

# **Review and analysis of CO<sub>2</sub> photoreduction kinetics**

Warren A. Thompson, Eva S. Fernandez and M. Mercedes Maroto-Valer

Research Centre for Carbon Solutions (RCCS), School of Engineering  
& Physical Sciences, Heriot-Watt University, Edinburgh, EH14 4AS

## **A walk through comparison of multi-start trust-region, genetic algorithm and particle swarm methods for estimating nonlinear CO<sub>2</sub> photoreduction kinetic model coefficients**

Number of pages = 13

Number of figures = 7

See excellent MATLAB documentation for more information for the trust-region method

<https://uk.mathworks.com/help/optim/ug/constrained-nonlinear-optimization-algorithms.html>

MATLAB R2018b used

### **Data reported by Tan**

L.-L. Tan, W.-J. Ong, S.-P. Chai and A. R. Mohamed, Chemical Engineering Journal, 2017, 308, 248–255

- Extracted CH<sub>4</sub> data at different partial pressures of CO<sub>2</sub> from Figure 3 (a) using [WebPlotDigitizer](#)
- Extracted CH<sub>4</sub> data at different partial pressures of H<sub>2</sub>O from Figure 3 (b) using [WebPlotDigitizer](#)

### **Copy and paste these settings to run the script below**

(Partial pressure CO<sub>2</sub> (bar), partial pressure H<sub>2</sub>O (bar), CH<sub>4</sub> production (umol.gcat-1.h-1), I (mW/cm<sup>2</sup>), reported model coefficients and constraints used for mean median model in order of: k, alpha, KH<sub>2</sub>O and KCO<sub>2</sub>)

experimental\_settings\_PCO<sub>2</sub> = [0 0.25 0.5 0.75 0.9 1.01];

experimental\_settings\_PH<sub>2</sub>O = 0.043;

reported\_CH<sub>4</sub>\_production = [0 0.172 0.202 0.212 0.385 0.336];

```
I = 81;
reported_coefficients = [84.42 4.4E-2 8.070 1.93E-2];
lower_constraint = [0 0 0 0];
upper_constraint = [100 0.5 30 0.5];
```

## Please enter data and experimental settings used to fit the model

```
% Copy and paste experimental settings, production data and reported coefficients
% as code - highlight text and click "Code" icon in "LIVE EDITOR" ribbon
experimental_settings_PCO2 = [0 0.25 0.5 0.75 0.9 1.01];
experimental_settings_PH2O = 0.043;
reported_CH4_production = [0 0.172 0.202 0.212 0.385 0.336];
I = 81;
reported_coefficients = [84.42 4.4E-2 8.070 1.93E-2];
lower_constraint = [0 0 0 0];
upper_constraint = [100 0.5 30 0.5];

pressure_settings = ones(numel(experimental_settings_PCO2),2);
pressure_settings(:,1) = pressure_settings(:,1).*experimental_settings_PCO2';
pressure_settings(:,2) = pressure_settings(:,2).*experimental_settings_PH2O;
```

## Please enter values

- For number of loops median multi-start trust -region method will run
- Number of iterations per median loop
- Number of multi-start points

```
% Set the number of times the iteration of the algorithm iterations method
% will loop. Must be set to > 1 so that standard deviation and stats
% comparison is possible

number_for_std_deviation_calculation = 10;

% Set the number times the algorithm method will iterate
% within number of loops set above
number_method_iterations = 50;
```

## Line changes optional - Median multi-start (MS)

### trust-region method

- This is the median MS trust-region method
- After each MS iteration, the median of the coefficients estimated will be saved in an array

- After each MS iteration, the values with the lowest error will be saved in an array

```
% Two site kinetic model
% b(1) = k, b(2) = alpha, b(3) = KH2O and b(4) = KCO2

Two_site_LH_model = @(b,presure_settings)...
    (b(1).*I.^b(2).*(b(3).*presure_settings(:,2).*b(4).*...
    presure_settings(:,1)))./...
    ((1 + (b(3).*presure_settings(:,2))...
    + (b(4).*presure_settings(:,1))).^2);

% Set number of starting points for multi-start algorithm
no_multi_start_points = 10;

% Assign empty data array to record the median value after each loop of
% multi-start trust-region iterations is complete
multiple_MS_median_approach_values = [];
multiple_MS_error_approach_values = [];
all_MS_values = [];

% Assign empty data array to record the coefficient estimates for each
% multi-start solution
MS_model_values = [];
MS_model_values_errors = [];

for std_deviation_run = 1:number_for_std_deviation_calculation

    for median_run = 1:number_method_iterations

        % Randomly select intial starting point values between upper and
        % lower constraint values
        Random_starting_point_values = (upper_constraint-lower_constraint)....
            *rand(1,1) + lower_constraint;

        problem = createOptimProblem('lsqcurvefit','x0',...
            Random_starting_point_values,'objective',...
            Two_site_LH_model,'lb',lower_constraint,...
            'ub',upper_constraint,'xdata',...
            presure_settings,'ydata',...
            reported_CH4_production');

        ms = MultiStart('Display','off');
        [xMS,fvalMS] = run(ms,problem, no_multi_start_points);

        MS_model_values(median_run,1:numel(lower_constraint)) = xMS;
        MS_model_values_errors(median_run,1) = fvalMS;

    end

% Lets collect the coefficient values based on median approach
% for each round
multiple_MS_median_approach_values(std_deviation_run,...
```

```

1:numel(lower_constraint)) = median(MS_model_values);

% Lets collect the coefficient values based on lowest error approach
% for each round
[M,I] = min(MS_model_values_errors);
multiple_MS_error_approach_values(std_deviation_run,...
1:numel(lower_constraint)) = MS_model_values(I,1:numel(lower_constraint));

% Let's collect all of the multistart values for plotting histograms later
all_MS_values = [all_MS_values;MS_model_values];

end

```

## Line changes optional - Median genetic algorithm (GA)

### method

- This is the median GA method
- After each GA iteration, the median of the coefficients estimated will be saved in an array
- After each GA iteration, the values with the lowest error will be saved in an array

```

% Call GAmin function to assign sum of squares as objective function

fun_GA = @(b)minObj(b,presure_settings,I,reported_CH4_production);

% Assign empty data array to record the GA values after each loop of
% multi-start trust-region iterations is complete
multiple_GA_median_approach_values = [];
multiple_GA_error_approach_values = [];
all_GA_values = [];

% Assign empty data array to record the coefficient estimates for each
% GA solution
GA_model_values = [];
GA_model_values_errors = [];

for std_deviation_run = 1:number_for_std_deviation_calculation

    for median_run = 1:number_method_iterations

        options = optimoptions('ga','Display','off');
        [xGA,fvalGA] = ga(fun_GA,4,[],[],[],[],lower_constraint,...
            upper_constraint,[],options);

        GA_model_values(median_run,1:numel(lower_constraint)) = xGA;
        GA_model_values_errors(median_run,1) = fvalGA;
    end
end

```

```

end

% Lets collect the coefficient values based on median GA approach
% for each round
multiple_GA_median_approach_values(std_deviation_run,...
1:numel(lower_constraint)) = median(GA_model_values);

% Lets collect the coefficient values based on lowest error
% GA approach for each round

[M,I] = min(GA_model_values_errors);
multiple_GA_error_approach_values(std_deviation_run,...
1:numel(lower_constraint)) = GA_model_values(I,1:numel(lower_constraint));

% Let's collect all of the GA values for plotting histograms later
all_GA_values = [all_GA_values;GA_model_values];

end

```

## Line changes optional - Median particle swarm (PS)

### method

- This is the median PS method
- After each PS iteration, the median of the coefficients estimated will be saved in an array
- After each PS iteration, the values with the lowest error will be saved in an array

```

% Call PSmin function to assign sum of squares as objective function

fun_PS = @(b)minObj(b,pressure_settings,I,reported_CH4_production);

% Assign empty data array to record the GA values after each loop of
% multi-start trust-region iterations is complete
multiple_PS_median_approach_values = [];
multiple_PS_error_approach_values = [];
all_PS_values = [];

% Assign empty data array to record the coefficient estimates for each
% GA solution
PS_model_values = [];
PS_model_values_errors = [];

for std_deviation_run = 1:number_for_std_deviation_calculation

    for median_run = 1:number_method_iterations

        options = optimoptions('particleswarm','Display','off');
        [xPS,fvalPS] = particleswarm(fun_PS,4,lower_constraint,...

```

```

upper_constraint,options);

PS_model_values(median_run,1:numel(lower_constraint)) = xPS;
PS_model_values_errors(median_run,1) = fvalPS;

end

% Lets collect the coefficient values based on median GA approach
% for each round
multiple_PS_median_approach_values(std_deviation_run,...
1:numel(lower_constraint)) = median(PS_model_values);

% Lets collect the coefficient values based on lowest error
% GA approach for each round
[M,I] = min(PS_model_values_errors);
multiple_PS_error_approach_values(std_deviation_run,...
1:numel(lower_constraint)) = PS_model_values(I,1:numel(lower_constraint));

% Let's collect all of the GA values for plotting histograms later
all_PS_values = [all_PS_values;PS_model_values];

end

```

## How do the different approaches compare?

- Lets compare the spread of coefficient values estimated using histograms

```

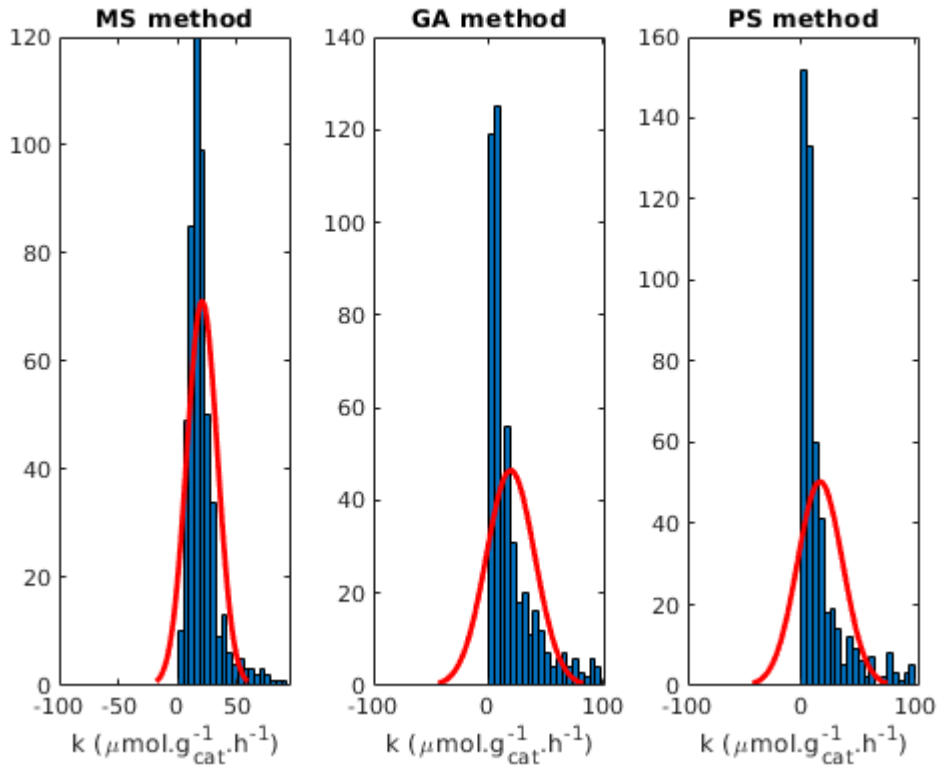
x_label = ["k (\mumol.g_{cat}^{-1}.h^{-1})" "\alpha" "K_{H_{2}O}" + ...
           "(bar^{-1})" "K_{CO_2} (bar^{-1})"];

% Set maximum histogram plot height, will need to increase for higher
% values set for: 'number_for_std_deviation_calculation' and/or
% 'number_median_iterations'
max_height=200;

figure;
% Plot histogram and median line for k coefficient estimates for different
% approaches
subplot(1,3,1);
histfit(all_MS_values(:,1),20); xlabel(x_label(1), 'FontSize', 20);
title('MS method')
subplot(1,3,2);
histfit(all_GA_values(:,1),20); xlabel(x_label(1), 'FontSize', 20);
title('GA method')
subplot(1,3,3);
histfit(all_PS_values(:,1),20); xlabel(x_label(1), 'FontSize', 20);
title('PS method')
sgtitle('Fig S1-AlgIt 1: Comparsion of estimated k coefficient values')

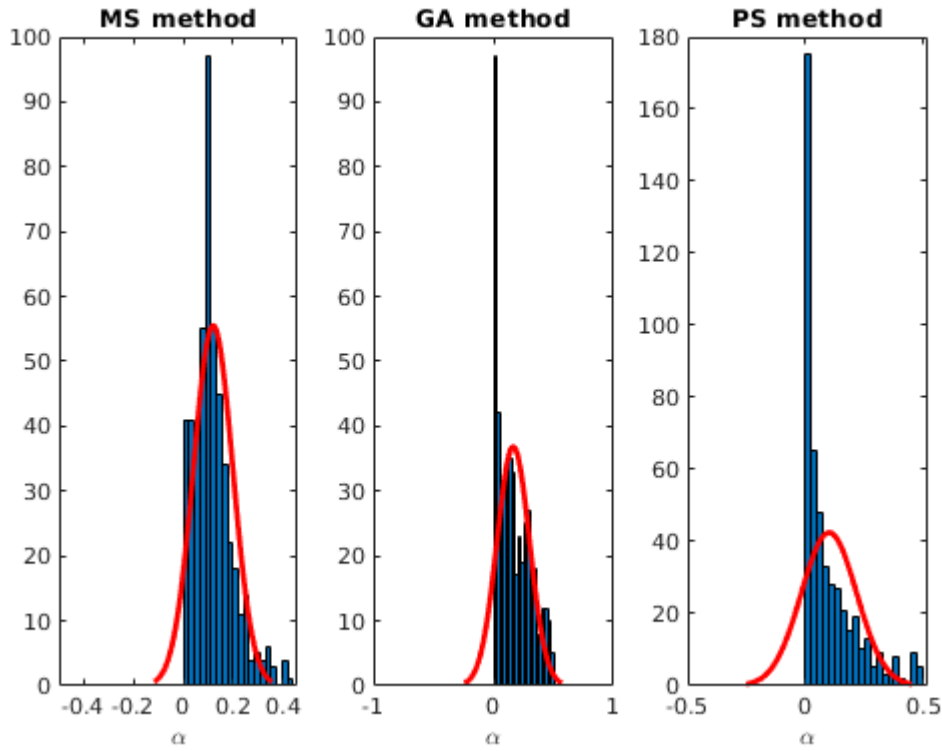
```

Fig S1-AlgIt 1: Comparson of estimated k coefficient values



```
figure;
% Plot histogram and median line for alpha coefficient estimates for different
% approaches
subplot(1,3,1);
histfit(all_MS_values(:,2),20); xlabel(x_label(2), 'FontSize', 20);
title('MS method')
subplot(1,3,2);
histfit(all_GA_values(:,2),20); xlabel(x_label(2), 'FontSize', 20);
title('GA method')
subplot(1,3,3);
histfit(all_PS_values(:,2),20); xlabel(x_label(2), 'FontSize', 20);
title('PS method')
sgtitle('Fig S1-AlgIt 2: Comparson of estimated \alpha coefficient values')
```

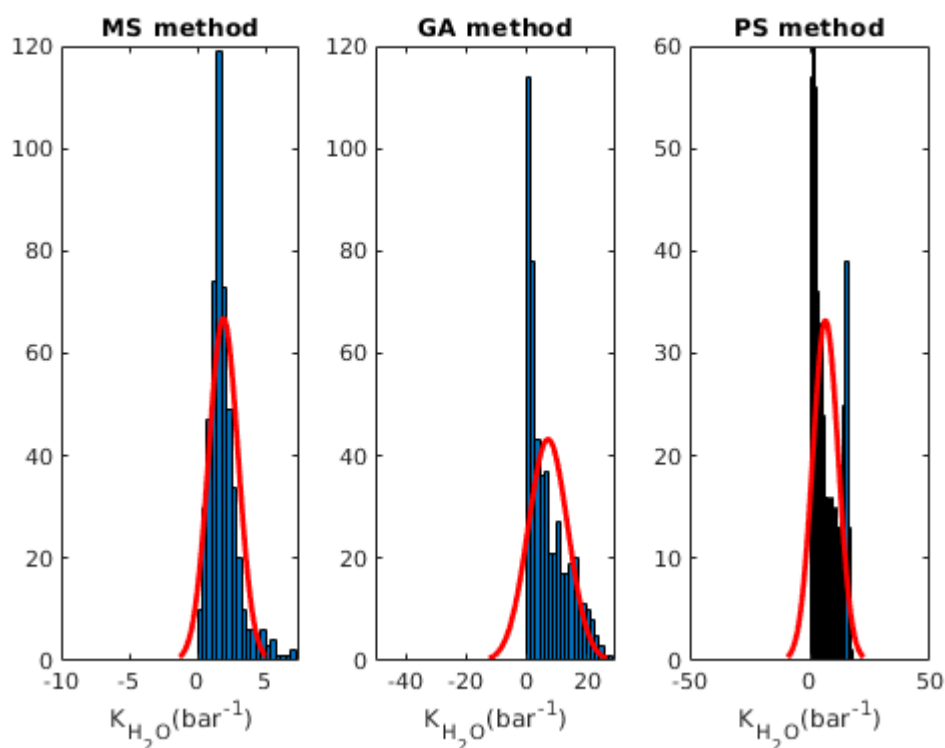
Fig S1-Algt 2: Comparson of estimated  $\alpha$  coefficient values



```
figure;
% Plot histogram and median line for KH2O coefficient estimates for different
% approaches
subplot(1,3,1);
histfit(all_MS_values(:,3),20); xlabel(x_label(3), 'FontSize', 20);
title('MS method')
subplot(1,3,2);
histfit(all_GA_values(:,3),20); xlabel(x_label(3), 'FontSize', 20);
title('GA method')
subplot(1,3,3);
histfit(all_PS_values(:,3),20); xlabel(x_label(3), 'FontSize', 20);
title('PS method')
sgtitle('Fig S1-Algt 3: Comparson of estimated K_{H_2O} coefficient values')
```

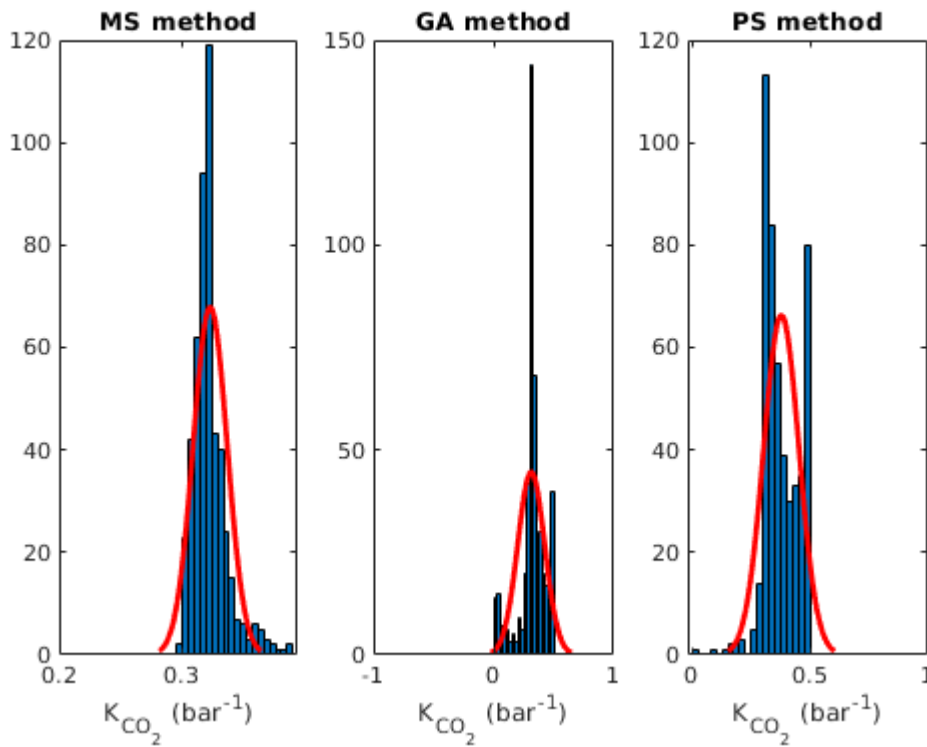


Fig S1-Algt 3: Comparson of estimated  $K_{H_2O}$  coefficient values



```
figure;
% Plot histogram and median line for KCO2 coefficient estimates for different
% approaches
subplot(1,3,1);
histfit(all_MS_values(:,4),20); xlabel(x_label(4), 'FontSize', 20);
title('MS method')
subplot(1,3,2);
histfit(all_GA_values(:,4),20); xlabel(x_label(4), 'FontSize', 20);
title('GA method')
subplot(1,3,3);
histfit(all_PS_values(:,4),20); xlabel(x_label(4), 'FontSize', 20);
title('PS method')
sgtitle('Fig S1-Algt 4: Comparson of estimated K_{CO_2} coefficient values')
```

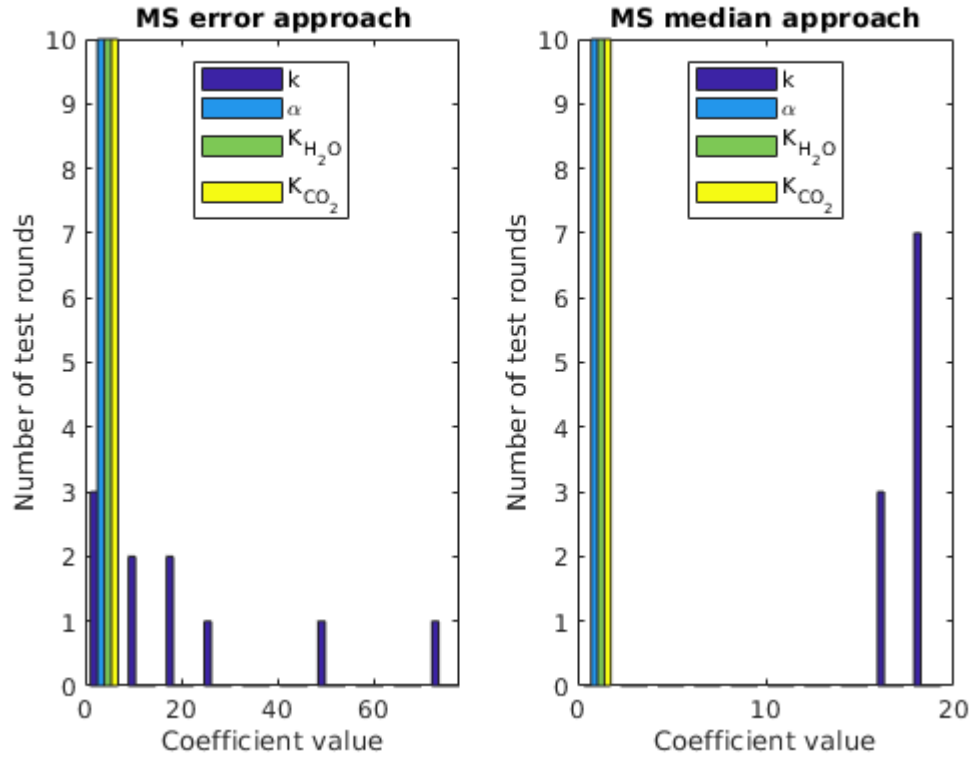
Fig S1-AlgIt 4: Comparson of estimated  $K_{CO_2}$  coefficient values



**Does choosing the coeffients with the lowest error yield  
reproducible results?**

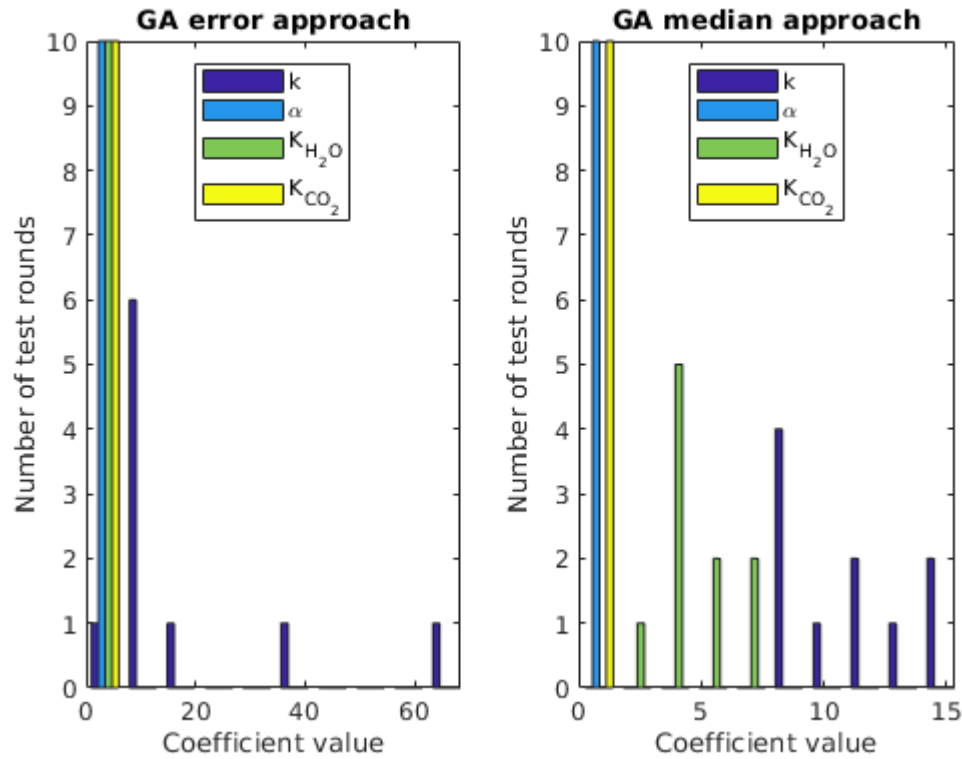
```
% Are the approaches repeatable?
figure;
subplot(1,2,1);
hist(multiple_MS_error_approach_values);
title('MS error approach');
xlabel('Coefficient value');
ylabel('Number of test rounds');
legend({'k', '\alpha', 'K_{H_2O}', 'K_{CO_2}'}, 'Location', 'north');
subplot(1,2,2);
hist(multiple_MS_median_approach_values);
title('MS median approach');
xlabel('Coefficient value');
ylabel('Number of test rounds');
legend({'k', '\alpha', 'K_{H_2O}', 'K_{CO_2}'}, 'Location', 'north');
sgtitle('Fig S1-AlgIt 5: Comparson of MS median and error approaches')
```

Fig S1-Algt 5: Comparson of MS median and error approaches



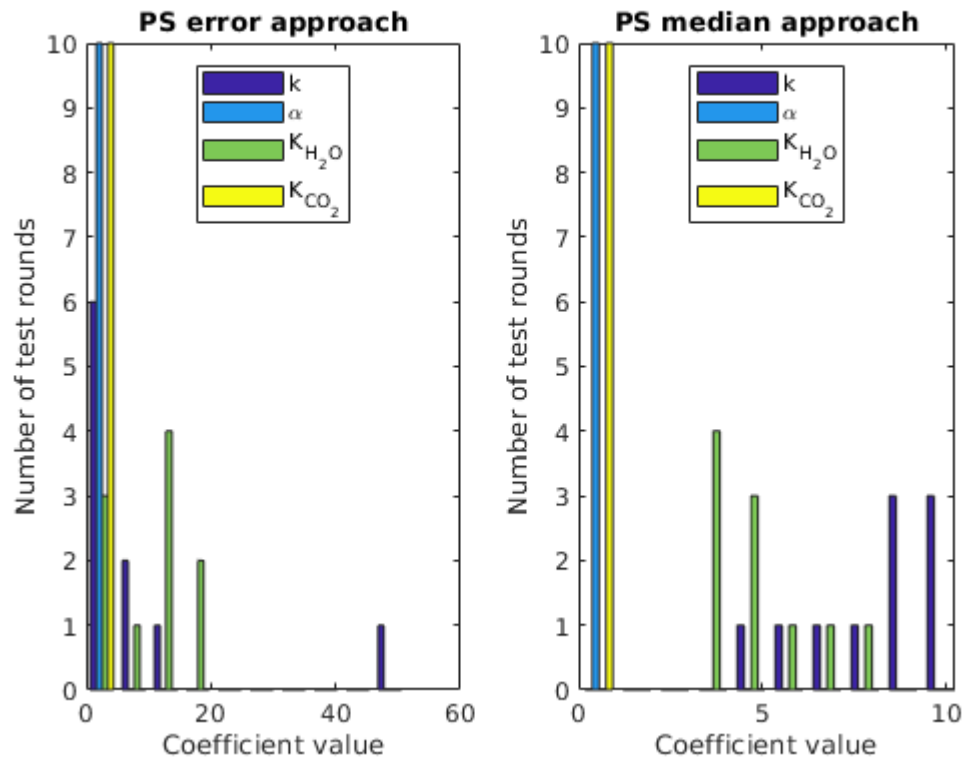
```
figure;
subplot(1,2,1);
hist(multiple_GA_error_approach_values);
title('GA error approach');
xlabel('Coefficient value');
ylabel('Number of test rounds');
legend({'k', '\alpha', 'K_{H_2O}', 'K_{CO_2}'}, 'Location', 'north');
subplot(1,2,2);
hist(multiple_GA_median_approach_values);
title('GA median approach');
xlabel('Coefficient value');
ylabel('Number of test rounds');
legend({'k', '\alpha', 'K_{H_2O}', 'K_{CO_2}'}, 'Location', 'north');
sgtitle('Fig S1-Algt 6: Comparson of GA median and error approaches')
```

Fig S1-Algt 6: Comparson of GA median and error approaches



```
figure;
subplot(1,2,1);
hist(multiple_PS_error_approach_values);
title('PS error approach');
xlabel('Coefficient value');
ylabel('Number of test rounds');
legend({'k', '\alpha', 'K_{H_2O}', 'K_{CO_2}'}, 'Location', 'north');
subplot(1,2,2);
hist(multiple_PS_median_approach_values);
title('PS median approach');
xlabel('Coefficient value');
ylabel('Number of test rounds');
legend({'k', '\alpha', 'K_{H_2O}', 'K_{CO_2}'}, 'Location', 'north');
sgtitle('Fig S1-Algt 7: Comparson of PS median and error approaches')
```

Fig S1-Alglt 7: Comparson of PS median and error approaches



## Sum of squares objective function

```
function sse = minObj(b,pressure_settings,irradiance,production_data)

I = irradiance;
y = production_data';

sse = sum(((b(1).*I.^b(2).*(b(3).*pressure_settings(:,2)).*b(4).*...
    pressure_settings(:,1)))./((1 + (b(3).*pressure_settings(:,2)).*...
    + (b(4).*pressure_settings(:,1))).^2) - y).^2);

end
```