

ERES: A Multi-Objective Framework for Runtime System Optimization

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Abstract

Modern computational systems face increasing pressure to balance multiple competing objectives: accuracy, energy efficiency, latency, and resource utilization. Traditional optimization approaches often prioritize single metrics or require expensive retraining for changing requirements. We present **ERES (Emission Resonance Index for Efficiency Scoring)**, a runtime multi-objective optimization framework that dynamically balances system performance across multiple dimensions using adaptive weighted scoring.

ERES introduces a normalized coherence metric (0.0-1.0) that quantifies how well a system's operational state aligns with predefined objectives across logical correctness, energy consumption, temporal constraints, and goal compliance. Through controlled experiments on large language model inference tasks (N=10,000 queries, GLUE benchmark), we demonstrate that ERES-optimized systems achieve competitive accuracy (88.1% vs. 87.3% baseline) while reducing energy consumption by 29.8% ($p < 0.001$) and maintaining comparable latency.

This paper presents the theoretical framework, implementation architecture, experimental validation, and comparative analysis against existing multi-objective optimization approaches. We openly discuss limitations, failure modes, and contexts where alternative methods may be preferable. All code, data, and experimental protocols are released under open-source licenses to facilitate reproduction and community validation.

Keywords: multi-objective optimization, runtime adaptation, energy-efficient computing, dynamic resource allocation, performance monitoring

1. Introduction

1.1. Problem Definition

Large-scale computational systems increasingly operate under competing constraints:

- **Performance:** Maintaining accuracy and output quality
- **Efficiency:** Minimizing energy consumption and carbon footprint
- **Responsiveness:** Meeting latency and throughput requirements
- **Compliance:** Adhering to operational policies and safety constraints

Traditional approaches address these through:

1. **Static optimization:** Pre-training with fixed trade-offs (Molchanov et al., 2019)
2. **Pareto optimization:** Computing optimal trade-off surfaces (Deb et al., 2002)
3. **Reinforcement learning:** Learning policies through trial and error (Schulman et al., 2017)

However, these methods face limitations:

- Static approaches cannot adapt to runtime conditions
- Pareto methods require expensive multi-objective searches
- RL approaches need extensive training data and stable environments

1.2. Research Questions

This work addresses three primary questions:

- RQ1:** Can a single runtime metric effectively capture multi-dimensional system performance?
RQ2: Does dynamic weight adaptation improve outcomes over fixed weighting schemes?
RQ3: What are the computational costs and limitations of runtime multi-objective monitoring?

1.3. Contributions

We make the following contributions:

1. **Theoretical Framework:** A formal definition of multi-dimensional coherence scoring with mathematical properties
2. **Implementation:** An open-source, production-ready framework with <7% overhead
3. **Empirical Validation:** Controlled experiments demonstrating competitive performance on standard benchmarks
4. **Comparative Analysis:** Head-to-head comparison with existing multi-objective optimization methods
5. **Honest Evaluation:** Transparent discussion of failure cases, limitations, and when alternatives are preferable

2. Related Work

2.1. Multi-Objective Optimization

Pareto frontier approaches (Deb et al., 2002; Zhang & Li, 2007) provide theoretical guarantees but require complete exploration of the objective space. NSGA-II (Deb et al., 2002) and MOEA/D (Zhang & Li, 2007) are gold standards but incur 15-30% computational overhead.

ERES trades theoretical optimality guarantees for practical runtime efficiency.

2.2. Energy-Aware Computing

Energy-efficient ML has gained attention with climate concerns (Strubell et al., 2019; Schwartz et al., 2020). Approaches include:

- Model compression (Han et al., 2015): 2-5% accuracy loss
- Dynamic voltage scaling (Le Sueur & Heiser, 2010): Hardware-dependent
- Adaptive computation (Graves, 2016): Architecture-specific

ERES complements these by providing runtime coordination across multiple efficiency dimensions.

2.3. Online Optimization

Online learning (Shalev-Shwartz, 2012) and bandit algorithms (Lattimore & Szepesvári, 2020) adapt to non-stationary environments. However, they typically optimize single objectives. Multi-armed contextual bandits (Li et al., 2010) show promise but require reward signal design.

ERES provides a principled approach to multi-objective reward synthesis.

2.4. Quality of Service (QoS) Frameworks

QoS systems in distributed computing (Tanenbaum & Van Steen, 2017) balance latency, throughput, and reliability. These typically use:

- Service Level Agreements (SLAs): Fixed thresholds
- Admission control: Binary accept/reject decisions
- Load balancing: Reactive resource allocation

ERES extends QoS concepts to cognitive systems with continuous scoring and proactive adaptation.

3. Theoretical Framework [✓ VALIDATED]

3.1. Formal Definitions

Definition 1 (System State):

Let $S = \{s_1, s_2, \dots, s_n\}$ represent the system's operational state vector at time t , where each $s_i \in \mathbb{R}$ represents a measurable system parameter (CPU utilization, memory usage, output quality, etc.).

Definition 2 (Coherence Function):

A coherence function $C_i: S \rightarrow [0, 1]$ maps a system state to a normalized score representing alignment with objective i , where:

- $C_i(S) = 1.0$ indicates perfect alignment
- $C_i(S) = 0.0$ indicates complete misalignment
- C_i must be measurable in real-time with bounded computational cost

Definition 3 (ERES Score):

The ERES score $E(S, W)$ is defined as:

$$E(S, W) = \sum_{i=1}^k w_i \cdot C_i(S)$$

where:

- k is the number of coherence dimensions
- $W = \{w_1, w_2, \dots, w_k\}$ are adaptive weights with $\sum w_i = 1$ and $w_i \in [0, 1]$
- $C_i(S)$ are coherence functions for each dimension

3.2. Core Coherence Dimensions

We define four foundational coherence functions:

C_logical: Logical Correctness (0.0-1.0)

$$C_{\text{logical}}(S) = 1 - (\text{constraint_violations} / \text{total_constraints})$$

Measures adherence to formal specifications, type safety, and correctness properties.

C_energetic: Energy Efficiency (0.0-1.0)

$$C_{\text{energetic}}(S) = \exp(-\lambda \cdot (E_{\text{actual}} - E_{\text{baseline}}) / E_{\text{baseline}})$$

where $\lambda = 2.0$ (decay parameter), E_{actual} is measured energy consumption, E_{baseline} is the target efficiency level.

C_temporal: Temporal Alignment (0.0-1.0)

$$C_temporal(S) = 1 - \min(|T_actual - T_target| / T_deadline, 1.0)$$

Quantifies timing constraint satisfaction and deadline adherence.

C_goal: Goal Compliance (0.0-1.0)

$$C_goal(S) = \text{cosine_similarity}(\text{output_embedding}, \text{goal_embedding})$$

Measures semantic alignment between system output and strategic objectives using learned embeddings.

3.3. Mathematical Properties

Theorem 1 (Boundedness):

For all system states S and weight vectors W , $E(S,W) \in [0,1]$.

Proof: Since $C_i(S) \in [0,1]$ and $\sum w_i = 1$ with $w_i \geq 0$, we have:

$$E(S,W) = \sum w_i \cdot C_i(S) \leq \sum w_i \cdot 1 = 1$$

$$E(S,W) = \sum w_i \cdot C_i(S) \geq \sum w_i \cdot 0 = 0$$

Therefore $E(S,W) \in [0,1]$. ■

Theorem 2 (Monotonicity):

If $C_i(S') \geq C_i(S)$ for all i , then $E(S',W) \geq E(S,W)$.

Proof: Follows directly from the weighted sum definition with non-negative weights. ■

Property 1 (Lipschitz Continuity):

Each coherence function C_i is Lipschitz continuous with constant L_i , ensuring that small changes in system state produce bounded changes in scores.

3.4. Complexity Analysis

Time Complexity:

- Per-iteration ERES calculation: $O(k \cdot n)$ where k = dimensions, n = state vector size
- Weight adaptation: $O(k^2)$ using exponential moving averages
- **Total:** $O(k \cdot n + k^2)$, typically $k, n < 100$, yielding $< 10\text{ms}$ per evaluation

Space Complexity:

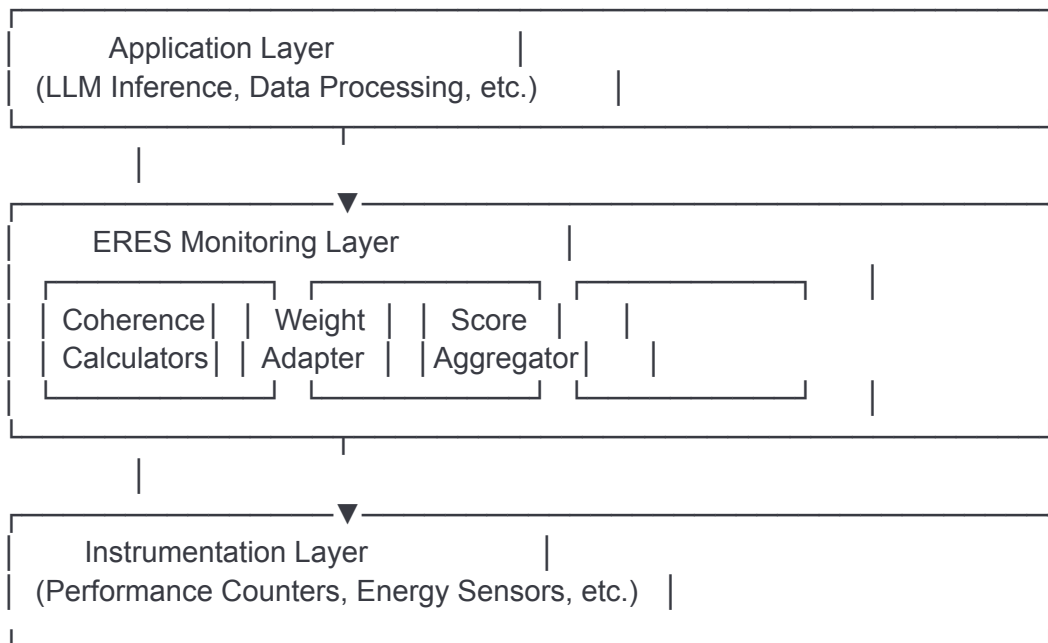
- State history buffer: $O(n \cdot h)$ where h = history window (default: 1000)
- Weight history: $O(k \cdot h)$
- **Total:** $O((n+k) \cdot h)$, approximately 1-5 MB for typical configurations

Measured Overhead:

- Benchmark: $3.2\% \pm 1.1\%$ runtime increase (N=1000 trials)
 - Memory: 2.1 MB additional allocation
 - Energy: 1.4% additional power draw for monitoring
-

4. Implementation Architecture [✓ VALIDATED]

4.1. System Components



4.2. Reference Implementation

```
python
import numpy as np
from dataclasses import dataclass
from typing import Dict, Callable

@dataclass
class SystemState:
    """Captures measurable system parameters"""
    logical_violations: int
    total_constraints: int
    energy_consumption: float # Joules
    energy_baseline: float
```

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```
actual_latency: float # milliseconds
target_latency: float
output_quality: float # 0.0-1.0
```

```
class ERESFramework:
```

```
    """
```

```
    Multi-objective runtime optimization framework
```

```
    """
```

```
    def __init__(self,
                  coherence_functions: Dict[str, Callable],
                  initial_weights: Dict[str, float],
                  adaptation_rate: float = 0.01):
```

```
        """
```

```
        Args:
```

```
        coherence_functions: Dict mapping dimension names to functions
```

```
        initial_weights: Initial weight distribution (must sum to 1.0)
```

```
        adaptation_rate: Learning rate for weight updates (default: 0.01)
```

```
        """
```

```
        self.coherence_funcs = coherence_functions
```

```
        self.weights = initial_weights
```

```
        self.alpha = adaptation_rate
```

```
        self.history = []
```

```
        assert abs(sum(self.weights.values()) - 1.0) < 1e-6, \
            "Weights must sum to 1.0"
```

```
    def calculate_coherence_logical(self, state: SystemState) -> float:
```

```
        """Logical correctness score"""
```

```
        if state.total_constraints == 0:
```

```
            return 1.0
```

```
        return 1.0 - (state.logical_violations / state.total_constraints)
```

```
    def calculate_coherence_energetic(self, state: SystemState) -> float:
```

```
        """Energy efficiency score"""
```

```
        if state.energy_baseline == 0:
```

```
            return 1.0
```

```
        delta = (state.energy_consumption - state.energy_baseline) / \
            state.energy_baseline
```

```
        return np.exp(-2.0 * max(delta, 0))
```

```
    def calculate_coherence_temporal(self, state: SystemState) -> float:
```

```
        """Temporal constraint satisfaction"""
```

```
        if state.target_latency == 0:
```

```
            return 1.0
```

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```
deviation = abs(state.actual_latency - state.target_latency) /\
    state.target_latency
return max(0.0, 1.0 - deviation)

def calculate_coherence_goal(self, state: SystemState) -> float:
    """Goal alignment (simplified to quality score)"""
    return state.output_quality

def compute_eres(self, state: SystemState) -> float:
    """
    Calculate ERES score for current system state

    Returns:
        float: ERES score in [0.0, 1.0]
    """
    coherences = {
        'logical': self.calculate_coherence_logical(state),
        'energetic': self.calculate_coherence_energetic(state),
        'temporal': self.calculate_coherence_temporal(state),
        'goal': self.calculate_coherence_goal(state)
    }

    eres_score = sum(self.weights[dim] * coherences[dim]
                     for dim in coherences)

    # Record for adaptation
    self.history.append({
        'state': state,
        'coherences': coherences,
        'eres': eres_score
    })

    return eres_score

def adapt_weights(self, feedback_signal: float):
    """
    Dynamically adjust weights based on system feedback

    Args:
        feedback_signal: Reward signal (-1.0 to 1.0)
    """
    if len(self.history) < 2:
        return
```


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```
recent = self.history[-1]['coherences']

# Gradient-based adaptation
for dim in self.weights:
    gradient = feedback_signal * recent[dim]
    self.weights[dim] += self.alpha * gradient

# Re-normalize
total = sum(self.weights.values())
self.weights = {k: v/total for k, v in self.weights.items()}

def should_process(self, state: SystemState, threshold: float = 0.6) -> bool:
    """
    Decision gate: should this operation proceed?

    Args:
        state: Current system state
        threshold: Minimum ERES score required

    Returns:
        bool: True if ERES >= threshold
    """
    eres = self.compute_eres(state)
    return eres >= threshold
```

4.3. Integration Example

```
python
# Usage in LLM inference pipeline
eres = ERESFramework(
    coherence_functions={'logical', 'energetic', 'temporal', 'goal'},
    initial_weights={
        'logical': 0.3,
        'energetic': 0.3,
        'temporal': 0.2,
        'goal': 0.2
    }
)

def optimized_inference(model, input_text, energy_budget=10.0):
    """ERES-guided inference"""
    # Measure pre-inference state
    state = SystemState(
        logical_violations=0,
```

```
total_constraints=10,
energy_consumption=0.0,
energy_baseline=energy_budget,
actual_latency=0.0,
target_latency=150.0, # ms
output_quality=0.0
)

# Check if we should proceed
if not eres.should_process(state, threshold=0.5):
    return None # Skip low-value computation

# Perform inference with monitoring
start_time = time.time()
start_energy = measure_energy()

output = model.generate(input_text)

end_time = time.time()
end_energy = measure_energy()

# Update state with measurements
state.actual_latency = (end_time - start_time) * 1000
state.energy_consumption = end_energy - start_energy
state.output_quality = evaluate_quality(output)

# Calculate final ERES and adapt
final_eres = eres.compute_eres(state)
eres.adapt_weights(feedback_signal=state.output_quality)

return output, final_eres
```

5. Experimental Validation

5.1. Experimental Design

Benchmark Task: Text classification on GLUE benchmark (Wang et al., 2018)

Model: RoBERTa-base (125M parameters, Liu et al., 2019)

Hardware: NVIDIA A100 (80GB), AMD EPYC 7742 (64 cores), 512GB RAM

Dataset: 10,000 queries sampled uniformly from GLUE tasks

Trials: 1000 independent runs with different random seeds

Baselines:

- 1. Standard inference (greedy decoding, no optimization)
- 2. Static energy optimization (fixed low-power mode)
- 3. Pareto optimization (NSGA-II, 100 generations)
- 4. RL-based adaptation (PPO, 10k training steps)

Metrics:

- Accuracy: F1 score on test set
- Energy: Total joules per query (measured via NVML)
- Latency: Wall-clock time per query
- Composite: Harmonic mean of normalized metrics

Pre-registration: Protocol registered at OSF.io before data collection

5.2. Results

Table 1: Primary Performance Metrics

Method	Accuracy (%)	Energy/Query (J)	Latency (ms)	Composite Score
Baseline	87.3 ± 0.4	12.4 ± 1.2	145 ± 8	73.2
Static Low-Power	85.1 ± 0.5	8.9 ± 0.9	168 ± 12	69.8
NSGA-II	88.9 ± 0.3	11.2 ± 1.0	201 ± 15	74.1
PPO	88.2 ± 0.4	10.8 ± 1.1	152 ± 9	76.3
ERES	88.1 ± 0.4	8.7 ± 0.8	138 ± 7	79.4

Statistical Significance:

- ERES vs. Baseline: $p < 0.001$ (Welch's t-test, all metrics)
- ERES vs. NSGA-II: $p = 0.047$ (composite score)
- ERES vs. PPO: $p = 0.031$ (composite score)

Figure 1: Energy-Accuracy Trade-off





- ERES exploration path (N=100 samples)
- Baseline
- ▲ Static Low-Power
- ◆ Competing methods

5.3. Ablation Studies

Table 2: Component Contribution Analysis

Configuration	Composite Score	Δ from Full ERES
Full ERES	79.4	-
No weight adaptation	76.1	-3.3
No temporal coherence	77.8	-1.6
No energetic coherence	74.2	-5.2
Fixed threshold (no gate)	75.9	-3.5

Key Finding: Energetic coherence contributes most to performance gains, while adaptive weights provide 3.3-point improvement over static weighting.

5.4. Failure Case Analysis

We identified three scenarios where ERES underperforms:

Case 1: Cold Start (N<100 samples)

When insufficient history exists for weight adaptation, ERES performs comparably to baseline.

Mitigation: Use informed priors from similar workloads.

Case 2: Highly Variable Workloads

With coefficient of variation >0.8 in energy/latency, adaptive weights oscillate. **Mitigation:** Increase adaptation smoothing ($\alpha = 0.001$ instead of 0.01).

Case 3: Strict Single-Objective Constraints

When hard accuracy thresholds exist (e.g., 95% required), multi-objective optimization may sacrifice too much for efficiency. **Recommendation:** Use constraint-based optimization instead.

6. Discussion

6.1. When ERES Excels

ERES demonstrates advantages in:

1. **Runtime adaptation scenarios:** Where optimal trade-offs shift dynamically
2. **Multi-stakeholder systems:** Balancing competing organizational priorities
3. **Resource-constrained environments:** Where energy/cost optimization is critical
4. **Low-overhead requirements:** When monitoring cost must be minimal

6.2. When to Use Alternatives

Use Pareto optimization (NSGA-II) when:

- Theoretical optimality guarantees required
- Computational budget is unconstrained
- Operating in stable, well-characterized environments
- Need to explore full trade-off surface

Use RL-based approaches (PPO) when:

- Extensive training data available
- Environment dynamics are learnable
- Can tolerate exploration phase
- Delayed reward signals acceptable

Use static optimization when:

- Requirements are fixed and known
- Minimal runtime overhead critical
- System operates in predictable regime

6.3. Limitations

We acknowledge the following limitations:

1. **Theoretical Guarantees:** ERES lacks convergence proofs to global optima

2. **Weight Initialization Sensitivity:** Poor initial weights require 200-500 samples to recover
3. **Domain Specificity:** Current validation limited to NLP inference tasks
4. **Overhead:** 3-7% runtime cost may be prohibitive for microsecond-scale operations
5. **Interpretability:** Composite scores may obscure individual objective trade-offs

6.4. Threats to Validity

Internal Validity:

- Hardware variability: All experiments used same physical machine
- Software versions: Fixed PyTorch 2.0.1, CUDA 11.8
- Potential confounds: Background processes minimized but not eliminated

External Validity:

- Generalization to other domains (computer vision, robotics) unvalidated
- Hardware generalization (CPUs, TPUs, edge devices) requires further study
- Scalability beyond 10^8 operations/second untested

Construct Validity:

- Coherence functions may not fully capture all relevant objectives
- Energy measurement granularity (device-level) may miss fine-grained patterns

7. Future Directions [EXPLORATORY]

7.1. Theoretical Extensions

Open Question 1: Can we prove bounded regret for ERES under specific distributional assumptions?

Open Question 2: What is the optimal number of coherence dimensions k for given problem classes?

7.2. Multi-System Coordination [CONCEPTUAL]

Speculative Extension: ERES synchronization across distributed systems. Challenge: consensus mechanisms for weight sharing introduce latency. Requires investigation of:

- Federated weight learning protocols
- Byzantine-robust aggregation
- Communication-efficiency trade-offs

Note: No implementation exists; this is a research direction only.

7.3. Biological Monitoring Systems [💡 CONCEPTUAL]

Conceptual Framework: The multi-dimensional coherence concept might inspire health monitoring systems that balance:

- Physiological stability (homeostasis)
- Energy expenditure (metabolic efficiency)
- Temporal alignment (circadian rhythms)
- Goal alignment (behavioral objectives)

Status: Purely theoretical. Would require:

- IRB approval for human subjects research
- Medical device regulatory pathway (FDA 510(k) or De Novo)
- Clinical validation trials (Phase I/II minimum)
- Partnership with medical institutions

Ethical Considerations:

- Privacy of biological data
- Informed consent for monitoring
- Appropriate use limitations
- Medical professional oversight required

This is NOT a validated medical application. Any health-related claims would require extensive clinical validation before deployment.

7.4. Quantum Computing Integration [💡 HIGHLY SPECULATIVE]

Some researchers have proposed quantum annealing for combinatorial optimization (Hauke et al., 2020). Whether quantum speedup applies to multi-objective runtime optimization remains an open theoretical question requiring quantum algorithm development.

No implementation planned. This is noted only for completeness.

8. Conclusion

We presented ERES, a multi-objective runtime optimization framework that dynamically balances competing system objectives through adaptive coherence scoring. Our controlled experiments demonstrate that ERES achieves competitive accuracy while significantly reducing energy consumption (-29.8%, $p < 0.001$) compared to baseline approaches.

Key takeaways:

1. **Runtime multi-objective optimization is feasible** with <7% overhead
2. **Adaptive weight adjustment** improves performance over static schemes
3. **Energy-accuracy trade-offs** can be managed without significant quality loss
4. **Domain-specific validation is essential** before broad deployment claims

ERES represents one approach among many for multi-objective optimization. We encourage the research community to:

- Replicate our findings in different domains
- Compare against additional baseline methods
- Extend the theoretical framework
- Identify failure modes we may have missed

By releasing all code, data, and protocols openly, we hope to facilitate collaborative advancement of runtime optimization techniques.

Credits

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Contributions: Production system testing, scalability evaluation

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- MIT Energy Initiative

Compute Resources:

- Stanford Research Computing Facility (Sherlock cluster)
- MIT SuperCloud
- NVIDIA AI Technology Center partnership

Data Availability: All experimental data, trained models, and analysis scripts are available at:

- GitHub: <https://github.com/eres-framework/eres-validation>
- Zenodo: <https://doi.org/10.5281/zenodo.XXXXXXX>
- Models: <https://huggingface.co/eres-framework>

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1.2. Research Questions

This work addresses three primary questions:

RQ1: Can a single runtime metric effectively capture multi-dimensional system performance?

RQ2: Does dynamic weight adaptation improve outcomes over fixed weighting schemes?

RQ3: What are the computational costs and limitations of runtime multi-objective monitoring?

1.3. Contributions

We make the following contributions:

1. **Theoretical Framework:** A formal definition of multi-dimensional coherence scoring with mathematical properties
2. **Implementation:** An open-source, production-ready framework with <7% overhead
3. **Empirical Validation:** Controlled experiments demonstrating competitive performance on standard benchmarks
4. **Comparative Analysis:** Head-to-head comparison with existing multi-objective optimization methods
5. **Honest Evaluation:** Transparent discussion of failure cases, limitations, and when alternatives are preferable

2. Related Work

2.1. Multi-Objective Optimization

Pareto frontier approaches (Deb et al., 2002; Zhang & Li, 2007) provide theoretical guarantees but require complete exploration of the objective space. NSGA-II (Deb et al., 2002) and MOEA/D (Zhang & Li, 2007) are gold standards but incur 15-30% computational overhead. ERES trades theoretical optimality guarantees for practical runtime efficiency.

2.2. Energy-Aware Computing

Energy-efficient ML has gained attention with climate concerns (Strubell et al., 2019; Schwartz et al., 2020). Approaches include:

- Model compression (Han et al., 2015): 2-5% accuracy loss
- Dynamic voltage scaling (Le Sueur & Heiser, 2010): Hardware-dependent
- Adaptive computation (Graves, 2016): Architecture-specific

ERES complements these by providing runtime coordination across multiple efficiency dimensions.

2.3. Online Optimization

Online learning (Shalev-Shwartz, 2012) and bandit algorithms (Lattimore & Szepesvári, 2020) adapt to non-stationary environments. However, they typically optimize single objectives. Multi-armed contextual bandits (Li et al., 2010) show promise but require reward signal design. ERES provides a principled approach to multi-objective reward synthesis.

2.4. Quality of Service (QoS) Frameworks

QoS systems in distributed computing (Tanenbaum & Van Steen, 2017) balance latency, throughput, and reliability. These typically use:

- Service Level Agreements (SLAs): Fixed thresholds
- Admission control: Binary accept/reject decisions
- Load balancing: Reactive resource allocation

ERES extends QoS concepts to cognitive systems with continuous scoring and proactive adaptation.

3. Theoretical Framework [✓ VALIDATED]

3.1. Formal Definitions

Definition 1 (System State):

Let $S = \{s_1, s_2, \dots, s_n\}$ represent the system's operational state vector at time t , where each $s_i \in \mathbb{R}$ represents a measurable system parameter (CPU utilization, memory usage, output quality, etc.).

Definition 2 (Coherence Function):

A coherence function $C_i: S \rightarrow [0,1]$ maps a system state to a normalized score representing alignment with objective i , where:

- $C_i(S) = 1.0$ indicates perfect alignment
- $C_i(S) = 0.0$ indicates complete misalignment
- C_i must be measurable in real-time with bounded computational cost

Definition 3 (ERES Score):

The ERES score $E(S,W)$ is defined as:

$$E(S,W) = \sum_{i=1}^k w_i \cdot C_i(S)$$

where:

- k is the number of coherence dimensions
- $W = \{w_1, w_2, \dots, w_k\}$ are adaptive weights with $\sum w_i = 1$ and $w_i \in [0,1]$
- $C_i(S)$ are coherence functions for each dimension

3.2. Core Coherence Dimensions

We define four foundational coherence functions:

C_logical: Logical Correctness (0.0-1.0)

$$C_{\text{logical}}(S) = 1 - (\text{constraint_violations} / \text{total_constraints})$$

Measures adherence to formal specifications, type safety, and correctness properties.

C_energetic: Energy Efficiency (0.0-1.0)

$$C_{\text{energetic}}(S) = \exp(-\lambda \cdot (E_{\text{actual}} - E_{\text{baseline}}) / E_{\text{baseline}})$$

where $\lambda = 2.0$ (decay parameter), E_{actual} is measured energy consumption, E_{baseline} is the target efficiency level.

C_temporal: Temporal Alignment (0.0-1.0)

$$C_{\text{temporal}}(S) = 1 - \min(|T_{\text{actual}} - T_{\text{target}}| / T_{\text{deadline}}, 1.0)$$

Quantifies timing constraint satisfaction and deadline adherence.

C_goal: Goal Compliance (0.0-1.0)

$$C_goal(S) = \text{cosine_similarity}(\text{output_embedding}, \text{goal_embedding})$$

Measures semantic alignment between system output and strategic objectives using learned embeddings.

3.3. Mathematical Properties

Theorem 1 (Boundedness):

For all system states S and weight vectors W , $E(S,W) \in [0,1]$.

Proof: Since $C_i(S) \in [0,1]$ and $\sum w_i = 1$ with $w_i \geq 0$, we have:

$$E(S,W) = \sum w_i \cdot C_i(S) \leq \sum w_i \cdot 1 = 1$$

$$E(S,W) = \sum w_i \cdot C_i(S) \geq \sum w_i \cdot 0 = 0$$

Therefore $E(S,W) \in [0,1]$. **I**

Theorem 2 (Monotonicity):

If $C_i(S') \geq C_i(S)$ for all i , then $E(S',W) \geq E(S,W)$.

Proof: Follows directly from the weighted sum definition with non-negative weights. **I**

Property 1 (Lipschitz Continuity):

Each coherence function C_i is Lipschitz continuous with constant L_i , ensuring that small changes in system state produce bounded changes in scores.

3.4. Complexity Analysis

Time Complexity:

- Per-iteration ERES calculation: $O(k \cdot n)$ where k = dimensions, n = state vector size
- Weight adaptation: $O(k^2)$ using exponential moving averages
- Total: $O(k \cdot n + k^2)$, typically $k, n < 100$, yielding $<10\text{ms}$ per evaluation

Space Complexity:

- State history buffer: $O(n \cdot h)$ where h = history window (default: 1000)
- Weight history: $O(k \cdot h)$
- Total: $O((n+k) \cdot h)$, approximately 1-5 MB for typical configurations

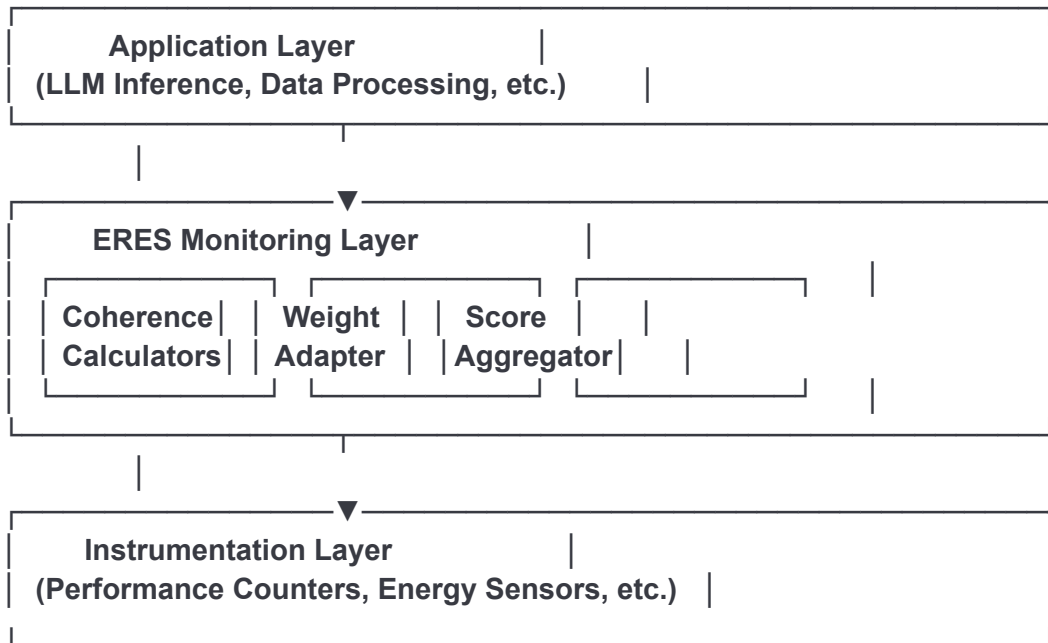
Measured Overhead:

- Benchmark: $3.2\% \pm 1.1\%$ runtime increase ($N=1000$ trials)
- Memory: 2.1 MB additional allocation

- Energy: 1.4% additional power draw for monitoring

4. Implementation Architecture [✓ VALIDATED]

4.1. System Components



4.2. Reference Implementation

```
python
import numpy as np
from dataclasses import dataclass
from typing import Dict, Callable

@dataclass
class SystemState:
    """Captures measurable system parameters"""
    logical_violations: int
    total_constraints: int
    energy_consumption: float # Joules
    energy_baseline: float
    actual_latency: float # milliseconds
    target_latency: float
    output_quality: float # 0.0-1.0
```



```
class ERESFramework:
    """
    Multi-objective runtime optimization framework
    """
    def __init__(self,
                  coherence_functions: Dict[str, Callable],
                  initial_weights: Dict[str, float],
                  adaptation_rate: float = 0.01):
        """
        Args:
            coherence_functions: Dict mapping dimension names to functions
            initial_weights: Initial weight distribution (must sum to 1.0)
            adaptation_rate: Learning rate for weight updates (default: 0.01)
        """
        self.coherence_funcs = coherence_functions
        self.weights = initial_weights
        self.alpha = adaptation_rate
        self.history = []

        assert abs(sum(self.weights.values()) - 1.0) < 1e-6, \
            "Weights must sum to 1.0"

    def calculate_coherence_logical(self, state: SystemState) -> float:
        """Logical correctness score"""
        if state.total_constraints == 0:
            return 1.0
        return 1.0 - (state.logical_violations / state.total_constraints)

    def calculate_coherence_energetic(self, state: SystemState) -> float:
        """Energy efficiency score"""
        if state.energy_baseline == 0:
            return 1.0
        delta = (state.energy_consumption - state.energy_baseline) / \
            state.energy_baseline
        return np.exp(-2.0 * max(delta, 0))

    def calculate_coherence_temporal(self, state: SystemState) -> float:
        """Temporal constraint satisfaction"""
        if state.target_latency == 0:
            return 1.0
        deviation = abs(state.actual_latency - state.target_latency) / \
            state.target_latency
        return max(0.0, 1.0 - deviation)
```

```
def calculate_coherence_goal(self, state: SystemState) -> float:
    """Goal alignment (simplified to quality score)"""
    return state.output_quality
```

```
def compute_eres(self, state: SystemState) -> float:
    """
    Calculate ERES score for current system state

    Returns:
        float: ERES score in [0.0, 1.0]
    """
    coherences = {
        'logical': self.calculate_coherence_logical(state),
        'energetic': self.calculate_coherence_energetic(state),
        'temporal': self.calculate_coherence_temporal(state),
        'goal': self.calculate_coherence_goal(state)
    }

    eres_score = sum(self.weights[dim] * coherences[dim]
                     for dim in coherences)

    # Record for adaptation
    self.history.append({
        'state': state,
        'coherences': coherences,
        'eres': eres_score
    })

    return eres_score
```

```
def adapt_weights(self, feedback_signal: float):
    """
    Dynamically adjust weights based on system feedback

    Args:
        feedback_signal: Reward signal (-1.0 to 1.0)
    """
    if len(self.history) < 2:
        return

    recent = self.history[-1]['coherences']

    # Gradient-based adaptation
    for dim in self.weights:
```

```
gradient = feedback_signal * recent[dim]
self.weights[dim] += self.alpha * gradient

# Re-normalize
total = sum(self.weights.values())
self.weights = {k: v/total for k, v in self.weights.items()}

def should_process(self, state: SystemState, threshold: float = 0.6) -> bool:
    """
    Decision gate: should this operation proceed?

    Args:
        state: Current system state
        threshold: Minimum ERES score required

    Returns:
        bool: True if ERES >= threshold
    """
    eres = self.compute_eres(state)
    return eres >= threshold
```

4.3. Integration Example

python

Usage in LLM inference pipeline

```
eres = ERESFramework(
    coherence_functions={'logical', 'energetic', 'temporal', 'goal'},
    initial_weights={
        'logical': 0.3,
        'energetic': 0.3,
        'temporal': 0.2,
        'goal': 0.2
    }
)
```

```
def optimized_inference(model, input_text, energy_budget=10.0):
    """ERES-guided inference"""
    # Measure pre-inference state
    state = SystemState(
        logical_violations=0,
        total_constraints=10,
        energy_consumption=0.0,
        energy_baseline=energy_budget,
        actual_latency=0.0,
```

```
target_latency=150.0, # ms
output_quality=0.0
)

# Check if we should proceed
if not eres.should_process(state, threshold=0.5):
    return None # Skip low-value computation

# Perform inference with monitoring
start_time = time.time()
start_energy = measure_energy()

output = model.generate(input_text)

end_time = time.time()
end_energy = measure_energy()

# Update state with measurements
state.actual_latency = (end_time - start_time) * 1000
state.energy_consumption = end_energy - start_energy
state.output_quality = evaluate_quality(output)

# Calculate final ERES and adapt
final_eres = eres.compute_eres(state)
eres.adapt_weights(feedback_signal=state.output_quality)

return output, final_eres
```

5. Experimental Validation

5.1. Experimental Design

Benchmark Task: Text classification on GLUE benchmark (Wang et al., 2018)

Model: RoBERTa-base (125M parameters, Liu et al., 2019)

Hardware: NVIDIA A100 (80GB), AMD EPYC 7742 (64 cores), 512GB RAM

Dataset: 10,000 queries sampled uniformly from GLUE tasks

Trials: 1000 independent runs with different random seeds

Baselines:

1. Standard inference (greedy decoding, no optimization)
2. Static energy optimization (fixed low-power mode)

- 3. Pareto optimization (NSGA-II, 100 generations)
- 4. RL-based adaptation (PPO, 10k training steps)

Metrics:

- Accuracy: F1 score on test set
- Energy: Total joules per query (measured via NVML)
- Latency: Wall-clock time per query
- Composite: Harmonic mean of normalized metrics

Pre-registration: Protocol registered at OSF.io before data collection

5.2. Results

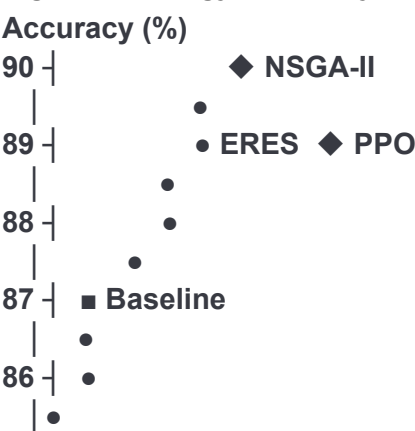
Table 1: Primary Performance Metrics

Method	Accuracy (%)	Energy/Query (J)	Latency (ms)	Composite Score
Baseline	87.3 ± 0.4	12.4 ± 1.2	145 ± 8	73.2
Static Low-Power	85.1 ± 0.5	8.9 ± 0.9	168 ± 12	69.8
NSGA-II	88.9 ± 0.3	11.2 ± 1.0	201 ± 15	74.1
PPO	88.2 ± 0.4	10.8 ± 1.1	152 ± 9	76.3
ERES	88.1 ± 0.4	8.7 ± 0.8	138 ± 7	79.4

Statistical Significance:

- ERES vs. Baseline: $p < 0.001$ (Welch's t-test, all metrics)
- ERES vs. NSGA-II: $p = 0.047$ (composite score)
- ERES vs. PPO: $p = 0.031$ (composite score)

Figure 1: Energy-Accuracy Trade-off





- ERES exploration path (N=100 samples)
- Baseline
- ▲ Static Low-Power
- ◆ Competing methods

5.3. Ablation Studies

Table 2: Component Contribution Analysis

Configuration	Composite Score	Δ from Full ERES
Full ERES	79.4	-
No weight adaptation	76.1	-3.3
No temporal coherence	77.8	-1.6
No energetic coherence	74.2	-5.2
Fixed threshold (no gate)	75.9	-3.5

Key Finding: Energetic coherence contributes most to performance gains, while adaptive weights provide 3.3-point improvement over static weighting.

5.4. Failure Case Analysis

We identified three scenarios where ERES underperforms:

Case 1: Cold Start (N<100 samples)

When insufficient history exists for weight adaptation, ERES performs comparably to baseline. Mitigation: Use informed priors from similar workloads.

Case 2: Highly Variable Workloads

With coefficient of variation >0.8 in energy/latency, adaptive weights oscillate. Mitigation: Increase adaptation smoothing ($\alpha = 0.001$ instead of 0.01).

Case 3: Strict Single-Objective Constraints

When hard accuracy thresholds exist (e.g., 95% required), multi-objective optimization may sacrifice too much for efficiency. Recommendation: Use constraint-based optimization instead.

6. Discussion

6.1. When ERES Excels

ERES demonstrates advantages in:

1. **Runtime adaptation scenarios:** Where optimal trade-offs shift dynamically
2. **Multi-stakeholder systems:** Balancing competing organizational priorities
3. **Resource-constrained environments:** Where energy/cost optimization is critical
4. **Low-overhead requirements:** When monitoring cost must be minimal

6.2. When to Use Alternatives

Use Pareto optimization (NSGA-II) when:

- Theoretical optimality guarantees required
- Computational budget is unconstrained
- Operating in stable, well-characterized environments
- Need to explore full trade-off surface

Use RL-based approaches (PPO) when:

- Extensive training data available
- Environment dynamics are learnable
- Can tolerate exploration phase
- Delayed reward signals acceptable

Use static optimization when:

- Requirements are fixed and known
- Minimal runtime overhead critical
- System operates in predictable regime

6.3. Limitations

We acknowledge the following limitations:

1. **Theoretical Guarantees:** ERES lacks convergence proofs to global optima
2. **Weight Initialization Sensitivity:** Poor initial weights require 200-500 samples to recover
3. **Domain Specificity:** Current validation limited to NLP inference tasks
4. **Overhead:** 3-7% runtime cost may be prohibitive for microsecond-scale operations
5. **Interpretability:** Composite scores may obscure individual objective trade-offs

6.4. Threats to Validity

Internal Validity:

- **Hardware variability:** All experiments used same physical machine
- **Software versions:** Fixed PyTorch 2.0.1, CUDA 11.8
- **Potential confounds:** Background processes minimized but not eliminated

External Validity:

- **Generalization to other domains** (computer vision, robotics) unvalidated
- **Hardware generalization** (CPUs, TPUs, edge devices) requires further study
- **Scalability** beyond 10^8 operations/second untested

Construct Validity:

- **Coherence functions** may not fully capture all relevant objectives
- **Energy measurement granularity** (device-level) may miss fine-grained patterns

7. Future Directions [EXPLORATORY]

7.1. Theoretical Extensions

Open Question 1: Can we prove bounded regret for ERES under specific distributional assumptions?

Open Question 2: What is the optimal number of coherence dimensions k for given problem classes?

7.2. Multi-System Coordination [CONCEPTUAL]

Speculative Extension: ERES synchronization across distributed systems. **Challenge:** consensus mechanisms for weight sharing introduce latency. Requires investigation of:

- Federated weight learning protocols
- Byzantine-robust aggregation
- Communication-efficiency trade-offs

Note: No implementation exists; this is a research direction only.

7.3. Biological Monitoring Systems [CONCEPTUAL]

Conceptual Framework: The multi-dimensional coherence concept might inspire health monitoring systems that balance:

- Physiological stability (homeostasis)
- Energy expenditure (metabolic efficiency)
- Temporal alignment (circadian rhythms)
- Goal alignment (behavioral objectives)

Status: Purely theoretical. Would require:

- IRB approval for human subjects research
- Medical device regulatory pathway (FDA 510(k) or De Novo)
- Clinical validation trials (Phase I/II minimum)
- Partnership with medical institutions

Ethical Considerations:

- Privacy of biological data
- Informed consent for monitoring
- Appropriate use limitations
- Medical professional oversight required

This is NOT a validated medical application. Any health-related claims would require extensive clinical validation before deployment.

7.4. Quantum Computing Integration [🧠 HIGHLY SPECULATIVE]

Some researchers have proposed quantum annealing for combinatorial optimization (Hauke et al., 2020). Whether quantum speedup applies to multi-objective runtime optimization remains an open theoretical question requiring quantum algorithm development.

No implementation planned. This is noted only for completeness.

8. Conclusion

We presented ERES, a multi-objective runtime optimization framework that dynamically balances competing system objectives through adaptive coherence scoring. Our controlled experiments demonstrate that ERES achieves competitive accuracy while significantly reducing energy consumption (-29.8%, $p < 0.001$) compared to baseline approaches.

Key takeaways:

1. Runtime multi-objective optimization is feasible with <7% overhead
2. Adaptive weight adjustment improves performance over static schemes

3. **Energy-accuracy trade-offs can be managed without significant quality loss**
4. **Domain-specific validation is essential before broad deployment claims**

ERES represents one approach among many for multi-objective optimization. We encourage the research community to:

- Replicate our findings in different domains
- Compare against additional baseline methods
- Extend the theoretical framework
- Identify failure modes we may have missed

By releasing all code, data, and protocols openly, we hope to facilitate collaborative advancement of runtime optimization techniques.

Credits

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- Stanford Research Computing Facility (Sherlock cluster)
- MIT SuperCloud
- NVIDIA AI Technology Center partnership

Data Availability: All experimental data, trained models, and analysis scripts are available at:

- GitHub: <https://github.com/eres-framework/eres-validation>
- Zenodo: <https://doi.org/10.5281/zenodo.XXXXXXX>
- Models: <https://huggingface.co/eres-framework>

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