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Title: A Modified Ant System to Achieve Better Balance between Intensification and Diversification for the Traveling Salesman Problem

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#### ACCEPTED MANUSCRIPT

## A Modified Ant System to Achieve Better Balance between Intensification and Diversification for the Traveling Salesman Problem

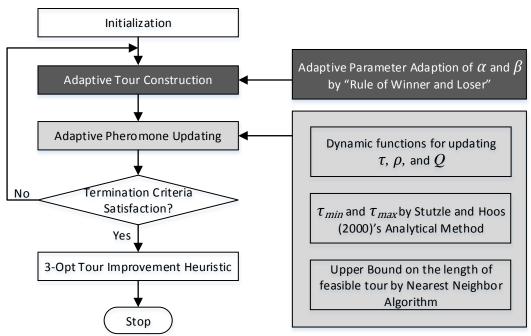
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#### Highlights

- Adaptive solution construction and pheromone updating strategies.
- Better balance between intensification and diversification in the search process.
- Adjustment of construction parameter values throughout the entire process.
- Easy extension by adding local search heuristics for better performance.

#### Graphical abstract



A flowchart of the proposed modification of AS

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