

## Research Article

# Application of an Intelligent Hybrid Metaheuristic Algorithm for Multiobjective Redundancy Allocation Problem with Sustainable Maintenance

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The present study aimed to optimize the redundancy allocation problem based on sustainable maintenance. For this purpose, the goal is to design a complex system based on redundancy allocation by considering the weight and reliability criteria of the system and the maintenance and repair costs through the sustainability approach. In this regard, a mathematical model has been developed. This model minimizes system reliability and system weight simultaneously. There are also budget constraints on repair costs, environmental costs, purchase of spare parts, and energy risk costs. In order to optimize this model, a hybrid algorithm based on Whale Optimization Algorithm (WOA), Genetic Algorithm (GA), and Simulated Annealing (SA) is proposed. Accordingly, 81 test problems are provided and optimized by the proposed algorithm. The obtained numerical results indicate that, with increasing failure time of each component, the system's reliability increases and the weight of the whole system increases. Moreover, changing the Weibull distribution parameters directly affects the total amount of system reliability, but does not have a definite and accurate effect on the total weight of the system. Moreover, increasing the budget for maintenance leads to finding solutions with more reliability and less weight.

## 1. Introduction

The redundancy allocation problem (RAP) is an essential issue in optimizing the reliability of complex high-tech, high-component systems that require a high level of reliability. Classic reliability models usually consider both healthy and faulty conditions for each of the operating components of the system. However, in recent years, in the field of reliability research, several models have been proposed considering performance measurements for each component. Accordingly, each component with different probabilities has different performance rates. In general, redundancy allocation involves adding surplus components to the system under conditions that, while increasing its reliability, optimize the designed system configuration. Since adding more components will increase the cost, volume, and weight of the system, the interaction between these factors is presented in the form of a multiobjective problem.

Sustainable maintenance in RAP was first introduced by [1]. In their paper, first, the initial system was designed; then, using the obtained information, the aspects of production program and maintenance costs and sustainability performance were evaluated. As a result, based on sustainable maintenance, the reliability of each component and the whole system are improved. The economic aspect of sustainability and customer satisfaction increase; environmental pollutions and maintenance costs were reduced by providing a reliability-based program. Adding this style of maintenance can address the challenges of maintaining reliability in redundancy allocation.

This research develops the study of [1–3]. As a novel contribution in the field of RAP, this study deals with the multiobjective optimization of redundancy allocation under maintenance with a sustainability approach. For this purpose, the system under study, in addition to complying with weight and configuration constraints, must clearly respect the views of customers' satisfaction.

As a novel contribution, it is assumed that customers have a utility function that is inversely related to the continuous failures that occur in the system. Also, the maintenance process should not lead to damage to the environment. To consider the economic perspective, the costs of designing and maintaining the system must be controlled. There are three main aspects of the proposed optimization model. (1) Minimize system design based on its weight; (2) maximize customer satisfaction based on system reliability; (3) control the pollutions, maintenance, and operational costs. Since the optimization of the problem is a challenging issue, the hybrid multiobjective solution method based on a whale optimization algorithm, genetic algorithms, and simulated annealing is used.

The main question of this research is how to present and apply a new metaheuristic algorithm to solve the redundancy allocating problem that has the best possible solution and the shortest solution time.

In the rest of the article and in Section 2, the most critical research items in this field are presented. In Section 3, the mathematical model of this research is presented, and in Section 4, the proposed metaheuristic algorithm to solve this

model is presented. In Section 5, numerical results are presented, and finally, in Section 6, conclusions are presented.

## 2. Literature Review

Lins and Drogue [4] used a multiobjective genetic algorithm and its combination with discrete simulation to solve the redundancy allocation problem. Liang and Lo [5] developed a variable neighborhood search (VNS) algorithm to solve multiobjective redundancy allocation problems. The efficiency of this algorithm was tested on three sets of problems with 5, 14, and 24 subsystems, respectively. Uysal [6] modeled four different types of multiobjective reliability optimization problems using distance values. To solve these models, an advanced genetic algorithm and the concept of the Pareto solution set have been used. Sadjadi and Soltani [7] presented a bee optimization algorithm to solve reliability optimization problems. Chambari et al. [8] developed a two-objective model of redundancy allocation. They presented the two-objective reliability in a series-parallel system with a certain level of component redundancy strategy. To solve this model, they used two NSGA-II algorithms and a multiobjective particle swarm optimization algorithm. Ghorabae et al. [9] presented a new and efficient approach to modeling the objective function of their redundancy allocation problem. Their proposed approach is based on simulation and optimization methods through response level simulation using Enterprise Dynamic (ED) simulation software. Next, the relationship between decision and response variables has been obtained using experimental design. Ardakan and Hamadani [10] studied two-objective RAP based on maximizing the total reliability and minimizing the total volume of the system. They then used two statistical methods and comparative decision-making based on the quality of the solutions obtained and also the processing time, and finally ranked among the existing solution methods. Zhang and Chen [11] presented a mathematical model to maximize the average operating time of the system. They used two metaheuristic algorithms and particle swarm optimization to solve their proposed redundancy allocation problem.

Salmasnia et al. [12] modeled a series-parallel redundancy allocation problem in which system reliability is maximized, and the total cost is minimized. Teimoori et al. [13] developed an electromagnetic mechanism metaheuristic algorithm to solve a redundancy allocation problem. Long et al. [14] introduced a redundancy allocation problem with multiple strategy choices in which the concepts of active redundancy and standby redundancy were considered simultaneously. They used particle swarm motion optimization to optimize their problem. Karevan and Vasili [1] presented a two-objective model for the redundancy allocation problem. In this model, reliability, as well as various maintenance and environmental costs, are optimized. Budget constraints are also included in the allocation of redundancy. Ouyang et al. [3] proposed a reliability-RAP problem with considering standby components and cold strategy. Moreover, they applied an improved version of the

particle swarm optimization algorithm with a flexible design. Zaretab et al. [15] considered a multistate component in RAP. In this research, the reliability of the supplier is investigated. In order to find the optimal solution, they proposed a mathematical model with the objective to maximize the total reliability and used a Memetic algorithm to solve it. Reference [16] proposed a multiobjective mathematical model for a multitype system. In this model, the optimal redundancy strategy is obtained by using the NSGA-II algorithm.

Table 1 reviews the most important articles in the field of RAP.

After reviewing various research on redundancy RAP optimization, it is clear that the most important research gap in this area is the optimization of redundancy allocation under preventive maintenance with a sustainability approach. Therefore, as a novel contribution, the present study optimizes the redundancy allocation problem based on sustainable maintenance. For this purpose, the goal is to design a complex system under conditions that, in addition to considering the weight and reliability criteria of the system, the maintenance and repair costs of the system are controlled through the sustainability approach. Moreover, a novel metaheuristic approach based on WOA, GA, and SA is proposed which is a specific contribution in the field of RAP optimization.

### 3. Research Mathematical Model

In this research, a series of parallel series elements that contain  $k$  components are considered in a way that can be used for each component of a number of spare parts as parallel. For this purpose, it is assumed that for the first part  $n_1$  spare part, for the second part  $n_2$  spare part up to  $k_m$  part,  $n_k$  spare parts can be used. Figure 1 shows such a structure.

Accordingly, there is a specific operational budget because each of the spare parts has different prices. Also, the weight of the system should not be increased from a certain limit.

It is assumed that the probabilistic function for each component in the series-parallel structure follows the Weibull distribution. According to equation (1), the reliability of the part  $i$  ( $i \in \{1, 2, \dots, k\}$ ) in time  $t$  is calculated as follows:

$$R_i = e^{-(t/\theta_i)^{\beta_i}}, \quad i \in \{1, 2, \dots, k\}, \quad (1)$$

where the parameters  $\beta_i$  and  $\theta_i$  are the shape and scale parameters of the  $i_m$  component, respectively. Next, according to equation (2), the reliability of a set of components of type  $i_m$  when  $n_i$  spare items are added is calculated as follows:

$$R_i^T = 1 - (1 - R_i)^{n_i+1}, \quad i \in \{1, 2, \dots, k\}. \quad (2)$$

Next, based on equation (3), the total reliability of the series-parallel system can be calculated:

$$R_i^T = \prod_{i=1}^k (1 - (1 - R_i)^{n_i+1}), \quad i \in \{1, 2, \dots, k\}. \quad (3)$$

In equations (2) and (3), it was assumed that spare parts would be applied to all components. To solve this challenge, suppose the integer variable  $x_i$  represents the number of spare parts that can be used for component  $i_m$ . In this case, equations (4) and (5) are rewritten as follows. In this case, equations (4) and (5) are rewritten as follows:

$$R_i^T = 1 - (1 - R_i)^{x_i+1}, \quad i \in \{1, 2, \dots, k\}, \quad (4)$$

$$R_i^T = \prod_{i=1}^k (1 - (1 - R_i)^{x_i+1}), \quad i \in \{1, 2, \dots, k\}. \quad (5)$$

After stating the structure of the reliability calculation, the mathematical model of the redundancy allocation problem without considering permanent maintenance will be as follows:

$$\max R_i^T = \prod_{i=1}^k (1 - (1 - R_i)^{x_i+1}). \quad (6)$$

Subject to

$$R_i = e^{-(t^{\beta_i}/\theta_i)}, \quad i \in \{1, 2, \dots, k\}, \quad (7)$$

$$\sum_{i=1}^k c_i x_i \leq \beta^c, \quad (8)$$

$$\sum_{i=1}^k w_i (x_i + 1) \leq \beta^w, \quad x_i \in \{0, 1, \dots, n_i\}. \quad (9)$$

In the presented basic mathematical model, the values of  $c_i$  and  $w_i$  are the purchase cost and the weight, respectively, except for type  $i$ . The values  $\beta^c$  and  $\beta^w$  also show the budgets associated with the maximum justified cost for the system and the maximum acceptable weight for the whole system. Equation (6) is the model's objective, which aims to maximize the reliability of the whole system. Equation (7) calculates the reliability of each component. Equation (8) is required to consider the weight of the original components in the calculation of the overall weight of the system. But this is not needed to limit the budget deficit in equation (9) since the budget is considered only for the purchase of spare parts and should not be considered the existence of the original components. In order to develop the presented mathematical model and reflect preventive maintenance, it is assumed that  $\alpha_i$  percentage of components type  $i$  may need to be replaced. Accordingly, the fixed cost of reinstallation is calculated based on the following:

$$RA_{ECO1(t)} = \frac{\sum_{i=1}^k C_i (1 - R_i)^{y_i}}{(1 + r_m)^t}, \quad (10)$$

where  $y_i = \alpha_i n_i$  and  $r_m$  is the discount rate.  $C_i$  is the fixed cost of supplying a spare part for the Type  $i$  part. Equation (11) represents the second economic aspect. This equation identifies the variable costs of supply spare parts:

$$RA_{ECO2(t)} = \frac{\sum_{i=1}^k (1 - R_i)^{y_i} * [(n_i * Cust_i)]}{(1 + r_m)^t}, \quad (11)$$

TABLE 1: The summary of the reviewed literature.

Research	Budget constraint	Weight constraint	Single objective	Multiobjective	Corrective maintenance	Preventive maintenance	Sustainability	Solution method
Sahoo et al. [17]		✓		✓				Improved genetic algorithm
Sadjadi and Soltani [7]	✓	✓		✓	✓			Bee colony optimization
Abouei Ardakan et al. [10]	✓		✓				✓	Differential evolution
Zhang and Chen [11]		✓	✓				✓	Particle swarm optimization
Chambari et al. [8]		✓		✓	✓			NSGA-II
Lins and Droguett [4]	✓			✓		✓		Genetic algorithm
Liang and Lo [5]	✓			✓				Variable neighborhood search
Long et al. [14]				✓	✓			Particle swarm optimization
Karevan and Vasili [1]	✓			✓		✓	✓	Multiobjective particle swarm optimization
Ouyang et al. [3]			✓		✓			Particle swarm optimization
Zaretalab et al. [15]		✓	✓			✓		Memetic algorithm
Wang et al. [16]	✓	✓		✓				NSGA-II
<b>Present research</b>	✓	✓		✓		✓	✓	Hybrid whale-genetic simulated annealing

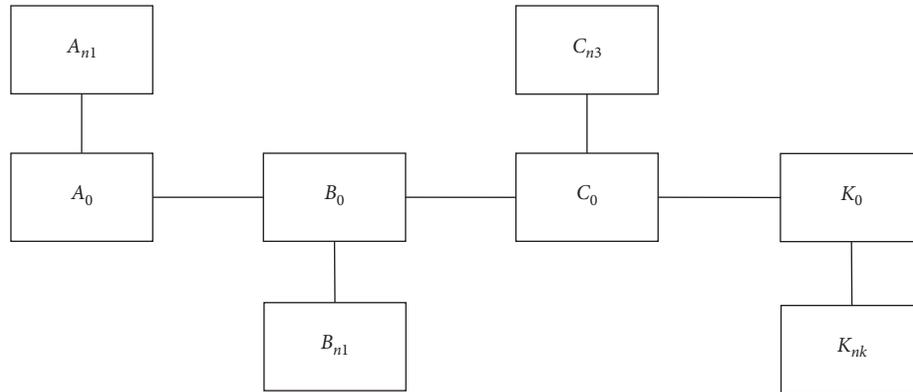


FIGURE 1: The proposed RAP series-parallel system structure.

where  $Cust_i$  is related to the variable cost of each component of type  $i$ . In equation (12), mean downtime (MDT) is used and indicates the time to find fault and fix it. As a result, equation (12) shows the total lost amount of time:

$$RA_{SOC1(t)} = \sum_{i=1}^k (1 - R_i)^{y_i} * MDT * y_i. \quad (12)$$

Equation (13) shows the sum of the total cost of the customer dissatisfaction resulting from the suspension of the

system. In this equation,  $ch_i$  is the cost of customer dissatisfaction is due to each hour of system downtime:

$$RA_{SOC2(t)} = ch * RA_{SOC1(t)} = \sum_{i=1}^k (1 - R_i)^{y_i} * ch * MDT * y_i. \quad (13)$$

Equations (14) and (15) represent carbon emission cost and the amount of energy cost, respectively. In these equations, CD is the carbon emission cost for each repair

activity and EC represents the cost of consumed energy for each repair activity.

$$RA_{ENV1}(t) = \sum_{i=1}^k (1 - R_i)^{y_i} * CD, \quad (14)$$

$$RA_{ENV2}(t) = \sum_{i=1}^k (1 - R_i)^{y_i} * EC. \quad (15)$$

Based on the above equations, the developed multi-objective mathematical model of redundancy allocation with respect to preventive maintenance can be presented as follows:

$$\max f_1 = \prod_{i=1}^k (1 - (1 - R_i)^{x_i+1}), \quad (16)$$

$$\min f_2 = \sum_{i=1}^k w_i (x_i + 1). \quad (17)$$

Subject to

$$R_i = e^{-(t^{\theta_i}/\theta_i)}, \quad i \in \{1, 2, \dots, k\},$$

$$\sum_{i=1}^k c_i x_i + RA_{ECO1}(t) + RA_{ECO2}(t) + RA_{SOC2}(t)$$

$$+ RA_{ENV1}(t) + RA_{ENV2}(t) \leq \beta^c,$$

$$RA_{ECO1}(t) = \frac{\sum_{i=1}^k C_i (1 - R_i)^{y_i}}{(1 + r_m)^t},$$

$$RA_{ECO2}(t) = \frac{\sum_{i=1}^k (1 - R_i)^{y_i} * [(n_i * Cust_i)]}{(1 + r_m)^t},$$

$$RA_{SOC2}(t) = \frac{\sum_{i=1}^k (1 - R_i)^{y_i} * ch * MDT * y_i}{(1 + r_m)^t},$$

$$RA_{ENV1}(t) = \frac{\sum_{i=1}^k (1 - R_i)^{y_i} * CD}{(1 + r_m)^t},$$

$$RA_{ENV2}(t) = \sum_{i=1}^k (1 - R_i)^{y_i} * EC, \quad x_i \in \{0, 1, \dots, n_i\}. \quad (18)$$

#### 4. Hybrid Whale-Genetic-Simulated Annealing Algorithm

In order to present the proposed hybrid algorithm, first, the whale optimization algorithm (WOA) is described, which is one of the newest presented metaheuristic algorithms. The WOA algorithm is one of the nature-inspired and population-based optimization algorithms that can be used in various fields [18]. The details of this metaheuristic algorithm are explained as follows.

The whales can identify the location of the chase and surround them. In WOA, each solution is interpreted as a whale with a specific position. Since the optimal design space is not known in the search space, the algorithm assumes that the best candidate solution for the present is the target hunt or is close to the desired state. After the best search factor is identified, other search factors try to update their location relative to the best search factor. This behavior is expressed through the following equations:

$$\vec{D} = |C \cdot X^*(t) - X(t)|, \quad (19)$$

$$X(t+1) = X^*(t) - \vec{A} \cdot \vec{D}, \quad (20)$$

where  $t$  denotes the current iteration,  $A$  and  $C$  are the coefficient vectors,  $X^*$  the location vector is the best solution obtained now, and  $X$  the location vector of the current solution. It should be noted that if there is a better solution,  $X^*$  should be updated in each iteration. Vectors  $A$  and  $C$  are calculated as follows:

$$\vec{A} = 2\vec{a} \cdot \vec{r} - \vec{a}, \quad (21)$$

$$\vec{C} = 2 \cdot \vec{r}, \quad (22)$$

where  $a$  is a controllable parameter that linearly decreases from 2 to 0 and  $r$  is a random vector at a distance of 0 to 1.

In this research, a solution method based on whale optimization, genetics, and simulated annealing algorithms is developed and called HWGSA to extract the non-dominated solutions of the proposed mathematical model. In this hybrid algorithm, siege hunting is used in the WOA algorithm to generate neighbor solutions. Moreover, the crossover operator in the GA algorithm is used to converge the solutions (exploration). Finally, to create variation in the solutions, the neighborhood creation operator is used in the SA algorithm (exploitation).

##### 4.1. The HWGSA Steps

Step 1 (solution structure): in the HWGSA algorithm, the number of spare parts with  $K$  different component is displayed in the form of a vector as shown in Figure 2. In this vector, each cell demonstrates the number of allocation redundant component to the system.

According to Figure 2,  $n_1$  is the number of redundant spare parts allocated to the first item of the system. Other cells can be defined in the same way. By using this solution representation, it can be a guarantee that all decision variables and the model constraints can be handled in the proposed algorithm.

Step 2: randomly generate POP initial solutions and calculate the values of the objective functions ( $f_1, f_2$ ) for each member of the population based on equations (16) and (17).

Step 3: generate a set of new solutions based on equations (19)–(22) in the WOA algorithm and set them into  $P$  set.

$n_1$	$n_2$	...	$n_k$
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FIGURE 2: Solution representation.

Step 4: repeat steps 5 to 19 for  $IT_{\max}$  times

Step 5: for each solution ( $S$ ) in the POP, set  $k \leftarrow 0$  and  $y \leftarrow 0$  and go to step 6.

Step 6: compare  $S$  with each solution ( $j$ ) in  $Pset$ .

Step 6.1: if  $f_1(S) \geq f_1^{Pset}(j)$  and  $f_2(S) \leq f_2^{Pset}(j)$ ,

$$Pset \leftarrow \frac{Pset}{j}. \quad (23)$$

Step 6.2: else, if  $f_1(S) > f_1^{Pset}(j)$  or  $f_2(S) < f_2^{Pset}(j)$ ,

$$k \leftarrow k + 1. \quad (24)$$

Step 6.3: else, if  $f_1(S) \leq f_1^{Pset}(j)$  or  $f_2(S) \geq f_2^{Pset}(j)$ ,

$$y \leftarrow y + 1. \quad (25)$$

Step 6.4: if  $k > 0$  and  $y == 0$ ,

$$Pset \leftarrow Pset \cup S. \quad (26)$$

Step 7: for each solution:  $S_i = \{n_{1i}, n_{2i}, \dots, n_{ki}\}$  and  $S_j = \{n_{1j}, n_{2j}, \dots, n_{kj}\}$  from  $Pset$ , repeat step 8.

Step 8: calculate the new  $S^{new}$  solution using the crossover operator in the GA algorithm:

$$S^{new} \leftarrow \left\{ \langle (n_{1i} * n_{1j})^{0.5} \rangle \cup \langle (n_{2i} * n_{2j})^{0.5} \rangle \cup, \dots, \cup \langle (n_{ki} * n_{kj})^{0.5} \rangle \right\}. \quad (27)$$

Step 9:  $T \leftarrow T^{\max}$ .

Step 10: repeat steps 11–16 while  $T > T^{\min}$  (based on SA algorithm).

Step 11: generate a random number in the range  $\{1, 2, \dots, 2K\}$ .

Step 12: if  $a == 2 * i \in \{1, 2, \dots, 2K\}$ .

Generate a random  $b$  number  $b$  in the range  $b \in [1, n_i^{\max}]$ .

Step 12.1: if  $n_i + b \leq n_i^{\max}$ , then

$$S^{new}\{n_i\} \leftarrow S^{new}\{n_i\} + b. \quad (28)$$

Step 13: if  $a == 2 * i - 1$ , then generate a random  $b$  number  $b$  in the range  $b \in [1, n_i^{\max}]$ .

Step 13.1: if  $S^{new}\{n_i\} - b \geq 0$ ,

$$S^{new}\{n_i\} \leftarrow S^{new}\{n_i\} - b. \quad (29)$$

Step 14: for  $S^{new}$ , calculate the values of the objective functions  $f_1, f_2$  based on equations (16) and (17).

Step 15: if  $f_1(S^{new}) \geq f_1(S)$  and  $f_2(S^{new}) \leq f_2(S)$ ,

$$S \leftarrow S^{new}. \quad (30)$$

Step 15.1: if  $f_1(S^{new}) > f_1(S)$  or  $f_2(S^{new}) < f_2(S)$ ,

$$\Delta e_1 \leftarrow f_1(S) - f_1(S^{new}),$$

$$\Delta E \leftarrow f_2(S^{new}) - f_2(S),$$

$$\Delta E \leftarrow \lambda_1 \Delta e_1 + \lambda_2 \Delta e_2,$$

$$\lambda_1 = 1 \text{ whether } (\Delta e_1 > 0) \text{ or } 0 (\Delta e_1 \leq 0), \quad (31)$$

$$\lambda_2 = 1 \text{ whether } (\Delta e_2 > 0) \text{ or } 0 (\Delta e_2 \leq 0),$$

$$A \leftarrow e^{-(\Delta E/KT)}.$$

Step 15.2: if random  $< A$ ,

$$S \leftarrow S^{new}. \quad (32)$$

Step 16:  $T \leftarrow T * \delta$  and return to step 10.

Step 17: NewPOP  $\rightarrow$  NewPOP  $\cup$   $S^{new}$

Step 18: insert POP  $\rightarrow$  NewPOP and go to step 4.

Step 19: display the  $P_{set}$ .

In order to adjust the parameters of the algorithm, several problems have been randomly generated and optimized. Then, with the trial and error approach, the best values for the algorithm parameters are selected.  $IT_{\max} = 100$ ,  $A = 0.3$ , and  $T^{\min} = 1$  are set accordingly.

## 5. Numerical Results

First, it is necessary to examine the results of the algorithm by solving an important case study in Iran. In this case study, a system with 5 components is available. The reliability of each component in this system is measured based on the Weibull distribution with the beta and theta parameters, which have values of 2 and 10, respectively. According to the previous data, up to 30% of the parts are damaged in each component. The average failure time is estimated at 2 days. The cost of providing each spare part is 5 currency units and the repair fee is equal to 3.5 currency units. The cost of customer dissatisfaction with each day of part failure is equivalent to 1 currency. The interest rate is 10% and the maximum maintenance budget is 200 currency units. Regarding environmental pollution, the amount of CO2 produced per day of system activity is equal to 1.7 units and the amount of energy consumed per day is equal to 1.5 units.

With this information and the design of the HWGSA algorithm in the MATLAB R2016, the redundancy allocation problem is optimized. After executing the HWGSA algorithm, a set of Pareto solutions is obtained, which is shown in Figure 3.

As shown in Figure 3, the value of the first objective function varies between 0.05 and 0.45. The value of the second objective function fluctuates between 120 and 320. Since the first objective function is of the maximization type, the ideal value for it is 0.45. Also, since the second objective function is of the minimization type, the ideal value for it is 120. When the first objective function moves from 0.05 to its ideal value, the second objective function moves away from its ideal value. In other words, in the set of Pareto solutions obtained, it is never possible to approach both goals at the

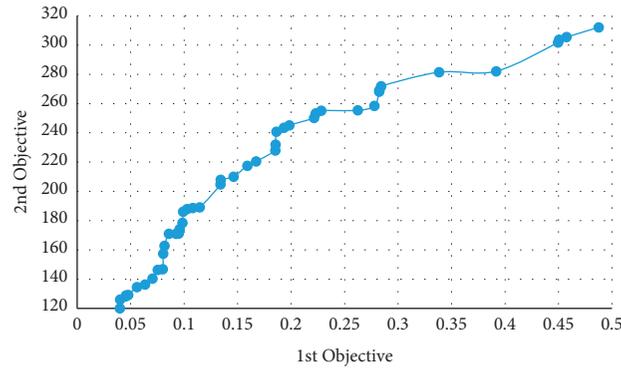


FIGURE 3: The obtained Pareto solutions from the proposed hybrid algorithm.

TABLE 2: The information of the generated test problems.

Test problem	MDT	$\theta_i$	$\beta_i$	$\beta^c$
<i>p</i> 1	2	3	2	150
<i>p</i> 2	4	3	2	150
<i>p</i> 3	6	3	2	150
<i>p</i> 4	2	7	2	150
<i>p</i> 5	4	7	2	150
<i>p</i> 6	6	7	2	150
<i>p</i> 7	2	12	2	150
<i>p</i> 8	4	12	2	150
<i>p</i> 9	6	12	2	150
<i>p</i> 10	2	3	3	150
<i>p</i> 11	4	3	3	150
<i>p</i> 12	6	3	3	150
<i>p</i> 13	2	7	3	150
<i>p</i> 14	4	7	3	150
<i>p</i> 15	6	7	3	150
<i>p</i> 16	2	12	3	150
<i>p</i> 17	4	12	3	150
<i>p</i> 18	6	12	3	150
<i>p</i> 19	2	3	4	150
<i>p</i> 20	4	3	4	150
<i>p</i> 21	6	3	4	150
<i>p</i> 22	2	7	4	150
<i>p</i> 23	4	7	4	150
<i>p</i> 24	6	7	4	150
<i>p</i> 25	2	12	4	150
<i>p</i> 26	4	12	4	150
<i>p</i> 27	6	12	4	150
<i>p</i> 28	2	3	2	200
<i>p</i> 29	4	3	2	200
<i>p</i> 30	6	3	2	200
<i>p</i> 31	2	7	2	200
<i>p</i> 32	4	7	2	200
<i>p</i> 33	6	7	2	200
<i>p</i> 34	2	12	2	200
<i>p</i> 35	4	12	2	200
<i>p</i> 36	6	12	2	200
<i>p</i> 37	2	3	3	200
<i>p</i> 38	4	3	3	200
<i>p</i> 39	6	3	3	200
<i>p</i> 40	2	7	3	200
<i>p</i> 41	4	7	3	200

TABLE 2: Continued.

Test problem	MDT	$\theta_i$	$\beta_i$	$\beta^c$
p42	6	7	3	200
p43	2	12	3	200
p44	4	12	3	200
p45	6	12	3	200
p46	2	3	4	200
p47	4	3	4	200
p48	6	3	4	200
p49	2	7	4	200
p50	4	7	4	200
p51	6	7	4	200
p52	2	12	4	200
p53	4	12	4	200
p54	6	12	4	200
p55	2	3	2	350
p56	4	3	2	350
p57	6	3	2	350
p58	2	7	2	350
p59	4	7	2	350
p60	6	7	2	350
p61	2	12	2	350
p62	4	12	2	350
p63	6	12	2	350
p64	2	3	3	350
p65	4	3	3	350
p66	6	3	3	350
p67	2	7	3	350
p68	4	7	3	350
p69	6	7	3	350
p70	2	12	3	350
p71	4	12	3	350
p72	6	12	3	350
p73	2	3	4	350
p74	4	3	4	350
p75	6	3	4	350
p76	2	7	4	350
p77	4	7	4	350
p78	6	7	4	350
p79	2	12	4	350
p80	4	12	4	350
p81	6	12	4	350

same time to their ideal values. This indicates that the goals used are in conflict with each other. Proof of such a conflict confirms that the multiobjective consideration of the mathematical model is quite correct and logical and that the use of the HWGSA algorithm can well find Pareto's set of solutions to this problem.

*5.1. Results of Implementation.* In this part of the research, various test problems of the proposed mathematical model are optimized in order to determine the effect of different parameters of the problem on the optimal solutions of the model. In this regard, the information provided in Section 5 is used. Also, for four important parameters of the mathematical model, namely  $\beta_c$ ,  $\beta_i$ ,  $\theta_i$ , and MDT, 3 values each are proposed. Therefore, a total of 81 test problems have been designed. Details of each of these issues are provided in Table 2.

After designing 81 different numerical examples, each of them was optimized in Matlab software using the HWGSA algorithm. After execution, a set of Pareto solutions to each test problem was obtained. Then, the mean values of the first and second objective functions of the Pareto solutions and also the number of Pareto solutions were reported. This report is in accordance with Table 3.

*5.2. Numerical Analysis.* The first parameter studied is the average failure time for which the values of 2, 4, and 6 days were considered. Figures 4 and 5 show the effect of the value of this parameter on the mean of the first objective function and the second objective function.

As shown in Figure 4, the longer the failure time, the higher the average system reliability. The reason for this is that the longer the failure time, the more parts are allocated to each component. Accordingly, to the system reliability

TABLE 3: The results of implementing test problems.

Test problem	Number of Pareto solutions	Average of the first objective	Average of the second objective
<i>p1</i>	47	4.63E – 08	7778
<i>p2</i>	50	1.90E – 07	10418
<i>p3</i>	43	4.44E – 07	11685
<i>p4</i>	47	4.00E – 08	7806
<i>p5</i>	50	1.53E – 07	10012
<i>p6</i>	50	4.35E – 07	11987
<i>p7</i>	50	3.68E – 08	7400
<i>p8</i>	50	1.17E – 07	9065
<i>p9</i>	47	3.98E – 07	11974
<i>p10</i>	49	0.01662008	8835
<i>p11</i>	48	0.03045951	9929
<i>p12</i>	49	0.072815946	13343
<i>p13</i>	49	0.013728675	8404
<i>p14</i>	48	0.037327078	11058
<i>p15</i>	48	0.063445359	12667
<i>p16</i>	48	0.010736866	7748
<i>p17</i>	47	0.026810576	9781
<i>p18</i>	50	0.053703995	12076
<i>p19</i>	50	0.226867023	8415
<i>p20</i>	50	0.355636589	10608
<i>p21</i>	48	0.476344384	13027
<i>p22</i>	49	0.199889028	7810
<i>p23</i>	49	0.323638156	9890
<i>p24</i>	49	0.449719356	12334
<i>p25</i>	50	0.212840018	8075
<i>p26</i>	50	0.315307874	9771
<i>p27</i>	45	0.42569378	11862
<i>p28</i>	45	4.10E – 13	7575
<i>p29</i>	47	1.71E – 12	10087
<i>p30</i>	50	4.54E – 12	12018
<i>p31</i>	50	3.73E – 13	7751
<i>p32</i>	48	1.35E – 12	9494
<i>p33</i>	45	4.38E – 12	12209
<i>p34</i>	49	3.63E – 13	7710
<i>p35</i>	45	1.20E – 12	9478
<i>p36</i>	49	3.00E – 12	10554
<i>p37</i>	50	0.00017731	8309
<i>p38</i>	47	0.000592272	10591
<i>p39</i>	50	0.001369745	12721
<i>p40</i>	50	0.000179898	8621
<i>p41</i>	46	0.000445769	9745
<i>p42</i>	46	0.001063624	11771
<i>p43</i>	46	0.000103981	7192
<i>p44</i>	50	0.000419827	9963
<i>p45</i>	49	0.001049651	11854
<i>p46</i>	48	0.03452181	8191
<i>p47</i>	47	0.081674209	10598
<i>p48</i>	47	0.152745337	13447
<i>p49</i>	47	0.031635127	7964
<i>p50</i>	50	0.060361023	9335
<i>p51</i>	50	0.133430003	12419
<i>p52</i>	47	0.031239782	7892
<i>p53</i>	47	0.065909873	9920
<i>p54</i>	45	0.130330611	12522
<i>p55</i>	50	3.64E – 18	7555
<i>p56</i>	49	1.37E – 17	9683
<i>p57</i>	46	4.26E – 17	12421
<i>p58</i>	49	3.18E – 18	7753
<i>p59</i>	48	1.18E – 17	9760
<i>p60</i>	46	3.71E – 17	12045

TABLE 3: Continued.

Test problem	Number of Pareto solutions	Average of the first objective	Average of the second objective
<i>p</i> 61	47	3.12E-18	7544
<i>p</i> 62	50	8.92E-18	9106
<i>p</i> 63	47	2.76E-17	11049
<i>p</i> 64	47	1.13E-06	7768
<i>p</i> 65	50	3.99E-06	9129
<i>p</i> 66	50	1.37E-05	12406
<i>p</i> 67	50	1.32E-06	8025
<i>p</i> 68	45	3.78E-06	9788
<i>p</i> 69	50	1.11E-05	12303
<i>p</i> 70	49	9.25E-07	7256
<i>p</i> 71	47	3.75E-06	9945
<i>p</i> 72	46	9.68E-06	11952
<i>p</i> 73	50	0.002756355	7505
<i>p</i> 74	47	0.009871848	10485
<i>p</i> 75	49	0.021730016	13178
<i>p</i> 76	50	0.002644596	7776
<i>p</i> 77	48	0.007916174	9692
<i>p</i> 78	47	0.01986529	12681
<i>p</i> 79	50	0.002472504	7409
<i>p</i> 80	50	0.00670114	9371
<i>p</i> 81	50	0.017636415	12516

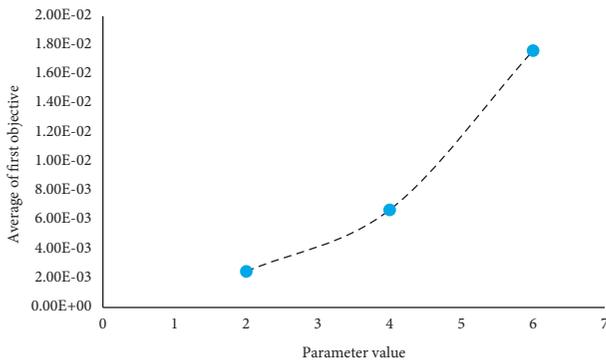


FIGURE 4: Impact of failure time parameter on the first objective function.

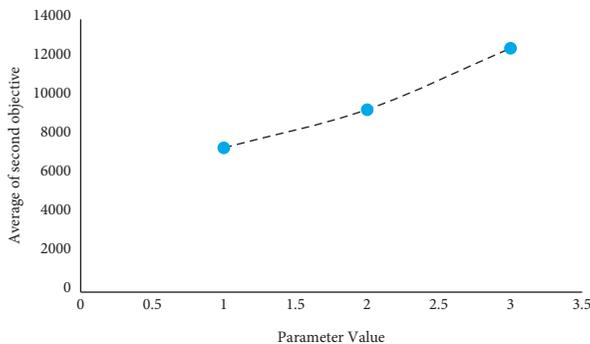


FIGURE 5: Impact of failure time on the second objective function.

relationship, the more allocated parts, the amount of reliability also increases. The same is true of the second objective function. As the failure time increases, the number of allocated parts increases, and therefore the total weight of the

system increases. Therefore, according to Figure 5, the trend of the second objective function is ascending.

In Figures 6 and 7, the effect of the theta parameter or the Weibull distribution scale parameter on the first and second objective functions is investigated.

As shown in Figure 6, the larger the scale parameter, the lower the reliability of the entire system. The reason for this is that as the scale parameter increases, the reliability of each component decreases, and therefore the total reliability of the system decreases. But the effect of this parameter on the total weight of the system does not follow a specific trend. In Figure 7, by increasing the scale parameter, first, the total weight of the system increases and then decreases. In other words, the second objective function is not directly affected by changes in this parameter.

In Figures 8 and 9, the effect of another parameter of the Weibull distribution, namely the beta or shape parameter, is investigated.

According to Figure 8, the higher the value of the figure parameter, the higher the reliability of the whole system. The reason for this is that as the shape parameter increases, the reliability of each component increases, and as a result, the reliability of the whole system increases. But this parameter does not have a significant effect on the heading function. This is also well seen in Figure 9. In general, it is concluded that Weibull distribution behavior does not have a direct effect on the relationship of the second objective function.

Finally, the effect of the maximum available budget parameter on the objective functions is investigated.

Figures 10 and 11 show that the higher the maximum budget, the more reliability moves towards greater values, and the maximum weight moves towards lower values. In other words, by increasing this parameter, both targets move towards better values. The reason for this is that with the increase in the maximum budget, the solution space of the

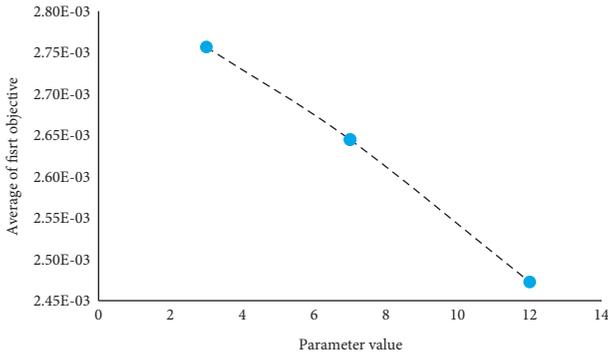


FIGURE 6: The effect of the scale parameter of the Weibull function on the first objective.

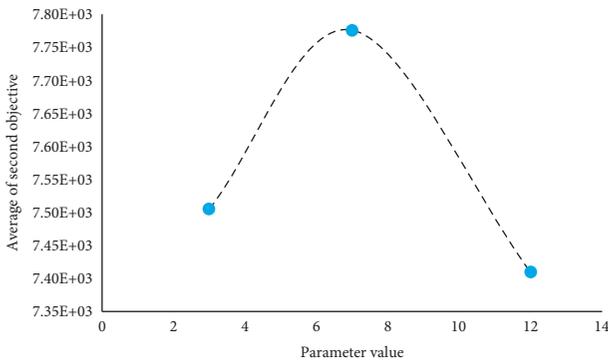


FIGURE 7: The effect of the scale parameter of the Weibull function on the second objective.

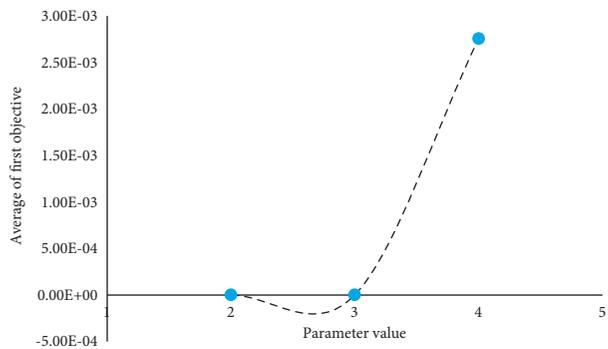


FIGURE 8: The effect of the shape parameter of the Weibull function on the first objective.

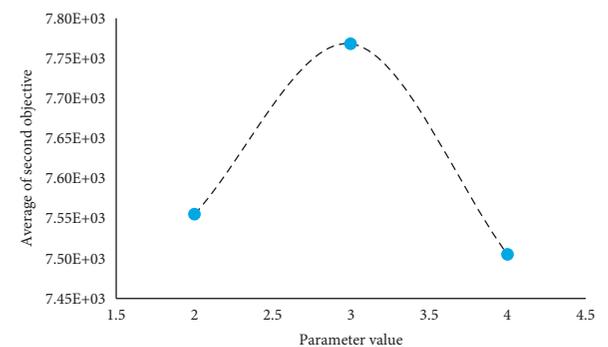


FIGURE 9: The effect of the shape parameter of the Weibull function on the second objective.

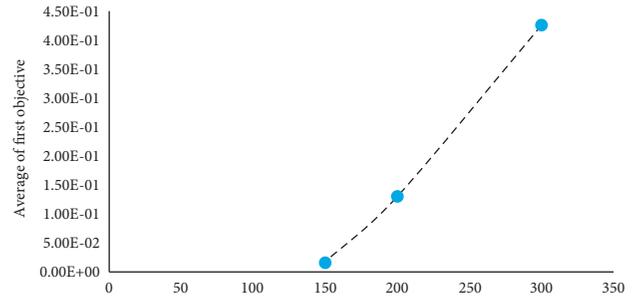


FIGURE 10: The effect of the maximum budget parameter on the first objective.

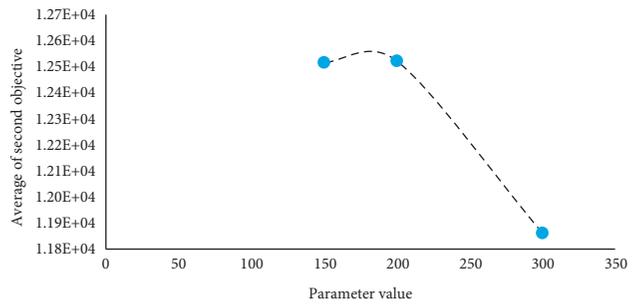


FIGURE 11: Impact of the maximum budget parameter on the second objective.

problem increases, and as a result, the objective functions can find better values for themselves.

## 6. Conclusion

In this research, first, the most critical research items in the field of redundancy allocation were reviewed. Next, it became clear that the issue of environmental pollution and sustainable maintenance repairs are two new and up-to-date topics for research in this field. Therefore, in this study, as a key innovation, we sought to provide a model that allocates redundancy in a complex system so that it covers environmental pollution and sustainable maintenance repairs well. In this regard, after a deep understanding of the basic articles, a developed model was designed for this purpose. Due to the high complexity of the model and its nonlinearity, designing a suitable and up-to-date approximate solution method for it was necessary. Therefore, the whale optimization, genetic and simulated annealing in a multiobjective mode was combined as a novel solution method.

In the numerical results, first, it was cleared that the objectives used in this research, i.e., maximizing the reliability of the system and reducing the weight of the whole system, are two completely conflicting ones. That is, increasing reliability leads to an increase in the weight of the entire system and vice versa. Therefore, optimizing these two objectives simultaneously leads to finding a set of optimal solutions, which we call the Pareto set of solutions. Next, 81 sample problems were designed and optimized by the proposed algorithm. The results of this section show that with increasing the failure time of each component, the

reliability of the system increases, and also the weight of the whole system increases. Also, changing the Weibull distribution parameters has a direct effect on the total amount of system reliability but does not have a definite and accurate effect on the total weight of the system. Also, increasing the budget at hand for maintenance leads to finding solutions with more reliability and less weight.

The most important advantage of the proposed mathematical model of research is that it has been able to show the aspects of sustainability in the redundancy allocation problem and also has formulated repairs and maintenance of complex systems in a simple way. The designed meta-heuristic algorithm also has the advantage of optimizing mathematical models with multiple objectives and variables in a short time. This issue can be considered as the most important managerial insight of this research. Another managerial insight of this research is that it is possible to manage the repair and maintenance planning of complex systems in such a way that in addition to reducing system costs, the productivity of manpower specialized in repair maintenance is increased.

In order to develop this research, the authors suggest considering uncertainty in the important parameters in the mathematical model and also using another novel meta-heuristic algorithm such as the gray wolf optimizer and runner-root algorithm.

## Data Availability

The input data for analysis of the mathematical method and metaheuristic algorithms which are used to support the findings of this study are available from the corresponding author upon request.

## Conflicts of Interest

The authors declare that there are no conflicts of interest regarding the publication of this paper.

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