

# Energy-Minimized Task Offloading in Smart Traffic Signal Edge-Cloud Systems

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**Abstract**—In the context of cloud-edge-device collaboration for intelligent traffic signal control, the three-tier architecture comprising Traffic Signal Units (TSUs), Roadside Units (RSUs), and Cloud Data Centers (CDCs) faces challenges in task allocation for energy optimization and real-time constraints. This work constructs a dual-mode model integrating unconstrained offloading and reliability-constrained offloading, establishing an optimization problem that minimizes total energy consumption while satisfying resource capacity and security compliance. The model fuses computational and transmission latency components with dynamic computation and transmission energy consumption models. The IVY algorithm, a meta-heuristic optimization method inspired by the growth patterns of ivy plants, efficiently navigates complex search spaces to identify optimal solutions. Building on this foundation, the Adaptive Constraint Enhanced IVY Algorithm (ACE-IVY) introduces dynamic penalty coefficients, early stopping mechanisms, adaptive population regulation, and constraint pruning. Experiments in large scale tasks intelligent traffic scenario show that ACE-IVY achieves faster convergence and higher efficiency compared to traditional algorithms, effectively solving task allocation under security constraints and verifying its practicality in real-time traffic control resource scheduling.

**Index Terms**—Cloud-edge-device collaboration, intelligent traffic control, dual-mode offloading model, and energy optimization.

## I. INTRODUCTION

The deep integration of information technology with urban governance has established the Internet of Things (IoT) as a cornerstone for smart cities [1]. By densely interconnecting networks of sensing nodes, intelligent terminals, and computational resources distributed throughout urban environments, IoT constructs an intelligent neural network capable of dynamically sensing, transmitting, and processing information [2], transforming traditional paradigms towards data-driven fine-grained governance and real-time response [3].

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With explosive growth in sensing devices and evolving computing paradigms, data processing complexity in smart city applications is increasing exponentially. Particularly in critical domains like traffic guidance, environmental monitoring, and emergency response. Terminal devices face significant computational pressure when handling massive data volumes. However, large-scale terminal deployments are constrained by limited computational resources and unstable energy consumption, hindering efficient execution of complex tasks [4] and causing substantial energy wastage [5]. Computation offloading technology [6]–[8] provides a core solution: By deploying edge computing infrastructure at key urban nodes integrated with cloud data centers, computation-intensive tasks can be intelligently distributed across terminal-edge-cloud hierarchies [9]. However, offloading involves wide-area data transmission, introducing non-negligible communication overhead in delay and bandwidth [10]. The central challenge is thus dynamically determining optimal offloading locations for computational tasks based on their characteristics and real-time system states under resource constraints [11].

Motivated by this, we design a computation offloading strategy within a cloud-edge-terminal architecture to minimize energy consumption while guaranteeing delay requirements and security constraints [12]. We first construct an intelligent traffic-light-controlled architecture with multiple edge nodes and terminals. Next, we formulate an energy minimization problem incorporating device processing capabilities and transmission overheads. Finally, we propose an enhanced plant-inspired algorithm called Adaptive Constraint Enhanced IVY Algorithm (ACE-IVY), featuring key innovations: Levy flight-inspired dynamic penalty optimization, adaptive population size scaling for varying task volumes, hybrid early stopping mechanism for computational economy, and an alpha-beta pruning-like strategy for efficiency. Experimental results demonstrate ACE-IVY's efficacy in enhancing system performance within our architecture.

Sections are organized as follows: Section II details the architecture and problem formulation. Section III presents the ACE-IVY algorithm implementation and simulation results, and Section IV summarizes findings and future directions.

## II. PROBLEM PRESENTATION

To optimize the cost-minimization problem, Fig. 1 illustrates an intelligent traffic control system with cloud-edge-device collaboration. This architecture connects TSUs to RSUs, where each RSU may serve multiple TSUs. The CDC coordinates all RSUs, establishing bidirectional communication between TSUs, RSUs, and the CDC. The system contains  $N$  RSUs and  $M$  TSUs, all with limited computational capacity. The model supports two distinct task allocation strategies: Unconstrained Offloading for general tasks, and Reliability-constrained Offloading for operations requiring enhanced security measures.

In the Unconstrained Offloading mode, the computational tasks of a single TSM can be allocated in arbitrary proportions. To represent task offloading to the TSM, RSU, or CDC, three variables  $\alpha_i, \beta_{ij}, \gamma_i$  are introduced,  $\alpha_i$  denotes the proportion of tasks computed locally on the TSM  $i$ .  $\beta_{ij}$  denotes the proportion of TSM  $i$ 's tasks offloaded to the RSU  $j$  for computation.  $\gamma_i$  denotes the proportion of TSM  $i$ 's tasks offloaded to the CDC for computation. For any TSM, its total computational task allocation must satisfy, the sum of local and offloaded portions cannot exceed one, *i.e.*,

$$\alpha_i + \sum_{j=1}^N \beta_{ij} + \gamma_i \leq 1 \quad (1)$$

In the Reliability-constrained Offloading mode, to ensure the security of computational tasks, a safety threshold  $\mathfrak{s}$  is introduced. When the safety requirement coefficient of TSM  $i$ 's task exceeds this safety threshold  $\mathfrak{s}$ , then  $\alpha_i = 1$ , meaning the task must be entirely executed locally on the TSM  $i$ .

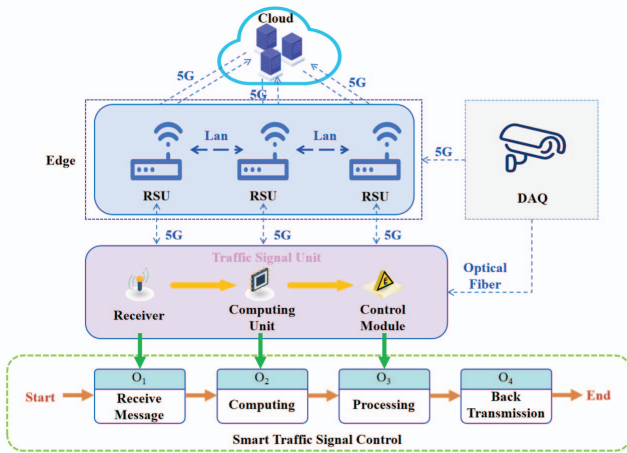


Fig. 1. Architecture of the smart traffic signal system

### A. Latency Model

The latency of this cloud-edge-device collaborative architecture consists of three components related to the TSM, RSU, and CDC, respectively.

1) *Latency of TSUs*: Let  $\mathcal{L}_i$  represent the local execution latency of computational tasks on the TSM  $i$ . It is given by:

$$\mathcal{L}_i = \alpha_i \left( \frac{T_i}{V_i} \right) \quad (2)$$

where  $T_i$  denotes the required computational workload for TSM  $i$ 's tasks, for example the number of task operations; and  $V_i$  denotes the computational speed of its processing unit, such as tasks completed per unit time by the CPU.

2) *Latency of RSUs*: Let  $\mathcal{E}'_{ij}$  represent the execution time of tasks offloaded to the RSU  $j$ , and let  $\nu_j$  denote the computational speed of the processor in the RSU  $j$ . *i.e.*,

$$\mathcal{E}'_{ij} = \beta_{ij} \left( \frac{T_i}{\nu_j} \right) \quad (3)$$

Let  $\mathcal{E}''_{ij}$  represent the transmission latency between the TSM  $i$  and RSU  $j$ . it is obtained as:

$$\mathcal{E}''_{ij} = \beta_{ij} \left( \frac{\hat{D}_{ij}}{\hat{S}_{ij}} \right) + \beta_{ij} \left( \frac{\check{D}_{ij}}{\check{S}_{ij}} \right) \quad (4)$$

where the first term corresponds to the downlink transmission latency from RSU to TSM, and the second term corresponds to the uplink transmission latency from TSM to RSU.  $\hat{D}_{ij}$  and  $\check{D}_{ij}$  represents the downlink and uplink data size transmitted from RSU  $j$  to TSM  $i$  and from TSM  $i$  to RSU  $j$ . Let  $\hat{S}_{ij}$  and  $\check{S}_{ij}$  represent the downlink and uplink transmission rates respectively. The calculation formula for  $\hat{S}_{ij}$  is as follows:

$$\hat{S}_{ij} = \log_2 \left\{ 1 + \frac{SN\hat{R}_{ij}(\hat{\eta}_{ij})}{\hat{\mu}_{ij}} \right\} \quad (5)$$

$$\check{S}_{ij} = \log_2 \left\{ 1 + \frac{SN\check{R}_{ij}(\check{\eta}_{ij})}{\check{\mu}_{ij}} \right\} \quad (6)$$

where  $SN\hat{R}_{ij}$  represents the uplink channel signal-to-noise ratio, and  $SN\check{R}_{ij}$  represents the downlink channel signal-to-noise ratio.  $\hat{\eta}_{ij}$  denotes the uplink data loss coefficient, while  $\check{\eta}_{ij}$  denotes the downlink data loss coefficient.  $\hat{\mu}_{ij}$  indicates the uplink channel occupancy rate, and  $\check{\mu}_{ij}$  indicates the downlink channel occupancy rate.

The latency related to RSUs is calculated as follows:

$$\mathcal{E}_{ij} = \mathcal{E}'_{ij} + \mathcal{E}''_{ij} \quad (7)$$

3) *Latency of CDC*: Let  $\mathcal{C}'_i$  represent the execution time of tasks offloaded to the CDC, and  $v$  denote the computational speed of the CDC's CPU. Then:

$$\mathcal{C}'_i = \gamma_i \left( \frac{T_i}{v} \right) \quad (8)$$

Therefore, The total time  $\mathcal{C}_i$  of processing associated with CDC can be expressed as:  $\mathcal{C}_i = \mathcal{C}'_i + \mathcal{C}''_i$ , where  $\mathcal{C}''_i$  represents the transmission latency between the TSM  $i$  and the CDC.

Finally, the total time  $L_i$  to complete a task on the TSM  $i$  is the maximum value between the computation time of the offloaded portion and the local computation time, *i.e.*,

$$L_i = \max \left\{ \mathcal{L}_i, \sum_{j=1}^N \mathcal{E}_{ij}, \mathcal{C}_i \right\} \quad (9)$$

Additionally,  $L_i$  must be less than the task's time constraint  $\vartheta_i$ , i.e.,  $L_i < \vartheta_i$

### B. Energy Consumption Modeling

1) *System-Level Energy Decomposition*: The total energy consumption in a cloud-edge computing system is decomposed into:  $E_s = E_c + E_t$ , where  $E_c$  denotes the dynamic computational energy from processing units, and  $E_t$  represents the energy consumed in data transmission across networks.

2) *Dynamic Computational Energy Model*: Dynamic computational energy originates from hardware switching activities:  $E_c = C_e \cdot V_d^2 \cdot f \cdot N \cdot t$ , where  $C_e$  is the effective switching capacitance by pF,  $V_d$  is the supply voltage by V,  $f$  is the processor frequency by Hz,  $N$  is the number of switching transistors, and  $t$  is the computation time by s.

From the perspective of task allocation ratios  $(x, y, z)$ , the dynamic energy of task  $i$  is:

$$E_{c,i} = \sum_{\text{node} \in S_u} \alpha_n \cdot \omega_i \cdot r_{n,i} \quad (10)$$

where  $S_u = \{TSU, RSU, CDC\}$ ,  $\alpha_n$  is the energy coefficient for node type,  $\omega_i$  is the computational demand of task  $i$ , and  $r_{n,i}$  is the allocation ratio for node and task  $i$ .

3) *Transmission Energy Model*: The total transmission energy is given by:  $E_t = E_{tx} + E_{rx}$ , where  $E_{tx}$  is the energy consumption at the sender, and  $E_{rx}$  is the energy consumption at the receiver.

The sender energy model is:  $E_{tx} = (P_0 + k \cdot d^\eta \cdot B) \cdot B / R$ , with  $P_0$  as the static power consumption of the transmitter circuit measured by Watt,  $k$  as the amplifier coefficient related to transmitter device characteristics,  $d$  as the distance between sender and receiver measured by meter,  $\eta$  as the path loss exponent,  $B$  as the amount of data transmitted (bit), and  $R$  as the data transmission rate (bit/second). The receiver energy model is:  $E_{rx} = (P_a + P_p) \cdot B / R$ , with  $P_a$  and  $P_p$  measured by Watt, as the power consumption of the receiver amplifier and processing circuit measured by Watt.

### C. Integrated Model

1) *Objective Function: Minimizing Total Energy*: The goal is to minimize energy via optimal task allocation using the parameters defined in the latency model:

$$f(x) = \min \left[ \sum_{i=1}^N A_i + \sum_{i=1}^N B_i \right] \quad (11)$$

where

$$A_i = \left( \alpha_i \cdot \epsilon_{TSU} + \sum_{j=1}^M \beta_{ij} \cdot \epsilon_{RSU} + \gamma_i \cdot \epsilon_{CDC} \right) \cdot \omega_i$$

$$B_i = \left( \sum_{j=1}^M \beta_{ij} \cdot \tau_{RSU} + \gamma_i \cdot \tau_{CDC} \right) \cdot S_i,$$

and  $\alpha_i$  denotes the proportion of tasks computed locally on TSU  $i$ ,  $0 \leq \alpha_i \leq 1$ ,  $\beta_{ij}$  denotes the proportion of TSU  $i$ 's tasks

offloaded to RSU  $j$ ,  $0 \leq \beta_{ij} \leq 1$ , and  $\gamma_i$  denotes the proportion of TSU  $i$ 's tasks offloaded to CDC,  $0 \leq \gamma_i \leq 1$ . Here,  $\epsilon_{TSU/RSU/CDC}$  denotes the computational energy per unit task for each node type,  $\tau_{RSU/CDC}$  is the transmission energy per unit data, and  $S_i$  is the data size of task  $i$ .

2) *Optimization Constraints*: The optimization problem is subject to the following constraints: Edge/Cloud nodes have finite computation resources, expressed as:

$$\sum_{i=1}^N \left( \sum_{j=1}^M \beta_{ij} \cdot \omega_i \right) \leq C_{RSU}, \quad \sum_{i=1}^N (\gamma_i \cdot \omega_i) \leq C_{CDC} \quad (12)$$

where  $C_{RSU}$  and  $C_{CDC}$  denote the maximum computational loads for RSUs and CDCs, respectively. For tasks with high security requirements [13], if  $\text{Sec}_i$  exceeds the threshold  $\varsigma$ , then  $\beta_{ij} = 0$  and  $\gamma_i = 0$ .

### III. ADAPTIVE CONSTRAINT ENHANCED IVY ALGORITHM (ACE-IVY)

ACE-IVY is proposed to solve the optimization problem in edge computing environments. Four key improvements, adaptive constraint handling, early termination, parameter tuning, and efficient constraint pruning, was promoted to enhance the performance of the original IVY algorithm.

#### A. Initialization

The population  $\vec{I}$  and growth rates  $\Delta$  are initialized as:

$$I_i = lb + (ub - lb) \times \text{rand}(1, d) \quad (13)$$

$$\Delta_i = (0.1 + 0.2 \times \text{rand}(1, d)) \times (ub - lb) \quad (14)$$

where  $i$  denotes individual in one iteration,  $lb$  and  $ub$  is lower and upper bounds of each dimension, and  $d$  denotes the problem dimension.

#### B. Optimization Process

For each individual  $i$  at iteration  $k$ :

1) *Penalized fitness evaluation*: :

$$f_{\text{raw}}(I) = \text{obj\_func}(I) \quad (15)$$

$$\text{violation}(I) = \sum_k \max(0, g_k(I)) \quad (\text{positive deviation}) \quad (16)$$

$$f_p(I) = f_{\text{raw}}(I) + p(k) \times \text{violation}(I) \quad (17)$$

where  $f_{\text{raw}}$  defines the original output of the object function,  $g_k$  is the  $k$ -th constraint function, and  $p(t)$  is the adaptive penalty coefficient at iteration  $k$ .

2) *Adaptive penalty coefficient*: :

$$p(t) = p_{\min} + (p_{\max} - p_{\min}) \times \left( 1 - \frac{k}{K_{\max}} \right)^\beta \quad (18)$$

where  $\beta$  controls the decay rate (higher values accelerate penalty reduction),  $K_{\max}$  is the maximum iteration count,  $p_{\min}$  is the minimum penalty, and  $p_{\max}$  is the maximum penalty. Initial penalty  $p(0) = p_{\max}$  will converge to  $p_{\min}$  by the increment of  $k$ , until  $k = K_{\max}$ .

3) *Growth rate update with momentum*: :

$$\Delta_i = 0.9 \times \Delta_i + (1 - 0.9) \times (\text{rand}^2 \odot \mathcal{N}(\mathbf{0}, \mathbf{I}_d)) \quad (19)$$

where  $\mathcal{N}(\mathbf{0}, \mathbf{I}_d)$  denotes D-dimensional standard normal random vector, simulating stochastic growth variations, and  $\odot$  denotes element-wise multiplication. The momentum term simulates plant growth inertia.

4) *Dynamic behavior threshold*: :

$$\beta_t = 0.5 + 0.5 \times (k / K_{max}) \quad (20)$$

where  $\beta_t$  is the time-dependent threshold coefficient, increasing from 0.5 to 1.0 during optimization.

$$\theta_i = \beta_t \times f_p(I_B) \quad (21)$$

where  $\theta_i$  is the adaptive behavior selection threshold for individual  $i$ , and  $I_B$  is the best solution.

5) *Neighbor selection*: :

$$I_n = \begin{cases} \text{random better individual} & \text{if available} \\ I_B & \text{otherwise} \end{cases} \quad (22)$$

“Better” defined by penalized fitness  $f_p$ , where  $I_B$  is the global best solution, and  $I_n$  is the relative neighbor individual.

6) *Bio-inspired behavior selection*: :  $I'_i$  is updated as:

$$\begin{cases} I_i + \alpha \times (|\mathcal{N}(\mathbf{0}, \mathbf{I}_d)| \odot (I_n - I_i) + \mathcal{N}(\mathbf{0}, \mathbf{I}_d) \odot \Delta_i) & f_p(I_i) < \theta_i \\ I_B \odot (\text{rand}(1, d) + \beta_e \times \mathcal{N}(\mathbf{0}, \mathbf{I}_d) \odot \Delta_i) & \text{otherwise} \end{cases} \quad (23)$$

where  $\alpha = 0.1 \times (1 - k / K_{max})$  is the climbing coefficient that decreases over time,  $\beta_e = 0.2 \times (1 + k / K_{max})$  is the expansion coefficient that increases over time, and  $\odot$  denotes element-wise multiplication. Local search enhancement is adopted with 30% probability:

$$I'_i = I_B + 0.05 \times (ub - lb) \times \mathcal{N}(\mathbf{0}, \mathbf{I}_d) \quad (24)$$

7) *Intelligent boundary handling*: :  $I'_i$  is updated as:

$$\begin{cases} lb_d + 0.8 \times (lb_d - I'_i) & I'_i < lb_d \\ ub_d - 0.8 \times (I'_i - ub_d) & I'_i > ub_d \\ lb_d + 0.02 \times (ub_d - lb_d) & \|I'_i - lb_d\| < 0.05(ub_d - lb_d) \\ ub_d - 0.02 \times (ub_d - lb_d) & \|I'_i - ub_d\| < 0.05(ub_d - lb_d) \\ I'_i & \text{otherwise} \end{cases} \quad (25)$$

where  $lb_d$  and  $ub_d$  are dimension-specific bounds.

8) *Dynamic population management*: :

$$\delta = \text{mean}(\text{std}(I, \text{axis}=0)) \quad (26)$$

where  $\delta$  is the population diversity metric.

$$\text{Injection condition: } \delta < 0.1 \times \text{mean}(ub - lb) \quad (27)$$

$$I_{inj} = I_B + 0.1 \times (ub - lb) \times \mathcal{N}(\mathbf{0}, \mathbf{I}_d) \quad (28)$$

where  $I_{inj}$  is the injected individual.

$$n_{inj} = \max(1, \lfloor n_{pop} \times 0.1 \rfloor) \quad (29)$$

where  $n_{inj}$  is the number of individuals to inject. Population resizing (applied every 100 iterations):

$$n_{pop}(t) = n_{pop}(0) \times \left( 0.7 + 0.3 \times \left( 1 - \frac{k}{K_{max}} \right) \right) \quad (30)$$

where  $n_{pop}(t)$  is the current population size.

$$n_{pop}(t) \geq n_{min} = 20 \quad \text{for } k > 0.5 K_{max} \quad (31)$$

where  $n_{min}$  is the minimum population size.

When downsizing, elite individuals are preserved based on fitness ranking.

9) *Hybrid early stopping*: ( $k=100$ ):

$$\Delta f = \frac{|f_k - f_{k-x}|}{\max(|f_k|, 10^{-8})} < 10^{-4} \quad (32)$$

where  $\Delta f$  is the relative fitness change over  $x$  iterations.

$$\sigma_{dim} = \sqrt{\frac{1}{x} \sum_{k'=k-x+1}^k (x_d(k') - \bar{x}_d)^2} < 0.01 \quad \forall dim \in d \quad (33)$$

where  $\sigma_{dim}$  is the parameter fluctuation for dimension  $d$ .

$$R_s = \frac{\sigma(\{f_{k-x+1}, \dots, f_k\})}{\mu(\{f_{k-x+1}, \dots, f_k\})} < 10^{-6} \times (1 + k / K_{max}) \quad (34)$$

where  $R_s$  is the relative standard deviation of recent best fitness values. The process will be terminated if any condition satisfied when  $t > 0.7T$ .

10) *Pruning strategies*: : Position update pruning:

$$I_i^{k+1} = \begin{cases} I'_i & f_p(I'_i) < f_p(I_i^k) \\ I_i^k & \text{otherwise} \end{cases} \quad (35)$$

where  $I_i^k$  denotes the current position of individual  $i$  at iteration  $k$ ,  $I'_i$  represents the new candidate position generated by behavior selection,  $f_p$  is the penalized fitness function defined in equation (17), and  $I_i^{k+1}$  is the accepted position for the next iteration. This strategy accepts position updates only when they improve the penalized fitness value. Diversity injection pruning is performed as:

$$I_B^{k+1} = \begin{cases} I_{inj} & f_p(I_{inj}) < f_p(I_B^k) \\ I_B^k & \text{otherwise} \end{cases} \quad (36)$$

where  $I_B^k$  is the current global best solution at iteration  $k$ ,  $I_{inj}$  represents the injected individual generated through diversity enhancement as defined in equation (28), and  $I_B^{k+1}$  is the updated global best solution. The global best solution is only updated by this strategy when injected individuals demonstrate superior fitness. The complete ACE-IVY process is formalized in Algorithm 1.

### C. Experimental Evaluation

To validate the improvement of the ACE-IVY it was compared with four baselines, including the Original IVY, DE [14], APOA [15]–[17] and GA [18], on the Rastrigin function, a benchmark for global optimization. All experiments run 10 times to ensure statistical significance.



**Algorithm 1** ACE-IVY Optimization Algorithm**Input:**  $f, g_k, d, lb, ub, K_{max}, n_{pop(0)}, n_{min}=20$ **Output:**  $I_B, f_{best}$ 

```

1: Initialize  $I_i$  and  $\Delta_i$  with (13)-(14)
2: Evaluate  $f_p$  with (15)-(17)
3:  $I_B \leftarrow f_p, f_{best} \leftarrow \min f_p$ 
4: for  $k=1$  to  $K_{max}$  do
5:   Update  $p(k)$  with (18)
6:   Update  $\Delta_i$  with (19)
7:   for each  $i$  do
8:     Calculate  $\theta_i$  with (20)-(21)
9:     Select  $I_{neighbor}$  with (22)
10:    Generate  $I'_i$  with 30% probability local search with (23)-(24)
11:    Apply boundary handling with (25)
12:    Evaluate  $f_p(I'_i)$ 
13:    Apply position update pruning with (35)
14:  end for
15:  Update  $I_B$  and  $f_{best}$  if improved
16:  if  $k \bmod 100=0$  then
17:    Resize population with (30)-(31)
18:    Compute  $\delta$  with (26)
19:    if (27) then
20:      Inject  $n_{inj}$  with (28)-(29)
21:      Update  $I_B$  with (36)
22:    end if
23:  end if
24:  Record  $f_{best}$  history and parameter history
25:  if  $k > 0.7K_{max}$  and  $k \bmod 50=0$  then
26:    if (32) OR (33) OR (34) then
27:      break {Early stopping}
28:    end if
29:  end if
30: end for
31: return  $I_B, f_{best}$ 

```

1) *Convergence Performance:* Fig. 2 plots the convergence curves, in which mean  $\pm$  is the standard deviation of competing algorithms. The ACE-IVY exhibits a steeper initial decline because of its dynamic penalty and diversity injection mechanisms, enabling stronger global exploration. It consistently outperforms baselines and converges to a lower fitness value, validating the proposed adaptive strategies.

2) *Runtime Efficiency:* Fig. 3 compares the mean runtime across algorithms. Despite integrating adaptive mechanisms, the ACE-IVY maintains competitive efficiency with the original IVY. This balance between optimization accuracy and speed is critical for real-time edge computing.

3) *Energy Efficiency in Cloud-Edge Offloading:* To assess the improved IVY algorithm's performance in cloud-edge task allocation, we analyze system energy consumption across three task scales 0.5, 1.0, 2.0, and varying resource configurations, edge nodes  $n \in [1, 20]$  and local devices  $m \in [1, 50]$ .

Fig. 4 illustrates the 3D energy distribution. The x-axis

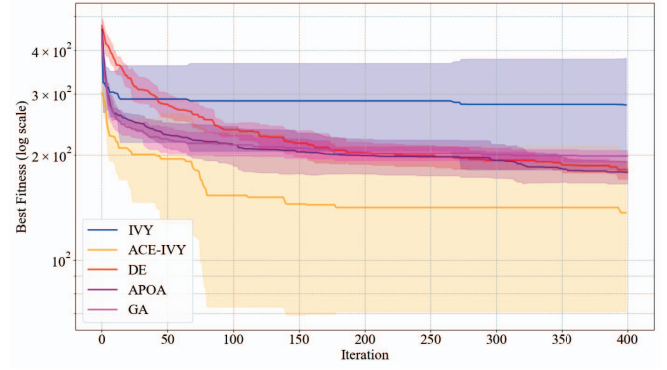


Fig. 2. Algorithm Convergence Comparison on Rastrigin (10 Runs)

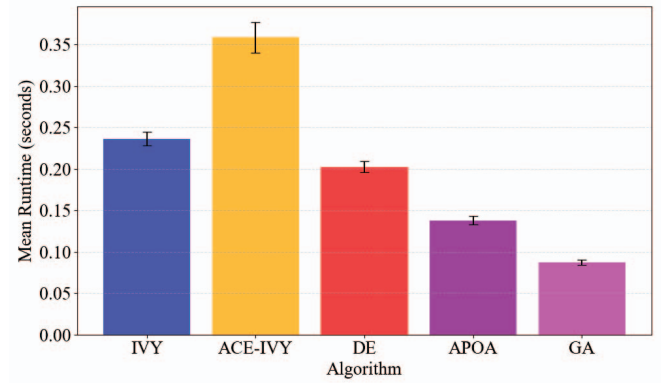


Fig. 3. Algorithm Runtime Comparison (Mean  $\pm$  Std)

and y-axis represent the number of edge nodes and local devices, respectively, while the z-axis and color gradient quantify energy consumption: warmer colors = higher energy. In addition, for the edge node scaling, energy decreases with more edge nodes, but gains saturate beyond  $n = 15$ . Larger tasks, e.g. scale 2.0, increase baseline energy, but the algorithm maintains smooth, low-energy regions via dynamic offloading. Moreover, the algorithm avoids energy spikes for robustness, demonstrating effective constraint handling under scaled workloads.

#### IV. CONCLUSION

The rapid evolution of IoT-enabled smart cities has intensified computational demands for real-time traffic control, where resource-constrained TSUs struggle with energy limitations and latency requirements. To address this, our work constructs a dual-mode offloading model and formulates a constrained optimization problem minimizing total energy consumption  $E_s = E_c + E_t$  while satisfying resource capacity and security compliance. Our solution, the ACE-IVY algorithm, integrates four key innovations: (1) dynamic penalty coefficients, (2) hybrid early stopping, (3) adaptive population regulation, (4) constraint pruning. Experimental validation with the model above demonstrates that ACE-IVY attains the best solution with lower cost. For future work, we intend to incorporate

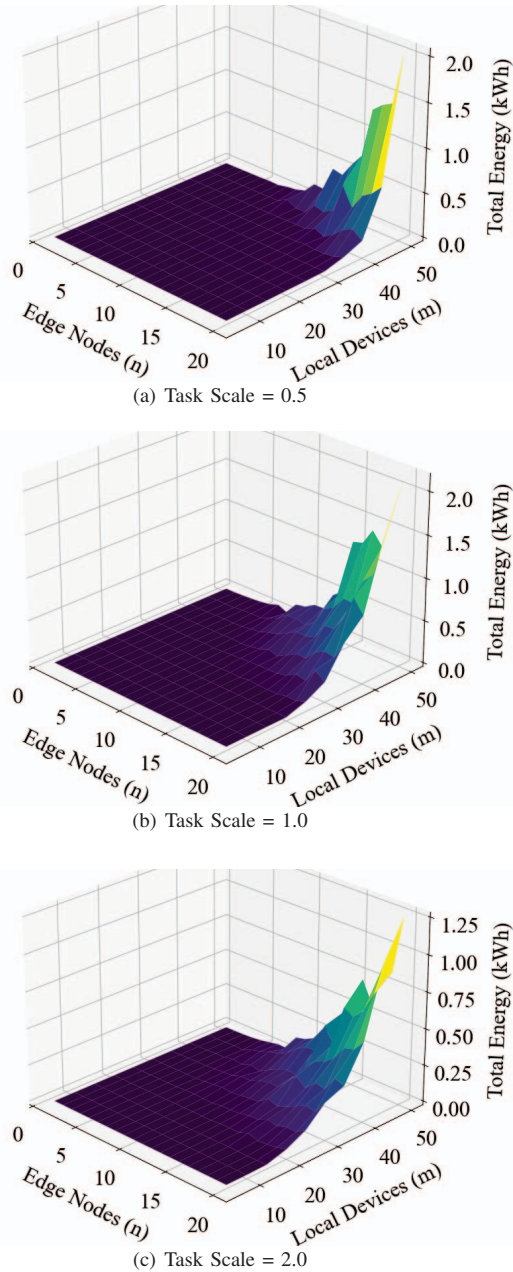


Fig. 4. 3D Energy Consumption of Cloud-Edge Systems Using ACE-IVY

deep reinforcement learning for adaptive edge selection, and extend the usage of ACE-IVY and the modeling method above in related fields [17].

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