICS FOR HARD OPTIMIZATION



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Many advances have been made recently in metaheuristic methods, from theory to applications. The community of researchers claiming the relevance of their work to the field of metaheuristics is growing faster and faster, despite the fact that the term itself has not been precisely defined. Numerous books have been published specializing in any one of the most widely known methods.

The goal of the book *Advances in Metaheuristics for Hard Optimization* is to collect state-of-art contributions that discuss recent developments in a particular metaheuristics or highlight some general ideas that proved effective in adapting a metaheuristics to a specific problem.

The editors of the book both leading experts in this field, have assembled a team of researchers to contribute 21 chapters. Some chapters are overview-oriented while others describe recent advances in one method or its adaptation to a real-word application. The book chapters cover topics from various areas of metaheuristics, including simulated annealing (2 chapters), tabu search (2 chapters), ant colony algorithms (3 chapters), general-purpose studies of evolutionary algorithms (5 chapters), applications of evolutionary algorithms (5 chapters), and various metaheuristics (4 chapters).

The book gathers contributions related to the following topics: theoretical developments in metaheuristics; adaptation of discrete metaheuristics to continuous optimization; performance comparisons of metaheuristics; cooperative methods combining different approaches; parallel and distributed metaheuristics for multiobjective optimization; software implementations; and real-world applications.

Advances in Metaheuristics for Hard Optimization is suitable for practitioners, researchers and graduate students in disciplines such as optimization, heuristics, operations research, and natural computing.

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