

Non-Dominated Sorting

Sumit Mishra

Department of Computer Science & Engineering
Indian Institute of Technology Patna

sumitmishra@iitp.ac.in

December 2016

IIT Patna, Patna



Outline

1 Non-Dominated Sorting

- Solution Representation
- Dominance Relationship
- Problem Definition

2 Approaches

- Naive Approach
- Fast Non-Dominating Sorting
- Efficient Non-Dominating Sorting
- Divide and Conquer based Non-Dominating Sorting



Outline

1 Non-Dominated Sorting

- Solution Representation
- Dominance Relationship
- Problem Definition

2 Approaches

- Naive Approach
- Fast Non-Dominating Sorting
- Efficient Non-Dominating Sorting
- Divide and Conquer based Non-Dominating Sorting



Solution Representation

Solution Representation

A solution '*sol*' in M -dimensional space is represented as

$$sol = \{f_1(sol), f_2(sol), \dots, f_M(sol)\} \quad (1)$$

where $f_i(sol)$, $1 \leq i \leq M$ is the value of solution '*sol*' in i -th dimension.

Representation of 5 solutions

$$sol_1 = \{1, 1\}$$

$$sol_2 = \{1, 2\}$$

$$sol_3 = \{3, 1\}$$

$$sol_4 = \{2, 3\}$$

$$sol_5 = \{4, 2\}$$

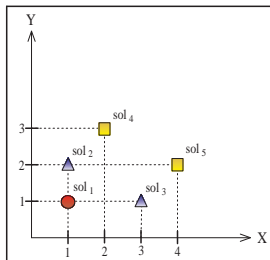


Figure 1 : Solutions in 2-dimensional space.



Outline

1 Non-Dominated Sorting

- Solution Representation
- **Dominance Relationship**
- Problem Definition

2 Approaches

- Naive Approach
- Fast Non-Dominating Sorting
- Efficient Non-Dominating Sorting
- Divide and Conquer based Non-Dominating Sorting



Dominance

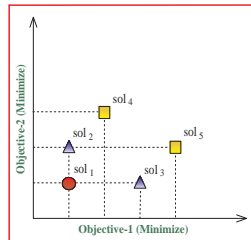
DEFINITION: Dominance (for minimization problem)

A solution $sol_i = \{f_1(sol_i), f_2(sol_i), \dots, f_M(sol_i)\}$ dominates another solution $sol_j = \{f_1(sol_j), f_2(sol_j), \dots, f_M(sol_j)\}$ denoted as $sol_i \prec sol_j$ iff

- ① $f_m(sol_i) \leq f_m(sol_j) \quad \forall m \in \{1, 2, \dots, M\}$
- ② $f_m(sol_i) < f_m(sol_j) \quad \exists m \in \{1, 2, \dots, M\}$

sol_i and sol_j are **non-dominated** represented as $sol_i \preceq sol_j$ iff neither $sol_i \prec sol_j$ nor $sol_j \prec sol_i$

In the Figure



Dominance

DEFINITION: Dominance (for minimization problem)

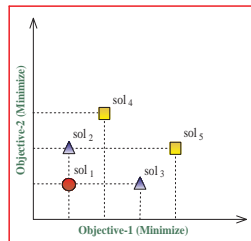
A solution $sol_i = \{f_1(sol_i), f_2(sol_i), \dots, f_M(sol_i)\}$ dominates another solution $sol_j = \{f_1(sol_j), f_2(sol_j), \dots, f_M(sol_j)\}$ denoted as $sol_i \prec sol_j$ iff

- ① $f_m(sol_i) \leq f_m(sol_j) \quad \forall m \in \{1, 2, \dots, M\}$
- ② $f_m(sol_i) < f_m(sol_j) \quad \exists m \in \{1, 2, \dots, M\}$

sol_i and sol_j are **non-dominated** represented as $sol_i \preceq sol_j$ iff neither $sol_i \prec sol_j$ nor $sol_j \prec sol_i$

In the Figure

$sol_1 \prec \{sol_2, sol_3, sol_4, sol_5\}$



Dominance

DEFINITION: Dominance (for minimization problem)

A solution $sol_i = \{f_1(sol_i), f_2(sol_i), \dots, f_M(sol_i)\}$ dominates another solution $sol_j = \{f_1(sol_j), f_2(sol_j), \dots, f_M(sol_j)\}$ denoted as $sol_i \prec sol_j$ iff

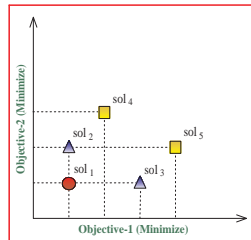
- ① $f_m(sol_i) \leq f_m(sol_j) \quad \forall m \in \{1, 2, \dots, M\}$
- ② $f_m(sol_i) < f_m(sol_j) \quad \exists m \in \{1, 2, \dots, M\}$

sol_i and sol_j are **non-dominated** represented as $sol_i \preceq sol_j$ iff neither $sol_i \prec sol_j$ nor $sol_j \prec sol_i$

In the Figure

$sol_1 \prec \{sol_2, sol_3, sol_4, sol_5\}$

$sol_2 \prec \{sol_4, sol_5\}$



Dominance

DEFINITION: Dominance (for minimization problem)

A solution $sol_i = \{f_1(sol_i), f_2(sol_i), \dots, f_M(sol_i)\}$ dominates another solution $sol_j = \{f_1(sol_j), f_2(sol_j), \dots, f_M(sol_j)\}$ denoted as $sol_i \prec sol_j$ iff

- ① $f_m(sol_i) \leq f_m(sol_j) \quad \forall m \in \{1, 2, \dots, M\}$
- ② $f_m(sol_i) < f_m(sol_j) \quad \exists m \in \{1, 2, \dots, M\}$

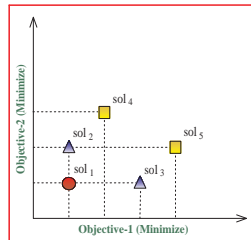
sol_i and sol_j are **non-dominated** represented as $sol_i \preceq sol_j$ iff neither $sol_i \prec sol_j$ nor $sol_j \prec sol_i$

In the Figure

$sol_1 \prec \{sol_2, sol_3, sol_4, sol_5\}$

$sol_2 \prec \{sol_4, sol_5\}$

$sol_3 \prec \{sol_5\}$



Dominance

DEFINITION: Dominance (for minimization problem)

A solution $sol_i = \{f_1(sol_i), f_2(sol_i), \dots, f_M(sol_i)\}$ dominates another solution $sol_j = \{f_1(sol_j), f_2(sol_j), \dots, f_M(sol_j)\}$ denoted as $sol_i \prec sol_j$ iff

- ① $f_m(sol_i) \leq f_m(sol_j) \quad \forall m \in \{1, 2, \dots, M\}$
- ② $f_m(sol_i) < f_m(sol_j) \quad \exists m \in \{1, 2, \dots, M\}$

sol_i and sol_j are **non-dominated** represented as $sol_i \preceq sol_j$ iff neither $sol_i \prec sol_j$ nor $sol_j \prec sol_i$

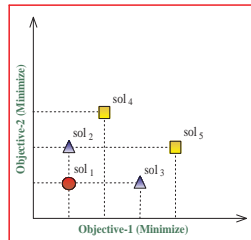
In the Figure

$$sol_1 \prec \{sol_2, sol_3, sol_4, sol_5\}$$

$$sol_2 \prec \{sol_4, sol_5\}$$

$$sol_3 \prec \{sol_5\}$$

$$sol_2 \preceq sol_3$$



Dominance

DEFINITION: Dominance (for minimization problem)

A solution $sol_i = \{f_1(sol_i), f_2(sol_i), \dots, f_M(sol_i)\}$ dominates another solution $sol_j = \{f_1(sol_j), f_2(sol_j), \dots, f_M(sol_j)\}$ denoted as $sol_i \prec sol_j$ iff

- ① $f_m(sol_i) \leq f_m(sol_j) \quad \forall m \in \{1, 2, \dots, M\}$
- ② $f_m(sol_i) < f_m(sol_j) \quad \exists m \in \{1, 2, \dots, M\}$

sol_i and sol_j are **non-dominated** represented as $sol_i \preceq sol_j$ iff neither $sol_i \prec sol_j$ nor $sol_j \prec sol_i$

In the Figure

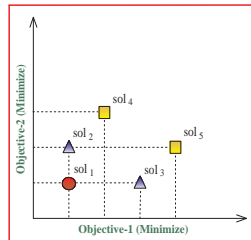
$$sol_1 \prec \{sol_2, sol_3, sol_4, sol_5\}$$

$$sol_2 \prec \{sol_4, sol_5\}$$

$$sol_3 \prec \{sol_5\}$$

$$sol_2 \preceq sol_3$$

$$sol_3 \preceq sol_4$$



Dominance

DEFINITION: Dominance (for minimization problem)

A solution $sol_i = \{f_1(sol_i), f_2(sol_i), \dots, f_M(sol_i)\}$ dominates another solution $sol_j = \{f_1(sol_j), f_2(sol_j), \dots, f_M(sol_j)\}$ denoted as $sol_i \prec sol_j$ iff

- ① $f_m(sol_i) \leq f_m(sol_j) \quad \forall m \in \{1, 2, \dots, M\}$
- ② $f_m(sol_i) < f_m(sol_j) \quad \exists m \in \{1, 2, \dots, M\}$

sol_i and sol_j are **non-dominated** represented as $sol_i \preceq sol_j$ iff neither $sol_i \prec sol_j$ nor $sol_j \prec sol_i$

In the Figure

$$sol_1 \prec \{sol_2, sol_3, sol_4, sol_5\}$$

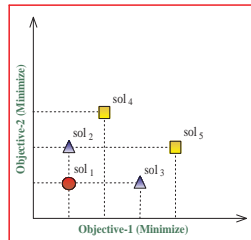
$$sol_2 \prec \{sol_4, sol_5\}$$

$$sol_3 \prec \{sol_5\}$$

$$sol_2 \preceq sol_3$$

$$sol_3 \preceq sol_4$$

$$sol_4 \preceq sol_5$$



Outline

1 Non-Dominated Sorting

- Solution Representation
- Dominance Relationship
- Problem Definition

2 Approaches

- Naive Approach
- Fast Non-Dominating Sorting
- Efficient Non-Dominating Sorting
- Divide and Conquer based Non-Dominating Sorting



Non-dominated Sorting

DEFINITION: Non-dominated Sorting [1]

Non-Dominated Sorting is to divide the population \mathbb{P} in K ($1 \leq K \leq N$) fronts. Let the set of these K fronts in decreasing order of their dominance (increasing order of non-domination level) is $\mathcal{F} = \{F_1, F_2, \dots, F_K\}$. The division of the solutions in fronts is such that

- ① $\forall sol_i, sol_j \in F_k: sol_i \preceq sol_j \quad 1 \leq k \leq K$
- ② $\forall sol \in F_k, \exists sol' \in F_{k-1}: sol' \prec sol \quad 2 \leq k \leq K$

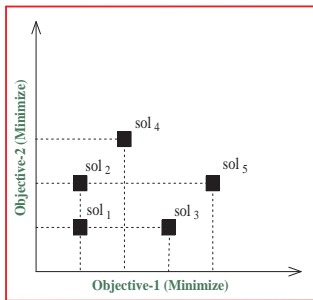


Figure 2 : Solutions.

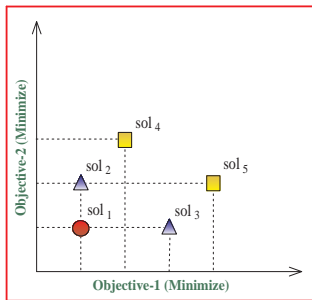


Figure 3 : Non-dominated fronts.



Different Approaches

- 1 Naive Approach
- 2 Fast Non-Dominating Sorting [1]
- 3 Deductive Sort [3]
- 4 ENS Approach [6]
- 5 DCNS Approach [4]
- 6 BOS Sort [5]



Outline

- 1 Non-Dominated Sorting
 - Solution Representation
 - Dominance Relationship
 - Problem Definition
- 2 Approaches
 - Naive Approach
 - Fast Non-Dominating Sorting
 - Efficient Non-Dominating Sorting
 - Divide and Conquer based Non-Dominating Sorting

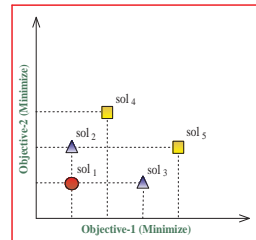


Domination Count

DEFINITION: Domination Count

Domination count of a solution '*sol*' in population \mathbb{P} is the number of solutions in \mathbb{P} which dominates solution '*sol*'.

In the Figure

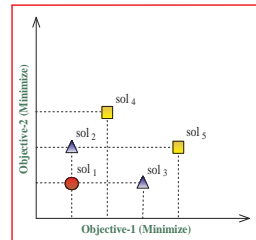


Domination Count

DEFINITION: Domination Count

Domination count of a solution '*sol*' in population \mathbb{P} is the number of solutions in \mathbb{P} which dominates solution '*sol*'.

In the Figure
Domination Count of $sol_1 = 0$



Domination Count

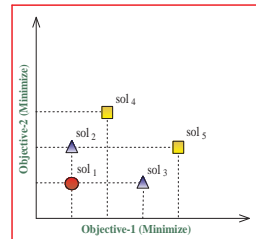
DEFINITION: Domination Count

Domination count of a solution '*sol*' in population \mathbb{P} is the number of solutions in \mathbb{P} which dominates solution '*sol*'.

In the Figure

Domination Count of $sol_1 = 0$

Domination Count of $sol_2 = 1$



Domination Count

DEFINITION: Domination Count

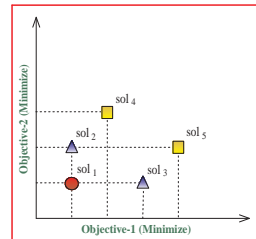
Domination count of a solution '*sol*' in population \mathbb{P} is the number of solutions in \mathbb{P} which dominates solution '*sol*'.

In the Figure

Domination Count of $sol_1 = 0$

Domination Count of $sol_2 = 1$

Domination Count of $sol_3 = 1$



Domination Count

DEFINITION: Domination Count

Domination count of a solution '*sol*' in population \mathbb{P} is the number of solutions in \mathbb{P} which dominates solution '*sol*'.

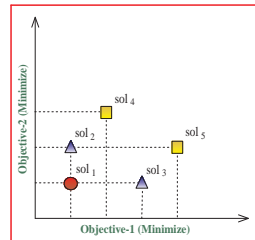
In the Figure

Domination Count of $sol_1 = 0$

Domination Count of $sol_2 = 1$

Domination Count of $sol_3 = 1$

Domination Count of $sol_4 = 2$



Domination Count

DEFINITION: Domination Count

Domination count of a solution '*sol*' in population \mathbb{P} is the number of solutions in \mathbb{P} which dominates solution '*sol*'.

In the Figure

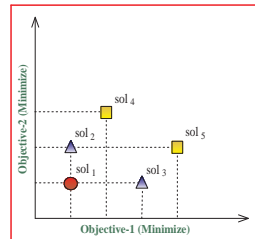
Domination Count of $sol_1 = 0$

Domination Count of $sol_2 = 1$

Domination Count of $sol_3 = 1$

Domination Count of $sol_4 = 2$

Domination Count of $sol_5 = 3$



Naive Approach : Example

- 1 For solution sol_1
 - $sol_1 \prec \{sol_2, sol_3, sol_4, sol_5\}$
- 2 For solution sol_2
 - $sol_2 \prec \{sol_4, sol_5\}$
 - $sol_2 \preceq \{sol_3\}$
 - $sol_1 \prec \{sol_2\}$
- 3 For solution sol_3
 - $sol_3 \prec \{sol_5\}$
 - $sol_3 \preceq \{sol_2, sol_4\}$
 - $sol_1 \prec \{sol_3\}$
- 4 For solution sol_4
 - $sol_4 \preceq \{sol_3, sol_5\}$
 - $sol_1, sol_2 \prec \{sol_4\}$
- 5 For solution sol_5
 - $sol_5 \preceq \{sol_4\}$
 - $sol_1, sol_2, sol_3 \prec \{sol_5\}$

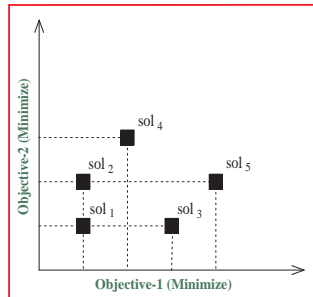


Figure 4 : Solutions

$$\begin{aligned}
 n_{sol_1} &= 0 & n_{sol_2} &= 1 \\
 n_{sol_3} &= 1 & n_{sol_4} &= 2 \\
 n_{sol_5} &= 3
 \end{aligned}$$



Naive Approach : Example

- 1 For solution sol_2
 - $sol_2 \prec \{sol_4, sol_5\}$
 - $sol_2 \preceq \{sol_3\}$
- 2 For solution sol_3
 - $sol_3 \prec \{sol_5\}$
 - $sol_3 \preceq \{sol_2, sol_4\}$
- 3 For solution sol_4
 - $sol_4 \preceq \{sol_3, sol_5\}$
 - $sol_2 \prec \{sol_4\}$
- 4 For solution sol_5
 - $sol_5 \preceq \{sol_4\}$
 - $sol_2, sol_3 \prec \{sol_5\}$

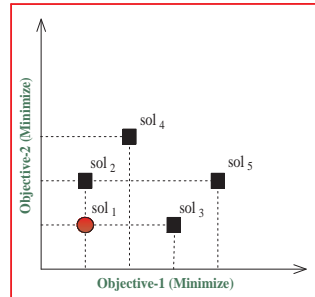


Figure 5 : Solutions

$$n_{sol_2} = 0$$

$$n_{sol_4} = 1$$

$$n_{sol_3} = 0$$

$$n_{sol_5} = 2$$



Naive Approach : Example

- ① For solution sol_4
 - $sol_4 \preceq \{sol_5\}$
- ② For solution sol_5
 - $sol_5 \preceq \{sol_4\}$

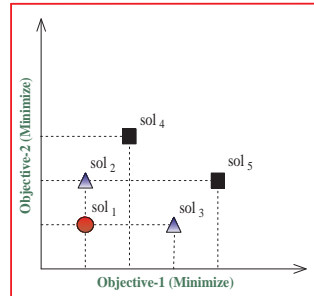


Figure 6 : Solutions

$$n_{sol_4} = 0$$

$$n_{sol_5} = 0$$



Final Sorted Solutions

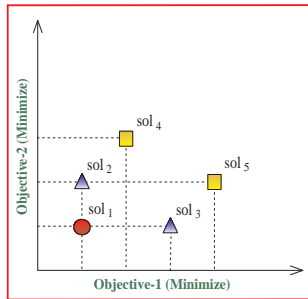


Figure 7 : Sorted Solutions

Algorithm 1 Naive Approach

Input: \mathbb{P} : Population

Output: Ranked solutions

```
1: rank  $\leftarrow$  1
2: repeat
3:   Initialize an array of size  $|\mathbb{P}|$  to store domination count
4:   for each solution  $sol \in \mathbb{P}$  do
5:      $n_p \leftarrow 0$  // Domination count
6:     for each solution  $sol' \in \mathbb{P}$  do
7:       if  $sol$  is dominated by  $sol'$  then
8:          $n_p \leftarrow n_p + 1$ 
9:     Dom_count[ $sol$ ]  $\leftarrow n_p$ 
10:  for each solution  $sol$  whose domination count is 0 do
11:     $sol_{\text{rank}} \leftarrow \text{rank}$ 
12:     $\mathbb{P} \leftarrow \mathbb{P} \setminus \{sol\}$ 
13:  rank  $\leftarrow$  rank + 1
14: until  $\mathbb{P}$  becomes empty
```



Complexity Analysis

Space Complexity

- Domination count of each of the solutions is stored.
- Initially the number of solutions is N .
- Space complexity = $\mathcal{O}(N)$

Time Complexity

- Each solution is compared with all other solutions.
 - Time required = $\mathcal{O}(MN^2)$
- This process may be repeated maximum N times.
 - Happens when N solutions are in N different fronts.
- Time complexity = $\mathcal{O}(MN^3)$



Outline

1 Non-Dominated Sorting

- Solution Representation
- Dominance Relationship
- Problem Definition

2 Approaches

- Naive Approach
- **Fast Non-Dominating Sorting**
- Efficient Non-Dominating Sorting
- Divide and Conquer based Non-Dominating Sorting



Fast Non-Dominating Sorting: Example

- 1 For solution sol_1
 - $S_{sol_1} = \{sol_2, sol_3, sol_4, sol_5\}$
 - $n_{sol_1} = 0$
- 2 For solution sol_2
 - $S_{sol_2} = \{sol_4, sol_5\}$
 - $n_{sol_2} = 1$ $sol_2 \succ \{sol_1\}$
- 3 For solution sol_3
 - $S_{sol_3} = \{sol_5\}$
 - $n_{sol_3} = 1$ $sol_3 \succ \{sol_1\}$
- 4 For solution sol_4
 - $S_{sol_4} = \{\}$
 - $n_{sol_4} = 2$ $sol_4 \succ \{sol_1, sol_2\}$
- 5 For solution sol_5
 - $S_{sol_5} = \{\}$
 - $n_{sol_5} = 3$ $sol_5 \succ \{sol_1, sol_2, sol_3\}$

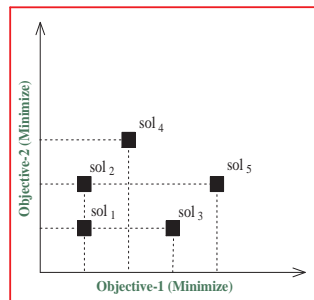


Figure 8 : Solutions



Fast Non-Dominating Sorting: Example

$n_{sol_1} = 0$	$S_{sol_1} = \{sol_2, sol_3, sol_4, sol_5\}$
$n_{sol_2} = 1$	$S_{sol_2} = \{sol_4, sol_5\}$
$n_{sol_3} = 1$	$S_{sol_3} = \{sol_5\}$
$n_{sol_4} = 2$	$S_{sol_4} = \{\}$
$n_{sol_5} = 3$	$S_{sol_5} = \{\}$

$$n_{sol_1} = 0$$

- $sol_{1_{rank}} = 1$
- $F_1 = \{sol_1\}$

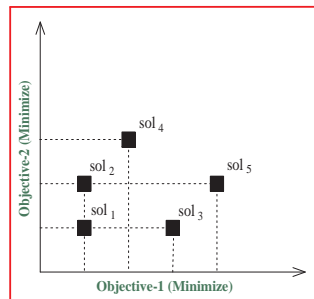


Figure 9 : Solutions



Fast Non-Dominating Sorting: Example

$n_{sol_1} = 0$	$S_{sol_1} = \{\text{sol}_2, \text{sol}_3, \text{sol}_4, \text{sol}_5\}$
$n_{sol_2} = 0$	$S_{sol_2} = \{\text{sol}_4, \text{sol}_5\}$
$n_{sol_3} = 1$	$S_{sol_3} = \{\text{sol}_5\}$
$n_{sol_4} = 2$	$S_{sol_4} = \{\}$
$n_{sol_5} = 3$	$S_{sol_5} = \{\}$

$n_{sol_1} = 0$	$S_{sol_1} = \{\text{sol}_2, \text{sol}_3, \text{sol}_4, \text{sol}_5\}$
$n_{sol_2} = 0$	$S_{sol_2} = \{\text{sol}_4, \text{sol}_5\}$
$n_{sol_3} = 0$	$S_{sol_3} = \{\text{sol}_5\}$
$n_{sol_4} = 2$	$S_{sol_4} = \{\}$
$n_{sol_5} = 3$	$S_{sol_5} = \{\}$

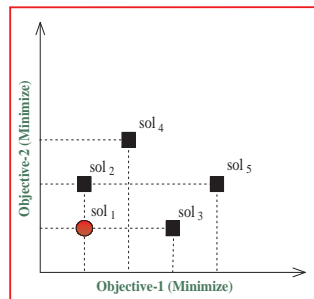


Figure 10 : Solutions



Fast Non-Dominating Sorting: Example

$n_{sol_1} = 0$	$S_{sol_1} = \{\text{sol}_2, \text{sol}_3, \text{sol}_4, \text{sol}_5\}$
$n_{sol_2} = 0$	$S_{sol_2} = \{\text{sol}_4, \text{sol}_5\}$
$n_{sol_3} = 0$	$S_{sol_3} = \{\text{sol}_5\}$
$n_{sol_4} = 1$	$S_{sol_4} = \{\}$
$n_{sol_5} = 3$	$S_{sol_5} = \{\}$

$n_{sol_1} = 0$	$S_{sol_1} = \{\text{sol}_2, \text{sol}_3, \text{sol}_4, \text{sol}_5\}$
$n_{sol_2} = 0$	$S_{sol_2} = \{\text{sol}_4, \text{sol}_5\}$
$n_{sol_3} = 0$	$S_{sol_3} = \{\text{sol}_5\}$
$n_{sol_4} = 1$	$S_{sol_4} = \{\}$
$n_{sol_5} = 2$	$S_{sol_5} = \{\}$

$$n_{sol_2} = 0, n_{sol_3} = 0$$

- $\text{sol}_{2_{\text{rank}}} = \text{sol}_{3_{\text{rank}}} = 2$
- $F_2 = \{\text{sol}_2, \text{sol}_3\}$

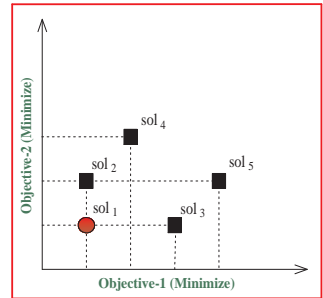


Figure 11 : Solutions



Fast Non-Dominating Sorting: Example

$n_{sol_1} = 0$	$S_{sol_1} = \{sol_2, sol_3, sol_4, sol_5\}$
$n_{sol_2} = 0$	$S_{sol_2} = \{sol_4, sol_5\}$
$n_{sol_3} = 0$	$S_{sol_3} = \{sol_5\}$
$n_{sol_4} = 0$	$S_{sol_4} = \{\}$
$n_{sol_5} = 2$	$S_{sol_5} = \{\}$

$n_{sol_1} = 0$	$S_{sol_1} = \{sol_2, sol_3, sol_4, sol_5\}$
$n_{sol_2} = 0$	$S_{sol_2} = \{sol_4, sol_5\}$
$n_{sol_3} = 0$	$S_{sol_3} = \{sol_5\}$
$n_{sol_4} = 0$	$S_{sol_4} = \{\}$
$n_{sol_5} = 1$	$S_{sol_5} = \{\}$

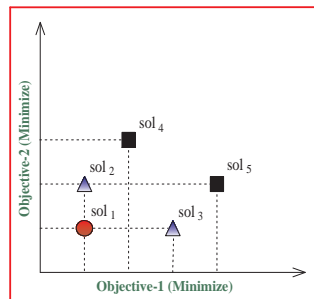


Figure 12 : Solutions



Fast Non-Dominating Sorting: Example

$n_{sol_1} = 0$	$S_{sol_1} = \{sol_2, sol_3, sol_4, sol_5\}$
$n_{sol_2} = 0$	$S_{sol_2} = \{sol_4, sol_5\}$
$n_{sol_3} = 0$	$S_{sol_3} = \{sol_5\}$
$n_{sol_4} = 0$	$S_{sol_4} = \{\}$
$n_{sol_5} = 0$	$S_{sol_5} = \{\}$

$$n_{sol_4} = 0, n_{sol_5} = 0$$

- $sol_{4_{rank}} = sol_{5_{rank}} = 3$
- $F_3 = \{sol_4, sol_5\}$

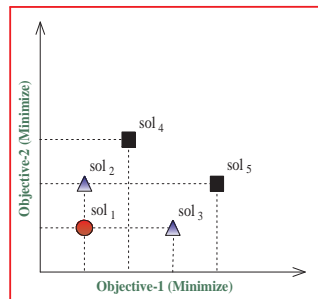


Figure 13 : Solutions



Final Sorted Solutions

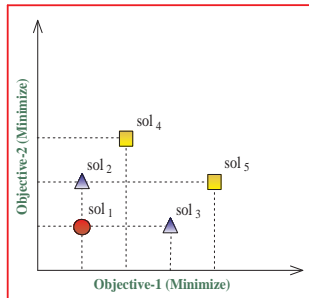


Figure 14 : Solutions

Fast Non-Dominating Sorting: Algorithm

Algorithm 2 Non-dominated Sorting

```

1: for each  $\text{sol} \in \mathbb{P}$  do
2:    $S_{\text{sol}} \leftarrow \Phi$ ,  $n_{\text{sol}} \leftarrow 0$ 
3:   for each  $\text{sol}' \in \mathbb{P}$  do
4:     if  $\text{sol} \prec \text{sol}'$  then
5:        $S_{\text{sol}} \leftarrow S_{\text{sol}} \cup \{\text{sol}'\}$  // Add sol' to the set of solutions dominated by sol
6:     else if  $\text{sol}' \prec \text{sol}$  then
7:        $n_{\text{sol}} \leftarrow n_{\text{sol}} + 1$  // Increment the domination counter of sol
8:   if  $n_{\text{sol}} = 0$  then
9:      $\text{sol}_{\text{rank}} \leftarrow 1$ 
10:     $F_1 \leftarrow F_1 \cup \{\text{sol}\}$ 
11:   $i \leftarrow 1$  // Initialize the front counter
12:  while  $F_i \neq \Phi$  do
13:     $Q \leftarrow \Phi$  // Used to store the members of the next front
14:    for each  $\text{sol} \in F_i$  do
15:      for each  $\text{sol}' \in S_{\text{sol}}$  do
16:         $n_{\text{sol}'} \leftarrow n_{\text{sol}'} + 1$ 
17:        if  $n_{\text{sol}'} = 0$  then
18:           $\text{sol}'_{\text{rank}} \leftarrow i + 1$ 
19:           $Q \leftarrow Q \cup \{\text{sol}'\}$ 
20:     $i \leftarrow i + 1$ 
21:     $F_i \leftarrow Q$ 

```



Complexity Analysis

Space Complexity

- Domination count of each of the solutions is stored.
 - Storage requirement = $\mathcal{O}(N)$
- The set of solutions dominated by all the solutions is stored.
 - Storage requirement = $\mathcal{O}(N^2)$
- Space complexity = $\mathcal{O}(N^2)$

Time Complexity

- Each solution is compared with all other solutions exactly once.
 - Time required = $\mathcal{O}(MN^2)$
- The set of dominated solution sis traversed once and domination count value is reduced.
 - Time required = $\mathcal{O}(N^2)$
- Time complexity = $\mathcal{O}(MN^2)$



Outline

1 Non-Dominated Sorting

- Solution Representation
- Dominance Relationship
- Problem Definition

2 Approaches

- Naive Approach
- Fast Non-Dominating Sorting
- **Efficient Non-Dominating Sorting**
- Divide and Conquer based Non-Dominating Sorting



ENS Approach: Basic Idea

- Existing approaches usually compare a solution with all other solutions in the population before assigning it to a front.
- ENS compares it only with those that have already been assigned to a front.
- This is made possible because in ENS, the population is sorted in one objective before actual sorting.
- Thus, a solution added to the fronts cannot dominate any solutions that are added before.
- As a result, ENS can avoid a large number of redundant dominance comparisons.
- Significantly improves the computational efficiency.



ENS Approach

FIRST PHASE: Pre-Sorting

The solutions are sorted in ascending order based on the objectives [2].

Advantage: When two solutions sol_i and $sol_j, i > j, 1 \leq i, j \leq N$ are compared, only two possibilities

- sol_i is non-dominated with sol_j
- sol_i is dominated by sol_j .

SECOND PHASE: Assignment

Sorted solutions are assigned to their respective front.



Example

Solution	Objectives
sol_1	1,1
sol_2	1,2
sol_3	3,1
sol_4	2,3
sol_5	4,2

(a)

Solution	Objectives
sol_1	1,1
sol_2	1,2
sol_4	2,3
sol_3	3,1
sol_5	4,2

(b)

Table 1 : (a). A set of 5 solutions where two objectives are associate with each solution. (b). Solutions in sorted order based on objectives.

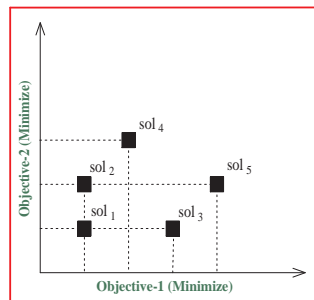


Figure 15 : Solutions



Example

- Rank 1 = $\{sol_1\}$

Solution	Objectives
sol_2	1,2
sol_4	2,3
sol_3	3,1
sol_5	4,2

Table 2 : un-assigned solutions

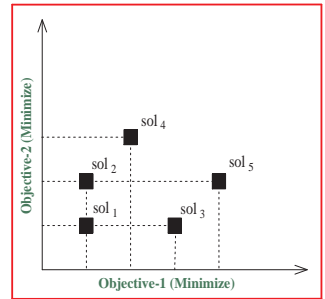


Figure 16 : Solutions



Example

- Rank 1 = $\{sol_1\}$
- Rank 2 = $\{sol_2\}$

Solution	Objectives
sol_4	2,3
sol_3	3,1
sol_5	4,2

Table 3 : un-assigned solutions

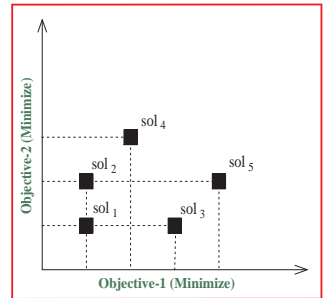


Figure 17 : Solutions

Example

- Rank 1 = $\{sol_1\}$
- Rank 2 = $\{sol_2\}$
- Rank 3 = $\{sol_4\}$

Solution	Objectives
sol_3	3,1
sol_5	4,2

Table 4 : un-assigned solutions

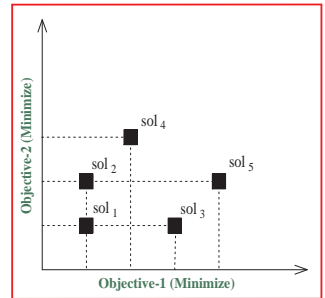


Figure 18 : Solutions



Example

- Rank 1 = $\{sol_1\}$
- Rank 2 = $\{sol_2, sol_3\}$
- Rank 3 = $\{sol_4\}$

Solution	Objectives
sol_5	4,2

Table 5 : un-assigned solutions

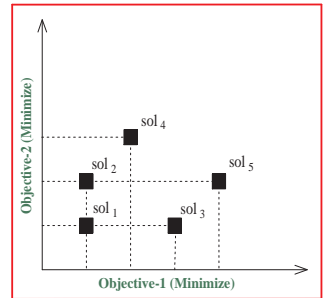


Figure 19 : Solutions

Example

- Rank 1 = $\{sol_1\}$
- Rank 2 = $\{sol_2, sol_3\}$
- Rank 3 = $\{sol_4, sol_5\}$

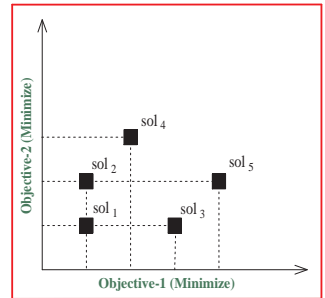


Figure 20 : Solutions



Searching Techniques

Sequential

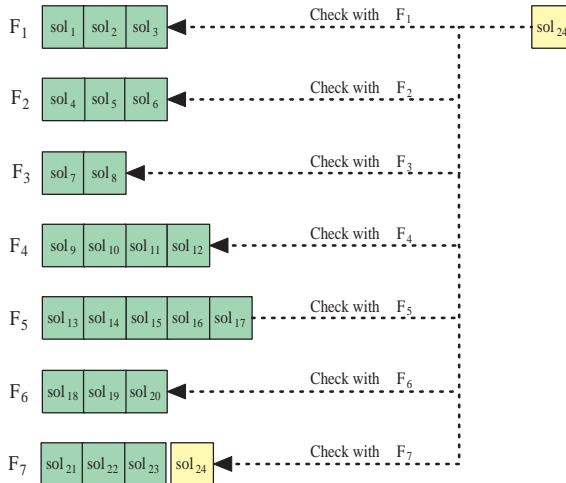
To obtain the position of un-assigned solution, sequential search is used in the sorted set of fronts.

Binary

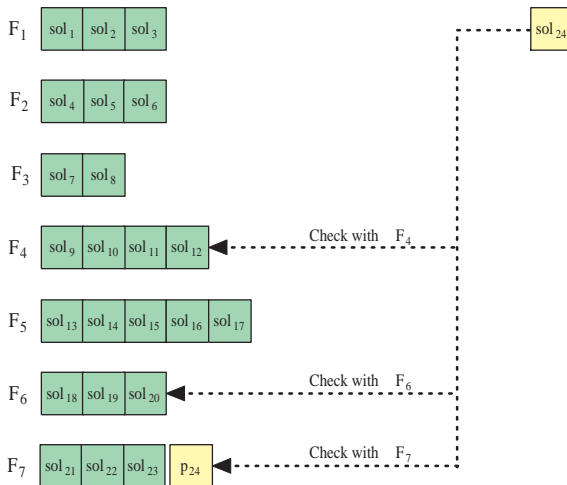
To obtain the position of un-assigned solution, binary search is used in the sorted set of fronts.



Sequential Search



Binary Search



Complexity Analysis: First Phase

- Solutions are sorted based on objective.
- Heap sort is used. $\mathcal{O}(N \log N)$.
- While comparing two solutions minimum 1 and maximum M objective may be considered.
- So Time Complexity = $\mathcal{O}(MN \log N)$.



Comparisons with Other fronts

- Let N solutions are divided into K fronts.
- The number of solutions in front $F_k = N_k (1 \leq k \leq K)$.
- So $N_1 + N_2 + N_3 + \dots + N_K = N$
- If a solution sol_i belongs to front F_k , then sol_i should be dominating by at-least one solution belonging to fronts F_1, F_2, \dots, F_{k-1} .
- This means that at-least $i - 1$ comparisons are needed for solution sol_i which is from different fronts.
- Number of solutions in front F_k is N_k , so a total of $(k - 1)N_k$ comparisons are needed for front F_k .
- Therefore, the total number of necessary dominance comparisons between solutions in different fronts is:

$$\#Comp_1 = \sum_{k=1}^K (k - 1)N_k \quad (2)$$



Comparisons with same front

- Each of the N_k solutions in front F_k should be compared with the other solutions in front F_k , which needs a total of $N_k(N_k - 1)/2$ comparisons, the total number of comparisons between solutions in the same front is:

$$\#Comp_2 = \sum_{k=1}^K \frac{N_k(N_k - 1)}{2} \quad (3)$$

Total comparisons

$$\#Comp = \#Comp_1 + \#Comp_2 \quad (4)$$



Complexity Analysis: Worst case

When all N solutions in the population are non-dominated with each other.

$$\#Comp_1 = \sum_{k=1}^1 (k-1)N_k = 0 \quad (5)$$

For the N solutions in the same front, the number of comparisons needed in the sequential search strategy is

$$\#Comp_2 = \sum_{k=1}^K \frac{N_k(N_k - 1)}{2} = \frac{N(N - 1)}{2} \quad (6)$$

Total comparisons

$$\#Comp = \#Comp_1 + \#Comp_2 = \frac{N(N - 1)}{2} \quad (7)$$



Complexity Analysis: Best case – Sequential

When N solutions belong to $\lceil\sqrt{N}\rceil$ fronts, each of which roughly has $\lceil\sqrt{N}\rceil$ solutions, and each solution in a front is dominated by all solutions in the preceding front.

$$\#Comp_1 = \sum_{k=1}^{\lceil\sqrt{N}\rceil} (k-1)\lceil\sqrt{N}\rceil = \frac{\lceil\sqrt{N}\rceil^2(\lceil\sqrt{N}\rceil - 1)}{2} \quad (8)$$

In each of the $\lceil\sqrt{N}\rceil$ fronts, any two solutions of the $\lceil\sqrt{N}\rceil$ solutions in the same front need to be compared.

$$\#Comp_2 = \sum_{k=1}^{\lceil\sqrt{N}\rceil} \frac{\lceil\sqrt{N}\rceil(\lceil\sqrt{N}\rceil - 1)}{2} = \frac{\lceil\sqrt{N}\rceil^2(\lceil\sqrt{N}\rceil - 1)}{2} \quad (9)$$

Total comparisons

$$\#Comp = \#Comp_1 + \#Comp_2 = \lceil\sqrt{N}\rceil^2(\lceil\sqrt{N}\rceil - 1) \quad (10)$$



Complexity Analysis: Best case – Binary

When N solutions in the population belong to N different fronts. In this case, no solution in any of the N fronts needs to be compared with the solution to be assigned.

$$\#Comp_1 = \sum_{k=1}^N \lceil \log k \rceil \quad (11)$$

$$\#Comp_2 = \sum_{k=1}^N \frac{1(1-1)}{2} = 0 \quad (12)$$

Total comparisons

$$\#Comp = \#Comp_1 + \#Comp_2 = \sum_{k=1}^N \lceil \log k \rceil = \mathcal{O}(N \log N) \quad (13)$$



Outline

1 Non-Dominated Sorting

- Solution Representation
- Dominance Relationship
- Problem Definition

2 Approaches

- Naive Approach
- Fast Non-Dominating Sorting
- Efficient Non-Dominating Sorting
- Divide and Conquer based Non-Dominating Sorting



Framework

FIRST PHASE: Pre-sorting

The solutions are sorted in ascending order based on the objectives [2], [6].

Advantage: When two solutions sol_i and $sol_j, i > j, 1 \leq i, j \leq N$ are compared, only two possibilities

- sol_i is non-dominated with sol_j
- sol_i is dominated by sol_j .



Framework

FIRST PHASE: Pre-sorting

The solutions are sorted in ascending order based on the objectives [2], [6].

Advantage: When two solutions sol_i and $sol_j, i > j, 1 \leq i, j \leq N$ are compared, only two possibilities

- sol_i is non-dominated with sol_j
- sol_i is dominated by sol_j .

SECOND PHASE: Assignment Phase

- The actual assignment of solutions to their corresponding front is performed.
- Each solution is considered as a set of fronts.



Framework

Algorithm 3 DCNS framework for non-dominating sorting

Input: \mathbb{P} : Population

Output: Set of non-dominated fronts

- 1: Sort \mathbb{P} in ascending order of objective // First phase
 // Assign the sorted solutions to \mathcal{F}
 - 2: **for** $i \leftarrow 1$ to N **do**
 - 3: $F_{i1} \leftarrow \{\mathbb{P}(i)\}$ // Consider a solution as a front
 - 4: $\mathcal{F}_i \leftarrow \{F_{i1}\}$ // Consider a front as a set of front
 - 5: $\mathcal{F} \leftarrow \mathcal{F} \cup \{\mathcal{F}_i\}$
 - 6: Perform non-dominated sorting on \mathcal{F} // Second phase
 - 7: **return** $\mathcal{F}(1)$ // Sorted solutions are in $\mathcal{F}(1)$
-



Pre-sorting

Example

$\mathbb{P} = \{sol_1, sol_2, sol_3, sol_4, sol_5, sol_6, sol_7\}$.

Solution	Objectives
sol_1	1,2,2
sol_2	2,1,4
sol_3	1,3,1
sol_4	2,1,3
sol_5	1,2,1
sol_6	3,1,5
sol_7	1,1,1

(a)

Solution	Objectives
sol_7	1,1,1
sol_5	1,2,1
sol_1	1,2,2
sol_3	1,3,1
sol_4	2,1,3
sol_2	2,1,4
sol_6	3,1,5

(b)

Table 6 : (a). A set of 7 solutions where three objectives are associate with each solution. (b). Solutions in sorted order based on objectives.



Assignment Phase: Serial Execution

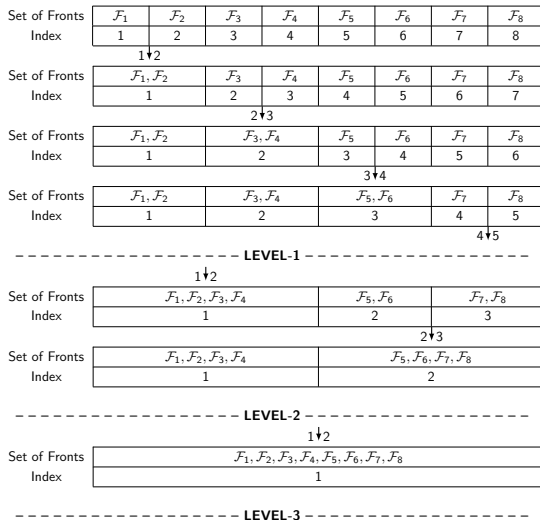


Figure 21 : Illustration of the proposed serial approach. $i \downarrow j$ indicates that the set of fronts at index position i and j are merged.



Assignment Phase: Parallel Execution

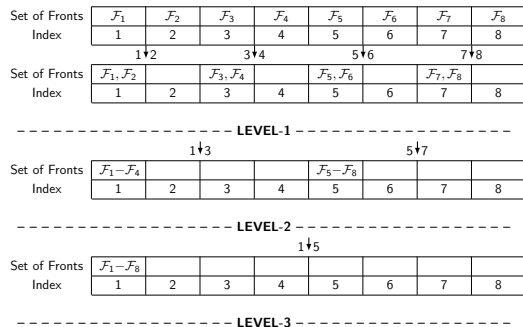
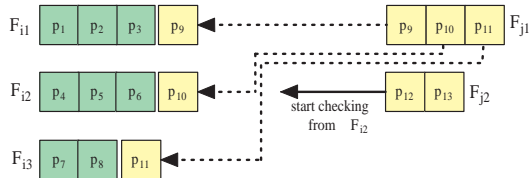


Figure 22 : Illustration of the proposed parallel approach. $i \downarrow j$ indicates the set of fronts at index position i and j are merged. All the merge operations at the same level are performed simultaneously and no set of fronts is removed.



Merge Procedure



First front is inserted and deleted

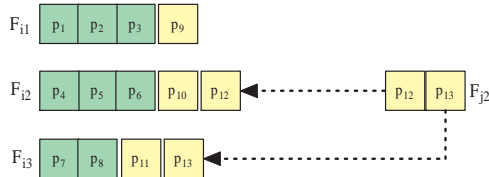


Figure 23 : Merge procedure



Insert Procedure

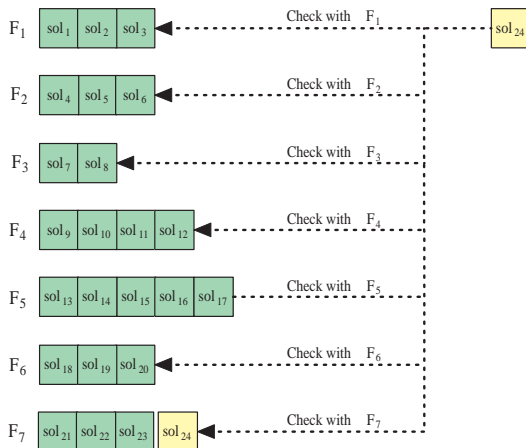


Figure 24 : Insert procedure: Sequential



Insert Procedure

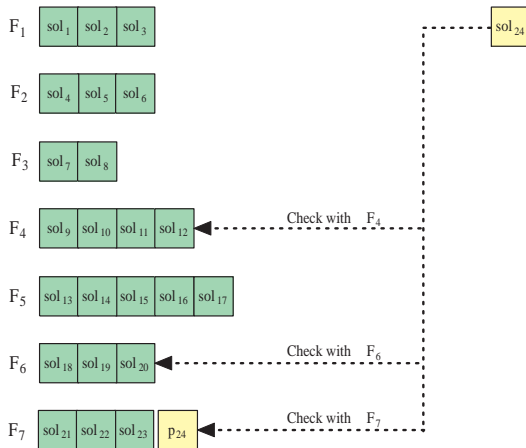


Figure 25 : Insert procedure: Binary



All solutions are non-dominated

$$\begin{aligned}\spadesuit_{SS} = \spadesuit_{BS} &= \sum_{i=1}^{\mathcal{L}} \frac{N}{2^i} \left[(2^{i-1})(2^{i-1}) + 2^{i-1} C_2 \right] \\ &= \frac{3}{4} N(N-1) - \frac{1}{4} N \log N\end{aligned}\tag{14}$$



All solutions are dominating

$$\spadesuit_{SS} = \spadesuit_{SSS} = \sum_{i=1}^{\mathcal{L}} \frac{N}{2^i} (2^{i-1}) = \frac{1}{2} N \log N \quad (15)$$

$$\spadesuit_{BS} = \spadesuit_{BSS} = \sum_{i=1}^{\mathcal{L}} \frac{N}{2^i} \lceil \log(2^{i-1}+1) \rceil \quad (16)$$



\sqrt{N} solutions in \sqrt{N} fronts

$$\begin{aligned}
 \spadesuit_{SS} &= \sum_{i=1}^{\frac{\mathcal{L}}{2}} \frac{N}{2^i} \left[(2^{i-1}) (2^{i-1}) + 2^{i-1} C_2 \right] + \sum_{i=\frac{\mathcal{L}}{2}+1}^{\mathcal{L}} \frac{N}{2^i} 2^{\frac{\mathcal{L}}{2}} 2^{i-(\frac{\mathcal{L}}{2}+1)} \\
 &= \frac{3}{4} N (\sqrt{N}-1) + \frac{1}{8} N \log N
 \end{aligned} \tag{17}$$

$$\begin{aligned}
 \spadesuit_{BS} &= \sum_{i=1}^{\frac{\mathcal{L}}{2}} \frac{N}{2^i} \left[(2^{i-1})(2^{i-1}) + 2^{i-1} C_2 \right] + \sum_{i=\frac{\mathcal{L}}{2}+1}^{\mathcal{L}} \frac{N}{2^i} 2^{\frac{\mathcal{L}}{2}} \log[2^{i-(\frac{\mathcal{L}}{2}+1)}+1]
 \end{aligned} \tag{18}$$



References I

- [1] Kalyanmoy Deb, Amrit Pratap, Sameer Agarwal, and TAMT Meyarivan.
A fast and elitist multiobjective genetic algorithm: Nsga-ii.
Evolutionary Computation, IEEE Transactions on, 6(2):182–197, 2002.
- [2] Mikkel T Jensen.
Reducing the run-time complexity of multiobjective eas: The nsga-ii and other algorithms.
Evolutionary Computation, IEEE Transactions on, 7(5):503–515, 2003.
- [3] Kent McClymont and Ed Keedwell.
Deductive sort and climbing sort: New methods for non-dominated sorting.
Evolutionary computation, 20(1):1–26, 2012.
- [4] Sumit Mishra, Sriparna Saha, and Samrat Mondal.
Divide and conquer based non-dominated sorting for parallel environment.
In *Evolutionary Computation (CEC), 2016 IEEE Congress on*, pages 4297–4304. IEEE, 2016.
- [5] Proteek Chandan Roy, Md Monirul Islam, and Kalyanmoy Deb.
Best order sort: A new algorithm to non-dominated sorting for evolutionary multi-objective optimization.
- [6] Xingyi Zhang, Ye Tian, Ran Cheng, and Yaochu Jin.
An efficient approach to nondominated sorting for evolutionary multiobjective optimization.
Evolutionary Computation, IEEE Transactions on, 19(2):201–213, 2015.



Thank you!

