



Joint Opposite Selection (JOS): A premiere joint of selective leading opposition and dynamic opposite enhanced Harris' hawks optimization for solving single-objective problems

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ABSTRACT

In this paper, we proposed Joint Opposite Selection (JOS) operator that is a joint of two opposition learning techniques: the Selective Leading Opposition (SLO) and the Dynamic Opposite (DO). SLO uses a linearly decreasing threshold value to determine the close distance dimension of the search agents. DO provides the search agents chances to expand their abilities in the search space. We applied JOS to the Harris Hawks Optimization (HHO), the performance is increased because JOS balances the capability of exploration phase by using SLO and exploitation phase by using DO. The new algorithm, named Harris' Hawks Optimization-Joint Opposite Selection (HHO-JOS), is also proposed in this research as an enhanced version of HHO to solve single-objective problems. When the hawks deploy JOS, SLO assists the hawks to succeed in exploitation phase by changing their close distance dimension and DO tries to diverse the search space range of the hawks in the exploration phase using a Random Jump Strategy (RJS). The sufficient Jumping rate (Jr) of DO in HHO-JOS is 0.25, according to our experimental results. The proposed algorithm was included in a competition conducted on 30 benchmark functions of CEC 2014 and 29 benchmark functions of CEC 2017. Both benchmarks contain collections of single-objective problems for real parameter numerical optimization. The problems were employed to evaluate and compare the proposed HHO-JOS to the original HHO, three variations of OBLs embedded in the original HHO, and 31 nature-inspired algorithms by using a scoring metric. The results of the competition showed that the premiere JOS on HHO consistently achieves robustness performance on CEC 2014 and CEC 2017. Comprehensive statistical analysis also demonstrated that HHO-JOS can compete with many leading optimization algorithms. Therefore, we can conclude that the proposed joint opposite selection is well-matched to HHO and succeeds in elevating HHO-JOS.

1. Introduction

Based on technical reports by Awad et al. (2016) and Liang et al. (2013), single-objective function of the real parameter, numerical, and optimization is a primary complex task of the optimization problem. Many researchers used single-objective function to realize a novel optimization algorithm's strength. Scientific reviews confirm that a metaheuristic optimization algorithm (Boussaïd et al., 2013; Halim et al., 2020; Hussain et al., 2019) is a promising and sophisticated

optimization approach and is purposed to minimize or maximize the objective of the problems. The minimization problem is commonly found in cost and energy for wireless sensor networks (WSNs) localization (Sharma and Gupta, 2020), tracking errors for portfolio management (Derigs & Nickel, 2003), the mass of truss (Pholdee and Bureerat, 2014), and test case minimization for software testing (Ahmed, 2016). The maximization attains to various works, such as increasing the lifetime route of a wireless sensor network (Wang et al., 2020), finding high potential investment in the market (Tsai & Liu, 2019), boosting the

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seasonal allocation of hectares (Chetty & Adewumi, 2014), enhancing the manufacturing profit (Sathish, 2019), and increasing the reliability predictions of the identification of transcription factor binding sites (TFBSs) (Yang et al., 2011).

The minimization or maximization of the optimization algorithm influences the decisions of expert systems and their accomplishment. Nadimi-Shahroki et al. (2021) proposed an Improved Grey Wolf Optimizer (IGWO) by utilizing a dimensional learning-based hunting search strategy (DLH) to build a new way of communication among the wolf for sharing the information. The performance of IGWO was evaluated on the 29 benchmark functions of CEC 2018 and solved engineering problems. Wu et al. (2020) offered an adaptive logarithmic spiral-Levy Firefly Algorithm (AD-IFA) to strengthen the local exploitation and accelerate the convergence of the former LF-FA evaluated on 29 well-known benchmark functions. Elaziz et al. (2017) used an opposition-based learning technique to improved SCA. The improvement of SCA is to enhance the exploration ability in the search space by generating more accurate candidate solutions. Chen et al. (2017) employed a robust ant colony optimization (RACO) which applied the self-adaptive approach by considering domain adjustment, domain division, pheromone increment, and ant size of ACO for continuous functions.

The Harris' Hawks Optimization (HHO), which is a fairly span-new aviate optimization algorithm in Swarm Intelligence (SI), adopts the cooperative hunting behavior of Harris' Hawks proposed by Heidari et al. (2019). The major characteristic of HHO is the ability to represent the harmonization of its exploration and exploitation in the progressive searching selection with the randomized decrement escaping energy and in the rapid attack influenced by randomizing jump strength and short-dive using Lévy flight. It is noticed that the original HHO is evaluated and competes in real parameter optimization Congress Evolutionary Computation (CEC) 2005 (Suganthan et al., 2005). However, there is a lack of scientific evidence on whether the original HHO itself can work with more serious complex problems than the CEC 2005 benchmark functions, such as CEC 2014 and CEC 2017. Both benchmarks contain not only unimodal and multimodal, which show the promising capability of exploration and exploitation, but also hybrid functions and composite functions. Both benchmarks confirm the performance of the algorithm in terms of the ability to escape from the local optima.

Recently, to solve more complex optimization problems, the HHO has already been modified and developed. Many researchers claimed that blending HHO into the conventional algorithm produces a superior solution in real-world problems and complex problems. Rodríguez-Esparza et al. (2020) applied HHO to image segmentation and achieved more efficient and reliable performance in quality, consistency, and accuracy. Liu et al. (2020) proposed CCNMHHO as an improved version of HHO, which combines a simplified crisscross optimizer and the Nelder-Mead simplex algorithm. CCNMHHO is an efficient and reliable method to solve unknown parameters for photovoltaic and solar cell models. Houssein et al. (2020) claimed that the hybridizes Harris' Hawks Optimization-Support Vector Machines (HHO-SVM) and Harris' Hawks Optimization-k-Nearest Neighbors (HHO-kNN) achieved high classification accuracies for drug design and discovery prediction in chemoinformatics. Houssein et al. (2020) successfully employed HHO to determine the sink node location in a large-scale wireless sensor network (LSWSN) to measure and sense biosphere conditions such as temperature, wind, pressure, humidity, and pollution stages.

Although the development of HHO variants show superiority and efficiency in various applications mentioned above, there are still spaces for HHO to alleviate the local optima's stagnate issue and the premature convergence, such as using the opposition learning technique. The tendency of oppositional-based learning strategy's success influences the search strategies. Scientific reviews on the OBL's ability to enhance algorithms and employ them in applications are undoubted (Mahdavi et al., 2018; Rojas-Morales et al., 2017; Xu et al., 2014). Scientific researches show that the OBL-based techniques could be applied to enhance the performance of several existing evolutionary algorithms.

Tubishat et al. (2020) utilized OBL and a local search algorithm to improve the Salp Swarm Algorithm (ISSA) for feature selection purposes. Gupta and Deep (2019) proposed a modification of SCA (m-SCA) by generating the opposite number according to the perturbation rate to escape from trapping at the local optima, then applied self-adaptive SCA to exploit the promising search area. Wu et al. (2017) applied Elite Opposition (EO) on Water Wave Optimization (WWO) for solving engineering problems and function optimization, then used Local Neighborhood Search (LNS) to enhance the local search of WWO. Li et al. (2016) expanded Cuckoo Search's search area (CS) by using elite opposition and chaotic disturbance. Yang and Huang (2012) embedded the opposition and dynamic Cauchy mutation into an Artificial Bee Colony to solve function optimizations.

In this paper, we simulated a group of Harris' hawks' behavior when they are hunting their prey, i.e., a jackrabbit. Our premier brand is a joint of OBL, named Joint Opposite Selection (JOS), which improves the artificial Harris' hawks to have promising search strategies. The search strategies (Olorunda & Engelbrecht, 2008; Xu & Zhang (2014); Morales-Castañeda et al., 2020) are defined as the exploration and exploitation phases. The joint search strategies used in the proposed JOS are Selective Leading Opposition (SLO) and Dynamic Opposition (DO). JOS assists the Harris' hawks in the leading group (SLO) which have close positions to the solution or the jackrabbit in this case. This leading group can accelerate their exploitation ability by moving to the opposite positions; if the hunting has not been success for a while, all the hawks have a chance to diverse asymmetrically and dynamically using DO (Xu et al., 2020). JOS on HHO succeeds in elevating the former HHO by balancing the search space, i.e., exploration and exploitation phases. The HHO's search action is scheduled by a decreasing escaping energy. The escaping energy indicates which search strategies are being used by the hawks and it is restrained by E . The E in HHO is set as a threshold value of SLO. If the hawks decide to maintain the exploration phase, the parameter Jr is employed as the jumping rate of DO. In other words, JOS is deployed by the threshold value used in SLO and the jumping rate is used in DO. In addition, the threshold is adjusted as a linearly decreasing parameter over time and it is used as the threshold value for SLO and the jumping rate for DO. More details about the search strategies will be explained in the later sections.

The performance of JOS embedded in HHO, also called HHO-JOS, is determined on a collection of 30 benchmark functions of CEC 2014 and 29 benchmark functions of CEC 2017. The main contributions of this research are highlighted as follows:

- A new opposition learning technique, Selective Leading Opposition, is invented.
- JOS is proposed and embedded in HHO to increase the hunting's performance of the HHO algorithm.
- The adjustment of linearly decreasing threshold value for SLO and jumping rate for DO succeed in elevating the former HHO.
- The reasonable probability jumping rate of DO in HHO-JOS is determined.
- The behavior of HHO with SLO, HHO with DO, and HHO with JOS are analyzed.
- The effectiveness of HHO-JOS performance is evaluated by using a scoring metric and statistical analysis, i.e., Wilcoxon sign rank test, Kruskal-Wallis test, and Friedman mean rank.
- Convergence graphs presenting nine algorithms on benchmark functions of CEC 2017 exhibit elite solution of HHO-JOS comparing to the original version of HHO.

The rest of the paper is organized as follows: the related work of HHO and opposition-based techniques and their inheritance is briefly presented in Section 2. In Section 3, JOS and HHO-JOS are proposed. Section 4 discusses experiment setup and experimental result analysis. Finally, the conclusions and future work are pointed out in the last section.

2. Related work

In classification, metaheuristic optimization algorithms can be categorized into four categories (Mirjalili & Lewis, 2016): evolutionary algorithm, physical-based algorithm, human-based algorithm, and swarm-based algorithm. Surprisingly, the quantity of recently proposed novel algorithms in the group of swarm-based algorithms, also known as Swarm Intelligent (SI) (Yang et al., 2016), is increased. As shown in Table 1, 27 novel SI optimization algorithms were proposed in the last five years. Those algorithms mimic the living organisms' intelligent behavior in the nature (Yang et al., 2018), which are influenced by their interactions in the community and environment. Each living organism

Table 1
Novel Swarm Intelligent Optimization Algorithms.

| Animal Inspiration | Algorithms | Behavior | Year |
|---------------------|--|---|------|
| Mayfly | Mayfly Algorithm (MA) (Zervoudakis & Tsafarakis, 2020) | Flight behavior and the mating process | 2020 |
| Sparrow | Sparrow Search Algorithm (SSA) (Xue & Shen, 2020) | Foraging and anti-predation | 2020 |
| Rat | Rat Swarm Optimizer (RSO) (Dhiman et al., 2020) | Chasing and attacking | 2020 |
| Hawks | Harris' Hawks Optimization (HHO) (Heidari et al., 2019) | Cooperative hunting | 2019 |
| Penguins | Emperor Penguins Colony (EPC) (Harifi et al., 2019) | Emperor penguins | 2019 |
| Butterfly | Butterfly Optimization Algorithm (BOA) (Arora & Singh, 2019) | Food search and mating | 2019 |
| Barnacles | Barnacles mating optimizer (BMO) (Sulaiman et al., 2019) | Mating | 2018 |
| Coyote | Coyote Optimization Algorithm (COA) (Pierezan & Dos Santos Coelho, 2018) | Canis latrans species | 2018 |
| Owl | Owl Search Algorithm (OSA) (Jain et al., 2018) | Hunting | 2018 |
| Grasshopper | Grasshopper Optimization Algorithm (GOA) (Saremi et al., 2017) | Behavior | 2017 |
| Mouth brooding fish | Mouth Brooding Fish (MBF) (Jahani & Chizari, 2018) | Movement, dispersion, and protection | 2017 |
| Spotted hyena | Spotted Hyena Optimizer (SHO) (Dhiman & Kumar, 2017) | Hunting | 2017 |
| Lion | Lion Optimization Algorithm (LOA) (Yazdani & Jolai, 2016) | Cooperation characteristics | 2016 |
| Dolphin | Dolphin Swarm Optimization Algorithm (DSOA) (Yong et al., 2016) | Hunting | 2016 |
| Dragonfly | Dragonfly Algorithm (DA) (Mirjalili, 2016b) | Navigation, foods search, enemies avoidance | 2016 |
| Moth-flame | Moth-flame Optimization (MFO) (Mirjalili, 2015) | Navigation | 2015 |
| Elephant | Elephant Herding Optimization (EHO) (Wang et al., 2016) | Herding | 2015 |
| Grey Wolf | Grey Wolf Optimizer (GWO) (Mirjalili et al., 2014) | Hunting | 2014 |
| Swallow | Swallow Swarm Optimization (SSO) (Neshat et al., 2013) | Movement | 2013 |
| Krill | Krill Herd (KH) (Gandomi & Alavi, 2012) | Herding | 2012 |
| Cuckoo | Cuckoo Optimization Algorithm (COA) (Rajabioun, 2011) | Breeding | 2011 |
| Bat | BAT (Yang, 2010) | Echolocation | 2010 |
| Cuckoo | Cuckoo Search (CS) (Yang & Deb, 2009) | Brood parasitic CS of some birds | 2009 |
| Bees | Bee Collecting Pollen Algorithm (BCPA) (Lu & Zhou, 2008) | Honeybees collecting pollen | 2008 |
| Monkey | Monkey Search (MS) (Mucherino & Seref, 2007) | Food Search | 2007 |
| Ant | Ant Colony Optimization (ACO) (Dorigo et al., 2006) | Food Search | 2006 |
| Bird Flock | Particle Swarm Optimization (PSO) (Kiranyaz, 2014) | Movement | 1995 |

has its patterns of surviving. These intelligences exhibit their behaviors of hunting, foraging, breeding, and mating. Scientists, then, recognized the patterns as Collective Intelligence (CI) and formulated them into mathematical formulas for computational decision purposes (Blomkvist et al., 2012; Henson & Hayward, 2010; Tron & Margaliot, 2004; Tsigas & Norman, 2007).

Based on No Free Lunch (NFL) theorem (Wolpert and Macready, 1997), there is no constrain or rule to define an idea based on the mimicking of nature-inspired behavior. The ideas can be behavior that presents the original mimic based on the nature-inspired as shown in Table 1. Nevertheless, the ideas can also be some kinds of strategies to elevate an algorithm. For example, Li et al. (2020) offered an idea of a learning model that utilizes communication and potential knowledge and among the individuals and the population. Li et al. (2019) proposed dynamic Cuckoo Search using Taguchi opposition-based search to solve multi-dimension problems. Li and Wang (2021) improved the elephant herding optimization by adapting the biogeography based learning named BLEHO to ensure the continuity of the population. Li et al. (2020) presented an improvement of elephant herding optimization (IMEHO) that employs the strategy of learning, velocity, and elitism to meet the best individual for preserving the lifecycle. Wang et al. (2016) elevated the original Krill herd by utilizing the opposition based learning, Cauchy mutation and position clamping. Li et al. (2020) used the genetic operator and Q-Learning step size to enhance the performance of cuckoo search, called DMQL-CS.

This section is divided into two parts. The first part explains the Harris' Hawks Optimization (Heidari et al., 2019). The second part describes the Opposition Based Learning technique (Tizhoosh, 2005) and its extended techniques relative to the proposed Joint Opposite Selection (JOS), namely Selective Opposition (Dhargupta et al., 2020) and Dynamic Opposite (Xu et al., 2020).

2.1. Harris' hawks optimization (HHO)

HHO (Heidari et al., 2019) adopts the nature hunting "surprise pounce" strategy of Harris' hawks in searching, tagging, enclosing, and finally attacking their prey, a jackrabbit (Bednarz, 1988). A hawk in Fig. 1 illustrates the role of the hunting strategy of each hawk. The hunting strategy of HHO is divided into two phases, i.e., exploration and exploitation. HHO also takes the escaping energy $|E_S|$ of a jackrabbit into consideration, as shown in Fig. 2. The hawks' exploration phase is an extensively promising global area for the hawks as a probability search space randomly explores for a jackrabbit. The hawks' exploitation phase is a hopeful local search guided by the hawks' exploration phase. The escaping energy $|E_S|$ is linearly decreased from two to zero as depicted by a yellow arrow pointing to the jackrabbit in Fig. 1. The magnitude of escaping energy $|E_S|$ is linearly decreased from two to zero as depicted by a yellow arrow pointing to the jackrabbit in Fig. 1. The decrement of $|E_S|$ occurs as the iteration is decreasing by t/T which can be defined as $E = 2*(1 - (t/T))$, where t is the initial iteration and T is the maximum iteration.

Generally, in the exploration phase, the hawks perform two strategies, either perch based on the other hawks, $q < 0.5$, or perch based on their random locations, $q \geq 0.5$. In the exploitation phase, there are two considerations: the strength of the prey and the strategy of the hawks. The strength of the prey is represented by the decrement of escaping energy from one to zero and is divided into two parts. When $0.5 \leq |E_S| < 1$, the jackrabbit still has enough energy to escape. On the other hand, when $0 \leq |E_S| < 0.5$, the jackrabbit is running out of energy. Meanwhile, the strategy of the Harris' hawks is influenced by a random number (r), where $r = [0,1]$. If r is less than 0.5, the hawks will perform rapid dive on soft besiege and hard besiege. When r is equal to or greater than 0.5, the hawks will perform only soft besiege and hard besiege without the rapid dive. Therefore, the hawks will strike a rapid dive only when the jackrabbit has limited energy to escape.

The activities of the Harris' hawks on monitoring and perching the

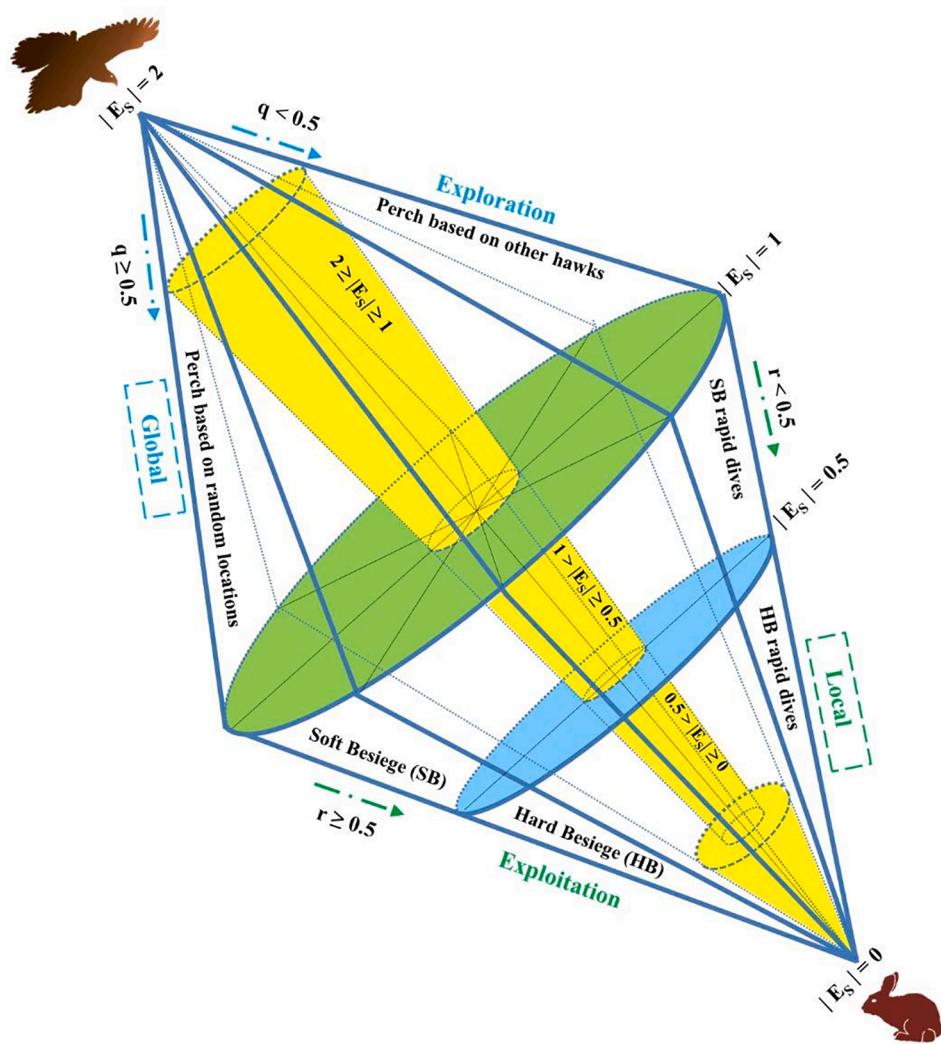


Fig. 1. Harris' Hawks Optimization (HHO) Exploration and Exploitation Phase.

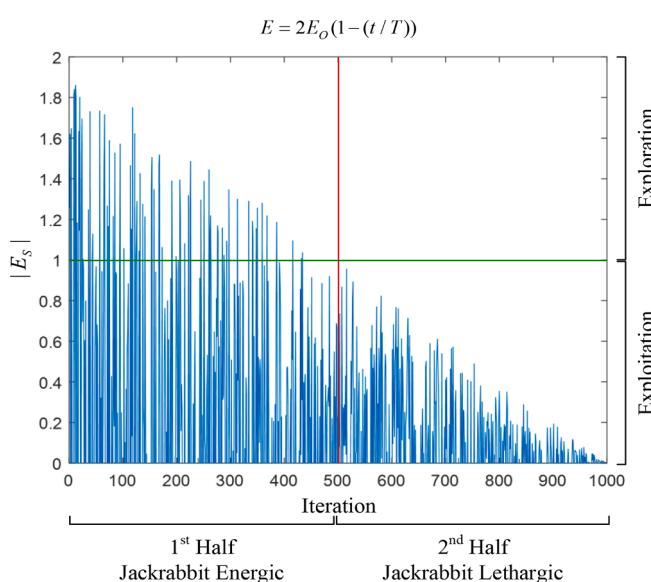


Fig. 2. The evolution of absolute escaping energy ($|E_s|$) of a jackrabbit ran for 1000 iterations globally.

jackrabbit are formulated in Eq. (1) regarding the number of hawks in a partition group. From Eq. (1), when $q < 0.5$, the partition is based on the other hawks' positions. It means the current hawks move toward the selected hawks when the positions are close enough to the jackrabbit and it is time to strike. If $q \geq 0.5$, the partition group of the average hawks randomly monitors the jackrabbit from the height of the trees within the range inside their hunting ground, which is represented by LB and UB .

$$X_{h+1} = \begin{cases} X_{hs} - r_1 * |X_{hs} - 2 * r_2 * X_{hc}| \\ (X_{jrabbit} - X_{hm}) - r_3(LB + r_4(UB - LB)) \end{cases} \quad \begin{matrix} q \geq 0.5 \\ q < 0.5 \end{matrix} \quad (1)$$

X_{h+1} is the new position vector of the hawks in the next generation, X_{hs} is randomly selected hawks, X_{hc} is the current position vector of the hawks, and $X_{jrabbit}$ is the position of the jackrabbit where r_1, r_2, r_3, r_4 , and q are uniform random numbers between $[0, 1]$. The boundary variables are LB (Lower Bound) and UB (Upper Bound). X_{hm} is the mean of the current positions of the hawks X_{hc} in each d dimension on D dimension as indicated in Eq. (2):

$$X_{hm,d} = \frac{1}{N} \sum_{i=1}^N X_{hc,d}, \quad \forall d \text{ such that } 1 \leq d \leq D \quad (2)$$

The change of hawks' hunting search space from the exploration phase to the exploitation phase is influenced by the escaping energy of the jackrabbit as stated in Eq. (3):

$$E_S = 2^*E_0^* \left(1 - \frac{t}{T}\right) \quad (3)$$

where E_S represents the escaping energy of the jackrabbit, and T is the maximum number of iterations and E_0 represents initial energy which is influenced by $2^*rand - 1$.

Fig. 2 illustrates the changes of the magnitude of jackrabbit escaping energy $|E_S|$ at the phases of exploration and exploitation as shown on the y -axis. The changes control the linear decrement of $2^*(1 - (t/T))$. The x -axis shows the changes of the $|E_S|$ on each iteration starting from zero until it reaches the maximum value (T). $|E_S|$ is influenced by the initial energy E_0 , which is varied between $[-1, 1]$ in every iteration. We assume that in the first half of the iteration, the jackrabbit is still energized, and in the second half, the jackrabbit is lethargic. As shown in **Fig. 1**, the hawks' exploitation phase performs four tactics: soft besiege, soft besiege with rapid dive, hard besiege, and hard besiege with rapid dive. The tactics are influenced by the instinct of the jackrabbit to avoid the predators, the Harris' Hawks. We assume that r is the opportunity of a jackrabbit for escaping from the hawks.

The first potential tactic of a group of hawks is soft besiege ($r > 0.5$). In this case, the jackrabbit still has enough energy to escape ($0.5 \leq E_S < 1$). The soft besiege is formulated in Eq. (4). The escaping energy E_S is influenced by the movement of the current positions of the hawks X_{hc} toward the jackrabbit's position with a certain Jumping rate J_S approaching the delta position of current hawks. ΔX_{hc} represents the movement from the current positions of the hawks toward the jackrabbit. The delta position describes in Eq. (5) and J_S is a random jump strength of the jackrabbit to simulate the jackrabbit's escaping movement. The J_S modeled in $J_S = 2(1 - r_5)$, where r_5 is a random number between $[0, 1]$.

$$X_{h+1} = \Delta X_{hc} - E_S |J_S X_{jabbit} - X_{hc}| \quad (4)$$

$$\Delta X_{hc} = X_{jabbit} - X_{hc} \quad (5)$$

The second potential tactic is the hawks decide to perform hard besiege ($r_5 < 0.5$) and the jackrabbit is lacking of energy to escape ($0 \leq |E_S| < 0.5$) as modeled in Eq. (6). In this situation, the hawks attack hard. Eq. (6) calculates the new positions of the hawks by taking the escaping energy of the jackrabbit into consideration and the delta movement of the current positions vector of the hawks toward the jackrabbit's position.

$$X_{h+1} = X_{jabbit} - E_S |\Delta X_{hc}| \quad (6)$$

In the third and fourth potential tactics, the hawks perform rapid dive together with soft besiege and hard besiege to assassinate the jackrabbit before the hawks perform a surprise pounce strategy. For soft besiege with rapid dive, we still use the original soft besiege modeled in Eq. (7). The difference is the escaping energy. The escaping energy is influenced by the movement of the current hawks toward the jackrabbit with a jumping rate approaching to the jackrabbit's position. If they fail from using the first strategy (X_{h1s}) on the soft besiege, they will perform the second strategy (X_{h2s}) in Eq. (10) by using the rapid dive Lévy flight as shown in Eq. (8,9).

$$X_{h1s} = X_{jabbit} - E_S |J_S X_{jabbit} - X_{hc}| \quad (7)$$

$$X_{h2s} = X_{h1s} + S \times LF(d) \quad (8)$$

where d is the dimensions.

$$LF(d) = 0.01 \times \frac{u \times \sigma}{|v|^{\frac{1}{\beta}}}, \sigma = \left(\frac{\Gamma(1 + \beta) \times \sin\left(\frac{\pi\beta}{2}\right)}{\Gamma\left(\frac{1+\beta}{2}\right) \times \beta \times 2^{\left(\frac{\beta-1}{2}\right)}} \right)^{\frac{1}{\beta}} \quad (9)$$

$$X_{h+1} = \begin{cases} X_{h1s} & \text{if } f(X_{h1s}) < f(X_{hc}) \\ X_{h2s} & \text{if } f(X_{h2s}) < f(X_{hc}) \end{cases} \quad (10)$$

Paul Lévy presented the details of the Lévy flight formula (Chawla & Duhan, 2018; Jamil & Zepernick, 2013; Kamaruzaman et al., 2013) modeled in Eq. (9) by using a simple power-law formula, where u and v are random numbers between $[0, 1]$. β is a constant value equal to 1.5. Eq. (10) updates the new position of the hawks.

$$X_{h1s} = X_{jabbit} - E_S |J_S X_{jabbit} - X_{hc}| \quad (11)$$

The first attack strategy on hard besiege with rapid dive is formulated in Eq. (11). The only difference from the soft besiege with rapid dive in Eq. (10) is the escaping energy. This time, the escaping energy is influenced by the average hawks' positions (X_m) that approach the jackrabbit with a jumping rate. If the first strategy on hard besiege fails, it will employ the rapid dive using Lévy flight. To execute the second strategy of hard besiege with rapid dive, Eq. (8, 9, 10) are run in sequence.

2.2. Opposition based learning (OBL)

OBL was originally proposed by Tizhoosh (2005). OBL is an opposite learning technique for optimization algorithms, especially in metaheuristic optimization algorithms, to improve their quality performance at the initialization stage and the generation stage by using a jumping rate (Rahnamayan et al., 2007). Scientists (Mahdavi et al., 2018; Rojas-Morales et al., 2017; Xu et al., 2014) summarized the effectiveness of this technique. The use of the opposite solution for a given problem provides opportunities to find candidate solutions randomly closer to the global solutions (Wang et al., 2011). Rahnamayan (2007) defines the opposite number and opposite point as follows:

Definition of Opposite Number: Let x be a real number in an interval $[LB, UB]; x \in [LB, UB]$. LB is the lower bound and UB is the upper bound. The opposite number of x is denoted by \bar{x} in Eq. (12).

$$\bar{x} = LB + UB - x \quad (12)$$

Definition of Opposite Point: Let $X = (x_1, x_2, \dots, x_d)$. Each element in X is a point in a d dimensional space, $x_j \in \mathbb{N}$ and $x_j \in [LB_j, UB_j]$, where $j = 1, 2, \dots, d$. The opposite point of X is denoted by $\bar{X} = (\bar{x}_1, \bar{x}_2, \dots, \bar{x}_d)$ in Eq. (13).

$$\bar{X} = LB + UB - X \quad (13)$$

The opposite point is compared to the X position, then, it is sorted by its fitness value. If X fitness value is better than \bar{X} fitness value, then the position's population remains the same. However, if \bar{X} fitness value is better than X fitness value, the position population is updated based on better \bar{X} fitness value. Recently, OBL is extended its idea to achieve higher performance. The Selective Opposition (SO) and Dynamic Opposite (DO) are the improved versions of OBL adopted by the proposed Joint Opposite Selection (JOS).

2.2.1. Selective Opposition (SO)

SO is an extended idea of OBL introduced by Dhargupta et al. (2020). The idea of SO (Pseudocode 1) is to change the faraway dimension of the search agents closer to the solution using the opposition strategy which is influenced by a linearly decreasing threshold.

Pseudocode 1: Selective Opposition (SO)

```

1: Input: initial generation t, maximum generation T, population size N, dimension d
2: Output:  $\bar{X}_d$ : new position based on selective opposition
3: threshold =  $2 - \left[ t^* \left( \frac{2}{T} \right) \right]$ 
4: for i = 1 : N
5:   if  $X_i$  is not equal to  $X_{ibest}$ 
6:     for j = 1 : d

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7:    $dd_j = |x_{ibest,j} - x_{i,j}|$  { $dd_j$  = difference distance for each dimension}
8:   if  $dd_j >$  threshold
9:     identify the close distance dimensions ( $d_f$ )
10:    count the number of close distance dimensions ( $d_f$ )
11:  else
12:    identify the faraway distance dimensions ( $d_c$ )
13:    count the number of far distance dimensions ( $d_c$ )
14:  end
15: end
16: sum all  $dd_j$ 
17:  $src = 1 - \frac{6 * \sum_{j=1}^n (dd_j)^2}{dd_j * (dd_j^2 - 1)}$ , { $src$  = Spearman's Rank Correlation Coefficient}
18: if  $src <= 0$  and  $d_f > d_c$ 
19:   perform  $\bar{X}_{d_f} = LB_{d_f} + UB_{d_f} - X_{d_f}$ 
20: end
21: end
22: end

```

The first step to perform SO is defining a threshold. The threshold will decrease until it reaches the maximum generation. For all search agents, SO examines the distance for each of them from the current search agent dimension comparing to the best position of the search agent, as denoted in Eq. (14).

$$dd_j = |x_{ibest,j} - x_{i,j}| \quad (14)$$

where dd_j is the difference distance of each dimension. When the difference distance (dd_j) is greater than the threshold, identify and calculate for the faraway and close search agents. Then, enumerate all the difference distances of the agents and the solution.

$$src = 1 - \frac{6 * \sum_{j=1}^n (dd_j)^2}{dd_j * (dd_j^2 - 1)} \quad (15)$$

The enumeration influences the Spearman's Rank Correlation Coefficient (src) value as indicated in Eq. (15). The src measures the associativity of the current hawks and the jackrabbit. If src is less than zero and the number of the faraway distance dimensions (d_f) is greater than the number of close distance dimensions (d_c), the search agent will be moved by Eq. (16).

$$\bar{X}_{d_f} = LB_{d_f} + UB_{d_f} - X_{d_f} \quad (16)$$

2.2.2. Dynamic opposite (DO)

Xu et al. (2020) merged the idea of Quasi Opposition (Rahnamayan et al., 2007) and Quasi-Reflection (Ergezer et al., 2009) to create Dynamic Opposite (DO). The excellence of DO is the capability to dynamically expand the search space. Therefore, the expansion of the search space using the opposite strategy contributes to the probability of approaching the global solution. The movement of DO is illustrated in Pseudocode 2.

Pseudocode 2: Dynamic Opposite (DO)

```

1: Input: Jumping rate  $Jr$ , population size  $N$ , position  $X$ 
2: Output:  $\bar{X}_{do}$ : new position based on DO
3: ifrand(0,1) <  $Jr$ 
4: for  $i = 1 : N$ 
5:    $\bar{X} = LB + UB - X$  (17)
6:    $X_r = rand(\bar{X})$ ,  $rand \in [0, 1]$  (18)
7:    $\bar{X}_{do} = X + rand(X_r - X)$  (19)
8: end
9: end

```

The Jumping rate (Jr) defines the probability of performing DO, \bar{X} is the opposite point, X_r is the random value for the opposite point, and \bar{X}_{do} is the dynamic opposite. If the random value is less than the nominated Jr , the DO will perform for all populations. This condition is named Random Jump Strategy (RJS). The random jump tries to effectively

restart the exploration ability and increase highly optimized performance (Hu et al., 1994; Selvam and Narayanan, 2019; Zhang et al., 2021). The initial position of DO is denoted in Eq (17), the current position of X makes a move to the opposite position \bar{X} in the search space. The move of opposite position \bar{X} is influenced by a certain random number between [0,1] which provides a new position X_r as shown in Eq. (18). Then, the DO will deploy Eq. (19) when the random number between [0,1] and the current position X approaching to X_r moves in a different direction from the current position.

3. HHO-JoS

Our new idea is the artificial Harris' hawks should have some strategies that are diverging from real behaviors and is illustrated in this section. Section 3.1 exhibits the proposed JOS and Section 3.2 describes the workflow of JOS embedded in HHO. Section 3.3 illustrates HHO-JOS in the search space.

3.1. The proposed JOS

Opposition Based Learning (OBL) is a learning technique that offers opportunities to find better solutions that imminent to the global optimal using the opposite move. In general, OBL is a mechanism to enhance optimization algorithms. In this paper, we proposed a new opposition-based learning technique named Joint Opposite Selection (JOS) to improve the performance and efficiency of the later HHO in the search space.

Fig. 3 exhibits the hierarchy development of JOS in OBL. JOS is a joint opposition-based learning technique that combine the benefits of Dynamic Opposite (DO) and Selective Leading Opposition (SLO). The DO is a merged opposition of quasi and quasi-reflection (Xu et al., 2020). SLO is expanded from the original idea of Selective Opposition (SO), which is embedded in the Grey Wolf Optimizer (GWO) (Dhargupta et al., 2020).

In former GWO, Fig. 4 shows the locations of the search agents based on the competence (fittest value) which is classified based on its social hierarchy. First, alpha (α) is the fittest solution for the decision-maker. Beta (β) and delta (δ), which are the second and third solutions respectively, have the role to inform prospective hunting location. The last one, omega (ω), plays an assistant role of those three wolves classifier. Because the task of omega (ω) is to assist those three wolves, its position can be either faraway (ω_1) or close (ω_2) to the fittest solution (α). In the SO strategy, the intention is to manage the exploration performance by changing the far away (ω_1) search agent by moving to the opposite position to find a better solution. This strategy is to produce a faster convergence rate. However, the swift convergence rate might

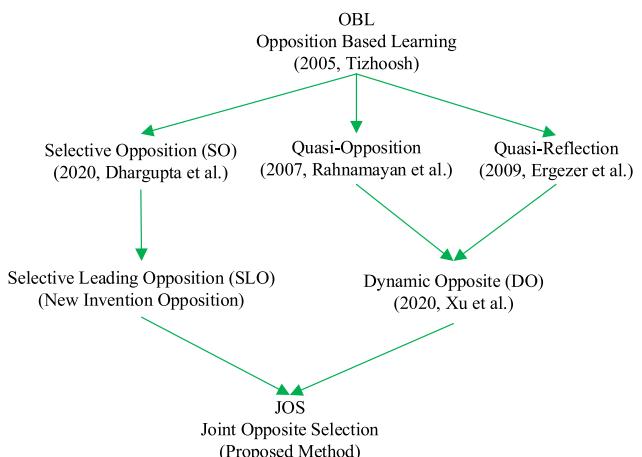


Fig. 3. A Hierarchical Development of JOS in OBL.

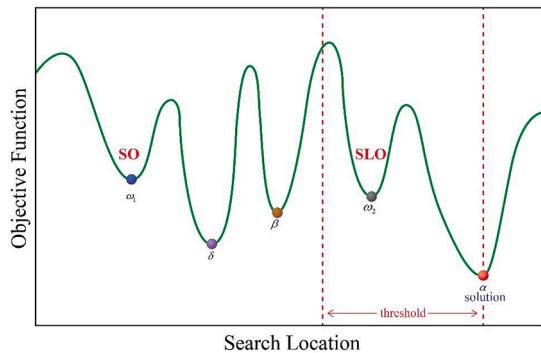


Fig. 4. The difference between the locations selected by SO (faraway) and selected by SLO (close) to the solution.

quickly lead to being trapped in the local optima, causing its performance to be unstable as exhibits in the experiment in [Section 4](#). Then, we consider changing the strategy by selecting the leading search agent which has a close (ω_2) position to the fittest solution (α). The move of the close agent is influenced by the threshold that is linearly decreased over time. The idea is the closer position can effectively reach the global optima. We named our new invention Selective Leading Opposition (SLO). In our proposed, we used SLO to support the capability of JOS on HHO.

The opposite move of SLO is illustrated [Fig. 5](#). Suppose that the leading point of a search agent (x, y, z) in [Fig. 5](#) has the exact opposite point (x', y', z'); the distance between those two points to the solution are C_1 and C_3 , successively. Further proof, suppose the last two dimensions of (x, y, z) are opposed to (x', y', z') with the distance C_2 . Therefore, the distance comparison results in $C_2 < C_1 < C_3$ shows that C_2 has the nearest distance to the solution. The detailed explanation of the close distance dimension change of the SLO is shown in [Fig. 6](#).

Based on [Fig. 6](#), the coordinate x and y represent the first and second dimension, respectively. Together, those coordinates represent the coordinate position of hawks (x_h, y_h) and the coordinate position of a jackrabbit (x_r, y_r). From the examples in [Fig. 6](#), the position of the jackrabbit stays on the same coordinate $R(5,4)$, which means the first dimension $x_r = 5$ and the second dimension $y_r = 4$. Considering coordinate A as the first possible case, the coordinate of the hawk's position is $(4,1)$, where the first dimension is $x_h = 4$ and the second dimension is

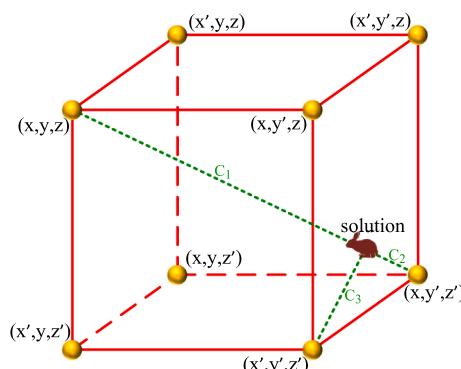


Fig. 5. The opposite movement of SLO.

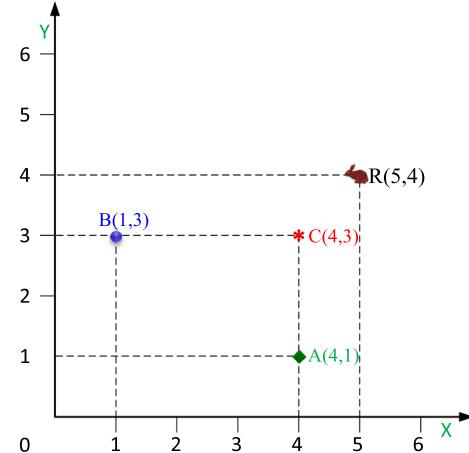


Fig. 6. The change of close dimension on SLO. Coordinate A, B, and C are the positions of hawks (x_h, y_h) and coordinate R is the position of a jackrabbit (x_r, y_r) in two-dimensions. For the close distance dimension, coordinate A is the x , coordinate B is the y , and coordinate C are the x and y .

$y_h = 1$. Then, we can calculate the difference distance between x_r and x_h based on coordinate A, which is 1. If we assumed that the threshold is 2, the difference distance between x_r and x_h is less than 2. That means the coordinate x of this hawk is closer to the jackrabbit than the other hawks. Then, this closer hawk should be the selected leader for hunting. At this condition, the strategy SLO will apply at the first dimension. For the second dimension, the difference is greater than 2; it means they do not need to apply SLO because the coordinate y_h is far away from y_r . For the second case, considering point B, the SLO is only applied to the second dimension. As for the last case, considering coordinate C, the SLO is applied to both dimensions. Therefore, from the examples in [Fig. 6](#) above, we can conclude that the opposition strategy on the SLO will move the hawks closer to the rabbit in the opposite directions by considering their current positions and their eligible dimensions.

Pseudocode 3: Selective Leading Opposition (SLO)

```

1: Input: initial generation  $t$ , maximum generation  $T$ , population size  $N$ , dimension  $d$ 
2: Output:  $\bar{X}_{d_e}$ : new position based on selective opposition
3: threshold =  $2 - \left[ t^* \left( \frac{2}{T} \right) \right]$ 
4: for  $i = 1 : N$ 
5:   if  $X_i$  is not equal to  $X_{ibest}$ 
6:     for  $j = 1 : d$ 
7:        $dd_j = |x_{best,j} - x_{i,j}|$  { $dd_j$  = difference distance for each dimension}
8:       if  $dd_j < \text{threshold}$ 
9:         identify the close distance dimensions ( $d_c$ )
10:        count the number of close distance dimensions ( $d_c$ )
11:      else
12:        identify the faraway distance dimensions ( $d_f$ )
13:        count the number of far distance dimensions ( $d_f$ )
14:      end
15:    end
16:    sum all  $dd_j$ 
17:     $src = 1 - \frac{6 * \sum_{j=1}^d (dd_j)^2}{dd_j^* (dd_j^2 - 1)}$ , {src = Spearman's Rank Correlation Coefficient}
18:    if  $src < 0$  and  $d_c > d_f$ 
19:      perform  $\bar{X}_{d_e} = LB_{d_e} + UB_{d_e} - X_{d_e}$ 
20:    end
21:  end
22: end

```

The flow of SLO is described in Pseudocode 3. SLO sets a threshold value to classify the faraway and close distance dimensions by considering the difference distance for each dimension, if the current position is not equal to the solution position. The threshold is linearly decreased in the new generation. After evaluating the position of each agent, SLO calculates the correlation of the selected agent's position to the best solution's position using the Spearman's Rank Correlation Coefficient. Spearman's Rank Correlation Coefficient measures the association strength of the selected agent and the best solution. If the calculation result of the correlation coefficient is less than zero or negative, then the position of the eligible search agent is opposed. Therefore, the Spearman coefficient assists efficiently by selecting the eligible search agent and dimensions that perform the opposite move.

Based on the experimental result in Section 4, the SLO in HHO is better than SO. However, the improvement is not much because of its ability to converge fast. Therefore, the DO strategy tries to overcome this drawback by enlarging the opportunities of all search agents in the search space to find a better solution. The DO moves dynamically and asymmetrically in the search space. The opportunity is influenced by the jumping rate. The sufficient DO jumping rate of JOS is 0.25 (for further experimental evidence, see Section 4).

3.2. The proposed HHO-JOS

Fig. 7 shows how we embed JOS (SLO and DO) in HHO-JOS. The strategy of JOS in HHO initially starts with a random set domain of hawks, which produces DO initial population within the range boundary of lower bound and upper bound based on the dimension. While the number of function evaluations (nFE) is less than the maximum function evaluations ($maxFE$), it will perform the main HHO-JOS. The JOS strategy is deployed after the verification of the hawks' boundaries and evaluation of the hawks' fitness value. Each time the hawks evaluate its fitness, the nFE is updated. The best fitness value of hawks is the jackrabbit's position.

The linearly decreasing escaping energy of the jackrabbit controls the search action of HHO in the search space and it is restrained by E (Pseudocode 4 line 9). Then, the E of HHO is set as the threshold value of SLO. To perform the movement, the selected boundary for SLO is also defined. The details of the movement in SLO strategy is exhibited based on Pseudocode 3. Afterward, the hawks perform the "surprise pounce" strategy in the exploration and exploitation phases sequentially as shown in Pseudocode 4. To balance the search space, the DO is performed with the Random Jump Strategy (RJS). RJS uses a proper jumping rate of 0.25. Therefore, all hawks have 25 percent chances to expand the search space to escape from trapping at the local optima.

At the end of the optimizing process, HHO-JOS produces single best fitness value known as one best objective function. This term is a definite solution of single-objective optimization (Mirjalili, 2016a) for minimization problem shown in Eq. 20.

$$\begin{aligned} \text{minimization } f(x_1, x_2, x_3, \dots, x_{d-1}, x_d) & \text{ in range of } LB_j \leq x_j \leq UB_j, j \\ & = 1, 2, 3, \dots, d \end{aligned} \quad (20)$$

where d is the number of dimensions, LB is the lower bound of the j -th dimension and UB is the upper bound of the j -th dimension. To confirm the best fitness of HHO-JOS, the hawks in optimization keep updating their best fitness value until they meet the final criteria $maxFE$ and continues until they complete 51 runs, which is the maximum number of runs in our experiments. We can conclude its average best fitness on 51 runs. According to the experiments

in Section 4, JOS on HHO shows the effectiveness of solving the

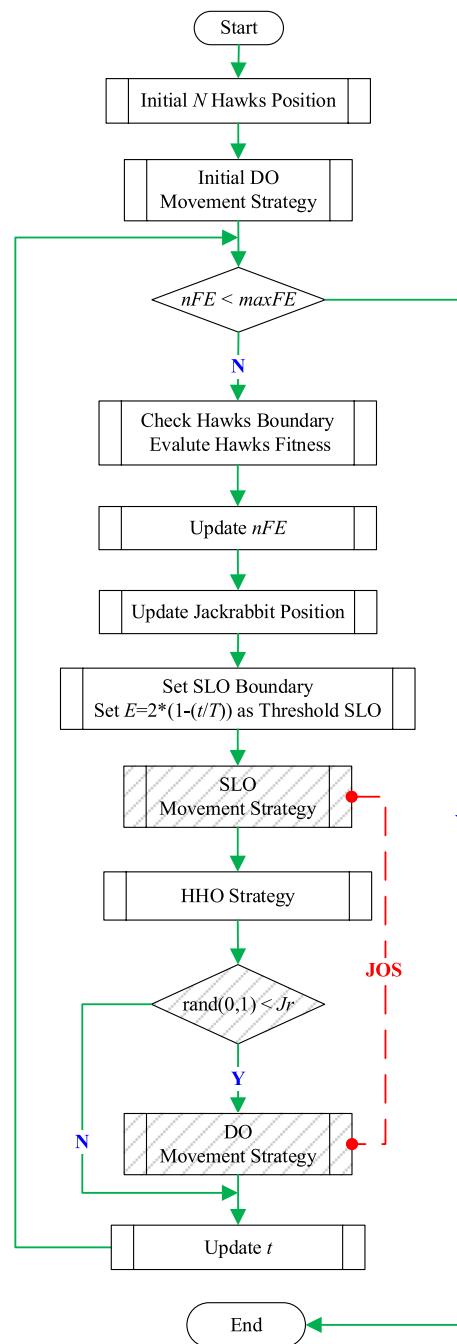


Fig. 7. How JOS is embedded in HHO

single-objective problems. The JOS makes a major impact and improvement on the minimization of single-objective problems especially when it is integrated to the original HHO, resulting in HHO-JOS.

It is noticeable that the majority of real-world problems are multi-objective problems. A multi-objective problem is referring to a problem that has more than one objective function (Coello Coello, 2009). Due to the lack of the fittest solution, a multi-objective problem could be converted to single-objective problems (Deb and Deb, 2014; Neumann & Wegener, 2007). For example, to balance the performance of economic

and environmental, eco-design converts multi-objective to single-objective (Lim et al., 2013). The resulting experiment showed the eco-efficiency in the variety of systems, processes, and products. Tan et al. (2009) experienced converting multi-objective PSO to single-objective to find a competitive solution for solving the engineering problem.

Pseudocode 4: HHO-JOS

```

1: Initialize individual randomly in population of  $X_h$  in size of  $N$ 
2: Initialize individual randomly in population of DO in size of  $N$  //Pseudocode 2
3:  $nFE = N$ 
4: while  $nFE < maxFE$  do
5:   Update population of  $X_h$ 
6:   Calculate the fitness values of  $X_h$ 
7:   Best fitness value of  $X_h$  is the best location of jackrabbit
8:   Set selective boundary for SLO
9:   Set  $E = 2^*(1 - (t/T))$  as threshold for SLO //SLO Threshold
10:  Perform SLO //Pseudocode 3
11:  for  $i = 1 : N$ 
12:    Set Escaping Energy  $E_S = E*(2*rand() - 1)$  Eq. (3)
13:    if  $|E_S| \geq 1$  then //Exploration Phase
14:      update the position of  $X_h$  Eq. (1)
15:    elseif  $|E_S| < 1$  then //Exploitation Phase
16:      if  $(r \geq 0.5 \text{ and } |E_S| < 0.5)$  then //Soft Besiege
17:        update the position of  $X_h$  Eq. (4,5)
18:      elseif  $(r < 0.5 \text{ and } |E_S| < 0.5)$  then //Hard Besiege
19:        update the position of  $X_h$  Eq. (6)
20:      elseif  $(r \geq 0.5 \text{ and } |E_S| \geq 0.5)$  then //Soft Besiege rapid dive
21:        update the position of  $X_h$  Eq. (7,8,9)
22:      elseif  $(r < 0.5 \text{ and } |E_S| \geq 0.5)$  then //Hard Besiege rapid dive
23:        update the position of  $X_h$  Eq. (9,10,11)
24:      end
25:    end
26:  end
27:  if  $rand(0, 1) < Jr$ 
28:    Perform DO //Pseudocode 2
29:  end
30: end

```

3.3. HHO-JOS in search space

In the search space, the movement strategy of the hawks with the JOS technique is illustrated in Table 2. Part no. I illustrates the diversity of the N hawks ($N = 15$) in the original boundary's search space [LB , UB]. LB is the original lower boundary and UB is the original upper boundary. The position of a hawk (red star *), near the global optimum G , represents the best position of the hawk. In part no. II, we can assume that the best position of the hawk is the jackrabbit location (brown diamond \diamond). For SLO preparation, a boundary is set based on the current hawks' positions and a threshold value is determined. A dashed rectangle \square indicates the boundary of SLO, where L is the lower boundary and U is the upper boundary. The green curve line \curvearrowright defines the threshold. The hawks in blue circles \circ and the shading area \square present the hawks with the difference distance dimensions less than the threshold value. It means that the hawks are closer to the jackrabbit. The red stars * presents the hawks with difference distance dimensions greater than the threshold value. In this case, the hawks are faraway from the jackrabbit.

The SLO strategy is performed in part no. III of Table 2. The closer hawks, i.e., the blue circles \circ , approach the jackrabbit position. The faraway hawks stay still as watchers. For part no. IV, the normal boundary [LB , UB] of the search space for the hawks is set for exploration and exploitation phases. In part no. V, the hawks perform the "surprise pounce" strategy of exploration and exploitation phases as illustrated in Fig. 1 of Section 2. In the exploitation phase, the hawks perform four conditional strategies: soft besiege, hard besiege, soft besiege with rapid dive, and hard besiege with rapid dive.

In part no. VI, the 2D contour of benchmark function F8 of CEC 2017 illustrates the moves of hawks' population ($N = 30$) by using random restart. When the hawks (i.e., the blue circles \circ) are trapped, by using the DO strategy, the trapped hawks in red stars * try to escape by jumping out of the local optima to reach the global optimum, which is

Table 2

The illustration of HHO-JOS in search space.

| No. | Objective | Search Space |
|-----|---|--------------|
| I | Perform random hawks SS is Search Space LB: original lower boundary UB: original upper boundary [G] Global optimum [*] Red Stars represent N hawks Example $N=15$ | |
| II | Identification The Leading Hawks (SLO) [~] Green Curve: threshold [-] Dashed Rectangle: current hawks boundary (L and U) [◊] Brown Diamond: jackrabbit position [*] Red Stars: hawks position \geq threshold [○] Blue Circles: hawks position $<$ threshold [◻] Shaded Area: area hawks position $<$ threshold | |
| III | Perform SLO Hawk with less threshold [○] approach to rabbit position [◊] in L and U boundary. [*] Red Stars hawks position $>$ threshold defines as the watchers . [○] Blue Circles hawks position $<$ threshold define as the selective leaders . | |
| IV | Set Normal Search Space for exploration and exploitation Hawks will perform exploration and exploitation using normal boundary LB and UB | |
| V | Perform exploration and exploitation Hawks perform a "surprise pounce" strategy on exploration and exploitation. On the exploitation phase, hawks perform four conditional strategies : <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Soft Besiege (SB) ▪ Hard Besiege (HB) ▪ SB rapid dive ▪ HB rapid dive | |
| VI | Perform Random Restart in 2D of F8 CEC 2017 Comparison of original HHO and HHO-DO on $N=30$ [G] Green G: Global optimum F8 in 2D [○] Blue Circles: original HHO [*] Red Stars: the trapped hawks try to escape from local optima using DO | |
| VII | Perform Random Restart in 3D of F8 CEC 2017 [○] Green Circle: global optimum F8 in 3D [○] Blue Circles: original HHO trapped in local optima [*] Red stars: the DO in HHO-JOS succeed in reaching the global optimum location | |

represented by a capital G G . In the last part, the effect of random restart is depicted on the 3D graph of F8, CEC 2017. The hawks in the original HHO, as presented by the blue circles \circ , are trapped in the local optima. At the same time, the hawks of the proposed HHO-JOS (red stars *) succeed in reaching the global optimum location, which is represented by a green circle \circ .

4. Experiments and discussion

This section is divided into two parts: experimental setup and experimental results. The experimental results include required comprehensive statistical analysis such as Wilcoxon and comparison assessment with other algorithms, globally.

Table 3

CEC 2014 competition on single-objective real parameter numerical optimization.

| Typology | No. | Functions | Optima, F_i^* |
|-----------------------------|-----|--|--------------------|
| Unimodal Functions | 1 | Rotated High Conditioned Elliptic Function | 100 |
| | 2 | Rotated Bent Cigar Function | 200 |
| | 3 | Rotated Discus Function | 300 |
| Simple Multimodal Functions | 4 | Shifted and Rotated Rosenbrock's Function | 400 |
| | 5 | Shifted and Rotated Ackley's Function | 500 |
| | 6 | Shifted and Rotated Weierstrass Function | 600 |
| | 7 | Shifted and Rotated Griewank's Function | 700 |
| | 8 | Shifted Rastrigin's Function | 800 |
| | 9 | Shifted and Rotated Rastrigin's Function | 900 |
| | 10 | Shifted Schwefel's Function | 1000 |
| | 11 | Shifted and Rotated Schwefel's Function | 1100 |
| | 12 | Shifted and Rotated Katsuura Function | 1200 |
| | 13 | Shifted and Rotated HappyCat Function | 1300 |
| | 14 | Shifted and Rotated HGBat Function | 1400 |
| | 15 | Shifted and Rotated Expanded Griewank's plus Rosenbrock's Function | 1500 |
| | 16 | Shifted and Rotated Expanded Scaffer's F6 Function | 1600 |
| Hybrid Functions | 17 | Hybrid Function 1 (N = 3) Modified Schwefel's, Rastrigin's, High-Conditioned Elliptic | 1700 |
| | 18 | Hybrid Function 2 (N = 3) Bent Cigar, HGBat, Rastrigin's | 1800 |
| | 19 | Hybrid Function 3 (N = 4) Griewank's, Weierstrass, Rosenbrock's, Scaffer's F6 | 1900 |
| | 20 | Hybrid Function 4 (N = 4) HGBat, Discus, Expanded Griewank's plus Rosenbrock's, Rastrigin's | 2000 |
| | 21 | Hybrid Function 5 (N = 5) Scaffer's F6, HGBat, Rosenbrock's, Modified Schwefel's, High-Conditioned Elliptic | 2100 |
| | 22 | Hybrid Function 6 (N = 5) Katsuura, HappyCat, Expanded Griewank's plus Rosenbrock's, Modified Schwefel's, Ackley's Function | 2200 |
| Composition Functions | 23 | Composition Function 1 (N = 5) Rotated Rosenbrock's, High Conditioned Elliptic, Rotated Bent Cigar, Rotated Discus | 2300 |
| | 24 | Composition Function 2 (N = 3) Schwefel's, Rotated Rastrigin's, Rotated HGBat | 2400 |
| | 25 | Composition Function 3 (N = 3) Rotated Schwefel's, Rotated Rastrigin's, Rotated High Conditioned Elliptic | 2500 |
| | 26 | Composition Function 4 (N = 5) Rotated Schwefel's, Rotated HappyCat, Rotated High Conditioned Elliptic, Rotated Weierstrass, Rotated Griewank's | 2600 |
| | 27 | Composition Function 5 (N = 5) Rotated HGBat, Rotated Rastrigin's, Rotated Schwefel's, Rotated Weierstrass, Rotated High Conditioned Elliptic | 2700 |
| | 28 | Composition Function 6 (N = 5) Rotated Expanded Griewank's plus Rosenbrock's, Rotated HappyCat Function, Rotated Schwefel's Function, Rotated Expanded Scaffer's F6, Rotated High Conditioned Elliptic | 2800 |
| | 29 | Composition Function 7 (N = 3) F17, F18, F19 | 2900 |
| | 30 | Composition Function 8 (N = 3) F20, F21, F22 | 3000 |

Search Range: [-100, 100]^D

Table 4

CEC 2017 competition on single-objective real parameter numerical optimization.

| Typology | No. | Functions | Optima, F_i^* |
|-----------------------------|-----|---|--------------------|
| Unimodal Functions | 1 | Shifted and Rotated Bent Cigar Function | 100 |
| | 2 | Shifted and Rotated sum of Differential Power Function | 200 |
| | 3 | Shifted and Rotated Zakhrov Function | 300 |
| Simple Multimodal Functions | 4 | Shifted and Rotated Rosenbrock's Function | 400 |
| | 5 | Shifted and Rotated Rastrigin's Function | 500 |
| | 6 | Shifted and Rotated Expanded Scaffer's F6 Function | 600 |
| | 7 | Shifted and Rotated Lunacek Bi_Rastrigin's Function | 700 |
| | 8 | Shifted and Rotated Non-Continuous Rastrigin's Function | 800 |
| | 9 | Shifted and Rotated Levy Function | 900 |
| | 10 | Shifted and Rotated Schwefel's Function | 1000 |
| Hybrid Functions | 11 | Hybrid Function 1 (N = 3) Zakhrov, Rosenbrock's, Rastrigin's | 1100 |
| | 12 | Hybrid Function 2 (N = 3) High-Conditioned Elliptic, Modified Schwefel's, Ben Cigar | 1200 |
| | 13 | Hybrid Function 3 (N = 3) Ben Cigar, Rosenbrock's, Lunacek Bi_Rastrigin's | 1300 |
| | 14 | Hybrid Function 4 (N = 4) High-Conditioned Elliptic, Ackley, Schaffer's F7, Rastrigin's | 1400 |
| | 15 | Hybrid Function 5 (N = 4) Ben Cigar, HGBat, Rastrigin's, Rosenbrock's | 1500 |
| | 16 | Hybrid Function 6 (N = 4) Expanded Schaffer's F6, HGBat, Rosenbrock's, Modified Schwefel's | 1600 |
| | 17 | Hybrid Function 6 (N = 5) Katsuura, Ackley, Expanded Griewank's plus, Rosenbrock's, Schwefel's, Rastrigin's | 1700 |
| | 18 | Hybrid Function 6 (N = 5) High-Conditioned Elliptic, Ackley, Rastrigin's, HGBat, Discus | 1800 |
| | 19 | Hybrid Function 6 (N = 5) Bent Cigar, Rastrigin's, Griewank's plus Rosenbrock's, Weierstrass, Expanded Schaffer's F6 | 1900 |
| | 20 | Hybrid Function 6 (N = 5) HappyCat, Katsuura, Ackley, Rastrigin's, Modified Schwefel's, Schaffer F7 | 2000 |
| Composition Functions | 21 | Composition Function 1 (N = 3) Rosenbrock's, High Conditioned Elliptic, Rastrigin's | 2100 |
| | 22 | Composition Function 1 (N = 3) Rastrigin's, Griewank's, Modified Schwefel's | 2200 |
| | 23 | Composition Function 1 (N = 4) Rosenbrock's, Ackley, Modified Schwefel's, Rastrigin's | 2300 |
| | 24 | Composition Function 2 (N = 4) Ackley, High-Conditioned Elliptic, Griewank's, Rastrigin's | 2400 |
| | 25 | Composition Function 3 (N = 5) Rastrigin's, HappyCat, Ackley Discus, Rosenbrock's | 2500 |
| | 26 | Composition Function 4 (N = 5) Expanded Schaffer's F6, Modified Schwefel's, Griewank's, Rosenbrock's, Rastrigin's | 2600 |
| | 27 | Composition Function 5 (N = 6) HGBat, Rastrigin's, Modified Schwefel's, Bent Cigar, High-Conditioned Elliptic, Expanded Schaffer's F6 | 2700 |
| | 28 | Composition Function 6 (N = 6) Ackley, Griewank, Discus, Rosenbrock, HappyCat, Expanded Schaffer's F6 | 2800 |
| | 29 | Composition Function 7 (N = 3) F15, F16, F17 | 2900 |
| | 30 | Composition Function 8 (N = 3) F15, F18, F19 | 3000 |

Search Range: [-100, 100]^D

4.1. Experimental setup

The experiments were conducted on a Windows 10 with a CPU Intel® Core™ i9-7980XE CPU @ 2.60 GHz processor and RAM 64 GB. The algorithms were written in MATLAB. The experiments were exhibited to solve single-objective real parameter numerical optimization of CEC 2014 and CEC 2017. The CECs are the preferable standard benchmark problem set on single-objective real parameters and required a specific standard value of the parameters to run the experiment as follows:

- a. The population size (N) equals to 30 ($N = 30$). Note: The population size is fixed.
- b. On each experiment, the maximum number of runs ($maxRun$) is 51 runs.
- c. We tested on 30 benchmark functions of CEC 2014 and 29 benchmark functions of CEC 2017. It is noted that only F2 function on CEC 2017 was deleted due to an unconfirmed result on the experiment.
- d. Each benchmark function was tested on four numbers of variables (dimension = D): 10D, 30D, 50D and 100D.
- e. The maximum number of function evaluations ($maxFE$) is set up based on 10,000 multiply by the dimensions of 10D, 30D, 50D, and 100D.
- f. For each run, the maximum number of iteration (T) is defined by dividing $maxFE$ with N .
- g. The searching space is in the range of $[-100, 100]^D$, where the lower bound (LB) is -100, the upper bound (UB) is 100.

Detailed explanation of benchmark functions CEC 2014 (Table 3) and CEC 2017 (Table 4) are available in the technical reports of Liang et al., 2013 and Awad et al., 2016, respectively. Both CECs are classified into four categories: unimodal functions, multimodal functions, hybrid functions, and composition functions. Although the CECs are classified by the same categories, some benchmark functions are defined by the names and the numbers differently. The numbers of benchmark functions on CEC 2014 are specified as follows: unimodal (F1-F3), multimodal function (F4-F16), hybrid functions (F17-F22), and composition functions (F23-F30). In CEC 2017, the specification of unimodal functions (F1-F3) remains the same. Still, the basic function of each benchmark is different. There is a reduction function on the multimodal function (F4-F10), six functions less compared to CEC 2014. Additionally, four numbers of benchmark functions are included in the hybrid functions (F11 – F20) and some of the functions are composed differently in CEC 2014. In composition functions (F20 – F30) of CEC 2017, three additions benchmark functions and the functions are composed differently from CEC 2014.

The benchmark functions named in CEC 2014 are determined by rotated and non-separable on unimodal functions, whereas multimodal functions are either shifted or rotated and separable or non-separable. Hybrid functions are constructed from different subcomponent functions randomly. Composite functions are created by a combination of two or more hybrid functions. Meanwhile, CEC 2017 also used these criteria; the differences are on some of the basic functions that composed in each category on each benchmark function. Regardless of those differences, both CEC 2014 and CEC 2017 are applied on real parameter single-objective numerical optimization.

The performance of HHO-JOS and the comparison were evaluated by a scoring metric [55] on CEC 2014 and CEC 2017, as shown in Table 10. The scoring metric is comprised of the sum of the error (SE) and the sum of the rank (SR). The highest score for each part is 50. Therefore, the highest total score of SE and SR is 100. Each score is influenced by the number of the function F . Meanwhile, ef represents the best fitness value of each function in each algorithm. On the summation of SE and SR the best fitness value of every algorithm in 10D, 30D, 50D, and 100D; then, is multiplied by the weights of 0.1, 0.2, 0.3, and 0.4, respectively.

The formulas of SE and the total score of SE are presented in Eq. (21)

and Eq. (22), respectively.

$$SE = 0.1 * \left(\sum_{i=1}^F ef_{10D} \right) + 0.2 * \left(\sum_{i=1}^F ef_{30D} \right) + 0.3 * \left(\sum_{i=1}^F ef_{50D} \right) + 0.4 * \left(\sum_{i=1}^F ef_{100D} \right) \quad (21)$$

Total Score $SE = \left(1 - \frac{SE - SE_{min}}{SE} \right) * 50$ (22) where SE_{min} is the minimal value of the sum mean error for the 10, 30, 50, and 100 dimensions. The formulas of SR and the total score of SR are stated in Eq. (23) and Eq. (24), respectively.

$$SR = 0.1 * \left(\sum_{i=1}^F ef_{10D} \right) + 0.2 * \left(\sum_{i=1}^F ef_{30D} \right) + 0.3 * \left(\sum_{i=1}^F ef_{50D} \right) + 0.4 * \left(\sum_{i=1}^F ef_{100D} \right) \quad (23)$$

$$\text{Total Score } SR = \left(1 - \frac{SR - SR_{min}}{SR} \right) * 50 \quad (24)$$

where, SR_{min} is the minimal value of the sum rank for the 10, 30, 50, and 100 dimensions. Thus, the overall total score is concluded in Eq. (25)

$$\text{Total Score} = \text{Total Score } SE + \text{Total Score } SR \quad (25)$$

4.2. Experimental results

The experiments were conducted with five considerations as follows. Section 4.2.1 discusses the Random Jump Strategy nomination of jumping rate (Jr) on HHO-JOS. Section 4.2.2 exhibits the succeed JOS behavior and its exploration ability. Section 4.2.3 presents the HHO-JOS statistical analysis of Wilcoxon Signed Rank Test performance compared to its algorithms' competitors, i.e., the original HHO, HHO-DO, and HHO-SLO. Section 4.2.4 presents the dominancy comparative of JOS with other OBL developments on HHO. Section 4.2.5 shows the rank of HHO-JOS and its competitors based on the scoring metric. Section 4.2.6 concludes the impact of JOS on the improvement and effectiveness of HHO with comparison to its competitors. Section 4.2.7 compares the mean ranks of HHO-JOS to the leading optimization algorithms by using Friedman Mean Rank Evaluation. In section 4.2.8, the stability of the HHO-JOS convergent curve is compared to its competitors.

4.2.1. Experimental results of jumping rate (Jr) on CEC 2014 and CEC 2017

The Jumping Rate of DO influences the diversity of the hawks' population on the proposed HHO-JOS. Fig. 8 presents the results of Jr performance evaluation on the CEC 2014 and CEC 2017 using a scoring metric. The experiment was conducted from 0.05 to 0.95 with an increment of 0.05 on CEC 2014 and CEC 2017. In total, there are 19 Jr experimental results for each CEC. The overall trend shows that Jr at 0.25 is sufficient Jr for HHO-JOS.

In Fig. 8, a square marker represents the Jr on CEC 2014 and a star marker represents the Jr on CEC 2017. The blue lines present the SE score on CEC 2014 and CEC 2017. The red lines indicate the SR score on CEC 2014 and CEC 2017, and the green lines present the total score on CEC 2014 and CEC 2017. SE is delineated in a straight blue line, SR in a dashed red dot line, and the total score in a dashed green line. To recognize the trend in SE , SR , and the total score of SE and SR , we selected the top five jumping rates for both CEC from the 19 experimental results of each CEC. Next, we chose the best three jumping rates to obtain the best value of Jr .

The fluctuation in SE is influenced by the diversity of hawks' population of the proposed HHO-JOS. If Jr increases, it means the diversity of hawks' population is getting higher; therefore, the algorithm can escape from the local optima. This condition applies vice versa. The detailed

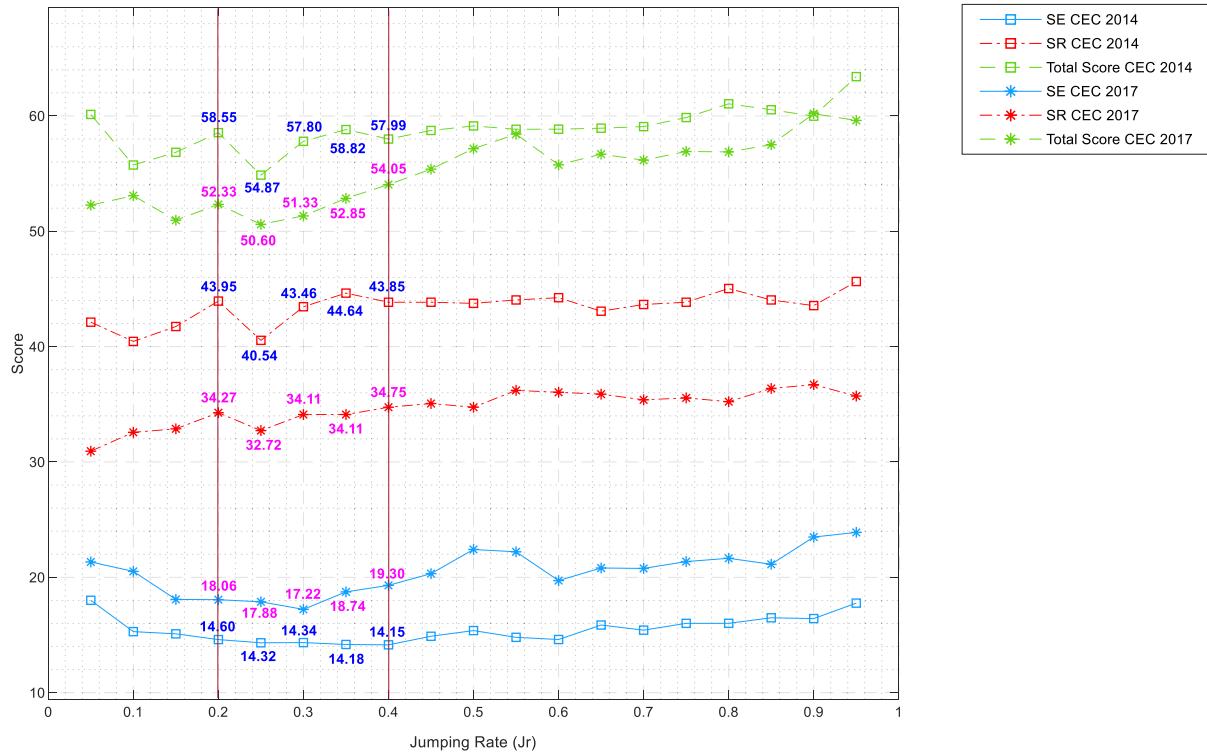


Fig. 8. The results of SE, SR, and total score of SE and SR varied by Jr on CEC 2014 and CEC 2017.

description of SE on CEC 2014 shows that the top-five jumping rates (*Jrs*) are 0.2, 0.25, 0.30, 0.35, and 0.4 with SE results at 14.6018, 14.3248, 14.3417, 14.1777, and 14.1472 respectively. Interestingly, the top-five ranked *Jrs* on CEC 2017 are the same as the top-five ranked *Jrs* on CEC 2014. For CEC 2017, the scores of the top-five ranked jumping rates are 18.061, 17.8774, 17.2215, 18.7365, and 19.3029. We, then, selected three best *Jrs* from those top-five ranked *Jrs*, i.e., 18.061, 17.8774, and 17.2215 on *Jr* 0.2, 0.25, and 0.3, respectively. In case of CEC 2014, the scores of the three best *Jrs* are 14.6018, 14.3248, and 14.3417 on *Jrs* 0.2, 0.25, and 0.3, respectively. Since the results of CEC 2017 are aligned with the results obtained from CEC 2014, SE, SR, and the total score of SE and SR are employed to determine the best jumping rate for both CEC 2014 and CEC 2017.

The line graph of SR results on *Jrs* at 0.2, 0.25, and 0.3 of CEC 2014 and CEC 2017 shows the same trend as the ranks. In detail, the 0.2 *Jr* on CEC 2014 and CEC 2017 reach the peaks at 34.27 and 43.95, respectively. However, for 0.25 *Jr* on CEC 2014 and CEC 2017, the sum of ranks are slightly lower at 32.72 and 40.54, then they raise again for 0.3 *Jr* on CEC 2014 and CEC 2017 at 34.11 and 43.36 respectively. In overall, SR and the total score of SE and SR share the same trend. Finally, after the analysis and consideration above, the best *Jr* among 0.2, 0.25, and 0.3 measuring from the experiments on CEC 2014 and CEC 2017 is clearly at 0.25.

4.2.2. The behavior of JOS

It is essential to examine the divergence of the proposed HHO-JOS compared to its original HHO from the population diversity. If the population is highly diverse, it means the population has difficulty converging. However, if the population has low diversity, then premature convergence might occur. The proposed JOS embedded on HHO shows the proportional balance on the diversity to avoid those occurrences.

The comparison experiment of the original HHO (blue circle \circ) and HHO-JOS (red star $*$) on two-dimensions of F6 and F8 on CEC 2017 are illustrated in Fig. 9(a) and Fig. 9(c), respectively. The global optimum

location is depicted by G . Both Fig. 9(a) and Fig. 9(c) show that the original HHO was experiencing the stagnation condition trapped in the local optima. Meanwhile, Fig. 9(b) and Fig. 9(d) show the dominancy of HHO-JOS (the red line star) over HHO (the blue line). The x -axis depicts the number of iterations of the diversity. The y -axis represents the divergent movement's fluctuation by the average of the variance (σ^2) denoted in Eq. (22).

$$\sigma^2 = \frac{\sum_{i=1}^N (X_i - \bar{X})^2}{N} \quad (22)$$

The comparison of HHO and HHO-JOS in two dimensions is shown in Fig. 9. The contour graphs on Fig. 9(a) and Fig. 9(c) illustrate the success of the HHO-JOS and it reached the global optimum. Meanwhile, Fig. 9(b) shows that the original HHO in F6 is moving closer to zero point just after 50 iterations. However, the proposed HHO-JOS still shows the jumping movement. Further proof of the capability of HHO-JOS compared to HHO is illustrated in F8 with many various local optima. Compared to F6, the performance of HHO on F8 approaches zero-point swifter at 30 iterations, shown in Fig. 9(d), and the jumping experience of HHO-JOS appears more frequently. Therefore, in Fig. 9, we can see that HHO-JOS tries to enlarge the search space to escape the trap at the local optima and to reach the global optimum location.

The trends of original HHO and HHO-JOS diversity in two-dimensions (Fig. 9(b) and Fig. 9(d)) also show the same behavior in 10D, 30D, 50D, and 100D. Fig. 10 depicts one of the trends in 30D on F29 where the proficiency of fitness values of HHO and HHO-JOS reach 4636.1875 and 4101.4956, respectively. Note that the lower fitness value is better. The figure shows a rapid iteration which influences by the dimensions. Why benchmark function 29? The supporting evidence in Table 5 shows that F29 succeeds in competing with the opponent algorithm of HHO, HHO-DO, and HHO-SLO. From Fig. 10, we can still see that when the original HHO is already approaching the zero point, the HHO-JOS still tries to enlarge its diversity.

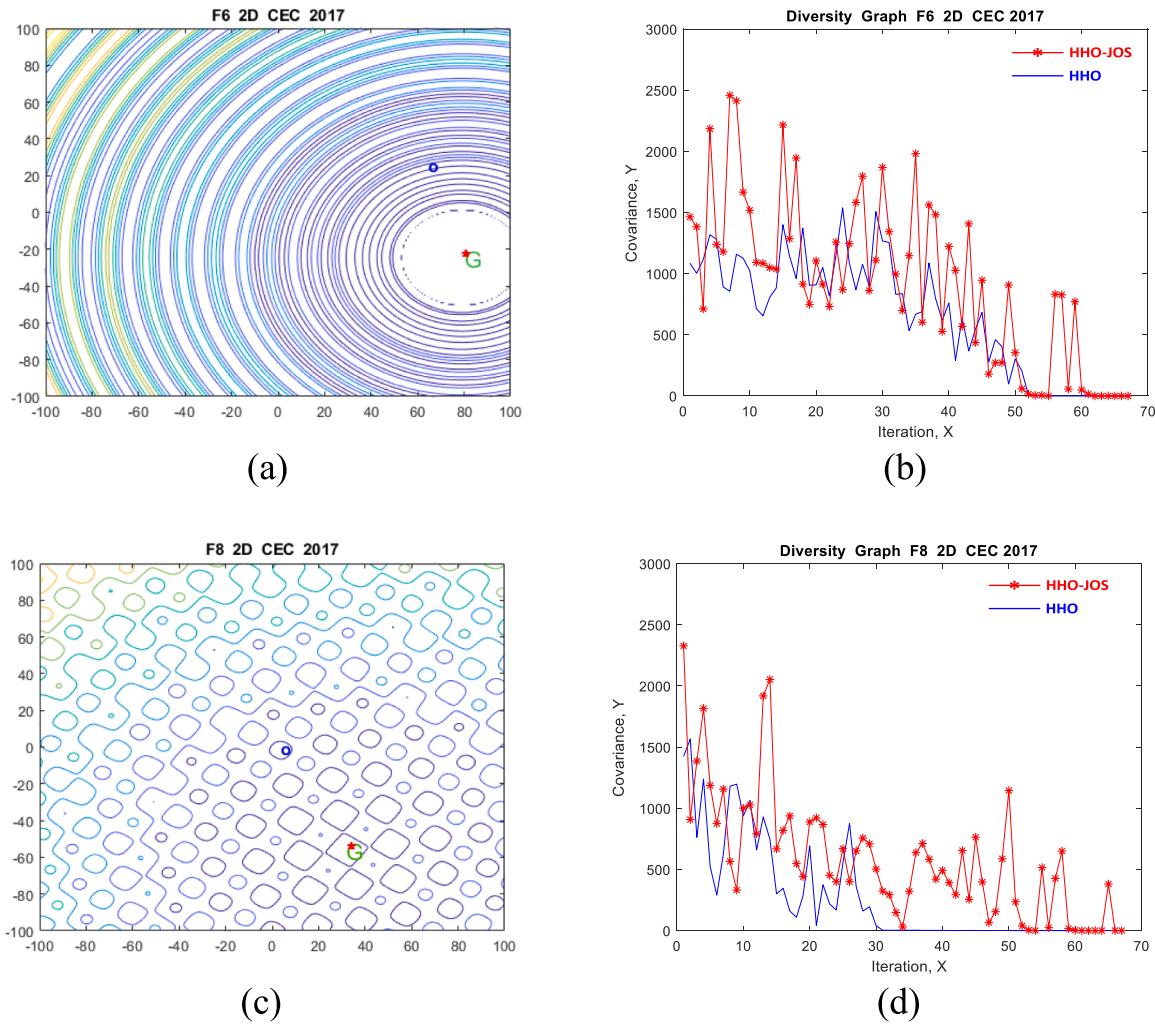


Fig. 9. Divergence of HHO and HHO-JOS on F6 and F8 CEC 2017 in two-dimensions.

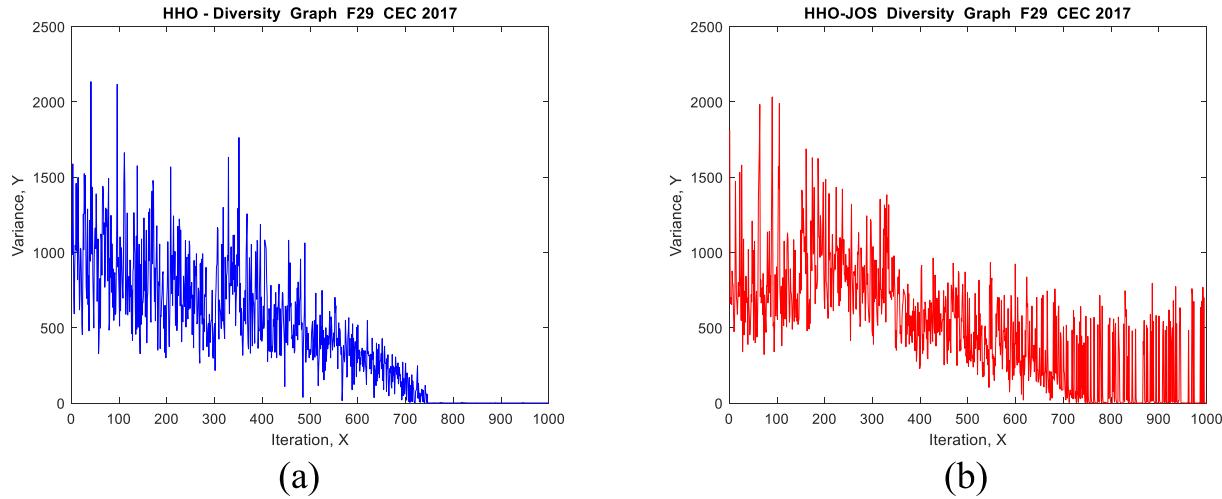


Fig. 10. The divergence of HHO and HHO-JOS on 30D of F29 in CEC 2017

4.2.3. The Wilcoxon Signed-Rank test on the winning HHO-JOS ($J_r = 0.25$) comparing with HHO, HHO-DO, and HHO-SLO

The statistical analysis results obtained from Wilcoxon Signed-Rank Test (Woolson, 2005), as presented in Table 5, characterize the

performance of the proposed HHO-JOS compared to its competitors' algorithm HHO, HHO-DO, and HHO-SLO on CEC 2014 and CEC 2017 on four types of dimension 10D, 30D, 50D, and 100D. The chosen competitors of HHO-JOS in Table 5 are the original HHO and the improved

Table 5

Wilcoxon analysis of the proposed HHO-JOS compared to the competitive algorithms HHO, HHO-DO, and HHO-SLO.

| Proposed Competitors | D | HHO-JOS | | | | | |
|----------------------|------|--|-------------------|----------------------------|---|----------|-----------------------------------|
| | | CEC 2014 | | | CEC 2017 | | |
| | | Win (+) | Tide (=) | Loss (-) | Win (+) | Tide (=) | Loss (-) |
| HHO | 10D | 19 | 3 | 8 | 23 | 0 | 6 |
| | F | 2,5,6,7,8,9,11,12,13,15,16,17,19,22,24,25,26,29,30 | 23,27,28 | 1,3,4,8,10,14,20,21 | 1,3,5,6,7,8,9,11,13,16,17,18,19,20,21,22,23,24,26,27,28,29,30 | - | 4,10,12,14,15,25 |
| | 30D | 19 | 5 | 8 | 27 | 0 | 2 |
| | F | 2,5,6,7,8,9,10,11,12,13,14,15,16,18,19,20,22 | 23,25,27,28,29 | 1,3,4,17,21,24,26,30 | 1,4,5,6,7,8,9,10,11,12,13,14,15,16,17,18,19,20,21,22,23,24,25,26,27,29,30 | - | 3,28 |
| | 50D | 19 | 5 | 7 | 22 | 0 | 7 |
| | F | 1,2,5,6,7,8,9,10,11,12,13,14,15,16,18,19,22,24,26 | 23,25,27,28,29 | 3,4,15,17,20,21,30 | 1,5,6,7,8,9,10,13,15,16,17,19,20,21,22,23,24,25,26,27,29,30 | - | 3,4,11,12,14,18,28 |
| | 100D | 16 | 6 | 8 | 24 | 0 | 5 |
| | F | 1,2,5,6,7,8,9,10,11,12,14,16,17,18,22,24 | 23,25,26,27,28,29 | 3,4,13,15,19,20,21,30 | 1,5,6,7,8,9,10,11,12,13,14,15,16,17,18,19,20,21,22,23,26,27,29,30 | - | 3,4,24,25,28 |
| | 10D | 19 | 3 | 8 | 22 | 0 | 7 |
| | F | 2,6,7,8,9,10,11,13,15,16,18,19,20,21,22,24,25,26,30 | 23,27,28 | 1,3,4,5,12,14,17,29 | 1,3,5,6,7,8,9,10,11,13,16,17,18,19,20,21,22,23,26,27,29,30 | - | 4,12,14,15,24,25,28 |
| HHO-DO | 30D | 20 | 5 | 5 | 26 | 0 | 3 |
| | F | 1,2,3,5,6,7,8,9,10,11,12,13,14,15,16,18,19,20,22,24,26 | 23,25,27,28,29 | 4,17,21,24,30 | 1,4,5,6,7,8,9,10,11,12,13,15,16,17,18,19,20,21,22,23,24,25,26,27,29,30 | - | 3,14,28 |
| | 50D | 21 | 5 | 4 | 25 | 0 | 4 |
| | F | 1,2,3,5,6,7,8,9,10,11,12,13,14,15,16,18,19,20,22,24,26 | 23,25,27,28,29 | 4,17,21,30 | 1,5,6,7,8,9,10,11,12,13,14,15,16,17,19,20,21,22,23,24,25,26,27,29,30 | - | 3,4,18,28 |
| | 100D | 20 | 5 | 5 | 27 | 0 | 2 |
| | F | 1,2,3,4,5,6,7,8,9,10,11,12,14,16,17,18,20,22,24 | 23,25,26,27,28,29 | 13,15,19,21,30 | 1,4,5,6,7,8,9,10,11,12,13,14,15,16,17,18,19,20,21,22,23,24,26,27,28,29,30 | - | 3,25 |
| | 10D | 17 | 3 | 10 | 17 | 0 | 12 |
| | F | 2,5,7,9,11,12,14,15,16,17,18,21,22,24,25,26,29 | 23,27,28 | 1,3,4,6,8,10,13,19,20,30 | 1,3,7,8,9,13,17,18,21,22,23,24,25,26,27,29,30 | - | 4,5,6,10,11,12,14,15,16,19,20,28 |
| | 30D | 16 | 4 | 10 | 17 | 0 | 12 |
| | F | 2,5,6,7,8,9,11,12,13,14,15,16,18,19,29,30 | 23,25,27,28 | 1,3,4,10,17,20,21,22,24,26 | 1,5,6,7,8,9,10,11,12,13,15,18,19,20,21,22,29 | - | 3,4,14,16,17,23,24,25,26,27,28,30 |
| HHO-SLO | 50D | 16 | 5 | 9 | 17 | 0 | 12 |
| | F | 1,2,5,6,7,8,9,10,11,12,14,16,18,22,24,30 | 23,25,27,28,29 | 3,4,13,15,17,19,20,21,26 | 1,5,6,7,8,9,10,11,13,15,16,19,20,21,22,24,29 | - | 3,4,12,14,17,18,23,25,26,27,28,30 |
| | 100D | 16 | 6 | 8 | 22 | 0 | 7 |
| | F | 1,2,5,6,7,8,9,10,11,12,14,16,17,18,22,24 | 23,25,26,27,28,29 | 3,4,13,15,19,20,21,30 | 1,5,6,7,8,9,10,11,12,13,14,15,16,18,19,20,21,22,23,26,29,30 | - | 3,4,17,24,25,27,28 |

version of HHO with Selective Leading Opposition (SLO) and Dynamic Opposition (DO). The purpose of the comparison is to recognize the performance of the proposed algorithm and the competitors' algorithms classified by the winning (+), tide (=), and loss (-) benchmark functions of the CEC 2014 and CEC 2017.

The benchmark functions of the CECs are presented in numbers as shown in **Table 5**. In general, the total number of winning benchmark functions in CEC 2014 is between 15 and 20. The number of tide functions are above 3 and below 6, and the loss is not more than 10. This condition shows the overall dominance of HHO-JOS over the competitors. Meanwhile, in CEC 2017, regardless of no tide, there are still losses around 2 to 12 with a various number of benchmark functions. Nevertheless, the number of winning benchmark functions in CEC 2017 is slightly better in the dimensions comparing to the number of winning functions in CEC 2014. When the HHO-JOS is compared to HHO-SLO, the number of loss functions HHO-JOS is greater than its competitors. **Table 5** shows that HHO-SLO wins in the lower dimension. Despite the loss, HHO-JOS still shows a winning performance.

Comparing to all competitors on CEC 2014 in all dimensions, HHO-JOS constantly tides on functions 23, 27, and 28. If there are additional tide functions, mostly are 25, 26, 28, and 29. It means that the HHO-JOS

competed on CEC 2014 will have tide condition with its competitors in complex functions, i.e., hybrid and composite functions. However, the loss benchmark functions in CEC 2014 are mostly 3, 4, 15, and 17. Therefore, the proposed HHO-JOS is suitable for complex problems. Regardless there are some tide and loss benchmark functions on CEC 2014, the overall condition of HHO-JOS is still winning mostly on benchmark functions 2, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 16, 18, 22, and 24.

Meanwhile, in CEC 2017, regardless of no tide, the HHO-JOS comparing to other competitors shows that benchmark functions 3 and 28 are mostly on the lost side. However, benchmark function 3 (F3) on 10D of every competitive algorithm is on the winning side. Regardless the naught benchmark function on CEC 2017, benchmark functions 1, 5, 7, 8, 9, 13, 17, 18, 21, 22, 23, 24, 25, 26, 27, 29, and 30 are frequently appeared on the winning position. To sum up, the results of the proposed HHO-JOS when comparing to the competitors in 10D, 30D, 50D, and 100D CEC 2014 and CEC 2017 show remarkable winning.

The benchmark functions of the CECs are presented in numbers as shown in **Table 5**. In general, the total number of winning benchmark functions in CEC 2014 is between 15 and 20. The number of tide functions are above 3 and below 6, and the loss is not more than 10. This

condition shows the overall dominance of HHO-JOS over the competitors. Meanwhile, in CEC 2017, regardless of no tide, there are still losses around 2 to 12 with a various number of benchmark functions. Nevertheless, the number of winning benchmark functions in CEC 2017 is slightly better in the dimensions comparing to the number of winning functions in CEC 2014. When the HHO-JOS is compared to HHO-SLO, the number of loss functions HHO-JOS is greater than its competitors. Table 5 shows that HHO-SLO wins in the lower dimension. Despite the loss, HHO-JOS still shows a winning performance.

Comparing to all competitors on CEC 2014 in all dimensions, HHO-JOS constantly tides on functions 23, 27, and 28. If there are additional tide functions, mostly are 25, 26, 28, and 29. It means that the HHO-JOS competed on CEC 2014 will have tide condition with its competitors in complex functions, i.e., hybrid and composite functions. However, the loss benchmark functions in CEC 2014 are mostly 3, 4, 15, and 17. Therefore, the proposed HHO-JOS is suitable for complex problems. Regardless there are some tide and loss benchmark functions on CEC 2014, the overall condition of HHO-JOS is still winning mostly on benchmark functions 2, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 16, 18, 22, and 24.

Meanwhile, in CEC 2017, regardless of no tide, the HHO-JOS comparing to other competitors shows that benchmark functions 3 and 28 are mostly on the lost side. However, benchmark function 3 (F3) on 10D of every competitive algorithm is on the winning side. Regardless the naught benchmark function on CEC 2017, benchmark functions 1, 5, 7, 8, 9, 13, 17, 18, 21, 22, 23, 24, 25, 26, 27, 29, and 30 are frequently appeared on the winning position. To sum up, the results of the proposed HHO-JOS when comparing to the competitors in 10D, 30D, 50D, and 100D CEC 2014 and CEC 2017 show remarkable winning.

The complete comparison results among the proposed HHO-JOS, HHO, HHO-DO, and HHO-SLO are shown in Table 5. To conceive the detailed knowledge beyond the numbers of benchmark functions, the experimental results were broken down regarding its dimension classification as presented in Tables 6–9. The purpose of this breakdown is to clearly recognize the pattern and characteristic benchmark functions on each classification. Further discussions are explained in the following subsections:

4.2.4. Wilcoxon analysis of HHO-JOS compared to HHO, HHO-DO, and HHO-SLO on 10D

Table 6 shows that benchmark functions 23, 27, and 28 on CEC 2014 frequently appear on the tide. The loss benchmark functions appearing in all 10D CEC 2014 are 1, 3, and 4. The stable winning benchmark functions are 2, 7, 9, 11, 15, 22, 24, 25, and 26. Meanwhile, on CEC 2017, the number of winnings of HHO-JOS compared to HHO and HHO-DO are relatively high on 23, 22, and 17, respectively. Despite that, the number of winning on HHO-SLO is equal at 17 but the difference is on the benchmark functions of CEC 2014 and CEC 2017.

4.2.5. Wilcoxon analysis of HHO-JOS compared to HHO, HHO-DO, and HHO-SLO on 30D

The tide benchmark functions, in Table 7, on 30D of CEC 2014 are constantly on 23, 25, 27, and 28; however, the benchmark function 29 wins on HHO-SLO. Moreover, the loss is constantly on 4, 17, 21, and 24. The winning is constantly on 2, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16, 18, and 19. It means that the constant winning benchmark is more than 50 percent of the winning benchmark functions. In CEC 2017, the winning is constantly on 1, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 15, 16, 18, 19, 20, 21, 22, and 29. These winning numbers are quite similar to CEC 2014; the difference in CEC 2017 only on F2 and additional functions on 20, 21, and 29; the loss is constantly on 3 and 28.

4.2.6. Wilcoxon analysis of HHO-JOS compared to HHO, HHO-DO, and HHO-SLO on 50D

The noticeable winning comparison 50D experimental results, in Table 8, shows a very slightly different in CEC 2014 and CEC 2017 comparing to the number of winning in 30D. For tide of 50D CEC 2014, the benchmark function 29 constantly appears. It means that the number of the tide on CEC 2014 stays average with the change.

The numbers of losses HHO-JOS compared to HHO and HHO-DO are equal, i.e., 7 and 4, in CEC 2014 and CEC 2017 respectively. However, when comparing HHO-JOS to HHO-SLO, the loss numbers of HHO-JOS is slightly increased on both CEC compared to other competitors. In other words, the HHO-SLO performance is relatively close to HHO-JOS as depicted in Table 10.

4.2.7. Wilcoxon analysis of HHO-JOS compared to HHO, HHO-DO, and HHO-SLO on 100D

Interestingly, there is a fairly minor change on the tide benchmark function of 100D CEC 2014, an additional benchmark function 26 shown in Table 9. Usually, the position benchmark function 26 CEC 2014 is either on the winning or the losing side. Table 9 shows a significant difference in winning and losing of HHO-JOS on HHO-DO on CEC 2017. The number of winning HHO-JOS is 27, and the loss is 2. There is no great change on the loss side of HHO-JOS on 100D CEC 2014 comparing to HHO, HHO-DO, and HHO-SLO; mostly, the HHO-JOS losses in benchmark functions 13, 15, 19, 21, and 30. In the case of CEC 2017, the loss of HHO-JOS is constant on benchmark functions 3 and 25 but still well perform on the winning side.

4.2.8. Dominancy comparative of JOS with other OBL development on HHO

The experimental results in Table 10 show a comparison among the proposed algorithm (HHO-JOS), HHO-DO, HHO-SLO, and HHO-SO. The total functions exhibited in Table 10 are evaluated in 100 dimensions on 29 benchmark functions of CEC 2017. The experiment concludes from the mean of 51 runs which were experimented successively according to each function. The sign (+) at the bottom of Table 10 indicates that the development of opposition is better than the original and this positive

Table 6
Wilcoxon analysis of HHO-JOS compared to HHO, HHO-DO, and HHO-SLO on 10D.

| Proposed Competitors | D | HHO-JOS | | | | | |
|----------------------|-----|---|----------|--------------------------|---|----------|----------------------------------|
| | | CEC 2014 | | | CEC 2017 | | |
| | | Win (+) | Tide (=) | Loss (-) | Win (+) | Tide (=) | Loss (-) |
| HHO | 10D | 19 | 3 | 8 | 23 | 0 | 6 |
| | F | 2,5,6,7,9,11,12,13,15,16,17,19,22,24,25,26,29,30 | 23,27,28 | 1,3,4,8,10,14,20,21 | 1,3,5,6,7,8,9,11,13,16,17,18,19,20,21,22,23,24,26,27,28,29,30 | - | 4,10,12,14,15,25 |
| HHO-DO | 10D | 19 | 3 | 8 | 22 | 0 | 7 |
| | F | 2,6,7,8,9,10,11,13,15,16,18,19,20,21,22,24,25,26,30 | 23,27,28 | 1,3,4,5,12,14,17,29 | 1,3,5,6,7,8,9,10,11,13,16,17,18,19,20,21,22,2,3,26,27,29,30 | - | 4,12,14,15,24,25,28 |
| HHO-SLO | 10D | 17 | 3 | 10 | 17 | 0 | 12 |
| | F | 2,5,7,9,11,12,14,15,16,17,18,21,22,24,25,26,29 | 23,27,28 | 1,3,4,6,8,10,13,19,20,30 | 1,3,7,8,9,13,17,18,21,22,23,24,25,26,27,29,30 | - | 4,5,6,10,11,12,14,15,16,19,20,28 |

Table 7

Wilcoxon analysis of HHO-JOS compared to HHO, HHO-DO, and HHO-SLO on 30D.

| Proposed Competitors | D | HHO-JOS | | | | | |
|----------------------|-----|---|--------------------|------------------------------------|---|----------|---|
| | | CEC 2014 | | | CEC 2017 | | |
| | | Win (+) | Tide (=) | Loss (-) | Win (+) | Tide (=) | Loss (-) |
| HHO | 30D | 19 | 5 | 8 | 27 | 0 | 2 |
| | F | 2,5,6,7,8,9,10,11, 12,13,14,15,16, 18,19,20,22 | 23,25,27, 28,29 | 1,3,4,17, 21,24,26, 30 | 1,4,5,6,7,8,9,10,11,12,13, 14,15,16,17,18,19,20,21, 22,23,24,25,26,27,29,30 | - | 3,28 |
| HHO-DO | 30D | 20 | 5 | 5 | 26 | 0 | 3 |
| | F | 1,2,3,5,6,7,8,9,10, 11,12,13,14,15, 16,18,19,20,22,26 | 23,25,27, 28,29 | 4,17,21, 24,30 | 1,4,5,6,7,8,9,10,11,12,13, 15,16,17,18,19,20,21,22, 23,24,25,26,27,29,30 | - | 3,14,28 |
| HHO-SLO | 30D | 16 | 4 | 10 | 17 | 0 | 12 |
| | F | 2,5,6,7,8,9,11,12, 13,14,15,16,18, 19,29,30 | 23,25,27, 28 | 1,3,4,10, 17,20,21, 22,24,26 | 1,5,6,7,8,9,10,11,12,13, 15,18,19,20,21,22,29 | - | 3,4,14,16,17, 23,24,25,26, 27,28,30 |

Table 8

Wilcoxon analysis of HHO-JOS compared to HHO, HHO-DO, and HHO-SLO on 50D.

| Proposed Competitors | D | HHO-JOS | | | | | |
|----------------------|-----|--|--------------------|------------------------------|--|----------|---|
| | | CEC 2014 | | | CEC 2017 | | |
| | | Win (+) | Tide (=) | Loss (-) | Win (+) | Tide (=) | Loss (-) |
| HHO | 50D | 19 | 5 | 7 | 22 | 0 | 7 |
| | F | 1,2,5,6,7,8,9,10, 11,12,13,14,16, 18,19,22,24,26 | 23,25,27, 28,29 | 3,4,15,17, 20,21,30 | 1,5,6,7,8,9,10,13,15,16, 17,19,20,21,22,23,24, 25,26,27,29,30 | - | 3,4,11,12,14, 18,28 |
| HHO-DO | 50D | 21 | 5 | 4 | 25 | 0 | 4 |
| | F | 1,2,3,5,6,7,8,9, 10,11,12,13,14, 15,16,18,19,20, 22,24,26 | 23,25,27, 28,29 | 4,17,21,30 | 1,5,6,7,8,9,10,11,12,13, 14,15,16,17,19,20,21, 22,23,24,25,26,27,29,30 | - | 3,4,18,28 |
| HHO-SLO | 50D | 16 | 5 | 9 | 17 | 0 | 12 |
| | F | 1,2,5,6,7,8,9,10, 11,12,14,16,18, 22,24,30 | 23,25,27, 28,29 | 3,4,13,15,17, 19,20,21,26 | 1,5,6,7,8,9,10,11,13,15, 16,19,20,21,22,24,29 | - | 3,4,12,14,17, 18,23,25,26, 27,28,30 |

Table 9

Wilcoxon analysis of HHO-JOS compared to HHO, HHO-DO, and HHO-SLO on 100D.

| Proposed Competitors | D | HHO-JOS | | | | | |
|----------------------|------|---|-----------------------|---------------------------|---|----------|------------------------|
| | | CEC 2014 | | | CEC 2017 | | |
| | | Win (+) | Tide (=) | Loss (-) | Win (+) | Tide (=) | Loss (-) |
| HHO | 100D | 16 | 6 | 8 | 24 | 0 | 5 |
| | F | 1,2,5,6,7,8,9,10, 11,12,14,16,17, 18,22,24 | 23,25,26, 27,28,29 | 3,4,13,15, 19,20,21,30 | 1,5,6,7,8,9,10,11,12,13,14, 15,16,17,18,19,20,21,22, 23,26,27,29,30 | - | 3,4,24,25, 28 |
| HHO-DO | 100D | 20 | 5 | 5 | 27 | 0 | 2 |
| | F | 1,2,3,4,5,6,7,8,9, 10,11,12,14,16, 17,18,20,22,24 | 23,25,26, 27,28,29 | 13,15,19, 21,30 | 1,4,5,6,7,8,9,10,11,12,13, 14,15,16,17,18,19,20,21, 22,23,24,26,27,28,29,30 | - | 3,25 |
| HHO-SLO | 100D | 16 | 6 | 8 | 22 | 0 | 7 |
| | F | 1,2,5,6,7,8,9,10, 11,12,14,16,17, 18,22,24 | 23,25,26, 27,28,29 | 3,4,13,15,19, 20,21,30 | 1,5,6,7,8,9,10,11,12,13,14, 15,16,18,19,20,21,22,23, 26,29,30 | - | 3,4,17,24, 25,27,28 |

indication are also highlighted. The sign (-) denotes the value of objective function is slightly higher than the original HHO.

By using the original HHO as a baseline, we can summarize that the performance of HHO-JOS is similar to HHO-SLO, since both algorithms have positive results from 27 benchmark functions, and is following by HHO-DO and HHO-SO at 13 and 3 benchmark functions respectively. These numbers describe that HHO-JOS and HHO-SLO show the dominancy among their competitors. Nevertheless, there is a much greater different gap in the objective function between HHO-JOS versus the original HHO and HHO-SLO versus the original HHO. The difference of winning gap on benchmark functions obtained from HHO-JOS is signified by the asterisk (*) marker. We can conclude that the objective function on HHO-JOS completely outperforms from HHO-SLO, HHO-SO, HHO-DO, and the original version of HHO.

4.2.9. Scoring metric result

The main point of Table 11 is to show the impact and improvement

provided by HHO-JOS comparing to the original version of HHO and also to determine the position of HHO-JOS when it is ranking among various optimization algorithms in metaheuristic based on the total score. The total score is a performance result evaluated by using the scoring metric formula (Awad et al., 2016) on CEC 2014 and CEC 2017. The position of HHO-JOS in CEC 2017 and CEC 2014 rankings are 6th and 3rd with the total scores of 13.81 and 38.58 respectively. The results confirm that HHO-JOS make a great improvement from the original HHO.

In CEC 2014, HHO-JOS and HHO are the 3rd and 5th on the rank respectively, and the 1st and 2nd positions are MTDE and SMA. ABC is the only algorithm that came between HHO-JOS and HHO. Nevertheless, the HHO-JOS is still in the leading position. For CEC 2017 ranking, the proposed HHO-JOS is the 6th and HHO is the 14th. Although HHO-JOS is not in the top 3 and is not able to defeat MTDE, SMA, ABC, SLPSO, and CMA-ES, there are several algorithms in between HHO-JOS and HHO. Those algorithms are PSO, GWO, SOGWO, AOA, KH and MA.

Table 10

Comparison of HHO-JOS, HHO-DO, HHO-SLO, and HHO-SO on the CEC 2017 benchmark functions (100 dimensions, 51 runs).

| F | HHO | HHO-JOS | HHO-DO | HHO-SLO | HHO-SO |
|-----|------------|--------------------|-------------------|-------------------|-------------------|
| F1 | 2.18E + 08 | 2.46E + 05* | 1.28E + 08 | 2.15E + 08 | 2.71E + 08 |
| F3 | 3.76E + 04 | 5.79E + 04 | 5.48E + 04 | 3.23E + 04 | 1.00E + 05 |
| F4 | 8.37E + 02 | 8.06E + 02 | 8.88E + 02 | 8.22E + 02 | 8.98E + 02 |
| F5 | 1.42E + 03 | 1.31E + 03* | 1.38E + 03 | 1.40E + 03 | 1.46E + 03 |
| F6 | 6.79E + 02 | 6.36E + 02* | 6.73E + 02 | 6.49E + 02 | 6.77E + 02 |
| F7 | 3.55E + 03 | 2.69E + 03* | 3.28E + 03 | 3.18E + 03 | 3.56E + 03 |
| F8 | 1.85E + 03 | 1.69E + 03* | 1.83E + 03 | 1.76E + 03 | 1.89E + 03 |
| F9 | 3.16E + 04 | 2.32E + 04 | 2.70E + 04 | 3.08E + 04 | 4.63E + 04 |
| F10 | 1.85E + 04 | 1.58E + 04* | 1.83E + 04 | 1.77E + 04 | 1.88E + 04 |
| F11 | 2.97E + 03 | 2.65E + 03* | 3.07E + 03 | 2.63E + 03 | 3.02E + 03 |
| F12 | 2.79E + 08 | 1.27E + 08* | 3.48E + 08 | 2.31E + 08 | 3.30E + 08 |
| F13 | 4.05E + 06 | 4.79E + 04* | 2.43E + 05 | 3.50E + 06 | 4.93E + 06 |
| F14 | 8.10E + 05 | 6.98E + 05 | 9.00E + 05 | 8.38E + 05 | 1.16E + 06 |
| F15 | 1.14E + 06 | 2.69E + 04* | 8.61E + 04 | 7.91E + 05 | 1.38E + 06 |
| F16 | 7.04E + 03 | 6.36E + 03* | 7.01E + 03 | 6.77E + 03 | 7.12E + 03 |
| F17 | 6.10E + 03 | 5.91E + 03* | 6.33E + 03 | 5.68E + 03 | 6.19E + 03 |
| F18 | 1.79E + 06 | 7.44E + 05* | 1.99E + 06 | 1.50E + 06 | 2.06E + 06 |
| F19 | 4.03E + 06 | 1.46E + 05* | 3.98E + 06 | 1.03E + 06 | 5.22E + 06 |
| F20 | 5.84E + 03 | 5.49E + 03* | 6.05E + 03 | 5.72E + 03 | 5.57E + 03 |
| F21 | 3.80E + 03 | 3.37E + 03* | 3.91E + 03 | 3.49E + 03 | 3.94E + 03 |
| F22 | 2.24E + 04 | 1.99E + 04* | 2.23E + 04 | 2.12E + 04 | 2.26E + 04 |
| F23 | 4.74E + 03 | 4.12E + 03* | 4.84E + 03 | 4.33E + 03 | 4.84E + 03 |
| F24 | 5.55E + 03 | 5.24E + 03* | 5.62E + 03 | 5.34E + 03 | 5.83E + 03 |
| F25 | 3.50E + 03 | 3.47E + 03 | 3.54E + 03 | 3.53E + 03 | 3.56E + 03 |
| F26 | 2.39E + 04 | 2.22E + 04* | 2.35E + 04 | 2.33E + 04 | 2.26E + 04 |
| F27 | 4.10E + 03 | 3.98E + 03* | 4.22E + 03 | 3.89E + 03 | 4.17E + 03 |
| F28 | 3.56E + 03 | 3.57E + 03 | 3.59E + 03 | 3.56E + 03 | 3.59E + 03 |
| F29 | 8.70E + 03 | 7.87E + 03* | 8.87E + 03 | 8.05E + 03 | 9.00E + 03 |
| F30 | 2.06E + 07 | 6.46E + 06* | 2.56E + 07 | 9.95E + 06 | 2.89E + 07 |
| + | 27 | 13 | 27 | 3 | |
| - | 2 | 16 | 2 | 26 | |

Among the algorithms that came in between, SO on GWO is a development of OBL. However, SOGWO did not perform adequately on both CEC compared to its original version of GWO. As exhibited in Section 3, the proposed JOS is a joint of SLO and DO, where SLO is an improvement from the existing mechanism, SO. Therefore, the development of OBL effectively influences the performance of JOS on HHO which produces a sufficient impact on both CEC. Although the HHO-JOS position is not at the top rank, JOS has the capability to improve HHO to be considered as a leading algorithm.

4.2.10. The effectiveness of HHO-JOS

The effectiveness of HHO-JOS was measured by the Kruskal-Wallis (Ostertagová et al., 2014) test running on 100 dimensions, CEC 2017. The purpose of this test is to comprehend the whole picture of the development of HHO-JOS. HHO-JOS was compared with the state-of-the-art optimization algorithms having the scoring results in between HHO-JOS and HHO (see Table 11). Those algorithms are GOA, PSO, GWO, SOGWO, AOA, KH, and MA. Kruskal-Wallis classifies the average of final objective values of all benchmark functions of CEC 2017 from F1, F3-F30 on 100 dimensions in each algorithm as one group. The classification of the Kruskal-Wallis shown in Fig. 11 are based on the experimental results in Table 12. In case of 10, 30, and 50 dimensions, they produce relatively the same pattern as the 100 dimensions as shown in Fig. 11. The lower the mean rank is, the better performance we can achieve from the algorithm.

According to Fig. 11, HHO-JOS is a leader among its competitors and the original HHO, since HHO-JOS has the lowest mean ranks. For AOA, the mean ranks came last. The closest to HHO-JOS is GOA followed by HHO, MA, and KH. The mean ranks of PSO starts after 100. Moreover, the original GWO and its improvement, SOGWO, did not show any difference on the mean ranks. In other words, SO did not help GWO to perform well insolving problems in CEC 2017's benchmark functions on 100 dimensions. Moreover, we obtained similar results when doing the experiments on different number of dimensions in the benchmark

Table 11

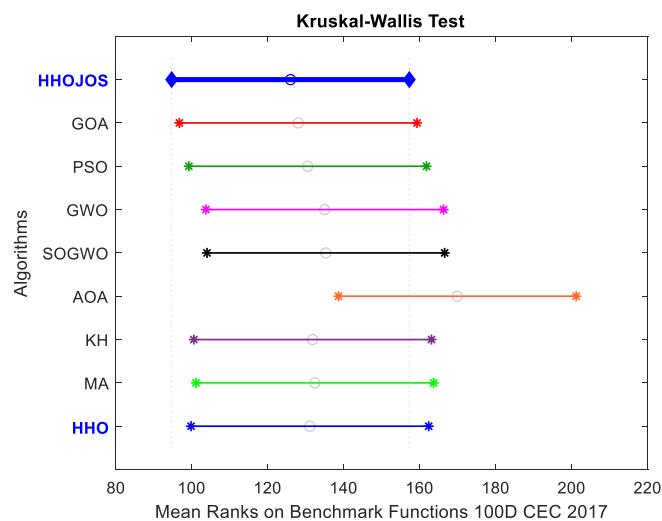
The total scoring of HHO-JOS and its competitors.

| Algorithms | Abbreviation | Rank Result | | Total Score | |
|---|--------------|-------------|---------|----------------|----------------|
| | | CEC' 17 | CEC' 14 | CEC' 17 | CEC' 14 |
| Multi-Trial Differential Evolution (Nadimi-Shahroki et al., 2020) | MTDE | 1 | 1 | 100 | 94.1488 |
| Slime Mould Algorithm (Li et al., 2020) | SMA | 2 | 2 | 28.5391 | 63.4489 |
| Artificial bee colony (Karaboga & Basturk, 2007) | ABC | 3 | 4 | 22.6913 | 35.1390 |
| Social Learning Particle Swarm Optimization (Cheng & Jin, 2015) | SLPSO | 4 | 6 | 18.4424 | 25.0867 |
| Covariance Matrix Adaptation - Evolution Strategy (Hansen et al., 2003) | CMA-ES | 5 | 7 | 14.1466 | 23.8116 |
| Harris' Hawks Optimization - Joint Opposite Selection (Proposed) | HHO-JOS | 6 | 3 | 13.5947 | 38.8128 |
| Grasshopper Optimization Algorithm (Saremi et al., 2017) | GOA | 7 | 8 | 13.4489 | 20.9781 |
| Particle Swarm Optimization (Kennedy & Eberhart, 1995) | PSO | 8 | 13 | 11.9787 | 18.6372 |
| Grey Wolf Optimizer (Mirjalili et al., 2014) | GWO | 9 | 15 | 11.7845 | 18.1472 |
| Selective Opposition Grey Wolf Optimizer (Dhargupta et al., 2020) | SOGWO | 10 | 14 | 11.6023 | 18.1652 |
| Archimedes Optimization Algorithm (Hashim et al., 2021) | AOA | 11 | 9 | 10.6126 | 20.2093 |
| Krill Herd (Gandomi & Alavi, 2012) | KH | 12 | 11 | 10.4014 | 19.4595 |
| Mayfly Algorithm (Zervoudakis & Tsafarakis, 2020) | MA | 13 | 12 | 10.1963 | 18.9979 |
| Harris Hawk Optimization (Heidari et al., 2019) | HHO | 14 | 5 | 9.3249 | 29.3596 |
| Seagull Optimization Algorithm (Dhiman & Kumar, 2019) | SOA | 15 | 17 | 8.6387 | 15.9904 |
| Cuckoo Search (Yang & Deb, 2009) | CS | 16 | 18 | 8.0030 | 13.8071 |
| Moth Search (Wang, 2018) | MS | 17 | 10 | 7.9841 | 20.0939 |
| Whale Optimization Algorithm (Mirjalili & Lewis, 2016) | WOA | 18 | 16 | 7.6649 | 17.1633 |
| Moth-Flame Optimization (Mirjalili, 2015) | MFO | 19 | 19 | 6.7454 | 12.9566 |
| Sine Cosine Algorithm (Mirjalili, 2016a) | SCA | 20 | 24 | 6.1045 | 11.3072 |
| Henry Gas Solubility Optimization (Hashim et al., 2019) | HGSO | 21 | 20 | 5.9538 | 12.6783 |
| Earthworm Optimisation | EWA | 22 | 21 | 5.6666 | 12.0153 |

(continued on next page)

Table 11 (continued)

| Algorithms | Abbreviation | Rank Result | | Total Score | |
|---|--------------|-------------|---------|-------------|---------|
| | | CEC' 17 | CEC' 14 | CEC' 17 | CEC' 14 |
| Algorithm (Wang et al., 2018) | | | | | |
| BAT (Yang et al., 2018) | BAT | 23 | 28 | 5.5275 | 10.3959 |
| Tunicate Swarm Algorithm (Kaur et al., 2020) | TSA | 24 | 25 | 5.3843 | 11.0589 |
| Rat Swarm Optimizer (Dhiman et al., 2020) | RSO | 25 | 22 | 5.0345 | 11.5681 |
| Elephant Herding Optimization (Wang, Deb, & Coelho, 2016) | EHO | 26 | 23 | 4.9281 | 11.3875 |
| Butterfly Optimization Algorithm (Arora & Singh, 2019) | BOA | 27 | 26 | 4.6217 | 10.9592 |
| Dragonfly Algorithm (Mirjalili, 2016b) | DA | 28 | 30 | 4.3053 | 8.7935 |
| Spotted Hyena Optimizer (Dhiman & Kumar, 2017) | SHO | 29 | 27 | 4.1472 | 10.9173 |
| Sooty Tern Optimization Algorithm (Dhiman & Kaur, 2019) | STOA | 30 | 29 | 3.9517 | 10.2519 |
| Genetic Algorithm (Whitley, 1994) | GA | 31 | 31 | 3.8155 | 8.3520 |
| Differential Evolution (Storn & Price, 1997) | DE | 32 | 32 | 3.8096 | 7.7703 |

**Fig. 11.** Kruskal-Wallis test on HHO-JOS and its competitors (29 benchmark functions CEC 2017 in 100 dimensions)

functions of CEC 2017. Therefore, we can conclude that JOS helps HHO to achieve a competitive position with regard to the original version of HHO.

Table 12 presents the average of the best fitness values (*avg*) and standard deviation (*std*) of each algorithm. The lower the *avg* is, the more effective the algorithm be. The algorithms having the lowest *avg* in each benchmark function are highlighted in bold. The experimental results indicate that HHO-JOS is more effective than the other meta-heuristic algorithms in Table 12 for most of the benchmark functions, i.e., F1, F4, F9, F11, F12, F13, F14, F15, F18, F19, F25, and F28. When comparing to the original HHO, both HHO-JOS and HHO provide the

same *avg* for the benchmark functions F25 and F28 at 3.5E + 03 and 3.6E + 03 respectively. In addition, for F25, GOA and KH also produce that same result as HHO-JOS and HHO. In case of F28, the effectiveness of KH and MA are also equivalent to HHO-JOS and HHO. However, there are cases that HHO-JOS is not the most effective algorithms as well. For example, considering PSO, the algorithm is slightly better than HHO-JOS in a few benchmark functions. Therefore, we can conclude that HHO-JOS is in a competitive position with regard to the original version of HHO and its competitors.

4.2.11. Friedman Mean Rank evaluation of HHO-JOS and its competitors

In this section, Friedman Mean Rank test was employed to verify the performance of HHO-JOS and to compare the results with nine optimization algorithms, i.e., the original version of HHO, GWO, SOGWO, the original version of DE, MTDE, j2020, MadDE, GSK, and AGSK. Friedman Mean Rank (Friedman, 1937) is a statistical test that evaluates groups of data by their ranks. Biswas et al. (2021) observed MadDE with three recent leading algorithms in CEC 2021 as follows: IMODE (Sallam et al., 2020), AGSK (Mohamed et al., 2020), and j2020 (Brest et al., 2020). Those algorithms started with a large number of population, and they took huge memory to deploy. However, in our experiment, the population size is fixed at $N = 30$. We found that IMODE encountered difficulty performing in this setting. Therefore, we did not include IMODE in the comparison. In this research, we evaluated the performance of HHO-JOS and compared the results with MadDE, AGSK, and j2020 algorithms by using the Friedman Mean Rank test on 10, 30, 50, and 100 dimensions of CEC 2017. The evaluation results presented in Table 13 are classified into two groups: Swarm Intelligence (SI) and Differential Evolution (DE). Those algorithms are sorted based on its groups by alphabetical order. The results indicated that the algorithms in SI, i.e., GWO, HHO, HHO-JOS and SOGWO, always came after the improved DE algorithms, i.e., AGSK, GSK, j2020, MadDE, and MTDE, when testing on 10, 30, 50, and 100 dimensions of CEC 2017. The trend of those algorithms also are presented by the bar charts in Fig. 12 and Fig. 13.

According to Table 13, the major reasons why the four algorithms in SI have lower ranks than the improved DE algorithms are the improved DE algorithm and its variations succeed in accelerating the operator of the original version of DE (Sallam et al., 2020) and diverting the population dynamically within the phase of mutation, crossover, and selection (Nadimi-Shahraki et al., 2020; Tanabe & Fukunaga, 2014). Although in the experiments we limited the number of population at $N = 30$, the improved DE algorithms still achieved higher ranks. For 10 and 30 dimensions, AGSK and GSK reached the top ranks respectively. Although the position of AGSK on 10 dimensions was on the top rank, in case of 30, 50 and 100 dimensions, AGSK consistently stayed at the 5th rank after MTDE, j2020, MadDE, and GSK. MTDE also experienced the same situation as AGSK. When tested on 10 and 30 dimensions, MTDE reached the second position, but it can only achieved the 4th rank on 50 and 100 dimensions. We also noticed that the results obtained from MTDE and j2020 always went to the different directions. j2020 won the first rank on 50 and 100 dimensions, but it was placed on the third position on 10 and 30 dimensions. In case of the algorithms in the SI group, the positions of GWO and SOGWO are the 8th and 7th respectively on 10 and 30 dimensions. The positions of GWO and SOGWO were switched when tested on 50 and 100 dimensions. Finally, the proposed HHO-JOS was obviously not on the top position, however, it always achieved the better performance than the original HHO and was able to compete with other leading swarm-based algorithms.

Fig. 12 and Fig. 13 visualize the experimental results in Table 13. The dashed line bar presents the Friedman mean rank of each optimization algorithm, and the solid bar describes the rank of each optimization algorithm. The lower the bar is, the better performance the algorithm has achieved. Overall, the trends of the experiment results on 10, 30, 50, and 100 dimensions CEC 2017 are similar to CEC 2014, as shown in Fig. 12 and Fig. 13. From the experimental results, we can confirm that SOGWO (which is an improved version of GWO) and AGSK (which is an

Table 12

The effectiveness of HHO-JOS and the competitive metaheuristic optimization algorithms (tested on 100 dimensions, CEC 2017).

| F | HHO-JOS | | GOA | | PSO | | GWO | | SOGWO | | AOA | | KH | | MA | | HHO | |
|-----|---------------------|--------------|---------------------|--------------|---------------------|--------------|---------------------|--------------|---------------------|--------------|--------------|---------------------|---------------------|---------------------|---------------------|---------------------|---------------------|--------------|
| | Avg | Std | Avg | Std | Avg | Std | Avg | Std | Avg | Std |
| F1 | 2.5E + 05 | 9.8E + 04 | 2.1E + 04 | 3.4E + 09 | 4.4E + 10 | 1.9E + 10 | 4.8E + 10 | 9.7E + 09 | 4.7E + 10 | 8.9E + 09 | 2.6E + 11 | 1.3E + 10 | 9.9E + 08 | 1.5E + 09 | 7.3E + 08 | 3.0E + 08 | 2.2E + 08 | 2.3E + 07 |
| F3 | 5.8E + 04 | 1.1E + 04 | 1.2E + 05 | 6.2E + 04 | 1.1E + 05 | 5.4E + 04 | 2.0E + 05 | 2.3E + 04 | 2.1E + 05 | 2.7E + 04 | 3.2E + 05 | 1.1E + 04 | 3.3E + 05 | 7.2E + 04 | 6.0E + 05 | 7.1E + 04 | 3.8E + 04 | 9.5E + 03 |
| F4 | 8.1E + 02 | 5.5E + 01 | 9.8E + 02 | 3.1E + 02 | 5.5E + 03 | 3.3E + 03 | 4.5E + 03 | 1.2E + 03 | 4.3E + 03 | 8.7E + 02 | 9.5E + 04 | 1.3E + 04 | 9.0E + 02 | 1.0E + 02 | 9.5E + 02 | 1.0E + 02 | 8.4E + 02 | 6.3E + 01 |
| F5 | 1.3E + 03 | 5.9E + 01 | 1.2E + 03 | 1.2E + 02 | 9.9E + 02 | 6.0E + 01 | 1.1E + 01 | 5.9E + 03 | 1.1E + 03 | 7.1E + 02 | 1.8E + 03 | 1.1E + 02 | 7.2E + 03 | 1.3E + 02 | 2.1E + 02 | 1.4E + 02 | 2.1E + 01 | 4.7E + 01 |
| F6 | 6.4E + 02 | 5.5E + 00 | 6.6E + 02 | 7.5E + 00 | 6.2E + 02 | 5.1E + 00 | 6.4E + 02 | 5.0E + 00 | 6.4E + 02 | 4.7E + 00 | 6.9E + 02 | 7.7E + 02 | 6.6E + 00 | 4.8E + 00 | 6.9E + 01 | 1.7E + 02 | 6.8E + 00 | 3.0E + 00 |
| F7 | 2.7E + 03 | 1.7E + 02 | 1.6E + 02 | 1.5E + 02 | 1.6E + 03 | 3.0E + 02 | 2.0E + 03 | 1.4E + 02 | 1.9E + 03 | 1.2E + 02 | 3.9E + 02 | 1.5E + 02 | 2.6E + 03 | 1.8E + 02 | 2.7E + 02 | 7.6E + 02 | 3.6E + 01 | 8.7E + 01 |
| F8 | 1.7E + 03 | 6.2E + 01 | 1.5E + 03 | 9.3E + 01 | 1.3E + 03 | 7.3E + 01 | 1.4E + 01 | 7.2E + 03 | 1.4E + 03 | 5.8E + 01 | 2.3E + 03 | 9.8E + 01 | 1.7E + 03 | 6.7E + 02 | 2.1E + 03 | 2.0E + 02 | 1.8E + 02 | 6.8E + 01 |
| F9 | 2.3E + 04 | 1.1E + 03 | 2.9E + 04 | 5.8E + 03 | 2.5E + 04 | 1.6E + 04 | 2.3E + 04 | 9.0E + 03 | 2.7E + 04 | 1.1E + 04 | 6.9E + 04 | 4.5E + 04 | 2.4E + 04 | 2.0E + 03 | 6.0E + 03 | 2.1E + 04 | 3.2E + 03 | 3.0E + 03 |
| F10 | 1.6E + 04 | 1.5E + 03 | 1.6E + 04 | 1.5E + 03 | 1.5E + 04 | 1.4E + 03 | 1.5E + 04 | 2.5E + 03 | 1.5E + 04 | 2.6E + 03 | 2.9E + 02 | 9.6E + 02 | 1.6E + 02 | 2.3E + 03 | 4.2E + 03 | 1.8E + 03 | 1.3E + 03 | 1.3E + 03 |
| F11 | 2.7E + 03 | 2.0E + 02 | 8.8E + 03 | 6.9E + 03 | 1.8E + 04 | 1.8E + 04 | 4.5E + 04 | 1.1E + 04 | 4.6E + 04 | 1.4E + 04 | 1.5E + 05 | 1.8E + 04 | 5.1E + 04 | 1.9E + 03 | 3.9E + 03 | 1.1E + 03 | 3.0E + 02 | 2.6E + 02 |
| F12 | 1.3E + 08 | 6.3E + 07 | 1.1E + 07 | 1.3E + 07 | 1.5E + 05 | 1.2E + 06 | 9.5E + 06 | 6.1E + 06 | 9.6E + 06 | 5.6E + 06 | 1.9E + 06 | 9.8E + 05 | 5.6E + 05 | 5.2E + 06 | 2.0E + 05 | 2.8E + 05 | 8.2E + 05 | 8.2E + 02 |
| F13 | 4.8E + 04 | 1.5E + 04 | 8.2E + 07 | 1.7E + 08 | 1.5E + 08 | 1.9E + 09 | 8.4E + 09 | 9.4E + 08 | 9.5E + 08 | 9.6E + 08 | 4.6E + 10 | 4.5E + 09 | 7.8E + 09 | 1.4E + 04 | 2.4E + 05 | 3.5E + 06 | 4.1E + 06 | 7.2E + 05 |
| F14 | 7.0E + 05 | 2.3E + 05 | 9.2E + 05 | 9.2E + 05 | 2.1E + 06 | 3.1E + 06 | 4.6E + 06 | 3.9E + 06 | 3.7E + 06 | 2.2E + 06 | 4.2E + 07 | 1.9E + 06 | 3.3E + 06 | 1.3E + 06 | 1.4E + 06 | 6.4E + 05 | 8.1E + 05 | 3.0E + 05 |
| F15 | 2.7E + 04 | 9.6E + 03 | 1.7E + 07 | 1.2E + 08 | 5.0E + 08 | 8.7E + 08 | 2.6E + 08 | 4.9E + 08 | 1.5E + 08 | 3.0E + 08 | 2.3E + 08 | 3.6E + 08 | 3.1E + 08 | 1.3E + 07 | 3.7E + 07 | 1.5E + 06 | 6.8E + 05 | 1.1E + 05 |
| F16 | 6.4E + 03 | 8.3E + 02 | 5.7E + 03 | 5.7E + 02 | 6.2E + 03 | 8.0E + 02 | 5.9E + 03 | 6.6E + 02 | 5.6E + 03 | 5.4E + 02 | 2.1E + 03 | 2.7E + 02 | 6.7E + 02 | 4.3E + 02 | 6.5E + 02 | 8.0E + 02 | 7.0E + 02 | 7.3E + 02 |
| F17 | 5.9E + 03 | 6.0E + 02 | 5.4E + 03 | 4.8E + 02 | 6.5E + 03 | 1.5E + 06 | 4.9E + 06 | 8.6E + 06 | 4.7E + 02 | 6.1E + 06 | 5.1E + 06 | 3.5E + 06 | 5.6E + 06 | 6.9E + 06 | 6.3E + 06 | 6.8E + 06 | 6.1E + 06 | 5.1E + 05 |
| F18 | 7.4E + 05 | 2.6E + 05 | 1.5E + 06 | 1.5E + 06 | 2.2E + 06 | 2.0E + 06 | 3.2E + 06 | 2.0E + 06 | 4.3E + 06 | 2.9E + 06 | 7.0E + 06 | 3.2E + 07 | 3.5E + 06 | 1.9E + 06 | 4.3E + 06 | 2.1E + 06 | 1.8E + 06 | 6.5E + 05 |
| F19 | 1.5E + 05 | 2.1E + 05 | 4.2E + 05 | 1.3E + 05 | 4.3E + 08 | 7.5E + 08 | 2.2E + 08 | 2.9E + 08 | 1.2E + 08 | 1.7E + 08 | 2.4E + 08 | 3.9E + 08 | 1.0E + 08 | 1.5E + 08 | 5.9E + 08 | 4.0E + 08 | 1.5E + 08 | 4.0E + 08 |
| F20 | 5.5E + 03 | 5.1E + 02 | 5.0E + 03 | 5.5E + 02 | 4.8E + 03 | 4.6E + 02 | 4.4E + 02 | 4.0E + 02 | 4.5E + 02 | 7.0E + 02 | 7.1E + 02 | 3.7E + 02 | 5.5E + 02 | 5.5E + 02 | 5.9E + 02 | 7.3E + 02 | 5.8E + 02 | 5.1E + 02 |
| F21 | 3.4E + 03 | 1.8E + 03 | 3.0E + 03 | 1.2E + 03 | 3.1E + 03 | 1.3E + 03 | 2.9E + 03 | 7.9E + 03 | 2.9E + 03 | 6.8E + 03 | 4.3E + 03 | 1.6E + 03 | 3.6E + 03 | 1.3E + 03 | 3.7E + 03 | 2.2E + 03 | 3.8E + 03 | 1.5E + 03 |
| F22 | 2.0E + 04 | 2.0E + 03 | 1.3E + 02 | 1.2E + 02 | 1.7E + 03 | 1.6E + 03 | 1.8E + 03 | 3.7E + 03 | 1.7E + 03 | 1.5E + 03 | 3.3E + 02 | 1.2E + 02 | 2.1E + 02 | 1.6E + 02 | 2.3E + 02 | 2.7E + 02 | 2.2E + 02 | 1.1E + 02 |
| F23 | 4.1E + 03 | 3.3E + 03 | 3.6E + 02 | 1.2E + 02 | 4.7E + 02 | 3.1E + 02 | 3.5E + 03 | 9.5E + 02 | 3.5E + 01 | 9.3E + 01 | 6.8E + 01 | 5.3E + 02 | 5.1E + 02 | 3.3E + 02 | 4.2E + 02 | 2.1E + 02 | 4.7E + 02 | 3.0E + 02 |
| F24 | 5.2E + 03 | 3.9E + 02 | 4.0E + 02 | 1.1E + 02 | 6.2E + 03 | 4.3E + 03 | 4.2E + 03 | 1.4E + 03 | 4.1E + 03 | 1.4E + 03 | 2.0E + 03 | 5.9E + 03 | 4.6E + 03 | 5.0E + 03 | 2.7E + 03 | 5.6E + 03 | 3.1E + 03 | 3.1E + 02 |
| F25 | 3.5E + 03 | 5.6E + 01 | 3.5E + 01 | 1.2E + 02 | 5.2E + 03 | 1.2E + 03 | 6.4E + 03 | 9.1E + 03 | 6.4E + 02 | 8.9E + 02 | 2.8E + 02 | 2.4E + 02 | 3.5E + 03 | 9.9E + 02 | 3.6E + 02 | 1.1E + 02 | 3.5E + 02 | 9.0E + 01 |
| F26 | 2.2E + 04 | 3.9E + 03 | 1.3E + 03 | 2.0E + 03 | 3.9E + 03 | 1.4E + 03 | 1.1E + 03 | 1.5E + 03 | 1.2E + 03 | 5.3E + 03 | 2.8E + 03 | 2.6E + 03 | 4.4E + 03 | 2.4E + 03 | 3.2E + 03 | 2.4E + 03 | 2.0E + 03 | 2.0E + 02 |
| F27 | 4.0E + 03 | 1.9E + 03 | 3.5E + 03 | 8.0E + 01 | 4.3E + 03 | 4.5E + 03 | 4.0E + 03 | 1.6E + 02 | 4.0E + 02 | 1.3E + 02 | 9.5E + 02 | 4.8E + 02 | 6.1E + 02 | 9.7E + 02 | 3.9E + 02 | 1.7E + 02 | 4.1E + 02 | 2.6E + 02 |
| F28 | 3.6E + 03 | 4.9E + 01 | 4.0E + 01 | 9.9E + 02 | 2.3E + 02 | 8.2E + 02 | 1.3E + 02 | 8.1E + 02 | 1.1E + 02 | 3.7E + 02 | 5.2E + 02 | 3.6E + 02 | 1.4E + 02 | 3.6E + 02 | 4.7E + 02 | 3.6E + 01 | 4.9E + 01 | 4.9E + 01 |
| F29 | 7.9E + 03 | 5.9E + 02 | 8.4E + 02 | 6.4E + 02 | 7.5E + 02 | 6.6E + 02 | 7.9E + 02 | 6.5E + 02 | 8.0E + 02 | 9.1E + 02 | 3.1E + 02 | 1.9E + 02 | 8.6E + 02 | 5.2E + 02 | 8.0E + 02 | 9.6E + 02 | 8.7E + 02 | 6.7E + 02 |
| F30 | 6.5E + 06 | 4.2E + 06 | 1.3E + 06 | 2.4E + 06 | 1.6E + 09 | 1.4E + 09 | 7.2E + 08 | 8.2E + 08 | 1.1E + 09 | 1.2E + 09 | 4.0E + 09 | 4.8E + 09 | 9.9E + 09 | 6.3E + 09 | 5.9E + 09 | 2.1E + 06 | 2.1E + 06 | 5.6E + 06 |
| | + 06 | + 06 | + 08 | + 08 | + 09 | + 09 | + 08 | + 08 | + 09 | + 09 | + 10 | + 09 | + 06 | + 06 | + 06 | + 07 | + 06 | + 06 |

improved version of GSK) did not perform well in some dimensions comparing to their original versions. However, the HHO-JOS consistently outperformed the original HHO in CEC 2014 and CEC 2017 in all dimensions. Moreover, we also conducted further analysis on the algorithms in both SI and DE groups by using mean and standard deviation. The analyzed results are presented in Table 14 and Table 15. The best mean value of each benchmark function is highlighted in bold. When more than one algorithms produced the same result, italic bold is used to highlight.

Table 14 reveals that HHO-JOS is still in a better position than its competitors in most of the CEC 2017's benchmark functions. HHO-JOS achieved the lowest mean values in 14 benchmark functions (F1, F3, F4,

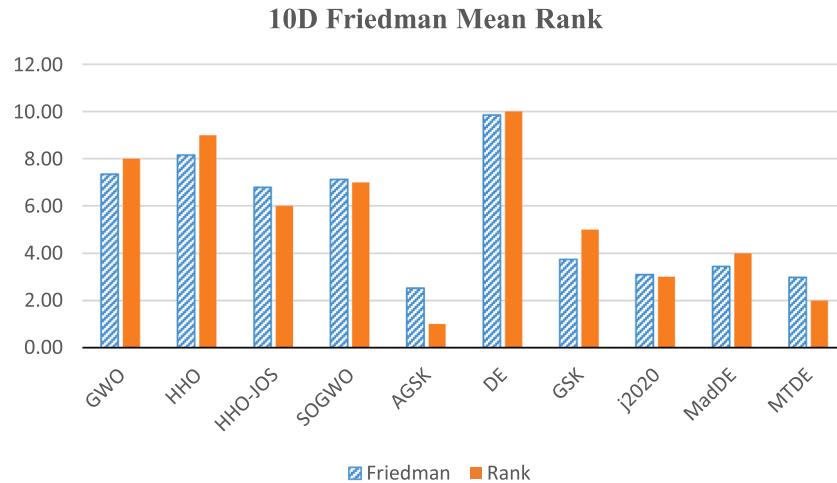
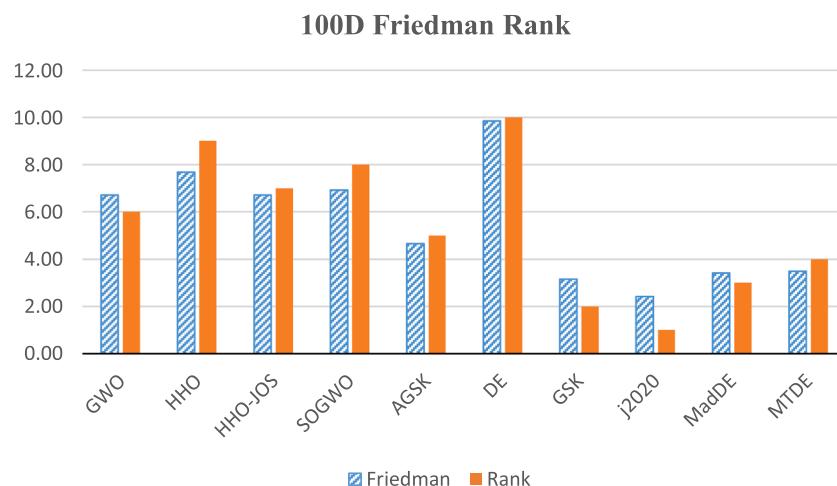
F11, F12, F13, F14, F15, F18, F19, F25, F28, F29, and F30). For benchmark functions F1, F13, F15, F18, F19 and F30, HHO-JOS showed a significant difference in the mean values comparing to the other algorithms in the same group. Considering F5, HHO-JOS tided with GWO and SOGWO. In Table 15, among the variations of DE algorithms, GSK is the leader in 10 benchmark functions of CEC 2017 (F5, F7, F8, F11, F16, F17, F18, F21, F24, and F29). MadDE, j2020, AGSK and MTDE won 8, 6, 3 and 2 times respectively. Although MadDE is a leading algorithm when competing in CEC 2021, the numbers of winning regarding the best mean value of MadDE in CEC 2017 is lower than GSK; 8 vs. 10. Moreover, AGSK, which is an improved version of GSK, did not perform well in CEC 2017 comparing to the original version. Nevertheless, the

Table 13

Friedman Mean Rank in 10D, 30D, 50D, and 100D CEC 2017.

| MC | Algorithm | 10D Friedman | 10D Rank | 30D Friedman | 30D Rank | 50D Friedman | 50 Rank | 100D Friedman | 100D Rank |
|----|-----------|--------------|----------|--------------|----------|--------------|---------|---------------|-----------|
| SI | GWO | 7.35 | 8 | 7.25 | 8 | 6.85 | 6 | 6.72 | 6.5 |
| | HHO | 8.15 | 9 | 7.85 | 9 | 7.68 | 9 | 7.68 | 9 |
| | HHO-JOS | 6.78 | 6 | 6.95 | 6 | 6.98 | 8 | 6.72 | 6.5 |
| | SOGWO | 7.12 | 7 | 7.22 | 7 | 6.92 | 7 | 6.92 | 8 |
| DE | AGSK | 2.52 | 1 | 3.68 | 5 | 4.25 | 5 | 4.65 | 5 |
| | DE | 9.85 | 10 | 9.85 | 10 | 9.85 | 10 | 9.85 | 10 |
| | GSK | 3.73 | 5 | 2.48 | 1 | 3.15 | 2 | 3.15 | 2 |
| | j2020 | 3.08 | 3 | 3.25 | 3 | 2.62 | 1 | 2.42 | 1 |
| | MadDE | 3.43 | 4 | 3.42 | 4 | 3.22 | 3 | 3.42 | 3 |
| | MTDE | 2.98 | 2 | 3.05 | 2 | 3.48 | 4 | 3.48 | 4 |

MC = Metaheuristic Clasification; SI = Swarm Intelligence; DE = Differential Evolution

**Fig. 12.** A comparison of Friedman Mean Ranks tested on HHO-JOS and its competitors (29 benchmark functions CEC 2017 in 10 dimensions).**Fig. 13.** A comparison of Friedman Mean Ranks tested on HHO-JOS and its competitors (29 benchmark functions CEC 2017 in 100 dimensions).

numbers of winning benchmark functions of AGSK are slightly higher than MTDE (3 vs. 2).

4.2.12. Convergence curves of the proposed HHO-JOS with the J_r at 0.25 and its competitors, tested on 100D CEC 2017

The convergence curves in Fig. 14 illustrate the strength of HHO-JOS compared with the original HHO and eight state-of-the-art optimization algorithms presented in Table 16, i.e., MA, MTDE, SMA, GOA, SPSO, GWO, CMA-ES, and KH. Table 16 sorts the eight nature-inspired optimization algorithms in historical order, starting from the year

2012–2020. Fig. 12(i) shows the symbolics used to represent HHO-JOS, the original HHO, and the eight competitors. The convergence curves exhibit on 100 dimensions CEC 2017. The selected benchmark functions are F1, F5, F6, F7, F8, F10, F20, F22, and F28. The x -axis on the convergence curve presents the number of function evaluations (nFE), and the y -axis defines the best fitness of each algorithm. The numbers on x -axis are arranged based on the maximum function evaluations ($maxFE$), which is influenced by the number of dimensions. However, the numbers on y -axis are adjusted according to the benchmark function. The HHO-JOS marked in bold with a diamond marker and the

Table 14

Mean and Standard Deviation of HHO-JOS and swarm-based optimization algorithms (tested on 100 dimensions, CEC 2017).

| F | HHO | | HHO-JOS | | GWO | | SOGWO | |
|-----|------------|------------|-------------------|------------|-------------------|------------|-------------------|------------|
| | Mean | Std | Mean | Std | Mean | Std | Mean | Std |
| F1 | 2.18E + 08 | 2.33E + 07 | 2.46E + 05 | 9.76E + 04 | 4.77E + 10 | 9.70E + 09 | 4.67E + 10 | 8.94E + 09 |
| F3 | 3.76E + 04 | 9.50E + 03 | 5.79E + 04 | 1.07E + 04 | 2.04E + 05 | 2.32E + 04 | 2.09E + 05 | 2.65E + 04 |
| F4 | 8.37E + 02 | 6.32E + 01 | 8.06E + 02 | 5.47E + 01 | 4.48E + 03 | 1.24E + 03 | 4.31E + 03 | 8.68E + 02 |
| F5 | 1.42E + 03 | 4.75E + 01 | 1.31E + 03 | 5.90E + 01 | 1.13E + 03 | 5.86E + 01 | 1.13E + 03 | 7.07E + 01 |
| F6 | 6.79E + 02 | 3.03E + 00 | 6.36E + 02 | 5.46E + 00 | 6.35E + 02 | 5.03E + 00 | 6.35E + 02 | 4.67E + 00 |
| F7 | 3.55E + 03 | 8.72E + 01 | 2.69E + 03 | 1.66E + 02 | 1.95E + 03 | 1.41E + 02 | 1.93E + 03 | 1.17E + 02 |
| F8 | 1.85E + 03 | 6.84E + 01 | 1.69E + 03 | 6.18E + 01 | 1.43E + 03 | 7.23E + 01 | 1.44E + 03 | 5.80E + 01 |
| F9 | 3.16E + 04 | 3.01E + 03 | 2.32E + 04 | 1.09E + 03 | 2.26E + 04 | 9.00E + 03 | 2.71E + 04 | 1.15E + 04 |
| F10 | 1.85E + 04 | 1.29E + 03 | 1.58E + 04 | 1.46E + 03 | 1.51E + 04 | 2.48E + 03 | 1.52E + 04 | 2.61E + 03 |
| F11 | 2.97E + 03 | 2.62E + 02 | 2.65E + 03 | 2.03E + 02 | 4.55E + 04 | 1.10E + 04 | 4.57E + 04 | 1.36E + 04 |
| F12 | 2.79E + 08 | 8.22E + 07 | 1.27E + 08 | 6.33E + 07 | 9.49E + 09 | 6.07E + 09 | 9.56E + 09 | 5.58E + 09 |
| F13 | 4.05E + 06 | 7.23E + 05 | 4.79E + 04 | 1.52E + 04 | 8.39E + 08 | 9.42E + 08 | 9.50E + 08 | 9.63E + 08 |
| F14 | 8.10E + 05 | 3.03E + 05 | 6.98E + 05 | 2.35E + 05 | 4.61E + 06 | 3.87E + 06 | 3.68E + 06 | 2.22E + 06 |
| F15 | 1.14E + 06 | 6.77E + 05 | 2.69E + 04 | 9.60E + 03 | 2.58E + 08 | 4.86E + 08 | 1.52E + 08 | 3.01E + 08 |
| F16 | 7.04E + 03 | 7.28E + 02 | 6.36E + 03 | 8.26E + 02 | 5.92E + 03 | 6.57E + 02 | 5.64E + 03 | 5.37E + 02 |
| F17 | 6.10E + 03 | 6.77E + 02 | 5.91E + 03 | 5.96E + 02 | 4.91E + 03 | 8.63E + 02 | 4.71E + 03 | 6.10E + 02 |
| F18 | 1.79E + 06 | 6.50E + 05 | 7.44E + 05 | 2.64E + 05 | 3.25E + 06 | 1.96E + 06 | 4.30E + 06 | 2.94E + 06 |
| F19 | 4.03E + 06 | 1.46E + 06 | 1.46E + 05 | 2.07E + 05 | 2.15E + 08 | 2.95E + 08 | 1.19E + 08 | 1.69E + 08 |
| F20 | 5.84E + 03 | 5.05E + 02 | 5.49E + 03 | 5.10E + 02 | 4.39E + 03 | 3.99E + 02 | 4.50E + 03 | 7.03E + 02 |
| F21 | 3.80E + 03 | 1.53E + 02 | 3.37E + 03 | 1.83E + 02 | 2.93E + 03 | 7.90E + 01 | 2.93E + 03 | 6.77E + 01 |
| F22 | 2.24E + 04 | 1.08E + 03 | 1.99E + 04 | 1.31E + 03 | 1.83E + 04 | 3.74E + 03 | 1.73E + 04 | 1.49E + 03 |
| F23 | 4.74E + 03 | 3.03E + 02 | 4.12E + 03 | 3.26E + 02 | 3.53E + 03 | 9.50E + 01 | 3.52E + 03 | 9.25E + 01 |
| F24 | 5.55E + 03 | 3.11E + 02 | 5.24E + 03 | 3.85E + 02 | 4.17E + 03 | 1.36E + 02 | 4.13E + 03 | 1.42E + 02 |
| F25 | 3.50E + 03 | 8.96E + 01 | 3.47E + 03 | 5.59E + 01 | 6.41E + 03 | 9.12E + 02 | 6.43E + 03 | 8.95E + 02 |
| F26 | 2.39E + 04 | 1.96E + 03 | 2.22E + 04 | 3.87E + 03 | 1.42E + 04 | 1.14E + 03 | 1.48E + 04 | 1.18E + 03 |
| F27 | 4.10E + 03 | 2.58E + 02 | 3.98E + 03 | 1.92E + 02 | 3.97E + 03 | 1.59E + 02 | 4.01E + 03 | 1.31E + 02 |
| F28 | 3.56E + 03 | 4.88E + 01 | 3.57E + 03 | 4.88E + 01 | 8.20E + 03 | 1.29E + 03 | 8.07E + 03 | 1.07E + 03 |
| F29 | 8.70E + 03 | 6.65E + 02 | 7.87E + 03 | 5.88E + 02 | 7.91E + 03 | 6.49E + 02 | 7.95E + 03 | 9.09E + 02 |
| F30 | 2.06E + 07 | 5.57E + 06 | 6.46E + 06 | 4.21E + 06 | 7.20E + 08 | 8.23E + 08 | 1.05E + 09 | 1.15E + 09 |

original HHO marked in bold with the arrow marker pointing to the right showing the gap difference of JOS improvement on HHO and the original HHO.

There are several trends on the convergence curve in Fig. 14. On most benchmark functions, SMA almost loses in the chosen benchmark functions. Surprisingly, on benchmark functions F10 and F22, the convergence curves of MTDE, CMA-ES and GWO have the mean values of best fitness that are close to SMA. In other words, in average, the best fitness values of SMA, MTDE, CMA-ES, and GWO do not converge well in F10 and F22. Furthermore, on benchmark functions F6 and F20, MTDE experiences a sharp slope. The winning algorithm on most benchmark functions is SLPSO. Although the average of best fitness values of HHO-JOS is not on the best performance, the strong point is the proposed HHO-JOS is able to compete against the original version of HHO. The gap difference of HHO-JOS confirms its competitiveness. Even though the benchmark function F7 shows a small gap difference, the benchmark functions F1, F5, F6, F8, F20, and F28 indicate greater improvement. In addition, the major improvement is on F10 and F22. In conclusion, HHO-JOS ecstastically made a promising development.

4.3. Computational complexity

Heidari et al. (2019) concluded that the main three processes of HHO are initialization, fitness evaluation, and updating of hawks.

The computational complexity of the HHO is defined as:

$$O(N \times (T + T \times D + 1))$$

where N is the number of hawks, T is the maximum number of iterations and D is the dimension of specific problems.

The computational complexity of JOS (SLO and DO) can be summarized as follows:

$$O(\text{SLO}) = O(N \times T \times D_c) \text{ where } D_c \text{ is the close dimension}$$

$$O(\text{DO}) = O(N \times Jr \times T \times D) \text{ where } Jr \text{ is jumping rate}$$

Therefore, the computational time for HHO-JOS is:

$$O(\text{HHO-JOS})$$

$$= O(N \times (T + T \times D + 1) + N \times T \times D_c + N \times Jr \times T \times D) = O(N \times T(2 + D_c + D(T + Jr)))$$

Although the HHO-JOS and HHO have the same order, the complexity of the HHO-JOS sufficiently influences by the dimensionally change in the close distance (D_c) and jumping rate (Jr).

5. Discussion on the proposed JOS strategy and knowledge management (KM)

There are some connections between JOS and KM. The personalized and codification strategies in KM (Hansen et al., 2003) are complied with our proposed joint opposition learning technique (JOS) and HHO-JOS. The goals of the personalized and codification strategy recognize in KM are through person to person and person to documentation (a large number of members), successively. The benefit of the personalized strategy is the ability to solve high-level strategic problems by recognizing individual characteristic expertise. The impact of codification strategy is producing a fast, high-quality, and reliable information system. Today, those terms still exist in Attar et al. (2018), Bashir and Farooq (2019), Kianto et al. (2019), Ouriques et al. (2019), and Kormibocus et al. (2020). However, the way those strategies are delivered has been changed.

Interestingly, both personalized and codification strategies in KM naturally align with the proposed JOS, which combines SLO and DO. The SLO moves when the difference distance of the dimension on the current and the best position of the hawks are less than the threshold; this action is related to the term of personalizing strategy in KM, which represents person-to-person. Then, when DO is applied to all hawks, the codification strategy in KM yields its source for all members. Therefore, it is confirmed that the JOS lends itself well in knowledge management.

6. Conclusions

The Opposition Based Learning (OBL) technique offers an opportunity to enhance the performance of an algorithm. Many experiments

Table 15

Mean and Standard Deviation of Differential Evolution and its variations (tested on 100 dimensions, CEC 2017).

| F | DE | MTDE | | j2020 | | MadDE | | GSK | | AGSK | |
|-----|------------|------------|-------------------|------------|-------------------|------------|-------------------|------------|-------------------|------------|-------------------|
| | | Mean | Std |
| F1 | 6.57E + 11 | 2.89E + 10 | 4.47E + 03 | 5.49E + 03 | 1.00E + 02 | 5.23E-04 | 1.01E + 02 | 1.98E + 00 | 4.97E + 03 | 5.64E + 03 | 3.52E + 03 |
| F3 | 2.16E + 17 | 1.76E + 17 | 3.01E + 02 | 4.15E + 00 | 1.39E + 04 | 5.62E + 03 | 2.37E + 05 | 6.42E + 04 | 7.81E + 03 | 3.62E + 03 | 5.70E + 04 |
| F4 | 3.95E + 05 | 4.90E + 04 | 6.30E + 02 | 2.70E + 01 | 6.37E + 02 | 4.68E + 01 | 4.87E + 02 | 5.86E + 01 | 5.99E + 02 | 5.23E + 01 | 5.95E + 02 |
| F5 | 3.28E + 03 | 8.68E + 01 | 8.82E + 02 | 4.27E + 01 | 8.58E + 02 | 6.74E + 01 | 1.14E + 03 | 4.67E + 01 | 7.72E + 02 | 4.99E + 01 | 1.45E + 03 |
| F6 | 7.71E + 02 | 5.67E + 00 | 6.19E + 02 | 1.89E + 00 | 6.04E + 02 | 1.72E + 00 | 6.04E + 02 | 3.71E + 00 | 6.09E + 02 | 2.93E + 00 | 6.00E + 02 |
| F7 | 1.44E + 04 | 5.61E + 02 | 1.65E + 03 | 9.20E + 01 | 1.32E + 03 | 1.22E + 02 | 2.10E + 03 | 1.50E + 02 | 1.19E + 03 | 8.49E + 01 | 1.72E + 03 |
| F8 | 4.05E + 03 | 1.13E + 02 | 1.15E + 03 | 2.57E + 01 | 1.15E + 03 | 4.74E + 01 | 1.46E + 03 | 4.74E + 01 | 1.07E + 03 | 5.07E + 01 | 1.77E + 03 |
| F9 | 2.14E + 05 | 1.31E + 04 | 7.05E + 03 | 1.19E + 03 | 3.48E + 03 | 1.44E + 03 | 1.80E + 04 | 1.14E + 03 | 3.90E + 03 | 2.91E + 03 | 4.52E + 03 |
| F10 | 3.68E + 04 | 1.25E + 03 | 1.49E + 04 | 6.61E + 02 | 1.38E + 04 | 1.38E + 03 | 1.18E + 04 | 9.10E + 02 | 3.01E + 04 | 6.11E + 02 | 2.41E + 04 |
| F11 | 8.24E + 07 | 4.81E + 08 | 1.76E + 03 | 9.07E + 01 | 1.79E + 03 | 1.60E + 02 | 4.80E + 03 | 2.21E + 03 | 1.44E + 03 | 8.37E + 01 | 2.10E + 03 |
| F12 | 4.38E + 11 | 2.63E + 10 | 1.22E + 06 | 3.05E + 05 | 4.67E + 05 | 2.03E + 05 | 9.02E + 04 | 3.41E + 04 | 5.69E + 05 | 2.10E + 05 | 2.72E + 05 |
| F13 | 1.11E + 11 | 7.23E + 09 | 1.09E + 04 | 5.52E + 03 | 5.26E + 03 | 3.02E + 03 | 4.17E + 03 | 1.92E + 03 | 5.67E + 03 | 3.93E + 03 | 6.46E + 03 |
| F14 | 2.21E + 09 | 1.02E + 09 | 4.68E + 04 | 2.42E + 04 | 1.71E + 03 | 6.47E + 01 | 3.60E + 04 | 2.79E + 04 | 7.06E + 03 | 4.78E + 03 | 4.48E + 04 |
| F15 | 8.25E + 10 | 8.24E + 09 | 5.38E + 03 | 2.78E + 03 | 3.97E + 03 | 3.27E + 03 | 2.69E + 03 | 1.38E + 03 | 3.68E + 03 | 2.91E + 03 | 2.80E + 03 |
| F16 | 5.47E + 04 | 7.39E + 03 | 4.41E + 03 | 5.52E + 02 | 4.73E + 03 | 3.69E + 02 | 4.68E + 03 | 4.09E + 02 | 3.56E + 03 | 5.53E + 02 | 5.89E + 03 |
| F17 | 1.47E + 09 | 6.68E + 08 | 4.25E + 03 | 3.94E + 02 | 4.04E + 03 | 2.58E + 02 | 4.09E + 03 | 2.42E + 02 | 3.61E + 03 | 6.04E + 02 | 4.84E + 03 |
| F18 | 1.12E + 09 | 3.38E + 08 | 8.08E + 04 | 3.47E + 04 | 3.10E + 04 | 1.30E + 04 | 2.26E + 05 | 1.82E + 05 | 2.56E + 04 | 2.19E + 04 | 3.84E + 05 |
| F19 | 8.37E + 10 | 7.04E + 09 | 5.41E + 03 | 3.96E + 03 | 3.40E + 03 | 2.39E + 03 | 3.39E + 03 | 1.34E + 03 | 4.22E + 03 | 2.94E + 03 | 2.66E + 03 |
| F20 | 1.02E + 04 | 4.03E + 02 | 4.17E + 03 | 5.95E + 02 | 4.20E + 03 | 2.78E + 02 | 4.30E + 03 | 3.59E + 02 | 4.76E + 03 | 1.33E + 03 | 4.98E + 03 |
| F21 | 5.34E + 03 | 1.45E + 02 | 2.68E + 03 | 4.09E + 01 | 2.66E + 03 | 5.54E + 01 | 2.75E + 03 | 4.95E + 01 | 2.59E + 03 | 4.65E + 01 | 3.18E + 03 |
| F22 | 3.94E + 04 | 8.74E + 02 | 1.68E + 04 | 9.58E + 02 | 1.63E + 04 | 1.21E + 03 | 1.52E + 04 | 9.78E + 02 | 3.15E + 04 | 3.70E + 03 | 2.62E + 04 |
| F23 | 9.97E + 03 | 4.65E + 02 | 3.21E + 03 | 3.30E + 01 | 3.07E + 03 | 5.27E + 01 | 3.15E + 03 | 5.17E + 01 | 3.12E + 03 | 5.76E + 01 | 3.51E + 03 |
| F24 | 2.19E + 04 | 9.18E + 02 | 3.75E + 03 | 3.75E + 01 | 3.66E + 03 | 6.94E + 01 | 3.88E + 03 | 6.99E + 01 | 3.64E + 03 | 9.64E + 01 | 4.18E + 03 |
| F25 | 1.72E + 05 | 1.78E + 04 | 3.26E + 03 | 6.38E + 01 | 3.30E + 03 | 7.00E + 01 | 3.28E + 03 | 5.85E + 01 | 3.30E + 03 | 6.27E + 01 | 3.31E + 03 |
| F26 | 2.20E + 05 | 1.60E + 04 | 1.08E + 04 | 4.80E + 02 | 9.88E + 03 | 7.62E + 02 | 1.71E + 04 | 6.33E + 03 | 1.45E + 04 | 5.23E + 03 | 1.69E + 04 |
| F27 | 2.38E + 04 | 1.22E + 03 | 3.69E + 03 | 6.42E + 01 | 3.45E + 03 | 4.34E + 01 | 3.54E + 03 | 5.79E + 01 | 3.68E + 03 | 1.14E + 02 | 3.39E + 03 |
| F28 | 1.10E + 05 | 7.00E + 03 | 3.42E + 03 | 2.31E + 01 | 3.37E + 03 | 2.66E + 01 | 3.34E + 03 | 4.14E + 01 | 3.37E + 03 | 3.01E + 01 | 3.36E + 03 |
| F29 | 5.71E + 07 | 2.77E + 07 | 6.03E + 03 | 7.75E + 02 | 5.56E + 03 | 3.52E + 02 | 6.05E + 03 | 3.55E + 02 | 5.35E + 03 | 4.90E + 02 | 6.72E + 03 |
| F30 | 9.86E + 10 | 1.28E + 10 | 9.72E + 03 | 3.14E + 03 | 8.11E + 03 | 4.00E + 03 | 7.82E + 03 | 2.82E + 03 | 1.21E + 04 | 4.82E + 03 | 9.77E + 03 |
| | | | | 03 | | 03 | 03 | 03 | | 03 | 03 |

testify that the idea of OBL and the extended idea of OBL such as Quasi, Reflective, Dynamic Opposite (DO), Selective Opposition (SO), and Selective Leading Opposition (SLO) still have weaknesses based on the scoring metric results. Therefore, we proposed Joint Opposite Selection (JOS) which is a combination of the two opposition learning strategies: SLO and DO by using the Random Jump Strategy (RJS).

Note that the SLO is our invention strategy, which is inherited from SO. The original SO changes the dimensions on the faraway search

agents, whereas the SLO changes the dimensions on the close search agents. Meanwhile, the DO is a merged idea of Quasi and Reflective Opposition. This joint opposition learning technique succeeds in balancing the exploration and exploitation phases. When SLO achieved in exploitation phase which might trapped in the local optima, the DO tries to overcome the drawback by enlarging its capability in the search space again to escape from the trap in the local optima. The proposed JOS is embedded in HHO (HHO-JOS). Harris' Hawks Optimization

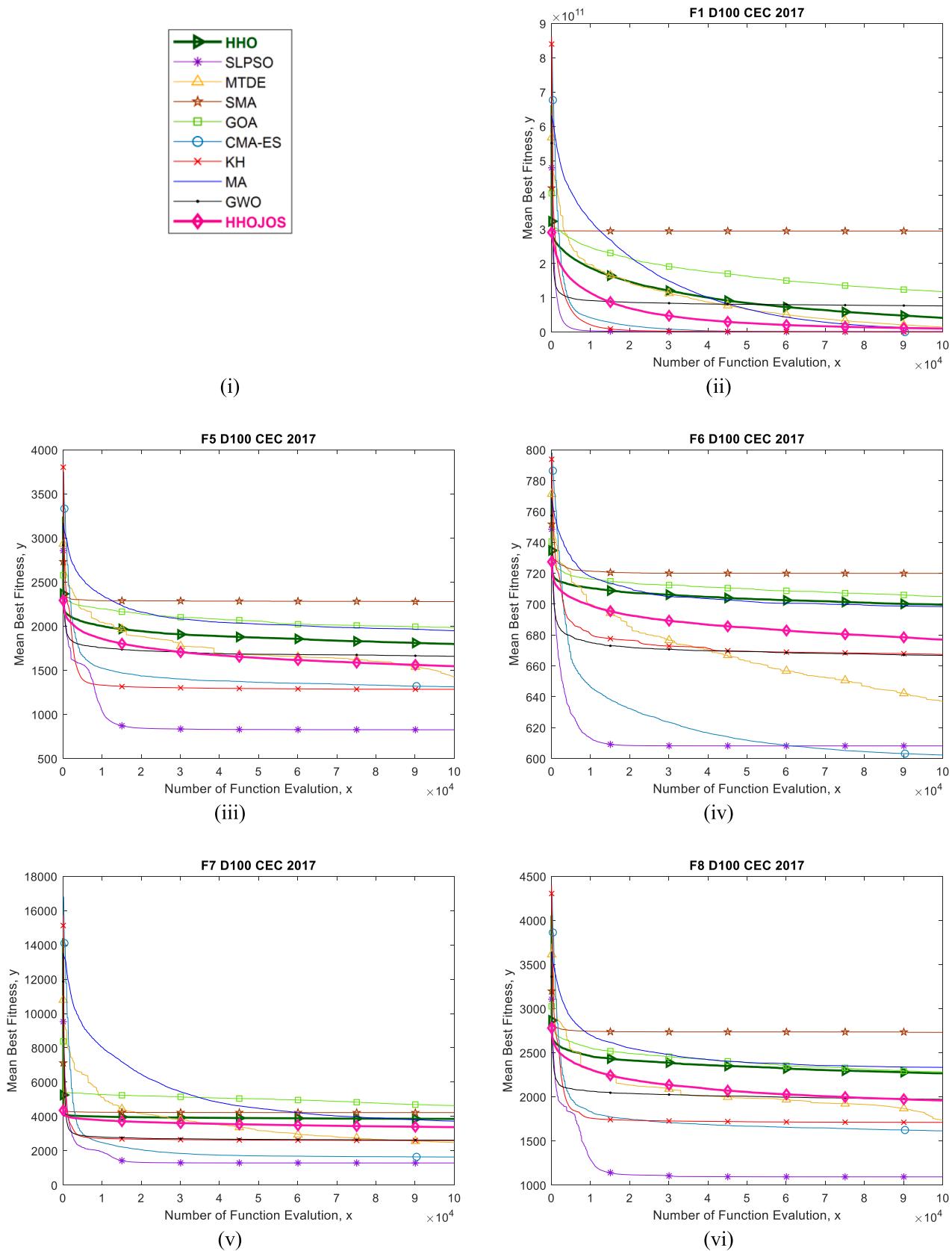


Fig. 14. Convergence curves of the proposed HHO-JOS with the J_r at 0.25 and its competitors tested on 100D CEC 2017.

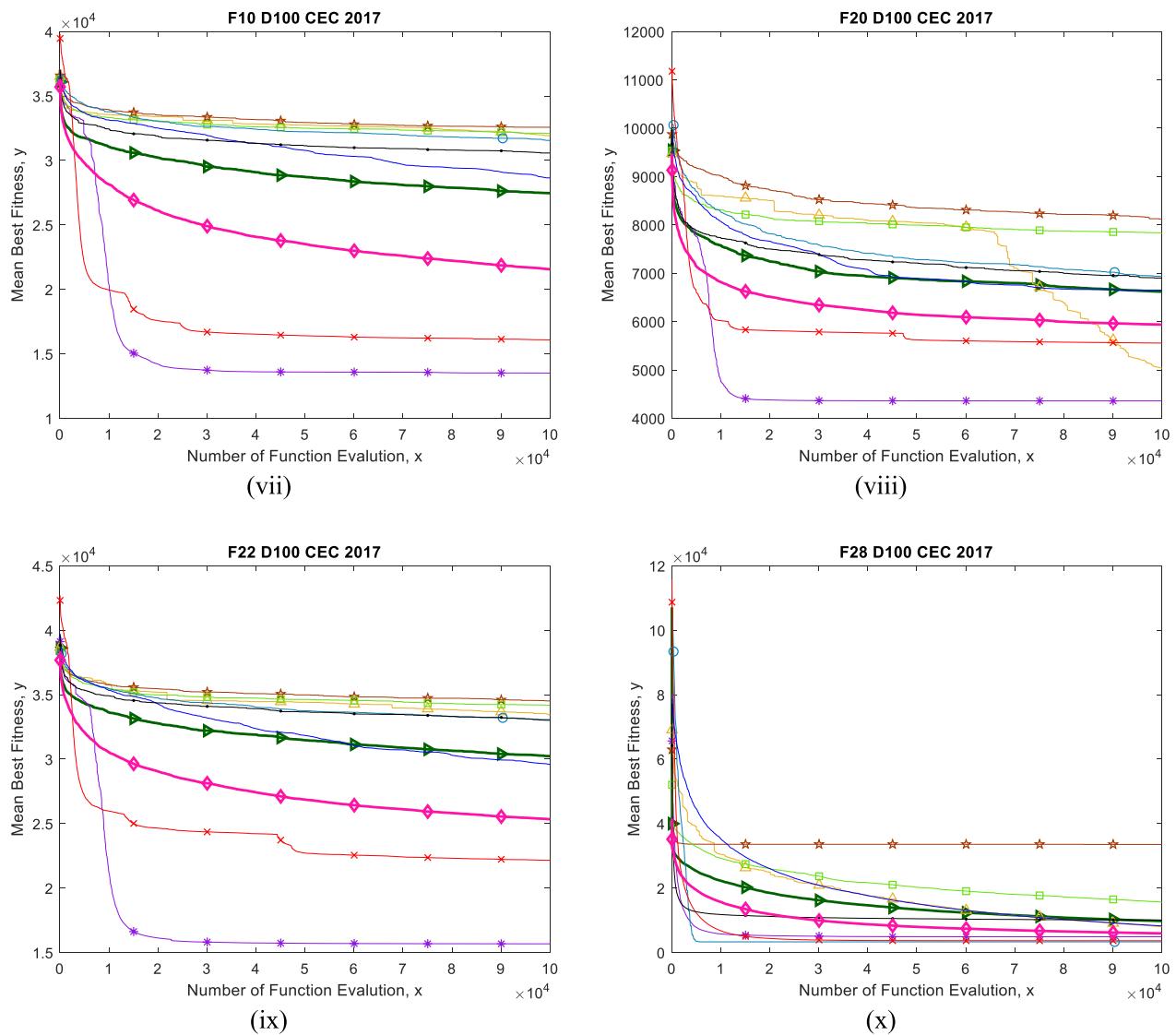


Fig. 14. (continued).

Table 16

Competitive nature-inspired optimization algorithms evaluated on convergence curves.

| No | Algorithms | Abbreviation | Year |
|----|--|--------------|------|
| 1 | Mayfly Algorithm (Zervoudakis & Tsafarakis, 2020) | MA | 2020 |
| 2 | Multi-Trial vector-based Differential Evolution (Nadimi-Shahraki et al., 2020) | MTDE | 2020 |
| 3 | Slime Mould Algorithm (Li et al., 2020) | SMA | 2020 |
| 4 | Harris' Hawks Optimization (Heidari et al., 2019) | HHO | 2019 |
| 5 | Grasshopper Optimization Algorithm (Saremi et al., 2017) | GOA | 2017 |
| 6 | Social Learning Particle Swarm Optimization (Cheng & Jin, 2015) | SLPSO | 2015 |
| 7 | Grey Wolf Optimizer (S. Mirjalili et al., 2014) | GWO | 2014 |
| 8 | Covariance Matrix Adaption-Evolution Strategy (Hansen et al., 2003) | CMA-ES | 2013 |
| 9 | Krill Herd (Gandomi & Alavi, 2012) | KH | 2012 |

(HHO) is a novel optimization algorithm in Swarm Intelligent that applied the hunting strategy of hawks called the “surprise pounce” strategy. The proposed JOS succeeds in upgrading the ability of HHO for higher single objective problems in CEC 2014 and CEC 2017.

From the experimental results, we conclude as follows:

- (a) A sufficient adjustment of JOS can be obtained by setting a linear decrement threshold value on SLO and Random Jump Strategy with J_r at 0.25 on DO.
- (b) JOS succeeds to diverse hawks’ population by enlarging their exploration ability to escape the trap at the local optima.
- (c) Wilcoxon signed-rank test shows major improvement of HHO-JOS comparing to its competitors (the original HHO, HHO-DO, and HHO-SLO) by winning in most benchmark functions and a greater difference on objective function values.
- (d) Based on the scoring metric, HHO-JOS produces a promising result compared to its original version of HHO. Although HHO-JOS is not on the top rank, HHO-JOS still shows dominancy among other state-of-the-art algorithms.
- (e) Kruskal-Wallis statistical analysis confirms the effectiveness of HHO-JOS when solving single-objective optimization problems.
- (f) Friedman Mean Rank emphasized that HHO-JOS can compete with other leading optimization algorithms in CEC 2017, however, there are some of the leading algorithms in CEC 2021 that perform better than HHO-JOS.
- (g) The convergent curves of HHO-JOS on most benchmark functions produce a major improvement on the average fitness value compared to the original HHO.

- (h) Both SLO and DO in the proposed JOS strategy naturally conform to the strategies used in Knowledge Management: personalized and codification.

Therefore, according to the experimental results, the growth development of OBL influences the proposed JOS performance. The JOS will be greatly favorable for future techniques embedded in optimization algorithms and the real-world applications, especially for expert system applications. The authors also confirm the originality of this research. In the future work, (a) the proposed JOS can be used to improved other novel algorithms to find the best solution for engineering design problems, (b) HHO-JOS can be preferably optimization approach to enhance the quality of feature selection, and (c) HHO-JOS can be used to determine the localization accuracy for wireless sensor network purposes, and many more.

CRediT authorship contribution statement

Florentina Yuni Arini: Software, Data curation, Methodology, Formal analysis, Writing – original draft, Visualization. **Sirapat Chiewchanwattana:** Supervision, Conceptualization, Methodology, Investigation, Writing – review & editing. **Chitsutha Soomlek:** Supervision, Conceptualization, Methodology, Formal analysis, Writing – review & editing. **Khamron Sunat:** Conceptualization, Validation, Investigation, Formal analysis.

Declaration of Competing Interest

The authors declare that they have no known competing financial interests or personal relationships that could have appeared to influence the work reported in this paper.

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