

# Demand-Aware Route Planning for Shared Mobility Services

Jiachuan Wang<sup>†</sup>, Peng Cheng<sup>\*</sup>, Libin Zheng<sup>†</sup>, Chao Feng<sup>‡</sup>, Lei Chen<sup>†</sup>, Xuemin Lin<sup>#,\*</sup>, Zheng Wang<sup>‡</sup>

<sup>†</sup>The Hong Kong University of Science and Technology, Hong Kong, China

{jwangey, lzhengab, leichen}@cse.ust.hk

<sup>\*</sup>East China Normal University, Shanghai, China

pcheng@sei.ecnu.edu.cn

<sup>#</sup>The University of New South Wales, Australia

lxue@cse.unsw.edu.au

<sup>‡</sup>AI Labs, DiDi Chuxing, Beijing, China

fengchaodavid@didichuxing.com, wangzhengzwang@didiglobal.com

## ABSTRACT

The dramatic development of shared mobility in food delivery, ride-sharing, and crowdsourced parcel delivery has drawn great concerns. Specifically, shared mobility refers to transferring or delivering more than one passenger/package together when their traveling routes have common sub-routes or can be *shared*. A core problem for shared mobility is to plan a route for each driver to fulfill the requests arriving dynamically with given objectives. Previous studies greedily and incrementally insert each newly coming request to the most suitable worker with a minimum travel cost increase, which only considers the current situation and thus not optimal. In this paper, we propose a demand-aware route planning (DARP) for shared mobility services. Based on prediction, DARP tends to make optimal route planning with more information about requests in the future. We prove that the DARP problem is NP-hard, and further show that there is no polynomial-time deterministic algorithm with a constant competitive ratio for the DARP problem unless P=NP. Hence, we devise an approximation algorithm to realize the insertion operation for our goal. With the insertion algorithm, we devise a prediction based solution for the DARP problem. Extensive experiment results on real datasets validate the effectiveness and efficiency of our technique.

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## 1. INTRODUCTION

Recently, shared mobility provides transportation services shared among users, such as food delivery, ride-sharing, and crowdsourced parcel delivery [36], which is considered as an efficient and sustainable way for transportation. With higher usage per worker, its service saves energy, reduces air pollution, and handles last-mile delivery [37].

To realize shared mobility on online platforms (e.g., DiDi Chuxing [1] and Meituan [3]), an essential issue is *route planning*. Given

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a set of workers and requests, route planning designs a route consisting of a sequence of pickup and drop off locations of assigned requests for each worker. In shared mobility, workers and requests arrive dynamically and are online arranged by platforms for different objectives. The objectives could be maximizing the number of served requests [14, 18, 27, 35, 44], minimizing the total tour distance [7, 11, 20, 22, 23, 30, 32, 34, 35, 38], and maximizing the unified revenue [9, 10, 40]. To solve such a dynamical problem, an operation called *insertion* shows great effectiveness and efficiency [30, 23, 38, 32, 35, 44, 12, 14, 40]. *Insertion* aims to serve a newly coming request by inserting its origin and destination into a worker's route and greedily optimizing its objectives.

One key issue of the state-of-the-art route planning methods [10, 12, 40] is that *insertion* is a “greedy” operator, which means each insertion operation only optimizes the objective function upon the “current” arranged request leading to low performance during a long period (e.g., one day). In this paper, we will improve the effectiveness of route planning for shared mobility through taking the demand in near future (e.g., future 90 minutes) into consideration such that the objectives of the platforms can be improved for a relatively long period (e.g., one day). We first illustrate our motivation through the following example.

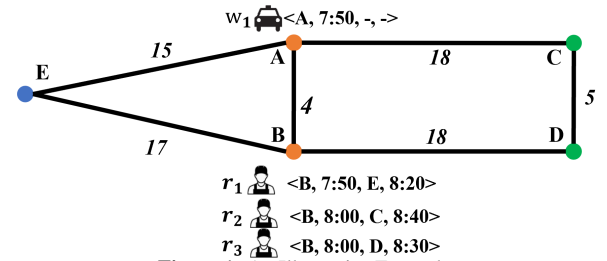


Figure 1: An Illustrative Example

**Example 1.** In this ridesharing example, we assume that one vehicle  $w_1$  and three riders  $r_1 \sim r_3$  are on a road network as shown in Figure 1. Specifically, there are five nodes in the road network indicating five locations, and the numbers on the edges represent their travel cost. For the vehicle and riders, they are located at their current locations and the 4-tuple near to each one follows the pattern of  $\langle \text{release location, release time, destination, deadline of delivery} \rangle$ . For example, rider  $r_1$  is located at A and releases his/her request at 7:50 indicating that he/she wants to be driven to location E before 8:20. At 7:50, the driver can serve  $r_1$  to earn a profit routed as  $A \rightarrow B \rightarrow E$ . However, at 8:00 two other riders  $r_2$  and  $r_3$  want to reach node C and D from B before 8:40 and 8:30, respectively. If the vehicle  $w_1$  rejects rider  $r_1$ , then riders  $r_2$  and

$r_3$  can be served with another route  $A \rightarrow B \rightarrow D \rightarrow C$ . Existing solutions using greedy optimization objectives considering only current benefits (i.e.,  $w_1$  will only pick up  $r_1$ ). The profit loss of these short-sighted methods leads to a puzzle that most online models face: how to consider the mobility of workers comprehensively in a more reliable model with effective assignment strategies, which realizes a spatial and temporal balance such that the global profit of the dynamic assignment is maximized?

To address the issue illustrated in Example 1, we define a new problem, namely *Demand-Aware Route Planning* (DARP) problem. Specifically, DARP takes into account the potential profits from each assignment in the near future. The DARP problem has the flexibility to adjust the optimization goals subjected to specific requirements. We combine the mainstream optimization objectives with the demand-supply balance situations and propose a comprehensive objective function. As each insertion can reversely affect the demand-supply balance situation on the whole path, previous insertion algorithms [12, 14, 40, 30, 23, 44] only consider the effects of each scheduling on the travel cost at each insertion position, and thus can not be applied directly.

Based on previous studies on the hardness of route planning for shared mobility [9, 40], we prove that the DARP problem is NP-hard and there is no deterministic algorithm with constant competitive ratio for it. To solve the DARP problem, we first propose novel structures, demand number map and supply number map, to reflect and quantize the demand and supply in the particular spatiotemporal space based on the predicted distributions of upcoming workers and requests. In addition, we further present an indicator, *Demand-Supply Balance Score*, to guide the assignment/scheduling of requests. To handle every single request, we develop a demand-aware dynamic programming based insertion algorithm, namely DA-DP Insertion, to quickly arrange the origin and destination of the request considering the shift of supply on the whole route of the assigned worker due to detours. What is more, we design a demand-aware insertion based dual-phase framework (DAIF) to solve DARP, which first decide whether to serve a new request and then arrange the profitable request to the most suitable worker such that the incremental demand-aware cost is minimized and the overall serving rate is improved for a relatively long period.

Here we summarize our main contributions:

- We formulate a demand-aware route planning problem for shared mobility. We prove its NP-hardness and no deterministic algorithm can offer a constant competitive ratio for it in Section 3.
- Through detailed observations and analyses, we propose a new indicator, named Demand-Supply Balance Score, to quantize the potential profits of an assignment in Section 4.
- We devise a demand-aware dynamic programming based insertion algorithm to handle a new request taking demand-supply balance into account in Section 5. In addition, we develop a demand-aware insertion based dual-phase framework (DAIF) to improve the overall performance for a relatively long period in Section 6.
- We have conducted extensive experiments on synthetic and real data sets to show the efficiency and effectiveness of proposed algorithms in Section 7.

## 2. BACKGROUND AND RELATED WORK

Route planning for shared mobility (RPSM) is a variant of the *dial-a-ride* problem, which has been widely studied since 1975 [41, 42] and drawn great attention recently [6, 33]. Along with the popularity of the car-hailing platforms (e.g., Uber [5]), online RPSM problems without information of future workers requests in advance are studied in many recent papers [10, 14, 23, 30, 38, 44].

For online RPSM problems, previous solutions usually continuously add each up-coming request into the local optimal route instead of the global optimal. The objectives are mainly about: (i) minimizing the total travel distance [7, 11, 20, 22, 23, 30, 32, 34, 35, 38]; (ii) maximal-served-request [14, 18, 27, 35, 44]; (iii) maximizing the total revenue [9, 10, 40]. Some other variants include minimizing the finished time [8, 46], maximizing the score combined with social utilities from both workers and requests [12, 19], and minimizing the total delay time [34, 47].

Most solutions for dynamic RPSM problems are based on a core operation called *insertion* [12, 14, 23, 25, 31, 32, 34, 35, 38]. Using the basic enumeration to find the best insertion positions in the existing scheduling of a given vehicle will result in  $O(n^3)$  time complexity, where  $n$  is the number of the locations in the scheduling. [12, 14, 23, 44]. Tong *et al.* improve the insertion operation to  $O(n)$  time complexity by dynamically deriving the best position for the pick-up location given a certain drop-off position [40]. Ota *et al.* apply parallelism to speed up insertion [32]. Coslovich *et al.* use a two-phase algorithm to enable negligible online time cost by conducting most computation off-line [16]. Tong *et al.* adapte the insertion operation for the optimization objective from the requests perspective with  $O(n)$  time complexity [43]. However, in the previous linear approaches [40, 43], only the arriving times of destinations affect their objective function. It cannot be applied to our problem as the demand-aware cost consists of an accumulation of demand-and-supply balance scores of all the paths. Thus, we propose a novel inserter for DARP with consideration of demand.

As an on-line problem, existing solutions for dynamic RPSM are largely greedy-based. Zheng *et al.* [30, 38] use a grid index to filter available workers to improve the speed of their algorithms. Huang *et al.* [23] devise a kinetic data structure to store all possible routes such that the new insertion can achieve the optimal schedule for each selected single vehicle (but still not the global optimal). Zheng *et al.* propose a batch-based solution to group similar riders into a package and apply bipartite matching to the packages of grouped riders and drivers [50]. However, these studies only consider the locally maximal profit at every single insertion. In this paper, we seek for the global optimal through considering the effect of an insertion operation in the short future.

To improve the results for dynamic cases, many previous studies related to traffic propose various prediction models and strategies to use them. He *et al.* [21] improve participant recruitment in crowd-sourcing using predictable mobility. Tong *et al.* devise a method to improve online task assignment using predicted information of up-coming requests [39]. Prediction models to off-line predict the demand of requests in given regions and periods are well-studied, including demand-supply prediction of traffic [13, 29], and spatial-temporal data prediction [17, 49]. Zhang *et al.* [48] propose a Deep ST model, which combines historical and geographical traffic data to achieve accurate prediction results. To the best of our knowledge, the existing studies cannot be directly applied to the demand-aware based route planning problems for shareable mobility services, and thus we propose our demand-aware route planning solutions to solve it.

## 3. PROBLEM DEFINITION

### 3.1 Basic Notations

The road network is represented as a graph  $G = \langle V, E \rangle$ , where  $V$  and  $E$  indicate a set of vertices and a set of edges, respectively. Each edge,  $(u, v) \in E$ , is associated with a weight  $dis(u, v)$  indicating the travel distance from  $u$  to  $v$ . A sequence of adjacent vertices can form a path. From source  $u$  to  $v$ , the path with the shortest total distance is called the shortest path. We also use  $dis(u, v)$  to

indicate the length of the shortest path from  $u$  to  $v$  in the remaining part of the paper.

**Definition 1.** (Workers) Let  $W = \{w_1, w_2, \dots, w_n\}$  be a set of  $n$  workers that can provide transportation services. Each worker  $w_i$  is located at the current location  $l_i$  and has a capacity  $a_i$ .

At any time, the number of the passengers in a taxi or the number of parcels for a worker  $w_i$  must not exceed its capacity  $a_i$ .

**Definition 2.** (Time-Constrained Requests) Let  $R = \{r_1, r_2, \dots, r_m\}$  be a set of  $m$  requests. Each request  $r_j$  has its source location  $s_j$ , destination location  $e_j$ , release time  $tr_j$ , deadline for the destination  $td_j$ , rejection penalty  $p_j$ , and a capacity  $a_j$ .

A request  $r_j$  can be served by worker  $w_i$  only if: (a) the remaining capacity of  $w_i$  is larger than  $a_j$  when he/she arrives at  $s_j$ ; (b)  $w_i$  can drop  $r_j$  at  $e_j$  before  $td_j$ .

Note that the request with a tight deadline may not be served, which leads to the unavoidable rejections of the “urgent” requests on a platform, especially at rush hours. The monetary loss from rejecting  $r_j$  incurs a penalty  $p_j$ . Furthermore, we denote all the requests served by worker  $w_i$  as  $R_{w_i}$ . In addition,  $\hat{R} = \cup_{w_i \in W} R_{w_i}$  and  $\bar{R} = R/\hat{R}$  refers to the total served and unserved requests, respectively.

**Definition 3.** (Route) For a worker  $w_i$ , his/her schedule is a sequence of locations represented as  $S_{w_i} = [l_i, l_{x_1}, l_{x_2}, l_{x_k}, \dots]$ , where each  $l_{x_k}$  is an origin or a destination of a request  $r_j \in R_{w_i}$ .

A feasible scheduling route  $S_{w_i}$  must satisfy: (a)  $\forall r_j \in R_{w_i}$ , the arriving time of  $e_j$  is earlier than  $td_j$ ; (b)  $\forall r_j \in R_{w_i}$ , its destination  $e_j$  is behind its origin  $s_j$  in  $S_{w_i}$ ; (c) the summation of the capacities of the requests is less than the capacity  $a_i$  of worker  $w_i$  at any time. We denote the summation of the shortest travel distances to finish  $S_{w_i}$  as  $D(S_{w_i}) = dis(l_i, l_{x_1}) + \sum_{k=1}^{|S_{w_i}|-2} dis(l_{x_k}, l_{x_{k+1}})$ . In addition, let  $S = \cup_{w_i \in W} S_{w_i}$  be the overall set of scheduled routes for all workers.

**Definition 4** (Spatial Temporal Cell). Let  $C_{xy}$  be a spatial temporal cell of area  $N_x$  and time span  $T_y$ . A worker  $w_i$  appears in  $C_{xy}$  indicates that  $w_i$  is in  $N_x$  during whole or part of time span  $T_y$ .

**Definition 5.** (Demand Number Map) Given a time span set  $\mathcal{T} = \{T_1, T_2, \dots, T_{|\mathcal{T}|}\}$  and each  $T$  with  $T^+$  and  $T^-$  referring to the start and end time respectively, a set of transportation areas of interest  $\mathcal{N} = \{N_1, N_2, \dots, N_{|\mathcal{N}|}\}$ , and a prediction model  $M$ , the demand number map is the set of predicted numbers of upcoming requests for each spatial temporal cell  $C_{ab} = \langle N_a, T_b \rangle, \forall N_a \in \mathcal{N}, T_b \in \mathcal{T}$  using model  $M$ .

The demand number map can be represented by a mapping function as  $DN(N_a, T_b) \rightarrow dn$ , where  $N_a \in \mathcal{N}, T_b \in \mathcal{T}$  and  $dn$  is the predicted number of upcoming requests in area  $N_a$  in time span  $T_b$ . One critical parameter for the demand number prediction model is the grid-size of areas. A prediction model with a too large grid-size will provide no suggestion to route planning with vanished local properties while a model with too small grid-size will lead to unreliable results. In this paper, we follow the existing work [39] to use a block sized  $2000m \times 2000m$  to grid the whole area of interest.

Based on the demand number map  $DN$  and the overall route  $S$  in the areas of interest, the Demand-Supply Balance Score (DSBScore),  $DSB(S, DN)$ , is proposed to measure how much the underlying profit will be achieved through suiting the supply and potential demand for each newly served request. We go through the detail of the Demand-Supply Balance score in Section 4.

## 3.2 Demand-Aware Route Planning Problem

**Definition 6.** (Demand-Aware Route Planning Problem) Given a transportation network  $G$ , a set of workers  $W$ , a set of dynamically arriving requests  $R$ , a demand number map  $DN$ , a distance cost coefficient  $\alpha$ , and a set of balance coefficients  $\beta$  associated with time spans, the DARP Problem is to find the sets of routes  $S = \{S_{w_1}, S_{w_2}, \dots, S_{w_{|W|}}\}$  for all the workers to minimize Demand-Aware Cost:

$$DAC(W, R, DN) = \alpha \sum_{w_i \in W} D(S_{w_i}) - DSB(\beta, S, DN) + \sum_{r_j \in \bar{R}} p_j \quad (1)$$

where  $\bar{R}$  is the set of rejected requests and  $p_j$  is the penalty to reject request  $r_j$ . The later a time span is, the weaker the prediction is, which is represented by the decayed  $\beta$ . In addition, the following constraints must be satisfied: (a) Feasibility constraint: each worker is assigned with a feasible route; (b) Non-undo constraint: if a request is assigned in a route, it cannot be canceled or assigned to another route; if it is rejected, it is unable to be revoked.

In the real-world application, our demand-aware cost can be regarded as an equivalent money cost of the platform. To be more specific,  $\alpha$  is the money paid to workers for every second they spend to serve requests;  $\beta$  is the money loss from one potentially unservable request; and  $p_j$  is the lost money for rejecting a request. Note that rejection affects not only the monetary profit but also the dissatisfaction of the rejected requester, who may leave the platform forever. In real applications, companies usually want to serve as many requests as possible. Thus, the penalty of rejection is usually set to be a large factor.

## 3.3 Hardness Analysis

The basic route planning problem for shareable mobility services [30, 40] is reducible to the DARP problem by setting  $\alpha = 1$  and  $\beta = 0$ . Since the basic route planning problem is NP-hard [30, 40], the DARP problem is also an NP-hard problem.

To analyze online problems, a commonly used metric is the Competitive Ratio (CR), which is defined as the ratio between the result achieved by the proposed online algorithm to the optimal offline result. The existing studies proved that there is no constant CR to maximize the total revenue for the basic route planning problem using neither deterministic nor randomized algorithms [9, 40]. As we discussed above, the DARP problem is a variant of the basic route planning problem for shareable mobility services. Thus, no randomized or deterministic algorithm guarantees a constant CP for the DARP problem.

We will first introduce the details of the grid-based demand number map and the demand-supply balance score. Then propose our methods to solve the DARP problem.

## 4. DEMAND-SUPPLY BALANCE SCORE

To realize the approximation of global optimal arrangement in the DARP problem, we introduce Demand-Supply Balance Score (DSBScore) for a better assignment. In this section, we first propose the spatiotemporal prediction model, namely Grid-Based Demand Number Map, then we devise a reliable method to generate our DSBScore based on the prediction model.

### 4.1 The Grid-Based Demand Number Map

The DSBScore is based on the mobility calculated from the route of current workers and the predicted demand for “future” requests. One critical issue is to generate the Demand Number Map with high accuracy.

In practice, the accurate location and timestamp of a particular upcoming rider are hard to predict due to the uncertain personal and environmental factors. In this paper, we predict the number of riders for a given region (i.e., a spatial range of area, such as square

regions or hexagon regions) in a given period (i.e., next 15 minutes). We apply the state-of-the-art prediction model, DeepST [48], on the real-world taxi demand-supply data set to generate our demand number map offline. Specifically, DeepST uses previous order numbers from three different time scales: *closeness*, *period*, *trend*. Here, *closeness* means the previous  $N$  time slots; *period* indicates the same time in previous  $N$  days; *trend* refers to the same time in previous  $N$  weeks. Meanwhile, it also uses other features (e.g., weather information) to make a good prediction by using Convolutional Neural Network [28]. Note that, the DeepST model is trained offline, which is time-consuming (i.e., using several hours to train a DeepST model on one-month taxi order data set of NYC). However, when conducting online prediction, it can generate the demand numbers of all the regions for a particular time period within 10 microseconds on a normal GPU server, which can be ignored in real applications.

## 4.2 Supply Number Map

We first introduce some preliminary concepts.

**Definition 7 (Arriving Time).** Given a worker  $w_i$  and his/her route  $S_{w_i}$  relabeled here for clearness to  $S_{w_i} = [l_1, l_2, \dots, l_{|S_{w_i}|}]$  at time  $t_0$ , we denote arriving time  $arr$  for each  $l_k$  as:

$$arr_i[l_k] = \begin{cases} t_0, & \text{if } k = 0 \\ arr_i[l_{k-1}] + dis(l_{k-1}, l_k), & \text{if } k > 0 \end{cases}$$

which indicates the time when worker  $w_i$  arrives each  $l_k$ .

**Definition 8 (Supply Contribution).** Given a start location  $u$ , an end location  $v$  and a timestamp  $t_o$ , we assume that at time  $t_o$  an imaginary vehicle  $w_o$  moves from  $u$  to  $v$  going the shortest path. Let  $C(u, v, t_o)$  be the set of spatial temporal cells that  $w_o$  visits during the move. In addition, let  $CT_{xy}(u, v, t_o)$  be the duration time of  $w_o$  staying in area  $N_x$  in time span  $T_y$  when it moves from  $u$  to  $v$  at time  $t_o$ . Then, the supply contribution of  $w_o$  for spatial temporal cell  $C_{xy}$  is denoted as  $SC_{xy}(u, v, t_o) = \gamma \cdot CT_{xy}(u, v, t_o)$ , where the parameter  $\gamma$  refers to the ratio of the equivalent number of workers to the total time all the workers cost in a region during a certain time span.

In addition, an imaginary vehicle would stay at the destination at last. This also contributes for this area and those time spans. The supply contribution of  $w_o$  for spatial temporal cell  $C_{xy}$  is denoted as  $SC_{xy}(l_n, -1, arr_o[l_n])$  where  $l_n$  is the destination of  $S_{w_o}$ .

Weight parameter  $\gamma$  is a ratio of the equivalent number of workers to the duration time of workers appearing in a spatial-temporal cell. For example, if the total duration time of vehicles in a spatial-temporal cell  $C_{xy}$  equals to  $k * \gamma$ , we assume  $k$  requests can be served by the passing vehicles. Note that in the setting of shared mobility, one worker can serve more than one request simultaneously. In the supply number map, one imaginary worker refers to the ability to serve one request.

Next, we define the supply number map as follows.

**Definition 9 (Supply Number Map).** Given a set of time spans  $\mathcal{T}$  and a set workers  $W$ , the supply number map is the set of estimated supply contribution numbers for each spatial temporal cell  $C_{xy}$  denoted as:

$$SN(N_x, T_y) = \sum_{w_i \in W} \sum_{k=1}^{|S_{w_i}|-1} SC_{xy}(l_k, l_{k+1}, arr_i[l_k]) \quad (2)$$

With a supply number map, we can estimate the equivalent number of workers in a certain period. According to the dataset of New York City Taxi [4], only 0.05% requests cost more than 1.5 hour among all requests during Dec. 2013. In this paper, we keep updating the supply number map with a total time span of the upcoming 1.5 hours. To guide route planning, we divide 1.5 hours into 6 intervals each with 15 minutes because: (a) Too long intervals such as

30 minutes cannot provide useful guidance with the short waiting time of requests, such that several workers arrive a place with one request in the same interval but 20 minutes earlier than them leading to a canceled request and failed matching. (b) If the intervals are too short, the accuracy of Demand Number Map is poor. Besides, the computation complexity will greatly increase for further operations in Section 5.

## 4.3 Demand-Supply Balance Score

Given a specific time span  $T = \{T^+, T^-\}$ , the prediction model provides us with the corresponding  $DN = \{dn_1, dn_2, \dots, dn_{|N|}\}$  as the number of requests in each region. As a classical discrete statistic case, we assume the number of requests in each area follows the Poisson distribution. We set the unit time as  $T^+ - T^-$ , thus the characteristic value  $\lambda = dn$ , which means the number of requests in one unit time. Then, the distribution is expressed as:

$$P(X = k) = \frac{\lambda^k}{k!} e^{-\lambda}, k = 0, 1, \dots$$

Next, given a certain area with supply number  $sn$ , we can define a local balance score  $LB$  as the expected number of matched worker-and-request pairs  $Y$ , which can be derived as:

$$\begin{aligned} LB(\lambda, sn) = E(Y) &= \sum_{k=0}^{\lfloor sn \rfloor - 1} k \frac{\lambda^k}{k!} e^{-\lambda} + \sum_{k=\lfloor sn \rfloor}^{\infty} \lfloor sn \rfloor \frac{\lambda^k}{k!} e^{-\lambda} \quad (3) \\ &= \sum_{k=0}^{\lfloor sn \rfloor - 1} (k - \lfloor sn \rfloor) \frac{\lambda^k}{k!} e^{-\lambda} + \sum_{k=0}^{\infty} \lfloor sn \rfloor \frac{\lambda^k}{k!} e^{-\lambda} \\ &= \sum_{k=0}^{\lfloor sn \rfloor - 1} (k - \lfloor sn \rfloor) \frac{\lambda^k}{k!} e^{-\lambda} + \lfloor sn \rfloor \end{aligned}$$

In Equation 3, the first term refers to the situation that the number of requests  $k$  is smaller than that of workers, thus the expected matching pairs is  $k$ ; the second term indicates that the number of requests  $k$  is larger than that of workers, thus the matching pairs will be rounded down to  $\lfloor sn \rfloor$  as the number of served requests must be integer. If one more  $sn$  appears, we can derive the expected increased matching number as  $\Delta_{LB}(\lambda, sn) = LB(\lambda, sn + 1) - LB(\lambda, sn)$ .

Then, we formally define our Demand-Supply Balance Score for route planning using an incremental function below.

**Definition 10 (Demand-Supply Balance Score).** For a set of ordered time spans  $\mathcal{T}$  and a set of areas  $\mathcal{N}$ , we maintain the demand number map  $DN$  and supply number map  $SN$ . Then the Demand-Supply Balance Score (DSBScore) for an insertion operation is:

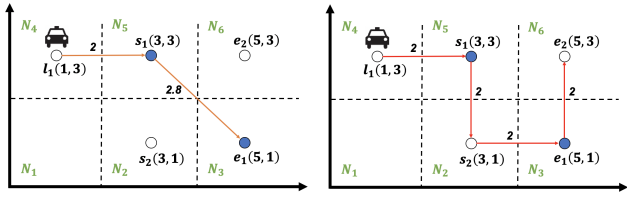
$$DSB = \sum_{x=1}^{|\mathcal{N}|} \sum_{y=1}^{|\mathcal{T}|} \beta_y (sn'_{xy} - sn_{xy}) \cdot \Delta_{LB}(\lambda_{xy}, sn_{xy}) \quad (4)$$

where  $sn_{xy} = SN(N_x, T_y)$  as the original supply number of cell  $C_{xy}$  and  $sn'$  is the updated one after insertion,  $\lambda_{xy} = DN(N_x, T_y)$ , and  $\beta_x$  is the weight parameter for the  $x$ th time span. We assume that the earlier a time span is, the larger its  $\beta$  is, due to decay effect.

In summary, to derive DSBScore, we save all the prediction results of demand information in  $DN$  and mobility supply number based on all the scheduled routes in  $SN$ .  $DN$  will be updated according to the prediction model (e.g., every 15 minutes) and  $SN$  will be updated after every successful request insertion. The demand-supply score will be used to guide our assignment for each newly arrived request.

## 5. DEMAND-AWARE INSERTION

As proved in Section 3, there is no polynomial-time algorithm to achieve the optimal solution for DARP problem. Many existing studies show that *Insertion* is a practical approach to greedily deal with the shareable mobility problem. Comparing to the basic objective, our optimization goal considers a balance score such that



(a) Route and requests before insertion (b) One possible new route after insertion  
**Figure 2: Example For Insertion**

the insertion based framework can achieve better results in a relatively long time period, however, the existing Insertion algorithms cannot be applied directly for our DARP problem. In this section, we first define the demand-aware insertion operation formally and introduce a basic insertion algorithm for our prediction-based insertion with  $O(n^3)$  complexity. Then, we propose a dynamic-programming algorithm to reduce the time complexity to  $O(n^2)$ .

## 5.1 Insertion Operation

To extend Insertion [12, 23, 24, 25, 26, 30, 40] for the DARP problem, we follow the idea to search each route and locally optimally insert new vertex (or vertices) into a route. In our problem, there are two vertices (e.g. locations of source and destination) to be inserted for each request. We formally introduce the insertion operation [12, 23, 30, 40] as follows.

**Definition 11** (Insertion). Given a worker  $w_i$  with the current route  $S_{w_i}$  and a new request  $r_j$ , the insertion operation aims to find a new feasible route  $S'_{w_i}$  by inserting  $s_j$  and  $e_j$  into  $S_{w_i}$  with the minimum increased cost while maintaining the order of vertices in  $S_{w_i}$  unchanged in  $S'_{w_i}$ .

In DARP we need to maintain the supply number map. Any insertion will violate the balance of demand and supply since all of the arriving time of vertices behind the insertion place will be changed. We illustrate the challenge of updating the supply number map for DARP in the following example.

**Example 2.** Let us consider an example of ridesharing in Figure 2. At timestamp 0, assume that a ride request  $r_1$  is released with  $s_1$  and  $e_1$  as its origin and destination, and its deadline of delivery is timestamp 11. Driver  $w_1$  is assigned to serve  $r_1$  with a scheduled route  $S_{w_1} = [l_1, s_1, e_1]$ . As shown in Figure 2(a), at timestamp 1, the current location of  $w_1$  is  $l_1 = (1, 3)$ ; a new request  $r_2$  is released with  $s_2$  and  $e_2$  as its origin and destination, and its deadline of delivery is timestamp 11. The travel cost is equal to the Euclidean distance between any pair of locations. Assume that the capacity of  $w_1$  is enough to carry  $r_1$  and  $r_2$  at the same time. We set the length of time spans to be 3. Then,  $\mathcal{T} = \{T_1 = \{3, 6\}, \dots, T_6 = \{15, 18\}\}$ . We have six regions  $N_1 \sim N_6$  with grid size of 2. The supply number map is shown in Table.1. The demand number map is shown in Table.2.

Figure 2(b) shows a possible new route  $S'_{w_1} = [l_1, s_1, s_2, e_1, e_2]$  after insert  $r_2$  to  $S_{w_1}$ . It is feasible with arriving times  $arr_1[e_1] = 1 + 2 + 2 + 2 = 7 \leq 11$  and similarly  $arr_1[e_2] = 9 \leq 11$ . In this example,  $\alpha = 1$ ,  $\beta = \{10, \frac{10}{e}, \dots, \frac{10}{e^5}\}$ , and  $\gamma = 0.1$ .

After insertion, the supply will change for each spatial temporal cell  $C_{xy}$ . For example, before insertion of  $r_2$ , the total supply contribution of  $S_{w_1}$  to  $C_{5,1}$  is  $SC_{5,1}(l_1, s_1, 1) + SC_{5,1}(s_1, e_1, 3) + SC_{5,1}(s_1, -1, 5.8) = 0.14$ . After the insertion, the total supply contribution of  $S'_{w_1}$  changes to  $SC_{5,1}(l_1, s_1, 1) + SC_{5,1}(s_1, s_2, 3) + SC_{5,1}(s_2, e_1, 5) + SC_{5,1}(e_1, e_2, 7) + SC_{5,1}(e_2, -1, 9) = 0.1$ . If we insert  $r_2$ , the value of  $C_{5,1}$  in the supply number map will be updated to  $0.5 - 0.14 + 0.1 = 0.46$ .

## 5.2 Basic Insertion

We first introduce the general steps of the extended basic insertion algorithm [25, 26] to handle each new request in our DARP

**Table 1: Supply Number Map**

$\mathcal{T} \backslash \mathcal{N}$	$N_1$	$N_2$	$N_3$	$N_4$	$N_5$	$N_6$
$T_1$	1.7	3.8	2.5	2.3	0.5	1.3
$T_2$	3.3	2.1	1.7	1.1	3.2	2.9
$T_3$	3.5	3.3	2.0	0.7	3.8	1.4
$T_4$	3.6	1.3	2.4	3.0	1.2	2.6
$T_5$	0.5	2.5	1.4	1.3	1.6	2.3
$T_6$	3.4	2.0	1.0	3.7	2.2	3.8

**Table 2: Demand Number Map**

$\mathcal{T} \backslash \mathcal{N}$	$N_1$	$N_2$	$N_3$	$N_4$	$N_5$	$N_6$
$T_1$	2	3	5	2	4	3
$T_2$	3	2	4	2	3	2
$T_3$	3	3	4	2	2	2
$T_4$	3	1	4	3	2	2
$T_5$	4	2	4	3	1	3
$T_6$	3	2	3	4	2	2

problem. Specifically, for a new request  $r_j$ , the basic insertion algorithm checks every possible position to insert the origin and destination locations and return the positions such that the incremental cost is minimized. Note that, as the Example 2 shows, different insertions may cause different updates on the supply number map. Thus, when we check every origin and destination insertion positions, we need to evaluate the effect of the updated schedule on the supply number map, and then calculate the consequent cost for each different insertion. We illustrate the basic insertion as follows:

**Example 3** (Basic Insertion Example). Let us continue the setting in Example.2. We need to find the insertion positions in the currently scheduled route  $S_{w_1}$  with minimum increasing cost.

If we insert the new request  $r_2$  to  $S_{w_1} = [l_1, s_1, e_1]$  to achieve the new scheduled route as  $S'_{w_1} = [l_1, s_1, s_2, e_1, e_2]$  as Figure 2(b). The new cost  $S'_{w_1}$  can be calculated as  $1 \cdot (2 + 2 + 2 + 2) - (10 \cdot 0.1 \cdot \Delta_{LB}(4, 0.5) + 10 \cdot 0.2 \cdot \Delta_{LB}(3, 3.8) + 10/e \cdot 0.2 \cdot \Delta_{LB}(4, 1.7) + 10/e \cdot 0.1 \cdot \Delta_{LB}(2, 2.9) + 10/e^2 \cdot 0.3 \cdot \Delta_{LB}(2, 1.4) + 10/e^3 \cdot 0.3 \cdot \Delta_{LB}(2, 2.6) + 10/e^4 \cdot 0.3 \cdot \Delta_{LB}(3, 2.3) + 10/e^5 \cdot 0.3 \cdot \Delta_{LB}(2, 3.8)) = 8 - (1.0 + 0.7 + 0.7 + 0.1 + 0.2 + 0 + 0 + 0) = 5.3$ .

For every new route, we calculate their cost. Besides, we derive the cost of the original route to calculate increased costs. We list all the costs and the increased costs in Table 3. For simplification, we use notation  $(X, Y)$  to indicate the insertion positions of the origin and destination on the original route  $S_{w_1}$ . For example,  $S'_{w_1} = [l_1, s_1, s_2, e_1, e_2]$  can be expressed as insertion position  $(2, 3)$ . The cost of infeasible route (e.g.  $(1, 1)$ ) is set to  $\infty$ .

From Table 3, to achieve the lowest increased cost is to insert  $s_2$  after position 2 ( $s_1$ ) and  $e_2$  after position 3 ( $e_1$ ). Then, we return  $S'_{w_1}$  as the optimal local planning for inserting  $r_2$  into  $S_{w_1}$ .

**Table 3: Cost of New Route and Increased Cost**

Insertion Position (x,y)	(1, 1)	(1, 2)	(1, 3)	(2, 2)	(2, 3)	(3, 3)
Cost	$\infty$	6.2	6.8	6.3	5.3	6.1
Increased Cost	$\infty$	5.6	6.2	5.7	4.7	5.5

**Complexity Analysis.** As the basic insertion algorithm needs to check every possible insertion position, which is  $O(n^2)$ . For every insertion position pair, we need to calculate the new cost of the new route based on the updated supply number map. However, each insertion location may update  $O(n)$  spatial-temporal cells in the supply number map. Then, the overall time complexity of the basic insertion algorithm is  $O(n^3)$ .

## 5.3 Dynamic Programming Based Insertion

In this section, we propose a DP-based insertion algorithm, which reduces the time complexity of Basic Insertion from  $O(n^3)$  to  $O(n^2)$ . The idea is to enumerate all possible pairs of inserting positions, but check whether a new route violates the constraints and calculate the increased cost  $\Delta_{w_i}$  in  $O(1)$  time rather than  $O(n)$  time. We first introduce a way to check route feasibility because its definition is needed in the following section.

### 5.3.1 Check Route Feasibility in $O(1)$ time

Two conditions should be satisfied for a feasible route: (i) deadline constraint and (ii) capacity constraint in Definition 3.

For a route  $S_{w_i}$ , deadline of each location  $ddl_i[l_k]$  can be derived as:

$$ddl_i[l_k] = \begin{cases} td_j - dis(s_j, e_j), & \text{if } l_k \text{ is } s_j \\ td_j, & \text{if } l_k \text{ is } e_j \end{cases}$$

We borrow the idea of [25] and denote that  $slack_i[l_k]$  is the maximal time for  $w_i$  to delay (e.g. slack time) in order to arrive a destination  $l_k$  in time.  $slack_i[l_k]$  can be derived as:

$$slack_i[l_k] = \min_{k' > k} (ddl[k'] - arr_i[k']) \quad (5)$$

$$= \min\{slack_i[l_{k+1}], ddl[l_{k+1}] - arr_i[l_{k+1}]\}$$

Note that the slack time of two location  $l_x$  and  $l_y$  always satisfies  $slack_i[l_x] \leq slack_i[l_y]$  if  $x < y$  [25].

Whenever a source or destination of  $r_j$  is inserted in a route  $S_{w_i}$  at  $l_w$  between  $l_x$  and  $l_y$ , it will cause a *detour* as  $det(l_x, l_w, l_y) = dis(l_x, l_w) + dis(l_w, l_y) - dis(l_x, l_y)$ .

In many previous studies, the objective function only consists of distance [16, 23, 40]. Thus, the calculation of increased cost  $\Delta_{w_i}$  only occurs at inserted positions. We define the increased distance cost as:

$$\Delta_{x,y}^d = \begin{cases} dis(l_n, s_j) + dis(s_j, e_j), & \text{if } x = y = n \\ dis(l_x, s_j) + dis(s_j, e_j) \\ \quad + dis(e_j, l_{x+1}) - dis(l_x, l_{x+1}), & \text{if } x = y < n \\ det(l_x, s_j, l_{x+1}) + dis(l_y, e_j), & \text{if } x < y = n \\ det(l_x, s_j, l_{x+1}) + det(l_y, e_j, l_{y+1}), & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$

However, in this paper, the demand-aware cost consists of the increased distance and the shift of balance score. We will discuss how to derive the shift of balance score in  $O(1)$  in Section 5.3.2.

**Lemma 5.1.** *The deadline constraint will be satisfied if and only if (a)  $arr_i[l_x] + dis(l_x, s_j) \leq td_j - dis(s_j, e_j)$ ; (b)  $det(l_x, s_j, l_{x+1}) \leq slack_i[l_{x+1}]$ ; (c)  $arr_i[l_x] + dis(l_x, s_j) + dis(s_j, e_j) \leq td_j$  when  $x = y$  or  $arr_i[l_y] + det(l_x, s_j, l_{x+1}) + dis(l_y, e_j) \leq td_j$  when  $x < y$ ; and (d)  $\Delta_{x,y}^d \leq slack_i[l_{y+1}]$ .*

*Proof.* With  $s_j$  of request  $r_j$  inserted at the  $x$ th position, condition (a) checks whether the deadline constraint of the new request  $r_j$  and condition (b) checks whether any deadline constraint of all the other requests is violated; with  $e_j$  of request  $r_j$  inserted at the  $y$ th position, condition (c) checks whether the deadline constraint of  $r_j$  is violated and condition (d) checks whether any deadline constraint of all the other requests is violated.  $\square$

Then we check the capacity constraint in  $O(1)$  time. We define picked request  $picked_i[l_k]$  which refers to the total capacity of the requests that are still on the route of  $w_i$  when the worker arrives at location  $l_k$ . Then, we have:

$$picked_i[l_k] = \begin{cases} picked_i[l_{k-1}] + a_j, & \text{if } l_k \text{ is } s_j \\ picked_i[l_{k-1}] - a_j, & \text{if } l_k \text{ is } e_j \end{cases} \quad (6)$$

In addition, if we insert the destination after position  $k$ , we define the smallest position to insert origin without violating the capacity constraint as  $psoi[k]$ . Then, we have the lemma below to guarantee checking the capacity constraint in  $O(1)$  complexity.

**Lemma 5.2.** *The capacity constraint of worker  $w$  will be satisfied if and only if  $psoi[y] \leq x$ .*

*Proof.* Since  $s_j$  is inserted at the  $x$ th position, and  $e_j$  is inserted at the  $y$ th position, we need to guarantee whether there exists any  $k \in \{x, y\}$  such that  $picked_i[l_k]$  is greater than  $a_i - a_j$ . If there exists, at position  $k$ ,  $psoi[x] \geq psoi[k] = k > x$  and it will never change. Or else,  $psoi[y] = psoi[x] \leq x$  will be satisfied.  $\square$

### 5.3.2 Derive Increased Cost $\Delta_{w_i}$ in $O(1)$ time

To realize a constant-time cost calculation in DARP, we propose a list to pre-derive all the needed cases such that any situation can look up the list to find the increased cost in constant time. Based on the granularity of time values (e.g. at least 30 seconds as the unit time for drop-off time  $td_j$ ), we can dynamically derive all the situations according to finite cases of time delay after insertion.

**Definition 12** (Supply-Shift). Given two adjacent vertices  $l_k, l_{k+1}$  in a route sequence, the Supply-Shift (SS) is the change of supply contribution of sub-route  $(l_k, l_{k+1})$  if delay  $\Delta_t$  occurs before  $l_k$ .

SS is a double-key dictionary labeled by area  $N_x$  and time interval  $T_y$ . To derive it, we need to calculate SC for  $(l_k, l_{k+1})$  with arriving time  $arr_i[l_k]$  and a new SC' with arriving time  $arr_i[l_k] + \Delta_t$ . Then we have:  $SS(l_k, l_{k+1}, arr_i[l_k], \Delta_t) = SC' - SC$ . Here, SC and SC' are dictionaries, and the operator “-” refers to the difference of values of two dictionaries on each common key. If any key does not belong to one dictionary, the corresponding value of the dictionary is set as 0.

The slack time is limited and  $\Delta_t \leq slack_i[l_k], \forall l_k \in S_{w_i}$ . We denote the maximal time to delay as  $slack^+$ . Here, we divide the delayed time range  $(0, slack^+]$  into a discretized space  $[(0, \delta_t], (\delta_t, 2\delta_t], \dots, ((m-1)\delta_t, m\delta_t]$ , where  $m$  is an integer constant and  $\delta_t = \frac{slack^+}{m}$ . Then, for a given  $\Delta_t$ , if  $(x-1)\delta_t < \Delta_t \leq x\delta_t$ , we use the discretized delay  $\Delta'_t = (x+1)\delta_t$  instead of  $\Delta_t$  to calculate the corresponding supply shift.

Given a route  $S_{w_i}$ , we can calculate  $SS(l_k, l_{k+1}, arr_i[l_k], \Delta'_t)$  for all pairs of adjacent vertices  $(l_k, l_{k+1})$  by looking up the pre-derived supply-shift table quickly. This process costs  $O(nm)$  time. We further introduce Total-Supply-Shift TSS as follows:

**Definition 13** (Total-Supply-Shift). Given a route  $S_{w_i}$ , the Total-Supply-Shift  $TSS(k, \Delta_t)$  refers to the total shift of supply number after an insertion occurs at the  $k$ th position with detour  $\Delta_t$ .

Assume that the length of the route  $|S_{w_i}| = n$ . With limited cases of time delay, we can derive  $TSS[k, \Delta'_t]$  dynamically by starting with  $TSS[n, \Delta'_t] = SC(l_n, -1, arr_i[l_n] + \Delta'_t) - SC(l_n, -1, arr_i[l_n])$  followed by:  $TSS[k, \Delta'_t] = TSS[k+1, \Delta'_t] + SS(l_k, l_{k+1}, arr_i[l_k], \Delta'_t)$

Note that any  $x < y$  satisfies  $slack[x] \leq slack[y]$ , which indicates that  $TSS[k+1, \Delta'_t]$  always exists if  $\Delta'_t$  delay is feasible for  $k^{th}$ . Now, given the insertion positions at  $x$  and  $y$ , we can derive all the additional supply shift generated from this insertion, named the Incremental Supply Shift (ISS) as follows:

$$ISS_{x,y} = \begin{cases} SC(l_n, s_j, arr_i[l_n]) + SC(s_j, e_j, arr_i[s]) \\ \quad + SC(e_j, -1, arr_i[e]) - SC(l_n, -1, arr_i[l_n]), & \text{if } x = y = n \\ SC(l_x, s_j, arr_i[l_x]) + SC(s_j, e_j, arr_i[s]) \\ \quad + SC(e_j, l_{x+1}, arr_i[e]) \\ \quad - SC(l_x, l_{x+1}, arr_i[l_x]) + TSS(x+1, \Delta_{x,y}^d), & \text{if } x = y < n \\ SC(l_x, s_j, arr_i[l_x]) + SC(s_j, l_{x+1}, arr_i[s]) \\ \quad - SC(l_x, l_{x+1}, arr_i[l_x]) \\ \quad + SC(l_n, e_j, arr_i[l_n] + det(l_x, s_j, l_{x+1})) \\ \quad + SC(e_j, -1, arr_i[e]) - SC(l_n, -1, arr_i[l_n]) \\ \quad + TSS(x+1, det(l_x, s_j, l_{x+1})) \\ \quad - TSS(n, det(l_x, s_j, l_{x+1})), & \text{if } x < y = n \\ SC(l_x, s_j, arr_i[l_x]) + SC(s_j, l_{x+1}, arr_i[s]) \\ \quad - SC(l_x, l_{x+1}, arr_i[l_x]) \\ \quad + SC(l_y, e_j, arr_i[l_y] + det(l_x, s_j, l_{x+1})) \\ \quad + SC(e_j, l_{y+1}, arr_i[e]) - SC(l_y, l_{y+1}, arr_i[l_y]) \\ \quad + TSS(x+1, det(l_x, s_j, l_{x+1})) \\ \quad - TSS(y, det(l_x, s_j, l_{x+1})) + TSS(y+1, \Delta_{x,y}^d), & \text{otherwise} \end{cases} \quad (7)$$

where  $arr_i[s]$  and  $arr_i[e]$  denote the arriving times of  $s_j$  and  $e_j$  after insertion. All the detour times  $\Delta_t$  in TSS are substituted with  $\Delta'_t = k \cdot \delta_t$  where  $(k-1) \cdot \delta_t < \Delta_t \leq k \cdot \delta_t$ . There are four cases of calculating  $ISS_{x,y}$ : (i) If the new  $r_j$  is picked and served after finishing all the other requests, two new paths,  $l_n \rightarrow s_j$  and  $s_j \rightarrow e_j$ , are added. Their supply contributions are  $SC(l_n, s_j, arr_i[l_n])$  and  $SC(s_j, e_j, arr_i[s])$ , where



**Algorithm 1: DA-DP Insertion.**

**Input:** a worker  $w_i$  and its current route  $S'_{w_i}$ , a request  $r_j$ , current time  $t_{now}$ , time intervals  $\mathcal{T}$  and grid area  $\mathcal{N}$  with the demand and supply number map  $DN$  and  $SN$

**Output:** an optimal route  $S'_{w_i}$  after insertion with cost  $\Delta_w$

```

1  $S'_{w_i} := S_{w_i}, \Delta_w := +\infty, ISS' := \emptyset$ 
2 get  $arr_i[\cdot], slack[\cdot], TSS$  according to definition 7 and
  Equations 5 and 13
3 foreach  $x$  in 1 to  $|S_{w_i}|$  do
4   foreach  $y$  in  $x$  to  $|S_{w_i}|$  do
5      $S_{w_i}^t := \text{insert } l_s \text{ at } x\text{-th and } l_d \text{ at } y\text{-th in } S_{w_i}$ 
6     if  $S_{w_i}^t$  is feasible then
7       get  $ISS$  according to Equation 7
8        $\Delta_w^t := \alpha \Delta_w^d$ 
9       foreach  $key[N, T] \in ISS$  do
10         $\Delta_w^t := \Delta_w^t - \beta_T \cdot ISS[N, T] \cdot$ 
11          $\Delta LB(DN(N, T), SN[N, T])$ 
12        if  $\Delta_w^t < \Delta_w$  then
13          $\Delta_w := \Delta_w^t, S'_{w_i} := S_{w_i}^t, ISS' := ISS$ 
13 return  $S'_{w_i}, \Delta_{w_i}$ , and  $ISS'$ 

```

$arr_i[s] = arr_i[l_n] + dis(l_n, s_j)$ . The original  $SC$  from staying at  $l_n$  after finishing the route is removed and the new one is added, that is,  $SC(e_j, -1, arr_i[e]) - SC(l_n, -1, arr_i[l_n])$  where  $arr_i[e] = arr_i[l_n] + \Delta_{x,y}^d$ ; (ii) If the new  $r_j$  is finished right after picked (e.g.  $x = y$ ) but not the last one to serve, three parts of new contributions are added and the previous one from  $l_x$  to  $l_{x+1}$  is removed (i.e.,  $SC(l_x, s_j, arr_i[l_x]) + SC(s_j, e_j, arr_i[s]) + SC(e_j, l_{x+1}, arr_i[e]) - SC(l_x, l_{x+1}, arr_i[l_x])$ , where  $arr_i[s] = arr_i[l_x] + dis(l_x, s_j)$  and  $arr_i[e] = arr_i[l_x] + dis(l_x, s_j) + dis(s_j, e_j)$ ). Every vertex after  $(x+1)^{th}$  gets a detour  $\Delta_{x,y}^d$  so supply number shift  $TSS(x+1, \Delta_{x,y}^d)$  occurs; (iii) If the  $r_j$  is picked earlier but finished at last, two new paths,  $l_x \rightarrow s_j$  and  $s_j \rightarrow l_{x+1}$ , from inserting  $s_j$  and one new path,  $l_n \rightarrow e_j$  from finishing  $e_j$  are added. One old path from  $l_x$  to  $l_{x+1}$  is removed. Note that  $arr_i[s] = arr_i[l_x] + dis(l_x, s_j)$  and  $arr_i[e] = arr_i[l_n] + det(l_x, s_j, l_{x+1}) + dis(l_n, e_j)$ . After deriving these supply contributions, all paths between  $x+1$  to  $n$  are delayed by  $det(l_x, s_j, l_{x+1})$ , then we add  $TSS(x+1, det(l_x, s_j, l_{x+1})) - TSS(n, det(l_x, s_j, l_{x+1}))$ . The destination has been changed to  $e_j$ , thus we have  $SC(e_j, -1, arr_i[e]) - SC(l_n, -1, arr_i[l_n])$  in addition; (iv) Otherwise, we add new contributions,  $l_x \rightarrow s_j, s_j \rightarrow l_{x+1}, l_y \rightarrow e_j$  and  $e_j \rightarrow l_{y+1}$ , and distract former ones,  $l_x \rightarrow l_{x+1}$  and  $l_y \rightarrow l_{y+1}$  first. In this case,  $arr_i[s] = arr_i[l_x] + dis(l_x, s_j)$  and  $arr_i[e] = arr_i[l_y] + det(l_x, s_j, l_{x+1}) + dis(l_y, e_j)$ . Then we add  $TSS$  from  $x+1$  to  $y$  with detour  $det(l_x, s_j, l_{x+1})$  by  $TSS(x+1, det(l_x, s_j, l_{x+1})) - TSS(y, det(l_x, s_j, l_{x+1}))$ . Finally, all paths after  $y+1$  are delayed by  $\Delta_{x,y}^d$  so we have  $TSS(y+1, \Delta_{x,y}^d)$ .

### 5.3.3 Demand-Aware Dynamic Programming based Insertion Algorithm

Algorithm 1 illustrate the Demand-Aware Dynamic Programming based Insertion (DA-DP Insertion) algorithm. Lines 1-2 initialize  $S'_{w_i}$  and  $\Delta_{w_i}$  and derive needed parameters for Equation 7. Lines 3-5 check all possible insertion positions and generate new routes. Line 6 checks feasibility according to Section 5.3.1. Line 7 gets dictionary  $ISS$  and lines 8-12 adds up all the costs for insertion. Lines 11-12 save the result with the least increased cost.

**Table 4: Values After Pre-calculation**

Positions	1( $l_1$ )	2( $s_1$ )	3( $e_1$ )
$arr_i(\cdot)$	1	3	5.8
$ddl_i(\cdot)$	$\infty$	8.2	11
$slack_i(\cdot)$	$\infty$	5.2	5.2

**Table 5: Increased Distance Cost  $\Delta_{x,y}^d$  in Example.4**

Insertion Position (x,y)	(1, 1)	(1, 2)	(1, 3)	(2, 2)	(2, 3)	(3, 3)
$\Delta_{x,y}^d$	-1	4	4.8	4	3.2	4.8

**Table 6: Values of Supply Shift  $SS$** 

$\Delta_t'$	$SS(l_2, l_3, 3, \Delta_t')$
1	$\{(N_3, T_1) \rightarrow -0.08, (N_3, T_2) \rightarrow 0.08\}$
2	$\{(N_5, T_1) \rightarrow -0.04, (N_5, T_2) \rightarrow 0.04, (N_3, T_1) \rightarrow -0.14, (N_3, T_2) \rightarrow 0.14\}$
3	$\{(N_5, T_2) \rightarrow 0.14, (N_3, T_2) \rightarrow 0.14, (N_5, T_1) \rightarrow -0.14, (N_3, T_1) \rightarrow -0.14\}$
4	$\{(N_5, T_2) \rightarrow 0.14, (N_3, T_2) \rightarrow 0.06, (N_3, T_3) \rightarrow 0.08, (N_5, T_1) \rightarrow -0.14, (N_3, T_1) \rightarrow -0.14\}$
5	$\{(N_5, T_1) \rightarrow -0.14, (N_5, T_2) \rightarrow 0.10, (N_5, T_3) \rightarrow 0.04, (N_3, T_3) \rightarrow 0.14, (N_3, T_1) \rightarrow -0.14\}$
6	$\{(N_5, T_3) \rightarrow 0.14, (N_3, T_3) \rightarrow 0.14, (N_5, T_1) \rightarrow -0.14, (N_3, T_1) \rightarrow -0.14\}$

**Table 7: Values of Total Supply Shift  $TSS$** 

k	$\Delta_t'$	$TSS(k, \Delta_t')$
3	1	$\{(N_3, T_1) \rightarrow -0.02, (N_3, T_2) \rightarrow -0.08\}$
	2	$\{(N_3, T_1) \rightarrow -0.02, (N_3, T_2) \rightarrow -0.18\}$
	3	$\{(N_3, T_1) \rightarrow -0.02, (N_3, T_2) \rightarrow -0.28\}$
	4	$\{(N_3, T_1) \rightarrow -0.02, (N_3, T_2) \rightarrow -0.30, (N_3, T_3) \rightarrow -0.08\}$
	5	$\{(N_3, T_1) \rightarrow -0.02, (N_3, T_2) \rightarrow -0.30, (N_3, T_3) \rightarrow -0.18\}$
	6	$\{(N_3, T_1) \rightarrow -0.02, (N_3, T_2) \rightarrow -0.30, (N_3, T_3) \rightarrow -0.28\}$
2	1	$\{(N_3, T_1) \rightarrow -0.1\}$
	2	$\{(N_5, T_2) \rightarrow 0.04, (N_5, T_1) \rightarrow -0.04, (N_3, T_1) \rightarrow -0.16, (N_3, T_2) \rightarrow -0.04\}$
	3	$\{(N_5, T_2) \rightarrow 0.14, (N_5, T_1) \rightarrow -0.14, (N_3, T_1) \rightarrow -0.16, (N_3, T_2) \rightarrow -0.14\}$
	4	$\{(N_5, T_2) \rightarrow 0.14, (N_5, T_1) \rightarrow -0.14, (N_3, T_1) \rightarrow -0.16, (N_3, T_2) \rightarrow -0.24\}$
	5	$\{(N_5, T_3) \rightarrow 0.04, (N_5, T_2) \rightarrow 0.1, (N_5, T_1) \rightarrow -0.14, (N_3, T_1) \rightarrow -0.16, (N_3, T_2) \rightarrow -0.3, (N_3, T_3) \rightarrow -0.04\}$
	6	$\{(N_5, T_3) \rightarrow 0.14, (N_5, T_1) \rightarrow -0.14, (N_3, T_3) \rightarrow -0.14, (N_3, T_2) \rightarrow -0.3, (N_3, T_1) \rightarrow -0.16\}$

**Example 4.** Let us continue the setting in Example.2. Our goal is to find the positions for insertion with minimum increasing demand-aware cost. The pre-calculated parameters are shown in Table 4 and incremental distances  $\Delta_{x,y}^d$  are shown in Table 5.  $\Delta_{x,y}^d = -1$  means the case violates the constraints. We choose  $\delta_t = 1$  and show  $SS$  with position  $1 < k \leq 3 - 1$  in Table.6. Note that  $\lceil \frac{slack_1[l_2]}{1} \rceil = \lceil \frac{slack_1[l_3]}{1} \rceil = 6$ , thus we have 6 possible ranges for  $\Delta_t'$ . Then,  $TSS$  can be derived dynamically shown in Table.7.

Then we go through all pairs of  $(x, y)$  for insertion. (1, 1) violates the deadline constraints. (1, 2) follows the case 4 ( $1 < 2 < 3$ ). Thus, its  $ISS_{1,2} = SC(l_1, s_2, 1) + SC(s_2, s_1, 3.8) - SC(l_1, s_2, 1) + SC(s_1, e_2, 5.8) + SC(e_2, e_1, 7.8) - SC(s_1, e_1, 3) + TSS(2, 3) - TSS(2, 3) + TSS(3, 4)$ ; (1, 3) belongs to the case 3 ( $1 < 3 = 3$ ). Its  $ISS_{1,3} = SC(l_1, s_2, 1) + SC(s_2, s_1, 3.8) - SC(l_1, s_1, 1) + SC(e_1, e_2, 8.6) + SC(e_2, -1, 10.6) - SC(e_2, -1, 5.8) + TSS(2, 3) - TSS(3, 3)$ ; (2, 2) belongs to the case 2 ( $2 = 2 < 3$ ) with  $ISS_{2,2} = SC(s_1, s_2, 3) + SC(s_2, e_2, 5) + SC(e_2, e_1, 7.8) - SC(s_1, e_1, 3) + TSS(3, 4)$ ; (2, 3) follows the case 3 as well with a result  $ISS_{2,3} = SC(s_1, s_2, 3) + SC(s_2, e_1, 5) - SC(s_1, e_1, 3) + SC(e_1, e_2, 7) + SC(e_2, -1, 9) - SC(e_1, -1, 5.8) + TSS(3, 2) - TSS(3, 2)$ ; (3, 3) belongs to the case 1 ( $3 = 3 = 3$ ) and results in  $ISS_{3,3} = SC(e_1, s_2, 5.8) + SC(s_2, e_2, 7.8) + SC(e_2, -1, 10.6) - SC(e_1, -1, 5.8)$ .

Finally, we derive all these  $ISS$ s and calculate the increased cost for each pair of insertion positions. The values of them are shown in Table.8. As the increased cost, 4.7, of insertion at (2, 3) is the lowest, we return it as the optimal way to insert  $r_2$  into  $S_{w_i}$ .

**Table 8:** Insertion Cost in Example.4

Insertion Index (x,y)	(1, 1)	(1, 2)	(1, 3)	(2, 2)	(2, 3)	(3, 3)
$\Delta_{x,y}^d$	$\infty$	5.6	6.3	5.7	4.7	5.5

Note that, comparing to the basic insertion in Example 3, the increased costs of pair (1, 2) (6.3) is different (6.2 in previous one). This is because that we use  $TSS(2, 3)$  and  $TSS(3, 3)$  to approximate  $TSS(2, 2.8)$  and  $TSS(3, 2.8)$ .

**Complexity Analysis.** It cost  $O(n)$  time to compute  $arr_i[\cdot]$ ,  $slack_i[\cdot]$  and  $O(nm)$  time to calculate  $TSS$  at line 2. The number of possible insertion pairs is  $O(n^2)$  in lines 6-10. It takes  $O(1)$  time to check feasibility and  $O(1)$  time to evaluate the increased cost. The other lines cost  $O(1)$  time. Thus, the total time cost of Algorithm 1 is  $O(n^2)$ .

## 6. DEMAND-AWARE INSERTION BASED DUAL-PHASE FRAMEWORK

In this section, we introduce an efficient and effective framework, namely demand-aware insertion based dual-phase framework (DAIF) for the DARP problem. DAIF consists of two phases. The first one is the decision phase, which decides whether to serve a new request  $r_j$  or not. The second is the planning phase, which inserts  $r_j$  into the route of the selected worker.

### 6.1 Decision Phase

To minimize our objective function, we can reject a request when its penalty is smaller than the increased cost to serve it. A previous study proposes a lower bound of the minimum increased distance as the metric to make a fast decision about request rejection [40]. However, this is applicable only for the distance-based objective function. In this paper, we need to derive the new lower bound also considering the cost from the balance score. The decision phase can be completed in  $O(n)$  time, where  $n$  is the number of locations in the scheduled route of the given worker.

#### 6.1.1 Lower Bound of Minimum Increased Cost $\Delta$

We use  $\Delta$  to indicate the minimum cost to handle a new request  $r_j$  among all the workers. We denote the lower bound of  $\Delta$  as  $\Delta_-$ .  $\Delta_-$  consists of the lower bound of increased distance cost  $\Delta_-^d$  and increased balance cost  $\Delta_-^b$ . For the lower bound of the increased distance cost  $\Delta_-^d$ , we borrow the idea of using dynamic programming to derive  $\Delta_-^d$  in  $O(n)$  time [40]. For the lower bound of the increased balance cost  $\Delta_-^b$ , we propose a novel method to calculate it also in  $O(n)$  time.

**Lower Bound of Distance Cost  $\Delta_-^d$ .** We briefly introduce the method to derive  $\Delta_-^d$  [40]. The key point is that once two vertices are inserted nonadjacent, the two increased distances will not affect each other. The main idea is to enumerate the destinations ( $y$ ) instead of both origin and destination locations ( $x, y$ ) to find the minimum increased distance. We denote  $\Delta_y^d$  as the minimum increased cost for a given destination position  $y$ .  $\Delta_y^d = \det(l_y, e_j, l_{y+1}) + \min_{x < y} \det(l_x, s_j, l_{x+1})$ . We define the second part as  $Dio[y] = \min_{x < y} \det(l_x, s_j, l_{x+1})$  to indicate the minimum detour for inserting  $s_j$  with  $e_j$  at the  $y$ th position of a given route sequence. It can be derived in a dynamic programming style:

$$Dio[y] = \begin{cases} \infty, & \text{if } picked[y-1] > a_i - a_j \\ Dio[y-1], & \text{if } \det(l_{y-1}, s_j, l_y) > slack_i[l_{y-1}] \\ \min \{Dio[y-1], \det(l_{y-1}, s_j, l_y)\}, & \text{otherwise} \end{cases} \quad (8)$$

Two methods can be further applied to achieve a lower bound  $\Delta_-$ : (i) using Euclidean distance instead of the shortest path query, which usually has smaller value and less computation time; (ii) using the pre-calculated  $arr_i[\cdot]$  to derive travel time.

By denoting the Euclidean distance of  $u$  and  $v$  as  $eu(u, v)$ , we can estimate the lower bound of detour from inserting  $v$  between  $u$  and  $w$  as  $ld(u, v, w) = eu(u, v) + eu(v, w) - dis(u, w) \leq \det(u, v, w)$ .

In addition, after calculating  $arr_i[\cdot]$ , all the  $dis[l_k, l_{k+1}]$  can be substituted by  $arr_i[l_{k+1}] - arr_i[l_k]$ . Hence:

$$ld(l_x, s_j, l_{x+1}) = eu(l_x, s_j) + eu(s_j, l_{x+1}) - (arr_i[l_{x+1}] - arr_i[l_x])$$

$$ld(l_y, e_j, l_{y+1}) = eu(l_y, e_j) + eu(e_j, l_{y+1}) - (arr_i[l_{y+1}] - arr_i[l_y])$$

Then we use above lower bound for Equation 8 to calculate  $Dio_E$  as Euclidean distance based lower bound of  $Dio[\cdot]$ .

$$Dio_E[y] = \begin{cases} \infty, & \text{if } picked[y-1] > a_i - a_j \\ Dio_E[y-1], & \text{if } ld(l_{y-1}, s_j, l_y) > slack_i[l_{y-1}] \\ \min \{Dio_E[y-1], ld(l_{y-1}, s_j, l_y)\}, & \text{otherwise} \end{cases} \quad (9)$$

Now we have the lower bound of minimum increased cost  $\Delta_-^d$ :

$$\Delta_-^d = \min_{x \leq y, y=0:n} \begin{cases} eu(l_n, s_j) + \mathcal{L}, & \text{if } x = y = n \\ eu(l_x, s_j) + \mathcal{L} + eu(e_j, l_{x+1}) - (arr_i[l_{x+1}] - arr_i[l_x]), & \text{if } x = y < n \\ ld(l_y, e_j, l_{y+1}) + Dio_E[y], & \text{if } x < y \end{cases} \quad (10)$$

where  $\mathcal{L} = dis(s_j, e_j)$ .

**Lower Bound of Balance Cost  $\Delta_-^b$ .** We first propose a lemma:

**Lemma 6.1.** Given an supply number map  $SN$  and an demand number map  $DN$ , let us consider a particular spatial temporal cell  $C_{xy}$  of area  $N_x$  and time span  $T_y$ . If the demand exceeds the supply (i.e.,  $DN(N_x, T_y) > SN(N_x, T_y)$ ), the greater  $DN[N_x, T_y]$  is (or the lesser  $SN[N_x, T_y]$  is), the more sensitive DSB is to the change of  $SN(N_x, T_y)$  (i.e., DSB will increase or decrease faster when  $SN(N_x, T_y)$  increases or decreases).

*Proof.* Here we denote  $DN[N_x, T_y]$  as  $\lambda$  and  $SN[N_x, T_y]$  as  $\mu$ . Suppose that serving a new request with a worker updates the value of cell  $C_{xy}$  in the  $SN$  to  $\mu^*$ . We demote  $\Delta_\mu = \mu^* - \mu$  as the increment. The DSB can be treated as a function of  $\Delta_\mu$  according to its definition. We want to show that with a larger  $\lambda$  and a smaller  $\mu$ ,  $\frac{\partial DSB}{\partial \Delta_\mu}$  is larger. Recall the definition of DSB, for  $N_x$  and  $T_y$  we have:

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{\partial DSB}{\partial \Delta_\mu} &= \beta_y \cdot \Delta_{LB}(\lambda, \mu) \\ &= \beta_y \cdot (LB(\lambda, \mu + 1) - LB(\lambda, \mu)) \\ &= \beta_y \cdot (1 - \sum_{k=0}^{\lfloor s_n \rfloor} \frac{\lambda^k}{k!} e^{-\lambda}) \end{aligned}$$

The second part is going larger with higher  $\mu$ . For a single component in the sum function  $f(\lambda) = \frac{\lambda^k}{k!} e^{-\lambda}$ , we take a derivative with respect to  $\lambda$ :

$$\frac{\partial f(\lambda)}{\partial \lambda} = \frac{\lambda^{k-1}}{(k-1)!} e^{-\lambda} - \frac{\lambda^k}{k!} e^{-\lambda} = \frac{\lambda^{k-1} \cdot (k - \lambda)}{k!} e^{-\lambda}$$

With the situation that demand exceeds supply, we can get  $k \leq \lfloor \mu \rfloor < \lambda$  such that  $\frac{\partial f(\lambda)}{\partial \lambda} < 0$ . Thus, whenever we want a higher DSB with an increased  $\mu$ , we need the second part as small as possible, that is, higher  $\lambda$  and lower  $\mu$ .  $\square$

With Lemma 6.1, if the greatest/lowest value in  $DN[\cdot, T]$  are  $\lambda_+/\lambda_-$  and the greatest/lowest value in  $SN[\cdot, T]$  is  $\mu_+/\mu_-$  given certain time interval  $T$ , a reorder with  $dt$  long new paths in place of old paths may have at most:

$$DSB[T]_+ = \beta_T \cdot \gamma \cdot dt \cdot (\Delta_{LB}(\lambda_+, \mu_-) - \Delta_{LB}(\lambda_-, \mu_+)) \quad (11)$$

Recall the definition of the largest tolerable detour  $slack_i[\cdot]$  for each vertex in a route. We check which time interval each vertex belongs to by its  $arr_i[\cdot]$ . For a set of vertices finished in same interval, the longest replaced paths can be  $slack_i[l_n]$  where  $n$  is the last arrived vertices as proof in 5.3.1. Hence, the lower bound of balance cost  $\Delta_-^b$  can be derived as:  $\Delta_-^b = -\sum_{T \in \mathcal{T}} DSB[T]_+$

#### 6.1.2 Demand-Aware Decision Algorithm

Algorithm 2 illustrates the decision phase. We enumerate all the workers to find their lower bounds  $\Delta_-$ . Lines 7-18 find the lower bound by traversing all paths. In lines 5-11 and 14-17 we track the time span to update  $\Delta_-^b$  according to Equation 12. Lines 12 and 18 update  $Dio_E$  to derive  $\Delta_-^d$ . We store the value of bounded cost for each worker which will be further used in the planning process.



---

**Algorithm 2:** Demand-Aware Decision Algorithm.

---

**Input:**  $\alpha, \beta$ , workers  $W$ , a request  $r_j$ , supply number map  $SN$  and demand number map  $DN$   
**Output:** a set of lower bound  $\tilde{\Delta}_-$  for each  $w$

```
1  $\tilde{\Delta}_- := \emptyset$ 
2 foreach  $w \in W$  do
3    $\Delta_-^b := 0, \Delta_-^d := \infty, Dio_E := \infty$ 
4   Initialize  $ddl, arr, slack$ 
5   Denote  $T$  as the interval contains  $arr_i[l_1]$ 
6   foreach  $y$  in 0 to  $|S_w|$  do
7     Denote  $T'$  as the interval contains  $arr_i[l_y]$ 
8     if  $T' \neq T$  then
9        $dt := slack_i[l_{y-1}]$ 
10      Update  $DSB[T]_+$  according to Equation 11
11       $\Delta_-^b := \Delta_-^b - DSB[T]_+$ 
12      Get  $\Delta_y^d$  as the case  $x = y$  in Equation 10
13      if  $y > 0$  then
14         $\Delta_y^d := \min(ld(l_y, e_j, l_{y+1}) + Dio_E[y], \Delta_y^d)$ 
15         $\Delta_-^d := \min \Delta_y^d, \Delta_-$ 
16        if  $arr_i[l_y] + dis(s_j, e_j) > td_j$  then
17          Derive  $DSB[T]_+$  with rest of  $T$  using  $dt$ 
18           $\Delta_-^b := \Delta_-^b - \sum_{T \in rest \tau} DSB[T]_+$  break;
19      Update  $Dio_E[y + 1]$  according to Equation 9
20    $\tilde{\Delta}_-[w] := \alpha \Delta_-^d + \beta \Delta_-^b$ 
21 if  $p_j < \min \tilde{\Delta}_-$  then
22   reject  $r_j$ 
23 return  $\tilde{\Delta}_-$ 
```

---

**Complexity Analysis.** Lines 4 and 6 take  $O(|R|)$  time. Line 20 takes  $O(|W|)$  time. The other lines are in the loop of line 2 which all take  $O(1)$  and thus  $O(|W|)$  in total. The only shortest path query is  $\mathcal{L} = dis(s_j, e_j)$ . If the shortest path query takes  $O(q)$  time, the time complexity is  $O(|W| + |R| + q)$ .

## 6.2 Planning Phase

Given the set of lower bounds  $\tilde{\Delta}_-$  for all workers, we apply an efficient branch-and-bound pruning strategy to save the computation time. It first prunes candidate workers and then greedily adds the new request into the route of the local optimal worker.

### 6.2.1 Pruning Candidate Workers

Many pruning strategies rely on the bounded deadlines and grid indices to realize a filter for candidate workers [9, 12, 23, 38]. Besides, the branch-and-bound pruning strategy is also applied in previous work using lower bounds ( $LB$ ) of cost for all the workers [40, 15]. In this paper, we derive our  $LB$  in the decision phase. This strategy can greatly cut the time cost because given all the workers sorted according to  $\Delta_-$  in  $\tilde{\Delta}_-$ , if  $w_x$  is ahead of  $w_y$  and  $\Delta_{w_x}$  is smaller than  $\Delta_-$  of  $w_y$ , we can safely ignore all workers after  $w_x$ .

### 6.2.2 Algorithm Sketch

Algorithm 3 illustrates the DAIF algorithm. In lines 1-2, we build a grid index and initialize  $\bar{R}$  and  $DAC$ . For each new request, we first filter a set of candidate workers in line 4 and then start the decision phase in line 5. If at least one worker has the possibility to serve the request, we can insert it into a route in lines 7-17. Iterations in lines 8-10 are using the aforementioned pruning strategy. Then we use DA-DP insertion to calculate  $\Delta_{w_i}$  and update the best worker  $w'$  if current cost is minimal. If a feasible worker  $w'$  is found at the end of an iteration, we update  $S_{w_i}$  and  $SN$  map

---

**Algorithm 3:** DAIF Framework.

---

**Input:**  $\alpha, \beta$ , workers  $W$ , requests  $R$ , supply number map  $SN$  and demand number map  $DN$   
**Output:** a set of route  $S$  and demand-aware cost  $DAC$

```
1 Build grid index and initialize  $\bar{R} := \emptyset$ 
2  $DAC := 0$ 
3 foreach new request  $r_j \in R$  do
4    $Cand :=$  filter the candidate using grid index and deadline
5   Get  $\tilde{\Delta}_-$  according to Algorithm 2
6   if  $r_j$  is not rejected then
7      $w' := NIL, \Delta_{w'} := \infty, SSA' := \emptyset$ 
8     foreach  $w_i : \Delta_-$  in sorted  $\tilde{\Delta}_-$  do
9       if  $\Delta_{w'} < \Delta_-$  then
10        break
11         $\Delta_{w_i} :=$  result of DA-DP Insertion
12        if  $\Delta_{w_i} < \Delta_{w'}$  then
13           $w' := w_i, \Delta_{w'} := \Delta_{w_i}, SSA' := SSA$ 
14      if  $w' \neq NIL$  then
15        Update  $S_{w'}$  and  $arr$  of  $w_i$  accordingly
16        Update  $SN$  according to  $SSA$ 
17         $DAC := DAC + \Delta_{w'}$ 
18      else
19        Add  $r_j$  to  $\bar{R}$ ,  $DAC := DAC + p_j$ 
20 return  $S$  and  $DAC$ 
```

---

accordingly. The corresponding cost is added to  $DAC$ . If it is rejected, the cost from penalty  $p_j$  will be added.

**Complexity Analysis.** Line 3 has  $O(|R|)$  iterations. Line 4 takes  $O(|W|)$  and line 5 takes  $O(|W| + |R|)$  time proved after Algorithm 2. The total time complexity of lines 4-5 is  $O(|R| |W| + |R|^2)$ . The sorting in line 8 takes  $O(|W| \log |W|)$  time and lines 9-15 takes  $O(|W| + |R|^2)$  in total with a square time DP-based insertion algorithm (e.g. workers with no served requests takes  $O(|W|)$  time and one worker with all requests takes  $O(|R|^2)$  time). The total time complexity of lines 8-17 is  $O(|R|^3 + |R| |W| \log |W|)$ . Line 19 takes  $O(|R| + |W|)$ . Thus, Algorithm 3 takes  $O(|R|^3 + |R| |W| \log |W|)$  time.

## 7. EXPERIMENTAL STUDY

### 7.1 Experimental Methodology

**Data set.** We use both real and synthetic data to test our proposed DARP approaches. Specifically, for the real data, we use a public data set NYC [4] collected from two types of taxis (yellow and green) in 2013 in New York City, USA. We choose the data from November 1st to 30th to train the prediction model. Then, we utilize the model to predict demands on December 2nd and use the real requests to simulate the ridesharing requests in our experiments. For each taxi request in NYC, we initialize a corresponding ridesharing request with its pick-up and drop-off locations, and configure the release time as the timestamp of the taxi request. We assume that each request contains only one rider and thus set the default capacity of a request as 1. We utilize the road network of NYC from Geofabrik [2]. This data set has been widely used as a benchmark for ride-sharing studies [40].

To generate the synthetic data, we derive the distribution of requests of all the NYC requests in December and generate a synthetic dataset (SYN) following the existing synthetic method [30].

For the prediction model, DeepST, we set the default grid size as 2km $\times$ 2km and the time interval as 15 minutes.

**Table 9:** Setting of Dataset and Model

Parameters	Settings
Number of vertices in NYC	61298
Number of edges in NYC	141372
Number of requests of NYC	427093
Number of requests of SYN	452116
Grid size	2km × 2km
Time interval	15 minutes

We summarize the experimental settings for the dataset and the spatial temporal prediction model in Table 9.

**Implementation.** In general, we follow the settings of the existing studies [9, 23, 40]. While building the graph for the road network, we set the weights of edges as their time costs (divide the distance of Geofabric by the velocity of its road type). The vertices are indexed with an R-tree. Then, we map the origin and the destination in NYC of each request to the closest vertex in the road network. The initial location of each worker is randomly chosen from the vertexes of the road network. We summarize the major parameters in Table 10 and the default values are in bold font. We set grid size as 2km for both prediction and prune algorithm. The delivery deadline of each request is calculated by adding the release time of a request with the time cost of the shortest path times Deadline Coefficient  $e_r$ . For example, the deadline  $e_j$  for request  $r_j$  with release time  $tr_j$  is  $tr_j + (1 + e_r) \cdot dis(s_j, e_j)$ . The capacity of workers  $a_i$  is varied from 2 to 10. We use unit time cost as the unit cost for  $DSB$  (i.e.,  $\alpha = 1$ ). As we mentioned before, our unified cost can be treated as the monetary loss of the platform. Thus, we need to define the unit of money. We set travel fees paid for one second of time cost as the smallest element, that is,  $\alpha = 1$ . The other parameters are converted based on it. The penalty  $p_j$  of request  $r_j$  is set as  $p_o \cdot dis(s_j, e_j)$  by default. In real applications, the penalty can be treated mainly as the money lost from a request on rejection, which is usually proportional to the length of the trip. The penalty  $p_j$  is usually much larger than the incremental cost from the allowed detour, thus request  $r_j$  will always be served if it can be delivered before the deadline  $td_j$ . Different  $p_j$  will not affect the served rate, thus we do not need to compare it. In our experiments, the balance weight  $\beta$  and supply coefficient  $\gamma$  are derived based on their values in real applications.

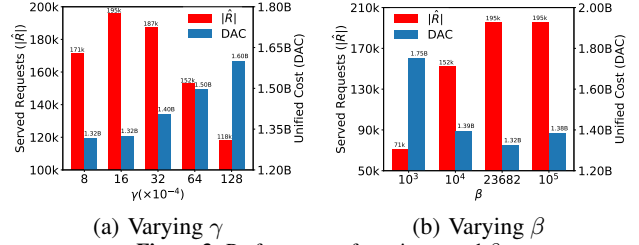
The experiments are conducted on a server with Intel(R) Xeon(R) E5 2.30GHz processors with hyper-threading enabled and 128GB memory. The simulation implementation is single-threaded, and the total running time (excluding the time to construct grid index and initialize LRU for shortest path and distance query) is limited to 14 hours for NYC. In reality, a real-time solution should stop before its time limit which is 24 hours here [23, 40]. All the algorithms are implemented in Java 11. We store the vertices and weighted edges of the road network (i.e., directed graph and distances used for grid). According to the setting of previous studies [23, 40], an LRU cache is maintained for shortest path queries.

**Parameter Derivation.** Equivalent supply number can be derived as Supply Coefficient  $\gamma$  multiplied by the sum of time (seconds) that all the workers stay in a particular area and time period. We derive  $\gamma = 0.0016$  using the real ride-sharing data, which has 6576.87 workers at the rush hour to serve 465703.97 requests on average. A worker can serve a request if he/she stays in a region for  $\frac{6576.87 \cdot 86400}{465703.97} = 1220$  seconds. In other times except for the rush hours, the platform just needs fewer cars. Besides, each ride-sharing vehicle can serve more than one request. Thus, we use a compensation factor  $f = 2$  to derive that  $\gamma = \frac{f}{1220} = 0.0016$ .

When  $DSB$ Score decreases by 1, we would have a potential unserved request in the future. The average travel time for each trip is 789.40 seconds. Thus, potentially losing a request would cost  $789.40 \cdot p_r = 23682$ . We define this value as the optimal equivalent loss factor  $p_r^* = 23682$ , which is used to derive balance weight

**Table 10:** Parameter Settings.

Parameters	Settings
Deadline Coefficient $e_r$	0.1, 0.2, <b>0.3</b> , 0.4, 0.5
Capacity $a_i$	2, 3, 4, 7, 10
Distance Weight $\alpha$	<b>1</b>
Balance Weight $\beta$	$[p_r^*, \frac{p_r^*}{e}, \frac{p_r^*}{e^2}, \dots, \frac{p_r^*}{e^5}]$
Supply Coefficient $\gamma$	<b>0.0016</b>
Penalty ratio $p_o$	<b>30</b>
Number of workers $ W $	500, 1k, <b>3k</b> , 5k, 10k
Grid size $g$	1k × 1k, <b>2k × 2k</b> , 4k × 4k



(a) Varying  $\gamma$  (b) Varying  $\beta$   
**Figure 3:** Performance of varying  $\gamma$  and  $\beta$

$\beta$  in Table 10. The later a period is, the more imprecise its prediction result is. Thus, the weights decrease at the ratio of natural logarithm  $e$  per time span.

We show the experimental results of varying  $\gamma$  and  $\beta$  in Figure 3. The left axis is the number of total served requests represented in the red histogram. The right axis is for the unified cost, displayed in blue. Note that the x-axis for  $\beta$  is the weight for its first time span. For example, value 1000 means that  $\beta = [1000, \frac{1000}{e}, \frac{1000}{e^2}, \dots, \frac{1000}{e^5}]$ . With higher  $\gamma$  and  $\beta$ , the algorithm will focus more on serving more requests rather than reducing travel costs. We want to set the values of  $\gamma$  and  $\beta$  to serve as many requests with as small unified cost as possible. Through observing Figure 3(a), we confirm our setting  $\gamma = 0.0016$ . By Figure 3(b), we set  $\beta = 23682$ .

**Compared Algorithms.** We compare our DAIF framework (DAIF-B indicates using basic insertion algorithm and DAIF-DP denote using dynamic programming based insertion algorithm) with the state-of-the-art algorithms for route planning of shareable mobility services.

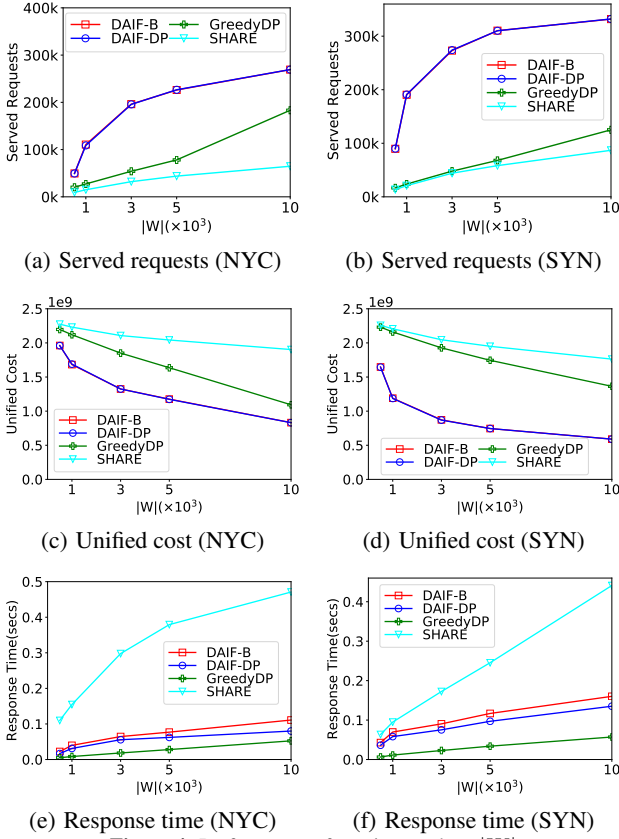
- **GreedyDP** [40]. It bases on the dynamic property of the ride-sharing problem to insert each coming request into a route of a worker with minimal increased distance.
- **SHARE** [45]. It uses historical information of nodes to choose a route with a higher possibility to pick passengers along the route. The algorithm is executed every 1 minute instead of a real-time assignment. It also requires  $k_1$  minutes to wait for newly arrived requests and allows  $k_2$  minutes of holding time before rejecting a request. To conduct a fair comparison, we set  $k_1 = 0$  and  $k_2 = 1$  to simulate an approximate real-time assignment.

**Metrics.** All the algorithms are evaluated in terms of total unified cost, served requests  $|R|$  and response time (average waiting time to arrange a request). The metrics are widely used in the existing large-scale online ride-sharing studies [23, 30, 40].

## 7.2 Experimental Results

In this section, we show the experimental results. We propose a prune strategy in Section 6 and implement it in all the following experiments. Compared with the DAIF framework without pruning, our solution prunes 37.8% (136151416 out of 360328505) candidates on default setting and prunes 51.5% (24123477 out of 46825174) candidates on non-prediction setting ( $\beta = 0$ ).

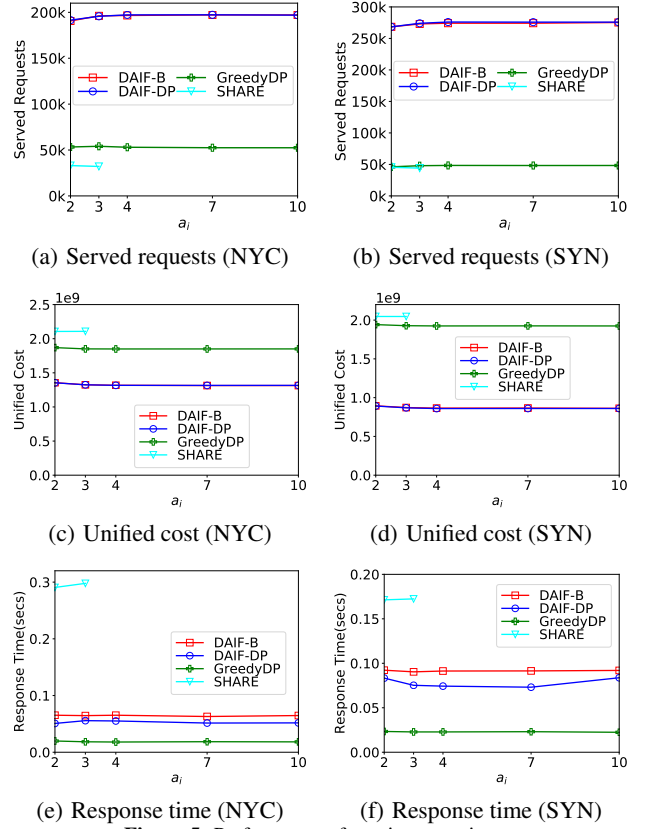
**Impact of Number of Workers  $|W|$ .** Figure 4 presents the results with different numbers of workers. Overall, DAIF outperforms the other algorithms in terms of the number of served requests by 165.5% to 815.5% on SYN and 47.0% to 624.3% on NYC. With



**Figure 4:** Performance of varying workers  $|W|$

more available workers, more requests are served, leading to a decrease in unified costs and an increase in the served rates of all the algorithms. Using a time slot ( $\delta_t = 1$  minute in our experiments) for DAIF-DP, there is some little difference to the results of DAIF-B. The performances of DAIF-DP and DAIF-B are similar for unified cost and number of served requests. As we mentioned, we focus on the situation of rush hour, which has more requests and fewer riders. Most of the requests are not served, leading to a large value of unified cost and DAIF decreases it by 10.8% to 56.3% on NYC and 26.3% to 66.5% on SYN. GreedyDP runs the fastest. DAIF-B runs slower with an increasing number of workers than DAIF-DP. SHARE rejects many more requests compared with other methods. The reason is that SHARE uses a rough computation to first assign each request to a worker, which would be canceled if it violates the detour constraints. If this failed, the request would not be assigned in this round. SHARE works well when the waiting time of request is 15 min [45]. However, in on-line ridesharing, wait too long will break the deadline constraint of delivery. Thus, SHARE can serve fewer requests than other algorithms. As the synthetic data follows the distribution strictly, except the traditional method GreedyDP, all the other methods with this perfect “prediction” perform better than on NYC data set.

**Impact of Capacity of Workers  $a_i$ .** Figure 5 presents the effect of different capacities of workers. DAIF serves 259.3% to 509.7% more requests than the other algorithms on NYC and 470.3% to 521.1% more requests on SYN. Unified cost is decreased by 27.6% to 37.2% on NYC and 54.1% to 57.6% on SYN. At rush hour (workers are much fewer than requests), with a tight deadline coefficient, most of the workers can serve two or three requests. We can observe that increasing capacity does not lead to an increase but kind of fluctuation. However, when the capacity increases from 2 to 4, the number of served requests increases for DAIF and keeps still for GreedyDP. The reason is that routes are more suitable to

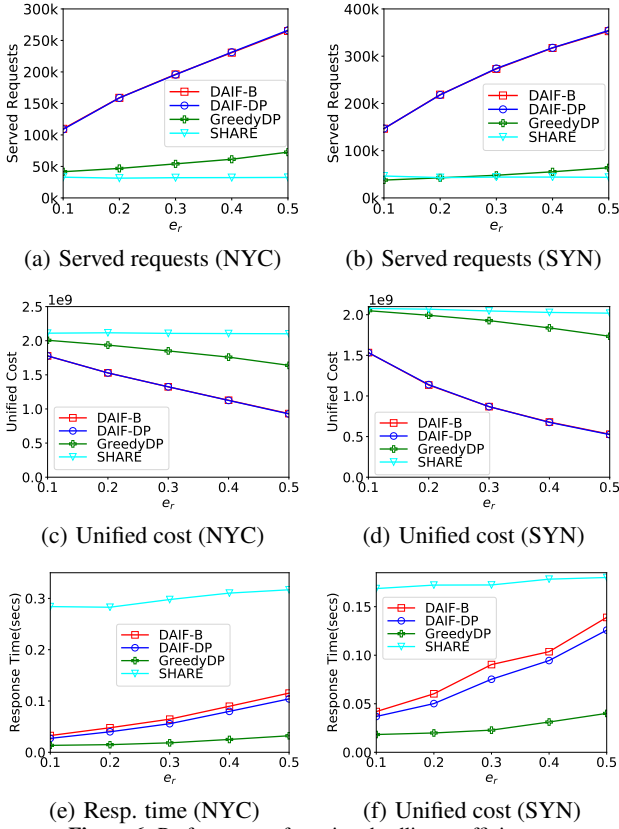


**Figure 5:** Performance of varying capacity  $a_i$

serve more requests simultaneously for DAIF but GreedyDP only focuses on the current cost. For SHARE, capacity is limited to 3 because its algorithm only supports the cases with capacity 1, 2 and 3. When the capacity becomes larger than 3, most of the extra spaces are wasted and the number of served requests does not increase. Unified cost decreases when more requests are served. As for response time, GreedyDP still runs faster. DAIF-DP costs less time than DAIF-B, and the cost of DAIF-DP increases slower with larger capacity than that of DAIF-B. Prediction based methods (DAIF and SHARE) perform better on SYN than on NYC. For example, SHARE can only serves less than 50% requests compared with GreedyDP, but they perform similarly on SYN.

**Impact of Deadline Coefficient  $e_r$ .** Figure 6 shows the results of varying the deadline coefficient  $e_r$ . With a larger  $e_r$ , all the algorithms serve more requests with a lower unified cost. DAIF-B and DAIF-DP still perform similarly on served requests and unified cost. They serve 161.7% to 718.1% more requests than the others on NYC and 216.5% to 712.8% more on SYN. Compared with GreedyDP and SHARE, the unified cost of DAIF-B and DAIF-DP is decreased by 11.4% to 55.9% on NYC and 25.2% to 74.0% on SYN. With a larger deadline coefficient  $e_r$ , it is easier for requesters to share vehicles with other requesters. The serving rate of DAIF thus increases faster than that of GreedyDP with a powerful assignment strategy to achieve higher flexibility to carpool. The serving rate of SHARE increases slowly and the main barrier is the time for waiting is pretty short in our setting to perform an online service. Time cost increases for all the algorithms with a larger  $e_r$ . GreedyDP still runs the fastest and DAIF-DP is faster than DAIF-B. Similarly, the performances of prediction-based methods become better on SYN.

**Impact of Grid Size  $g$ .** Figure 7 shows the results of varying the grid size  $g$ . SHARE does not use a grid, thus we show results of SHARE with the default value of  $g$  for comparison. When  $g$



(e) Resp. time (NYC) (f) Unified cost (SYN)

Figure 6: Performance of varying deadline coefficient  $e_r$

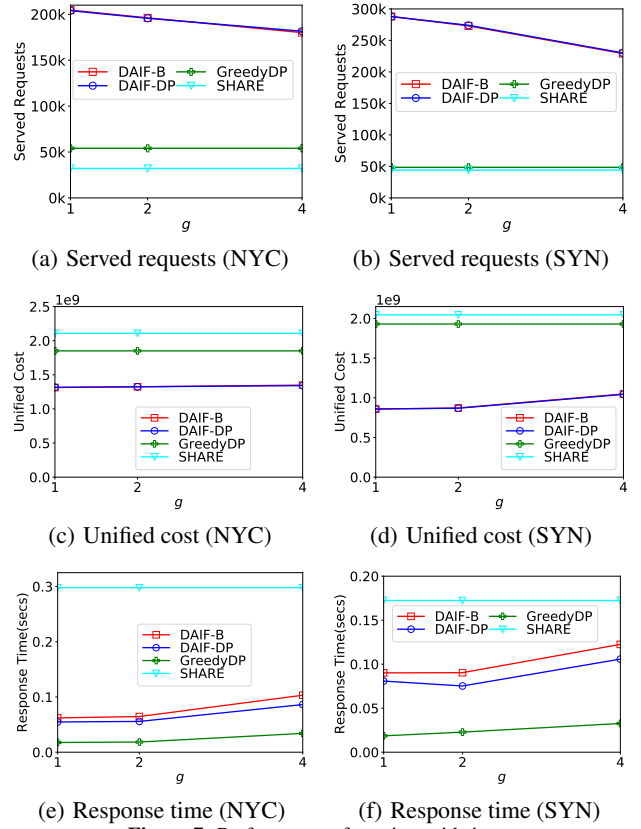
increases, the results for the prediction model become vague and the travel cost in the same area increase, which leads to our demand-aware analyses less effective. Thus, the number of served requests of DAIF decreases and the unified cost of them increases when  $g$  increases. GreedyDP has no change in serving rate and unified cost when  $g$  changes. For the running time, a smaller  $g$  leads to a better grid prune and the time cost of all algorithms except SHARE becomes lower.

**Impact of arranging idle workers.** In our default setting, an idle worker would stay at the destination and provide a supply contribution to this area. What if the worker wanders around to look for new requests? In addition to the basic setting, we append random routes for idle workers. The result shows that the serving rate drops by 8.3% and the unified cost increases by 6.7% after a wander.

We modify the strategy by checking the supply shift after wander. After generating the random wander, we check whether the additional route improves the  $DSB$ . If so, we treat it as a good wander and add it; otherwise, we discard it and the worker just stays still. The result shows that the serving rate increases by 9.8% and the unified cost decrease by 6.7% with our filtered wander.

**Summary of Results.** We summarize the experimental results as follows:

- Our DAIF algorithms can serve 50% to 820% more requests than the state-of-art traditional ride-sharing algorithm [40] and the state-of-art prediction-based algorithm [45]. The unified cost of the results of DAIF algorithms is decreased by 11% to 74%.
- DAIF-B and DAIF-DP achieve nearly the same results on serving rate and unified cost. DAIF-DP is much faster than DAIF-B. Taking the prediction results into account, DAIF-DP is just slightly slower than GreedyDP and fast enough for the online ridesharing services. (i.e., serving a request in 0.2 second in large city-scale scenarios).



(e) Response time (NYC) (f) Response time (SYN)

Figure 7: Performance of varying grid size  $g$

## 8. CONCLUSION

In this paper, we propose the DARP problem, which takes the balance of supply and predicted demand into account to reach a better assignment for potential profit instead of purely current profit. We prove that there is no polynomial-time algorithms with a constant competitive ratio to solve the DARP problem. We devise a basic insertion program with consideration of the balance score for DARP and develop a novel dynamic programming insertion program, which reduces the time complexity of insertion from cubic to quadric time. We then devise a grid-based solution leveraging the above DP-based insertion algorithm to address the DARP problem approximately. Extensive experiments on real datasets show that our proposed solutions outperform the state-of-the-art solutions in effectiveness greatly without sacrificing too much efficiency. Our paper provide a comprehensive theoretical reference for optimizing route planning with prediction information in shared mobility, and gives new direction for future research to design effective solutions with higher prediction accuracy and efficiency as guidance to large-scale shared mobility applications.

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