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Combined facility location and distribution network design problem: Progressive models and a case study

Birleşik depo yeri seçimi ve dağıtım ağı tasarımı problemi: Aşamalı modeller ve bir uygulama



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Abstract

This paper addresses to the facility location problem of ammunition stores considering the design of distribution network from stores to geographically dispersed army forces. The problem is to determine the construction sites of the ammunition stores among candidate sites and to give the decision on how many stores will be built from which kind. The problem also contains designing of a distribution network to concurrently determine the amounts of several military equipment transported from stores to army forces. A mathematical model is proposed to minimize the cost of the whole system, caused by the construction of the ammunition stores and the transportation of different equipment in diverse quantities from stores to dispersed army forces. The model is then improved progressively and several variants are presented to reflect the real-world conditions through a case study. Numerical results obtained from solving the case study using the proposed models coded in General Algebraic Modelling System (GAMS) are exhibited. The effect of the size of problem specific parameters on the model execution time is also investigated via experimental tests. The results demonstrate the promising problem-solving capacity of the proposed models, which can be applied practically.

Keywords: Facility location, Distribution network design, Operations research, MILP

1 Introduction

Facility location decisions are usually long-term decisions and fixed [1]. While the transportation, inventory, and information sharing decisions can be rapidly re-optimized based on the changes in the parameters of a distribution network, facility location decisions are difficult to change even in the intermediate term. Ineffective decisions in the facility locations can result in excessive costs and poor service level regardless from how well the quality of the product itself. Therefore, facility location decisions play a vital role in designing operations in an efficient distribution network [2].

Facility location problems generally deal with the determination of the optimal number, capacity, type and location of facilities in a geographical area [3]. The aim is to minimise the transportation cost as well as the construction cost while satisfying the customer demand [4]. Operating costs [5], the number of covered demand points [6] and maximum travel time [7] are also optimized in these problems [8].

It is observed in the literature that the location analysis and network design problems have emerged as two major research

Öz

Bu çalışma, depolardan coğrafi olarak dağınık askeri birliklere dağıtım ağı tasarımını dikkate alarak mühimmat depolarının yer seçimi problemi konusunu ele almaktadır. Burada problem, aday bölgelerden hangilerine mühimmat depoları kurulacağını belirlemek ve hangi tip depolardan kaç adet inşa edileceğine karar vermektir. Ele alınan problem aynı zamanda mühimmat depolarından askeri birliklere sevk edilen pek çok askeri malzemenin miktarını belirlemek için bir dağıtım ağı tasarımı problemini içermektedir. Depo kurulumundan ve farklı askeri malzemelerin depolardan askeri birliklere farklı miktarlarda dağıtımından kaynaklanan toplam maliyeti minimize etmek için bir matematiksel model önerilmektedir. Bu model akabinde aşamalı olarak iyileştirilmekte ve gerçek hayat koşullarını bir uygulama vasıtasıyla daha iyi yansıtmak amacıyla modelin farklı versiyonları sunulmaktadır. Uygulamaya konu problem, önerilen modellerin GAMS (Genel Cebirsel Modelleme Sistemi)'te kodlanmasıyla çözülerek sayısal örnekler ortaya koyulmuştur. Probleme özgü parametrelerin büyüklüğünün model uygulama süresi üzerindeki etkisi de deneysel testlerle incelenmiştir. Sonuçlar, önerilen modellerin pratikte uygulanabilecek umut verici problem çözme kapasitesini göstermektedir.

Anahtar kelimeler: Yer belirleme, Dağıtım ağı tasarımı, Yöneylem araştırması, Karışık tamsayılı programlama

areas in network optimization [9]. There has been extensive research on facility location and network design problems, individually. That is because designing an effective transportation network involving various decisions such as where to locate facilities and which services to select is a very complex problem [10]. Although these two classes of NP-Hard problems have received considerable attentions as in facility location and network design problems [11], they were optimized separately [12]. On the other hand, the missing link between these two close-related problems has been addressed by many authors recently. This is because, the design strategy of a distribution network tightly influences the optimal allocation of facilities in terms of the transportation costs [13]. In addition to the facility construction costs in a distribution network, the transportation costs must also be optimized. It may be more effective to optimize the distribution network than adding a new facility in terms of their contribution to the objective value. Moving from that point, Daskin et al. [14] introduced the uncapacitated facility location/network design problem (UFLNDP). This is useful because combined facility location/network design problems consist of modelling a number of situations in which trade-offs between facility costs,

network design costs and operating costs are made. Contributing to this view, Berman et al. [15] proposed that modifying the underlying network can improve the accessibility to the facilities. Similarly, Peeters and Thomas [16] showed the significant impact of underlying network on optimal solutions to the p-median location-allocation problems.

The UFLNDP assumes an infinite capacity for facilities, so that they can serve an infinite amount of demand. However, this assumption may not be valid in situations in which it is not known in advance that the facilities will serve significantly below their capacity. Within this context, the main assumption of the UFLNDP, the infinite capacity of facilities, was restricted and Melkote and Daskin [17] introduced the capacitated facility location/network design problems (CFLNDP).

This research aims at addressing the combined facility location and network design problems in the distribution of various military equipment from ammunition stores to army forces.

The remainder of this paper is organised as follows. The literature is reviewed in Section 2. Section 3 defines the ammunition store location and distribution network design problem and proposes a mixed-integer linear programming approach. Section 4 provides a case study consisting of several candidate sites, army forces, store types and equipment types. The solution of the problem obtained through solving the model via CPLEX available in GAMS is also presented in the same section. Section 5 analyses the model provided and presents several improvements with integrated inequalities to represent more practical real-world conditions. The effect of the problem-specific parameters on the execution time needed by CPLEX is investigated through experimental tests. Finally, the paper is concluded with several future research directions in Section 6.

2 Literature review

Due to the NP-hard nature of the CFLNDP, several heuristics and metaheuristics have been proposed in the literature. Drezner and Wesolowsky [18] proposed a model and metaheuristic algorithms based on simulated annealing, tabu search and genetic algorithm to optimize the location of a single facility on a network with a set of candidate links. Cocking [19] also considered the capital constraint and solved the budget constrained UFLNDP using both heuristic and exact approaches. Simple greedy heuristics, a local search heuristic, metaheuristics including simulated annealing and variable neighbourhood search, as well as a custom heuristic were developed by Cocking [19] based on the problem-specific structure of FLNDP. Another budget constrained model was developed by Ghaderi and Jabalameli [20] considering a budget constraint on investment for opening the facilities and constructing links through a case study of health care. They have also proposed a greedy heuristic and a fix-and-optimize heuristic based on simulated annealing and branch & bound & cutting method to solve the model. Another real-world problem was also presented and solved by Murawski and Church [21], who introduced the maximal covering network improvement problem. The problem addresses to the problem of improving accessibility to health services keeping the existing facilities location fixed but upgrading the transportation network. Bigotte et al. [22] proposed a mixed-integer optimization model for integrated urban hierarchy and transportation network planning to maximize accessibility to all classes of facilities. A new facility location and network design model was proposed

by Contreras et al. [23]. The model aimed at minimizing the maximum travel time in the network. Contreras and Fernández [9] provided alternative formulations and algorithmic strategies for the combined design decisions to locate facilities and to select links on an underlying network. Afshari et al. [24] aimed at optimizing facility location decisions in distribution-service network to maximise profitability while meeting customer satisfaction and sustainability. Bilir et al. [25] addressed to the integrated multi-objective supply chain network and competitive facility location model to maximise profits and sales while minimizing the risks assuming that the demand can be determined by price and the utility function. Interested reader may refer to the surveys on transportation network design problems [26], multi-level facility location [28].

Regarding the supply of ammunition or military equipment, one of the early attempts belongs to Staniec [29] who planned the distribution of multiple commodities in a capacitated network through a resource-directive network optimization algorithm. Saunders-Newton [30] defined the adaptive distribution concept in terms of three variant forms, as well as comparison distribution concept characterized by а robustness. The research results showed that a system characterized by an ability to adapt is better suited to the dynamic environments of the future. Hancock and Lee [31] examined the issues affecting the ammunition supply chain within transportation system and provided recommendations to improve the transportation of ammunition. Bell [32] studied the joint problem of facility location and resource allocation to locate munitions storage facilities and inventories for the US Air Force to improve the support of future potential missions. Gue [33] proposed a dynamic distribution model for combat logistics with the objective of minimizing the total inventory of land-based support units. The locations of the support units, inventories held by the units and the amounts shipped between the units are among the decisions made. Powell [34] analysed the problem of finding an optimal mix of combat logistics force shuttle ships required to sustain the sea-base. Clark [35] addressed to the problem of scheduling ammunition transportation through a time-space network representation of the distribution system. A large-scale optimization-based planning method was presented for this aim. Lenhardt [36] provided an evaluation of the concepts on how to best use the marine corps resources to transport water, fuel and ammunition supplies to regimental combat teams over constrained networks with time constraints. Toyoglu et al. [37] developed a mobile ammunition distribution system to provide an effective and flexible distribution system on the battlefield. A static mixed integer programming formulation was developed and several valid inequalities were derived to lessen the solution time and solve several problem instances. Karatas et al. [38] provided a recent review of the literature on military facility location problems.

In the review of the literature presented above, it was observed that the research on the joint facility location and distribution network problem is very limited. While the research on the distribution of military equipment is not as high as desired, to the best of the authors' knowledge, there is no proper research on the ammunition store facility location and distribution network design problem.

Our paper differentiates from the literature in several aspects. Firstly, the combined ammunition store location and distribution network design problem is defined with the possibility of constructing different kinds of ammunition stores at a construction site. A combination of different kinds of stores, each of which has a different capacity for storage and needs a certain budget for construction, can be built at a candidate construction site to meet demands by army forces in diverse quantities. Secondly, as will be presented in Figure 1, demands by army forces for certain quantities of diverse equipment can be fulfilled by a mix of shipments from more than one ammunition store. Furthermore, mixed-integer programming models presented in the paper integrate multiple objectives, i.e. the minimization of construction and transportation costs, under many sequential realistic constraints.



Figure 1: The generic representation of the studied problem.

3 Problem definition

The two tightly interrelated problems, namely facility location problem and distribution network design problem (both of which are known NP-hard), are handled together in this research. There is a total of nj candidate sites, where j = 1, 2, ..., nj and $j \in J$, to locate ammunition stores. At each candidate site, ammunition stores can be built in different types $(k = 1, 2, ..., nk \text{ and } k \in K)$. Each type of ammunition store has a certain construction cost (μ_k) and total capacity (CP_k) known in advance. So that, more than one ammunition store can be located at each candidate site to serve army forces (i =1,2,..., ni and $i \in I$) dispersed geographically. Ammunition store sites (or ammunition stores shortly) will supply different equipment types $(m = 1, 2, ..., nm \text{ and } m \in M)$ to the army forces, so that the demand for equipment type *m* by army force *i*, represented by D_{im} , is satisfied. The demand by an army force (*i*) can be met by more than one ammunition store (*j*) based on its capacity. The delivery cost per unit (ton) of equipment type m from ammunition store located at site j to army force i is calculated as $\alpha_{ji} \times \beta_m \times \delta$. In this equation, α_{ji} represents the distance from ammunition store *j* to army force *i* (in km); β_m represents the constant index to deliver per unit (ton) of ammunition type *m*, and δ is the cost to transport per unit of ammunition (any type) for one km (\$/km).

Figure 1 illustratively presents the concept model for the studied problem. As seen from the figure, there are three ammunition store sites (A, B and C) including various combinations of stores, i.e. type-I and/or type-II. These stores deliver two kinds of equipment to 12 army forces dispersed geographically. Each army force can be served by one or more stores to meet its demand for different equipment types. For example, all ammunition stores (A, B and C) deliver equipment to meet the demand by army force 9. While A and B transport both equipment to army force 9, C delivers only equipment type-II to that army force. In the figure, the width of the line between the stores and the army forces corresponds to the volume of the transportation. For example, the transportation volume from A to 8 is larger than that from the same store to 1.

The main assumptions and the mathematical model of the problem are presented in the following subsections.

3.1 Assumptions

The assumptions of the problem studied are listed as follows.

- The demands for equipment are known and deterministic within the planning horizon considered,
- The construction cost for each type of ammunition store is known and the same for any candidate site,
- The total capacity of each ammunition store is known and deterministic,
- Only one kind of transportation is considered, there are no alternatives like airway or railway,
- There is no difference between different equipment in terms of the storage space. Only the weight of the equipment is considered in terms of the capacity limitation of an ammunition store,
- Ammunition stores can be located to candidate sites in a mixed way. For example, 3 ammunition stores of type-2 and 2 ammunition stores of type-3 can be located at a candidate site *j*. So that the total capacity of site *j* can be calculated as $3 \times CP_2 + 2 \times CP_3$ and the construction cost for site *j* can be calculated as $3 \times \mu_2 + 2 \times \mu_3$ (using the expression $\sum_{k \in K} CP_k Y_{jk}$).
- Vehicle routing problem is not considered in the model.

As different from the classical p-median, p-centre and maximal covering problems, the demand from an army force for an equipment can be met by more than one ammunition store. That requires a decision variable (≥ 0) to hold the value of the transportation amount from a specific ammunition store to a certain army force, which extends the search space of the solution.

3.2 Mathematical model

A mixed-integer linear programming model is proposed for solving the problem described above. The notations and parameters are presented as follows.

3.2.1 Notation

i	:	The ar	my force index	z, i = 1,2, , ni an	$d i \in I$,	
i	:	The	candidate	ammunition	store	

- : The candidate ammunition store site, j = 1, 2, ..., nj and $j \in J$,
- m, n : Equipment type, m = 1, 2, ..., nm and $m, n \in M$,
- k, l, h : Ammunition store type, k = 1, 2, ..., nk and $k, l, h \in K$.

3.2.2 Parameters

- D_{im} : The demand for equipment type *m* by army force *i* within the planning horizon,
- μ_k : The construction cost for ammunition store of type k (\$),
- CP_k : The total capacity for ammunition store of type k (ton), α_{ji} : The distance from ammunition store j to army force i
- (km), β_m : The constant index to deliver per unit (ton) of equipment type *m*,
- δ : The cost to transport per unit equipment (any type) for one km (\$/km),
- *L* : A large positive number,
- $\varphi \quad : \quad$ The maximum number of ammunition stores that can be constructed at a candidate site,
- *P_h* : The required minimum proportion of the total capacity of ammunition stores among all stores constructed,

- PR : The set of ammunition store types (*h*) that need to be constructed to meet at least the P_h proportion of the total demand,
- PS_n : The set of ammunition stores that special equipment n can be stored,
- t_{ji} : The travelling time between nodes j and i,
- $\theta \quad : \quad \mbox{The maximum amount of time limit allowed to meet demand.}$

3.2.3 Decision variables

The model aims to decide the number of ammunition depots of type k constructed at site j and the amount of each equipment type to be transported from each ammunition store constructed to each army force.

- X_{jim} : The amount of equipment type *m* to be transported from ammunition store *j* to army force *i*, $X_{jim} \ge 0$
- Y_{jk} : The number of ammunition store *k* constructed at site $j, Y_{jk} \ge 0$.

3.2.4 Indicators

 $\begin{array}{ll} V_{ji} & : & \mbox{The binary variable to hold the information whether there is equipment transported from store$ *j*to army force*i* $, where <math>V_{ji} = \begin{cases} 1 & \sum_{m \in M} X_{jim} > 0 \\ 0 & otherwise \end{cases} \quad \forall j \in J, \ i \in I. \end{cases}$

3.2.5 Objective function

The objective function presented in Equation (1) aims to minimise the sum of ammunition store construction cost and the transportation cost (from ammunition stores to army forces for all ammunition types).

$$Min Z = \sum_{j \in J} \sum_{k \in K} \mu_k Y_{jk} + \sum_{j \in J} \sum_{i \in I} \sum_{m \in M} \alpha_{ji} \beta_m \delta X_{jim}$$
(1)

3.2.6 Constraints

The first constraint, presented in Equation (2), ensures that an ammunition store site can serve an army force if there is at least one store constructed (in any type) at candidate site j. Therefore, the expression given here adjusts the status of the two decision variables according to each other.

$$\sum_{i \in I} \sum_{m \in \mathcal{M}} X_{jim} \le L \sum_{k \in K} Y_{jk} \quad \forall j \in J$$
(2)

The second constraint, Equation (3), satisfies the capacity constraint for each candidate site. The total amount of equipment transported from an ammunition store j cannot exceed the sum of capacities of ammunition stores (in any type) constructed in ammunition store site j.

$$\sum_{i \in J} \sum_{m \in M} X_{jim} \le \sum_{k \in K} CP_k Y_{jk} \quad \forall j \in J$$
(3)

The demand of every army force for each equipment type must be met by transportation from ammunition store sites, see Equation (4). In other words, the total amount of equipment type m transported from ammunition stores to army force imust be greater than or equal to the demand for equipment type m by army force i.

$$D_{im} \le \sum_{j \in J} X_{jim} \quad \forall i \in I, m \in M$$
(4)

Due to the physical limitations of the candidate sites, up to a certain number of ammunition stores (in any type) can be

constructed at each site. Equation (5) satisfies that total number of ammunition stores constructed at a site does not exceed the maximum limit allowed, φ .

$$\sum_{k \in K} Y_{jk} \le \varphi \quad \forall j \in J$$
(5)

Finally, the sign constraints for decision variables are presented in Equation (6).

$$Y_{jk}, X_{jim} \ge 0 \quad \forall j \in J, i \in I, m \in M, k \in K$$
(6)

It should be noted here that the both decision variables $(X_{jim}$ and $Y_{jk})$ can get positive values, which makes the problem even harder to solve. On one hand, Y_{jk} is not a binary variable and it can get inbounded integer values which indicates the number of ammunition stores of type k constructed at candidate site j. On the other hand, different from a simple maximal covering or p-median problem, X_{jim} determines the amount of a certain equipment type from a certain supplying site to a certain demanding unit. So that, some army forces can fulfil their demand for certain equipment types from a mixture of more than one ammunition store built in a certain type.

4 Case study

In this section, a case study is conducted to show the validity of the model proposed in the previous section and to demonstrate its practicality. The following subsections present the data used for the case study and the results obtained from solving the problem using the model proposed in Section 3.2.

4.1 Input data

The data used for the case study is retrieved from the open sources of the military forces as much as possible (e.g. the capacity and costs for constructing different types of ammunition stores, equipment types and the cost to transport them). The candidate sites for ammunition stores and the locations for army forces are generated as in Figure 2 considering a generic map on a sample territory. Note that the exact locations are not provided, instead, the actual travelling distances will be provided later. The demands for equipment by army forces are generated by the authors respecting to the realistic needs of different sized army forces.



Figure 2: The representation of army forces and candidate sites for ammunition stores.

The distance matrix which shows the travelling distance (km) between candidate sites and army forces (α_{ji}) is presented in Table 1.

j/i	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20
1	211	230	318	563	683	782	716	216	389	594	937	506	492	453	733	261	775	944	1091	452
2	564	583	426	332	408	430	363	275	228	241	665	559	139	100	732	320	436	672	1070	311
3	707	690	482	224	126	145	220	560	287	150	691	722	150	222	895	605	518	758	1233	474
4	358	377	431	485	605	636	569	69	311	447	790	359	345	306	586	114	628	797	944	305
5	535	554	423	410	477	499	423	246	303	301	680	481	217	144	654	291	451	687	992	233
6	873	892	749	549	532	554	322	501	551	314	348	460	338	223	591	456	119	355	850	258
7	741	760	739	661	680	702	567	314	619	504	467	211	450	339	338	269	364	474	676	75
8	891	910	866	691	674	696	462	468	693	457	257	417	480	365	502	423	211	264	702	225
9	1242	1261	1185	985	966	938	627	819	987	749	156	768	774	659	733	774	376	87	789	576
10	1101	1120	1103	1025	1022	1044	810	674	983	805	492	474	814	703	337	629	496	423	354	439
11	985	1004	961	847	830	852	618	558	841	613	325	455	636	521	453	513	304	332	548	319
12	1412	1431	1388	1233	1214	1186	875	985	1235	997	404	882	1022	907	752	940	624	335	683	746
13	1378	1397	1451	1401	1398	1420	1168	951	1331	1181	697	751	1190	1079	577	906	872	628	264	815
14	1247	1266	1320	1270	1270	1292	1058	820	1200	1053	740	620	1059	948	446	775	744	671	133	684
15	1640	1659	1642	1519	1500	1472	1161	1213	1521	1283	690	1013	1308	1193	876	1168	910	621	580	978
	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31	32	33	34	35	36	37	38	39	40
1	21 1114	22 1064	23 639	24 1110	25 1251	26 1424	27 1139	28 884	29 1176	30 1329	31 1602	32 1791	33 1300	34 1418	35 1501	36 1427	37 1226	38 1636	39 1406	40 1409
1 2	21 1114 884	22 1064 1063	23 639 481	24 1110 952	25 1251 1021	26 1424 1209	27 1139 1138	28 884 883	29 1176 1044	30 1329 1197	31 1602 1392	32 1791 1581	33 1300 1299	34 1418 1295	35 1501 1378	36 1427 1394	37 1226 1193	38 1636 1513	39 1406 1373	40 1409 1408
1 2 3	21 1114 884 970	22 1064 1063 1226	23 639 481 644	24 1110 952 1043	25 1251 1021 1107	26 1424 1209 1295	27 1139 1138 1301	28 884 883 1046	29 1176 1044 1141	30 1329 1197 1283	31 1602 1392 1478	32 1791 1581 1667	33 1300 1299 1462	34 1418 1295 1390	35 1501 1378 1473	36 1427 1394 1538	37 1226 1193 1337	38 1636 1513 1608	39 1406 1373 1517	40 1409 1408 1562
1 2 3 4	21 1114 884 970 967	22 1064 1063 1226 917	23 639 481 644 492	24 1110 952 1043 963	25 1251 1021 1107 1104	26 1424 1209 1295 1277	27 1139 1138 1301 992	28 884 883 1046 737	29 1176 1044 1141 1029	30 1329 1197 1283 1182	31 1602 1392 1478 1455	32 1791 1581 1667 1644	33 1300 1299 1462 1153	34 1418 1295 1390 1271	35 1501 1378 1473 1354	36 1427 1394 1538 1280	37 1226 1193 1337 1079	38 1636 1513 1608 1489	39 1406 1373 1517 1259	40 1409 1408 1562 1262
1 2 3 4 5	21 1114 884 970 967 878	22 1064 1063 1226 917 985	23 639 481 644 492 403	24 1110 952 1043 963 874	25 1251 1021 1107 1104 1015	26 1424 1209 1295 1277 1203	27 1139 1138 1301 992 1060	28 884 883 1046 737 805	29 1176 1044 1141 1029 966	30 1329 1197 1283 1182 1119	31 1602 1392 1478 1455 1386	32 1791 1581 1667 1644 1575	33 1300 1299 1462 1153 1221	34 1418 1295 1390 1271 1217	35 1501 1378 1473 1354 1300	36 1427 1394 1538 1280 1316	37 1226 1193 1337 1079 1115	38 1636 1513 1608 1489 1435	39 1406 1373 1517 1259 1295	40 1409 1408 1562 1262 1330
1 2 3 4 5 6	21 1114 884 970 967 878 567	22 1064 1063 1226 917 985 916	23 639 481 644 492 403 258	24 1110 952 1043 963 874 640	25 1251 1021 1107 1104 1015 704	26 1424 1209 1295 1277 1203 892	27 1139 1138 1301 992 1060 991	28 884 883 1046 737 805 742	29 1176 1044 1141 1029 966 738	30 1329 1197 1283 1182 1119 880	31 1602 1392 1478 1455 1386 1075	32 1791 1581 1667 1644 1575 1264	33 1300 1299 1462 1153 1221 1152	34 1418 1295 1390 1271 1217 987	35 1501 1378 1473 1354 1300 1070	36 1427 1394 1538 1280 1316 1135	37 1226 1193 1337 1079 1115 934	38 1636 1513 1608 1489 1435 1205	39 1406 1373 1517 1259 1295 1114	40 1409 1408 1562 1262 1330 1159
1 2 3 4 5 6 7	21 1114 884 970 967 878 567 588	22 1064 1063 1226 917 985 916 669	23 639 481 644 492 403 258 113	24 1110 952 1043 963 874 640 584	25 1251 1021 1107 1104 1015 704 725	26 1424 1209 1295 1277 1203 892 898	27 1139 1138 1301 992 1060 991 744	28 884 883 1046 737 805 742 489	29 1176 1044 1141 1029 966 738 650	30 1329 1197 1283 1182 1119 880 803	31 1602 1392 1478 1455 1386 1075 1076	32 1791 1581 1667 1644 1575 1264 1265	33 1300 1299 1462 1153 1221 1152 905	34 1418 1295 1390 1271 1217 987 901	35 1501 1378 1473 1354 1300 1070 984	36 1427 1394 1538 1280 1316 1135 1000	37 1226 1193 1337 1079 1115 934 799	38 1636 1513 1608 1489 1435 1205 1119	39 1406 1373 1517 1259 1295 1114 979	40 1409 1408 1562 1262 1330 1159 1014
1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8	21 1114 884 970 967 878 567 588 476	22 1064 1063 1226 917 985 916 669 768	23 639 481 644 492 403 258 113 110	24 1110 952 1043 963 874 640 584 492	25 1251 1021 1107 1104 1015 704 725 613	26 1424 1209 1295 1277 1203 892 898 801	27 1139 1138 1301 992 1060 991 744 843	28 884 883 1046 737 805 742 489 629	29 1176 1044 1141 1029 966 738 650 590	30 1329 1197 1283 1182 1119 880 803 741	31 1602 1392 1478 1455 1386 1075 1076 984	32 1791 1581 1667 1644 1575 1264 1265 1173	33 1300 1299 1462 1153 1221 1152 905 1004	34 1418 1295 1390 1271 1217 987 901 839	35 1501 1378 1473 1354 1300 1070 984 922	36 1427 1394 1538 1280 1316 1135 1000 987	37 1226 1193 1337 1079 1115 934 799 786	38 1636 1513 1608 1489 1435 1205 1119 1057	39 1406 1373 1517 1259 1295 1114 979 966	40 1409 1408 1562 1262 1330 1159 1014 1011
1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9	21 1114 884 970 967 878 567 588 476 125	22 1064 1026 917 985 916 669 768 855	23 639 481 644 492 403 258 113 110 461	24 1110 952 1043 963 874 640 584 492 309	25 1251 1021 1107 1104 1015 704 725 613 262	26 1424 1209 1295 1277 1203 892 898 801 450	27 1139 1138 1301 992 1060 991 744 843 930	28 884 883 1046 737 805 742 489 629 721	29 1176 1044 1141 1029 966 738 650 590 407	30 1329 1197 1283 1182 1119 880 803 741 438	31 1602 1392 1478 1455 1386 1075 1076 984 633	32 1791 1581 1667 1644 1575 1264 1265 1173 822	33 1300 1299 1462 1153 1221 1152 905 1004 949	34 1418 1295 1390 1271 1217 987 901 839 656	35 1501 1378 1473 1354 1300 1070 984 922 645	36 1427 1394 1538 1280 1316 1135 1000 987 927	37 1226 1193 1337 1079 1115 934 799 786 723	38 1636 1513 1608 1489 1435 1205 1119 1057 808	39 1406 1373 1517 1259 1295 1114 979 966 879	40 1409 1408 1562 1262 1330 1159 1014 1011 956
1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10	21 1114 884 970 967 878 567 588 476 125 406	22 1064 1063 1226 917 985 916 669 768 855 420	23 639 481 644 492 403 258 113 110 461 325	24 1110 952 1043 963 874 640 584 492 309 246	25 1251 1021 1107 1104 1015 704 725 613 262 499	26 1424 1209 1295 1277 1203 892 898 801 450 534	27 1139 1138 1301 992 1060 991 744 843 930 495	28 884 883 1046 737 805 742 489 629 721 312	29 1176 1044 1141 1029 966 738 650 590 407 286	30 1329 1197 1283 1182 1119 880 803 741 438 439	31 1602 1392 1478 1455 1386 1075 1076 984 633 712	32 1791 1581 1667 1644 1575 1264 1265 1173 822 901	33 1300 1299 1462 1153 1221 1152 905 1004 949 656	34 1418 1295 1390 1271 1217 987 901 839 656 537	35 1501 1378 1473 1354 1300 1070 984 922 645 620	36 1427 1394 1538 1280 1316 1135 1000 987 927 639	37 1226 1193 1337 1079 1115 934 799 786 723 438	38 1636 1513 1608 1489 1435 1205 1119 1057 808 755	39 1406 1373 1517 1259 1295 1114 979 966 879 618	40 1409 1408 1562 1262 1330 1159 1014 1011 956 663
1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11	21 1114 884 970 967 878 567 588 476 125 406 340	22 1064 1063 1226 917 985 916 669 768 855 420 614	23 639 481 644 492 403 258 113 110 461 325 135	24 1110 952 1043 963 874 640 584 492 309 246 336	25 1251 1021 1107 1104 1015 704 725 613 262 499 477	26 1424 1209 1277 1203 892 898 801 450 534 665	27 1139 1138 1301 992 1060 991 744 843 930 495 689	28 884 883 1046 737 805 742 489 629 721 312 480	29 1176 1044 1141 1029 966 738 650 590 407 286 434	30 1329 1197 1283 1182 1119 880 803 741 438 439 585	31 1602 1392 1478 1455 1386 1075 1076 984 633 712 848	32 1791 1581 1667 1644 1575 1264 1265 1173 822 901 1037	33 1300 1299 1462 1153 1221 1152 905 1004 949 656 850	34 1418 1295 1390 1271 1217 987 901 839 656 537 683	35 1501 1378 1473 1354 1300 1070 984 922 645 620 766	36 1427 1394 1538 1280 1316 1135 1000 987 927 639 833	37 1226 1193 1337 1079 1115 934 799 786 723 438 632	38 1636 1513 1608 1489 1435 1205 1119 1057 808 755 901	39 1406 1373 1517 1259 1295 1114 979 966 879 618 812	40 1409 1408 1562 1262 1330 1159 1014 1011 956 663 857
1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12	21 1114 884 970 967 878 567 588 476 125 406 340 150	22 1064 1063 917 985 916 669 768 855 420 614 784	23 639 481 644 492 403 258 113 110 461 325 135 562	24 1110 952 1043 963 874 640 584 492 309 246 336 187	25 1251 1021 1107 1104 1015 704 725 613 262 499 477 112	26 1424 1209 1295 1277 1203 892 898 801 450 534 665 298	27 1139 1301 992 1060 991 744 843 930 495 689 859	28 884 883 1046 737 805 742 489 629 721 312 480 727	29 1176 1044 1141 1029 966 738 650 590 407 286 434 285	30 1329 1197 1283 1182 1119 880 803 741 438 439 585 207	31 1602 1392 1478 1455 1386 1075 1076 984 633 712 848 476	32 1791 1581 1667 1644 1575 1264 1265 1173 822 901 1037 665	33 1300 1299 1462 1153 1221 1152 905 1004 949 656 850 757	34 1418 1295 1390 1271 1217 987 901 839 656 537 683 464	35 1501 1378 1473 1354 1300 1070 984 922 645 620 766 414	36 1427 1394 1538 1280 1316 1135 1000 987 927 639 833 735	37 1226 1193 1337 1079 1115 934 799 786 723 438 632 531	38 1636 1513 1608 1489 1435 1205 1119 1057 808 755 901 577	39 1406 1373 1517 1259 1295 1114 979 966 879 618 812 648	40 1409 1408 1562 1262 1330 1159 1014 1011 956 663 857 764
1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13	21 1114 884 970 967 878 567 588 476 125 406 340 150 476	22 1064 1226 917 985 916 669 768 855 420 614 784 365	23 639 481 644 492 403 258 113 110 461 325 135 562 703	24 1110 952 1043 963 874 640 584 492 309 246 336 187 232	25 1251 1021 1107 1104 1015 704 725 613 262 499 477 112 443	26 1424 1209 1277 1203 892 898 801 450 534 665 298 372	27 1139 1138 1301 992 1060 991 744 843 930 495 689 859 440	28 884 883 1046 737 742 489 629 721 312 480 727 456	29 1176 1044 1141 1029 966 738 650 590 407 286 434 285 136	30 1329 1197 1283 1182 1119 880 803 741 438 439 585 207 277	31 1602 1392 1478 1455 1386 1075 1076 984 633 712 848 476 512	32 1791 1581 1667 1644 1575 1264 1265 1173 822 901 1037 665 641	33 1300 1299 1462 1153 1221 1152 905 1004 949 656 850 757 461	34 1418 1295 1390 1271 1217 987 901 839 656 537 683 464 251	35 1501 1378 1473 1354 1300 1070 984 922 645 620 766 414 334	36 1427 1394 1538 1280 1316 1135 1000 987 927 639 833 735 444	37 1226 1193 1337 1079 1115 934 799 786 723 438 632 531 243	38 1636 1513 1608 1489 1435 1205 1119 1057 808 755 901 577 469	39 1406 1373 1517 1259 1295 1114 979 966 879 618 812 648 423	40 1409 1408 1562 1262 1330 1159 1014 1011 956 663 857 764 468
1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14	21 1114 884 970 967 878 567 588 476 125 406 340 150 476 607	22 1064 1063 917 985 916 669 768 855 420 614 784 365 234	23 639 481 644 492 403 258 113 110 461 325 135 562 703 573	24 1110 952 1043 963 874 640 584 492 309 246 336 187 232 363	25 1251 1021 1107 1104 1015 704 725 613 262 499 477 112 443 574	26 1424 1209 1295 1277 1203 892 898 801 450 534 665 298 372 503	27 1139 1138 1301 992 1060 991 744 843 930 495 689 859 440 309	28 884 883 1046 737 805 742 489 629 721 312 480 727 456 325	29 1176 1044 1141 1029 966 738 650 590 407 286 434 285 136 267	30 1329 1197 1283 1182 1119 880 803 741 438 439 585 207 277 408	31 1602 1392 1478 1455 1386 1075 1076 984 633 712 848 476 512 643	32 1791 1581 1667 1644 1575 1264 1265 1173 822 901 1037 665 641 772	33 1300 1299 1462 1153 1221 1152 905 1004 949 656 850 757 461 408	34 1418 1295 1390 1271 1217 987 901 839 656 537 683 464 251 382	35 1501 1378 1473 1354 1300 1070 984 922 645 620 766 414 334 465	36 1427 1394 1538 1280 1316 1135 1000 987 927 639 833 735 444 391	37 1226 1193 1337 1079 1115 934 799 786 723 438 632 531 243 190	38 1636 1513 1608 1489 1435 1205 1119 1057 808 755 901 577 469 600	39 1406 1373 1517 1259 1295 1114 979 966 879 618 812 648 423 370	40 1409 1408 1562 1262 1330 1159 1014 1011 956 663 857 764 468 415

Table 1: The distance matrix (km).

The values presented in the table are retrieved from the actual distances between the nodes given on the map. Note that some nodes may be seen closer to each other on the map. However, the actual travelling distance may be longer caused by the geographical conditions of the area. Each candidate site can have up to $\varphi = 72$ ammunition stores, regardless from the type of the ammunition store constructed. The capacities and building costs for the three types of ammunition stores are presented in Table 2. Note that the values given in the table are for only one unit of the related ammunition store type.

Table 2: The specifications of the ammunition stores.

k	Ammunition	Total Capacity	Construction
	Store Type	$(ton) - CP_k$	Cost (\$) - μ _k
1	Igloo	500	450000
2	Brick	450	425000
3	Shed	410	380000

Seven different types of equipment have been considered within the scope of this study. The types and descriptions of equipment are presented in Table 3 together with the constant index to deliver per unit (ton) of equipment type m. Table 4 presents the demands (D_{im}) by army forces for each equipment type regardless from the site they are stored.

Table 3: The constant delivery index for each equipment type.

m	Description	β_m
1	Equipment-1	0.10
2	Equipment-2	0.15
3	Equipment-3	0.20
4	Equipment-4	0.25
5	Equipment-5	0.30
6	Equipment-6	0.35
7	Equipment-7	0.40

4.2 Obtained solution (Model-I)

The model presented in Section 3.2 in Equations (1)-(6) is coded in GAMS 23.0 and solved using the CPLEX solver embedded in GAMS (this model is called Model-I hereafter). The program is run on a PC equipped with Intel® Core $^{\text{m}}$ i7-6700HQ CPU @2.60 GHz and 16 GB of RAM using the input data presented above.

The solution (with the objective value of 231,995,744) was retrieved within 17 minutes with the termination code of 'out of storage' message, which is reasonable considering the wide range for the decision variables and so the complexity of the problem. While the solution is not denoted as optimal, it is feasible and the absolute gap between the best possible solution and the obtained solution is only 34,156 (less than 0.02%). Table A1 (see Appendices) presents the values of the decision variable X_{jim} , which corresponds to the amount of equipment (*m*) transported from each ammunition store (*j*) to each army force (*i*). Some values are seen zero, which indicates that no transportation is planned between the corresponding store and army force. For example, it is seen that the need for equipment type 1 by army force 3 is met by the shipments from both ammunition stores 1 and 4. However, the demands by army force 3 for all the remaining equipment types (i.e. 2-7), are met by transportation from only store 1.

The number of constructed ammunition stores from each type (k) at each candidate site (j) is presented in Table 5. As seen from the table, the difference between the total capacity of the ammunition stores constructed and the capacity used is very small, which shows the efficiency of the proposed model and the quality of the solution. The relationship between the ammunition stores constructed and the army forces is also illustrated in Figure 3. The stores constructed at candidate sites are grouped into three based on the total capacity they support (i.e. capacity \geq 20,000; 20,000 > Capacity \geq 10,000; and 10,000 > Capacity \geq 0).

Table 4: The demands by army forces for each equipment type (ton).

Army				Equipment Type			
Force	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
1	170	275	400	670	1400	1185	400
2	150	281	423	674	1405	1091	600
3	321	340	342	560	1360	1299	800
4	270	468	470	830	1650	1180	350
5	190	680	680	560	1230	1730	540
6	460	320	870	1390	1900	1670	320
7	280	450	570	690	1175	1325	750
8	300	175	480	390	980	1490	490
9	90	325	640	670	1940	830	400
10	265	341	390	1100	1340	1670	420
11	175	235	438	671	985	1461	934
12	323	658	275	874	1390	1420	630
13	56	387	421	691	1951	1473	870
14	121	324	443	512	1265	918	832
15	183	319	479	504	1318	1104	648
16	71	193	391	943	1785	1700	320
17	112	235	421	751	1341	1730	643
18	183	342	453	647	1180	1649	521
19	61	435	278	447	1794	860	947
20	20	220	224	491	1863	1230	1100
21	143	549	379	672	1620	1195	645
22	102	211	620	387	1007	998	672
23	23	230	211	721	1308	1127	879
24	217	186	321	764	2200	1765	598
25	376	190	210	632	930	1272	983
26	78	159	301	464	1674	791	983
27	173	98	172	731	2100	1980	1002
28	14	95	129	498	2370	2190	1420
29	99	187	284	342	1700	1453	947
30	30	97	231	489	1290	1673	1003
31	91	283	210	539	1005	1293	932
32	210	152	320	431	1302	1329	789
33	152	231	372	673	1866	1160	1008
34	134	241	290	378	2172	1175	875
35	35	197	198	231	1321	1123	786
36	201	123	324	303	1452	1098	999
37	79	165	342	290	890	1720	1023
38	167	191	367	402	1126	1238	793
39	96	218	287	523	1523	1342	1039
40	154	283	476	623	1439	1632	1321

÷	The type of	f ammunition s	tore (k)	Total Capacity	Capacity Used	Utilization
J	1	2	3	$(\sum_{k\in K} CP_k Y_{jk})$	$(\sum_{i\in I}\sum_{m\in M}X_{jim})$	Ounzation
1	28	-	-	14,000	14,000	100.0
2	30	-	-	15,000	15,000	100.0
3	57	-	-	28,500	28,500	100.0
4	19	-	1	9,910	9,910	100.0
6	10	-	1	5,410	5,402	99.9
7	22	-	-	11,000	11,000	100.0
8	9	-	-	4,500	4,500	100.0
9	30	-	-	15,000	15,000	100.0
10	22	-	-	11,000	11,000	100.0
12	21	-	-	10,500	10,500	100.0
13	9	-	2	5,320	5,320	100.0
14	71	1	-	35,950	35,950	100.0
15	72	-	-	36,000	36,000	100.0
Total	400	1	4	202,090	202,082	-

Table 5: The number of constructed ammunition stores at each site (by Model-I).



Figure 3: The graphical summary of the distribution network based on Model-I.

The objective value of the solution obtained using Model-I (231,995,744) corresponds to the sum of (i) construction costs of a total of 405 ammunition stores (as presented in Table 5) and the transportation cost of 202,082-ton equipment from the stores constructed at 13 sites to a total of 40 army forces. As seen from the results, no store was constructed at candidate sites 5 and 11.

5 Model improvements and results

In this section, the model presented in Section 3.2 is improved to represent some real-world constraints and the problem is solved again under these constraints.

5.1 Model-II-Minimum ratio for certain ammunition stores

In some cases, some technological and/or other organisational constraints may require that a certain proportion of total demand met by all ammunition stores must be fulfilled by a certain type of ammunition store. That condition can also be sourced from the security aspects and the use of construction resources. Model-II is built considering a new constraint, see Equation (7), in addition to the Equations (1)-(6) presented in Section 3.2.

$$\left(\sum_{i\in I}\sum_{m\in M}X_{jim}\right)P_h\leq CP_hY_{jh}\quad\forall j\in J,h\in PR$$
(7)

where PR is the set of ammunition store types (*h*) that need to be constructed to meet at least the P_h proportion of the total demand.

Assume that $PR = \{2\}$ and $P_2 = 0.2$ for the problem given in the previous section. That means at least 20% of the equipment transported from all sites must be met by ammunition store type 2. When the problem was solved using Model-II (including the new constraint over Model-I), the optimum solution was obtained within 17 min as presented in Table A2 and Table 6.

According to the distribution network presented in Figure 4, it is seen that the locations of the major stores (with capacity over 20,000 ton) did not change.



Figure 4: The distribution network obtained based on Model-II.

When the values in Table 6 are investigated, it is seen that the number of stores constructed in all sites was increased from 405 to 414 in comparison to that required by the solution obtained by Model-I. This was mainly due to the constraint (7) included in the model, as it forces the model to open at least 20% of the ammunition stores from type 2, which has lower capacity than an ammunition store of type 1. Furthermore, the total cost of the solution obtained also increased to 233,855,757 based on the increase in the number of stores constructed. The distribution network has also changed with newly opened stores. New transportation links were established between some stores and army forces; see for example, from store 1 to army force 9, from store 2 to army forces 10 and 13, from store 8 to army force 28.

	The type of	of ammunition sto	ore (k)	Total Capacity	Capacity Used	Utilization
) –	1	2	3	$(\sum_{k\in K} CP_k Y_{jk})$	$(\sum_{i\in I}\sum_{m\in M}X_{jim})$	ounzation
1	22	7	-	14,150	14,150	100.0
2	24	7	-	15,150	15,150	100.0
3	45	13	-	28,350	28,350	100.0
4	15	5	-	9,750	9,750	100.0
6	8	3	-	5,350	5,350	100.0
7	18	5	-	11,250	11,250	100.0
8	7	2	-	4,400	4,400	100.0
9	23	7	1	15,060	15,060	100.0
10	17	5	-	10,750	10,750	100.0
12	16	5	1	10,660	10,660	100.0
13	8	3	-	5,350	5,312	99.3
14	61	17	-	38,150	38,150	100.0
15	54	15	-	33,750	33,750	100.0
Total	318	94	2	202,120	202,082	-

Table 6: The numbers of ammunition stores constructed (by Model-II).

There also were changes in the values of decision variables X_{jim} . For example, all demand by army force 9 for equipment type 1 has been met by stores 2 (34 ton) and 4 (56 ton) in the solution by Model-I. However, in the solution by Model-II, a small proportion of this demand was met by store 1. On the other hand, some links were destroyed in the new solution, see for example the links from store 3 to army force 13, from store 4 to army force 3, from stores 6 and 8 to army force 11 and from store 10 to army force 24. In the new situation, at ammunition store 9, seven stores of type 2 and one store of type 3 were opened instead of seven stores of type 1. The demand by army force 11 for all equipment types (4899 ton) was met by only store 9 thanks to the help of the increase in the total capacity of store 9 with the newly opened stores of type 2 and type 3.

5.2 Model-III-Special equipment requiring special storage

In real-world applications, some special ammunition types may require a certain type of ammunition store to be stored properly. In such a condition, there should be enough number of certain ammunition stores at a candidate site to meet the demand by army forces for this special equipment. In this environment, following constraint, Equation (8), is included in the model and so Model-III is obtained. Thus, Model-III is constructed from Equations (1)-(8).

$$\sum_{i \in I} X_{jin} \le CP_l Y_{jl} \quad \forall j \in J, l \in PS_n$$
(8)

Where PS_n is the set of ammunition stores that special equipment *n* can be stored.

The problem whose input data has been given in Section 4 was solved using Model-III. It was assumed that $PS_2 = \{3\}$, which indicates that if there is equipment type 2 stored at site *j* it is needed to construct ammunition stores of type 3 for its storage. Also, different from the problem solved in Section 5.1, the values for the parameters *PR* and *P*₂ have been set as follows: *PR* = $\{2\}$ and *P*₂ = 0.1. That indicates at least 10% capacity of the constructed ammunition stores must be maintained by ammunition stores of type 2.

The problem has been solved by CPLEX on the same computer that the previous models have been solved. However, the resource limit was exceeded and the objective value was found 233,327,497 with an absolute gap of 26,574. Furthermore, changing the '*nodefileind*' option to '2' or '3', which enables CPLEX to store information on disk (rather than memory), did not help improve the solution capacity. The distribution amounts and constructed ammunition stores belonging to the best solution obtained within 61 min are presented in Table A3 and Table 7.

The distribution network is drawn as in Figure 5 based on the solution obtained using Model-III.



Figure 5: The distribution network obtained based on Model-III.

As seen from the figure, there are many newly established links between ammunition store sites and army forces in comparison to the solution obtained by Model-II; see for example the links between site 2 and army force 3, site 3 and army force 13, site 6 and army forces 20 and 23, and site 13 and army force 33. The only link disappeared is between site 8 and army force 17. Thus, in the new network, all demand by army force 17 was met by only the shipment from site 6. Also, new links have been established from site 6 (as mentioned above). In fact, the storage capacity of site 6 was reduced from 5,350 ton to 5,310 ton based on the construction of one store of type 3 instead of one store of type 2. This became possible with the decrease in the transportation from site 6 to army force 7.

	The type o	f ammunition st	ore (k)	Capacity Constructed	Capacity Used	Utilization
] –	1	2	3	$(\sum_{k\in K} CP_k Y_{jk})$	$(\sum_{i\in I}\sum_{m\in M}X_{jim})$	Othization
1	23	4	2	14,120	14,092	99.8
2	24	4	3	15,030	15,030	100.0
3	46	7	6	28,610	28,610	100.0
4	16	3	1	9,760	9,760	100.0
6	8	2	1	5,310	5,310	100.0
7	21	3	3	13,080	13,080	100.0
8	7	1	1	4,360	4,360	100.0
9	24	4	3	15,030	15,030	100.0
10	16	2	-	8,900	8,900	100.0
12	17	3	2	10,670	10,670	100.0
13	8	2	1	5,310	5,310	100.0
14	61	8	4	35,740	35,740	100.0
15	61	9	4	36,190	36,190	100.0
Total	332	52	31	202,110	202,082	-

Table 7: Constructed ammunition stores at each candidate site (by Model-III).

Even without the existence of changes in the link establishment, the transportation amounts are optimized with a balance between the construction of new stores. More can be observed when the results in Table A2 and Table A3 are compared.

Notice that the number of stores opened from type 3 was increased from 2 to 31 mainly because of the constraint (8) added in the model for the special storage of ammunition type 2. The contribution of that constraint to the cost of the whole system can easily be seen in the objective function. It should also be noted here that the value of the parameter P_2 is set to $P_2 = 0.1$ (corresponds to 50% decrease compared to Model-II) which explains the decrease (from 94 to 52) in the number of stores opened from type 2.

5.3 Model-IV-Delivery time limit

Time constraints can be included in the model if there is a condition to supply a demand placed by an army force within a time limit pre-specified. For this aim, the constraints given in Equations (9) and (10) are included in the original Model-I. Thus, Model-IV is composed of Equations (1)-(6) and (9)-(10).

$$V_{ji}t_{ji} \le \theta \quad \forall j \in J, i \in I \tag{9}$$

$$\sum_{m \in M} X_{jim} \le V_{ji}L \quad \forall j \in J, i \in I$$
(10)

where t_{ji} is the input parameter which indicates the travelling time between nodes j and i; θ is the maximum time limit allowed; and V_{ji} is a binary variable to hold the information whether there is equipment transported from node j to i. If the value of $\sum_{m \in M} X_{jim}$ is greater than 0, V_{ji} gets the value of 1; and 0, otherwise.

The problem presented in the Section 4.1 was solved using Model-IV considering the actual transportation times from ammunition store sites to army forces given as input data in Table A4 (see Appendices) and $\theta = 500$ minutes. The solution, with the objective value of 231,958,193 was obtained within 17 minutes with the message that indicates the resource limit was exceeded (the absolute gap was reported as 35,995).

The transportation amounts and the number of opened stores at each candidate site are presented in Table A5 and Table 8. The distribution network established based on the results given in the tables is also drawn in Figure 6.



Figure 6: Updated distribution network based on Model-IV.

Since Model-IV is derived from adding new constraints over Model-I, not Model-III, the results obtained in this subsection will be discussed in comparison to the results obtained via Model-I. From the results obtained, the links destroyed between the ammunition store sites and army forces are as follows: from site 2 to army forces 9 and 12, from site 4 to army force 3, from site 6 to army force 11 and from site 10 to army force 24. Basically, the demand by army forces 3 and 12 were met by ammunition store sites within the range of 500 min travelling distance (site 1 and site 7, respectively), instead of a combined mix including transportations from sites 4 and 2, respectively. The same number of stores are opened in site 1, i.e. a total of 28 stores from ammunition store type 1 (see Table 5 and Table 8), so the total capacity of the stores at site 1 is the same. However, the cost was balanced and part of the demand by army force 1 was fulfilled via a new link established from site 4.

	The typ	be of ammunition sto	re (k)	Capacity	Capacity Used	11.1
) –	1	2	3	$(\sum_{k \in K} CP_k Y_{jk})$	$(\sum_{i\in I}\sum_{m\in M}X_{jim})$	Utilization
1	28	-	-	14,000	14,000	100.0
2	30	-	-	15,000	15,000	100.0
3	57	-	-	28,500	28,500	100.0
4	19	1	-	9,950	9,950	100.0
6	9	-	2	5,320	5,320	100.0
7	22	-	-	11,000	10,992	99.9
8	9	-	-	4,500	4,500	100.0
9	30	-	-	15,000	15,000	100.0
10	22	-	-	11,000	11,000	100.0
12	21	-	-	10,500	10,500	100.0
13	9	-	2	5,320	5,320	100.0
14	71	-	-	35,500	35,500	100.0
15	73	-	-	36,500	36,500	100.0
Total	400	1	4	202.090	202.082	-

Table 8: Ammunition stores constructed at each candidate site (by Model-IV).

Thus, the capacity of site 1 was not exceeded. Similarly, the remaining capacity of site 2 (became empty due to the destroyed link between site 2 and army force 12 as a result of the time limit) was evaluated to supply equipment to army force 13. In the initial solution (obtained by Model-I and presented in Section 4.2), all equipment demanded by army force 13 was met by shipment from only site 3 (which is farther in comparison to site 2).

5.4 Experimental work

A set of computational tests has been performed to measure the effect of problem specific parameters on the execution time needed to solve the problem. For this aim, the problem was solved with Model-I using different levels of input parameters, i.e. the number of army forces (*i*), the number of candidate sites (*j*), the number of equipment types (*m*) and the number of ammunition store types (*k*). The model was run changing the value of only one parameter at a time and the execution time was recorded. The maximum time limit, i.e. the upper bound for the execution time, was set to 3600 s. Any model exceeding that time limit was terminated and the best solution was reported.

Figure 7 shows how execution time was influenced with the change in the above mentioned four parameters. Firstly, as seen in Figure 7(a) the execution time rapidly increased when the number of army forces was increased from 24 to 26. Interestingly, it slightly reduced with the consideration of 28 and 32 army forces. With the change in the number of army forces from 32 to 36 and 40, the time limit (which was set to 3600 s) was exceeded and the program was terminated.

The number of candidate sites has also effect on the size of the search space and so affects the execution time of the model. For this aim, the number of candidate sites has been set to 6, 9, 12 and 15, respectively, and the model was run. The execution time was recorded for each run and plotted as in Figure 7(b). As seen from the figure, there was a dramatical increase in the execution time when the number of candidate sites was changed to 12. That contributes to the number of decision variables by $3 \times ni \times nm + 3 \times k$. That means an extra 849 decision variables (in terms of both X_{jim} and Y_{jk}) and a huge increase in the search space. Therefore, the execution time exceeded the 3600 s time limit.

The number of ammunition types was also one of the main determinants of the execution time of the model. As seen in

Figure 7(c), the execution time increased gradually when the number of equipment types was increased. While the execution time was very small when only one type of equipment was considered, the time limit was exceeded when the number of equipment types reached to 6. This was not surprising as the complexity of the problem increases with a greater number of equipment types. That leads to many new additional decision variables (X_{jim}) similar to the situation as in the increase in the number of army forces and the number of candidate sites. Finally, the effect of using different kinds of ammunition stores on the execution time was investigated (see Figure 7(d)). While this does not have a direct effect on the number of X_{jim} decision variables, it affects the number of Y_{jk} decision variables and influences the interactions between the two decision variables, X_{iim} and Y_{ik} . That also causes an increase in the problem complexity and enlargement of the search space.

6 Conclusions and future research

As a nature of the facility location problems, the decisions are intermediate or long term and influence many other decisions on the design of transportation networks, inventory decisions or many other decisions at operational level. The construction of a greater number of facilities will lower the transportation cost as the facilities will tend to be closer to demand locations. However, the total cost will increase due to the construction of new stores. Therefore, there is a trade-off between the construction cost of the new stores and the cost for the transportation from those stores to customers (or demanding points).

The facility location and distribution network design problems, which have close relationship with each other, are usually handled independently. This paper addressed to these tightlyinterrelated problems simultaneously. A mixed-integer linear programming approach is developed and it is progressively improved to represent some realistic constraints, i.e.

- i. The use of at least a certain proportion of ammunition stores of a specific kind,
- ii. The construction of a specific ammunition store for a certain equipment type, and
- iii. The delivery time limit to meet demands.



Figure 7: The effect of parameter levels on the model execution time (in seconds).

The maximum number of stores to be opened at a candidate construction site was also considered in the models. The proposed models aim to minimise the total cost, characterised by the summation of the ammunition store construction costs and the transportation costs for delivery from stores to army forces. More than one type of ammunition store is considered in the models. Their construction costs and total equipment capacities are also different. Thus, a bundle of different stores can be built at a candidate site to meet demand from dispersed army forces at a minimum cost. The optimum solutions are presented where applicable. If the resource limit is exceeded, the best solution obtained so far is presented and discussed for each model and its solution. The results obtained from the models have also been compared to each other with some in depth discussions considering the number of stores opened and the amount of each equipment type shipped to army forces. A set of experimental tests have also been conducted to measure the execution time needed across various levels for the numbers of army forces, candidate sites, different equipment types and ammunition store types. It is observed that the execution time and so the problem complexity increases rapidly with the increase in the size of the parameters except the number of army forces. Interestingly, the increase in the number of army forces from 26 to 28 and 32 does not necessarily affect the execution time in a negative aspect. However, the problem becomes suddenly unsolvable within the 3600 s time limit when the number of army forces is increased to 36 and 40.

The methodology and results obtained in this research can be used practically for designing and planning of a new distribution network not only for the shipment of military equipment but also for the transportation of any kind of goods such as automotive parts and electronical devices. While the model presented here assumes that no store exists at the beginning of the planning horizon, the model can be easily modified to adapt to an existing distribution network considering the already constructed storage units. In such a situation, the cost for destroying already existing links between the stores and army forces should also be integrated in the model. One can also aim to minimize the number of changes in the locations of the stores considering a trade-off between the cost of building/destroying a store and the cost for transporting commodities from stores to the demanding units.

The problem and models presented in this research can be extended in several ways. First of all, the assumptions made in the model and discussed above may be relaxed to adapt the proposed model to a wide range of applications. Secondly, the distribution network was considered as a single stage (from ammunition stores to army forces) in this work. A more holistic concept can be studied considering one or more central stores for distribution from centres to stores. Even a direct link can also be built from the centres to the army forces if more efficient in costly manner. Thirdly, the transportation cost considered in the proposed model may not reflect the actual cost as vehicle routing problem has not been considered. Therefore, it would be worthy to include the vehicle routing problem into the distribution network design which also requires some capacitated truck constraints. Last but not least, considering the long-term nature of the facility location decisions, uncertainty in demands can be considered and meta-heuristic models can be developed for the more sophisticated adaptations of the problem.

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Appendices A

Table A1: The amounts of equipment transported from stores to army forces, based on the solution of Model-I.

From <i>i</i>	To i			Distribution a	amount of equi	pment type <i>m</i>		
Promy	101	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
1	1	170	275	400	670	1400	1185	400
1	2	150	281	423	674	1405	1091	600
1	3	175	340	342	560	1360	1299	800
2	9	34	325	640	670	1940	830	400
2	12	0	340	421	691	1951	1473	870
2	14	121	324	443	512	1265	918	832
3	4	270	468	470	830	1650	1180	350
3	5	190	680	680	560	1230	1730	540
3	6	460	320	870	1390	1900	1670	320
3	7	153	450	570	690	1175	1325	750
3	10	265	341	390	1100	1340	1670	420
3	13	56	47	0	0	0	0	0
4	3	146	0	0	0	0	0	0
4	8	300	175	480	390	980	1490	490
4	9	56	0	0	0	0	0	0
4	16	71	193	391	943	1785	1700	320
6	7	127	0	0	0	0	0	0
6	11	42	0	0	0	0	0	0
6	17	112	235	421	751	1341	1730	643
7	12	323	658	275	874	1390	1420	630
7	15	183	99	0	0	0	0	0
7	20	20	220	224	491	1863	1230	1100
8	11	1	0	0	0	0	0	0
8	23	23	230	211	721	1308	1127	879
9	11	132	235	438	671	985	1461	934
9	18	183	342	453	647	1180	1649	521
9	21	109	549	379	672	1620	1195	645
10	15	0	220	479	504	1318	1104	648
10	24	11	0	0	0	0	0	0
10	28	14	95	129	498	2370	2190	1420
12	21	34	0	0	0	0	0	0
12	24	39	186	321	764	2200	1765	598
12	25	376	190	210	632	930	1272	983
13	24	167	0	0	0	0	0	0
13	29	99	187	284	342	1700	1453	947
13	34	134	7	0	0	0	0	0
14	19	61	435	278	447	1794	860	947
14	22	102	211	620	387	1007	998	672
14	27	173	98	172	731	2100	1980	1002
14	33	152	231	372	673	1866	1160	1008
14	36	201	123	324	303	1452	1098	999
14	37	79	165	342	290	890	1720	1023
14	39	96	218	162	0	0	0	0
14	40	154	283	476	623	1439	1632	1321
15	26	78	159	301	464	1674	791	983
15	30	30	97	231	489	1290	1673	1003
15	31	91	283	210	539	1005	1293	932
15	32	210	152	320	431	1302	1329	789

From i	To i			Distribution a	amount of equi	pment type <i>m</i>		
FIOIIIJ	101	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
15	34	0	234	290	378	2172	1175	875
15	35	35	197	198	231	1321	1123	786
15	38	167	191	367	402	1126	1238	793
15	39	0	0	125	523	1523	1342	1039
Table	e A2: The tran	sportation amo	ounts from amn	nunition stores	to army forces	based on the s	olution of Mode	el-II.
		1		Distribution a	amount of equi	pment type m		
From j	To i	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
1	1	170	275	400	670	1400	1185	400
1	2	150	281	423	674	1405	1091	600
1	3	321	340	342	560	1360	1299	800
1	9	4	0	0	0	0	0	0
2	9	44	325	640	670	1940	830	400
2	10	37	0	0	0	0	0	0
2	13	56	387	421	691	1951	1473	870
2	14	121	324	443	512	1265	918	832
3	4	270	468	470	830	1650	1180	350
3	5	190	680	680	560	1230	1730	540
3	6	460	320	870	1390	1900	1670	320
3	7	143	450	570	690	1175	1325	750
3	10	228	341	390	1100	1340	1670	420
3 4	8	300	175	480	390	980	1490	490
т 1	0	42	175	400	0	0	1450	4)0 0
4	9	42	102	0 201	042	1705	1700	220
4	10	/ I 127	195	0	943	1785	1700	520
6	17	02	225	421	0 751	12/1	1720	642
0	17	22	233	421	731	1341	1/30	620
7	12	323	220	275	0/4	1390	1420	050
7	15	105	230	0	0	1962	1220	1100
/	20	20	220	224	491	1863	1230	1100
/	23	23	96	0	0	0	0	0
8	17	20	0	0	0	0	0	0
8	23	0	134	211	/21	1308	1127	8/9
9	11	175	235	438	671	985	1461	934
9	18	183	342	453	647	1180	1649	521
9	21	126	549	379	672	1620	1195	645
10	15	0	89	479	504	1318	1104	648
10	28	0	1	129	498	2370	2190	1420
12	21	17	0	0	0	0	0	0
12	24	216	186	321	764	2200	1765	598
12	25	376	190	210	632	930	1272	983
13	24	1	0	0	0	0	0	0
13	29	99	187	284	342	1700	1453	947
13	34	134	165	0	0	0	0	0
14	19	61	435	278	447	1794	860	947
14	22	102	211	620	387	1007	998	672
14	27	173	98	172	731	2100	1980	1002
14	28	14	94	0	0	0	0	0
14	33	152	231	372	673	1866	1160	1008
14	36	201	123	324	303	1452	1098	999
14	37	79	165	342	290	890	1720	1023
14	20	96	218	287	523	1444	0	0

From i	Toi			Distribution	amount of equ	ipment type m		
FIOIIIJ	101	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
14	40	154	283	476	623	1439	1632	1321
15	26	78	159	301	464	1674	791	983
15	30	30	97	231	489	1290	1673	1003
15	31	91	283	210	539	1005	1293	932
15	32	210	152	320	431	1302	1329	789
15	34	0	76	290	378	2172	1175	875
15	35	35	197	198	231	1321	1123	786
15	38	167	191	367	402	1126	123	793
15	39	0	0	0	102	79	1342	1039
10	Table	A3: The amoun	ts of transport	ed equipment	obtained from	the solution of N	Model-III.	1007
				Amount of equ	ipment type <i>m</i>	to be distribute	d	
From j	To i	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
1	1	170	275	400	670	1400	1185	400
1	2	150	281	423	674	1405	1091	600
1	3	321	264	342	560	1360	1299	800
1	9	221	0	0	0	0	0	000
2	3	0	34	0	0	0	0	0
2	0	EQ	225	640	670	1040	020	400
2	7	30	525 212	040	601	1940	1472	400
2	13	0	312	421	691 F12	1951	14/3	8/0
2	14	121	324	443	512	1265	918	832
3	4	270	468	470	830	1650	1180	350
3	5	190	680	680	560	1230	1730	540
3	6	460	320	870	1390	1900	1670	320
3	7	235	450	570	690	1175	1325	750
3	10	265	341	390	1100	1340	1670	420
3	13	56	75	0	0	0	0	0
4	3	0	42	0	0	0	0	0
4	8	300	175	480	390	980	1490	490
4	9	10	0	0	0	0	0	0
4	16	71	193	391	943	1785	1700	320
6	7	45	0	0	0	0	0	0
6	17	112	235	421	751	1341	1730	643
6	20	9	0	0	0	0	0	0
6	23	23	0	0	0	0	0	0
7	12	323	658	275	874	1390	1420	630
7	15	183	319	479	504	770	0	0
, 7	20	105	220	224	491	1863	1230	1100
7	20	0	220	83	0	0	1250	0
2 Q	23	0	107	128	721	1208	1127	870
0	23	175	197 22E	120	671	1300	1127	079
9	11	1/5	235	430	6/1	905	1401	934
9	18	183	542	453	647	1180	1049	521
9	21	96	549	379	672	1620	1195	645
10	15	U	U	0	0	548	1104	648
10	28	0	0	122	498	2370	2190	1420
12	21	47	0	0	0	0	0	0
12	24	196	186	321	764	2200	1765	598
12	25	376	190	210	632	930	1272	983
13	24	21	0	0	0	0	0	0
13	29	99	187	284	342	1700	1453	947
13	33	0	1	0	0	0	0	0
13	34	134	142	0	0	0	0	0
14	19	61	435	278	447	1794	860	947
14	22	102	211	620	387	1007	998	672
14	2.7	173	98	172	731	2100	1980	1003
14	28	14	95	7	0	0	0	1002
17	20	14	23	/	U	U	U	U

		1	able Ab																	
From <i>j</i>		То <i>і</i> —		Amount of equipment type m to be distributed 1 2 3 4 5 6 7																
11		22		152			<u>2</u> 30	3			4			<u> </u>		<u> </u>			1000	
14		33 36		201	15Z Z3U 201 123		3	372 673 374 303			1866 1452		1100		000 1008					
14		30		201 79		165		349			290			890		1	720		999 1022	
14		39		96		0		55		0		0		0			0			
14		40		154		283		476		623		1439		1632			1321			
15		26		78	78		159		301		464		1674		791			983		
15		30		30	30		97		231		489		1290		1673			1003		
15		31		91	91		83	2	10		539		1005		1	1293		93	2	
15		32		210)	1	52	3	20	431		1302		1	1329		78	9		
15		34		0	0		99		290		378		2172		1	175		87	5	
15		35		35		197		198		231		1321		1	123		786			
15		38		167		1	191 3		67 402			1126			1238			793		
15		39		0		2	18	.8 232		523		1523		1342			1039			
Table A4: Travelling times from ammunition store sites to army forces (in min).																				
j/i	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20
1	253	276	382	676	820	938	859	259	467	713	1124	607	590	544	880	313	930	1133	1309	542
2	677	700	511	398	490	516	436	330	274	289	798	671	167	120	878	384	523	806	1284	373
3	848	828	578	269	151	174	264	672	344	180	829	866	180	266	1074	726	622	910	1480	569
4	430	452	517	582	726	763	683	83	373	536	948	431	414	367	703	137	754	956	1133	366
5	642	665	508	492	572	599	508	295	364	361	816	577	260	173	785	349	541	824	1190	280
6	1048	1070	899	659	638	665	386	601	661	377	418	552	406	268	709	547	143	426	1020	310
7	889	912	887	793	816	842	680	377	743	605	560	253	540	407	406	323	437	569	811	90
8	1069	1092	1039	829	809	835	554	562	832	548	308	500	576	438	602	508	253	317	842	270
9	1490	1513	1422	1182	1159	1126	752	983	1184	899	187	922	929	791	880	929	451	104	947	691
10	1321	1344	1324	1230	1226	1253	972	809	1180	966	590	569	977	844	404	755	595	508	425	527
11	1182	1205	1153	1016	996	1022	742	670	1009	736	390	546	763	625	544	616	365	398	658	383
12	1694	1/1/	1666	1480	1457	1423	1050	1182	1482	1196	485	1058	1226	1088	902	1128	/49	402	820	895
13	1654	16/6	1/41	1681	16/8	1/04	1402	1141	1597	141/	836	901	1428	1295	69Z	1087	1046	754	317	978
14	1490	1001	1584	1022	1900	1550	12/0	984	1440	1204	888 020	/44	12/1	1138	535 10E1	930	893 1002	805 745	100	821 1174
- 15	1900	1991	1970	1025	1000	1/00	1393	1450	1025	1540	020	1210	1370	1452	1051	1402	1092	745	090	11/4
<u> </u>	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31	32	33	34	35	36	37	38	39	40
1	1337	1277	767	1332	1501	1709	1367	1061	1411	1595	1922	2149	1560	1702	1801	1712	1471	1963	1687	1691
2	1061	1276	577	1142	1225	1451	1366	1060	1253	1436	1670	1897	1559	1554	1654	1673	1432	1816	1648	1690
3	1164	14/1	//3	1252	1328	1554	1561	1255	1369	1540	1//4	2000	1/54	1668	1/68	1846	1604	1930	1820	18/4
4	1160	1100	590	1156	1325	1532	1190	884	1235	1418	1/46	19/3	1384	1525	1625	1536	1295	1787	1511	1514
5	1054	1182	484	760	1218	1444	12/2	966	1159	1343	1003	1890	1465	1460	1204	12(2	1338	1/22	1554	1201
6 7	680 706	1099	310 126	700	845 970	1070	002	890 597	700	1050	1290	1517	1382	1104	1284	1302	050	1440	1337	1391
/ 8	571	003	130	500	736	061	1012	755	700	904	1101	1408	1205	1001	1101	1100	939	1269	11/5	1217
9	150	1026	553	371	214	540	11116	865	488	526	760	986	11205	787	774	1117	868	970	1055	1147
10	487	504	390	295	599	641	594	374	343	527	854	1081	787	644	744	767	526	906	742	796
10	408	737	162	403	572	798	827	576	521	702	1018	1244	1020	820	919	1000	758	1081	974	1028
12	180	941	674	224	134	358	1031	872	342	248	571	798	908	557	497	882	637	692	778	917
12	571	438	844	278	532	446	528	547	163	332	614	769	553	301	401	533	292	563	508	562
14	728	281	688	436	689	604	371	390	320	490	772	926	490	458	558	469	228	720	444	498
15	491	817	984	419	326	179	907	944	304	120	208	434	724	262	162	682	452	358	443	732
				/	Tabl	le A5: 1	Fransp	ortatio	n amo	unts h	ased o	on Mo	del-IV	<u></u>						
Amount of equipment type <i>m</i> to be distributed																				
From <i>j</i>		То і —		1 2		AIIIO	3 4			ρε πι ι	5			6			7			
1	1			24	24 275		4	<u> </u>		670	670 14		<u>,</u> 00 11		<u>, </u>					
1		2		150		281		423			674		1405		1091		600			

			,	Гable А5'in de	vamı.								
	The f	Amount of equipment type <i>m</i> to be distributed											
From <i>j</i>	To <i>i</i> –	1	2	3	4	5	6	7					
2	9	0	319	640	670	1940	830	400					
2	13	0	380	421	691	1951	1473	870					
2	14	121	324	443	512	1265	918	832					
3	4	270	468	470	830	1650	1180	350					
3	5	190	680	680	560	1230	1730	540					
3	6	460	320	870	1390	1900	1670	320					
3	7	193	450	570	690	1175	1325	750					
3	10	265	341	390	1100	1340	1670	420					
3	13	56	7	0	0	0	0	0					
4	1	146	0	0	0	0	0	0					
4	8	300	175	480	390	980	1490	490					
4	9	90	6	0	0	0	0	0					
4	16	71	193	391	943	1785	1700	320					
6	7	87	0	0	0	0	0	0					
6	17	112	235	421	751	1341	1730	643					
7	12	323	658	275	874	1390	1420	630					
7	15	183	88	0	0	0	0	0					
7	20	20	220	224	491	1863	1230	1100					
7	23	3	0	0	0	0	0	0					
8	11	4	0	0	0	0	0	0					
8	23	20	230	211	721	1308	1127	879					
9	11	171	235	438	671	985	1461	934					
9	18	183	342	453	647	1180	1649	521					
9	21	70	549	379	672	1620	1195	645					
10	15	0	231	479	504	1318	1104	648					
10	28	14	95	129	498	2370	2190	1420					
12	21	73	0	0	0	0	0	0					
12	24	0	186	321	764	2200	1765	598					
12	25	376	190	210	632	930	1272	983					
13	24	217	0	0	0	0	0	0					
13	29	99	187	284	342	1700	1453	947					
13	34	91	0	0	0	0	0	0					
14	19	61	435	278	447	1794	860	947					
14	22	102	211	620	387	1007	998	672					
14	27	173	98	172	731	2100	1980	1002					
14	33	152	231	372	673	1866	1160	1008					
14	36	201	123	324	303	1452	1098	999					
14	37	79	165	342	290	890	1720	1023					
14	39	26	0	0	0	0	0	0					
14	40	154	283	476	623	1439	1632	1321					
15	26	78	159	301	464	1674	791	983					
15	30	30	97	231	489	1290	1673	1003					
15	31	91	283	210	539	1005	1293	932					
15	32	210	152	320	431	1302	1329	789					
15	34	43	241	290	378	2172	1175	875					
15	35	35	197	198	231	1321	1123	786					
15	38	167	191	367	402	1126	1238	793					
15	39	70	218	287	523	1523	1342	1039					