



LMU Munich winter term 2024/2025

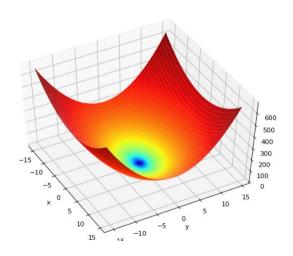
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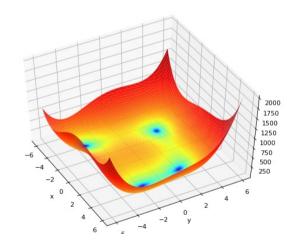
**Definition 2** (optimization). Let  $\mathcal{X}$  be an arbitrary state space. Let  $\mathcal{T}$  be an arbitrary set called target space and let  $\leq$  be a total order on  $\mathcal{T}$ . A total function  $\tau: \mathcal{X} \to \mathcal{T}$  is called target function. Optimization (minimization/maximization) is the procedure of searching for an  $x \in \mathcal{X}$  so that  $\tau(x)$  is optimal (minimal/maximal). Unless stated otherwise, we assume minimization. An optimization run of length g+1 is a sequence of states  $\langle x_t \rangle_{0 \leq t \leq g}$  with  $x_t \in \mathcal{X}$  for all t.

Let  $e: \langle \mathcal{X} \rangle \times (\mathcal{X} \to \mathcal{T}) \to \mathcal{X}$  be a possibly randomized or non-deterministic function so that the optimization run  $\langle x_t \rangle_{0 \leq t \leq g}$  is produced by calling e repeatedly, i.e.,  $x_{t+1} = e(\langle x_u \rangle_{0 \leq u \leq t}, \tau)$  for all  $t, 1 \leq t \leq g$ , where  $x_0$  is given externally (e.g.,  $x_0 =_{def} 42$ ) or chosen randomly (e.g.,  $x_0 \sim \mathcal{X}$ ). An optimization process is a tuple  $(\mathcal{X}, \mathcal{T}, \tau, e, \langle x_t \rangle_{0 \leq t \leq g})$ .

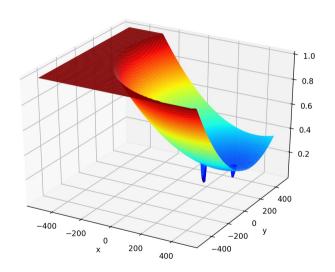
**Definition 3** (optimization (policy)). Let  $\mathcal{X} = \Pi$  be a policy space. Let  $\mathcal{D} = (\Pi, \mathcal{T}, \tau, e, \langle x_t \rangle_{0 \le t \le g})$  be an optimization process according to Definition 2.  $\mathcal{D}$  is called a policy optimization process.

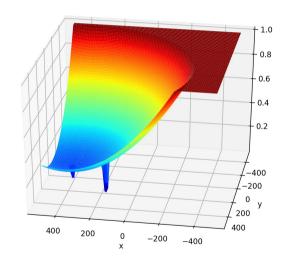
# The Solution Landscape Metaphor



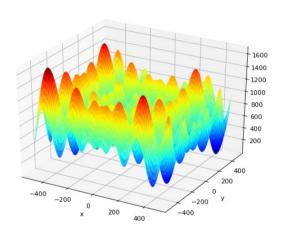


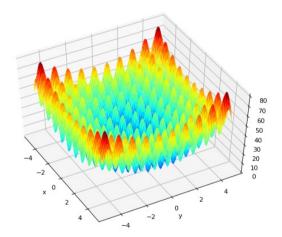
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Algorithm 3 (simulated annealing). Let  $\mathcal{D}=(\mathcal{X},\mathcal{T},\tau,e,\langle x_u\rangle_{0\leq u\leq t})$  be an optimization process. Let  $neighbors:\mathcal{X}\to\wp(\mathcal{X})$  be a function that returns a set of neighbors of a given state  $x\in\mathcal{X}$ . Let  $\kappa:\mathbb{N}\to\mathbb{R}$  be a temperature schedule, i.e., a function that returns a temperature value for each time step. Let  $A:\mathcal{T}\times\mathcal{T}\times\mathbb{R}\to\mathbb{P}$  with  $\mathbb{P}=[0;1]\subset\mathbb{R}$  be a function that returns an acceptance probability given two target values and a temperature. Commonly, we use

$$A(Q, Q', K) = e^{\frac{-(Q'-Q)}{K}}$$

for  $\mathcal{T} \subseteq \mathbb{R}$ . The process  $\mathcal{D}$  continues via simulated annealing if e is of the form

$$e(\langle x_u \rangle_{0 \le u \le t}, \tau) = x_{t+1} = \begin{cases} x'_t & \text{if } \tau(x'_t) \le \tau(x_t) \text{ or } r \le A(\tau(x_t), \tau(x'_t), \kappa(t)), \\ x_t & \text{otherwise,} \end{cases}$$

where  $x_t' \sim neighbors(x_t)$  and  $r \sim \mathbb{P}$  are drawn at random for each call to e.

other means of biased sampling **Definition 4** (population-based optimization). Let  $\mathcal{X}$  be a state space. Let  $\mathcal{T}$  be a target space with total order  $\leq$ . Let  $\tau: \mathcal{X} \to \mathcal{T}$  be a target function. A tuple  $\mathcal{E} = (\mathcal{X}, \mathcal{T}, \tau, E, \langle X_t \rangle_{0 \leq t \leq g})$  is a population-based optimization process iff  $X_t \in \wp^*(\mathcal{X})$  for all t and  $E: \langle \wp^*(\mathcal{X}) \rangle \times (\mathcal{X} \to \mathcal{T}) \to \wp^*(\mathcal{X})$  is a possibly randomized, non-deterministic, or further parametrized function so that the population-based optimization run is produced by calling E repeatedly, i.e.,  $X_{t+1} = E(\langle X_u \rangle_{0 \leq u \leq t}, \tau)$  where  $X_0$  is given externally or chosen randomly.

**Definition 5** (population-based optimization (alternate)). An optimization process  $\mathcal{E} = (\mathcal{X}, \mathcal{T}, \tau, E, \langle X_t \rangle_{0 \leq t \leq g})$  is called population-based iff  $\mathcal{X}$  has the form  $\mathcal{X} = \wp^*(\mathcal{Y})$  for some other state space  $\mathcal{Y}$ .

#### Multi-Sets

Let X be a set with members from a space  $\mathcal{X}$ .

We can identify a set X with its membership function  $\mu_X : \mathcal{X} \to \mathbb{B}$  such that

$$\mu_X(x) = 1 \iff x \in X.$$

For a multiset X' we generalize the membership function so that

$$\mu_{X'}(x) \ge 1 \iff x \in X'.$$

In both cases, the subset relation between (multi-)sets X, Y can be defined as

$$X \subseteq Y \iff \forall x \in X : \mu_X(x) \le \mu_Y(x).$$

We then define 
$$\wp(X) = 2^X = \mathbb{B}^X \cong X \to \mathbb{B}$$
,  
and  $\wp^*(X) = \mathbb{N}^X \cong X \to \mathbb{N}$ ,

to be the powerset functions for sets and multisets, respectively.

# Multi-Sets

# **Evolutionary Algorithms**

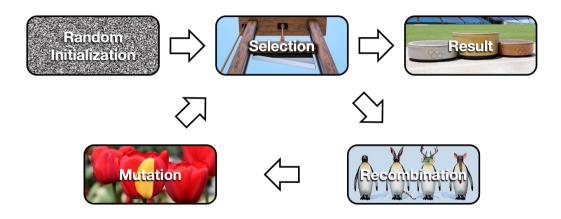


image sources: www.bostonmagazine.com/news/2015/07/30/boston-2024-winners-losers

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en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Mutation#/media/File:Darwin\_Hybrid\_Tulip\_Mutation\_2014-05-01.jpg www.heise.de/ct/artikel/Die-Woche-Microsoft-und-Linux-1283059.html https://phys.org/news/2019-10-guillotine-cruel-poisoning.html

**Algorithm 4** (basic evolutionary algorithm). Let  $\mathcal{E} = (\mathcal{X}, \mathcal{T}, \tau, E, \langle X_u \rangle_{0 \leq u \leq t})$  be a population-based optimization process. The process  $\mathcal{E}$  continues via an evolutionary algorithm if E has the form

$$E(\langle X_u \rangle_{0 \le u \le t}, \tau) = X_{t+1} = selection(X_t \uplus variation(X_t))$$

where selection and variation are possibly randomized or non-deterministic functions so that for any  $X \in \wp^*(\mathcal{X})$  it holds that  $|selection(X)| \leq |X|$  and  $|selection(X \uplus variation(X))| = |X|$ .

# Which optimization algorithm is the best?