## Dynamic Sensor Deployment in Mobile Wireless Sensor Networks Using Multi-Agent Krill Herd Algorithm

by

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B.Sc., Islamic Azad University Shahre Rey, 2011M.Sc., Newcastle University, 2012

A Thesis Submitted in Partial Fulfillment of the Requirements for the Degree of

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#### ABSTRACT

A Wireless Sensor Network (WSN) is a group of spatially dispersed sensors that monitor the physical conditions of the environment and collect data at a central location. Sensor deployment is one of the main design aspects of WSNs as this affects network coverage. In general, WSN deployment methods fall into two categories: planned deployment and random deployment. This thesis considers planned sensor deployment of a Mobile Wireless Sensor Network (MWSN), which is defined as selectively deciding the locations of the mobile sensors under the given constraints to optimize the coverage of the network.

Metaheuristic algorithms are powerful tools for the modeling and optimization of problems. The Krill Herd Algorithm (KHA) is a new nature-inspired metaheuristic algorithm which can be used to solve the sensor deployment problem. A Multi-Agent System (MAS) is a system that contains multiple interacting agents. These agents are autonomous entities that interact with their environment and direct their activity towards achieving specific goals. Agents can also learn or use their knowledge to accomplish a mission. Multi-agent systems can solve problems that are very difficult or even impossible for monolithic systems to solve. In this work, a modification of KHA is proposed which incorporates MAS to obtain a Multi-Agent Krill Herd Algorithm (MA-KHA).

To test the performance of the proposed method, five benchmark global optimization problems are used. Numerical results are presented which show that MA-KHA performs better than the KHA by finding better solutions. The proposed MA-KHA is also employed to solve the sensor deployment problem. Simulation results are presented which indicate that the agent-agent interactions in MA-KHA improves the WSN coverage in comparison with Particle Swarm Optimization (PSO), the Firefly Algorithm (FA), and the KHA.

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## Glossary

ACO Ant Colony Optimization AI Artificial Intelligence APF Artificial Potential Field

BBO Biography-Based Optimization BFGS Broyden-Fletcher-Goldfarb-Shanno

CG Computational Geometry-based

CS Cuckoo Search

DE Differential Evolution

ES Evolutionary Strategies

FA Firefly Algorithm

GA Genetic Algorithm

HS Harmony Search

IoT Internet of Things ISOGRID Isometric GRID-based

KHA Krill Herd Algorithm

MA-KHA Multi-Agent Krill Herd Algorithm

MAS Multi-Agent System

MEMS Micro-Electro-Mechanical-System MWSN Mobile Wireless Sensor Network

NFE Number of Function Evaluations

NP-hard Non-deterministic Polynomial-time hard

PSO Particle Swarm Optimization

Simulated Annealing SA Standard Deviation

SD

Sensing Field SF

SGAStud Genetic Algorithm

Swarm Intelligence SI

SKH Stud Krill Herd

TSTabu Search

VDVoronoi Diagram

VFA Virtual Forced-based Approach

WSN Wireless Sensor Network

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### DEDICATION

To the ones whom I worship,  $\mathbf{Mom}$  and  $\mathbf{Dad}$ 

and

to the one who has always stood beside me with love, Parniy.

## Chapter 1

## Introduction

Wireless Sensor Networks (WSNs) are a group of spatially dispersed sensors that monitor the physical conditions of the environment and organize the collected data at a central location. Advances in wireless communications, digital electronics, and Micro-Electro-Mechanical-System (MEMS) have led to WSNs being extensively employed in many fields [1]. The advantages of WSNs in distributed self-organization and low energy consumption have made them an integral part of new technologies such as the Internet of Things (IoT) [2].

A wireless sensor network is composed of small low-power sensor nodes that are capable of sensing various physical phenomena such as sound, light, motion, and temperature. These devices process sensory data and send the results to a collection point. The collection point, called a sink or base station, is connected to a wired or wireless network. This forms an ad-hoc network and lets the sensor network carry out data processing [3], [4].

WSNs are fundamentally different from other wired and wireless networks as they have communication and energy constraints. Sensor deployment is another design aspect that influences almost all performance metrics, including network coverage,

network lifetime, and sensor connectivity. Hence, good sensor deployment is essential in every WSN since this reduces the energy consumption of the network [5].

Optimization algorithms can be used to provide solutions for the WSN deployment problem. Nonetheless, conventional deterministic optimization approaches are not suitable for most deployment problems as they are characterized by multiple design objectives and a large number of heterogeneous sensors. Such problems have been proven to be Non-deterministic Polynomial-time hard (NP-hard) [6], and the time required to find an optimal solution increases exponentially with the size of the problem [7]. For this reason, metaheuristic and Swarm Intelligence (SI) algorithms that belong to the discipline of Artificial Intelligence (AI) have become popular over the last decade [8]. SI-based optimization (swarm optimization) is a branch of metaheuristic algorithms inspired by the collective behavior of social swarms of creatures such as ants, bees, fireflies, worms, and birds. While individuals in swarms are relatively unsophisticated, their collective behavior leads to the self-organization of the whole system [9].

## 1.1 Objectives

In this thesis, the deployment problem in Mobile Wireless Sensor Networks (MWSNs) using swarm optimization is investigated. Here the sensor deployment problem and the corresponding coverage problem are interpreted as obtaining the maximum coverage in a given target field using a set of mobile wireless sensors, and are solved using Particle Swarm Optimization (PSO), Firefly Algorithm (FA), and Krill Herd Algorithm (KHA).

KHA is a swarm optimization method that is among the best SI algorithms. Nonetheless, it has not been applied for many applications because it is a relatively new algorithm. PSO is a well-studied algorithm in the area of swarm optimization and is usually used as a benchmark. The FA is a nature-inspired SI method that can provide solutions for difficult optimization problems including NP-hard problems. In this thesis, PSO and FA have been chosen to compare with KHA because these algorithms have similar characteristics.

To improve the performance of the KHA, a modified krill algorithm based on multiagent systems is proposed named Multi-Agent Krill Herd Algorithm (MA-KHA). The effectiveness of the proposed algorithms are examined using several benchmark global optimization problems. The MA-KHA is then utilized for the MWSN deployment problem and its performance is compared with other algorithms.

### 1.2 Contributions

The contributions of this thesis are as follows.

- A modified krill algorithm is proposed using multi-agent systems named MA-KHA. It is studied and compared with the KHA using several benchmark global optimization problems.
- The proposed MA-KHA is used to optimize MWSN sensor deployment. The results are compared with those obtained using PSO, FA, and KHA optimization methods.

## 1.3 Thesis Outline

The remainder of this thesis is organized as follows.

• Chapter 2 introduces deployment algorithms for MWSNs as well as the corresponding design factors. The fundamental concepts and algorithms used

throughout the thesis are reviewed (deployment algorithms, metaheuristic and SI algorithms, Genetic Algorithm (GA), PSO, FA, and KHA). The related work in the literature is also reviewed.

- Chapter 3 starts with an explanation of multi-agent systems and the corresponding design aspects. An agent-based modified KHA is then presented and compared with the original KHA using several benchmark global optimization problems.
- Chapter 4 considers the solution of the MWSN deployment problem using SI algorithms. Simulation results using MA-KHA for MWSN deployment are presented and compared with the corresponding results using the FA, PSO, and original KHA.
- In Chapter 5, some conclusions are drawn followed by suggestions for future work.

## Chapter 2

## Background

In this chapter, the foundations of the systems and algorithms used in this thesis are presented. Related work regarding swarm optimization algorithms and WSN optimization are also reviewed.

## 2.1 Sensor Deployment in WSNs

The coverage of WSNs is a direct result of the sensor deployment. This section presents the most popular deployment algorithms in the literature.

### 2.1.1 WSN Design Factors

### 2.1.1.1 Sensing Model

A sensor is a device that measures changes in a physical condition of the environment. The Sensing Field (SF) of a wireless sensor network is the area covered by the sensors. The sensing model describes the probability of target (or event) detection by the sensor. It is a function of the distance between the target and sensor. Two sensing models have been discussed in the literature: binary sensing and probabilistic sensing

[9]. In this thesis, a binary sensing model is used. This means assuming target j is at a point  $x_j$  within the SF and  $r_s$  is the sensing range of sensor  $S_i$ , the target is detected by  $S_i$  only if it is at a distance  $r_s$  or less from the sensor. The probability of target detection by sensor  $S_i$  is given by

$$P_{ij} = \begin{cases} 1 & \text{if } d_{ij} \le r_s \\ 0 & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$
 (2.1)

There are three basic assumptions considered in this thesis.

- Sensors have the same sensing ability with the same sensing range.
- Sensors are interconnected, which means they exchange information with each other.
- Sensors can move.

#### 2.1.1.2 Sensor Mobility and Coverage

Wireless sensor networks can be categorized into two types: static WSNs (referred to as just WSNs), and Mobile WSNs (MWSNs). MWSNs contain sensors with locomotive capability in addition to sensing, processing, and communication functions. Mobility provides sensors with the ability to self-deploy after a random initial deployment.

Coverage is a primary performance metric for WSN deployment. There are three types of WSN coverage: area coverage, point coverage, and barrier coverage [10]. The main objective of area coverage is to cover the entire sensing field. In point coverage the objective is to cover targets with known locations which can be considered as a special case of the area coverage problem. Barrier coverage uses a number of barriers to block parts of the SF. In this thesis, area coverage is studied with the goal of

achieving maximum coverage using mobile wireless sensor nodes.

#### 2.1.2 Deployment Algorithms

WSN deployment algorithms can be categorized into four types: random, planned, incremental, and movement-assisted. The first three are static deployment methods, while the last is a dynamic approach.

Random deployment is used when the SF is inaccessible or when no prior knowledge is available (e.g., disaster zones and military applications). It is also utilized in the initial phase of movement-assisted deployment strategies where the locations of sensors are adjusted based on the outcome of the random placement [5]. When the SF is reachable, planned deployment is used in which case the locations of the senors are determined simultaneously. Incremental deployment strategies use a one-at-a-time centralized approach to place the sensors [11]. Each node determines its location using information provided by the previously deployed nodes. The merit of this algorithm is that it can optimize the node locations in each step, but the network initialization time is lengthy because the sensors are deployed iteratively.

Random and planned deployment methods suffer from inaccuracy because control over the actual sensor locations is limited. Furthermore, incremental deployment methods are complex and time-consuming. For this reason, movement-assisted deployment algorithms have been proposed. These algorithms place sensors by optimizing one or more WSN design objectives under specific application constraints. Typical objectives are maximizing the coverage, minimizing the power consumption, and reliable network connectivity. In moving-assisted deployment algorithms, sensors are first deployed randomly and then moved using knowledge of other node locations. The main moving-assisted approaches are given below.

• Computational Geometry-based (CG) algorithms, including the Voronoi Dia-

gram (VD) approach [12] and the Isometric GRID-based (ISOGRID) algorithm [13].

- Virtual Forced-based Approach (VFA) [14], [15].
- Artificial Potential Field (APF) technique [16].
- SI algorithms, which will be discussed in Section 2.2.3.2 [17]–[28].

In this thesis, the focus is on SI algorithms as they are capable of solving complex optimization problems effectively and efficiently.

## 2.2 Metaheuristic and Swarm Optimization

Optimization methods can be categorized in several ways. From one perspective, they are trajectory-based or population-based. Trajectory-based algorithms follow only one path. Hill-climbing and Simulated Annealing (SA) are examples of trajectory-based optimization approaches. On the contrary, population-based algorithms such as PSO employ multiple elements (called particles in PSO), to examine numerous paths simultaneously.

Optimization algorithms can be divided into deterministic or stochastic algorithms. Stochastic algorithms employ randomness while deterministic algorithms do not. Stochastic algorithms may provide different solutions each time they are executed, even with the same initial values. Genetic algorithms and PSO are examples of stochastic algorithms.

The algorithm search capabilities can be used for classification into local and global search algorithms. There are also mixed type methods, called hybrid algorithms, which utilize a combination of these characteristics [29].

#### 2.2.1 Metaheuristic Algorithms

In general, heuristic means to discover using trial and error, and meta means higher level. In metaheuristic algorithms, a trade-off between diversification (global search) and intensification (local search) is utilized. These algorithms can provide solutions to difficult optimization problems in an acceptable amount of time [7]. However, there is no guarantee that the solutions found are optimal and convergence for most algorithms is not assured. There are two major components in any metaheuristic algorithm: exploration and exploitation. Exploitation (or intensification) means to locally focus on the search region of the current solutions, while exploration (also called diversification) generates diverse solutions by exploring the entire search space. The former ensures that the solutions found are locally the best, while the latter enables the algorithm to escape from local optima to increase the diversity of solutions. A proper balance between the two components can greatly affect the performance of the algorithm [30].

### 2.2.2 Swarm Intelligence

SI is a branch of metaheuristic search algorithms. SI was first used with cellular robotic systems [31] and has become increasingly popular over the last decade. It has found numerous applications in optimization (swarm optimization), science, and engineering.

SI algorithms focus on the collective behavior of the individuals and their interactions with the environment and each other. For example, SI mimics the foraging, mating, nest-building, and clustering of social groups like insects, colonies of ants, flocks of birds, and herds of animals.

All SI algorithms have the following properties:

- they comprise many individuals that are relatively homogeneous, and
- individuals interact based on simple behavioral rules.

The first metaheuristic algorithm were developed based on Evolutionary Strategies (ES) during the 1960s [32], [33]. Genetic Algorithms (GAs) were developed in the 1970s [34]. During the 1980s, Simulated Annealing (SA) [35] (inspired by the annealing process of metals) and Tabu Search (TS) were developed. TS was the first metaheuristic algorithm to use memory [36]. Ant Colony Optimization (ACO) [37] was introduced in 1992. This algorithm was inspired by the social interaction of ants using pheromones. In the same year, genetic programming was developed which laid the basis for machine learning [38]. In 1995, PSO was developed [39] and a year later, Differential Evolution (DE) was introduced [40]. The latter is a vector-based evolutionary algorithm and has been shown to outperform GAs in many applications. At the beginning of the 21st century, several metaheuristics algorithms were developed including the music-inspired Harmony Search (HS) algorithm [41], the honey bee algorithm [42], and the artificial bee colony algorithm [43]. In 2008, the firefly algorithm was introduced [44] followed by the efficient Cuckoo Search (CS) algorithm in 2009 [45]. In 2011, the bio-inspired KHA was introduced which competes with the best SI algorithms [46]. Table I gives a chronologically ordered list of metaheuristic algorithms. Figure 1 shows the classification of metaheuristic algorithms.

Every swarm optimization algorithm has a n-dimensional search space  $A^n$ . Let  $A^n \subseteq R^n$ , where  $R^n$  is the n-dimensional real space. Assuming a swarm population size of N, the swarm population (called population in general) is defined as

$$X = (x_1, x_2, \dots, x_i, \dots, x_N)$$
(2.2)

where  $x_i$  is the *i*th population element (called particle in PSO, firefly in FA, krill in

TABLE I. History of Metaheuristic Algorithms

Year	Algorithm
1963	Evolution strategies [33]
1966	Evolutionary programming [34]
1975	Genetic algorithms [34]
1983	Simulated annealing [35]
1986	Tabu search [36]
1992	Ant colony optimization [37]
1992	Genetic programming [38]
1995	Particle swarm optimization [39]
1996	Differential evolution [40]
2001	Harmony search algorithm [41]
2004	Honey bee algorithm [42]
2005	Artificial bee colony [43]
2008	Firefly algorithm [44]
2010	Cuckoo search [45]
2011	Krill herd algorithm [46]

KHA, and agent in a MAS) as the ith solution to the optimization problem given by

$$x_i = (x_{i1}, x_{i2}, \dots, x_{ij}, \dots, x_{in}) \in A^n, i = 1, 2, \dots, N$$
 (2.3)

where  $x_{ij}$ , j = 1, 2, ..., n is the jth element of  $x_i$ . A swarm optimization algorithm also needs an objective function f() to measure the performance of the solutions. A minimization problem is then given by

$$\min_{x} \{ f(x) | x \in X \} \tag{2.4}$$

where x is the population element variable. A solution  $x^*$  is said to be the global best solution for the minimization problem given above only if  $f(x^*) \leq f(x)$  for all  $x \in X$ .

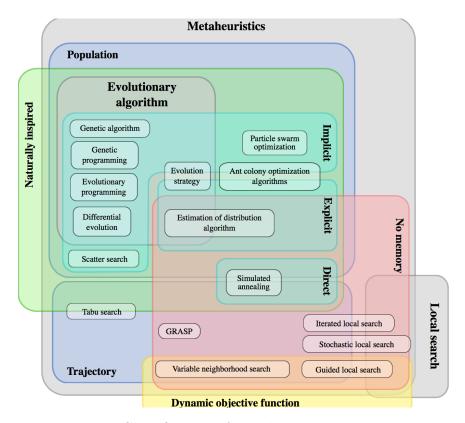


Figure 1. Classification of metaheuristic algorithms\*.

#### 2.2.2.1 Genetic Algorithms

GAs are optimization algorithms based on the mechanism of natural selection in evolution [47]. The use of crossover, recombination, mutation, and selection was proposed for the study of artificial systems in the 1970s. Since then, GAs have been used to solve both discrete and continuous optimization problems. These algorithms have been shown to be very efficient in solving multi-objective optimization problems for which deterministic optimization methods are not practical [48]. Many modern evolutionary algorithms have been inspired by GAs. All variants of genetic algorithms have the following three essential components [49]:

- encoding, which is a genetic representation of the candidate solutions,
- a fitness function (or cost function), which is a mathematical expression of the

<sup>\*</sup>http:metah.nojhan.netpost200710/12 Classification-of-metaheuristics

optimization objective, and

• stochastic genetic operators (crossover and mutation), to change the composition of the offspring. Crossover swaps a portion of two binary strings whereas mutation randomly alters the entries of a binary string.

There are also five steps in a GA [49].

- 1. Creating an initial population: an initial population of individuals (also called chromosomes) is created so that the search space of the problem is uniformly covered.
- 2. Population evaluation using the fitness function: individuals in the population are evaluated using the fitness function. The weakest individuals are eliminated from the population.
- 3. Parent selection: parent chromosomes are selected.
- 4. Offspring production: the genetic operators are applied to the chosen parents to produce an offspring population. Crossover is the primary genetic operator which randomly pairs parents to produce offspring. Mutation generates a new individual by randomly altering part of a selected parent. The offspring population is then evaluated using the fitness function.
- 5. Final selection: the best individuals from both the parent and offspring populations are chosen to form a new population.

Each iteration of steps 2 to 5 (also called a generation), results in a new population. By repeating these steps the algorithm converges to a population which hopefully represents an optimum solution to the problem. The termination conditions can be determined by several factors including Number of Function Evaluations (NFE), number of iterations, time, or reaching a specific solution or threshold. In this thesis,

both NFE and number of iterations are used as the termination conditions for all algorithms. The GA pseudo-code is shown in Algorithm 1.

Step	Algorithm 1 Genetic Algorithm
1.	Set $t = 0$
2.	Initialize the parameters and a random initial population $X_0$
3.	Evaluate $X_0$ with the fitness function $f()$
4.	while (termination conditions are not met) do
5.	Apply the genetic operators to the population
6.	Evaluate the resulting population with $f()$
7.	Select and update population $X$
8.	t = t + 1
9.	end while

#### 2.2.2.2 Particle Swarm Optimization

PSO is a stochastic optimization method based on models of fish school and bird flock movements. The idea is to utilize the swarm population (particles) that move stochastically across the search space of the optimization problem.

The mathematical framework of PSO is as follows. Each particle retains its best position during the search and is denoted by  $m_i = (m_{i1}, m_{i2}, \ldots, m_{in}) \in A^n$  for particle i. The set  $M = (m_1, m_2, \ldots, m_N)$  contains the best positions of the particles. The best position of all particles is called the global best and is denoted by  $g = (g_1, g_2, \ldots, g_n) \in A^n$ . The global best and best positions play a crucial role in PSO to move the particles in the search space. The other parameter is the velocity  $v_i = (v_{i1}, v_{21}..., v_{in}), i = 1, 2, ..., N$  which updates the particle positions in each iteration. The velocity of particle i is defined as

$$v_i(t+1) = wv_i(t) + c_1 R_1 (m_i(t) - x_i(t)) + c_2 R_2 (g(t) - x_i(t))$$
(2.5)

where w is the inertia weight,  $R_1$  and  $R_2$  are random variables which are uniformly

distributed between 0 and 1, and  $c_1$  and  $c_2$  are the weights of the cognitive and social components, respectively. Note that t and t + 1 represent the current and next iterations, respectively. The velocity is obtained by combining the cognitive component (the distance of particle i from its best position  $m_i$ ), the social component (the distance of particle i from the global best g), and the current value of the velocity. The updated particle in the next iteration is given by

$$x_i(t+1) = x_i(t) + v_i(t+1)$$
(2.6)

where  $x_i(t)$  and  $x_i(t+1)$  are particle i in the current and next iterations, respectively, and  $v_i(t+1)$  is the velocity of particle i at iteration t+1.

Algorithm 2 gives the PSO algorithm in pseudo-code. When the termination conditions are met, the global best particle g in the last updated population is the solution of the PSO algorithm.

Step	Algorithm 2 Particle Swarm Optimization
1.	Set $t = 0$
2.	Set inertia weight, personal learning, and global learning coefficients
3.	Initialize a random population $X_0$ using (2.2) and (2.3), and set $M = X_0$
4.	Evaluate $X_0$ with the fitness function $f()$
	and define $g$ as the global best position
5.	while (termination condition not met) do
6.	Update population $X$ for each particle using $(2.5)$ and $(2.6)$
7.	Evaluate $X$ , update $M$ , and recalculate $g$
8.	t = t + 1
9.	end while

#### 2.2.2.3 Firefly Algorithm

The FA [44] is a stochastic SI algorithm. It is based on the following three fundamental rules:

• fireflies are attracted to each other regardless of their sex,

- attractiveness is proportional to the brightness and decreases as the distance from other fireflies increases, and
- the brightness of a firefly is defined by its performance based on the objective function.

The main characteristic of fireflies is their flashing light. These lights are courtship signals for the purpose of mating, and fireflies prefer the ones that are brighter [50]. In the FA, the movement of fireflies is a function of the flashing light behavior of others, which means fireflies move in the direction of brighter fireflies (local search). Randomization enables the FA to explore the search space and helps avoid being trapped in local minima [51].

#### 2.2.2.3.1 Formulation and Implementation of the Firefly Algorithm

The firefly algorithm is based on the light intensity which follows an inverse square law. Attractiveness is a relative measure of the light from the perspective of the other fireflies and is defined as

$$\beta = \beta_0 e^{-\gamma r_{i,j}^2} \tag{2.7}$$

where  $\beta_0$  is the initial attractiveness at the source (r=0),  $\gamma$  is the light absorption coefficient, and  $\beta$  is the firefly attractiveness at distance  $r_{i,j}$ , which is the distance between fireflies i and j given by

(2.8)

The movement of the *i*th firefly towards a brighter firefly j is formulated as

$$x_i(t+1) = x_i(t) + \beta(x_j(t) - x_i(t)) + \alpha \epsilon_i \quad \text{if} \quad L_j \ge L_i$$
 (2.9)

where  $L_i$  and  $L_j$  are the light intensities of ith and jth fireflies, respectively. The light intensity of firefly i representing the solution  $x_i$  is given by  $L_i = f(x_i)$ . Note that for a minimization problem, a brighter firefly corresponds to a solution with lower fitness.  $\epsilon_i$  is a random value that can be drawn from a Gaussian, Levy, or uniform distribution, and  $\alpha$  is the random walk coefficient. In order to have a good global search at the beginning of the iterative process and a better local search in later iterations, a damping parameter  $\alpha_{damp}$  is defined (step 12 in Algorithm 3) [50].

The parameter  $\gamma$  has a crucial impact on the convergence of the algorithm and typically is between 0.1 to 10 [44], depending on the problem. Following the mathematical framework in (2.2) and (2.3) for population initialization, Algorithm 3 gives the steps of the FA in pseudo code.

Step	Algorithm 3 Firefly Algorithm
1.	Set $t = 0$
1.	Set light absorption, attractiveness, and random walk coefficients
2.	Initialize a population $X_0$ using (2.2) and (2.3),
	evaluate it using the fitness function $f()$
3.	while (termination condition not met) do
4.	for $i = 1$ to $N$
5.	for $j = 1$ to $N$
6.	if $(L_j \geq L_i)$
7.	Move firefly $i$ towards the brighter firefly $j$ using $(2.9)$
8.	end if
9.	end for
10.	end for
11.	Evaluate population $X$ with the fitness function $f()$
12.	Determine a new value for the random walk coefficient using $\alpha = \alpha_{damp} \alpha$
13.	t = t + 1
14.	end while

#### 2.2.2.4 Krill Herd Algorithm

The grouping behavior of many marine animals is non-random. This has led to the investigation of the underlying mechanisms of these creatures, including feeding behavior, reproduction, and defense and protection [52]. Among marine animals, Antarctic krill have been studied extensively, but there are many uncertainties about the factors that determine krill herding. However, conceptual frameworks have been proposed to explain the ecology, distribution, and formation of krill herds [53], [54]. The KHA is a biologically-inspired metaheuristic optimization algorithm which is based on krill herding behavior. It has been shown to outperform several state-of-the-art SI algorithms [46], [55]–[58].

#### 2.2.2.4.1 The Lagrangian Model of Krill Herding

The fitness function in KHA is a multi-objective function which is used to minimize the distance of each krill from the food location and the highest density of the herd. Depending on the value of the objective function, the position of each krill is governed by the following three actions [46]:

- 1. induced movement by the other krill  $(I_i)$ ,
- 2. foraging activity  $(F_i)$ , and
- 3. random (or physical) diffusion  $(D_i)$ .

For the *i*th krill  $x_i = (x_{i1}, x_{i2}, \dots, x_{in})$  in an *n*-dimensional search space, the krill movement is defined by a Lagrangian model given by

$$\frac{dx_i}{dt} = I_i + F_i + D_i \tag{2.10}$$

The details of each motion are as follows.

1. Induced motion: For the ith krill, the induced motion is given by

$$I_i = I^{\max} \alpha_i + \omega_n I_i^{old} \tag{2.11}$$

where  $I^{\text{max}}$  is the maximum induced speed,  $\omega_n$  is the inertia weight in the range [0,1],

and  $I_i^{old}$  is the previous induced movement. The direction of motion  $\alpha_i$  is defined as

$$\alpha_i = \alpha_i^{local} + \alpha_i^{target} \tag{2.12}$$

where  $\alpha_i^{local}$  and  $\alpha_i^{target}$  are the local effect provided by the neighbors and the target (global best krill) effect, respectively. The local effect  $\alpha_i^{local}$  can be formulated as

$$\alpha_i^{local} = \sum_{j=1}^{NN} \hat{k}_{i,j} \hat{r}_{i,j} \tag{2.13}$$

where NN is the number of neighbors and  $\hat{r}_{i,j}$  is the normalized distance of the *i*th krill from krill j in its neighborhood given by

$$\hat{r}_{i,j} = \frac{x_j - x_i}{\|x_j - x_i\| + \varepsilon} \tag{2.14}$$

where  $\varepsilon$  is a small positive number added to the denominator to avoid singularity.  $\hat{k}_{i,j}$  denotes the normalized fitness of krill i from krill j defined as

$$\hat{k}_{i,j} = \frac{f(x_i) - f(x_j)}{k^{worst} - k^{best}}$$
(2.15)

where  $k^{best}$  is the lowest fitness belonging to the global best krill given by  $k^{best} = f(g)$  and  $k^{worst}$  is the highest fitness belonging to the worst krill.

To determine NN in (2.13), a sensing distance  $d_s$  is determined around a krill as shown in Figure 2, which is defined as

$$d_{s,i} = \frac{1}{5N} \sum_{j=1}^{N} ||x_i - x_j||$$
 (2.16)

where N is the number of krill (krill population size). Using (2.16), two krill are neighbors if the distance between them is less than the sensing distance.

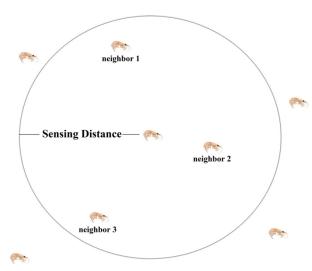


Figure 2. The sensing region around a krill [46].

The effect of the global best krill g on the ith krill is

$$\alpha_i^{target} = C_g \hat{k}_{i,g} \hat{r}_{i,g} \tag{2.17}$$

where  $\hat{r}_{i,g}$  is the normalized distance of the *i*th krill from the global best krill and  $\hat{k}_{i,g}$  is the normalized fitness of krill *i* from the global best krill.  $C_g$  is an adaptive coefficient for the target effect and is given by

$$C_g = 2\left(rand(0,1) + \frac{t}{t_{\text{max}}}\right)$$
 (2.18)

where rand(0,1) is a random value with uniform distribution between 0 and 1. t and  $t_{\text{max}}$  are the current and maximum iteration numbers, respectively.

2. Foraging activity: The foraging motion is given by

$$F_i = V_f \beta_i + \omega_f F_i^{old} \tag{2.19}$$

and

$$\beta_i = \beta_i^{food} + \beta_i^{best} \tag{2.20}$$

where  $V_f$  is the foraging speed,  $\omega_f$  is the inertia weight,  $F_i^{old}$  is the previous foraging motion,  $\beta_i^{food}$  is the food attraction, and  $\beta_i^{best}$  is the best position effect of the *i*th krill. The food attraction is given by

$$\beta_i^{food} = C_f \hat{k}_{i,f} \hat{r}_{i,f} \tag{2.21}$$

where  $\hat{r}_{i,f}$  is the normalized distance of the *i*th krill from  $x_f$  as the center of the food given by

$$x_f = \frac{\sum_{k=1}^{N} \frac{x_k}{f(x_k)}}{\sum_{k=1}^{N} \frac{1}{f(x_k)}}$$
(2.22)

and  $\hat{k}_{i,f}$  is the normalized fitness of krill *i* from the center of the food.  $C_f$  is an adaptive coefficient for the food attraction which is given by

$$C_f = 2\left(1 - \frac{t}{t_{\text{max}}}\right) \tag{2.23}$$

Similar to the PSO algorithm, krill i, i = 1, 2, ..., N, retains its best position during the search denoted by  $m_i = (m_{i1}, m_{i2}, ..., m_{in})$ . The set  $M = (m_1, m_2, ..., m_N)$ contains the best positions of the krill. The best position effect of the *i*th krill is then given by

$$\beta_i^{best} = \hat{k}_{i,m_i} \hat{r}_{i,m_i} \tag{2.24}$$

where  $\hat{r}_{i,m_i}$  and  $\hat{k}_{i,m_i}$  are the normalized distance and fitness of the *i*th krill from  $m_i$ , respectively.

3. Random diffusion: The physical diffusion is a random process given by

$$D_i = D^{\max} \left( 1 - \frac{t}{t_{\max}} \right) \delta \tag{2.25}$$

where  $D^{\max}$  is the maximum diffusion and  $\delta$  is uniform random directional vector with elements in range [-1,1]. The *i*th krill in the next iteration is given by

$$x_i(t+1) = x_i(t) + \Delta t \frac{dx_i}{dt}$$
(2.26)

where  $\frac{dx_i}{dt}$  was given in (2.10) and

$$\Delta t = C_t \sum_{j=1}^{n} \left( UB_j - LB_j \right) \tag{2.27}$$

where  $LB_j$  and  $UB_j$  are the lower and upper bounds of the jth variable, respectively, which are determined by the optimization problem.  $C_t$  is the time interval constant in the range [0,2].

#### 2.2.2.4.2 Genetic Operators in Enhanced KHA

To improve the performance of the KHA, crossover and mutation genetic operators can be incorporated into the algorithm [46]. The crossover operator is controlled by the crossover probability

$$C_r = 0.2\hat{k}_{i,m_i} \tag{2.28}$$

To apply crossover to the *i*th krill  $x_i = (x_{i1}, x_{i2}, \dots, x_{ij}, \dots, x_{in})$ , a uniformly distributed random vector  $rand_i^C(0, 1) = (c_{i1}, c_{i2}, \dots, c_{ij}, \dots, c_{in})$  with elements in the

range [0,1] is used. Then, applying crossover to the jth element of krill i gives

$$x_{ij} = \begin{cases} x_{rj} & c_{ij} \le Cr \\ x_{ij} & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$
 (2.29)

which means  $x_{ij}$  is replaced by the corresponding element of a uniform randomly chosen krill  $x_r = (x_{r1}, x_{r2}, \dots, x_{rj}, \dots, x_{rn}), r \in \{1, 2, \dots, i-1, i+1, \dots, N\}$ , if  $c_{ij} \leq Cr$ .

Adaptive mutation is also applied to the elements of  $x_i$  using a random vector  $rand_i^M(0,1) = (mu_{i1}, mu_{i2}, \dots, mu_{ij}, \dots, mu_{in})$  with uniform distribution and elements in the range [0,1]. By applying mutation to the jth element of  $x_i$ , it is changed to

$$x_{ij} = \begin{cases} g_j + \mu(x_{pj} - x_{qj}) & mu_{ij} < Mu \\ x_{ij} & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$
 (2.30)

where  $mu_{ij}$  is the jth element of  $rand_i^M(0,1)$ , and  $x_{pj}$  and  $x_{qj}$  are the jth elements of two uniform randomly chosen krill, respectively, where  $p, q \in \{1, 2, ..., i - 1, i + 1, ..., N\}$ .  $g_j$  is the jth element of the global best krill and  $\mu$  is a random coefficient in the range [0,1]. The mutation operator is controlled by a mutation probability given by

$$Mu = 0.05/\hat{k}_{i,m_i} \tag{2.31}$$

Assuming it is a minimization problem,  $\hat{k}_{i,m_i}$  for both  $C_r$  and Mu in (2.28) and (2.31) is

$$\hat{k}_{i,m_i} = \frac{f(x_i) - f(m_i)}{k^{worst} - k^{best}}$$
(2.32)

In [46], four KHA types were proposed:

• KH I: KHA without any genetic operators,

- KH II: KHA with just the crossover operator,
- KH III: KHA with just the mutation operator, and
- KH IV: KHA with both crossover and mutation operators.

Following the same mathematical framework of population initialization as in (2.2) and (2.3), Algorithm 4 describes the KH algorithms.

Step	Algorithm 4 Krill Herd Algorithm
1.	Set $t = 0$
2.	Set the maximum diffusion and induced speeds as well as the foraging speed
3.	Initialize a random population $X_0$ using (2.2) and (2.3) and set $M = X_0$
4.	Evaluate $X_0$ with the fitness function $f()$ and set $g$ as the global best krill
5.	while (termination condition not met) do:
6.	Motion calculation according to $(2.10)$ , $(2.11)$ , $(2.19)$ , and $(2.25)$
7.	Update the krill population (2.26)
8.	Apply the genetic operators for KHA II, KHA III, or KHA IV
9.	Update and evaluate the krill population $X$ with the fitness function $f()$
10.	Update $M$ and recalculate $g$
10.	t = t + 1
11.	end while

#### 2.2.3 Related Work

#### 2.2.3.1 KHA Variants, Adjustments, and Applications

Several KHA variants have been proposed, including discrete krill herd [59], binary krill herd [60], fuzzy krill herd [61], and multi-objective krill herd [62]. Moreover, several adjustments have been made to the KH algorithm to obtain improved and hybrid schemes [63]. In [64], chaos theory was used in the KHA optimization process and is called CKH. An improved version of KHA with opposition-based learning was proposed in [65]. An improved krill herd algorithm was introduced in [66] using a new Levy flight distribution and elitism scheme to update the motion calculation. In [67], a multi-stage krill herd algorithm was proposed in which separate exploration

and exploitation stages were employed. An efficient Stud Krill Herd (SKH) method which combines KHA with the Stud Genetic Algorithm (SGA) was proposed in [68]. In this approach, instead of using stochastic selection, the best individual (stud) provides its direction information to the other krill with the help of GA.

Several adaptive variants of KHA have been proposed in the literature. In [69], an adaptive technique was proposed which changes the positions of current solutions towards the global optimum according to the fitness function. A hybrid metaheuristic algorithm called CSKH, which is a combination of cuckoo search and KHA, was introduced in [70]. In [71], KHA with a migration operator was employed for Biography-Based Optimization (BBO). The idea of differential evolution was incorporated into KHA (DEKH) in [72]. In [73], quantum-behavior PSO was proposed in combination with KHA. In [74], several global optimization problems were solved with a hybrid simulated annealing-based KHA. A hybrid Monkey Algorithm (MA) was proposed for KHA (MAKHA) in [75]. To combine the advantages of FA and KHA, a firefly-based hybrid krill algorithm was suggested in [76]. HSKH is another hybrid method that incorporates harmony search into KHA [77].

#### 2.2.3.2 WSN Swarm Optimization

In this section, related work in the area of WSN optimization is reviewed, especially coverage maximization using swarm optimization algorithms. As mentioned before, metaheuristic and SI algorithms have been widely used for sensor deployment. For instance, genetic algorithms in [17]–[19] and PSO in [20], [21] were used to determine the coverage. In [22], the firefly algorithm was used to solve the MWSN coverage problem.

The KHA was used in [23] to maximize the sensor network lifetime for clustering algorithms. In [24], KHA was employed to select cluster heads to efficiently decrease

cluster energy consumption and balance the network energy consumption. The KHA has not yet been considered for the MWSN coverage problem.

There are several WSN coverage optimization studies that employed metaheuristic algorithms. In [25] and [26], artificial bee colony was proposed for WSN deployment, and ant colony optimization was proposed to deploy a grid-based static WSN in [27]. In [28], a probabilistic sensing model for sensors with line-of-sight-based coverage was proposed to solve the sensor placement problem. Three schemes were proposed to optimize the deployment of static WSNs, including simulated annealing, the Broyden-Fletcher-Goldfarb-Shanno (BFGS) method, and covariance matrix adaptation evolution.

# Chapter 3

# Multi-Agent Krill Herd Algorithm

KHA was designed based on the imitation of krill herding behavior. The global optimization analysis in [46] showed that this algorithm performs well compared to eight other algorithms. However, recent studies have shown that KHA has some weaknesses [78]. In this chapter, these weaknesses are discussed and the proposed multi-agent krill herd algorithm (MA-KHA) is introduced. We also show that it can perform better than KHA in solving global optimization problems.

# 3.1 Multi-Agent Systems

Agents are autonomous entities that act on the environment and direct their activities towards achieving specific goals. Multi-Agent Systems (MASs) are computational systems that consist of multiple agents and their environment. An agent in a MAS could be software, a robot, or a human, with three basic characteristics.

- 1. Autonomy: agents are autonomous and self-aware.
- 2. Local view: agents do not have an understanding of the entire search space.
- 3. Decentralization: there is no designated controlling agent.

Multi-agent systems have self-organization as well as self-direction capabilities which allows them to solve difficult problems.

Agent-based computation has been employed in the field of distributed artificial intelligence and other branches of computer science [79]–[82]. According to [82] and [83], agents exist in a lattice-like environment with the following properties.

- Agents sense their external environment and interact with neighboring agents.
- Agents are designed to achieve particular goals for specific purposes.
- Agents have reactive behavior meaning that they can respond to changes based on their learning ability.

To obtain a solution to a problem, agents cooperate and compete with their neighbors simultaneously. Using agent-agent interactions, a MAS can find good solutions with fast convergence [84]. To achieve this, the lattice and local environment should be defined as well as the behavioral rules. Agents interact with their neighbors to diffuse information to the entire lattice.

### 3.1.1 Definition of the Lattice and Local Environment

In a MAS, every agent is a candidate solution and has a fitness value for the optimization problem. Agents exist in a lattice-like environment and lie on lattice points. In Figure 3, each circle represents an agent, and the numbers in the circles denote the positions of the agents.

The agent lattice has size  $L = L_{size} \times L_{size}$ , where  $L_{size}$  is an integer and L is the total number of elements in the optimization algorithm (e.g. krill in KHA, particles in PSO, or fireflies in FA). If agent  $\alpha_{ij}$ ,  $i, j = 1, 2, ..., L_{size}$ , is located at lattice-point

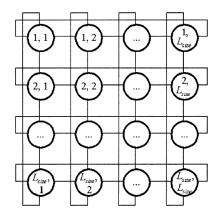


Figure 3. The lattice environment of multi-agent systems.

(i,j), then its neighbors are defined as  $N_{ij} = \{\alpha_{i^1j}, \alpha_{ij^1}, \alpha_{i^2j}, \alpha_{ij^2}\}$ , where

$$i^{1} = \begin{cases} i - 1 & i \neq 1 \\ L_{size} & i = 1 \end{cases} \qquad j^{1} = \begin{cases} j - 1 & j \neq 1 \\ L_{size} & j = 1 \end{cases}$$

$$i^{2} = \begin{cases} i+1 & i \neq L_{size} \\ 1 & i = L_{size} \end{cases} \qquad j^{2} = \begin{cases} j+1 & j \neq L_{size} \\ 1 & j = L_{size} \end{cases}$$
(3.1)

Hence, the local environment is defined as the four neighbors around an agent. For instance, in a lattice environment of size 25 ( $L_{size} = 5$ ), the four neighbors of agent  $\alpha_{11}$  are  $N_{11} = \{\alpha_{51}, \alpha_{15}, \alpha_{21}, \alpha_{12}\}$ .

# 3.2 Multi-Agent Design for KHA Optimization

This section explains how KHA and MAS are integrated to form a multi-agent krill herd algorithm. In MA-KHA, agents compete and cooperate with their neighbors in a local environment. Using KHA, the information exchange among agents in the lattice is accelerated. Finally, self-learning is applied to the best agent found to strengthen the local search.

## 3.2.1 Agent Behavioral Strategies

Each agent in MA-KHA has some specific behavior and aims to diffuse its information to the lattice. To do so, three operators are employed, namely competition and cooperation, KHA, and self-learning. These operators are explained below.

### 3.2.1.1 Competition and Cooperation Operator

With this operator, each agent interacts with its neighbors in a form of competition and cooperation. Suppose that agent  $\alpha_{ij} = (\alpha_1, \alpha_2, \dots, \alpha_n)$  is located at lattice-point (i, j) and  $\beta = (\beta_1, \beta_2, \dots, \beta_n)$  is the best local agent with minimum fitness (for a minimization problem), in the neighborhood given by

$$\forall \varepsilon \in N_{ij} \to f(\beta) \le f(\varepsilon) \tag{3.2}$$

where  $\varepsilon$  is any of the four neighbors of  $\alpha_{ij}$  and f() is the fitness function of the minimization problem. Agent  $\alpha_{i,j}$  is the winner in its neighborhood if it satisfies

$$f(\alpha_{ij}) \le f(\beta) \tag{3.3}$$

In this case,  $\alpha_{i,j}$  remains unchanged and its location in the search space will not be changed. Otherwise, it is moved towards the best local agent  $\beta$ . The new agent  $New_{ij} = (\alpha'_1, \alpha'_2, \dots, \alpha'_n)$  is determined using one of the following two strategies [84].

### • Strategy I:

With this strategy, a heuristic crossover is applied to each element of  $\alpha_{ij}$  to get  $New_{ij}$ . If  $\alpha_k$  is the kth element of  $\alpha_{ij}$ , the kth element of  $New_{i,j}$  is

$$\alpha'_{k} = \beta_{k} + rand(0, 1)(\beta_{k} - \alpha_{k}) \quad k = 1, 2, \dots, n$$
 (3.4)

where rand(0,1) is a random function with uniform distribution in the range [0,1]. Then, boundary checking is done on  $\alpha'_k$ ,  $k = 1,2, \ldots, n$ , to make sure it is still within the range

$$\alpha_k' \le x_k^{\min}, \quad \text{then} \quad \alpha_k' = x_k^{\min}$$
 (3.5)

$$\alpha_k' \ge x_k^{\text{max}}, \quad \text{then} \quad \alpha_k' = x_k^{\text{max}}$$
 (3.6)

where  $x^{\min} = (x_1^{\min}, x_2^{\min}, \dots, x_n^{\min})$  is the lower bound vector, and  $x^{\max} = (x_1^{\max}, x_2^{\max}, \dots, x_n^{\max})$  is the upper bound vector of the search space defined by the optimization problem.

### • Strategy II:

In this strategy a metaheuristic mutation updates the elements of  $\alpha_{ij}$  to obtain  $New_{ij}$ . First, vector  $\beta = (\beta_1, \beta_2, \dots, \beta_n)$  which was defined above is normalized as

$$\beta'_{k} = \frac{\beta_{k} - x_{k}^{\min}}{x_{k}^{\max} - x_{k}^{\min}} \quad k = 1, 2, \dots, n$$
(3.7)

Then, using a uniform distribution two integers  $i_1$  and  $i_2$  are randomly chosen such that

$$1 \le i_1 \le n$$
,  $1 \le i_2 \le n$ , and  $i_1 \le i_2$ 

 $New'_{ij} = (\gamma'_1, \gamma'_2, \dots, \gamma'_n)$  is determined as

$$New'_{ij} = (\beta'_1, \dots, \beta'_{i_1-1}, \beta'_{i_2}, \beta'_{i_2-1}, \dots, \beta'_{i_1+1}, \beta'_{i_1}, \beta'_{i_2+1}, \beta'_{i_2+2}, \dots, \beta'_n)$$
 (3.8)

and

$$\alpha'_k = x_k^{\min} + \gamma'_k (x_k^{\max} - x_k^{\min}) \quad k = 1, 2, \dots, n$$
 (3.9)

Using (3.9)  $New_{ij} = (\alpha'_1, \alpha'_2, \dots, \alpha'_n)$  is obtained from  $New'_{ij}$ .

Strategy I employs a deep search and emphasizes exploitation, whereas strategy II emphasizes exploration. Strategy II is employed more at the beginning of the iterative process to better explore the search space. Later, strategy I is used more to have a better local search. This is done using  $P_c$  and  $P_m$  which are the probabilities of employing the first and second strategies, respectively.

KHA provides excellent local search by considering various motion characteristics. However, studies have shown that the global exploration capability of KHA is not as effective [68]. For this reason, KHA might become trapped in a local minima for some optimization problems, e.g. the multi-modal fitness landscape [85]. In [46], an attempt was made to solve this issue by adding crossover and mutation operators to the basic KHA (KHA I). However, the integrity of the system can be degraded if there is a poor balance between exploration and exploration. In MA-KHA, instead of having crossover and mutation, the global search is reinforced by initially using strategy II more ( $P_m$  large and  $P_c$  small). Then to regain the balance, the local search is fortified by using strategy I more ( $P_m$  small and  $P_c$  large) in later iterations and the self-learning operator (explained in Section 3.2.1.3).

#### 3.2.1.2 Integrated KHA Operator

The krill herd algorithm not only optimizes the objective function but can also speed up the information exchange between agents. Since agents can only sense their local environment, information is transferred from the local environment  $(N_{ij})$  to the entire lattice quite slowly. Thus, KHA can be used to make this process faster.

### 3.2.1.3 Self-Learning

Each agent can learn from itself to enhance the local search. Motivated by the use of GA in [84] for local search, a small-scale KHA (mini-KHA) is used here for the

Step	Algorithm 5 Self-learning Operator in KHA
1.	Set the global best agent of the KHA operator as $\alpha_{ij}^g = g(t)$
2.	Initialize $sNew\alpha$ as the $sL-1$ mini-agents within a radius $sR$ around $\alpha_{ij}^g$
3.	Form the self-learning mini-lattice $s\alpha$ of size $sL$
4.	Perform the competition and cooperation operation on the mini-agent lattice
5.	Perform mini-KHA on the mini-agent lattice
6.	Evaluate each mini-agent with the fitness function to yield a solution $\eta^g$
7.	Update $g(t+1) = \eta^g$ if $f(\eta^g) \le f(\alpha_{ij}^g)$

self-learning operator. It has a lattice containing  $sL = sL_{size} \times sL_{size}$  mini-agents, where sL is the number of mini-agents in the self-learning lattice and  $sL_{size}$  is a small integer. The mini-agents are defined as

$$s\alpha = \begin{cases} \alpha_{ij}^g & k = 1\\ sNew\alpha_k & k = 2, 3, \dots, sL \end{cases}$$
(3.10)

where  $\alpha_{ij}^g = \{\alpha_1^g, \alpha_2^g, \dots, \alpha_n^g\}$  is the global best krill  $\alpha_{i,j}^g = g(t)$  located at (i,j), and  $sNew\alpha_k = (e_{k1}, e_{k2}, \dots, e_{kn})$  is the kth mini-agent around  $\alpha_{i,j}^g$  with radius sR. The jth,  $j = 1, 2, \dots, n$ , element of  $sNew\alpha_k$  is given by

$$e_{kj} = \begin{cases} x_j^{\min} & \alpha_j^g \times rand(1 - sR, 1 + sR) < x_j^{\min} \\ x_j^{\max} & \alpha_j^g \times rand(1 - sR, 1 + sR) > x_j^{\max} \end{cases}$$

$$\alpha_j^g \times rand(1 - sR, 1 + sR) \quad \text{otherwise}$$
(3.11)

Thus, the self-learning mini-lattice contains the best krill  $\alpha_{i,j}^g$  and sL-1 mini-agents.

After forming the mini-lattice, competition and cooperation is iteratively performed on the mini-agents followed by mini-KHA. If an agent with a lower fitness than  $\alpha_{ij}^g$  is found during self-learning, g is replaced by that agent  $(\eta^g)$ . Algorithm 5 describes the self-learning procedure.

Figure 4 illustrates MA-KHA with all three operators. In each iteration compe-

tition and cooperation is applied to the population. Using strategies I or II, metaheuristic mutation and crossover are applied to each agent. Then, KHA is employed to speed up the information exchange between the agents and optimize the problem. The global best agent of the KHA operator is then taken as  $\alpha_{i,j}^g$  and used with the self-learning operator to enhance the local search.

### 3.2.2 Simulation and Numerical Results

Benchmark test functions are artificial problems used to assess the behavior of an algorithm. They may contain a single global minimum, several local minima with single or multiple global minima, narrow valleys, flat surfaces, or other shapes. The reliability and efficiency of optimization algorithms can be validated using these functions.

In this section, the proposed algorithm is examined using a set of benchmark test functions. For each benchmark, the characteristics of the test function are explained, and the simulation results of the algorithms are provided. The results for MA-KHA are compared with KHA I, KHA II, and KHA IV. According to Table 1 in [46], algorithms KH I to IV have rank 5, 1, 6, and 2, respectively, among 12 algorithms. In this thesis, the KHA parameters are as follows: foraging speed  $V_f = 0.02 \text{ ms}^{-1}$ , maximum diffusion speed  $D^{\text{max}} = 0.005 \text{ ms}^{-1}$ , maximum induced speed  $I^{\text{max}} = 0.01 \text{ ms}^{-1}$ , time interval constant  $C_t = 0.5$ , maximum number of iterations  $t_{\text{max}} = 250$ , population size N = 25, and maximum number of function evaluations  $NFE_{\text{max}} = 15,000$ . Moreover, the motion induced inertia weight  $(\omega_n)$  and foraging motion inertia weight  $(\omega_f)$  are both set to 0.9 at the beginning of the search to emphasize exploration. To encourage exploitation, they are linearly decreased to 0.1 as given by

$$\omega_f = \omega_n = 0.1 + 0.8(1 - t/t_{\text{max}}) \tag{3.12}$$

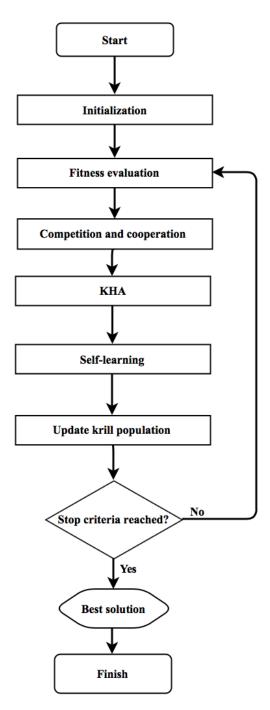


Figure 4. The MA-KHA flowchart.

TABLE II. KHA Parameters

$V_f$	$D^{\max}$	$I^{\max}$	$C_t$	N = L	$L_{size}$	$\omega_n = \omega_f$
$0.02 \ ms^{-}$	$0.005 \ ms^{-1}$	$0.01 \ ms^{-1}$	0.5	25	5	[0.9, 0.1]

TABLE III. MA-KHA Parameters

Competition and Cooperation				Se	elf-Lea	rning	
$P_m$	$P_c$	sIt	sL	$sL_{size}$	sR	$sP_m$	$sP_c$
[0.7, 0.2]	[0.2, 0.6]	5	9	3	0.25	[0.7, 0.2]	[0.2, 0.6]

where t and  $t_{\text{max}}$  are the iteration and maximum iteration numbers. Table II gives the KHA parameters.

Table III gives the MA-KHA parameters including competition and cooperation  $(P_c \text{ and } P_m)$  and self-learning. sIt is the maximum number of iterations in self-learning. sL and  $sL_{size}$  denote the size of the mini-lattice, sR is the radius of the circle that mini-agents are created around  $\alpha_{i,j}^g$ , and  $sP_c$  and  $sP_m$  are the probability of employing strategies I and II in self-learning, respectively. For the KHA operator in MA-KHA, the parameters given in Table II are used.

The test functions were chosen to have diverse properties. Table IV gives the five benchmark test functions that are used in this thesis. The search space boundaries  $[x^{\min}, x^{\max}]$  and dimensions n are given in the third column. They are also given in Appendix A in detail.

Tables IV to VIII present the numerical results for the Ackley, Grewank, Rastrigin, Rosenbrock, and sphere global optimization benchmark functions, respectively. For

TABLE IV. Benchmark Problems

	Benchmark Test Function	Search Space	Global Minima
F1	Ackley	$[-32, 32]^n$	0
F2	Griewank	$[-600, 600]^n$	0
F3	Rastrigin	$[-5.12, 5.12]^n$	0
F4	Rosenbrock	$[-30, 30]^n$	0
F5	Sphere	$[-100, 100]^n$	0

each function, MA-KHA is compared with KHA I, KHA II, and KHA IV for n = 10, 20, and 30. Results were obtained for 50 trials for each benchmark function. The best, worst, and average run values with the corresponding Standard Deviation (SD) are given.

The Ackley function [86] is a continuous, non-separable, multimodal global optimization benchmark problem with many minor local minima and one narrow steep global minimum valley. This is considered a challenging problem for algorithms with poor global search capability. The reason is that weak exploration leads to the algorithm getting stuck at a local minima and never reaching the global minimum.

TABLE V. Simulation Results for the Ackley Problem

Function	Dim.	Criteria	KHA I	KHA II	KHA IV	MA-KHA
		best	0.004	4.49E-04	1.00E-03	4.441E-15
	10	worst	5.899	0.484	0.575	1.51E-14
		average/	2.23/	0.287/	0.298/	8.349E-15/
		SD	1.952	0.006	0.006	2.552E-15
Ackley		best	0.058	0.001	0.003	1.537E-13
	20	worst	8.793	4.03	2.016	2.13E-11
		average/	3.995/	0.772/	0.841/	4.557E-12/
		SD	1.739	1.153	0.825	5.108E-12
		best	0.076	0.001	0.003	1.009E-10
	30	worst	10.329	2.815	5.095	1.982E-09
		average/	4.631/	0.457/	1.200/	6.939E-10/
		SD	2.159	0.796	1.358	5.557E-10

Table V presents the optimization results for the MA-KHA and krill algorithms. This shows that the proposed multi-agent approach outperforms the other algorithms. It is able to escape from the local minima because it is equipped with competition and cooperation and self-learning operators. For example, for n=20, MA-KHA obtained a solution with average fitness 4.557E-12, but KHA II (the best krill algorithm) reached 0.772 on average. Note that a smaller search space results in better solutions. For instance, MA-KHA found a solution with average fitness 8.349E-15 for n=10

and 6.939E-10 for n = 30.

The Griewank function [86] is a continuous, non-separable, multimodal function with numerous widespread local minima. The non-separability feature of this benchmark makes it challenging for algorithms with good global search capabilities. Table VI presents the optimization results for MA-KHA and the krill algorithms. This shows that MA-KHA is better than the other algorithms on average. For example, with n = 20, MA-KHA reached 0.091, whereas KHA II obtained 0.131 on average.

Function Dim. Criteria KHA I KHA II KHA IV MA-KHA 0.0600.0600.052best 0.04310 0.3670.4740.3390.365worst average 0.144/0.1400.160/0.108/SD0.0720.1010.0790.071Griewank 0.1080.0610.0920.071best 20 0.3610.2520.3200.222worst 0.2150.1310.154/0.091/average SD0.0570.0500.0600.024best 0.310 0.1430.1520.12630 0.3300.4390.234worst 1.023 0.224/0.228/0.480/0.208/average SD0.043 0.1630.0490.073

TABLE VI. Simulation Results for the Griewank Problem

The Rastrigin function [86] is an extremely multimodal non-separable function with several regularly distributed local minima. In this problem, the area that contains the global minimum is very small in comparison with the search space. The consecutive sharp direction changes in this benchmark function made it one of the most difficult test functions for every optimization algorithms. Table VII presents the optimization results for MA-KHA and krill algorithms. This shows that the performance of MA-KHA is better than that of the other krill algorithms for n = 10. However, For n = 20 and n = 30, the performance of MA-KHA is very close to KHA II but still better than KHA I and KHA IV. For example, with n = 10, KHA I, KHA

II, KHA IV, and MA-KHA obtained solutions with fitness 6.329, 4.473, 4.864, and 4.021 on average, respectively, and for n = 20, solutions with average fitness 14.909, 12.374, 13.977, and 13.641, respectively, were obtained.

Function	Dim.	Criteria	KHA I	KHA II	KHA IV	MA-KHA
		best	2.985	1.900	1.995	1.796
	10	worst	12.945	10.945	14.920	12.921
		average/	6.329/	4.473/	4.864/	4.021/
		SD	2.548	2.177	4.078	3.129
Rastrigin		best	6.967	4.240	4.962	4.957

 $\frac{28.515}{14.909}$ 

5.404

11.390

75.117

24.658

13.721

21.138

12.374/

5.113

8.962

49.100

19.509/

9.621

29.851

13.977

4.819

10.948

37.812

21.297

7.511

39.285

13.641/

6.574

9.854

44.200

20.631/

14.181

20

30

worst

average/ SD

best

worst

average/ SD

TABLE VII. Simulation Results for the Rastrigin Problem

The Rosenbrock function [86] is a conventional unimodal test problem. In this function the global minimum lies in a narrow valley. Even though the valley is quite easy to find, convergence to the global minimum is difficult. The reason is that it has a flat surface which does not provide algorithms with much information to direct the search towards the minima. Table VIII presents the optimization results for the Resenbrock function. The average results show that MA-KHA is better than the other algorithms. For instance, the average results for n = 20 show that MA-KHA is more than two times better than KHA II, three times better than KHA IV, and almost six times better than KHA I.

The sphere function is a continuous, convex, separable test function [86] which has no local minima except for the global solution. Algorithms with more focus on local search such as FA will have difficulty with this problem since a poor global search leads to slow movement towards the global minimum. On the other hand,

TABLE VIII. Simulation Results for the Rosenbrock Problem

Function	Dim.	Criteria	KHA I	KHA II	KHA IV	MA-KHA
		best	21.632	5.478	6.189	4.740
	10	worst	775.735	625.431	619.543	206.724
		average/	114.672/	51.767/	66.519/	17.587/
		SD	187.020	139.019	149.227	44.523
Rosenbrock		best	17.969	12.226	14.625	12.061
	20	worst	316.987	443.540	250.320	75.286
		average/	122.805/	44.921/	60.491/	21.069/
		SD	98.124	98.020	60.989	12.791
		best	40.099	21.118	23.151	17.185
	30	worst	841.535	447.800	314.010	38.486
		average/	151.499/	88.116/	86.175/	28.638/
		SD	169.829	103.719	92.939	2.377

a poor local search results in never finding the global minimum. Table IX gives the numerical results for the sphere function. This shows that MA-KHA provides a significant performance improvement in comparison with the other algorithms. For instance, for n=20, the average solution found by MA-KHA is almost half and one-third that of KHA II and KHA IV, respectively. The reason is that using a multi-agent method improves the global search at the beginning so it moves faster towards the global minimum.

TABLE IX. Simulation Results for the Sphere Problem

Function	Dim.	Criteria	KHA I	KHA II	KHA IV	MA-KHA
		best	0.195	5.150E-05	7.00E-05	2.250E-26
	10	worst	1.622	4.560E-04	5.590E-04	3.350E-22
		average/	0.824/	1.322E-04/	1.740E-04/	4.651E-23/
		SD	0.119	1.113E-04	9.209E-05	9.497E-23
Sphere		best	0.324	1.290E-03	5.700E-03	1.990E-17
	20	worst	2.15223	0.004	8.190E-03	6.970E-15
		average/	1.0879/	2.27E-03/	3.980E-03/	1.466E-15/
		SD	0.296	6.713E-03	0.001	2.045E-15
		best	0.531	2.940E-03	0.00302	2.740E-13
	30	worst	1.965	0.019	0.013	9.810E-12
		average/	1.200/	0.001/	0.008/	2.419E-12/
		SD	0.261	4.58E-03	0.002	2.777E-12

### 3.2.2.1 Discussion

In order to compare MA-KHA with the krill herd algorithms for the minimization problem, the average results for n = 20 are normalized using

$$A_{ij} = 1 - \frac{a_{ij} - a_i^{\min}}{a_i^{\max} - a_i^{\min}}$$
 (3.13)

where i and j denote benchmark test function and algorithm numbers, respectively (i = 1, 2, 3, 4, 5 and j = 1, 2, 3, 4). For the ith benchmark test function,  $a_{ij}$  is the solution of the jth algorithm,  $A_{ij}$  is the corresponding normalized values (score), and  $a_i^{\min}$  and  $a_i^{\max}$  are the worst and best solutions, respectively. In order to have an overall view of the algorithms, the algorithm with the best performance has score 1, while the one with the worst performance has score 0 [87]. Table X shows that MA-KHA

TABLE X. Normalized Average Results

Function	KHA I	KHA II	KHA IV	MA-KHA
Ackley	0.000	0.807	0.789	1.000
Griewank	0.000	0.678	0.491	1.000
Rastrigin	0.000	1.000	0.368	0.500
Rosenbrock	0.000	0.765	0.612	1.000
Sphere	0.000	0.998	0.996	1.000
Total Score	0.000	4.309	3.306	4.500

has the highest score among the four algorithms. In order to have a fair comparison, all algorithms have been tested with the same maximum number of iterations and function evaluations. These results illustrate and confirm the robustness of the multiagent based krill algorithm for global optimization problems. MA-KHA obtained score 1 for all the test functions but one. It is better than KHA II which is the best krill herd algorithm. For the Ackley function, MA-KHA obtained a solution with average fitness 4.557E-12 versus KHA II which only reached 0.772. For the Griewank function, MA-KHA reached 0.091 whereas KHA II obtained 0.131, on average. However, for

TABLE XI. Runtime Analysis of the Algorithms

Function KHA I KHA II KHA IV MA-KHA

Function	KHA I	KHA II	KHA IV	MA-KHA
Ackley	47.6	62.6	63.3	63.5
Griewank	48.4	53.5	56.1	57.5
Rastrigin	53.1	57.2	68.2	70.4
Rosenbrock	49.5	51.7	59.3	60.3
Sphere	53.9	52.0	54.8	55.0
Total	252.5	276.9	301.6	306.7

the Rastrigin function, solutions with average fitness 14.0909, 12.374, 13.977, and 13.641 were obtained with KHA I, KHA II, KHA IV, and MA-KHA, respectively. The consecutive sharp direction changes in this function makes it difficult for optimization algorithms to pass the local minima and reach the global optimum. However, MA-KHA is close to KHA II. For the Rosenbrock function, MA-KHA produce less than half of the value with KHA II, providing an average fitness of 21.069. For the sphere function, MA-KHA obtained a much better solution that of KHA II. In general, MA-KHA has shown to be better able to escape from the local minima because it is equipped with competition and cooperation and self-learning operators.

Table XI gives the runtime for KHA I, KHA II, KHA IV, and MA-KHA for n=20 and 50 runs. KHA I which has no genetic operator has the lowest runtime of 252.534 s. KHA II which only uses the crossover genetic operator has a runtime of 276.896 s. KHA IV with both crossover and mutation genetic operators has a runtime of 301.568 s. The proposed multi-agent krill herd algorithm required 306.703 s. Instead of crossover and mutation, MA-KHA employs competition and cooperation, including the two strategies using heuristic crossover and mutation, and self-learning. Table XI shows that the runtime of MA-KHA is very close to that of KHA IV, but the performance is better than KHA II and much better than KHA IV.

# Chapter 4

# MWSN Sensor Deployment Using Swarm Optimization

Sensor deployment is a significant topic in wireless sensor networks since it has a crucial effect on coverage, connectivity, and energy consumption. The goal of sensor deployment is to attain the best network coverage. In this chapter, the MWSN optimization problem is first defined. Then, the KHA and MA-KHA for the MWSN coverage problem are described, following by simulation results.

# 4.1 Sensor Deployment Using Swarm Algorithms

Sensor deployment is arranging sensors to meet some specific conditions or preferences. Sensors can be mobile or stationary. While stationary sensors are fixed in their positions, mobile sensors can move around. Depending on the type of WSN, the maximal coverage problem can be defined in several ways. The model used in this thesis is based on [88], in which all sensors are mobile with the same range  $r_s$ . Having N sensor nodes, the SF is defined as a grid of size  $m \times n$ , where the size of each grid is set to 1 unit. Thus, grid point G(x, y) is detected by sensor  $s_i$ , i = 1, 2, ..., N,

with probability

$$P(x, y, s_i) = \begin{cases} 1 & d(G(x, y), s_i) \le r_s \\ 0 & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$
(4.1)

where  $d(G(x,y), s_i)$  is the Euclidean distance between the location of sensor  $s_i$  at  $(x_i, y_i)$  and grid point G(x, y). Grid point G(x, y) is covered if

$$P(x, y, S) = 1 - \prod_{i=1}^{N} (1 - P(x, y, s_i)) = 1$$
(4.2)

where  $S = \{s_1, s_2, \dots, s_N\}$  is the set of sensors. The total covered area is then

$$F = \sum_{x=1}^{n} \sum_{y=1}^{m} P(x, y, S)$$
(4.3)

To define a fitness function to evaluate the covered area the ratio between the total covered area F and the total number of grid points is used

$$f = \frac{F}{m \times n} \tag{4.4}$$

Applying SI algorithms to MWSN sensor deployment is possible because it is a maximization problem. The goal is to determine the best sensor distribution, which corresponds to the maximum fitness f. Table XII gives the relationship between the SI algorithms in a global optimization problem and the sensor deployment problem.

TABLE XII. Corresponding Parameters in Sensor Deployment and SI Algorithms

SI Algorithm	Sensor deployment problem
N number of swarm elements	N number of sensor nodes
each solution of the algorithm	a sensor distribution pattern
n dimensions in each solution	n sensor position coordinates
fitness of the solution	coverage of the sensing field
solution with minimum fitness	sensor distribution with maximum coverage

## 4.2 Simulation Results

To demonstrate the performance of the proposed multi-agent approach in KHA, it is compared with PSO, FA, and KHA. The best sensor distribution after an initial random configuration is simulated. There are Table XIII gives the parameters of the MWSN coverage problem that is considered here.

TABLE XIII. Parameters for the Sensor Deployment Problem

mobile sensor population	search space	sensing radius	sensing field
100	$[0, 100]^{100}$	3, 5, and 7	100×100

The parameters for the PSO and FA were selected based on [39] and [44], respectively. The FA parameters are as follows: light absorption coefficient  $\gamma = 1$ , initial attractiveness  $\beta_0 = 2$ , mutation vector coefficient  $\alpha = 0.2$ , damping parameter  $\alpha_{damp} = 0.99$ , and random value  $\varepsilon$  follows a uniform distribution. For the PSO algorithm, the inertia weight w, personal learning, and global learning parameters are set based on [89] as follows: inertia weight w = 0.7298, and cognitive and social components  $c_1 = c_2 = 1.4962$ . The KHA and MA-KHA settings are the same as those in the previous chapter. In order to have a fair comparison, the number of sensors and their sensing radius are the same for all algorithms. For all algorithms  $t_{\text{max}} = 500$  with 50 runs. They were run on a macOS platform with a Core i5 CPU at a frequency of 2.7 GHz with 8 GB RAM, using Matlab R2016b.

For each algorithm, part (a) in the figures shows the initial random distribution and part (b) indicates the final sensor distribution after a specific number of iterations and with the same maximum NFE. The stopping criteria was set to 500 iterations or 15,000 NFEs.

Figures 5a and 5b show the coverage for the initial random sensor distribution and the sensor distribution after 500 iterations of the PSO algorithm. The PSO algorithm benefits from a simple implementation with short convergence time. The PSO algorithm increased the coverage from 77.0% to 89.4% on average over 50 runs.

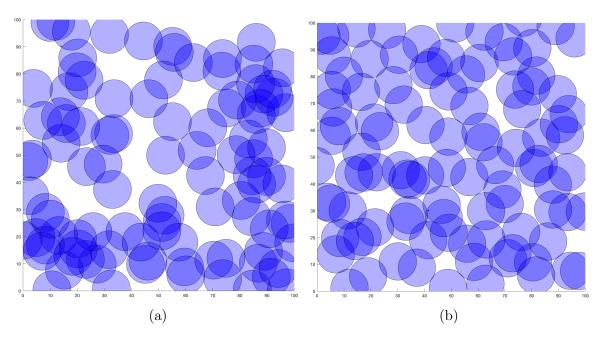


Figure 5. Sensor distribution using PSO: (a) initial and (b) after 500 iterations.

Figures 6a and 6b show the coverage for the initial random sensor distribution and final sensor distribution using FA. For this algorithm, the stopping criteria hits the maximum of 15,000 NFEs first, so it terminated after 33 iterations. The solutions found by FA shows that coverage was increased on average from 77.7% to 90.5%. FA is a slow algorithm because it compares each firefly with the entire population in each iteration resulting in many function evaluations.

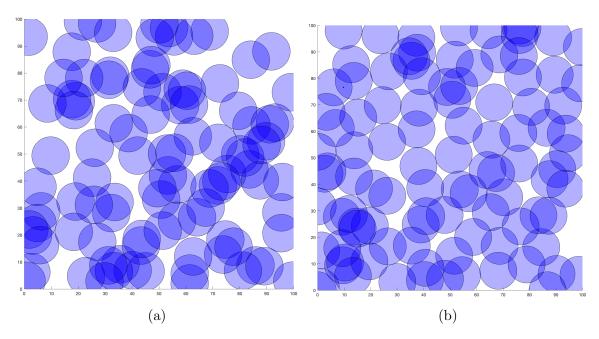


Figure 6. Sensor distribution using FA: (a) initial and (b) after 33 iterations.

Figures 7a and 7b show the coverage for the initial random sensor distribution and sensor distribution using KHA I after 500 iterations. KHA I is as good as FA as it increases the coverage from 77.1% to 90.7% on average.

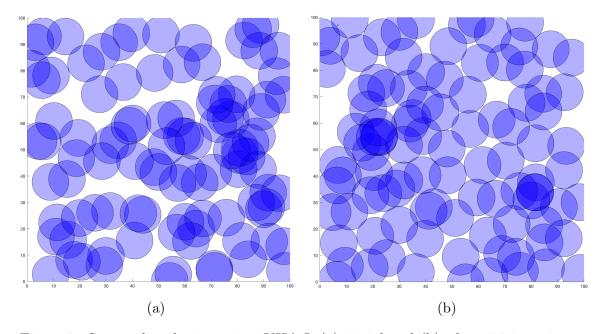


Figure 7. Sensor distribution using KHA I: (a) initial and (b) after 500 iterations.

Figures 8a and 8b show the performance of KHA II for the coverage problem. Using the crossover genetic operator resulted in an increase in MWSN coverage from 78.0% to 91.9% on average.

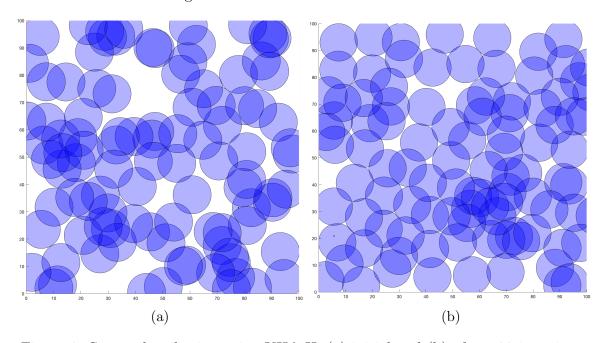


Figure 8. Sensor distribution using KHA II: (a) initial and (b) after 500 iterations.

The performance of MA-KHA is given in Figures 9a and 9b. The average results for 50 runs show that MA-KHA improves the coverage from 77.6% to 94.5% after 500 iterations.

Tables XIV, XV, and XVI give the average coverage (50 runs) with sensing radius r=7, 5, and 3, respectively, before (random sensor distribution) and after using the PSO, FA, KHA I, KHA II, and MA-KHA SI algorithms. The same initial sensor distributions and parameters as well as stopping criteria (maximum 500 iteration or 15,000 NFEs) were used. Each table also gives the runtime for each algorithm in seconds per run.

Tables XIV and XV show that MA-KHA provides a higher coverage than PSO, FA, and KHA I and II for r = 7 and r = 5. MA-KHA has a slightly higher runtime than other algorithms. All algorithms stopped at iteration 500 except FA which hit

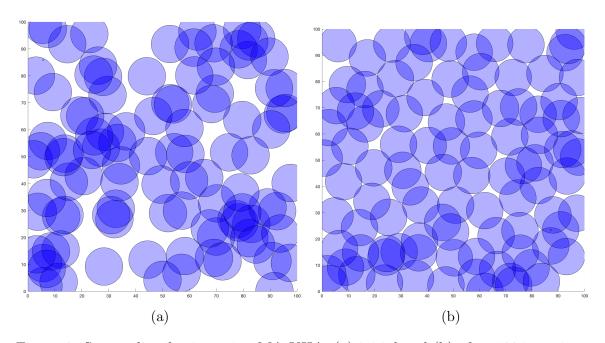


Figure 9. Sensor distribution using MA-KHA: (a) initial and (b) after 500 iterations.

Before (random distribution) After Time (s) Algorithm **PSO** 77.0%50.9 89.4%FA 77.7%90.5%50.5KHA I 77.1%90.7%50.4

91.9%

94.5%

55.9

61.2

78.0%

77.6%

KHA II

MA-KHA

TABLE XIV. Average MWSN Coverage Optimization Results for r = 7

the  $NFE_{\rm max}$  first and stopped at iteration 33. Table XVI results show that KHA II and MA-KHA provided the highest coverage on average which is slightly more than the PSO algorithm. A sensing radius of r=3 is too small to cover the sensing field with 100 mobile sensors and there is little overlap between the sensors. Thus, a larger sensing radius is recommended.

Table XVII gives the the average coverage (50 runs) with r=7 employing PSO, FA, KHA I, KHA II, and MA-KHA using a maximum of 100, 250, and 500 iterations and a maximum of 3,000, 7,500, and 15,000 NFEs, respectively. Again, all the algorithms hit the maximum number of iterations except FA which stopped at 10 iterations for  $NFE_{\rm max}=3,000$  and 19 iterations for  $NFE_{\rm max}=7,500$ , respectively.

TABLE XV. Average MWSN Coverage Optimization Results for r=5

Algorithm	Before (random distribution)	After	Time (s)
PSO	55.6%	66.9%	61.3
FA	55.9%	63.8%	65.8
KHA I	56.0%	65.8%	65.2
KHA II	55.5%	67.2%	70.0
MA-KHA	56.3%	69.9%	76.5

TABLE XVI. Average MWSN Coverage Optimization Results for r=3

Algorithm	Before (random distribution)	After	Time (s)
PSO	25.1%	28.4%	75.2
FA	24.7%	26.9%	85.0
KHA I	25.6%	27.6%	80.7
KHA II	25.1%	28.5%	83.3
MA-KHA	25.8%	28.5%	89.0

## 4.2.1 Discussion

In this chapter, the FA and PSO algorithms were chosen to compare with KHA and MA-KHA in a MWSN sensor deployment problem. The reason is that KHA utilizes the main components of the FA and PSO algorithms. Table XVIII shows that there are similarities between KHA and the other two algorithms in terms of the movement components. PSO is designed based on three major components, best particle positions, global best particle, and random walk. The firefly algorithm utilizes two major components to find a solution. As well as using a random walk, this algorithm compares a solution with all better solutions (brighter fireflies) and moves it

TABLE XVII. Average MWSN Coverage Optimization for Different Number of NFEs and r=7

Algorithm	$t_{\rm max} = 100/$	$t_{\rm max} = 250/$	$t_{\rm max} = 500/$
	$NFE_{\rm max} = 3,000$	$NFE_{\rm max} = 7,500$	$NFE_{\rm max} = 15,000$
PSO	82.3%	86.8%	89.4%
FA	88.0%	89.4%	90.5%
KHA I	83.0%	87.3%	90.7%
KHA II	87.6%	90.2%	91.9%
MA-KHA	85.5%	90.1%	94.5%

towards them (neighbor effect). Using crossover and mutation operators reinforces the global search of KHA by providing relatively balanced exploration and exploitation. Thus, the strength of KHA lies in combining the movement components of the PSO and firefly algorithms assisted with the genetic operators. In the proposed multi-agent krill herd algorithm, providing the KHA with competition and cooperation and self-learning instead of the genetic algorithm operators resulted in a better global search and a higher coverage for the MWSN sensor deployment problem.

TABLE XVIII. KHA Motion and Effective Components

Motion	Effective component	Equivalent in other algorithms
:	neighboring krill	FA
induced motion	global best krill	PSO
formation mostion	best krill position	PSO
foraging motion	food center position	-
diffusion motion	random walk	FA/PSO
genetic operators	crossover/ mutation	GA

# Chapter 5

# Conclusions

In this thesis, swarm intelligence algorithms, specifically the Krill Herd Algorithm (KHA), were considered to solve the dynamic sensor deployment problem in mobile wireless sensors networks. A modified multi-agent based KH algorithm, named MA-KHA, was introduced. The MA-KHA and KHA were applied to five benchmark global optimization problems and the results compared. The simulation results showed that MA-KHA is better than KHA I, KHA II, and KHA IV as it provides better solutions.

After introducing MA-KHA and providing its performance for several global optimization problems, it was used to solve the coverage problem for mobile wireless sensor networks. To do so, PSO, FA as well as KHA I and KHA II were implemented for the MWSN problem and the performance compared with that of the proposed method. The results obtained show that MA-KHA achieves a higher coverage. The average coverage for r = 7 is 94.5% with MA-KHA in comparison with 91.9%, 90.7%, 90.5%, and 89.4% using KHA II, KHA I, FA, and PSO, respectively.

KHA I utilizes five major components to find a solution for an optimization problem, neighboring krill, global best krill, best krill position, food center position, and random walk. KHA II to KHA IV also employ genetic operators. In the proposed algorithm, competition and cooperation and self-learning operators were used instead of genetic operators. The competition and cooperation operator strengthens the exploration while self-learning focuses on exploitation. The results for the MWSN coverage and global optimization problems show that the multi-agent approach can help the krill algorithm provide better solutions by balancing exploitation and exploration.

In this thesis, parameter selection for MA-KHA was done based on the KHA algorithm parameters to have a fair comparison. As future work, parameter selection can be studied in detail since there are a number of parameters that can be adjusted. A more advanced self-learning operator can also be designed. For instance, instead of using the best agent, a random one can be used in the self-learning to increase randomness. Depending on the optimization problem, different metaheuristic algorithms can be chosen for the self-learning. For instance a mini-FA can be utilized in self-learning to provide a more powerful local search. There are also several algorithms that can be hybridized with KHA. For example, hybrid KHA and PSO can be implemented to solve optimization problems such as battery consumption and coverage for WSNs.

# Appendix A

# Benchmark Global Optimization Problems

• F1: Ackley function (Figure 10)

This function is widely used for testing optimization algorithms. It is characterized by a nearly flat outer region, and a large hole at the center. This poses a risk for optimization algorithms to be trapped in one of its many local minima [86]. The Ackley function with  $-32 \le x_i \le 32$  is given by

$$f(x_0, x_1, \dots, x_n) = -20 \exp(-0.2 \sqrt{\frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^n x_i^2} - \exp(\frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^n \cos(2\pi x_i)) + 20 + e$$

• F2: Griewank function (Figure 11)

This function has many widespread local minima which are regularly distributed [86]. The Griewank function is given by

$$f(x_0, x_1, \dots, x_n) = 1 + \frac{1}{4,000} \sum_{i=1}^n x_i^2 - \prod_{i=1}^n \cos(\frac{x_i}{\sqrt{i}}), -600 \le x_i \le 600$$

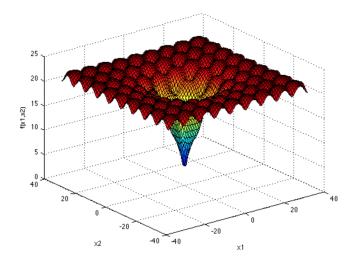


Figure 10. The Ackley function

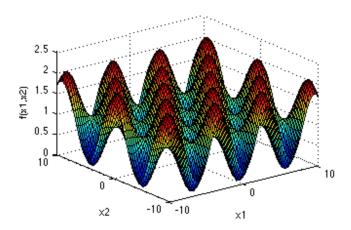


Figure 11. The Griewank function

## • F3: Rastrigin function (Figure 12)

This is a highly multimodal function with several local minima. However, the locations of the minima are regularly distributed [86]. The Rastrigin function is given by

$$f(x_0, x_1, \dots, x_n) = 10n + \sum_{i=1}^{n} (x_i^2 - 10\cos(2\pi x_i)), -5.12 \le x_i \le 5.12$$

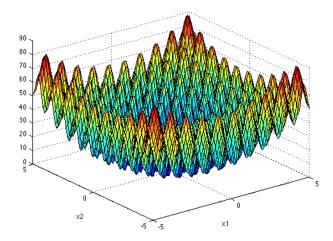


Figure 12. The Rastrigin function

### • F4: Rosenbrock function (Figure 13)

This function is a popular unimodal test problem, in which the global minimum lies in a narrow valley. However, even though the valley is quite easy to find, convergence to the minimum is difficult [86].

The Rosenbrock function is given by

$$f(x_0, x_1, \dots, x_n) = \sum_{i=1}^{n-1} (100(x_i^2 - x_{i+1})^2 + (1 - x_i)^2), -30 \le x_i \le 30$$

## • F5: sphere function (Figure 14)

This function is a continuous, convex and unimodal test function. It has several local minima but one global minimum [86]. The sphere function is given by

$$f(x_0, x_1, \dots, x_n) = \sqrt{\sum_{i=1}^n x_i^2}, -100 \le x_i \le 100$$

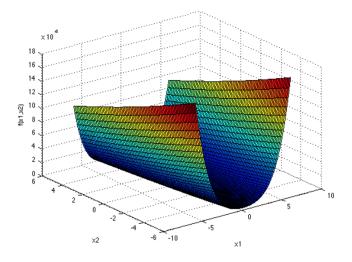


Figure 13. The Rosenbrock function  ${\cal L}$ 

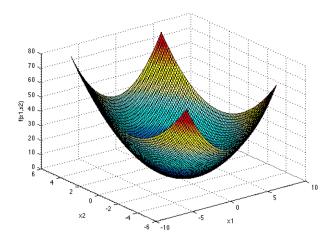


Figure 14. The sphere function

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