

# **Efficient Application of Metaheuristic Algorithms for Balancing Human Robot Collaborative Assembly Lines**

## **A REVIEW 2 PROJECT REPORT**

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## **ABSTRACT**

In the wake of industry 5.0 practices, resilient production technologies are advancing progressively due to increasing emphasis in shifting towards sustainability. Hence, the global demand curve is constantly on the rise, owing to technological and efficiency advancements in every product line. To follow up on this constant utility development, industries find it vital to adapt and capture the shifting market value at a rapid phase. The project aims to balance and improve the efficiency of different assembly line tasks that involve collaborative robots working hand in hand with humans. This is to be done through development of optimization algorithms by varying current metaheuristic algorithms, with an intention of less complex data processing and increased efficiency. Parallelly, during the fine tuning of the developed algorithm, multi-objectives (cycle-time reduction, ergonomic & safety enhancement, energy consumption reduction) are considered along with real life assembly line constraints. Moreover, the developed algorithms are to be consecutively compared with several benchmark functions and datasets and their relative performance evaluated.

# CHAPTER 1

## INTRODUCTION

Assembly line in the manufacturing process comes at last which delivers the finished product with a sequence of several tasks. Normally these tasks were performed by humans earlier before the introduction of robots. However, due to ever-changing consumer tastes and to outperform the competitors, many industries started using robots in their assembly line. The main reasons for this change are to improve production rate, efficiency, reduce cost(wastes) and to increase agility towards changing demands.

This use of robots in assembly lines was called as **robotic assembly lines(RAL)**. Use of robots in industries helped them to reduce labour cost, variability in production, and enhance productivity as robots can work 24/7 all year with no fatigue or illness.

Advancements in technology helped this evolution to further replace humans by robots in performing complex tasks too. Since the introduction of robots in assembly lines, **robotic assembly line balancing(RALB)**, and extension of ALB have become of interest for many researchers and industries to further optimize their production. This varied from the conventional ALBP as here two different problems are to be addressed and they are, assignment of tasks to the given workstations and assignment of different available robots to the workstations.

The general assembly line balancing problem has some objective such as minimising cycle time, cost, etc., with some constraints such as precedence relation of tasks, number of workstations, etc., As the robots are accurate in performing tasks, their task times are assumed to be deterministic while solving RAL BP. Some other assumptions made by the researchers on solving them were,

- The precedence relations of tasks are known and the task times depend completely on the type of robot chosen.
- One workstation comprises only one robot and all types of robot are always ready to use without any capacity and cost limitations.

Further RALBP is classified into several types such as,

- RALBP TYPE I – Aims at reducing the number of workstations by assigning best suited robots and tasks to workstations.
- RALBP TYPE II – Aims at minimising cycle time with a predefined number of workstations.
- RALBP TYPE E – Aims at reducing both cycle time and workstations, thus maximising the assembly line efficiency.

- RALBP TYPE F – Aims at finding feasible solutions for a predefined set of workstations and cycle times.
- RAL BP TYPE COST – Aims at the monetary and economic aspects of RAL.
- RAL BP TYPE O – Other categories are classified in this type.

In RALB, the classifications are based on the structure of the assembly lines**[AL - assembly line]**. They are MAL(multi manned), PWAL(parallel workstation), PAL(parallel), UAL(U-shaped), StAL(straight line), 2SAL(two sided), PUL(parallel U-line), PAUL(parallel adjacent U-line), PMAL(parallel multi-manned).

As the automation in the manufacturing department is increasing significantly, several robots are developed to carry out several tasks to increase the production rate. However, not all tasks can be automated due to the lack of flexibility with available robotic technologies. Humans on the other hand are flexible, adaptable according to market demands, and also have decision making skills with creativity. To remain relevant, many manufacturing enterprises show interest in human robot collaboration where the skills of humans and the speed, endurance, and accuracy of robots are brought together to increase production. This also helps the human workers as the repetitive and stressful tasks are done by robots.

Many algorithms and meta-heuristics were used to find the best allocation of robots and humans to workstations, determine the optimal task sequence, cycle time, etc.., Some are,

- 1) Artificial Bee Colony Algorithm (ABC)
- 2) Genetic Algorithm (GA)
- 3) Differential Evolution (DE)
- 4) Teaching Learning based optimization (TLBO)
- 5) Particle swarm optimization (PSO), etc.,

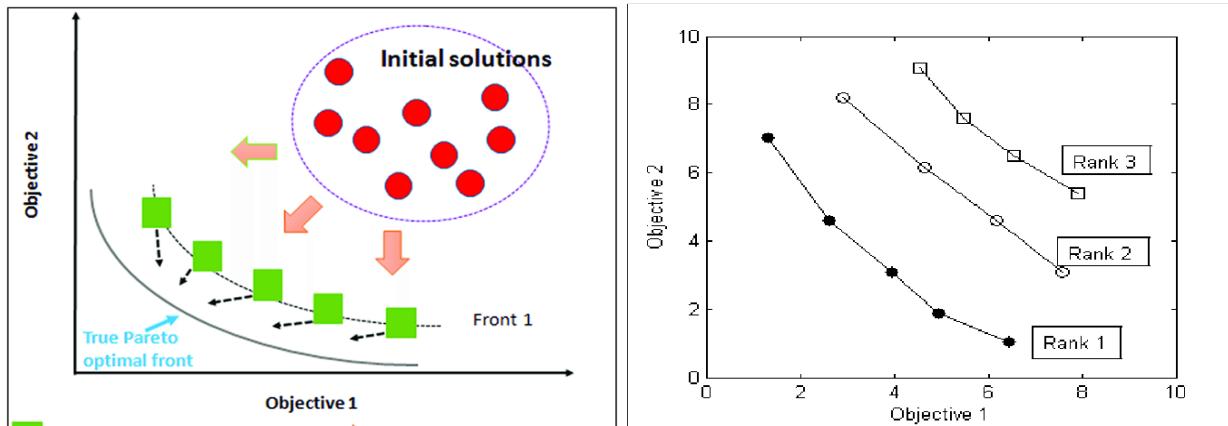
Multi objective optimisation refers to solving multiple objectives that are conflicting in nature. As the objectives are conflicting, rather than a single optimal solution, a set of optimal solution is presented known as the pareto optimal set. In non-dominated sorting, an individual A is said to dominate another individual B, if and only if there is no objective of A worse than objective of B. In simple words, let us say there are two objectives  $f_1$  &  $f_2$  that is to be minimised, and two points A and B,

- **A dominates B if,  $[f_1(A) < f_1(B)] \& [f_2(A) < f_2(B)]$**
- **Both lie in same front if,  $[f_1(A) < f_1(B)] \& [f_2(A) > f_2(B)]$**

**or**  $[f_1(A) > f_1(B)]$  **and**  $[f_2(A) < f_2(B)]$

- **B dominates A if**,  $[f_1(A) > f_1(B)]$  **and**  $[f_2(A) > f_2(B)]$

Some of the objectives in assembly line balancing problems are, To minimize the number of workstations, To minimize the cycle time, To minimize the energy consumption, To maximize the workload smoothness, etc.,,



Some of the classic techniques used in handling multi-objective decisioning are listed below along with their disadvantages.

**WEIGHTED SUM METHOD** - Constructs a weighted sum of objectives and optimizes them. The difficulty with this method is that, the user must be well knowledged with the weights for each objectives as it influences the solution obtained.

**CONSTRAINT METHOD** - Minimizes a primary objective while expressing all the other objectives in the form of inequality constraints. The difficulty with this method is that if the objectives are complex, expressing them into constraints is not effective in generating pareto optimal solutions.

**NON DOMINATED SORTING WITH EXTERNAL ARCHIVE** - This method as explained previously, compares and simultaneously generates many different solutions and stores them separately in an external archive. This external archive at the termination of iterations yields the best multi-objective optimum solution. This method of NSGA - II has the most widespread use in handling multi-objective decisioning due to faster computation, reduced complexity and accepted method of approach.

## CHAPTER 2

### LITERATURE REVIEW

- [1] Puts forth three different layouts for human-robot assembly line (only human/both in a workstation/both in different workstations). An MILP approach to solve every scenario was formulated, which was referred for our problem synthesis.
- [2] Tabulates all possible risks in a human-robot collaborative assembly line environment, along with precedence insights of every risk. Risks are referred to effectively formulate our problem in objective of increasing ergonomics.
- [3] RALB problem solution approaches and considerations that weren't accounted for previously.
- [4] Insights of best performing algorithms are compared in their efficient performance, high number of citations, specific evolutionary operators, interesting interaction mechanisms between individuals, parameter tuning/handling concepts, and stagnation prevention methods.
- [5] In addition to the traditional ALBP constraints, this paper is referred for human and robot characteristics in terms of task times, allowing multiple humans and robots at stations, and their joint/collaborative task formulations. Also, how real time industrial case study is carried out.
- [6] A framework that represents the complexity levels of the influencing factors in H-R workplace. The guidelines and recommendations from literature are categorised into 3 groups of H-R design layout and considerations, with increasing order of complexity.
- [7] Presents the cost-oriented robotic assembly line balancing problem with setup times to minimize the cycle time and total purchasing cost simultaneously. The NSGA-II is developed for multi-objective implementation and improved phases in ABC algorithm are developed to achieve a set of Pareto solutions.
- [8] An analytical method is introduced to evaluate the flow time of an assembly process with collaborative robots. The productivity performance of such systems are measured and system properties of monotonicity, work allocation, and bottlenecks are investigated. Also, real time industrial case study is carried out.
- [9] This study investigates the mixed-model ALBP with the collaboration between human workers and robots. Bee and ABC algorithms are formulated with new phases each to increase exploration and exploitation. ABC proposes a new onlooker phase to accelerate the evolution of

swarm, new scout phase to achieve high-quality solutions and preserve diversity of swarm, and local search to enhance exploitation.

[10] The complete methodology of MBO algorithm applied for assembly line balancing with collaborative robots. Provides insights on hybridisation of MBO and use of NSGA-II for solving multi-objective problems.

[11] Shows the implementation methodology of AOA algorithm, its meaning and significance for solving optimization problems.

## CHAPTER 3

### GAPS IN THE LITERATURE

- Since the study started on RAL BP, only 33 articles have been published to date since 1991(over 30 years). The research on this field was less and skyrocketed recently (2015-2019).
- In 1997, most of the researchers started using deterministic variable task times that were determined by the types of robots. This was due to the development in technology that resulted in the invention of many different robots that can perform all the tasks.
- Mathematical models were used to describe the relations between the different objectives and to handle the constraints effectively. As the size of the problem increased, meta-heuristics started dominating the other methods. Many meta-heuristics were developed to tackle this NP-hardness of the RALBP.
- Introduction of Cobots(collaborative robots) to the assembly line created a new trend in the research area of RALBP. This use of cobots in the assembly line showed better results and gained interest by many industries. **As this area of research is quite new, only a few papers have been published since 2019.**
- Many real life constraints such as tools assignment, tool space optimization, etc.., were not addressed in most of the papers and this could be the future in the study of RAL BP.
- Almost all the research on RALBP assumes a fully automated assembly line which requires huge investments. Not all the industries are capable of making such investments

and still many of the industries slowly started to introduce robots in their assembly lines. So the **study of human robot collaboration assembly lines could be a great research area as many industries opt for them as they are easy and require less investment.**

- The studies that included cobots in the assembly line mostly preferred only one robot in a workstation. Research study on multiple robots and humans working in parallel could be a great area of research. As humans started working alongside robots, study of ergonomics and real life constraints such as human fatigue, sequence dependent setup times, tool and accessory changing, part transportation between stations, etc., can be included in RABLP as no one has ever done that previously due to its high complexity.
- Most industries focus on only one objective while designing assembly lines rather than many. **Research on multi-objective optimizations could be more relevant to real life problems.** As the introduction of multi-objectives created more complexity, many meta-heuristics were developed. From the recent studies, hybrid metaheuristics showed better results than meta heuristics. So study on hybrid metaheuristics on solving multiple objectives could create a way for finding better pareto optimal solution sets.
- In-line with the growing interests and developments in human-robot collaborative assembly line balancing problems using metaheuristics, “**standard testing datasets**” of **different task sizes for H-R ALBP aren’t available for researchers who may use such reliable and ready-made datasets to test different algorithms.**
- Due to several intricate considerations in designing a H-R collaborative assembly line, **a broad range of publications in this little researched domain haven’t “collectively” emphasised flexible and realistic constraints with respect to individual task abilities of humans and robots, collaborative work safety, economic production.**
- A very recent algorithm called “**ARCHIMEDES OPTIMISATION ALGORITHM**” or AOA is implemented to solve our H-R ALB problem. **This algorithm is very recent, has less development fatigue and importantly, has never been used for solving any line balancing problems before. To make things interesting, this algorithm performs slightly better than all algorithms considered by us for our problem.**

## CHAPTER 4

### PROBLEM DEFINITION

The project aims to balance and improve the efficiency of different assembly line tasks that involves collaborative robots working hand in hand with humans. This is to be done through development of optimization algorithms by varying current metaheuristic algorithms, with an intention of less complex data processing and increased efficiency.

#### PROBLEM STATEMENT:

- To develop metaheuristic algorithms for balancing and scheduling of assembly line operations.
- Consider assembly line structure = StAL (straight line assembly line).
- Only one product is assembled in the assembly line with a known number of workstations.
- Considering setup times and sequence dependent time.
- Collectively considering constraints of ergonomics, safety, economic viability of assembly line resources.

This problem type is classified as a multi **objective RAL BP TYPE - II** that focuses on *minimising cycle time and energy consumption with a given number of workstations*.

## CHAPTER 5

### OBJECTIVES

- To develop metaheuristic algorithms for balancing and scheduling of Human-robot collaborative assembly line operations.
- Considering the assembly line structure of StAL (straight line assembly line) where a single product is assembled with a known number of workstations, to use the developed metaheuristic algorithms to optimize multiple objectives of CYCLE TIME REDUCTION, REDUCING OVERALL LINE ENERGY CONSUMPTION, with an overall IMPROVEMENT IN ERGONOMIC, ECONOMIC & LAYOUT CONSTRAINTS.
- To consider setup times, sequence dependent times and other real-time line constraints

that haven't been considered to solve human-robot ALB problems so far.

## CHAPTER 6

### WORK CARRIED OUT SO FAR

**Literature Survey** - We conducted an extensive literature survey and studied various assembly line balancing techniques of only workforce, robotic lines as well as human-robot lines. Parallelly, metaheuristic algorithms and their benchmark function efficiencies were reviewed to decide the best algorithm to proceed. We have finalized to code our own HYBRID algorithm of PSO, TLBO, MBO and AOA that are suited to our problem environment and considerations.

#### 6.1 SEQUENCE GENERATION:

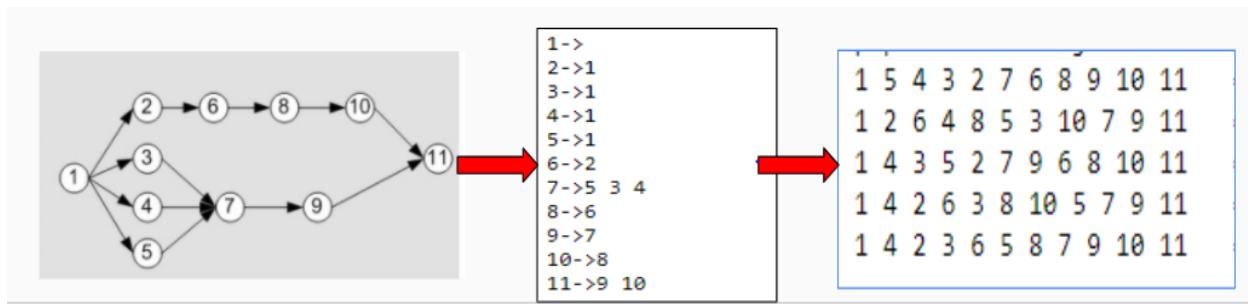
For generating sequences, a precedence matrix is generally used in many papers. But in our proposed method, we use an adjacency list that stores the precedence relation efficiently and helps in generation of sequences that satisfy these relations.

The algorithm is as:

- First an available set is created with the tasks that have no precedence tasks.
- Then one task is selected randomly from that set and the tasks following it are added to the available set.
- This step is repeated until all the tasks are assigned and the available set is empty.

The use of adjacency lists is very helpful in implementing this algorithm.

Adjacency holds the data as shown in this example.



#### 6.2 OBJECTIVE FUNCTION EVALUATION (cycle time):

For calculating the cycle time of a particular sequence generated, a consecutive method algorithm is used. The working of this algorithm is:

- Cycle time is initially fixed with a value by summing up the minimum task time of all robots.
- For each station, the sequence is tried with all the available robots with a given number of stations and the cycle time that was found previously.

- In each iteration, if the found cycle time is not feasible, the cycle time is incremented.
- This step is repeated until a feasible cycle time is found which is the optimal cycle time for the given sequence.

For example, the image on the right shows an example of allocation of tasks in each workstation using the consecutive method.

As we can see here, the overall cycle time of such allocation is maximum cycle time, i.e., **202** for the sequence **[1, 5, 3, 4, 7, 9, 2, 6, 8, 10, 11]** with **4 workstations**.

```

station number 1's allocation:
robot assigned : 3
tasks assigned : 1 5 3
its cycle time : 201

station number 2's allocation:
robot assigned : 4
tasks assigned : 4 7 9
its cycle time : 202

station number 3's allocation:
robot assigned : 4
tasks assigned : 2 6
its cycle time : 152

station number 4's allocation:
robot assigned : 2
tasks assigned : 8 10 11
its cycle time : 202

```

### **6.3 FORMULATION OF OUR HYBRID ALGORITHMS OF PSO, TLBO, MBO & AOA:**

For implementing the standard algorithms for a discrete problem, some assumptions and formulations are made such as,

- ❖ For encoding purposes, only the sequence array is used.
- ❖ For decoding purposes, the robots assigned and the tasks performed in each station are determined by knowing the optimal cycle time.
- ❖ The addition of setup times and sequence dependent time is used to make the problem more suitable for industrial purposes.
- ❖ Setup time is added with the task time for each task performed by the robot.

- ❖ Sequence-dependent time is added only for the tasks that are not first in the station as these times are dependent on the previously performed tasks(the first performed task in each station by the robot has no previous task).
- ❖ Variants for algorithms are created to make the algorithm give better results.
- ❖ By hybridizing the algorithm with another combines the advantages of both the algorithm and gives a better solution than a single algorithm.
- ❖ The algorithm chosen to hybridize with the developed 4 algorithms is ABC (artificial bee colony algorithm).
- ❖ The scout phase from this ABC algorithm is added with those 4 algorithms(PSO, TLBO, MBO, AOA).
- ❖ The main reason for adding the scout phase is that it increases the exploration and exploitation space and gives better pareto fronts by replacing the retained solutions and replacing it with a random one.
- ❖ Easy to implement and hybridize with other algorithms.
- ❖ All these algorithms are compared using those performance indicators. The best performing algorithm after testing those with different data sets is presented in the results & discussion section.

```

/* Initialization */
Site initial food sources using (1)
Cycle = 1
For each food source(i)
    unsuccessfulTrials(i) = 0
End
Repeat
    /* Employed Bees Operator */
    For each employed bee(i)
        Send employed bee to corresponding food source(i)
        Site a new food source using (2)
        Apply greedy selection
        If new food source selected
            unsuccessfulTrials(i) = 0
        Else
            unsuccessfulTrials(i) = unsuccessfulTrials(i) + 1
    End
    /* Onlooker Bees Operator */
    Calculate probability  $P_i$  for each food source(i) using (3)
    For each food source(i)
        Send onlooker bees to food source(i) in accordance
        with associated  $P_i$ 
        For each onlooker bee(j)
            Site a new food source using (2)
            Apply greedy selection
            If a new food source selected
                unsuccessfulTrials(i) = 0
            Else
                unsuccessfulTrials(i) = unsuccessfulTrials(i) + 1
        End
    End
    /* Scout Bee Operator */
    For each food source(i)
        If unsuccessfulTrials(i) > limit
            Abandon the food source(i)
            Site a new food source using (1)
    End
    Memorize the best solution achieved so far
    Cycle = Cycle + 1
Until termination criteria are met

```

## **6.4 DATA GENERATION:**

**Data required for our problem are as follows:**

- Number of tasks.
- Number of robots.
- Operation time table for all robots, cobots and humans.
- Setup times for robots.
- Sequence dependent times for robots.
- Precedence matrix.
- Energy Consumption by robots and humans.

**Some of the assumptions made while generating the data are,**

- Number of cobots = Number of robots
- Cobot<sub>i</sub> = Robot<sub>i</sub> + Human
- Only one type of worker (all workers are equally skilled)
- The lower bound and upper bound of operation times are used for calculation of lower and upper bounds of other data (setup time, sequence dependent time).
- Energy consumption of robots and humans is given in Wh/min. [0.10 - 0.30] Wh / min

**The parameters to be included in the H-R ALBP data are as follows:**

- Number of tasks.
- Number of robots.
- Lower bound(**lb**) and upper bound(**ub**) for operation time of robots table.
- **c1, c2, c3, c4** (parameters [**range from 0 to 1**] that control the lower and upper bounds of setup time and sequence dependent time).
  - Lower bound of operation time for cobot = lb
  - Upper bound of operation time for cobot = ub - (c1 \* (ub - lb))
  - Lower bound of operation time of human = lb + (c2 \* (ub - lb))
  - Upper bound of operation time of human = ub + (c2 \* (ub - lb))
  - Lower bound of sequence dependent time = c3 \* lb
  - Upper bound of sequence dependent time = c4 \* lb
  - Lower bound of setup time = c1 \* lb
  - Upper bound of setup time = c2 \* lb

## MATRIX REPRESENTATION OF DIFFERENT INPUT DATA FORMATS IN OUR PROBLEM:

- **OPERATION TIMES:**

Is assumed to be in minutes and the data type used is integer.

Dimension =  $r \times n$ , where

$$r = (\text{number of robots} * 2) + 1$$

$n$  = number of tasks

OPERATION TIMES	Task 1	Task 2	Task 3	Task 4
ROBOT 1				
ROBOT 2				
ROBOT 3				
ROBOT 4				
COBOT 1 (ROBOT1 + HUMAN)				
COBOT 2 (ROBOT2 + HUMAN)				
COBOT 3 (ROBOT3 + HUMAN)				
COBOT 4 (ROBOT4 + HUMAN)				
HUMAN				

- **SETUP TIMES:**

Is assumed to be in minutes and the data type used is integer.

Dimension =  $r \times n$ , where,

$r$  = number of robots

$n$  = number of tasks

SETUP TIMES	Task 1	Task 2	Task 3	Task 4
ROBOT1				
ROBOT2				
ROBOT3				
ROBOT4				

- **SEQUENCE DEPENDENT TIMES:**

Is assumed to be in minutes and the data type used is integer.

Dimension =  $r \times [n \times n]$ , where

$r$  = number of robots

$n$  = number of tasks

SEQUENCE DEP TIMES FOR ROBOT - i	Task 1	Task 2	Task 3	Task 4
Task 1				
Task 2				
Task 3				
Task 4				

- **PRECEDENCE MATRIX:**

The data in this matrix is either 0 or 1 where 0 means no precedence relation and vice versa. Dimension =  $[n \times n]$ , where  $n$  = number of tasks.

PRECEDENCE MATRIX	Task 1	Task 2	Task 3	Task 4
Task 1				
Task 2				
Task 3				
Task 4				

- **ENERGY CONSUMPTION:**

The data is in the form or array where the energy consumption per min of robots and humans are given. Data type used is double.

Dimension =  $[1 \times (r+1)]$ , where  $r$  = number of robots

ENERGY CONSUMPTION	ROBOT 1	ROBOT 2	ROBOT 3	ROBOT 4	HUMAN
IN [Wh / MIN]					

## SAMPLE RESULTS OBTAINED FROM INPUT CONSIDERATIONS:

```
c1 = 0.25; //tuning Lower bound for setup time
c2 = 0.5; //tuning upper bound for setup time
c3 = 0.1; //tuning Lower bound for seq dep time
c4 = 0.25; //tuning upper bound for seq dep time
//cout<<endl<<"ENTER NUMBER OF TASKS : ";
no_of_tasks = 11;
//cout<<endl<<"ENTER NUMBER OF ROBOTS : ";
no_of_robots = 4;
//cout<<endl<<"ENTER LOWER BOUND FOR OPERATION TIME(minutes)(int) : ";
lb = 50;
//cout<<endl<<"ENTER UPPER BOUND FOR OPERATION TIME(minutes)(int) : ";
ub = 100;
```

NUMBER OF TASKS : 11  
 NUMBER OF ROBOTS : 4  
 LOWER BOUND FOR OPERATION TIME : 50  
 UPPER BOUND FOR OPERATION TIME : 100  
 LOWER BOUND FOR SETUP TIME : 12  
 UPPER BOUND FOR SETUP TIME : 25  
 LOWER BOUND FOR SEQUENCE DEPENDENT TIME : 5  
 UPPER BOUND FOR SEQUENCE DEPENDENT TIME : 12

SEQUENCE DEPENDENT TIME FOR ROBOT 1  
 9 7 9 9 7 6 11 6 11 10 5  
 12 6 12 8 8 5 9 0 11 7 9 5  
 7 10 8 10 7 11 12 11 7 9 5  
 11 5 7 5 11 8 11 8 9 11 10  
 8 6 5 8 10 9 6 8 12 8 6  
 8 5 8 6 5 6 8 9 6 7 10  
 9 7 8 12 5 12 8 11 9 11 12  
 9 7 9 6 8 5 5 12 6 8 5  
 9 10 5 10 5 10 11 7 7 7 9  
 10 7 10 9 10 8 5 9 8 10 11  
 12 11 6 12 11 5 5 7 5 9 12

SEQUENCE DEPENDENT TIME FOR ROBOT 2  
 6 6 12 11 5 7 5 7 11 10 9  
 8 7 7 12 7 11 7 12 9 6 10  
 10 6 9 11 6 11 11 11 10 12 12  
 9 10 12 11 10 7 10 8 11 5 10  
 5 12 12 11 6 12 7 8 9 5 9  
 5 11 10 11 9 8 8 9 8 5 6  
 7 11 12 9 8 7 8 9 12 8 8  
 11 7 10 10 9 5 7 9 9 7 7  
 6 6 12 10 9 8 5 9 9 7 8  
 8 12 11 10 7 7 9 10 11 8 12  
 8 5 9 8 7 5 12 10 8 5 11

SEQUENCE DEPENDENT TIME FOR ROBOT 3  
 7 10 7 10 10 12 6 5 7 10 12  
 5 7 6 8 12 11 6 7 11 9 7  
 7 12 10 7 11 7 10 11 5 12 9  
 7 9 6 6 11 6 8 8 5 9 10  
 6 12 9 5 5 11 11 9 6 5 8  
 11 7 6 5 5 12 5 12 8 7 9  
 10 9 7 11 12 10 12 8 7 5 7  
 12 5 7 10 11 11 11 11 6 9 6  
 7 9 6 7 8 5 10 12 9 7 8  
 11 6 7 8 5 11 11 5 5 10 6  
 8 7 12 6 6 11 8 10 12 10 7

SEQUENCE DEPENDENT TIME FOR ROBOT 4  
 5 12 11 5 10 10 10 12 5 8 5  
 8 12 5 6 10 6 6 7 7 9 9  
 6 11 10 12 6 8 11 11 10 11 11  
 8 12 8 6 9 7 6 12 8 9 11  
 8 10 8 9 12 10 11 8 7 5 6  
 12 12 7 7 11 6 12 9 12 8 8  
 7 9 12 9 10 12 12 7 10 8 12  
 6 12 11 11 11 7 5 11 8 5 10  
 11 7 8 12 7 5 11 10 8 5 6  
 8 9 11 7 9 5 12 12 5 5 11  
 11 12 9 5 12 7 9 12 5 7 7

PRECEDENCE MATRIX  
 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0  
 1 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0  
 1 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0  
 1 1 1 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0  
 1 1 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0  
 1 0 0 1 1 0 0 0 0 0 0  
 1 0 1 1 1 0 0 0 0 0 0  
 1 1 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0  
 0 0 0 1 1 0 1 0 0 0 0  
 1 0 1 1 0 0 1 0 0 0 0  
 0 1 0 1 1 1 1 0 1 1 0

SETUP TIMES FOR ROBOTS  
 22 14 19 14 18 18 23 23 25 20 22  
 13 18 12 20 23 14 25 25 23 13 23  
 15 21 21 20 22 25 22 15 15 18 17  
 22 19 24 13 14 21 12 23 16 12 15

ENERGY CONSUMPTION  
 0.25 0.21 0.11 0.2 0.13

OPERATION TIMES FOR HRC  
 94 85 63 94 68 56 70 58 91 100 51  
 90 76 72 56 92 94 75 74 66 61 76  
 54 53 58 89 60 58 69 75 90 87 84  
 52 54 51 58 99 85 74 98 86 63 98  
 58 58 64 78 87 71 75 61 76 69 54  
 65 74 78 74 66 65 76 60 54 80 74  
 84 69 75 51 86 50 72 67 71 59 75  
 63 87 52 84 52 63 72 87 67 66 73  
 98 116 124 88 82 111 88 101 102 88 103

## **SAMPLE ENCODED AND DECODED TASK ALLOCATION BASED ON INPUTS:**

→ A sequence of tasks (following precedence relation) is used to represent the order of tasks to be performed. Similarly, a sequence of process alternatives representing numbers between 1-3 for each station representing,

- 1 - Only robot is allocated
- 2 - COBOT (robot + human) is allocated
- 3 - Only human is allocated

For example, a **25 tasks, 6 stations** encoding sequences looks like,

TASK PERMUTATION - 1 2 3 4 8 9 5 6 10 7 12 15 11 13 14 20 17 21 16 18 24 23  
25 19 22

PROCESS ALTERNATIVES - 3 1 2 1 2 1

```
1 2 3 4 8 9 5 6 10 7 12 15 11 13 14 20 17 21 16 18 24 23
3 1 2 1 2 1

station number 1's allocation:
human assigned
tasks assigned : 1 2
its cycle time : 390

station number 2's allocation:
robot assigned : 1
tasks assigned : 3 4 8 9
its cycle time : 483

station number 3's allocation:
cobot assigned : 1
tasks assigned : 5 6 10 7
its cycle time : 419

station number 4's allocation:
robot assigned : 1
tasks assigned : 12 15 11 13 14
its cycle time : 513

station number 5's allocation:
cobot assigned : 3
tasks assigned : 20 17 21 16 18
its cycle time : 491

station number 6's allocation:
robot assigned : 2
tasks assigned : 24 23 25 19 22
its cycle time : 516
```

## **FORMULATION OF HUMAN ROBOT COLLABORATION IN ASSEMBLY LINE BALANCING FOR OUR PROBLEM:**

➤ Not all tasks can be automated due to the lack of flexibility with available robotic technologies. Humans are *flexible, adaptable according to market demands, and also have decision making skills with creativity*. Therefore, human robot collaboration is prevalent where the skills of humans and the speed, endurance, and accuracy of robots are brought together to increase production. This introduction of human robot collaboration leaves us with three possibilities, to find the best possible assembly line task allocation combination.

1. Only workers are present in workstation
2. Only robots are present in the workstation
3. Both workers and robots are present in the workstation

➤ **TASK CONSTRAINTS** with respect to the ability of each type of robot, cobot(human+worker) and human in carrying out each individual task are taken into account. Inculcation of task constraints proves flexible and realistic for any entity that needs a fix to their semi-automated assembly line. In our problem, we take this into account by defining a constraint matrix that defines the “task ability/disability” (represented by 1 & 0 respectively) of all possible combinations of the 3 aforementioned workstation configuration possibilities with each listed task.

CONSTRAINT	TASK 1	TASK 2	TASK 3	TASK 4	TASK 5
ROBOT 1	1	1	0	1	1
ROBOT 2	1	1	1	1	1
ROBOT 3	0	0	1	1	0
COBOT 1 (robot 1 + human)	1	1	1	1	1
COBOT 2 (robot 1 + human)	1	0	1	1	1
COBOT 3 (robot 1 + human)	1	1	1	0	0
HUMAN	0	1	0	1	0

➢ **WORKSTATION CONSTRAINT** is another such realistic model inculcated in line with other constraints. The constraint is such that “no two consecutive workstations shall have the same worker configuration”. This constraint adds to the practicality of limited automation investments in the line, as well as a spread in workforces, leveraging the flexibility and utter ability of humans to tackle problems at any point of the assembly line.

## CHAPTER 7

### METHODOLOGY

#### **7.1 WORKING OF MODIFIED DPSO:**

$$X_i^{t+1} = X_i^t + V_i^{t+1}$$

$$V_i^{t+1} = c_1 V_i^t + c_2(Pbest_i^t - X_i^t) + c_3(Gbest_t - X_i^t)$$

#### **NOTATIONS USED:**

**t** = indicates the iteration number

**X<sub>i</sub>** = a single i'th solution in the population

**V<sub>i</sub>** = a single i'th velocity vector in the population

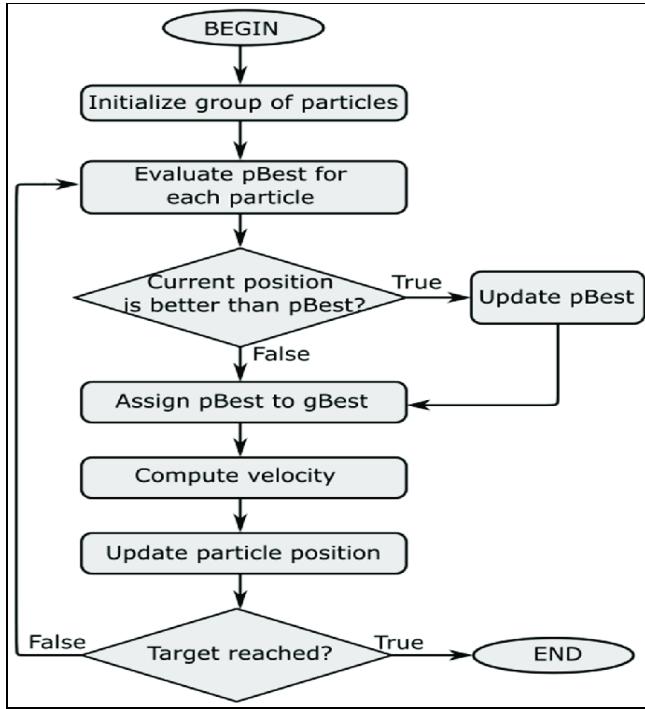
**P\_best\_i** = indicates the best solution obtained by i'th particle so far

**G\_best** = indicates the best solution obtained by the whole swarm so far

**c<sub>1</sub>** = inertia weight

**c<sub>2</sub>** = acceleration coefficient of P\_best

**c<sub>3</sub>** = acceleration coefficient of G\_best



### POPULATION UPDATION:

For implementing the modified DPSO method, the velocity vector is taken as an array of integers ranging from [0 - no.of.tasks] instead of velocity pairs that are used in most of the papers. These velocity vectors are used to update the population using certain conditions. They are,

### SUBTRACTION (position - position)

Let  $X1,t = [x1,1, x1,2, x1,3, x1,4, x1,5, x1,6, x1,7]$

$X2,t = [x2,1, x2,2, x2,3, x2,4, x2,5, x2,6, x2,7]$

$$V1,t = X1,t - X2,t$$

In this case, if  $x1$  and  $x2$  in the  $j$ th position are equal, then  $v1= 0$ . Otherwise,  $v1=x1$ . For example,

$X1,t = 2 \ 3 \ 1 \ 4 \ 5$ $X2,t = 1 \ 3 \ 5 \ 4 \ 2$ $V1,t = X1,t - X2,t = 2 \ 0 \ 1 \ 0 \ 5$
--

### ADDITION (position + velocity)

If the  $j$ th element of velocity ( $vj$ ) is equal to 0, the  $j$ th position value ( $xj,t$ ) is inserted into the  $j$ th element of the new position ( $xj,t+1$ ).

In the meantime, if  $vj$  is nonzero and does not appear in the new position, then  $xj,t+1=vj$ . Otherwise,  $xj,t+1$  is equal to 0. For example,

$X1, t = 3 2 5 1 4$
$V1, t = 0 2 0 3 4$
$X1, t+1 = 3 2 5 0 4$

### ADDITION (velocity + velocity)

For new velocity,  $V=V1 + V2$ , the jth element of V can be derived as follows,

$V_j = v1,j$  IF  $v1,j \neq 0 \text{ && } v2,j \neq 0$

$V_j = v1,j$  IF  $v1,j \neq 0 \text{ && } v2,j == 0$

$V_j = v2,j$  OTHERWISE

For example,

$V1, t = 3 2 0 1 0$
$V2, t = 0 1 5 3 0$
$Vt+1 = 3 2 5 1 0$

### MULTIPLICATION (coefficient \* velocity)

This operation can be represented as  $V2=c * V1$ , where coefficient c lies in  $[0, 1]$  is used to control the effect of  $V1$  that inherits in  $V2$ .

For this purpose, a random number, r that lies in  $[0, 1]$  is generated. IF  $r < c$ ,  $v2=v1$ , ELSE  $v2=0$ .

For example,

$V1 = 2 4 1 3 5, C = 0.4$
$R = .1 .7 .3 .9 .3$
$V2 = 2 0 1 0 5$

### REPAIR FUNCTION

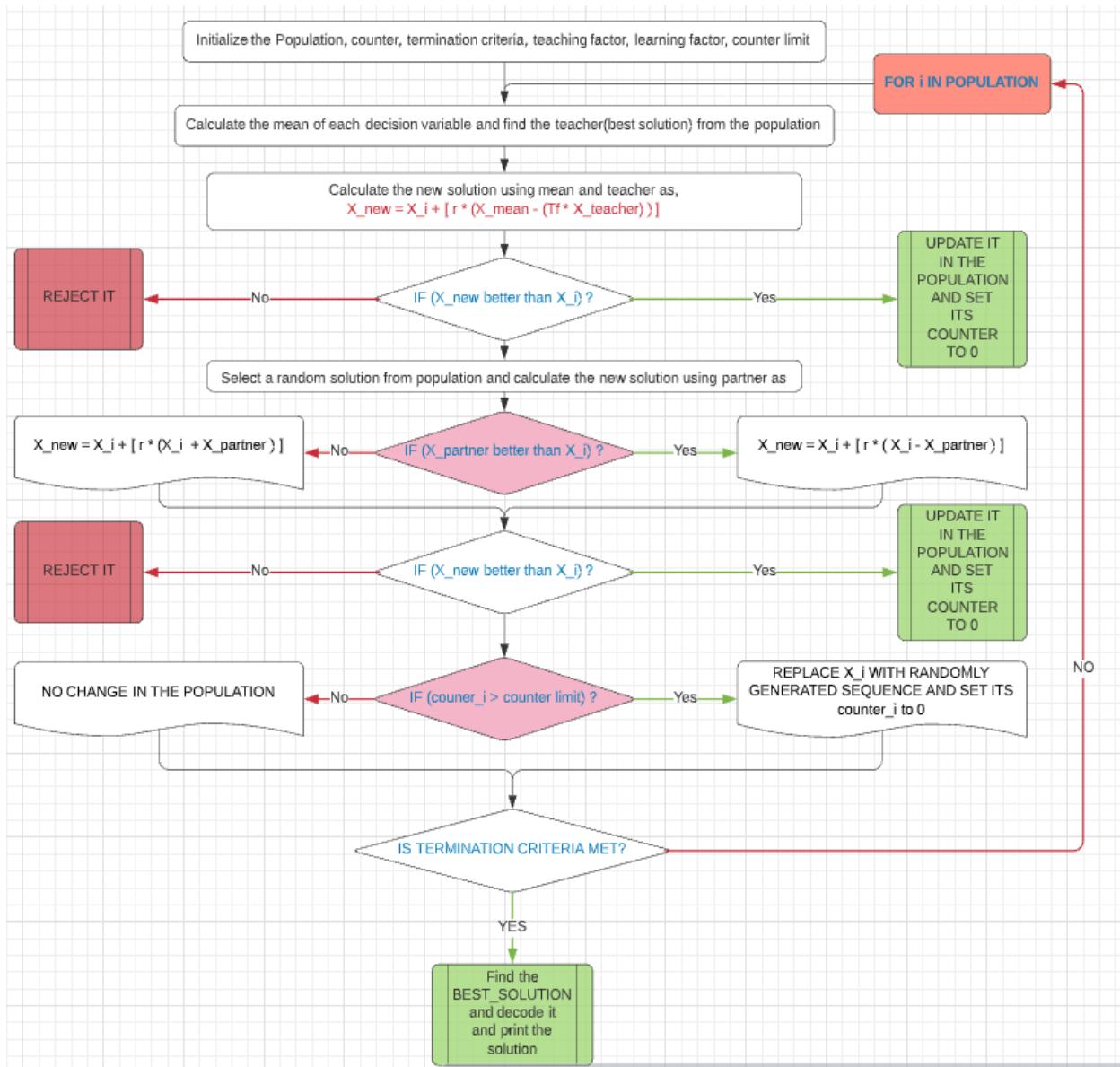
This function is used to repair a sequence which does not follow the precedence relation. This does multiple swaps and replacements so that the given sequence is in bounds with the precedence relation.

For example,

$X = 0 3 1 4 5$
$new\_X = 1 2 3 4 5$

## 7.2 WORKING OF HYBRID TLBO:

### PROPOSED FLOWCHART:



### NOTATIONS USED:

$X_i$  = a single  $i$ 'th solution in the population.

$r$  = Coefficient that indicates the impact of the mean of the population and the teacher

$Tf$  = Teaching coefficient that indicates the impact of teacher

$X_{new}$  = newly generated solution for the  $i$ th solution in the population

$X_{mean}$  = mean of the population

$X_{best}$  = teacher (best solution in the population)

$X_{partner}$  = mean of the population

## **CALCULATING THE MEAN OF THE POPULATION**

- ❖ As mentioned in the previous slide, in teacher phase calculation of the mean of the population is used in the equation,  $X_{new} = X_i + r * [ X_{mean} - (Tf * X_{best}) ]$ .
- ❖ As the traditional way of calculating the mean can't be used here (discrete optimization problem), a different methodology is used here.
- ❖ The calculation is done as,
  - First the average of the task numbers in that j'th location in the population is calculated.
  - If the calculated average is not already present in the mean sequence, then it is pushed into the mean sequence.
  - If the calculated mean value is already present in the mean sequence, then the closest value to the mean in that j'th location of the population is inserted if it is not present in the mean sequence.
  - Otherwise, a random number is generated within the range of 1 - n (number of tasks) and is inserted in the mean sequence if it is not already present in the mean sequence.

## **SUBTRACTION OPERATOR**

- ❖ As mentioned previously, in teacher phase and learner phase, subtraction of the solutions is done as,  
$$X_{new} = X_i + r * [ X_{mean} - (Tf * X_{best}) ].$$
- ❖ As the traditional way of subtraction is not possible here as the variables are discrete, a different methodology is used as,
  - For each task number in the i'th position of the sequences, if both the sequence have the same task number, then 0 is inserted in the i'th position of the result.
  - If they are not the same, a random number is generated between 0 and 1 and is compared with the coefficient(Tf / Tp).
  - If the random number generated is less than the coefficient then, the task number in the i'th position from the second sequence is inserted into the i'th position of the result.
  - Otherwise, 0 is inserted in the i'th position of the result.

## **ADDITION OPERATOR**

- ❖ As mentioned previously, in the teacher phase and learner phase, addition of the solutions is done as,  
$$X_{new} = X_i + r * [ X_{mean} - (Tf * X_{best}) ].$$
- ❖ As the traditional way of addition is not possible here as the variables are discrete, a different methodology is used as,
  - For each task number in the i'th position of the sequences, if both the sequence have the same task number, then the task number from the i'th position of the first sequence is inserted in the i'th position of the result.

- If they are not the same, a random number is generated between 0 and 1 and is compared with the coefficient( $r$ ).
- If the random number generated is less than the coefficient, then the task number in  $i$ 'th from the second sequence is inserted into the  $i$ 'th position of the result.
- Otherwise, 0 is inserted in the  $i$ 'th position of the result.

### **7.3 GENERAL FLOW OF MIGRATING BIRDS OPTIMISATION (MBO) ALGORITHM:**

---

**Input:** Algorithm parameters and instance data

**% Initialization**

Initialize the  $n$  solutions randomly and place the population in the V-shape;

**Do**

**For**  $i=1$  **to**  $m$  **do**

**% Leader improvement**

Obtain  $k$  neighbor solutions of the leader individual;

Update the leader individual with the best neighbor solution when the best neighbor solution achieves better fitness;

**% Block improvement**

**For** each individual in the left and right sides

Obtain  $(k-x)$  neighbor solutions of this individual;

Update this individual with the best one of the its  $(k-x)$  neighbor solutions and  $x$  unused best neighbor solutions in the front when the best neighbor solution achieves better fitness; **%Benefit mechanism**

**Endfor**

**Endfor**

**% Leader replacement**

Remove the leading individual to the end of either side;

Forward the following individual to the leading position as the new leader;

**Until** (termination criterion is satisfied)

**Output:** Best objective value

---

### 7.3.1 PHASES IN MBO ALGORITHM:

- **LEADER IMPROVEMENT:**

**% Leader improvement**

Obtain  $k$  neighbor solutions of the leader individual;

Update the leader individual with the best neighbor solution when the best neighbor solution achieves better fitness;

First the leader is found using NDS(non dominated sorting) & CD (crowding distance) similar to PSO'S  $g_{best}$ .

To obtain neighbour solutions, two methods are proposed. They are,

1. By changing the task sequence ( $k/3$ )
2. By changing the process alternative sequence ( $k/3$ )
3. By changing both ( $k/3$ )

The value of  $k$  is fixed as,  $k = 10\%-20\%$  of the population size.

- **BLOCK IMPROVEMENT:**

**% Block improvement**

For each individual in the left and right sides

Obtain  $(k-x)$  neighbor solutions of this individual;

Update this individual with the best one of the its  $(k-x)$  neighbor solutions and  $x$  unused best neighbor solutions in the front when the best neighbor solution achieves better fitness; **%Benefit mechanism**

Each individual in the left and right just means that, solutions other than  $g_{best}$ .

To obtain neighbour solutions, the same methods as mentioned before are used. They are,

1. By changing the task sequence  $((k-x)/3)$
2. By changing the process alternative sequence  $((k-x)/3)$
3. By changing both  $((k-x)/3)$

The value of  $x$  here is fixed as any number less than  $k$ . Can be generated randomly or fixed.

- **CHANGING THE TASK SEQUENCE PROCESS ALTERNATIVES**

To change and find neighbor solutions of a particular solution,

- First a random number ' $r$ ' is generated between  $(1 - n)$ , where  $n = \text{no. of tasks}$ .
- Then the tasks in position  $(1 - r)$  are kept unchanged and the tasks from position  $(r+1 - n)$  are shuffled randomly such that precedence relation is followed. For example, (taking 11 tasks)

BEFORE CHANGING - 1 3 4 7 8 2 6 9 5 11 10

RANDOM NUMBER GENERATED (  $r$  ) - 4

AFTER CHANGING - 1 3 4 7 6 9 8 2 5 10 11

- To change and find neighbor solutions of a particular solution, SWAPPING and SINGLE POINT MUTATION (randomly picking a position and changing its value) is performed such that the constraints are satisfying. For example for a 4 station problem,

BEFORE CHANGING - 1 3 1 2

AFTER PERFORMING SWAP - 1 3 2 1 (last two positions are swapped)

AFTER SINGLE POINT MUTATIONS - 2 3 2 1 (1st position is mutated)

- **LEADER IMPROVEMENT:**

**% Leader replacement**

Remove the leading individual to the end of either side;

Forward the following individual to the leading position as the new leader;

- This leader replacement phase removes the leader and replaces it with a better candidate from either side.
- This helps the flock of birds to head to better direction/solution space and arrive at a better pareto front.

## 7.4 GENERAL WORKING AND FLOW OF ARCHIMEDES OPTIMISATION ALGORITHM (AOA):

- The AOA or Archimedes optimisation algorithm works on the basis of Archimedes principle, where buoyant force is exerted on objects partially immersed in water, to maintain their equilibrium.
- Assuming multiple objects immersed in the same fluid, where the objects are analogous to each population member and the fluid media is the search space, each object(member) tries to reach equilibrium (optimised state), which is if the respective buoyant force  $F_b$  is equal to the their individual weights  $W_r$ .

**MATHEMATICAL FORMULAE USED:**

$$F_b = W_o,$$

$p \rightarrow$  Density;

$$p_b v_b a_b = p_o v_o a_o$$

$v \rightarrow$  Volume;

$$a_o = \frac{p_b v_b a_b}{p_o v_o}$$

$a \rightarrow$  acceleration due to gravity;

Subscripts:  $b$  for fluid and  $o$  for each immersed object.

$$W_b - W_r = W_o,$$

$$p_b v_b a_b - p_r v_r a_r = p_o v_o a_o$$

The equilibrium state equation used when there is another force influenced on the object like collision with another neighbouring object (r)

**Initialize a random population, velocity, density, volume, acceleration**

**For t=1 to T (termination criteria)**

**For i=1 to P (population size)**

1. **UPDATE density ([1 x P] array) and volume ([1 x P] array)**
2. **UPDATE TF (transfer operator) & d (density decreasing factor)**
3. **UPDATE acceleration ([1 x P] array)**
4. **NORMALISE acceleration**
5. **UPDATE POPULATION using the updated parameters**

END

END

#### **7.4.1 PHASES IN AOA ALGORITHM:**

- **UPDATION OF DENSITY AND VOLUME:**

- Initial density and volume for each object of the population is generated randomly as a variable between **[0-1]**. Then for next iterations, the equations:

$$\text{den}(i)_{t+1} = \text{den}(i)_t + r * (\text{den\_best} - \text{den}(i)_t)$$

$$\text{vol}(i)_{t+1} = \text{vol}(i)_t + r * (\text{vol\_best} - \text{vol}(i)_t)$$

where,

$\text{den}(i)_t$  → density of i'th object in t'th iteration

$\text{den\_best}$  → density of best object in that population

$\text{vol}(i)_t$  → density of i'th object in t'th iteration

$\text{Vol\_best}$  → density of best object in that population

$r$  → random number between (0-1)

- **UPDATION OF Tf and d:**

- The TF and d are the fine tuning parameters, which are calculated as the iteration progresses, rather than tuned by the user.

This makes this algorithm to be more randomized and exploit the search space, without having any user-defined bias.

$$TF_t = \exp((t - t_{\max}) / t_{\max})$$

$$d_t = \exp((t_{\max} - t) / t_{\max}) - (t / t_{\max})$$

where,

$TF_t$  → transfer operator for  $t$ 'th iteration

$t_{\max}$  → maximum number of iterations

$d_t$  → density decreasing factor for  $t$ 'th iteration

- **UPDATION OF ACCELERATION:**

- Initial acceleration for each object of the population is generated randomly as a variable between [0-1]. Then for next iterations, the equation:

$$acc_i = ((den_r + vol_r * acc_r) / (den_i * vol_i)) \text{ IF } TF \leq 0.5$$

(exploration phase - when collision between object occurs)

$$acc_i = ((den_{best} + vol_{best} * acc_{best}) / (den_i * vol_i)) \text{ IF } TF > 0.5$$

(exploitation phase - when there is no collision between objects)

where,

$acc_i$  → acceleration of  $i$ 'th object

$den_{best}$  → density of best object in that population

$den_r$  → density of  $r$ 'th object (' $r$ ' is generated randomly)

$vol_{best}$  → volume of best object in that population

$vol_r$  → volume of  $r$ 'th object (' $r$ ' is generated randomly)

$acc_{best}$  → acceleration of best object in that population

$acc_r$  → acceleration of  $r$ 'th object (' $r$ ' is generated randomly)

- **NORMALISATION OF ACCELERATION:**

- The updated acceleration of each object is then normalised as:

$$acc_i(\text{norm}) = (u * (acc_i - acc_{\min}) / (acc_{\max} - acc_{\min})) + 1$$

Where,

$acc_i(\text{norm})$  → normalised acceleration of  $i$ 'th object

$acc_i$  → acceleration of  $i$ 'th object in that population

$Acc_{\max}$  → maximum acceleration in the population

$acc_{\min}$  → minimum acceleration in the population

$u = 0.9$  (range of normalisation)

$1 = 0.1$  (range of normalisation)

- The acc\_i(norm) determines the percentage of steps that each object will change.
- If the object ‘i’ is far away from global optimum, acceleration value will be high—meaning that the object will be in the exploration phase, otherwise, in the exploitation phase.
- This helps search agents move towards the global best solution and at the same time they move away from local solutions.

- **UPDATION OF POPULATION:**

- IF  $TF \leq 0.5$  - exploration phase equation is called (collision between objects)  
 $x(i)_{t+1} = x(i)_t + (d * acc(i)_{t+1} * (x(r)_t - x(i)_t))$
- IF  $TF > 0.5$  - exploitation phase equation called (no collision)  
 $x(i)_{t+1} = x(i)_t + (F * d * acc(i)_{t+1} * (x_{best} - x(i)_t))$

where,

$acc(i)_t$  → acceleration of i'th object in t'th iteration

$x(i)_t$  → decision variable of i'th object in t'th iteration

$x_{best}$  → best value of decision variable in the population

$x(r)_t$  → decision variable of r'th object in t'th iteration where ‘r’ is generated randomly

$d$  → density decreasing factor

$F$  → Randomly generated, either -1 or +1

#### 7.4.2 WHY AOA ALGORITHM FOR OUR H-R ALB PROBLEM:

- A recent algorithm (2020-2021) that has never been explored much. This algorithm has never been used in assembly line balancing problems which gives more value and novelty to our paper/project.
- Has dedicated exploration and exploitation phases that creates a balance between exploration and exploitation.
- Has no fine tuning parameters.
- Any type of user with no knowledge of metaheuristic algorithms can use this algorithm and get results.
- Faster compared to other algorithms as computations of simple math equations are faster.
- Not much complexity involved in updating the population.
- Larger search space is explored.
- Easy to implement and hybridize with other algorithms.

## 7.5 HYBRIDISATION PROCEDURE FOR OUR ALGORITHMS OF TLBO, MBO, PSO AND AOA:

- ❖ Variants for algorithms are created to make the algorithm give better results.
- ❖ By hybridizing the algorithm with another combines the advantages of both the algorithm and gives a better solution than a single algorithm.
- ❖ The algorithm chosen to hybridize with the developed 4 algorithms is ABC (artificial bee colony algorithm).
- ❖ The scout phase from this ABC algorithm is added with those 4 algorithms(PSO, TLBO, MBO, AOA).
- ❖ The main reason for adding the scout phase is that it increases the exploration and exploitation space and gives better pareto fronts by replacing the retained solutions and replacing it with a random one.
- ❖ Easy to implement and hybridize with other algorithms.
- ❖ All these algorithms are compared using those performance indicators. The best performing algorithm after testing those with different data sets is presented in the next section.

```

/* Initialization */
Site initial food sources using (1)
Cycle = 1
For each food source(i)
    unsuccessfulTrials(i) = 0
End
Repeat
    /* Employed Bees Operator */
    For each employed bee(i)
        Send employed bee to corresponding food source(i)
        Site a new food source using (2)
        Apply greedy selection
        If new food source selected
            unsuccessfulTrials(i) = 0
        Else
            unsuccessfulTrials(i) = unsuccessfulTrials(i) + 1
    End
    /* Onlooker Bees Operator */
    Calculate probability  $P_i$  for each food source(i) using (3)
    For each food source(i)
        Send onlooker bees to food source(i) in accordance
        with associated  $P_i$ 
        For each onlooker bee(j)
            Site a new food source using (2)
            Apply greedy selection
            If a new food source selected
                unsuccessfulTrials(i) = 0
            Else
                unsuccessfulTrials(i) = unsuccessfulTrials(i) + 1
        End
    End
    /* Scout Bee Operator */
    For each food source(i)
        If unsuccessfulTrials(i) > limit
            Abandon the food source(i)
            Site a new food source using (1)
    End
    Memorize the best solution achieved so far
    Cycle = Cycle + 1
Until termination criteria are met

```

## 7.6 PERFORMANCE INDICATORS (PI's) USED FOR COMPARISON:

Other than illustrative/graphical plots of performance in terms of optimal parameters to yield optimal solutions, a set of five performance indicators as shown below, represent a quantitative way of comparing performance results with respect to every crucial mechanisms involved in multi-objective optimisation technique used (NSGA - II) as well as the different algorithms.

### PI 1 - NUMBER OF NON DOMINATED SOLUTIONS FOUND

- The number of non-dominated solutions generated by each algorithm in Pareto solution.
- Higher PI (1) shows better algorithm performance.

### PI 2 - ERROR RATIO

- The number of solutions which are not members of the Pareto optimal set divided by the number of solutions generated by the algorithm.
- Smaller PI (2) shows better algorithm performance.

### PI 3 - CONVERGENCE METRIC

- This metric measures the extent of convergence to a known set of Pareto optimal solutions, as follows:

$$\Upsilon = \frac{\sum_{i=1}^N d_i}{N},$$

where,  $N$  is the number of nondominated solutions obtained with an algorithm and,  $d_i$  is the Euclidean distance between each of the nondominated solutions and the nearest member of the true Pareto optimal front.

### PI 4 - SPACING

- This indicator measures the relative distance between each solution.
- where,  $d_i$  is the distance between solution  $i$  and the nearest solution, while  $\bar{d}$  is the average of all  $d_i$ .
- The smaller spacing index shows a better solution and has better space between each solution.

$$Spacing = \sqrt{\frac{1}{N} \sum_{i=1}^{s_q} (d_i - \bar{d})^2}$$

### **PI 5 - MAXIMUM SPREAD**

- The spread of solutions found by each algorithm.
- Larger maximum spread is better.

$$Spread_{max} = \sqrt{\sum_{i=1}^M (\min f_i - \max f_i)^2}$$

## **CHAPTER 8**

## **RESULTS & DISCUSSIONS**

### **8.1 FINE TUNING OF ITERATIONS AND POPULATION SIZE:**

- The number of iterations and population size is actually given by the user, but for different sized data, the population size and iterations must be varied so that the results obtained are optimal.
- To do this, all the algorithms are tested with different sized datasets namely,
  - **Small** -  $0 < \text{Number of tasks} \leq 50$
  - **Medium** -  $50 < \text{Number of tasks} \leq 100$
  - **Large** -  $\text{Number of tasks} > 100$
- The obtained results are compared using the performance indicators and the number of iterations and population size are fixed accordingly.
- The sizes of iterations and population are considered the same to get better results, from experimental trials run for a number of combinatorial sizes. The various types tested with are,
  - ★ **Series 1** -  $T = 5, P = 5$
  - ★ **Series 2** -  $T = 10, P = 10$
  - ★ **Series 3** -  $T = 15, P = 15$
  - ★ **Series 4** -  $T = 20, P = 20$
  - ★ **Series 5** -  $T = 25, P = 25$
  - ★ **Series 6** -  $T = 30, P = 30$

Where,

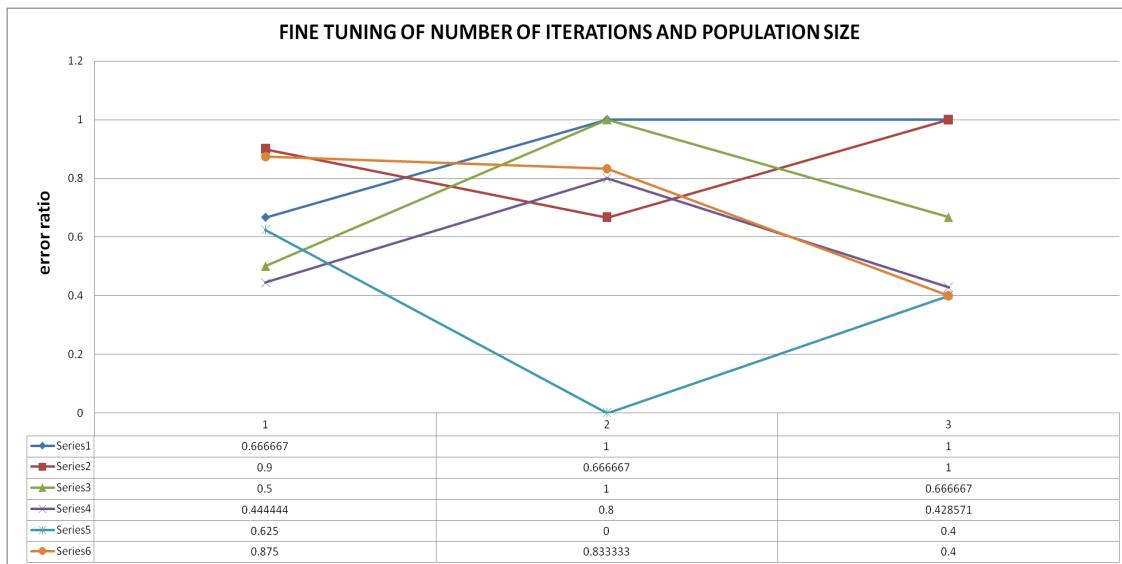
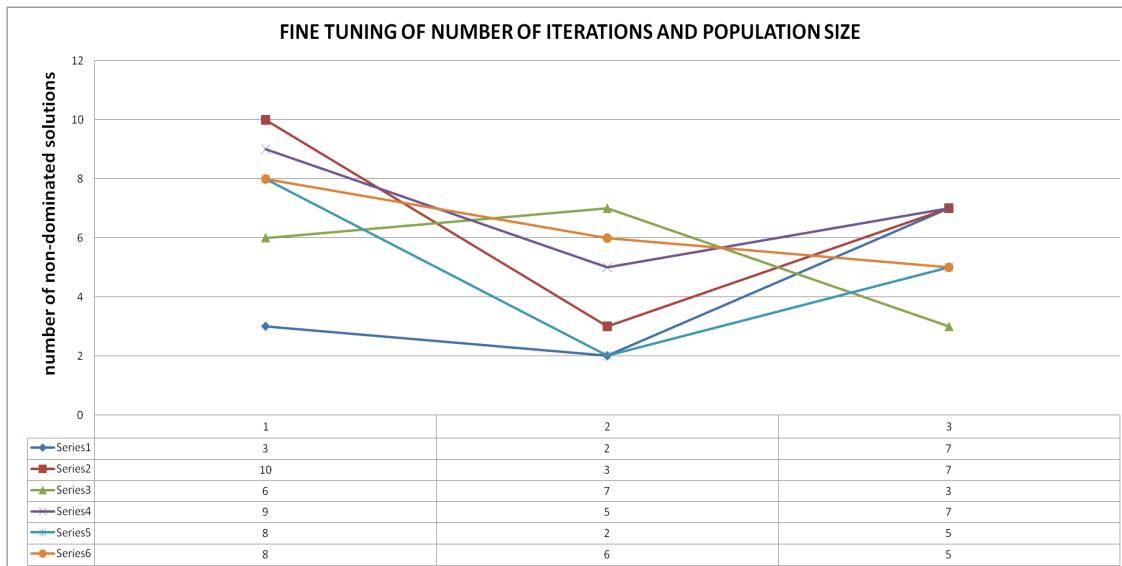
$T$  = Number of iterations

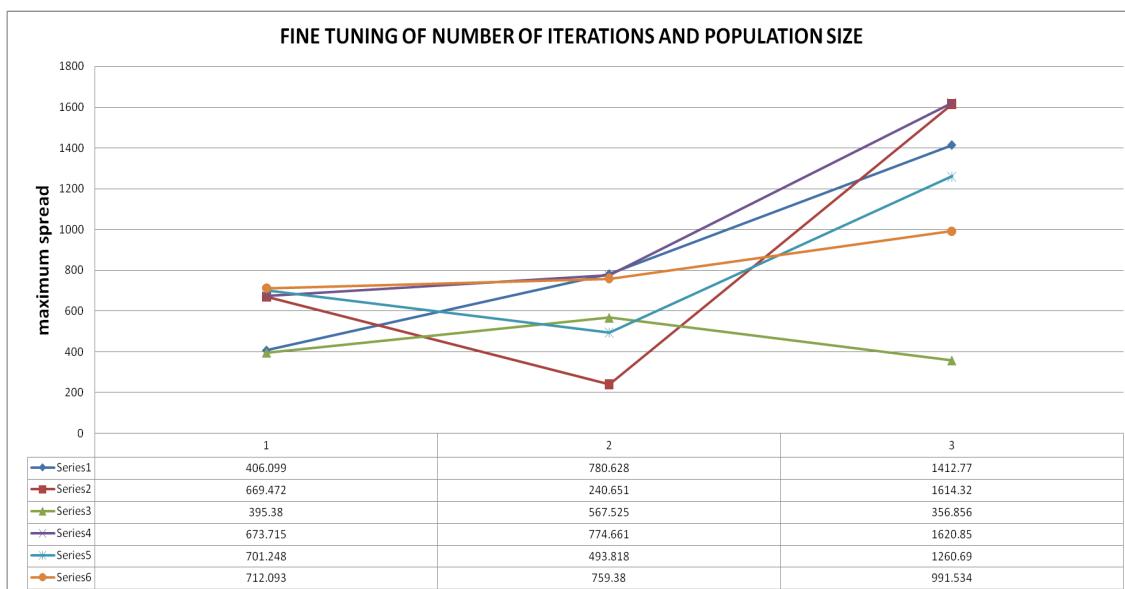
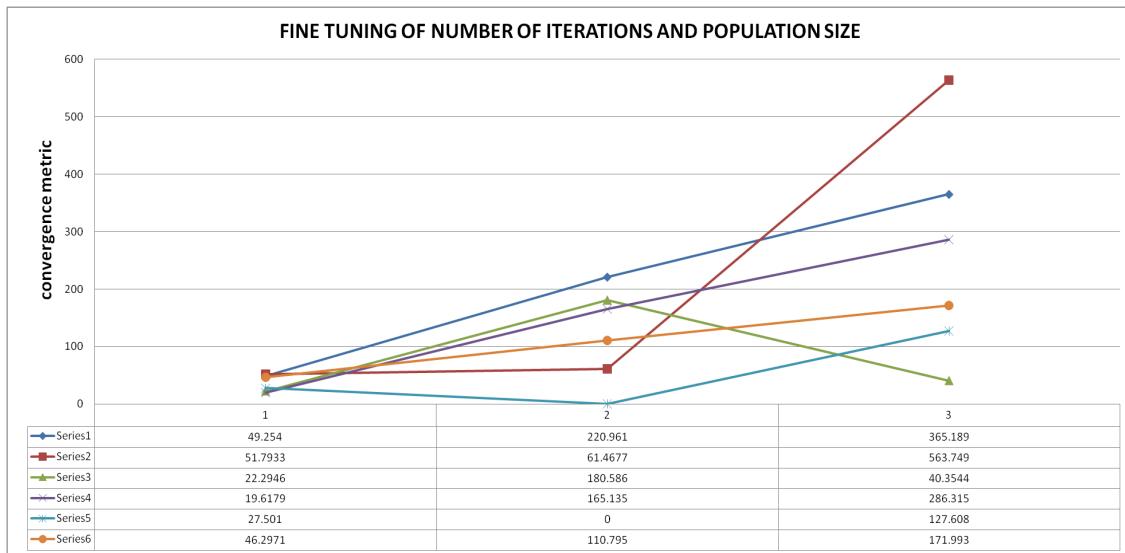
$P$  = population size

- ★ PI 1 - number of non dominated solutions
- ★ PI 2 - error ratio
- ★ PI 3 - convergence metric
- ★ PI 4 - spacing
- ★ PI 5 - maximum spread

### 8.1.1 RESULTS FOR PSO ALGORITHM:

Following are the graphical plots for every performance indicator mentioned earlier VS the task dataset sizes- small, medium and large, represented by 1, 2 and 3 respectively for PSO algorithm alone.





PROBLEM SIZE	PI 1	PI 2	PI 3	PI 4	PI 5	OVERALL
Small	series 2	series 4	series 4	series 1	series 6	<b>series 4</b>

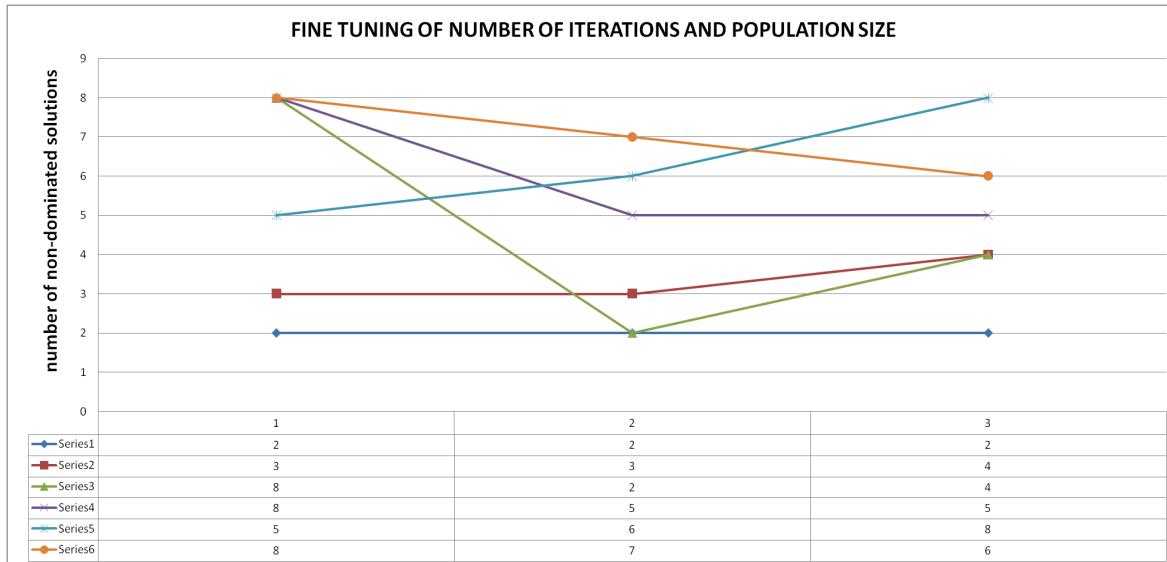
<b>Medium</b>	series 3	series 5	series 5	series 5	series 6	<b>series 5</b>
<b>Large</b>	series 4	series 6	series 3	series 6	series 4	<b>series 6</b>

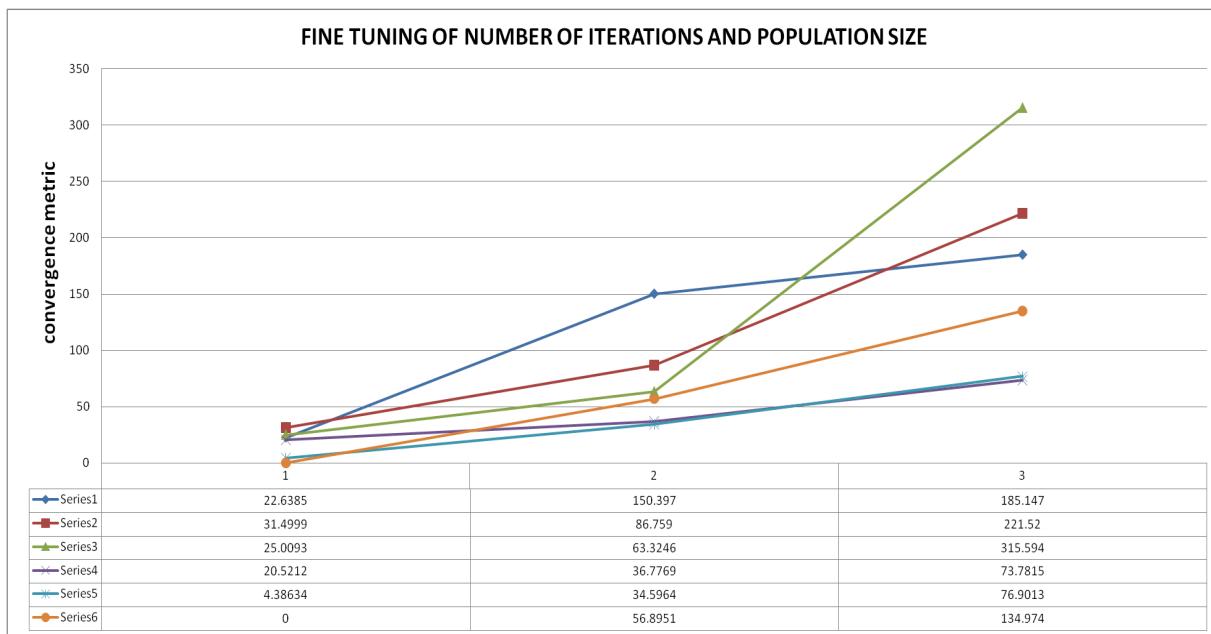
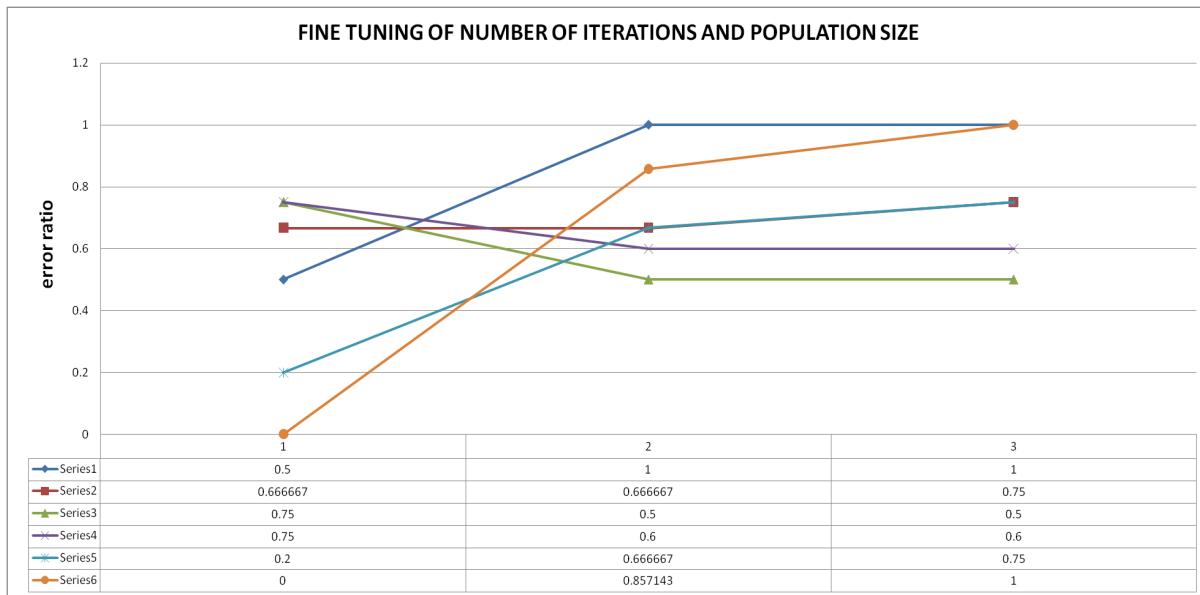
### **INFERENCE:**

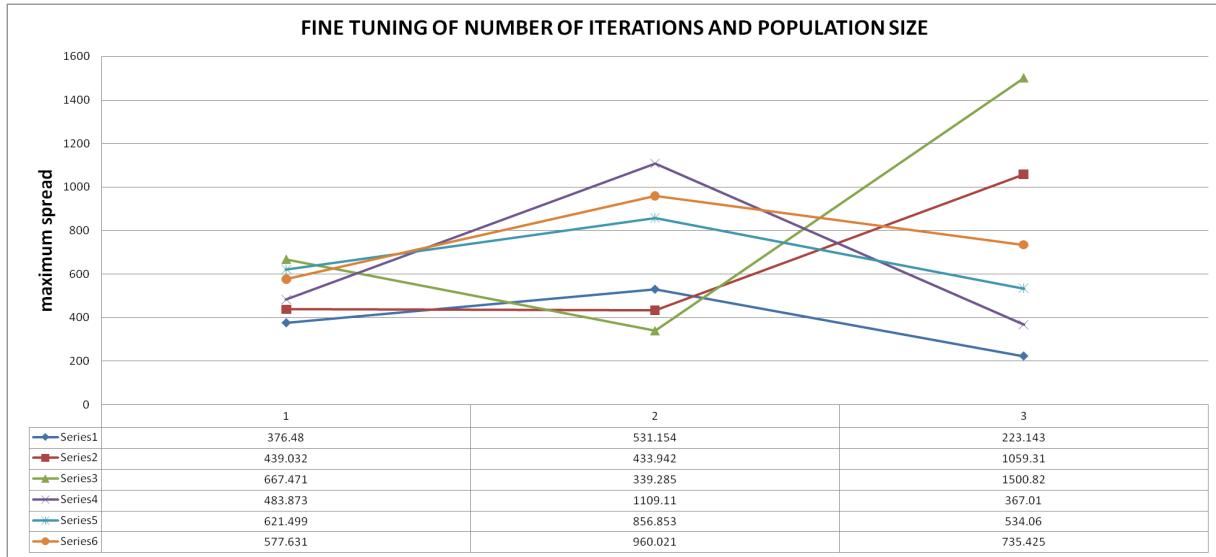
Based on the size of the task dataset, the results for the overall best performing “SERIES” range for PSO algorithm is determined based on the consolidated PI results.

### **8.1.2 RESULTS FOR TLBO ALGORITHM:**

Following are the graphical plots for every performance indicator mentioned earlier VS the task dataset sizes- small, medium and large, represented by 1, 2 and 3 respectively for TLBO algorithm alone.







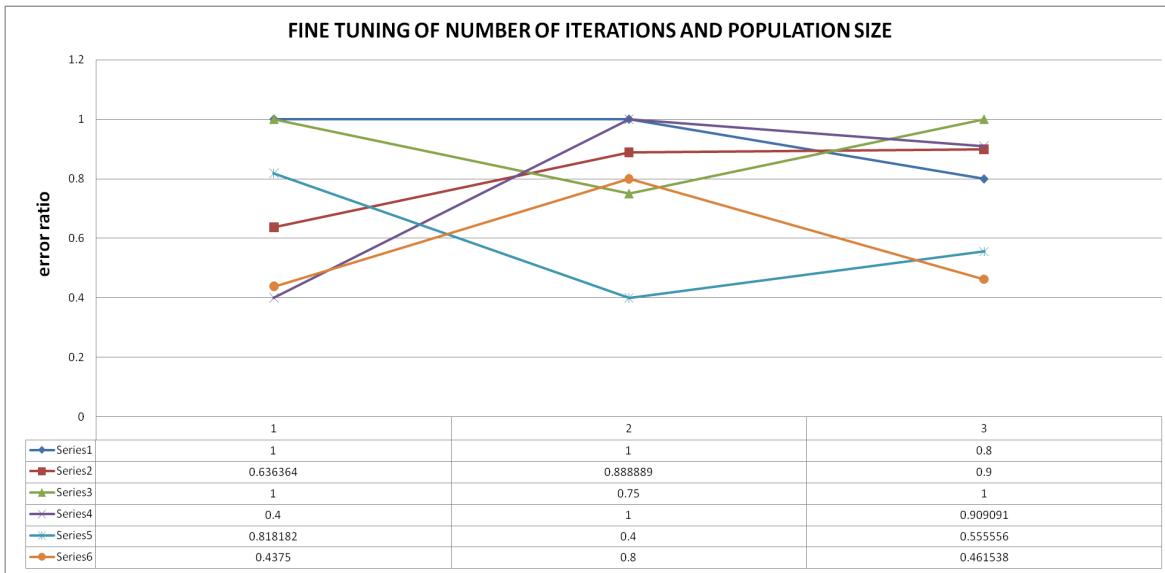
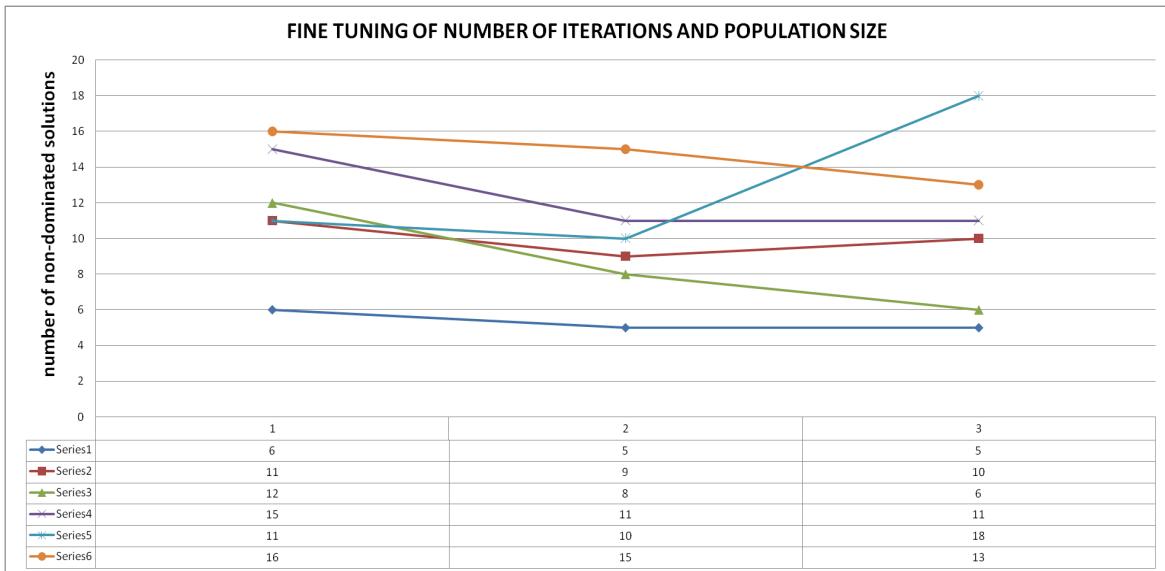
<b>PROBLEM SIZE</b>	<b>PI 1</b>	<b>PI 2</b>	<b>PI 3</b>	<b>PI 4</b>	<b>PI 5</b>	<b>OVERALL</b>
<b>Small</b>	series 3	series 5	series 5	series 4	series 3	<b>series 3</b>
<b>Medium</b>	series 6	series 3	series 5	series 6	series 5	<b>series 5</b>
<b>Large</b>	series 5	series 3	series 5	series 4	series 3	<b>series 5</b>

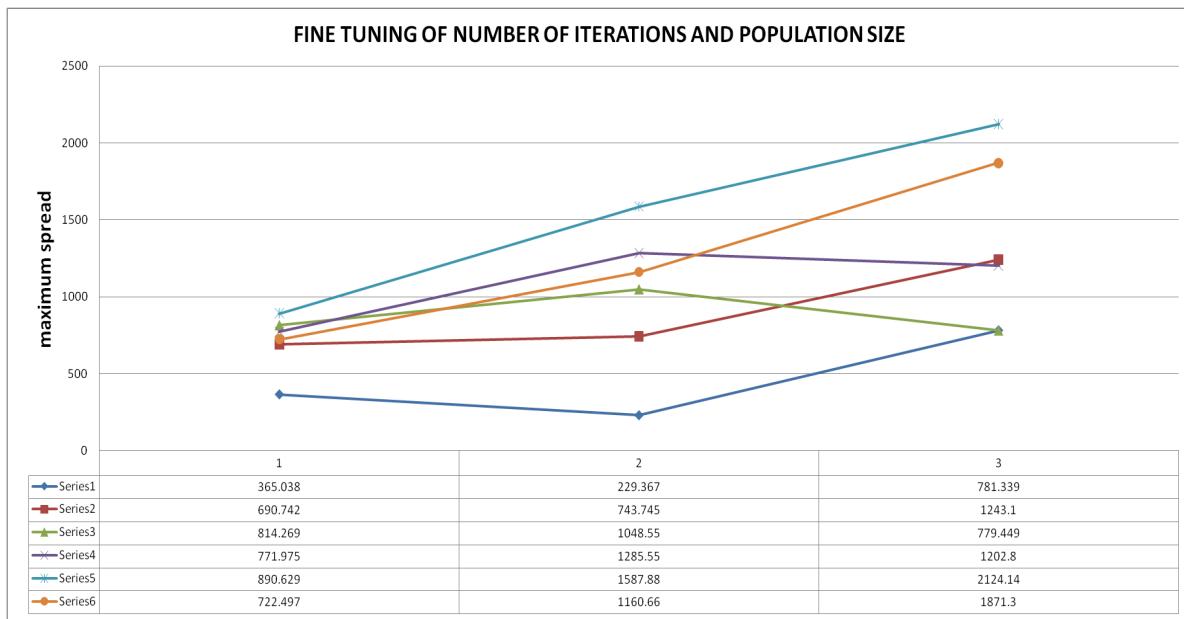
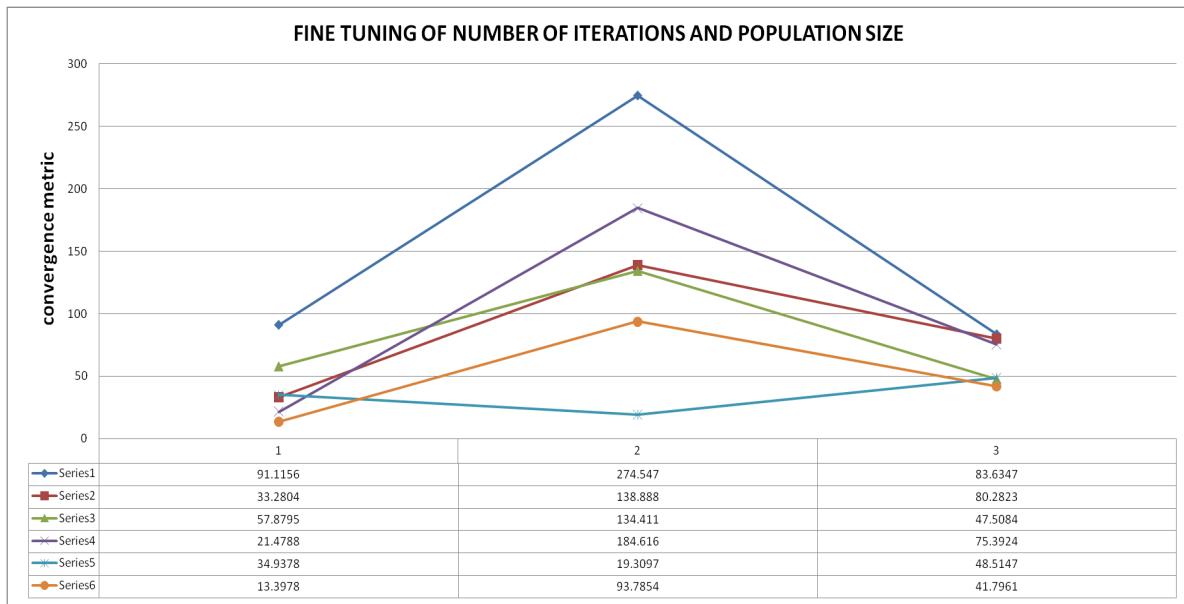
### INFERENCE:

Based on the size of the task dataset, the results for the overall best performing “SERIES” range for TLBO algorithm is determined based on the consolidated PI results.

### 8.1.3 RESULTS FOR MBO ALGORITHM:

Following are the graphical plots for every performance indicator mentioned earlier VS the task dataset sizes- small, medium and large, represented by 1, 2 and 3 respectively for MBO algorithm alone.





<b>PROBLEM SIZE</b>	<b>PI 1</b>	<b>PI 2</b>	<b>PI 3</b>	<b>PI 4</b>	<b>PI 5</b>	<b>OVERAL L</b>
<b>Small</b>	series 6	series 4	series 6	series 4	series 5	<b>series 4</b>

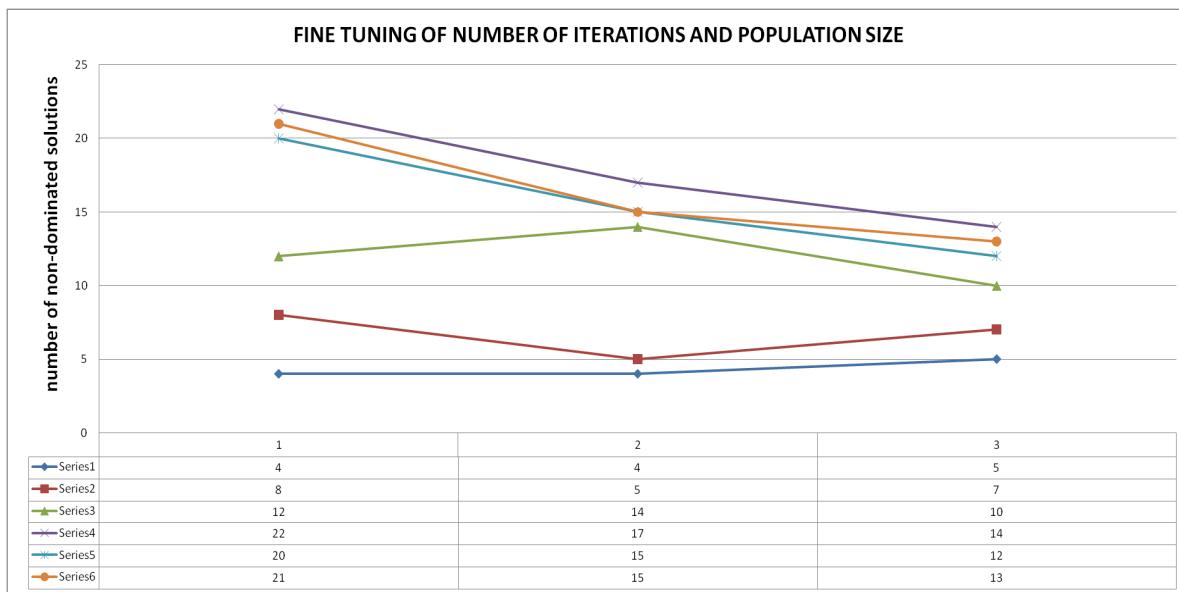
<b>Medium</b>	series 6	series 5	series 5	series 3	series 5	<b>series 5</b>
<b>Large</b>	series 5	series 6	series 6	series 3	series 5	<b>series 6</b>

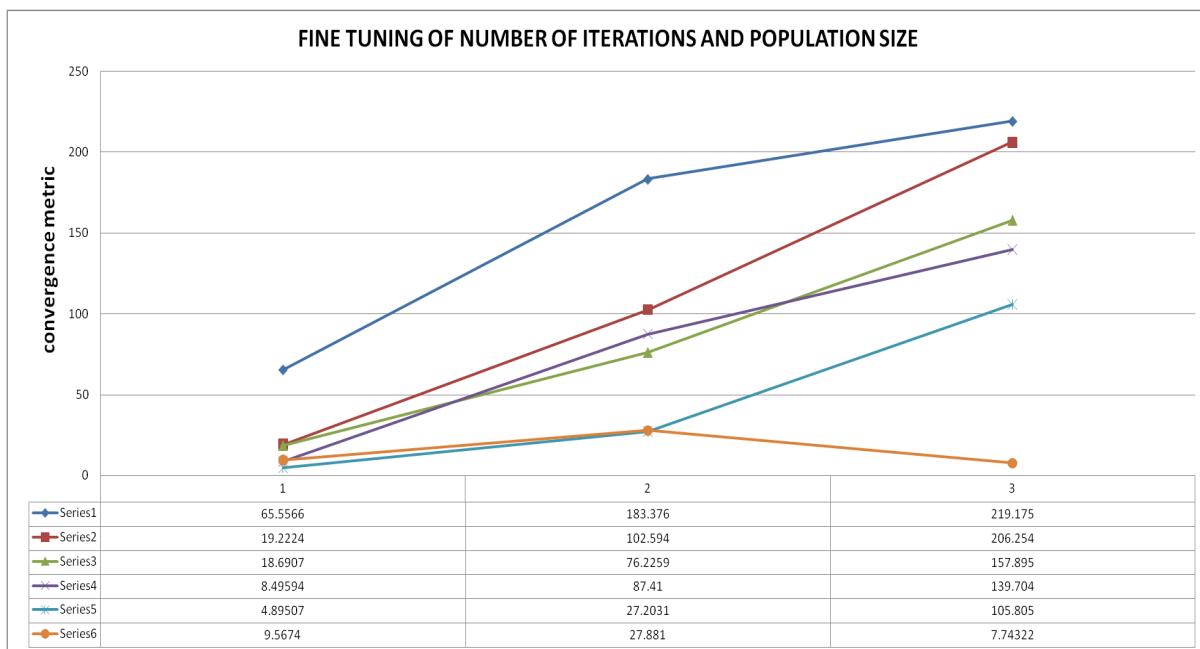
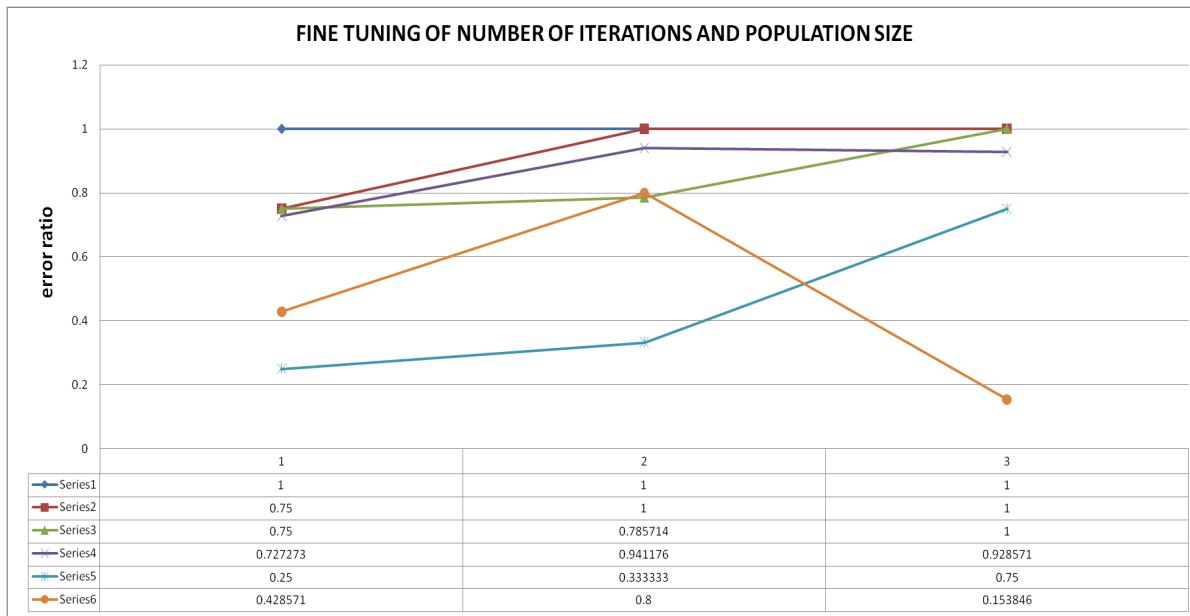
#### **INFERENCE:**

Based on the size of the task dataset, the results for the overall best performing “SERIES” range for MBO algorithm is determined based on the consolidated PI results.

#### **8.1.4 RESULTS FOR AOA ALGORITHM:**

Following are the graphical plots for every performance indicator mentioned earlier VS the task dataset sizes- small, medium and large, represented by 1, 2 and 3 respectively for AOA algorithm alone.





<b>PROBLEM SIZE</b>	<b>PI 1</b>	<b>PI 2</b>	<b>PI 3</b>	<b>PI 4</b>	<b>PI 5</b>	<b>OVERALL</b>
<b>Small</b>	series 4	series 5	series 6	series 5	series 4	<b>series 5</b>

<b>Medium</b>	series 4	series 5	series 6	series 2	series 6	<b>series 6</b>
<b>Large</b>	series 4	series 6	series 6	series 6	series 5	<b>series 6</b>

### **INFERENCE:**

Based on the size of the task dataset, the results for the overall best performing “SERIES” range for AOA algorithm is determined based on the consolidated PI results.

Based on the above results for individual algorithms, an overall result tabulation is shown.

<b>ALGORITHM</b>	<b>PSO</b>	<b>TLBO</b>	<b>MBO</b>	<b>AOA</b>
<b>SMALL</b>	T = 20, P = 20	T = 15, P = 15	T = 20, P = 20	T = 25, P = 25
<b>MEDIUM</b>	T = 25, P = 25	T = 25, P = 25	T = 25, P = 25	T = 30, P = 30
<b>LARGE</b>	T = 30, P = 30	T = 25, P = 25	T = 25, P = 25	T = 30, P = 30

These results can be inferred by researchers working on the improvement of the same algorithms as above, basing their iterations and population sizes according to the size of the problem considered by them.

### **8.2 FINE TUNING OF PARAMETERS INVOLVED IN VARIOUS ALGORITHMS:**

- ❖ For all the algorithms developed in our project, their respective parameters are fine tuned using certain efficient criteria as described below.
- ❖ Thus for each algorithm, based on the size category(small, medium, large) of task data sets are graphs and tabulations of the “fine tuning criteria”. The best criteria is then tabulated based on the performance indicator values.
- ❖ The given criteria for each algorithm are given in the respective algorithm sections.
- ❖ For each algorithm, the fine tuning criterion for the various parameters are such that, the range of each parameter is split and given constraints, according to the significance of the

- ❖ individual parameter in their algorithmic equations.
- ❖ These fine tuning criteria that are represented in ranges, are then determined for their ideal values using performance indicators analytically.

### 8.2.1 RESULTS FOR PSO ALGORITHM:

$$X_i^{t+1} = X_i^t + V_i^{t+1}$$

$$V_i^{t+1} = c_1 V_i^t + c_2(Pbest_i^t - X_i^t) + c_3(Gbest_t - X_i^t)$$

Where,

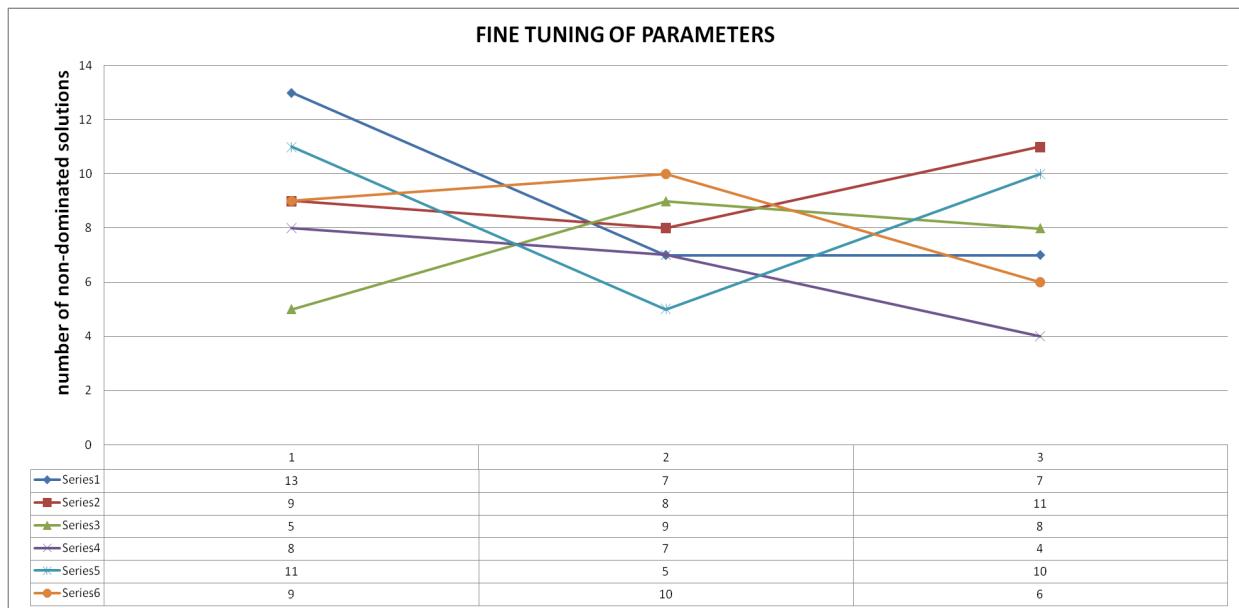
**c1** = inertia weight

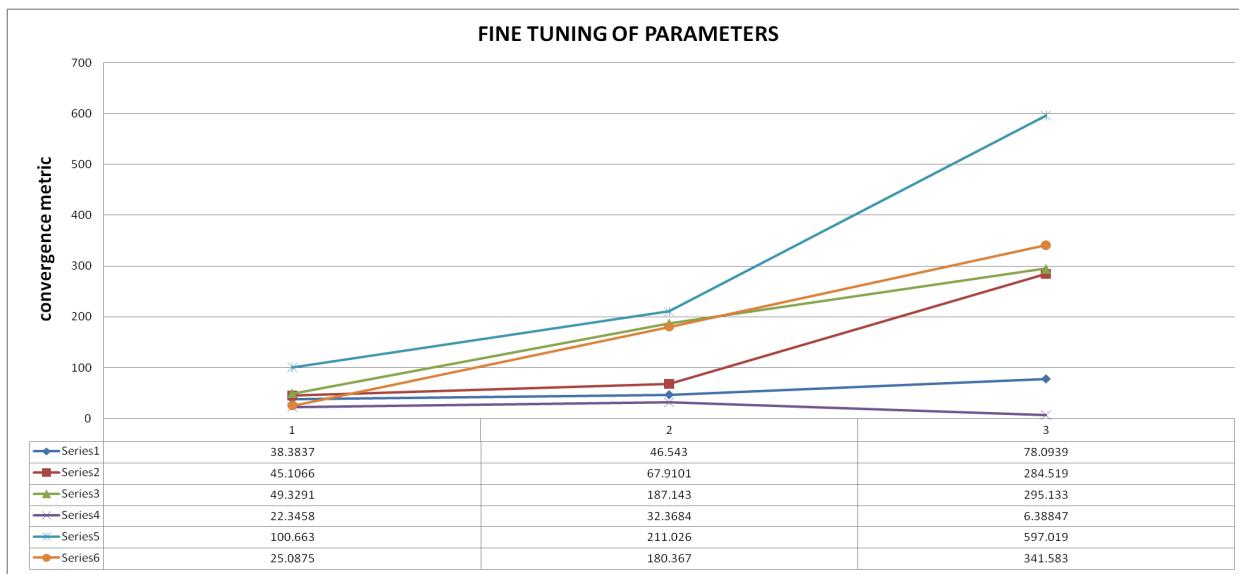
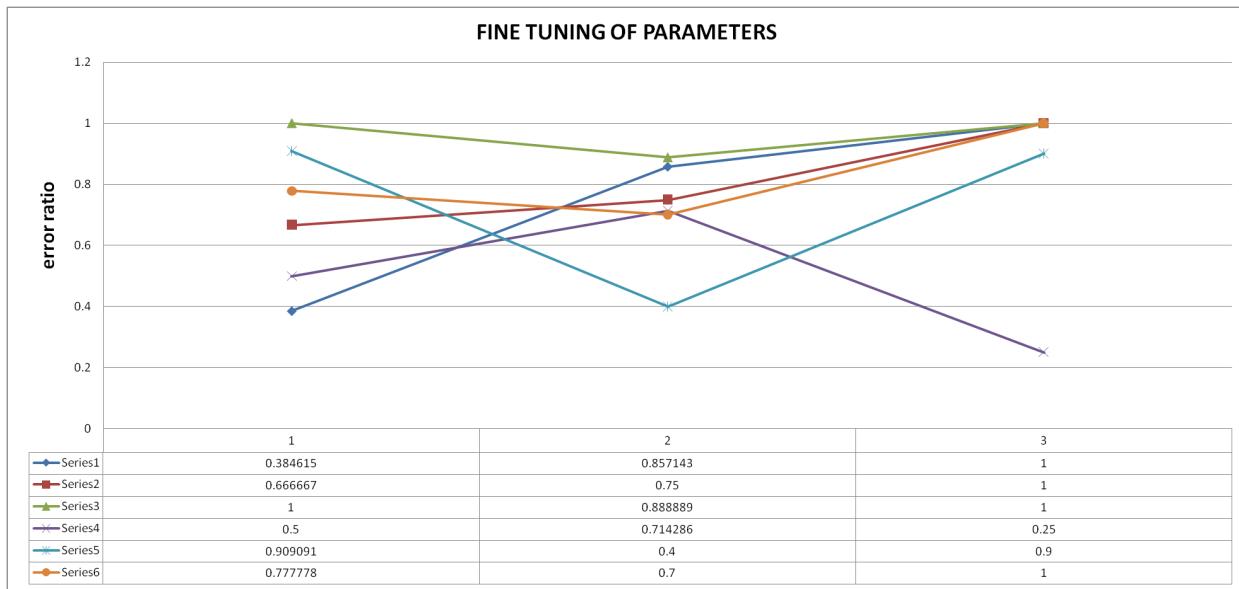
**c2** = acceleration coefficient of P\_best

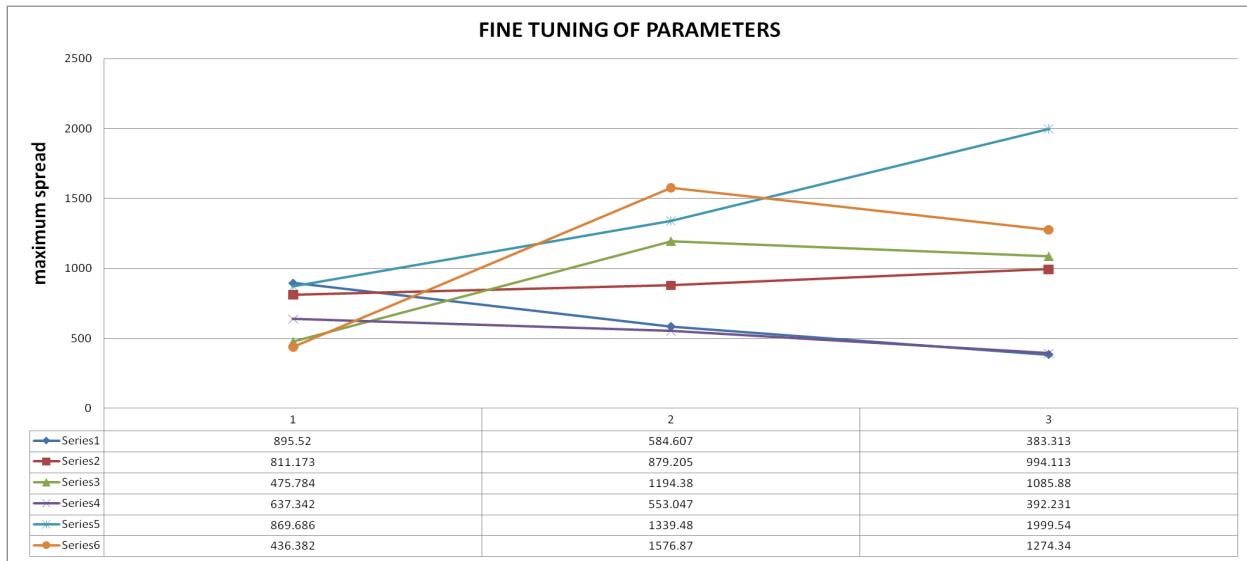
**c3** = acceleration coefficient of G\_best

- ★ **Series 1** -  $c1 \in (0, 0.5)$ ,  $c2+c3 \leq 1.5$
- ★ **Series 2** -  $c1 \in (0.5, 1)$ ,  $c2+c3 \leq 1.5$
- ★ **Series 3** -  $c2 \in (0, 0.5)$ ,  $c1+c3 \leq 1.5$
- ★ **Series 4** -  $c2 \in (0.5, 1)$ ,  $c1+c3 \leq 1.5$
- ★ **Series 5** -  $c3 \in (0, 0.5)$ ,  $c1+c2 \leq 1.5$
- ★ **Series 6** -  $c3 \in (0.5, 1)$ ,  $c1+c2 \leq 1.5$

Following are the graphical plots for every performance indicator mentioned earlier VS the task dataset sizes- small, medium and large, represented by 1, 2 and 3 respectively for PSO algorithm alone.







<b>PROBLEM SIZE</b>	<b>PI 1</b>	<b>PI 2</b>	<b>PI 3</b>	<b>PI 4</b>	<b>PI 5</b>	<b>OVERALL</b>
<b>Small</b>	series 1	series 1	series 4	series 5	series 1	<b>series 1</b>
<b>Medium</b>	series 6	series 5	series 4	series 4	series 6	<b>series 6</b>
<b>Large</b>	series 2	series 4	series 4	series 1	series 4	<b>series 4</b>

### INFERENCE:

Based on the size of the task dataset, the results for the overall best performing “SERIES” range for PSO algorithm is determined based on the consolidated PI results.

### 8.2.2 RESULTS FOR TLBO ALGORITHM:

$$X_{\text{new}} = X_i + r * [X_{\text{mean}} - (T_f * X_{\text{best}})]$$

$$X_{\text{new}} = X_i + r * [X_i - (T_p * X_{\text{partner}})]$$

Where,

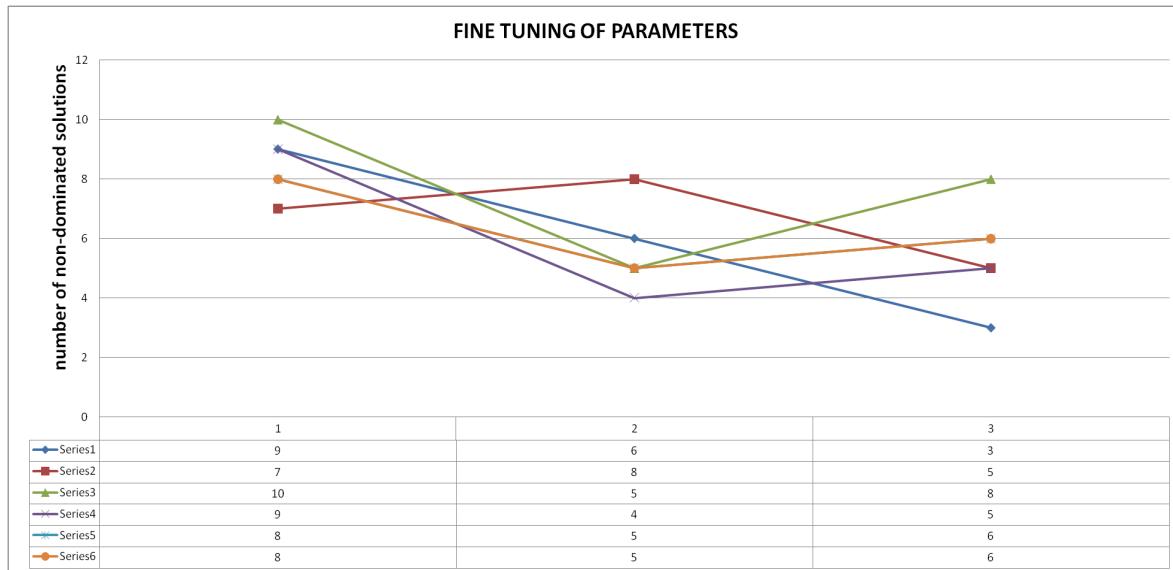
$r$  = Coefficient that indicates the impact of the mean of the population and the teacher

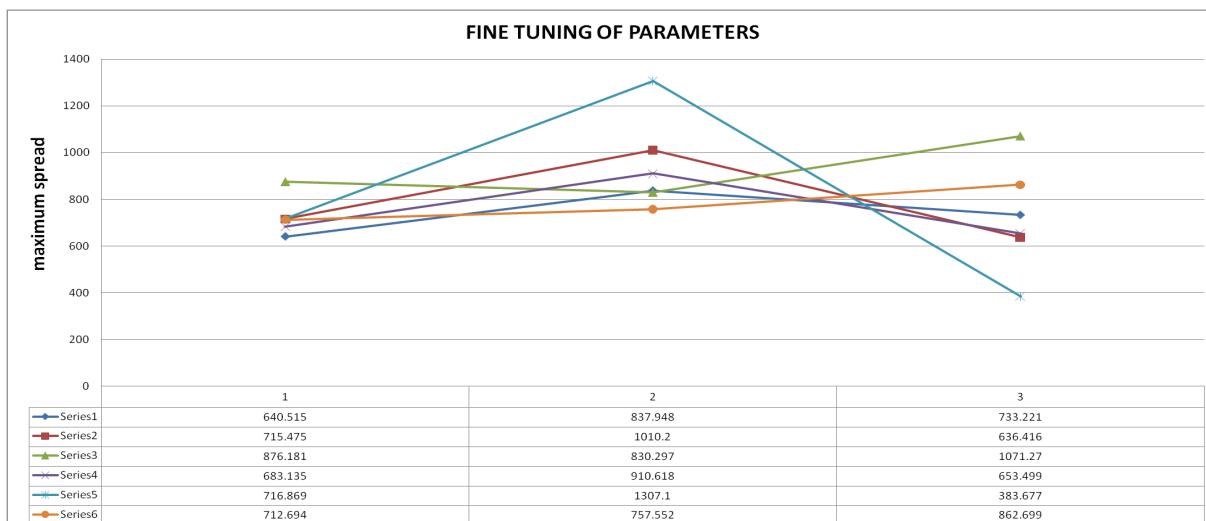
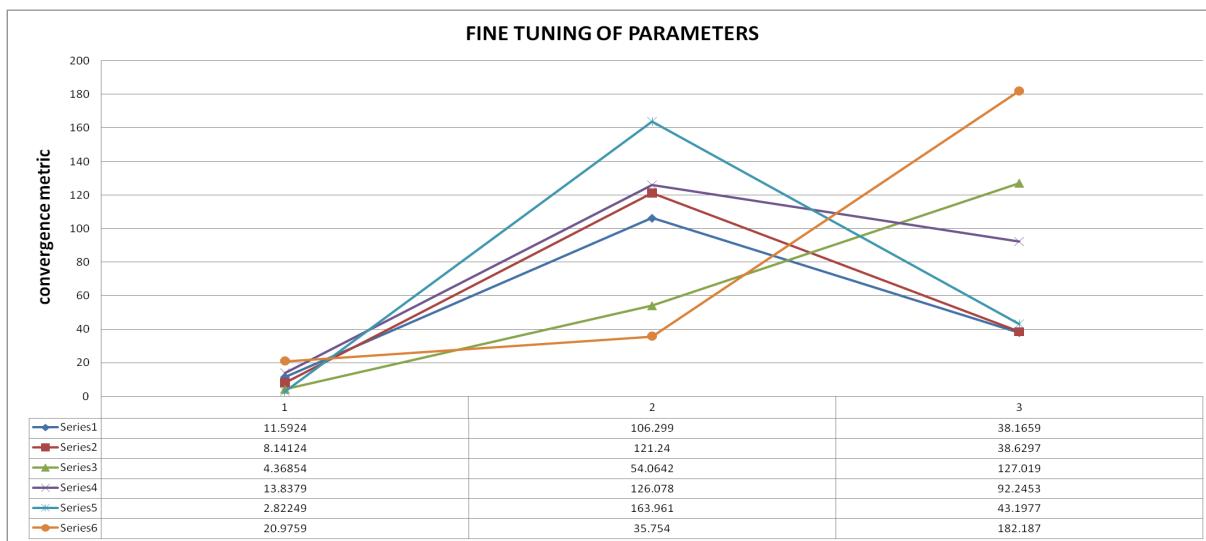
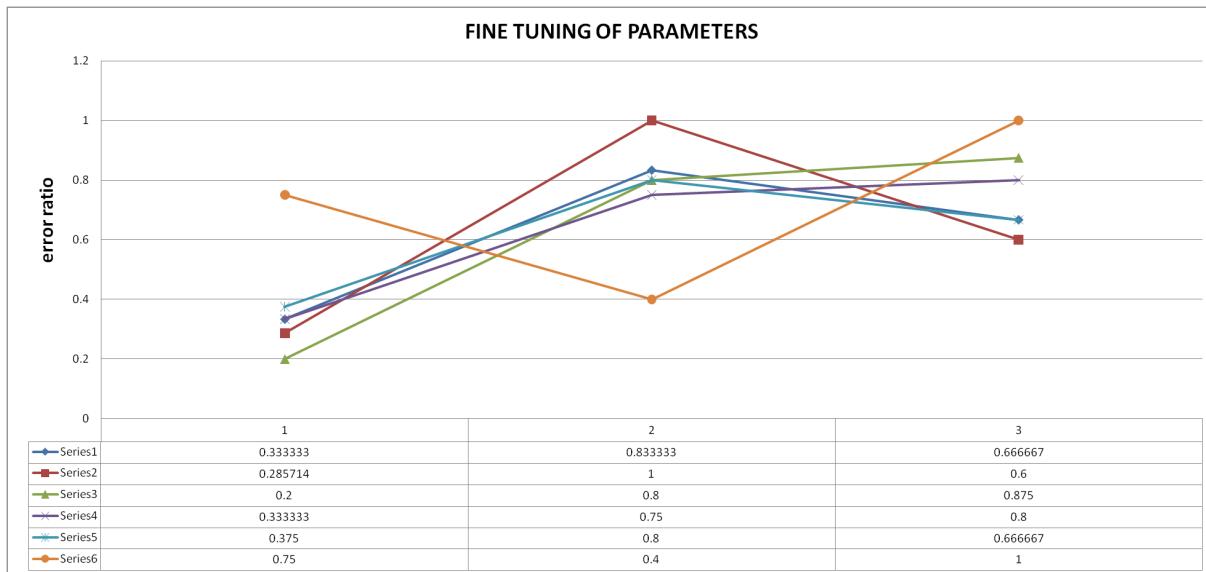
$T_f$  = Teaching coefficient that indicates the impact of teacher

$T_p$  = Learning coefficient that indicates the impact of partner

- ★ Series 1 -  $r \in (0, 0.5)$ ,  $T_f+T_p \leq 1.5$
- ★ Series 2 -  $r \in (0.5, 1)$ ,  $T_f+T_p \leq 1.5$
- ★ Series 3 -  $T_f \in (0, 0.5)$ ,  $r+T_p \leq 1.5$
- ★ Series 4 -  $T_f \in (0.5, 1)$ ,  $r+T_p \leq 1.5$
- ★ Series 5 -  $T_p \in (0, 0.5)$ ,  $r+T_f \leq 1.5$
- ★ Series 6 -  $T_p \in (0.5, 1)$ ,  $r+T_f \leq 1.5$

Following are the graphical plots for every performance indicator mentioned earlier VS the task dataset sizes- small, medium and large, represented by 1, 2 and 3 respectively for TLBO algorithm alone.





<b>PROBLEM SIZE</b>	<b>PI 1</b>	<b>PI 2</b>	<b>PI 3</b>	<b>PI 4</b>	<b>PI 5</b>	<b>OVERALL</b>
<b>Small</b>	series 3	series 3	series 5	series 5	series 3	<b>series 3</b>
<b>Medium</b>	series 2	series 6	series 6	series 2	series 5	<b>series 6</b>
<b>Large</b>	series 3	series 2	series 1	series 6	series 3	<b>series 3</b>

#### **INFERENCE:**

Based on the size of the task dataset, the results for the overall best performing “SERIES” range for TLBO algorithm is determined based on the consolidated PI results.

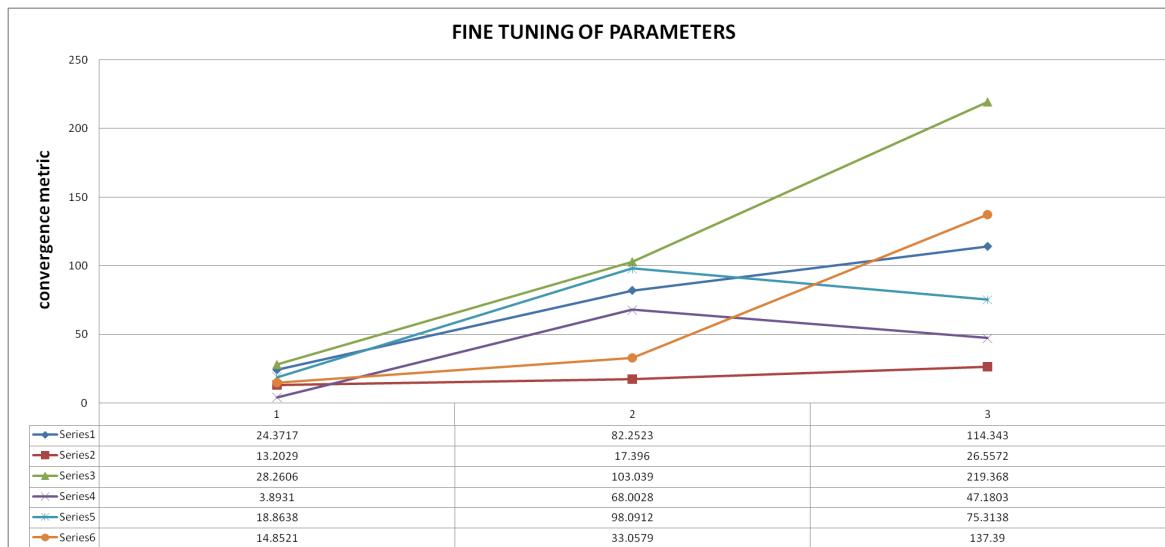
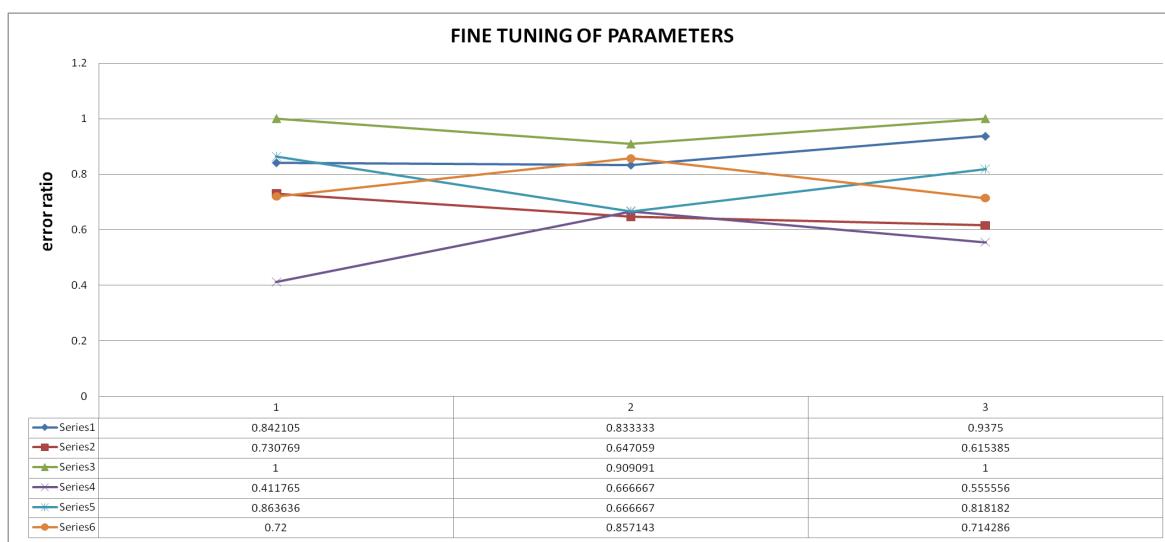
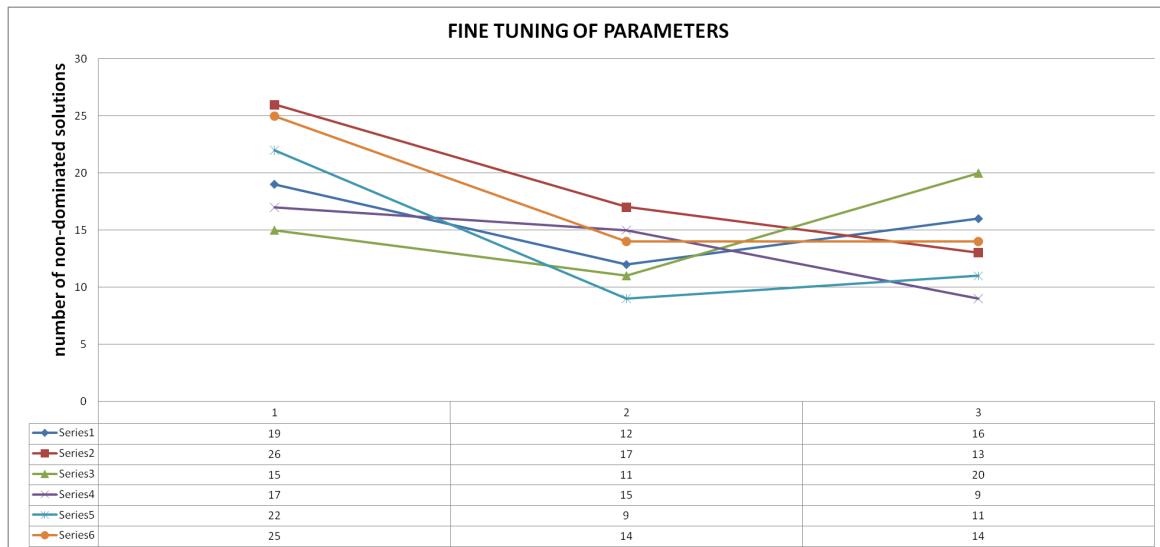
#### **8.2.3 RESULTS FOR MBO ALGORITHM:**

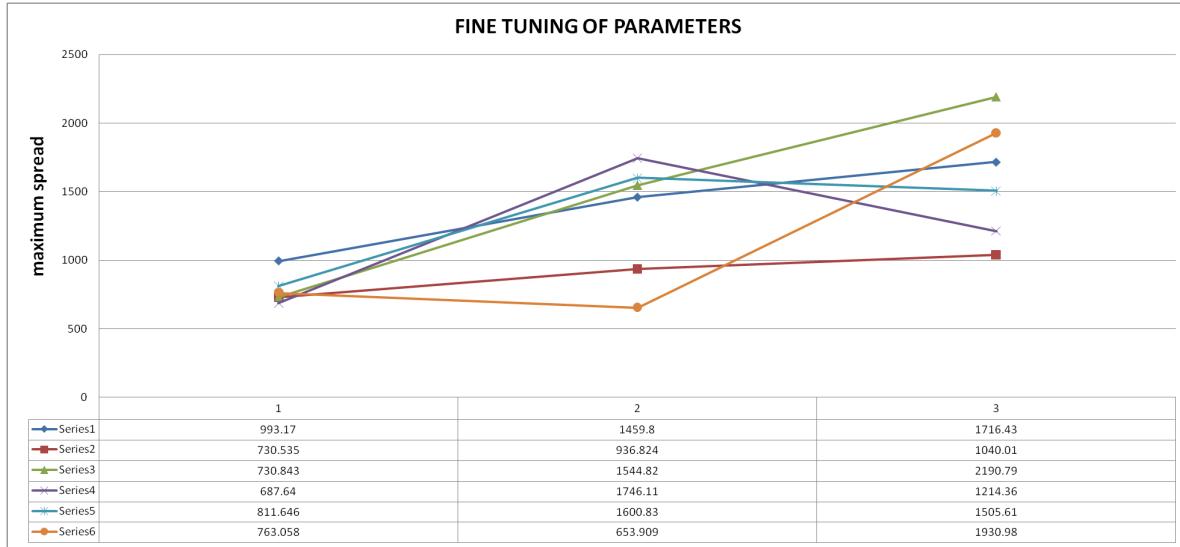
**K** - represents number of neighbourhood solutions of current leader (employed during LEADER IMPROVEMENT PHASE)

**X** - represents any number less than K. (whose expression together with K are employed during the BLOCK IMPROVEMENT PHASE)

- ★ **Series 1** - K=2, X=1
- ★ **Series 2** - K=3, X=1
- ★ **Series 3** - K=5, X=2
- ★ **Series 4** - K=5, X=3
- ★ **Series 5** - K=7, X=3
- ★ **Series 6** - K=10, X=5

Following are the graphical plots for every performance indicator mentioned earlier VS the task dataset sizes- small, medium and large, represented by 1, 2 and 3 respectively for TLBO algorithm alone.





<b>PROBLEM SIZE</b>	<b>PI 1</b>	<b>PI 2</b>	<b>PI 3</b>	<b>PI 4</b>	<b>PI 5</b>	<b>OVERALL</b>
<b>Small</b>	series 2	series 4	series 4	series 2	series 1	<b>series 4</b>
<b>Medium</b>	series 2	series 2	series 2	series 6	series 4	<b>series 2</b>
<b>Large</b>	series 3	series 4	series 2	series 6	series 3	<b>series 3</b>

### INFERENCE:

Based on the size of the task dataset, the results for the overall best performing “SERIES” range for MBO algorithm is determined based on the consolidated PI results.

Based on the above results for individual algorithms, an overall result tabulation is shown.

ALGORITHM	PSO	TLBO	MBO	AOA
<b>SMALL</b>	$c_1 = [0 - 0.5]$ $c_2 + c_3 \leq 1.5$	$T_f = [0 - 0.5]$ $r + T_p \leq 1.5$	$K = 5$ $X = 3$	-----
<b>MEDIUM</b>	$c_3 = [0.5 - 1]$ $c_1 + c_2 \leq 1.5$	$T_p = [0.5 - 1]$ $r + T_f \leq 1.5$	$K = 3$ $X = 1$	-----
<b>LARGE</b>	$c_2 = [0.5 - 1]$ $c_1 + c_3 \leq 1.5$	$T_f = [0 - 0.5]$ $r + T_p \leq 1.5$	$K = 5$ $X = 2$	-----

These results can be inferred by researchers working on the improvement of the same algorithms as above, saving them much computational efforts in fine tuning the parameters of the above algorithms, according to the size of the problem considered by them.

### 8.3 CONSOLIDATED GRAPHICAL COMPARISON OF ALL STANDARD vs HYBRID ALGORITHMS:

- ❖ After adding the scout phase for the four algorithms developed, we now have to compare all the 8 algorithms.
- ❖ To make the comparison easier, we segregated the data as small, medium and large as mentioned in earlier slides.
- ❖ A total of 32 datasets is generated and used to compare these algorithms using the 5 performance indicators.
- ❖ The description of each data set is explained in upcoming slides.

The base four algorithms,

- **PSO** (particle swarm optimisation) - **ALGO 1**
- **TLBO** (teaching learning based optimisation) - **ALGO 2**
- **MBO** (migrating bird optimisation) - **ALGO 3**
- **AOA** (archimedes optimisation algorithm) - **ALGO 4**

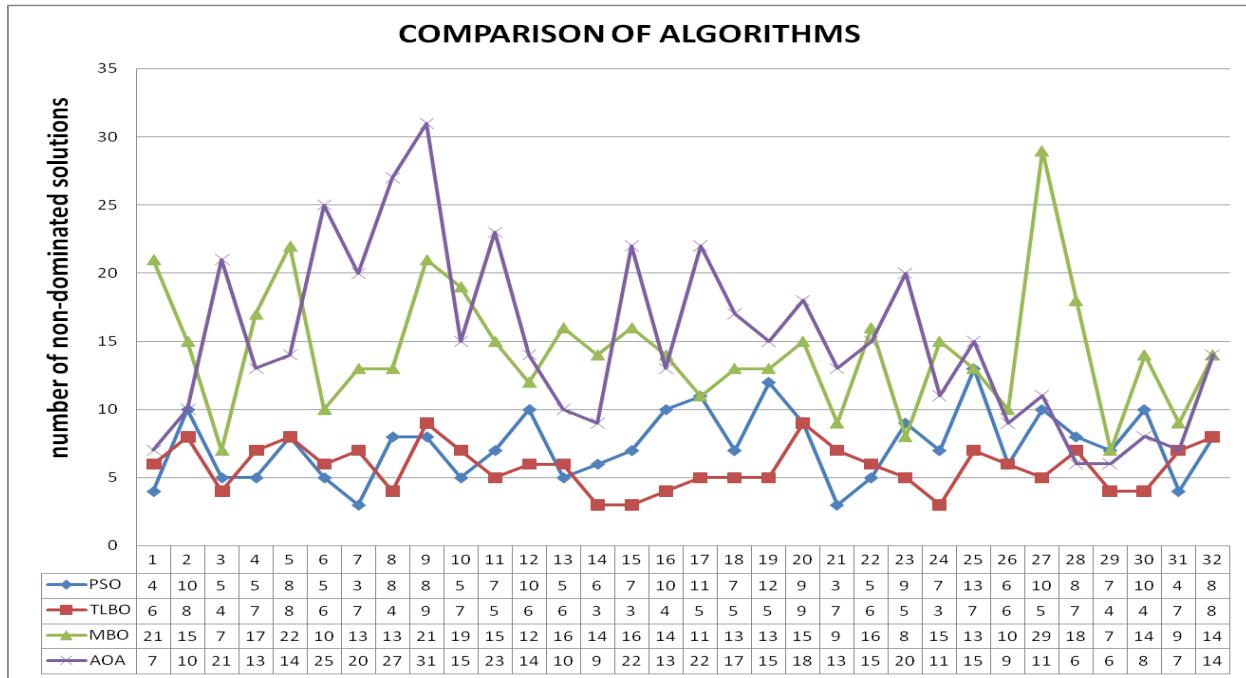
And the variants,

- **PSO + ABC** (particle swarm optimisation with scout phase) - **ALGO 5**
- **TLBO + ABC** (teaching learning based optimisation with scout phase) - **ALGO 6**
- **MBO + ABC** (migrating bird optimisation with scout phase) - **ALGO 7**

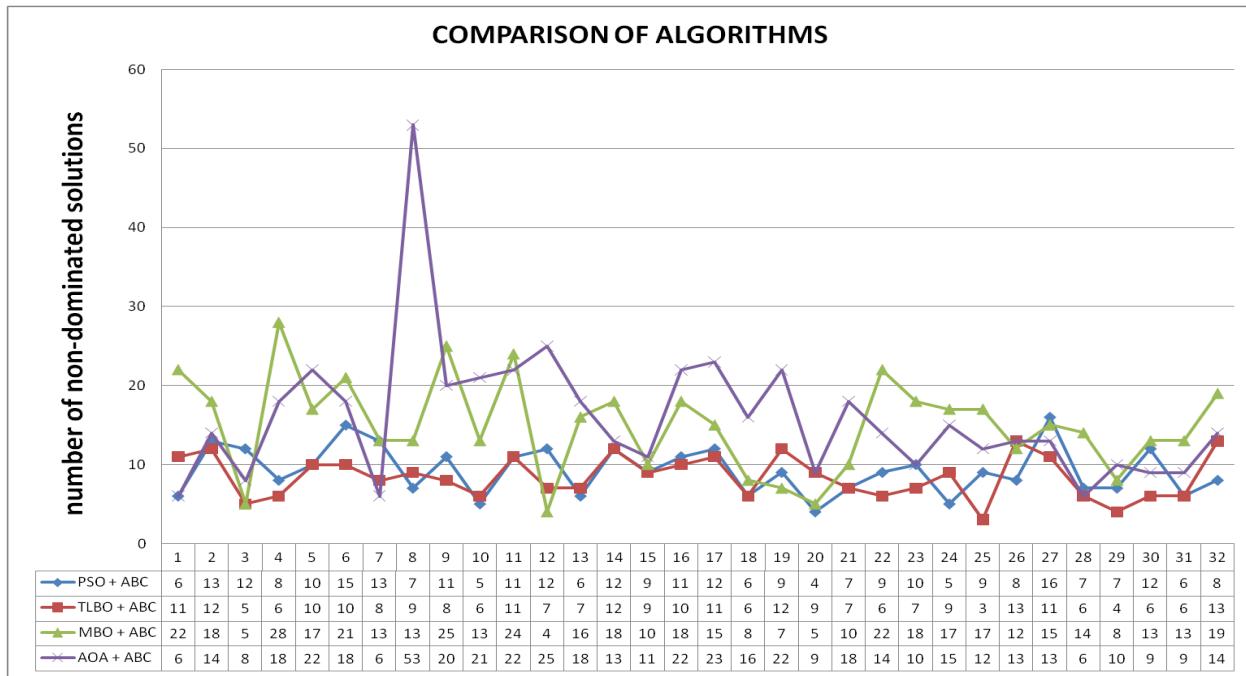
→ AOA + ABC (archimedes optimisation algorithm with scout phase) - **ALGO 8**

These are plotted in separate graphs to make it easier for the user to visualise the graphs. The results obtained are as follows:

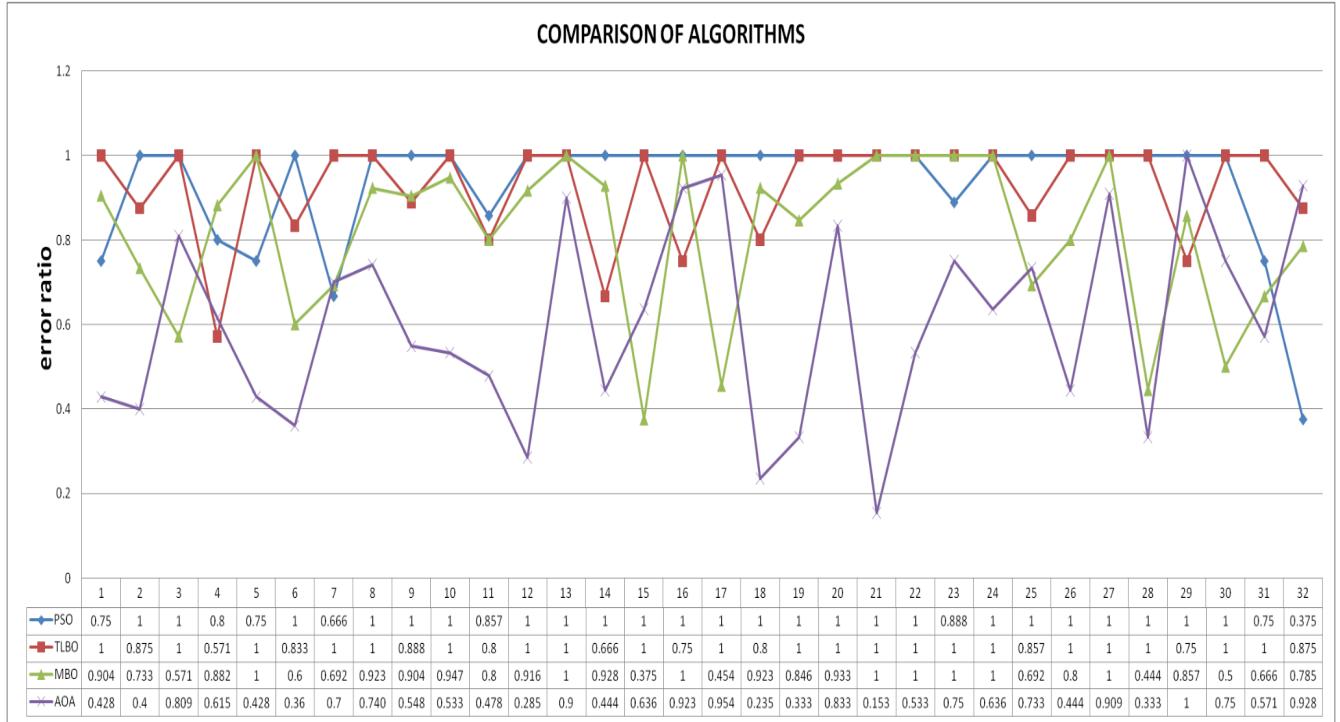
PI-1 for all 32 datasets for all four standard algorithms:



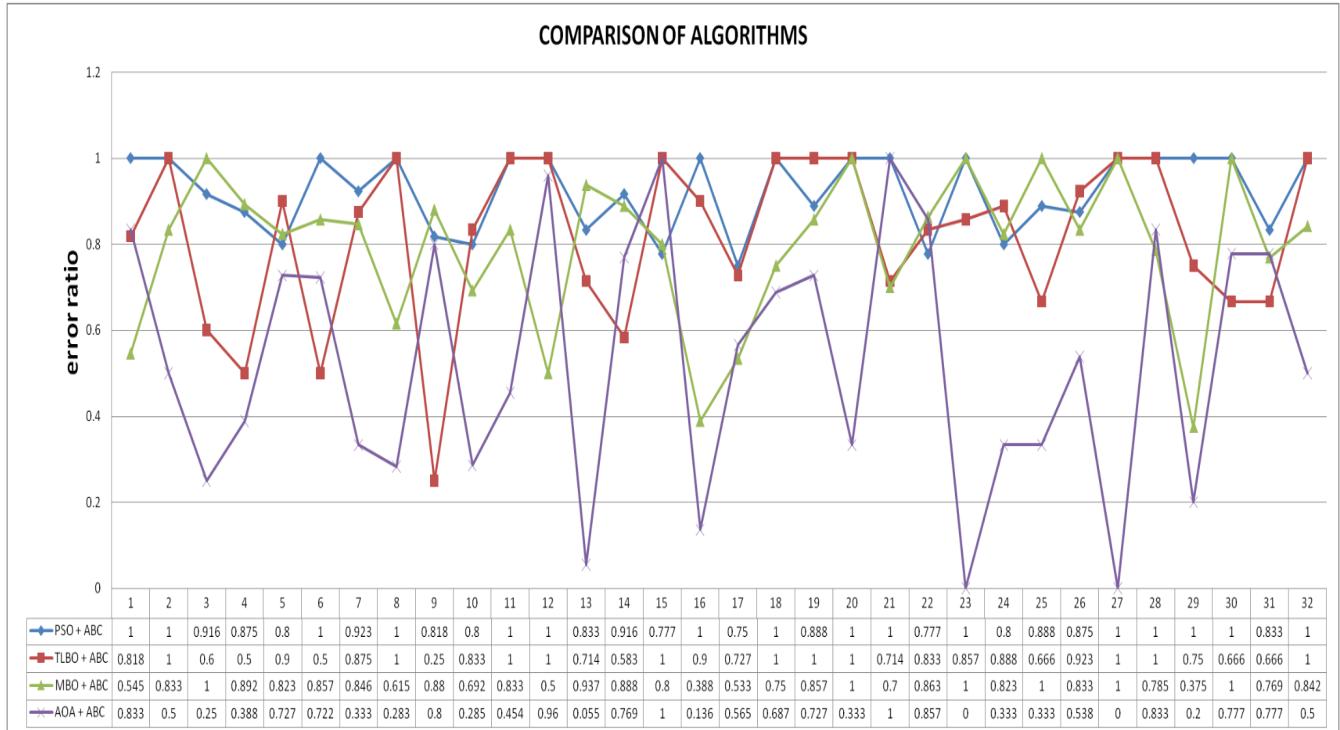
PI-1 for all 32 datasets for all four hybridised algorithms:



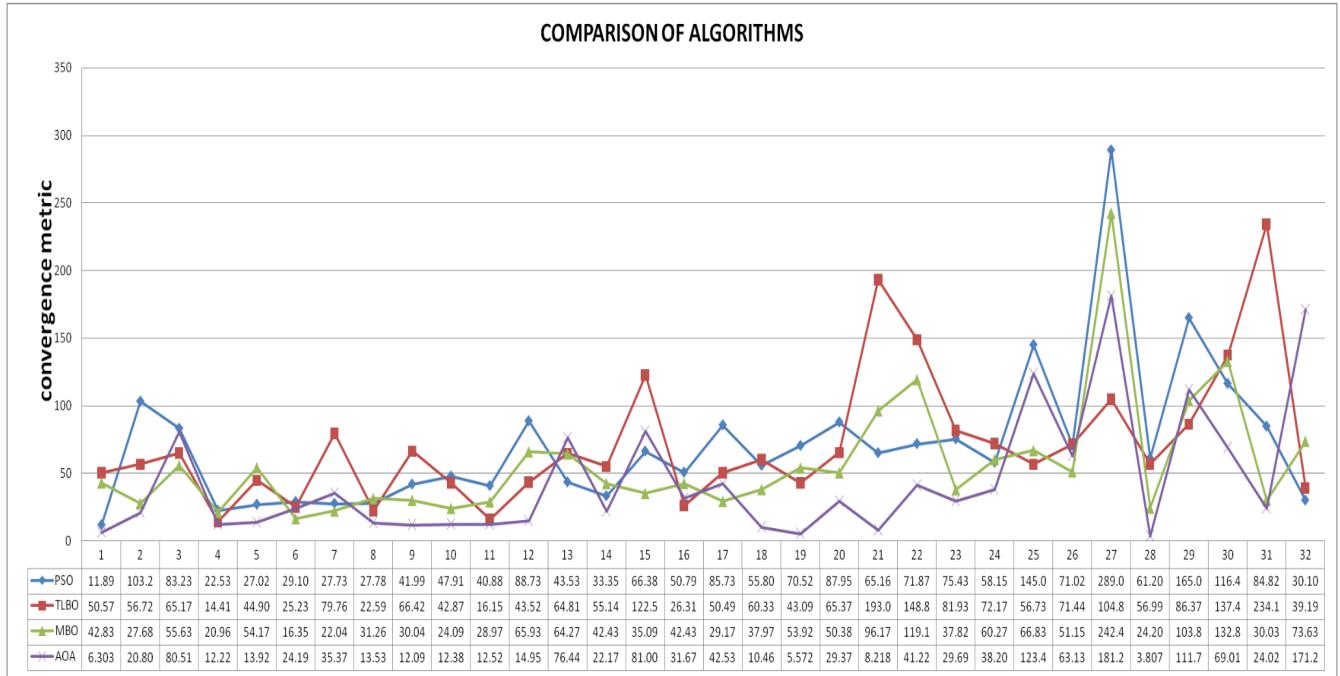
PI-2 for all 32 datasets for all four standard algorithms:



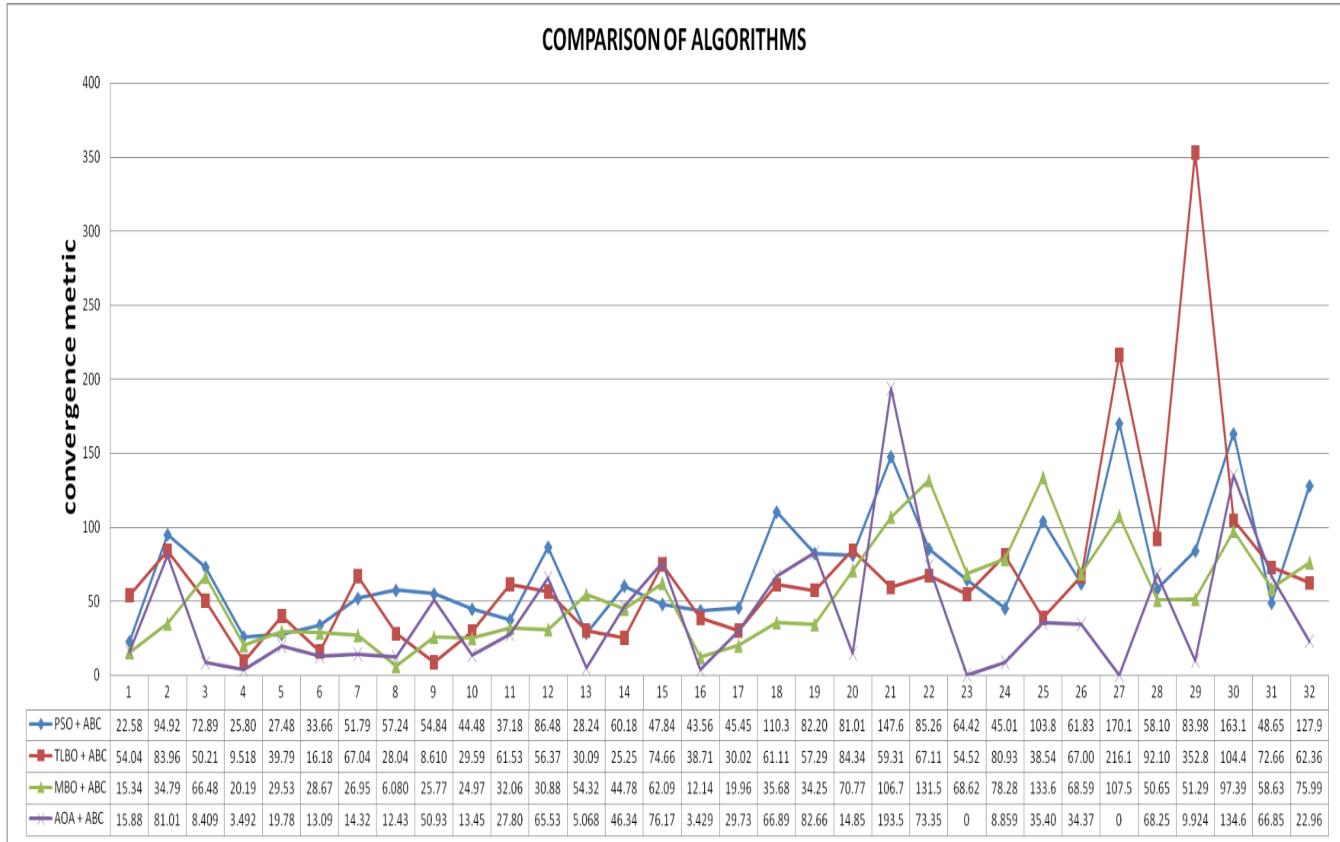
PI-2 for all 32 datasets for all four hybridised algorithms:



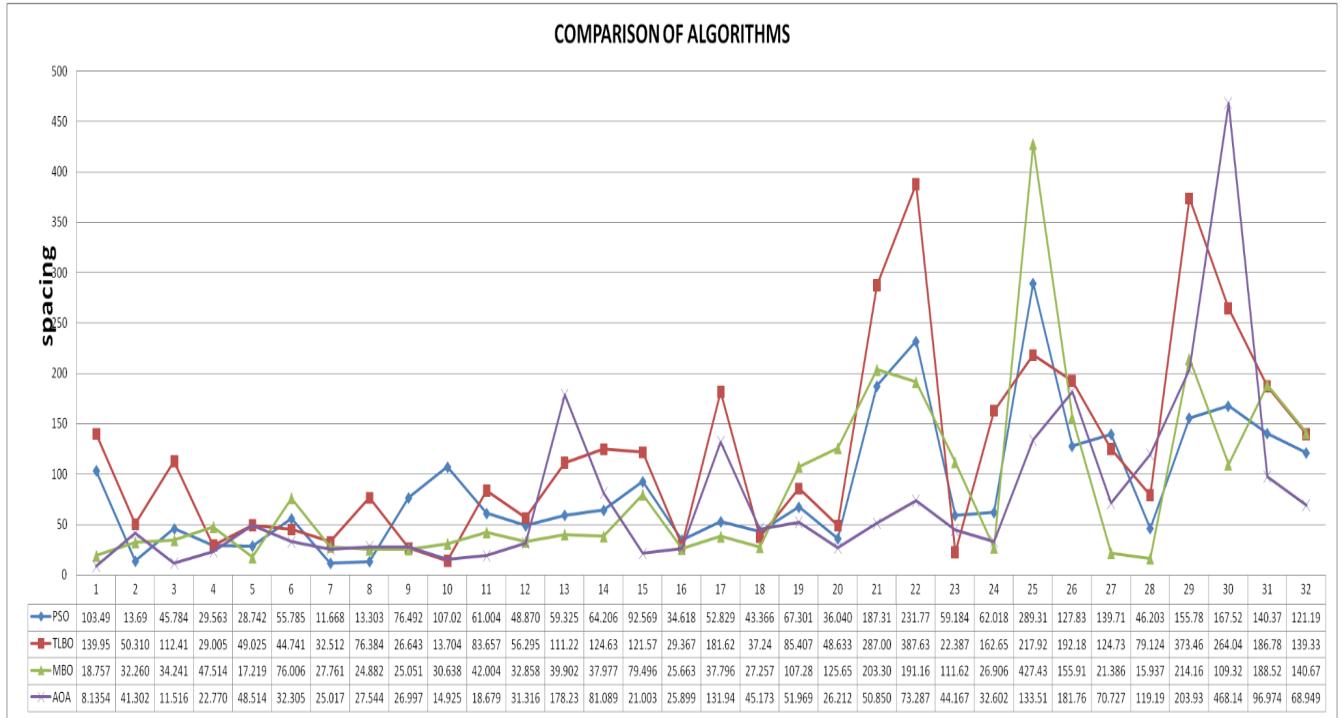
PI-3 for all 32 datasets for all four standard algorithms:



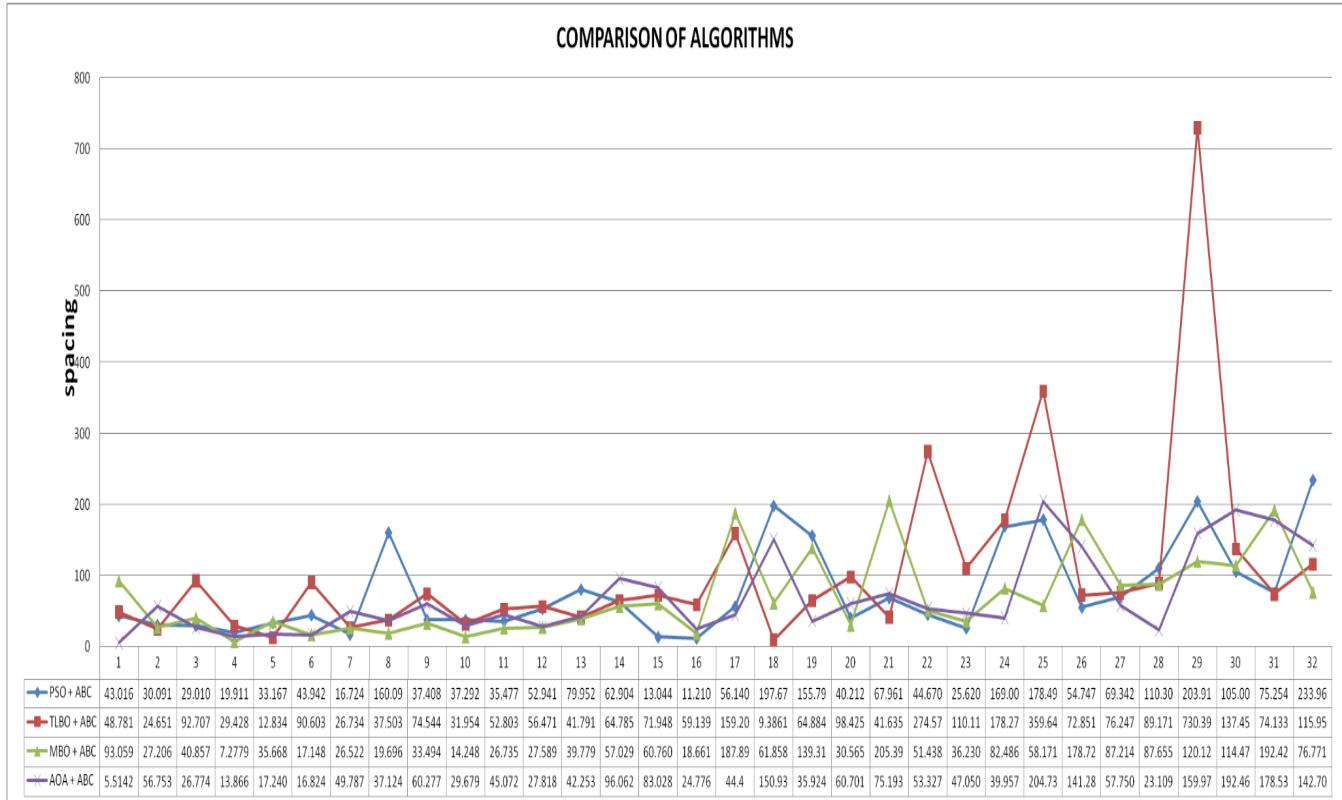
PI-3 for all 32 datasets for all four hybridised algorithms:



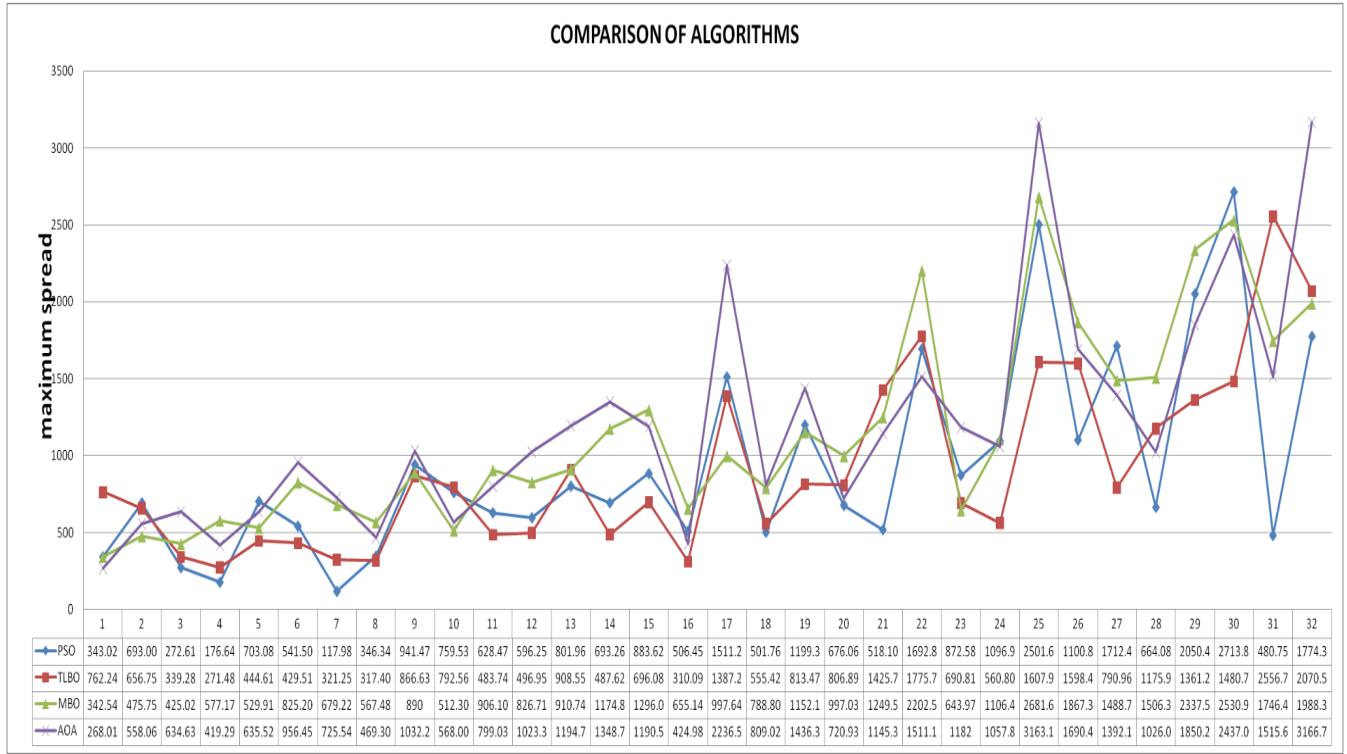
PI-4 for all 32 datasets for all four standard algorithms:



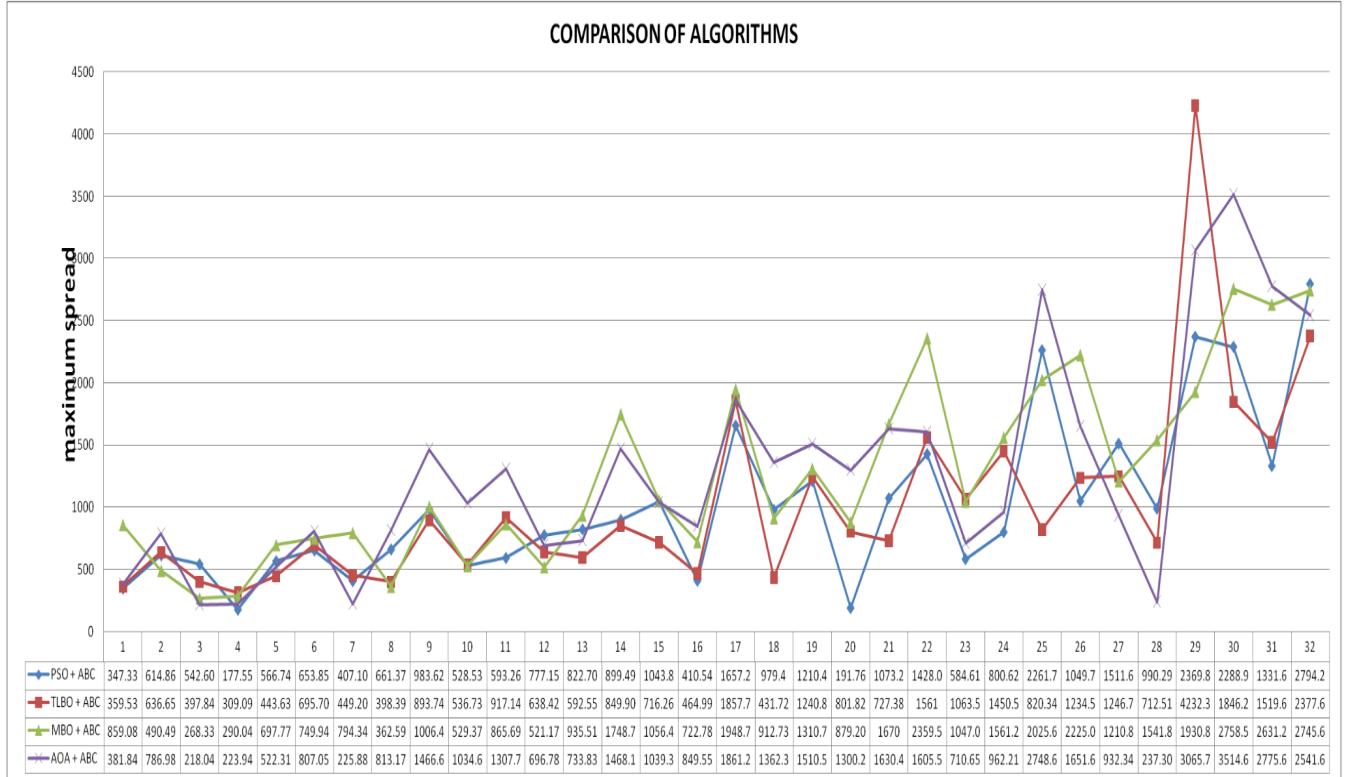
PI-4 for all 32 datasets for all four hybridised algorithms:



PI-5 for all 32 datasets for all four standard algorithms:



PI-5 for all 32 datasets for all four hybridised algorithms:



#### 8.4 CONSOLIDATED NUMERICAL COMPARISON OF ALL STANDARD vs HYBRID ALGORITHMS:

DATA SET no.	No. of tasks	No. of work stations	PROBLEM SIZE	PI 1	PI 2	PI 3	PI 4	PI 5	OVERAL L
1	25	3	SMALL	6	7	7	8	6	6, 7
2	25	4	SMALL	6	7	7	1	8	7
3	25	6	SMALL	7	8	8	7	7	7
4	25	9	SMALL	6	8	8	6	5	6, 8
5	35	4	SMALL	8	7	7	4	1	7
6	35	5	SMALL	7	7	8	8	7	7
7	35	7	SMALL	7	8	8	1	6	8
8	35	12	SMALL	8	8	6	1	8	8

9	53	5	MEDIUM	7	4	4	5	8	4
10	53	7	MEDIUM	8	8	7	3	8	8
11	53	10	MEDIUM	6	8	7	7	8	7, 8
12	53	14	MEDIUM	8	7	7	6	7	7
13	70	7	MEDIUM	8	8	8	6	7	8
14	70	10	MEDIUM	6	7	7	5	6	6, 7

15	70	14	MEDIUM	7	5	5	2	5	5	5
16	70	19	MEDIUM	8	8	8	2	8	8	8
17	89	8	MEDIUM	8	5	6	5	7	5	5
18	89	12	MEDIUM	7	7	7	4	8	7	7
19	89	16	MEDIUM	8	7	7	8	8	8	8
20	89	21	MEDIUM	7	8	8	7	8	8	8

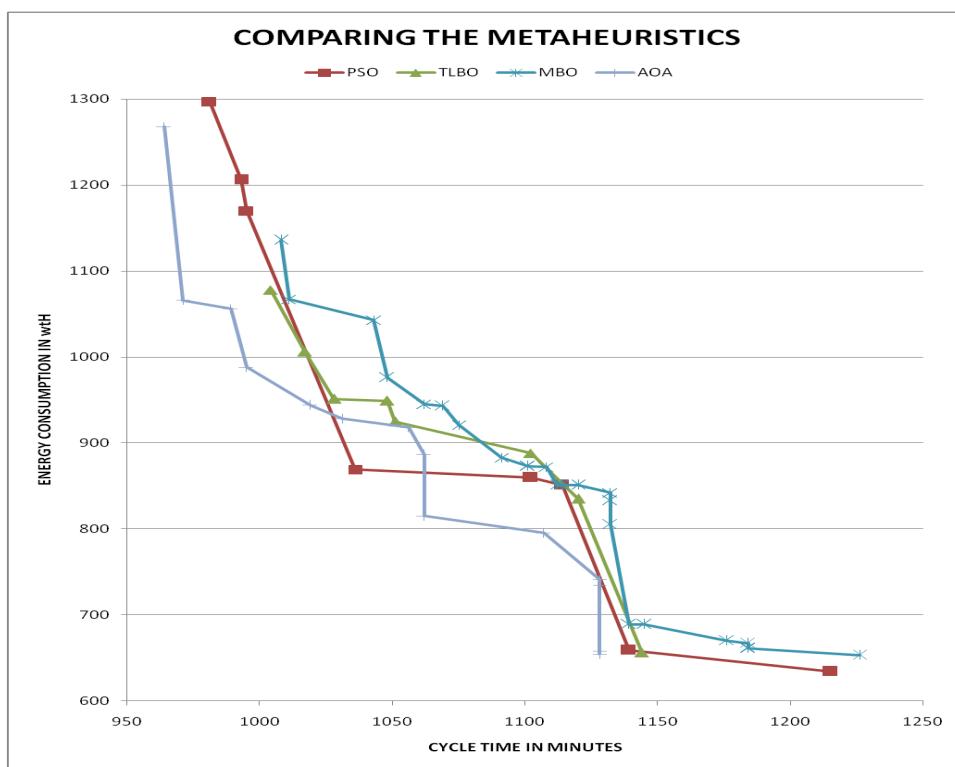
21	111	9	LARGE	8	7	7	4	6	6	7
22	111	13	LARGE	6	7	7	2	6	6	6, 7
23	111	17	LARGE	7	8	8	3	7	7	8
24	111	22	LARGE	6	8	8	5	6	6	6, 8
25	148	10	LARGE	6	8	8	6	7	7	6, 8
26	148	14	LARGE	8	7	8	2	6	6	8
27	148	21	LARGE	5	8	8	5	1	1	5, 8

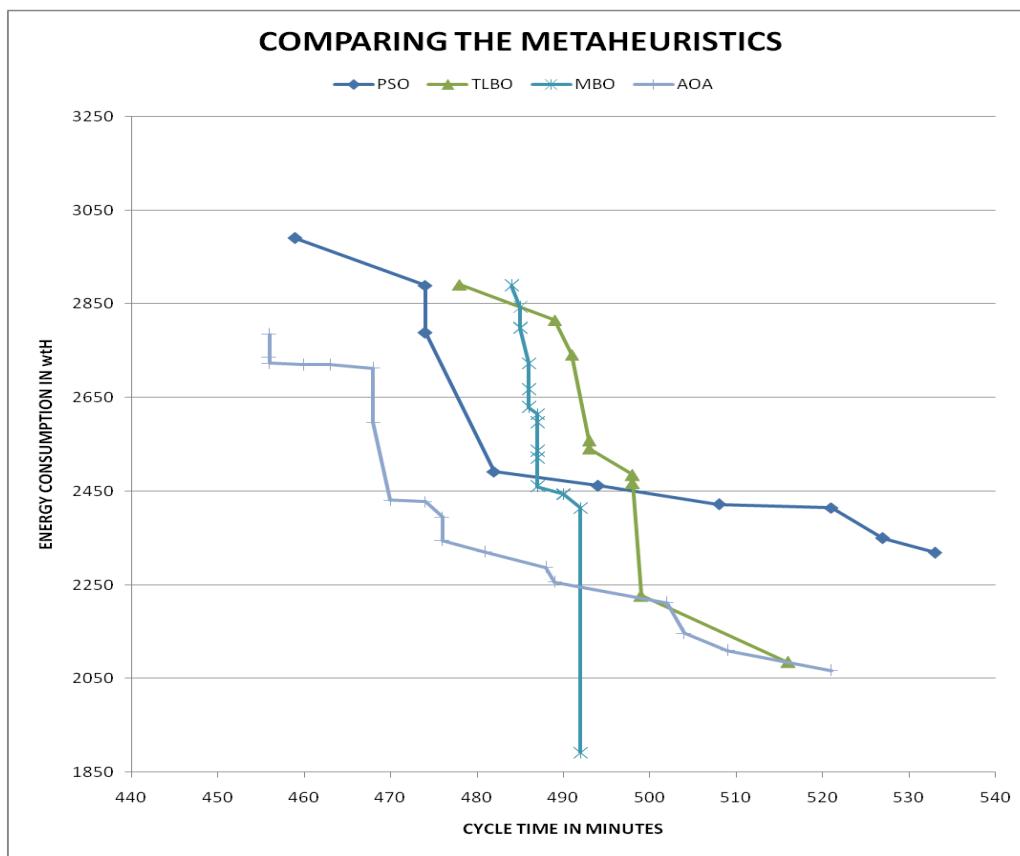
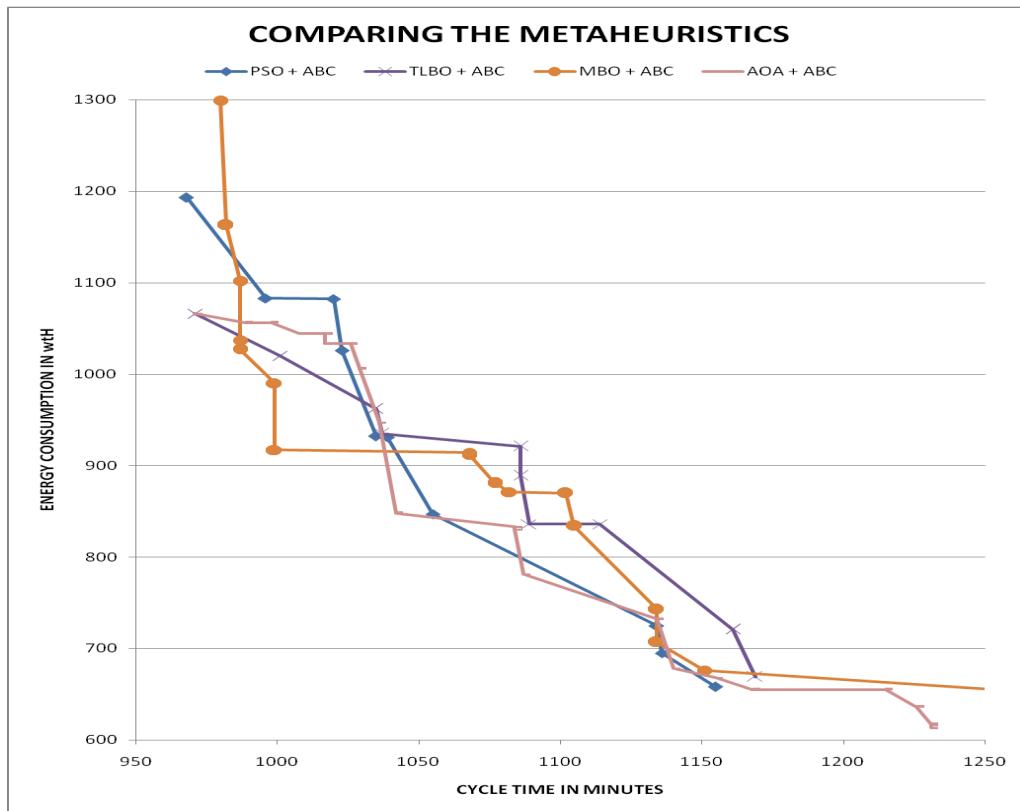
28	148	29	LARGE	5	7	7	5	6	6	5, 7
29	297	19	LARGE	8	8	8	6	4	4	8
30	297	29	LARGE	5	5	7	2	8	8	5
31	297	38	LARGE	6	7	7	4	8	8	7

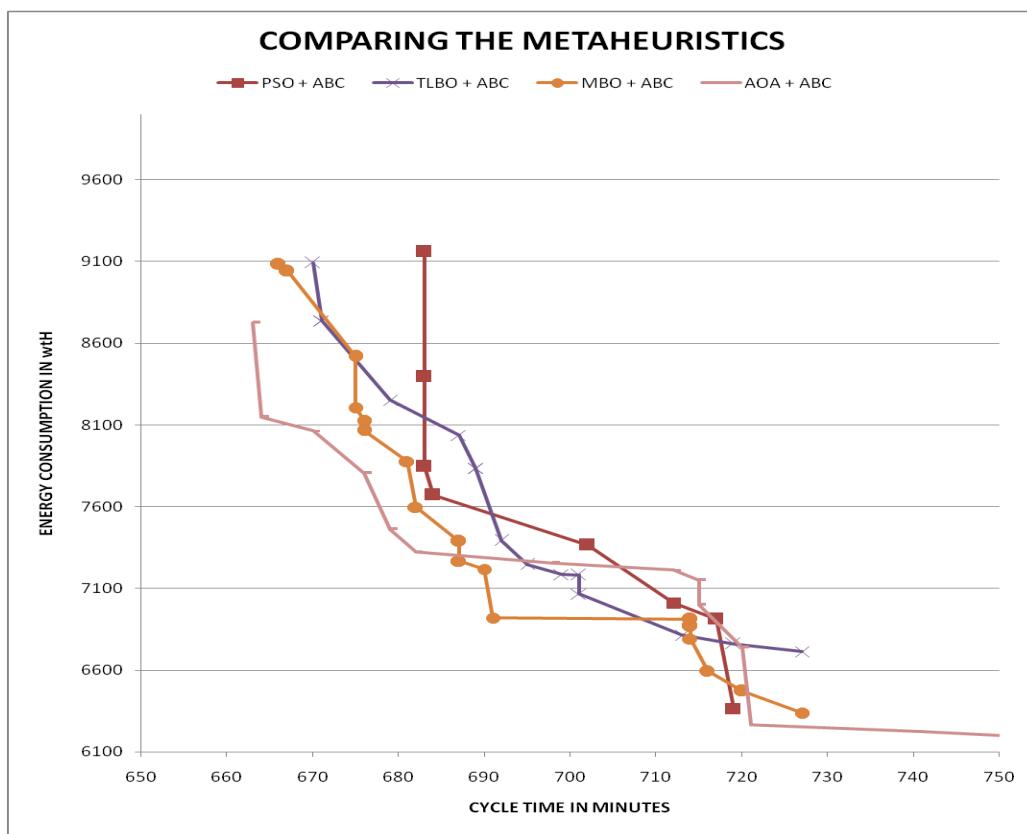
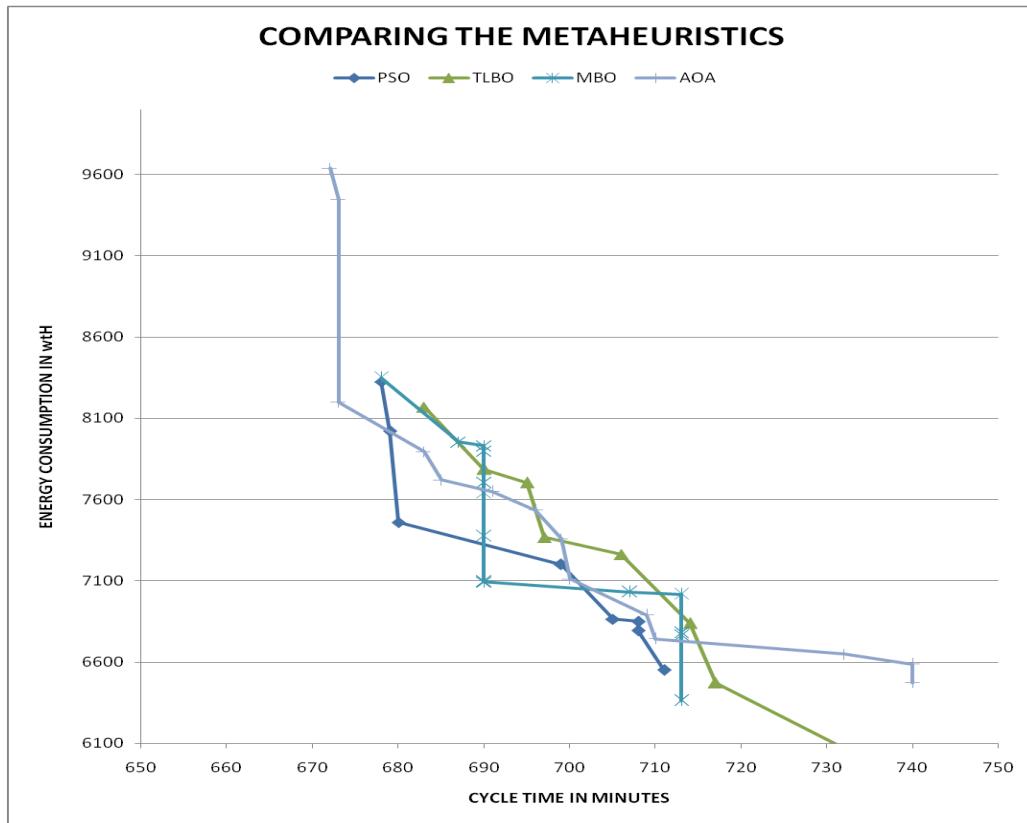
32	297	50	LARGE	6	1	8	7	7	7
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PROBLEM SIZE	Algo 1	Algo 2	Algo 3	Algo 4	Algo 5	Algo 6	Algo 7	Algo 8	OVERALL
Small	0	0	0	0	0	2	5	3	ALGO 7
Medium	0	0	0	1	2	1	4	6	ALGO 8
Large	0	0	0	0	3	3	6	6	ALGO 8

## 8.5 VISUALISATION OF RESULTS IN THE PARETO FRONT:







# **CHAPTER 9**

# **WORK TO BE DONE**

1. To apply the developed algorithms for a case-study in real-time industrial assembly data through a permitted industrial visit.
  2. Modify the algorithms according to industry-specific norms and present the balanced assembly line results.
  3. Completion of final report and journal for publication.

## **CHAPTER 10**

### **MILESTONES AND GANTT CHART (WORK PLAN)**

## REFERENCES

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