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Sommario/riassunto	The chapters of this Handbook volume covers nine main topics that are representative of recenttheoretical and algorithmic developments in the field. In addition to the nine papers that present the state of the art, there is an article onthe early history of the field. The handbook will be a useful reference to experts in the field as well as students and others who want to learn about discrete optimization. All of the chapters in this handbook are written by authors who have made significant original contributions to their topics. Herewith a brief introduction to the chapte