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Benchmarking online dispatch algorithms for Emergency Medical Services

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Highlights

- Bounds the performance (fraction late arrivals) of online ambulance dispatching
- The 'closest idle method performs 2.7 times worse than the offline op timum
- The DMEXCLP dispatch heuristic is only 1.9 times worse than the offline optimum
- The value of information for realistic instances is thus lower than one may expect
- The competitive ratio for the dispatch problem is infinitly large



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