

# Multicriteria Optimization and Decision Analysis (MODA)

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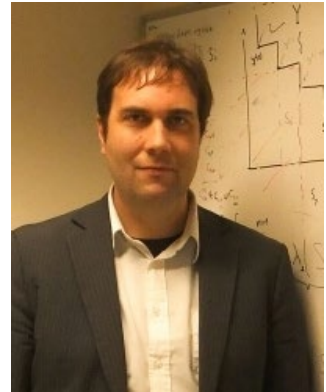
(Student Assistant, per 1.3)

**Master CS, 6 ECT**

**11x1.5h Lectures, incl. 2 Exercise Lectures  
(all material & announcements on brightspace)**

MODA Research Group

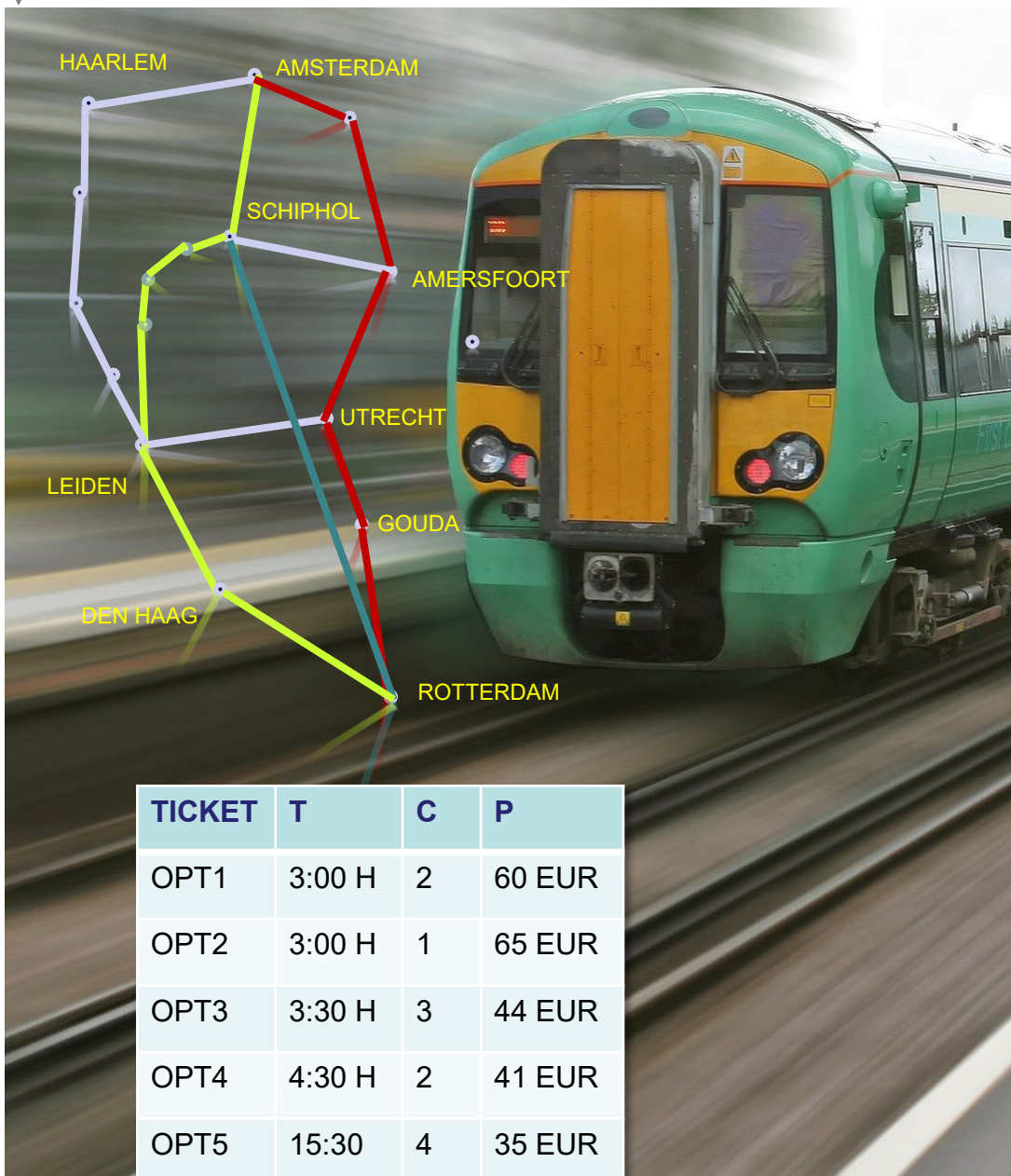
<http://liacs.leidenuniv.nl/~csmoda/index.php?page=FYI>



# Learning goals – Introduction Unit

- I. What is multicriteria optimization and decision analysis?
- II. Structure of the course & requirements
- III. How has this field developed? What were major historical steps?
- IV. Examples of multicriteria optimization problems. What are criteria, search space, and constraints?

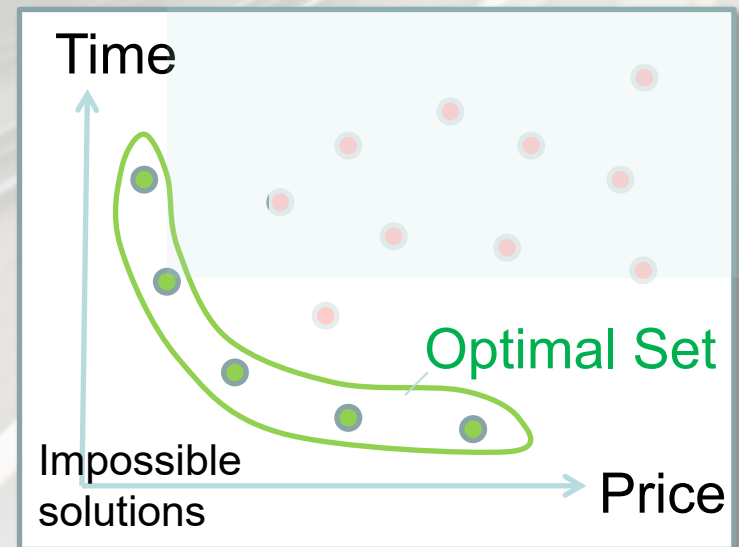
**TOPIC OF MODA**



TICKET	T	C	P
OPT1	3:00 H	2	60 EUR
OPT2	3:00 H	1	65 EUR
OPT3	3:30 H	3	44 EUR
OPT4	4:30 H	2	41 EUR
OPT5	15:30	4	35 EUR
OPT6	15:34	4	32 EUR

## Example 1: Alternative routes

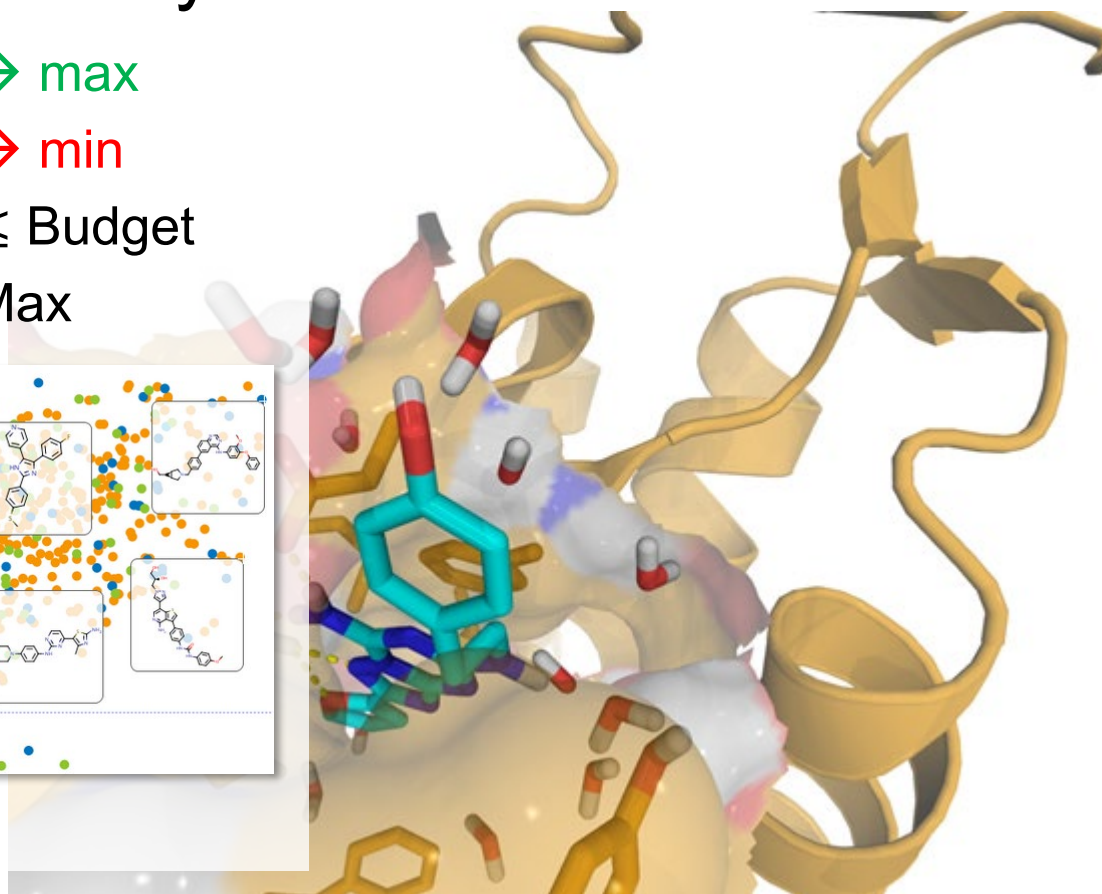
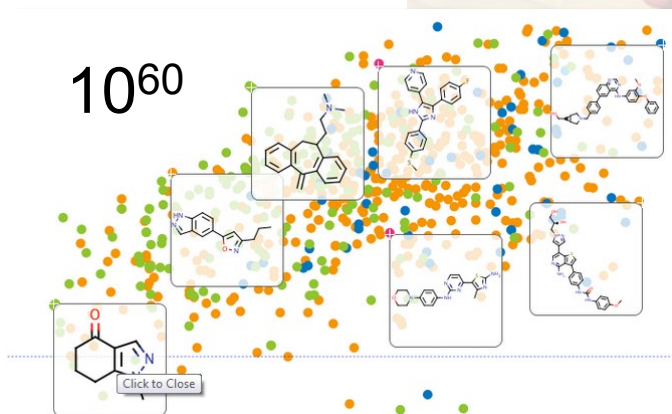
- Time **Min**
- Comfort **Max**
- Price **Min**



$O(N!)$  different paths from Amsterdam to Rotterdam

## Example 2: *In-Silico* Drug Discovery

Activity  $\rightarrow$  max  
Side-effects  $\rightarrow$  min  
Cost  $\leq$  Budget  
Diversity Max



[Universiteit Leiden](#)

[Data-Driven Drug Discovery Network \(D4N\) - Leiden University](#)

# Multiobjective Mathematical Program

Let  $x_1, \dots, x_d$  denote  $d$ ,  $c_1, \dots, c_n$ , and  $b_1, \dots, b_q$  be defined as previous. A multiobjective mathematical programming problem (MOP) has the form:

$$\begin{array}{ll} f_1(x_1, \dots, x_d) & \rightarrow \min \\ & \vdots \\ f_m(x_1, \dots, x_d) & \rightarrow \min \end{array}$$

subject to

$$\begin{array}{ll} g_1(x_1, \dots, x_d) & \geq c_1 \\ & \vdots \\ g_n(x_1, \dots, x_d) & \geq c_n \\ h_1(x_1, \dots, x_d) & = b_1 \\ & \vdots \\ h_q(x_1, \dots, x_d) & = b_q \end{array}$$

For  $m > 1$  one can always add the term 'Multiobjective', e.g. Multiobjective LP, Multiobjective MIP, etc..

# Multicriteria Optimization and Decision Analysis

- Definition: *Multicriteria Decision Analysis (MCDA)* is a scientific field that studies evaluation of a finite number of alternatives based on multiple criteria. It provides systematic methods to compare, evaluate, and rank solutions.
- Definition: *Multicriteria Optimization (MCO)* is a scientific field that studies search for optimal solutions given multiple criteria and constraints. Here, usually, the search space is very large and not all solutions can be inspected (e.g., scheduling, design, control)
- Definition: *Multiobjective Decision Making (MCDM)* deals with MCDA and MCO or combinations of these.
- We use here the title: "***Multicriteria Optimization and Decision Analysis = MODA***" instead of MCDM in order to focus more on the algorithmically challenging optimization/operational research aspect.

# Multi-parametric Complexity in Multicriteria Decision Analysis

- Number of variables/search space size  $n$
- Number of objective functions  $m$
- Number of constraint functions  $r$
- Number of retrieved alternative solutions  $s$
- Number of decision makers  $d$
- Degree of (non-)linearity  $l$  (linear, quadratic, etc.)

⇒ Multi-parametric problem complexity  $\Theta(n, m, r, s, d, l)$



# Class Contents

1. Linear and Nonlinear Programming
2. Multicriteria Decision Analysis
3. Order Theory and Pareto Dominance
4. Optimality Conditions in Multiobjective and Constrained Optimization (KKT Theorem)
5. Scalarization Methods and Single-Point Methods
6. Computational Complexity and Optimal Distributions
7. Meta-Heuristics and Evolutionary Methods
8. Case Studies & Exercises

## Literature:

Emmerich, Michael, and André Deutz. "Multicriteria optimization and decision making." LIACS. Leiden university, NL (2017).

Slides, Exercises & Solutions

# Homework

- Two homework assignments:
  - Part 1: Theoretical Foundations
  - Part 2: Algorithms (a small programming project in a language of your choice)
  - Two graded assignments A1 and A2 (not mandatory, but recommended). Written exam.

## COURSE REGULATIONS (cf. E-STUDIEGIDS, LEIDEN UNIVERSITY)

- Exam (written), 3 hours.
- Final Grade = Grade Written Exam.
- Two graded homeworks (can be handed in individually or in group of two or three).
- Grade of exam must be greater or equal to 6 (5.5 will be rounded up to 6, all grades below 5.5 will be non-passing grades)
- Final grade:  $0.1 \text{ Grade Homework1} + 0.1 \text{ Homework2} + 0.8 \text{ Exam}$
- Pass: Final grade  $\geq 5.5$

The teacher will inform the students how the inspection of and follow-up discussion of the exams will take place.

# **HISTORICAL REMARKS**

# Early roots of MCDA

- A very early reference relating to Multiple Criteria Decision Analysis algorithms can be traced to Benjamin Franklin\* (1706 1790)
- He allegedly had a simple paper system for deciding important issues.
  - Take a sheet of paper.
  - On one side, write the arguments in favor of a decision;
  - on the other side, write the arguments against.
  - Strike out arguments on each side of the paper that are relatively of equal importance.
  - When all the arguments on one side are struck out, the side which has the remaining arguments is the side of the argument that should be supported.

Supposedly Franklin used this in making important decisions.

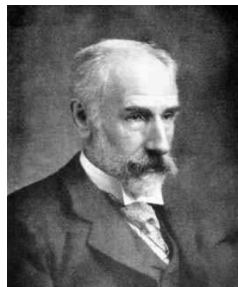
# Development

- Vilfredo Pareto (1848–1923), an Italian economist who used the concept of Pareto efficiency in his studies of economic efficiency and income distribution:
- At the same time Francis Edgeworth defined ‘indifference curves’, the ‘core’ of an exchange economy, and the so-called ‘Edgeworth box’ based on a concept of local Pareto optimality for two criteria.
- When Kuhn and Tucker formulated optimality conditions for nonlinear optimization with constraints in 1951, they also considered problems with multiple objectives.

Vilfredo Pareto,  
Italian economist,  
1848-1923



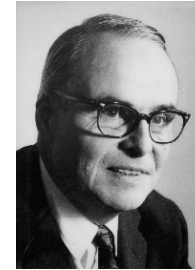
Francis Edgeworth,  
British Economist,



Harold W. Kuhn  
US-American  
Mathematician  
1924-2014

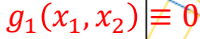


Albert William Tucker  
Canadian  
Mathematician,  
1905-1995



1951

Around 1900

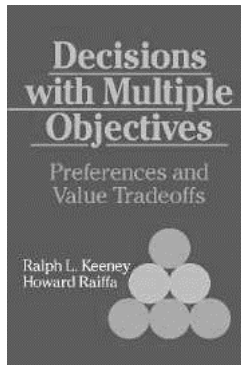
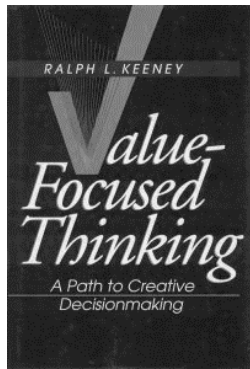


~~$g_1(x, y)$  infeasible~~

~~$g_2(x_1, x_2)$  infeasible~~

$$g_2(x_1, x_2) \equiv 0$$

Karush Kuhn Tucker Conditions will state equations the solution of which identifies the local Pareto optimal points for constrained multiobjective optimization.



# Development

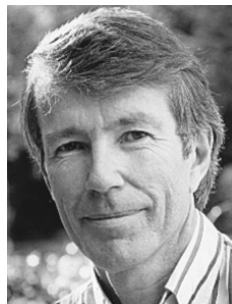


Ralph Steuer,  
US American Economist

- Ralph Keeney and Howard Raiffa published an important work in 1976. This book was instrumental in establishing the theory of multiattribute value theory (including utility theory) as a discipline. It became a standard reference and text for many generations of study of decision analysis and MCDM.
- Ralph Steuer's professor, John Evans, suggested the topic of developing a multiple criteria simplex method to compute all efficient extreme points. Inspiration was drawn from earlier works of Karlin, Koopmans, and Geoffrion. Steuer's ADBASE computer code for generating efficient points became important. (1986)



Howard Raiffa  
\*1924  
US American  
Economist



Ralph Keeney  
US American  
Decision Analyst

Tjalling Koopmans  
1910-1985  
Dutch  
Mathematician  
And Nobel Prize  
(economics) winner

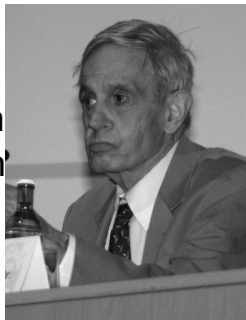


# Development

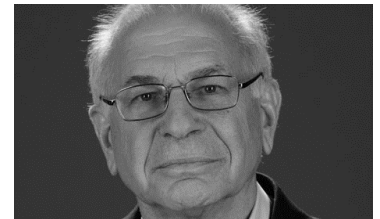
- Kahnemann and Tversky studied the psychological aspects of decision making and pointed out (seemingly) irrational components in human decision making.
- In the closely related field of *game theory*, John von Neumann and later John Nash studied **decisions in games** with conflicting parties.
- Remark: Today, multiobjective game theory, is a topic at the intersection of MODA and game theory



John von Neuman,  
US -American  
Mathematician  
(1903-1957)



John Nash,  
US -American  
Mathematician  
(\*1928)  
Nobel Price  
Economics



Daniel Kahneman (u,\*1934-)  
& Amos Tversky (l,1937-  
1996), Israeli socio-  
psychologists, Nobel Price L

Source: wikipedia



# Development

- Kaisa Miettinen published a book on Nonlinear Multiobjective Optimization (first edition 1999) which became a standard reference on deterministic methods for solving mathematical programming with multiple criteria.
- Kalyanmoy Deb published a seminal book on Evolutionary Multicriteria Optimization (EMO), including NSGA-II algorithm. The work on NSGA-II became the most cited computer science paper 2000-2010.
- Since then EMO is a very active field of research, not only in economics but also in (computer) science and engineering.
- Recently, new term “Many-objective optimization” for problems with >> 3 objectives, e.g. urban planning, multidisciplinary design.

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Kaisa Miettinen,  
Finnish Professor for  
Industrial Optimization  
President of MCDM  
Society



Kalyanmoy Deb,  
Indian Engineer  
& Computer  
Scientist  
Endowed  
Koenig Chair,  
MSU Michigan



# Recent advances: Lorentz Center Workshops: SIMCO 2013, SAMCO 2016, MACODA 2019

**Lorentz center**

## SIMCO

*Set-Oriented and Indicator-Based Multi-Criteria Optimization*

Workshop: 2 – 6 September 2013, Leiden, the Netherlands

**Scientific Organizers**

- Dima Brockhoff, INRIA
- André Deutz, Leiden U
- Michael Emmerich, Leiden U
- Boris Naujoks, CUAS Cologne

**Invited Speakers**

- Carlos M. Fonseca, U Coimbra
- Tobias Glasmachers, U Bochum
- Joshua Knowles, U Manchester
- Marc van Kreveld, Utrecht U

The Lorentz Center is an international center in the sciences. Its aim is to organize workshops for scientists in an atmosphere that fosters collaborative work, discussions and interactions. For registration see: [www.lorentzcenter.nl](http://www.lorentzcenter.nl)

Algorithms based on indicators and geometrical information are increasingly used to navigate through complex search spaces in optimization with multiple criteria. Photo by René Hees – CC BY-NC-SA. Poster design: SuperNova Studio, NL

**Lorentz center**

[www.lorentzcenter.nl](http://www.lorentzcenter.nl)

**Lorentz center**

## SAMCO

*Surrogate-Assisted Multi-Criteria Optimization*

Workshop: 29 Feb. – 4 March 2016, Leiden, the Netherlands

**Scientific Organizers**

- Dima Brockhoff, INRIA Lille
- Michael Emmerich, Leiden U
- Boris Naujoks, TH Cologne
- Tobias Wagner, TU Dortmund

**Invited Speakers**

- Kalyanmoy Deb, Michigan State U
- Joshua Knowles, U Birmingham
- Erich Novak, U Jena
- Rodolphe Le Riche, MINES Saint-Etienne
- Antanas Zilinskas, Vilnius U

The Lorentz Center is an international center in the sciences. Its aim is to organize workshops for scientists in an atmosphere that fosters collaborative work, discussions and interactions. For registration see: [www.lorentzcenter.nl](http://www.lorentzcenter.nl)

A typical application of SAMCO is the optimization of design and structure with respect to multiple criteria. Background: Fragment of Shark skin by René Hees – CC BY-NC-SA. Photo design: SuperNova Studio, NL

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## MACODA

*Many Criteria Optimization and Decision Analysis*

Workshop: 16 – 20 September 2019, Leiden, the Netherlands

**Lorentz center**

[www.lorentzcenter.nl](http://www.lorentzcenter.nl)

Indicator-based MCO  
~ Using Statistical Progress Measures

Surrogate-Model Assisted MCO  
~ Costly Evaluations (Simulators)

# Take home messages

- The fields of **multicriteria decision analysis** and **multicriteria optimization** are distinguished by whether a small finite set is considered or search in a large search space.
- Multiple parameters influence the problem complexity
- The fields evolved in parallel, first in **economics/operations research** and later for other disciplines, especially **engineering**. and **data science**
- In machine learning goals are to minimize error rates (false positives, false negatives) & model complexity.
- In general, multicriteria optimization problems can be defined by the following components: **search space**, **objectives**, **constraints**