Research review: a modified micro genetic algorithm for undertaking multi-objective optimization problems

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Research Review

A Modified micro Genetic Algorithm for undertaking Multi-Objective Optimization Problems

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Preliminaries Motivation

Preliminaries

Problem 8
Objective

Literature Review

The MmG/ Model

Conclusions and Contributions

Future Works

Real-world problems often entail multiple and yet conflicting objectives, known as **Multi-objective Optimization Problems** (MOPs)



An example of the typical cost-profit trade-off and the Pareto front.

Pareto non-dominated solutions:

An optimization phenomenon whereby it is impossible to make any one solution better off without causing at least one solution worse off





Preliminaries Motivation

Preliminaries

Problem & Objective

Review

Conclusions an

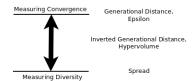
Contributions

Future Work

Why using **Evolutionary Algorithm** (EA)?

 EAs are useful for tacking optimization problems by exploiting natural selection phenomena and the learning capability of problem solving

Pareto optimality principle is used to measure the effectiveness of **Multi-Objective Evolutionary Algorithms** (MOEAs) using MOP indicators as follows:



A classification of MOP indicators





Preliminaries

Preliminaries

- This research focuses on tackling MOPs using MOFA-based model
- Specifically, the **micro Genetic Algorithm** (mGA) is used as the base MOEA model, which has salient properties as follows.
 - a Genetic Algorithm (GA) evolutes with a small population size, i.e. three to six chromosomes
 - able to solve non-linear optimization problems
 - uses a restart strategy to achieve convergence and to maintain diversity as compared with GA





Preliminaries Research Focus

Preliminaries

Problem & Objective

Literature Review

The MmGA Model

Conclusions and Contributions

Future Work

- mGA is used as the building block to design and develop an enhanced model to tackle MOPs, i.e. Modified mGA (MmGA)
- The MmGA is evaluated comprehensively using benchmark MOPs





Preliminaries Research Problem & Objective

Preliminaries

Research Problem & Objective

Literature Review

The MmGA Model

Conclusions and

Future Work

The key research questions is:

how to improve the convergence properties of the MmGA solutions towards the Pareto front while preserving the salient properties of the original mGA model?

The research objectives is:

■ to improve the original mGA model in tackling MOPs with good convergence properties towards the Pareto front





Literature Review Categories of MOEAs

Preliminaries

Problem & Objective

Literature Review

Model Maga

Conclusions and Contributions

Future Works

MOEA Category	Usage
Decomposition-based	Novel MOEA design and formation (Li and Zhang, 2009; Ke et al., 2013), and arc routing problem (Mei et al., 2011a).
Preference-based	Novel MOEA design and formation (Thiele et al., 2009; Liu, Wang, Liu, Fang and Jiao, 2013; Wagner and Trautmann, 2010).
Indicator-based	Novel MOEA design and formation (Wagner and Trautmann, 2010; Bader and Zitzler, 2011), and nurse scheduling (Basseur et al., 2012).
Hybrid-based	Novel MOEA design and formation (Elhossini et al., 2010; Yang et al., 2009), vehicle routing problem (Cattaruzza et al., 2013), arc routing problem (Liu, Jiang and Geng, 2013), and traveling salesperson problem (Castro et al., 2013).
Memetic-based	Novel MOEA design and formation (Soliman et al., 2009; Fernandez Caballero et al., 2010), arc routing problem (Mei et al., 2011b), environmental power unit commitment design (Li, Pedroni and Zio, 2013), permutation flow shop scheduling (Chiang et al., 2011), job shop scheduling (Frutos and Tohmé, 2013).
Co-evolution-based	NovelMOEAdesignandformation(Solimanetal.,2009;Wangetal.,2013),shipdesign(CuiandTuran,2010),knapsackproblem(Jiaoetal.,2013).





Literature Review mGA-based models

Preliminaries

Objective Literature

Review

Model Model

Conclusions and

Future Works

Year	Model	Characteristics and Usage
2001, 2005	mGA (Coello and Pulido, 2001, 2005)	Original mGA implementation for undertaking benchmark MOPs.
2003	$mGA2\ with\ an\ adaptive\ parameter\ tuning\ mechanism\ (Toscano\ Pulido\ and\ Coello,\ 2003)$	An extended mGA (Coello and Pulido, 2001) for undertaking benchmark MOPs.
2007	mGA with Newton-Raphson load flow algorithm (Mendoza et al., 2007)	A model used to optimize localization of AVRs.
2009	mGA with novel encoding and genetic operators (Mendoza et al., 2009)	A model used to optimize power losses and reliability indices in a power distribution system.
2011	mGA with a fuzzy controller (Chen, 2011)	A model used to optimize parameters of a fuzzy controller for vehicle suspension control design.

The population sizes in mGA-based models

	population olego
	Size 5: Krishnakumar (1990), Johnson and Abushagur (1995), Smajic et al. (2009),
COD	Watanabe et al. (2010), Itoh et al. (2012)
SOF	Size 6: Chu et al. (2013)
	Watanabe et al. (2010), Itoh et al. (2012) Size 6: Chu et al. (2013) Size 7: Ali and Ramaswamy (2009) (Size 3, 5: Mendoza et al. (2007)
	(Size 3, 5: Mendoza et al. (2007)
	Size 3, 5: Mendoza et al. (2007) Size 4: Coello and Pulido (2001); Coello and Toscano Pulido (2001); Coello and Pulido (2005),
MOP	Size 4: Coello and Pulido (2001); Coello and Toscano Pulido (2001); Coello and Pulido (2005), Toscano Pulido and Coello (2003) Size 5: Mendoza et al. (2009)
	Size 5: Mendoza et al. (2009)



Chen (2011)



Preliminaries

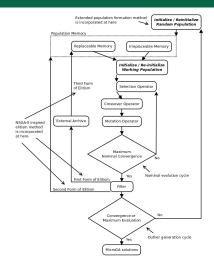
Problem 8 Objective

Literatur

The MmGA

Conclusions an

Future Works



A flowchart of the proposed MmGA model.





Preliminaries

Research
Problem &
Objective

Literatur Review

The MmGA Model

Conclusions and Contributions

Future Works

- Improving the convergence properties towards to the true Pareto front as compared with mGA using
 - An NSGAII inspired elitism method
 - An extended population formation method

```
Require: Select c_0 non-dominated fronts based on given inbound individuals \mathbf{x}' where maximum |\mathbf{x}'| = 2N, |\mathbf{y}| \to \text{constant } c_1 1: Procedure MmGAElitism (\mathbf{x}', \mathbf{y}, c_0) 2: \mathbf{z} = \{\neg(\mathbf{x}' \cap \mathbf{y}) \mid \mathbf{z} \in \mathbf{x}'\} 3: \mathbf{w} = \text{FNDS}(\mathbf{z}) /**adopted from (Deb et al., 2002)**/
4: i = 1 5: while i \le (2N + c_1) do 6: CDAssignment(w_i) /**adopted from (Deb et al., 2002)**/
7: i = i + 1 8: end while 9: \mathbf{e} = Sort(\mathbf{w}, \preceq_{CD}) /** adopted from (Deb et al., 2002)**/
10: return \{\mathbf{e} \mid \forall \mathbf{e} \in \neg(\mathbf{x}' \cap \mathbf{y}) \cup \mathbf{y}, |\mathbf{e}| = c_0 + c_1\}
```

An NSGA-II inspired elitism strategy.





Preliminaries

Research Problem 8

Objective

The MmGA

Model

Conclusions and Contributions

Future Works

```
Require: Generate constant n number of populations based on given inbound and constant commembers' adoption rate

    Procedure InitializePopulation (n. co. irm. rm. m)

 2: p_{init} = irm

 r = {[r<sub>1</sub>,...,r<sub>n</sub>] | ∀r ∈ random(N), N = [1,2,...], r<sub>k</sub> ≤ n}

 4: d = [rm, m]
 5: i = 1
 6: while i \le |\mathbf{d}| \mathbf{do}
         z_{unique} = \{\neg(d_i \cap \mathbf{p}_{init}), | \mathbf{p}_{init} | \le n, \forall z_{unique} \in d_i, | z_{unique} | \le d_i \}
         z_{sorted} = \{Sort(z_{unique}, \preceq)\}
                              /**for rm component**/
10:
               c_1 = c_0 \times (n - | \text{irm} |)
11:
               *Add c1 members from zsorted to pioir
          end if
                                 /**for m component**/
               c_1 = \{c_0 \times (n - |\mathbf{p}_{init}|), |\mathbf{p}_{init}| \neq 0, c_0 > 0\}
15:
               for j = 1 \rightarrow c_1 do
16:
                    *Add (rj)th of zsorted to pinit
               end for
          end if
          i = i + 1
20: end while
                                   /**for new random elements**/
          c_1 = \{n - | \mathbf{p}_{init} |, | \mathbf{p}_{init} | \neq 0, c_0 > 0\}
          for i = 1 \rightarrow c_1 do
               *Add random solution to pinit
          end for
26: end if
27: return pinis
```

An extended population formation procedure, adapted from Coello and Toscano Pulido (2001); Coello and Pulido (2005).





Preliminaries

Research

Literature

Literature

The MmGA Model

Conclusions and Contributions

Future Works

```
Require: Generate non-dominated solutions for MOP
 1: Procedure MmGA
 2: i = 0, \mathbf{p}_{MmGA} = \phi
 3: em = f(archiveSize, BiSection, n) = \phi
 4: Initialize m....
 5: †m = Sort(m<sub>init</sub>, ≺)
 6: while i < evaluation_{Max} do
         \dagger \mathbf{p}_{init} = InitializePopulation(n, ratio, irm, rm, m)
         \dagger \mathbf{p} = Sort(\mathbf{p}_{init}, \preceq)
         repeat
10:
              u = Apply binary tournament selection on p
11.
              \mathbf{v} = \text{Apply two-Point crossover on } \mathbf{u}
12.
              \mathbf{w} = \text{Apply uniform mutation on } \mathbf{v}
13:
              p_i^{MmGA} = \dagger MmGAElitism(\mathbf{w}, \mathbf{p}, 1)
14:
          until nominalConvergenceMax is reached
         \mathbf{em}_{MmGA} = \dagger^{1} MmGAElitism(\mathbf{p}_{i}^{MmGA}, \mathbf{em}, eliteSize)
15:
16:
          if em is full when trying to insert emelite then
                                                    /**adopted from (Knowles and Corne, 2000)**/
17.
              em = adaptiveGrid(em_{elite})
18:
          end if
         \mathbf{m} = \dagger^2 MmGAElitism(\mathbf{p}_i^{MmGA}, \mathbf{m}, eliteSize)
19.
20:
          if i modulus replacementCycle then
21:
              rm = †^3MmGAElitism(em, rm, eliteSize)
          end if
23.
         i = i + 1
24 end while
25: return pMmGA
           /**†1, †2, †3 are the first, second and third forms of elitism mGA, respectively.**/
26.
```

The pseudo-code of the overall MmGA model.





Summary of Experiments with Selected Result

Preliminaries

Problem & Objective

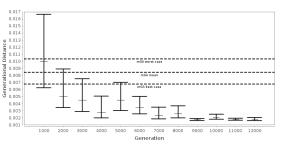
Review

The MmGA Model

Conclusions and

Future Work

Key result: It achieved fast convergence in I_{gd} with statistical significance results.



A comparison between I_{gd} of mGA (i.e. dotted lines) and bootstrapped I_{gd} of MmGA. The error bars indicate the 95% confidence intervals of the mean I_{gd} results of MmGA.





Conclusions and Contributions

Preliminarie:

Problem 8
Objective

Review

Model

Conclusions and Contributions

Future Work

The key contributions of this research are as follows:

- Created an enhanced mGA-based models to provide near optimal solutions with reference to the true Pareto front for undertaking MOPs
- Assessed the proposed models with benchmark MOPs and conducted a comprehensive performance comparison with other similar models





Conclusions and Contributions

Preliminarie

Research Problem 8 Objective

Review

Model

Conclusions and Contributions

Future Work

- Quantified all results with the bootstrap statistical method to confirm the stability of performance (see paper)
- Derived the time complexity analysis using the big-O notation (see paper)
- The details of this research is published: Tan, C. J., Lim, C. P. and Cheah, Y.-N. (2013). A modified micro genetic algorithm for undertaking multi-objective optimization problems, Journal of Intelligent and Fuzzy Systems 24(3): 483-495.





Future Works

Preliminarie

Problem 8
Objective

Review

Conclusions ar

Future Works

The further works of this research are as follows:

- to attempt to measure the performance of the MmGA using other MOP indicators,
- to evaluate the applicability of the MmGA to undertake real-world MOPs, and
- to hybrid EA models and other neural computing models in forming new MOEA models.



Thank You

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