Joint Seminar CIRRELT, MobilOpt and Canada research chair in integrated logistics

Gilbert Laporte

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CIRRELT

Université Laval — Canada research chair in integrated logistics

Université Laval — Faculty of Business Administration, MobilOpt: Mobility Optimization

A Short History of the Traveling Salesman and Its Influence on the Field of Combinatorial Optimization

Abstract: I will provide a short history of the Traveling Salesman Problem (TSP), starting with the solution of the knight's problem by Leonhard Euler in 1759, and ending with a very efficient implementation of the Lin and Kernighan heuristic by Taillard and Helsgaun in 2019. The talk covers the main exact and heuristic algorithms that have been developed for the undirected and directed cases of the TSP. I will emphasize the influence that the study of the TSP has had on the evolution of the field of combinatorial optimization.

Short biography: Gilbert Laporte is Professor Emeritus at HEC Montréal. He obtained his M.A. in Operational Research at Lancaster University in 1972, and his Ph.D. in Operational Research at the London School of Economics in 1975. He was Professor of Operational Research at HEC Montréal and Canada Research Chair in Distribution Management until August 2020. He is now Professor at the School of Management of the University of Bath, United Kingdom, and Visiting Professor at Molde University College, Norway. He is also Honorary Visiting Professor at the University of Liverpool, and Distinguished Professor at the Eindhoven University of Technology. He is a member of the Interuniversity Research Centre on Enterprise Networks, Logistics and Transportation (CIRRELT) and founding member of the Group for Research in Decision Analysis (GERAD). He has been Editor of Transportation Science, Computers & Operations Research and INFOR. He has authored or coauthored more than 20 books and 600 scientific articles in combinatorial optimization, mostly in the areas of vehicle routing, location, districting and timetabling.

hhttps://ulaval.zoom.us/j/61310861801?pwd=vmMyrMl3XZMXI8q4adSg3B2v4b7cO5.1
Meeting ID: 613 1086 1801
Passcode: 589687

Mercredi / Wednesday
1er avril 2026 / April 1st, 2026
10 h

Université Laval
Pavillon Palasis-Prince
Salle / Room 2327

Ouvert à tous / Open to all
Café et viennoiseries

Responsable / Organizer:
Leandro Coelho

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