

Hierarchy Influenced Differential Evolution: A Motor Function Inspired Approach

ABSTRACT

Operational maturity of biological control systems have fuelled the inspiration for a large number of mathematical and logical models for control, automation and optimisation. The human brain represents the most sophisticated control architecture known to us and is a central motivation for several research attempts across various domains. In the present work, we introduce an algorithm for mathematical optimisation that derives its intuition from the hierarchical and distributed operations of the human motor system. The system comprises global leaders, local leaders and an effector population that adapt dynamically to attain global optimisation via a feedback mechanism coupled with the structural hierarchy. The hierarchical system operation is distributed into local control for movement and global controllers that facilitate gross motion and decision making. We present our algorithm as a variant of the classical Differential Evolution algorithm, introducing a hierarchical crossover operation. The discussed approach is tested exhaustively on standard test functions from the CEC 2017 benchmark. Our algorithm significantly outperforms various standard algorithms as well as their popular variants as discussed in the results.

KEYWORDS

Differential Evolution, Metaheuristics, Combinatorial Optimization, Hierarchical Influence

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1 INTRODUCTION

Evolutionary algorithms are classified as meta-heuristic search algorithms, where possible solution elements span the n-dimensional search space to find the global optimum solution. Over the years, natural phenomena and biological processes have laid the foundation for several algorithms for control and optimization that have highlighted their applicability in solving intricate optimization problems. For instance, at the cellular level in the E.Coli Bacterium, there is sensing and locomotion involved in seeking nourishment and avoiding harmful chemicals. These behavioral characteristics fuelled the inspiration for the Bacterial Foraging Optimization algorithm [8][7]. Ant Colony Optimization [3] deals with behavior of

ants and has been a successful model for solving complex problems. Particle Swarm Optimization [5] is a swarm intelligence algorithm based on behavior of birds and fishes that models these particles as they traverse an n-dimensional search space and share information in order to obtain global optimum. From a biological control point, the human brain represents one of the most advanced architectures and several research attempts seek to mimic its functional accuracy, precision and efficiency. The brain function activities can be broadly classified into 2 categories: sensory and motor operations. Sensory cortical functions inspired the concept of neural networks that are being scaled successfully in deep learning to solve vast amount of problems.

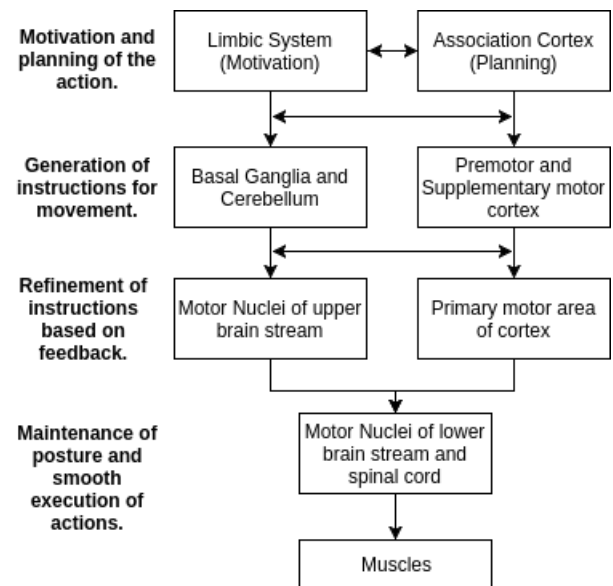


Figure 1: Hierarchy of Motor Control in Humans

The human motor function represents a distributed neural and hierarchical control system. It can be classified as having local control functions for movement as well as higher level controllers for gross motion and decision making. The execution of motor operation involves distributed brain structures at different levels of hierarchy. These include the pre-frontal cortex, motor cortex, spinal cord, anterior horn cells etc [10]. For executing an action sequence, a sequence of actions is implemented by a string of subsequences of actions each implemented in a different part of the body. The operational structure has been depicted in Figure 1[9]. For optimality of actions, neurons act in unison. The neurons in the motor cortex act like global leaders and send inhibitory or facilitatory influence over anterior horn cells, the local leaders, located in the spinal cord[10]. These local leaders are connected to muscle fibers, the effectors, through a peripheral nerve and neuromuscular junction. Efficient

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execution of task requires feedback based facilitation and inhibition of the effectors over the anterior horn cells. These sequence of operations realise the optimal convergence of the system leading to smooth motor execution.

The present work introduces an algorithm modelled intuitively on the distributed and hierarchical operation of the brain motor function.

The Classical DE Algorithm [11], proposed by Storn and Price has been hailed as one of the premier evolutionary algorithms, owing to it's simple yet effective structure[2]. However, in recent times, it has been criticized for it's slow convergence rate and inability to effectively optimize multimodal composite functions[2]. This work focusses on supplementing the algorithm's performance through the introduction of hierarchical influence in the pipeline. The architecture enables the algorithm to control the flow of agents through the cumulative effect of global and local leaders in the hierarchy.

The proposed approach, Hierarchy Influenced Differential Evolution (HIDE), has been subjected to exhaustive analysis on the hybrid and composite objective functions of the CEC 2017 benchmark[1]. Comparison with the classical DE algorithm and its other popular variants including JADE and PSODE [13] highlights the particular viability of the schemed approach in solving complex optimization tasks. We show that even with fixed parameters, HIDE is able to outperform adaptive architectures such as JADE by a respectable margin, as discussed in the result sections.

2 CLASSICAL DIFFERENTIAL EVOLUTION

The classical Differential Evolution (DE) algorithm is a population-based global optimization algorithm, utilizing a crossover and mutation approach to generate new individuals in the population for achieving optimum solutions[2]. For each individual x_i that belongs to the population for generation G , DE randomly samples three individuals from the population namely $x_{r1,G}$, $x_{r2,G}$ and $x_{r3,G}$. Employing these randomly chosen points, a new individual trial vector, V_i , is generated using equation (1):

$$V_i = x_{r1,G} + F(x_{r2,G} - x_{r3,G}) \quad (1)$$

Where, F is called the differential weight (Usually lies between $[0, 1]$).

To obtain the updated position of the individual, a crossover operation is implemented between $x_{i,G}$ and V_i , controlled by the parameter CR called the crossover probability. The value for CR always lies between $[0, 1]$.

3 HIERARCHY INFLUENCED DIFFERENTIAL EVOLUTION

Taking inspiration from the human motor system, we model the hierarchical motor operations in our optimization agents, where we define a global leader which influences the action of several distributed local leaders and the particle agents which act as the effectors. The global leader is analogous to the decision making and planning section in the motor system hierarchy whilst, the local leaders correspond to motion generators acting under the influence of the global leader.

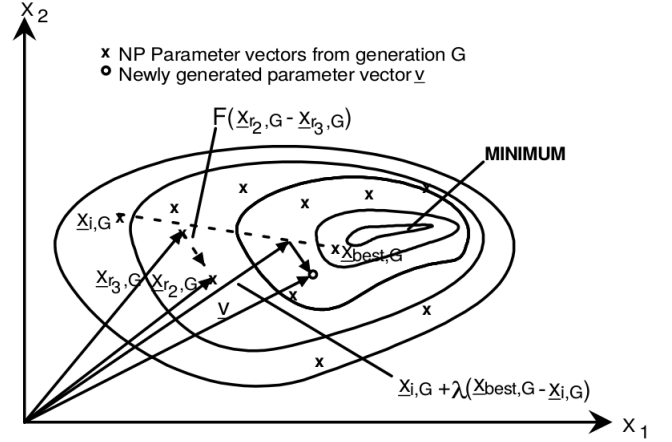


Figure 2: Motion planning of individuals in DE on two dimensional example of objective function.

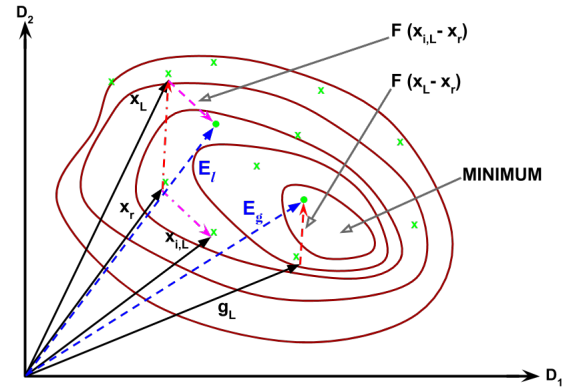


Figure 3: Hierarchical Decisive Motion planning of individuals in HIDE on two dimensional example of objective function. The position vectors resulting from the influence of global leader and local leaders are both represented as E_g and E_l on the contour of a two dimensional objective function.

The position of each particle in the population is affected by the influence of global leader and local leaders, while also being affected by a randomly chosen particle from the population to induce some stochasticity in the optimization pipeline. We first model the influence of the global leader on the local leaders and the influences of the local leaders on each population element using equation (3) and (4). We introduce a hierarchical crossover between the two influencing equations governed by a hierarchical crossover parameter HC .

Analogously to the brain motor operation as depicted in Figure 1, the updation of particle positions requires generating feedback for the leaders as a part of the optimization procedure, and hence

Algorithm 1 Hierarchy Influenced Differential Evolution

```

1: procedure START
2:   Initialize parameters ( $HC, HC, P, N_l, NP$ ).
3:   Generate initial global leader  $g_L$  as a random point.
4:   Generate  $N_l$  local leader points around  $g_L$ .
5:   Using a Normal distribution, generate  $NP$  points for population  $P$  around the local leaders.
6:   while termination criteria is not met do
7:     for each individual  $x_i, L$  in  $P$  do
8:       Determine the corresponding local leader  $l$  from the set of all local leader based on nearest position.
9:       Let  $u = 0$  be an empty vector.
10:      Let  $i_c$  and  $i_N$  be the current generation and total generations of the procedure.
11:      if  $i_c < (HC * i_N)$  then
12:         $u = E_g$  from (3).
13:      else
14:         $u = E_l$  from (4).
15:      end if
16:      for each dimension  $j$  do
17:        Generate  $r_j = U(0, 1)$ , a random number between 0 and 1.
18:        if  $r_j < HC$  then
19:          Set  $x'_j = x_j$ .
20:        else
21:          Set  $x'_j = u_j$ 
22:        end if
23:      end for
24:      if  $f(x') < f(x)$  then
25:        Replace  $x$  with  $x'$  in the population.
26:      end if
27:    end for
28:    Alter local leaders in each population cluster based on objective function value.
29:    Compute updated global leader  $g_L$ .
30:  end while
31: end procedure

```

the local leaders and the global leader are updated based on their objective function value generated from the perturbations in population particles. This series of events comprise of one optimization pass (one generation step). On execution of several optimization passes as described, the system is able to converge to an optimal configuration, analogous to the successful execution of the required task as shown in the final steps of Figure 1.

For each particle $x_{i,G}$, $i = 0, 1, 2, \dots, NP - 1$ for generation G , the trial vector $x'_{i,G}$ of the particle, is governed by the hierarchical crossover operation and a mutation operation as follows :

$$u_i = \begin{cases} E_g, & \text{if } G < HC * G_t \\ E_l, & \text{otherwise} \end{cases} \quad (2)$$

$$E_g = g_L + F(x_{L_i,G} - x_{r,G}) \quad (3)$$

$$E_l = x_{L_i,G} + F(x_{i,G} - x_{r,G}) \quad (4)$$

for each dimension j of $x_{j,i,G}$:

$$x'_{j,i} = \begin{cases} x_{j,i,G} & \text{if } \text{rand}(0, 1) < HC \\ u_{j,i} & \text{otherwise} \end{cases} \quad (5)$$

where

G_t is the total number of generations,
 F is factor responsible for amplification of differential variation,
 f is the objective function,
 $x_{i,G}$ is the current position of the individual for generation G ,
 u_i is the intermediate trial vector of the current individual,
 E_g represents the global and local leader interaction,
 E_l represents the local leader and effector interaction,
 g_L is the global leader for generation G ,
 $x_{L_i,G}$ is the position of the local leader for current individual,
 $x_{r,G} \in P; r \in [0, 1, \dots, NP - 1]$
 $x'_{j,i}$ is the trial vector

$x_{r,G}$ is randomly chosen particle from the population to induce stochasticity. The hierarchical operation is affected by the global leader g_L and the local leader $x_{L_i,G}$ through the parametric equations (3) and (4). Switching between the two is governed by the hierarchical crossover parameter HC .

$$x_{i,G+1} = \begin{cases} x'_{i,G}, & \text{if } f(x'_{i,G}) < f(x_{i,G}) \\ x_{i,G}, & \text{otherwise} \end{cases} \quad (6)$$

where $x_{i,G+1}$ is the vector position of $x_{i,G}$ for next generation

3.1 Hierarchical Crossover

Convergence trend in HIDE is largely pivoted about (3) and (4), which in unison, lend a hierarchical structure to the algorithm. A successful optimization algorithm involves establishing a trade-off between fast convergence and robust optimization [11]. Achieving global optimization can be visualized as collaboration of two forces, greedy exploration over a larger subspace followed by intensive exploration over the resulting restricted search space. Phase 1, involving (3) is marked by the interaction between the global and local leaders representing decision planning and facilitation of gross motion. This is followed by phase 2, involving (4) wherein the local leaders interact with and guide their effector population to control intricate motion over the constraint subspace to achieve smooth convergence. Robust convergence necessitates an optimal transition from phase 1 to phase 2 in the hierarchy. This hierarchical transition is characterized by our proposed parameter, HC . The value of HC belongs to $[0, 1]$. An optimal value for HC was observed experimentally to lie about one-quarter. For the purpose of our results, we have fixed HC to be 0.27. The differential influence of the global leader and distributed local leaders at the higher levels of hierarchy balances the greediness of mutation. Running these vector configurations concurrently has enabled our algorithm to largely avoid local minima in quest to attain global minimum. Our proposition is complemented by the observations in our results

section wherein we significantly outperform several popular algorithms on involved multimodal hybrid and composite functions on higher dimensions.

Table 1: CEC 2017 Test Functions

F_{id}	Problem Function	F^*
f_1	Shifted and Rotated Bent Cigar Function	100
f_2	Shifted and Rotated Sum of Different Power Function	200
f_3	Shifted and Rotated Zakharov Function	300
f_4	Shifted and Rotated Rosenbrock's Function	400
f_5	Shifted and Rotated Rastrigin's Function	500
f_6	Shifted and Rotated Expanded Scaffer's F6 Function	600
f_7	Shifted and Rotated Lunacek Bi-Rastrigin Function	700
f_8	Shifted and Rotated Non-Continuous Rastrigin's Function	800
f_9	Shifted and Rotated Levy Function	900
f_{10}	Shifted and Rotated Schwefel's Function	1000
f_{11}	Hybrid Function 1 (N=3)	1100
f_{12}	Hybrid Function 2 (N=3)	1200
f_{13}	Hybrid Function 3 (N=3)	1300
f_{14}	Hybrid Function 4 (N=4)	1400
f_{15}	Hybrid Function 5 (N=4)	1500
f_{16}	Hybrid Function 6 (N=4)	1600
f_{17}	Hybrid Function 7 (N=5)	1700
f_{18}	Hybrid Function 8 (N=5)	1800
f_{19}	Hybrid Function 9 (N=5)	1900
f_{20}	Hybrid Function 10 (N=6)	2000
f_{21}	Composition Function 1 (N=3)	2100
f_{22}	Composition Function 2 (N=3)	2200
f_{23}	Composition Function 3 (N=4)	2300
f_{24}	Composition Function 4 (N=4)	2400
f_{25}	Composition Function 5 (N=5)	2500
f_{26}	Composition Function 6 (N=5)	2600
f_{27}	Composition Function 7 (N=6)	2700
f_{28}	Composition Function 8 (N=6)	2800
f_{29}	Composition Function 9 (N=3)	2900
f_{30}	Composition Function 10 (N=3)	3000
Search Range: $[-100,100]^D$		

4 RESULTS AND DISCUSSIONS

All evaluations were performed using Python 2.7.12 with Scipy[6] and Numpy[12] for numerical computations and Matplotlib [4] package for graphical representation of the result data. This section is divided into two sub-sections: Section A provides description about the problem set used for analysis of algorithmic efficiency and accuracy, and section B comprises of tabular and graphical data to reinforce the claim of superiority of the proposed approach.

4.1 Problem Set Description

The set of objective functions considered for testing the proposed algorithm and compare it's performance against classical DE and

it's variants PSODE and JADE have been taken from the CEC 2017 set of benchmark functions. Exhaustive comparisons and analysis have been depicted on dimensions $D = 10, 30, 50$ and 100 for a clear understanding of the strengths of the proposed algorithm. Objective functions $f_1 - f_3$ are simple unimodal functions and $f_4 - f_{10}$ are multimodal functions with a high number of local optima values. Functions $f_{11} - f_{20}$ are all hybrid functions using a combination of functions from $f_1 - f_{10}$. The set of composite function range from $f_{21} - f_{30}$ and merges the properties of the sub-functions better while incorporating the basic functions as well as hybrid functions to increase complexity while maintaining continuity around the global optima.

Summarized in Table 1 are the 30 objective functions from the CEC 2017 dataset and the global optimum value for each function denoted by F^* . In all simulation runs, we set the population size NP to a fixed value of 40, and the results are shown in a tabular structure depicting the best and average values of the population individuals for the simulations. Additionally, several graphical results have been discussed to observe the convergence rate and efficiency of the algorithms used in the simulation. These graphs were plotted based on the numerical results obtained from the simulation runs used to build the tables.

4.2 Parameter Settings

For fair comparisons, the parameters for all algorithms are fixed to the values depicted in table 2. As clear from the table, we set the parameters F and CR as 0.42 and 0.48 for DE across all experiments. The parameters for JADE were selected as suggested in the original work. These parameter settings allow transparency in results and a base for fair and clear comparisons in the analysis of the algorithms.

4.3 Numerical and Graphical Results

In tables 3-6, the best and mean values obtained for the population agents in the simulation runs have been reported, and the optimum values for each objective function have been highlighted in **bold**. For the sake of clarity, the comparison results in each table have been summarized in "w/t/l" format wherein w represents the number of objective functions where the algorithm outperforms all other algorithms, t specifies the number of objective functions where it is

Table 2: Algorithm Parameter Settings used for comparison

Algorithm	Parameter	Value
DE	F	0.42
	Cr	0.48
PSODE	w	0.7
	Cp	2.0
	Cg	2.0
	F	0.48
	Cr	0.5
JADE	μ_{CR}	0.5
	μ_F	0.5
HIDE	HC	0.27
	F	0.48
	N_l	5

Table 3: Objective Function Value for Dimension: 10

ID	DE		JADE		PSO-DE		Ours	
	best	mean	best	mean	best	mean	best	mean
f_1	100.000051	100.011085	100.0	100.0	100.000712	185.975885	100.0	100.0
f_2	200.0	200.1	200.0	200.0	200.0	200.0	200.0	200.0
f_3	300.00134	300.214502	300.0	300.0	300.000006	300.000985	300.0	300.0
f_4	400.042617	403.674837	400.0	400.409399	400.064644	404.307763	400.0	400.000003
f_5	566.661791	604.867489	523.908977	541.521084	525.868824	575.61616	533.803201	579.483815
f_6	621.914237	634.807962	620.878276	636.034759	603.187964	635.865001	613.730565	629.293758
f_7	724.831278	739.129935	717.016542	723.983312	725.44788	733.15638	720.345706	725.233785
f_8	818.904202	829.749207	821.914433	826.321588	820.8941	830.246691	821.064763	828.160987
f_9	900.0	908.104383	900.0	1084.478253	900.0	1124.102561	900.0	903.454324
f_{10}	1911.510092	2447.443751	1760.956867	2162.648588	2049.644727	2518.241095	1694.437597	2049.074266
f_{11}	1102.985708	1113.423105	1105.661676	1117.509748	1105.97013	1120.192974	1101.769749	1108.863598
f_{12}	2531.746305	6509.743078	1438.605713	5430.674683	4089.006352	10810.387667	1308.438341	1327.405881
f_{13}	1313.130226	1404.903601	1304.681558	1328.755262	1319.839199	1453.340785	1306.682039	1344.282241
f_{14}	1409.949612	1426.571937	1412.934432	1428.169439	1420.91065	1434.112884	1404.928993	1410.000769
f_{15}	1504.131392	1521.446614	1502.496189	1508.31154	1501.389515	1518.310358	1500.08137	1503.169264
f_{16}	1958.42062	2104.555728	1958.857997	2094.630816	1958.411527	2048.156879	1958.433511	2062.385949
f_{17}	1728.194973	1743.155244	1730.715318	1748.129878	1727.80039	1791.607742	1723.853972	1747.589077
f_{18}	1801.586012	1838.840555	1804.298538	1825.091639	1817.154641	1840.546923	1800.235516	1804.014301
f_{19}	1901.195482	1903.604767	1900.399786	1902.152965	1902.71174	1906.252333	1900.005632	1901.014116
f_{20}	2204.55412	2289.226577	2148.538938	2178.313173	2140.561308	2261.038768	2139.915527	2172.816519
f_{21}	2337.772994	2387.230357	2314.421135	2338.688719	2337.207339	2351.898856	2320.496212	2344.61612
f_{22}	2300.805852	2304.132879	2300.0	2300.093485	2300.684181	2301.710478	2300.000015	2301.095975
f_{23}	3070.177083	3145.772296	3003.678563	3091.22041	2773.372859	3060.022519	2867.020036	3047.982305
f_{24}	2500.0	2500.0	2500.0	2500.0	2500.0	2500.0	2500.0	2500.0
f_{25}	2899.584968	2933.249812	2899.584968	2930.266506	2897.742869	2921.27479	2897.833388	2927.976511
f_{26}	2800.0	4117.597033	2800.0	2956.064173	2800.0	3367.60765	2800.0	3161.548079
f_{27}	3113.157656	3358.806434	3072.439023	3178.509645	3078.873134	3240.501812	3071.203569	3107.268539
f_{28}	3184.75565	3230.921422	3184.75565	3195.113042	3184.755652	3198.370691	3100.0	3195.411961
f_{29}	3148.587115	3266.979786	3172.400194	3233.707677	3191.348193	3244.892638	3189.211417	3292.420474
f_{30}	3442.555095	11927.404685	3207.766942	4615.591316	4573.358512	16415.162901	3205.740954	3249.710975
w/t/l	2/4/24	1/1/28	5/7/18	9/4/17	4/4/22	2/2/26	12/7/11	14/4/12

Table 4: Objective Function Value for Dimension: 30

f_{id}	DE		JADE		PSO-DE		Ours	
	best	mean	best	mean	best	mean	best	mean
f_1	100.001508	4334.438478	100.001338	100.056201	364.295574	4236.363207	100.0	100.0
f_2	40412441.0	5.129601e+19	200.0	1535352368.6	332899.0	9.590679e+11	200.0	159855.5
f_3	17926.872873	22131.542719	69304.926091	74080.700372	15792.547575	21683.209092	3679.811599	8999.947269
f_4	481.255055	519.422652	403.633939	442.206911	468.341175	479.341966	400.004163	443.016156
f_5	689.041352	737.79326	667.50756	735.204027	715.904429	746.548906	685.40454	738.842184
f_6	643.626307	652.582714	651.39169	655.142819	642.724237	655.106996	644.701241	652.002395
f_7	883.347367	962.591129	779.907693	818.344111	790.014281	854.285524	812.923573	856.90477
f_8	923.37426	967.251501	931.500175	957.362003	915.414882	960.486239	930.288539	964.11663
f_9	5652.483961	7878.781444	4953.05469	5146.600953	6018.417197	9042.410178	4003.118072	4734.984364
f_{10}	3596.63104	4536.989761	4012.723292	4204.18969	3934.606704	4863.741107	3793.781776	4346.741344
f_{11}	1162.405965	1184.634006	1152.748529	1174.58813	1165.144993	1189.171787	1149.748499	1171.130409
f_{12}	56679.435092	317650.61349	24821.171765	58930.090242	10221.077465	161046.05540	9208.289246	41947.22269
f_{13}	3002.029489	18794.835991	4276.907742	13775.816239	3871.279833	10612.26359	1664.06241	2453.606969
f_{14}	1773.180798	5502.160382	1496.219858	42868.9158	1555.452763	4029.808535	1462.926848	1504.191515
f_{15}	1860.435669	2484.689969	1688.05046	2222.674323	1651.747476	2223.060542	1611.074402	1852.66177
f_{16}	2517.439623	2827.004968	2344.19818	2621.618684	2239.242719	2664.114667	2298.041965	2691.674809
f_{17}	2321.175936	2604.529778	2062.898023	2546.995596	2107.43677	2457.34021	1820.806639	2418.723829
f_{18}	38987.282456	94156.328505	11841.60813	184888.162181	62294.853257	118430.28912	12578.003784	23024.11193
f_{19}	2043.469888	3010.235379	1959.71819	2156.957875	3049.52231	6840.408394	1949.271714	1987.866771
f_{20}	2625.539158	2864.832611	2706.314441	2805.600064	2619.996493	2895.107238	2753.806213	2966.035793
f_{21}	2412.081757	2504.777775	2414.52134	2456.718982	2431.740293	2478.841357	2200.0	2442.734316
f_{22}	2300.481796	5655.569322	2300.0	4157.698784	2307.721358	6811.069162	2300.009985	6795.24842
f_{23}	3050.654508	3572.965066	2772.002023	2946.749322	2764.922461	3199.874364	2883.276891	3543.839343
f_{24}	3104.623692	3290.698756	2891.557648	2965.225566	2911.63347	2983.772932	2500.0	2940.75997
f_{25}	2916.180657	2946.711753	2875.106846	2881.091389	2875.498843	2889.943671	2874.171109	2877.484904
f_{26}	4043.691403	6756.3724	2900.0	3266.510982	2800.007809	3273.128769	2900.0	3298.490539
f_{27}	3200.005857	3998.876498	3145.810354	3189.82261	3145.425231	3639.634132	3132.816283	3284.28897
f_{28}	3290.744025	3326.263983	3100.0	3131.027315	3195.486838	3225.594053	3100.0	3115.505829
f_{29}	3720.314598	4115.185803	3305.310139	3626.887552	3535.952295	3867.593068	3352.845055	3709.102375
f_{30}	3359.030768	3900.826662	3263.496536	3749.610722	3312.635025	3524.714477	3298.704645	3421.715322
w/t/l	2/0/28	0/0/30	8/2/20	11/0/19	4/0/26	1/0/29	15/2/13	17/0/13

Table 5: Objective Function Value for Dimension: 50

f_{id}	DE		JADE		PSO-DE		Ours	
	best	mean	best	mean	best	mean	best	mean
f_1	5884574.87314	367294248.521	136.072384	3708.75086	5811.218992	154233.646744	106.072862	3665.419272
f_2	4.718137e+24	3.364977e+44	2635725.0	5.02374e+26	2.212101e+19	2.544543e+23	2.279950e+17	1.00729e+31
f_3	45520.966376	62237.296819	143481.793147	156166.762356	52308.42743	64435.24063	44613.29993	58182.83733
f_4	574.400328	801.384952	418.580378	470.113207	477.080964	574.528479	400.005049	447.775413
f_5	816.394775	843.258843	809.899483	834.131266	778.59312	831.066954	791.405194	830.218472
f_6	652.541914	655.794152	633.217881	654.893828	653.291336	658.183613	645.25633	656.060597
f_7	1109.02123	1263.038487	889.036574	944.90319	915.153525	1047.43879	989.957862	1186.248741
f_8	1139.278925	1175.893113	1118.339103	1144.604745	1092.62639	1159.032351	1100.476077	1168.529946
f_9	22196.387817	29218.775982	11958.280061	13174.66236	24753.040541	32233.95451	10251.47631	14752.7168
f_{10}	6228.49289	7289.183679	6054.707691	6833.306317	6207.795302	7055.595231	6050.434374	6609.804567
f_{11}	1170.858603	1258.517635	1202.694857	1232.204268	1206.154564	1252.939541	1156.439606	1205.254497
f_{12}	677263.0799	16987989.981	74784.6159	530814.6481	584300.6983	3448448.7906	126908.2157	494471.0756
f_{13}	6005.535308	16893.949921	2041.488125	4332.5945	1572.252973	4301.829606	1484.761799	7760.056137
f_{14}	38490.532315	174367.45065	2466.047056	238838.470051	16327.42317	67939.000264	2967.818485	26290.31618
f_{15}	2278.141229	26989.255509	13553.041864	25636.769611	3443.587343	9167.267098	1938.200405	14976.72189
f_{16}	2722.026011	3176.916902	2345.400708	2916.561016	2521.93881	3146.04527	2436.449338	2978.37746
f_{17}	2799.949776	3289.61565	2568.383575	2907.869272	2887.281107	3236.957928	2561.370306	2874.965038
f_{18}	264037.12570	872072.47739	36176.58677	113941.3176	26965.28512	114846.121366	260540.781819	536454.326476
f_{19}	10051.912407	20380.25713	2089.172253	7763.17234	9905.850822	16555.756926	2013.126904	3609.258962
f_{20}	2950.923195	3274.334015	3041.81309	3113.289461	2991.589293	3361.823946	2495.031774	3080.137478
f_{21}	2596.725663	2689.688363	2526.190898	2597.677199	2555.8788	2642.381597	2447.758274	2570.911014
f_{22}	9713.993241	10803.653732	10759.59674	11032.880953	8918.436264	10465.022457	8181.446081	9755.070369
f_{23}	3451.104943	4200.174424	2971.160647	3237.778662	2977.554961	3490.639751	2851.650254	3162.313622
f_{24}	3434.465028	3682.846708	3103.955173	3185.382676	3036.799607	3158.330504	3136.927747	3284.656095
f_{25}	3141.144886	3292.303449	2931.162959	2962.471758	2931.926959	3008.895353	2931.142314	2954.767839
f_{26}	4906.132848	7989.490966	2900.0	3346.874039	2900.441895	3653.757741	2900.0	3262.668498
f_{27}	3200.010703	3792.645588	3143.038057	3184.646353	3158.178238	3397.130323	3141.010872	3176.011524
f_{28}	3300.010827	3431.570911	3240.725865	3288.253039	3263.207144	3300.257609	3243.631996	3294.373237
f_{29}	3812.475517	4605.349537	3533.945743	3956.835243	3955.324537	4364.18129	3653.675553	3966.471956
f_{30}	3673.711968	5813.173755	3916.725719	4869.089335	3730.309354	5143.078706	3346.483679	4747.88675
w/t/l	0/0/30	0/0/30	8/1/21	9/0/21	4/0/26	3/0/27	17/1/12	18/0/12

Table 6: Objective Function Value for Dimension: 100

f_{id}	DE		JADE		PSO-DE		Ours	
	best	mean	best	mean	best	mean	best	mean
f_1	3427212811.79	13807281895.7	141.263356	13516.698933	6067123.52108	29751976.5091	122.398748	11708.82360
f_2	4.19617e+84	1.54741e+112	8.73752e+74	2.54362e+87	6.1536e+66	3.2118e+73	3.8835e+80	8.8914e+114
f_3	228808.969094	262699.687639	312244.360944	332179.290693	241427.723667	257462.977885	220765.0838	251901.1093
f_4	1975.651157	2752.246068	539.386275	677.054657	777.314462	836.965399	531.169819	621.219143
f_5	1223.536503	1286.153332	1249.195036	1307.110127	1248.410134	1310.887657	1068.11742	1472.47682
f_6	651.650133	657.84974	654.709342	659.421427	656.877048	662.318417	642.33355	654.132758
f_7	1614.003864	1920.797726	1367.066537	1536.357878	1311.849757	1534.207764	1562.379772	2076.702502
f_8	1595.418732	1736.367379	1672.567849	1768.082435	1678.127263	1761.94051	1293.552115	1592.162983
f_9	59726.514621	71986.043905	28906.90908	30336.745335	63640.331351	74961.220998	23466.57501	27067.02959
f_{10}	12005.889721	14725.348334	14227.801909	15355.621891	12937.027857	14972.950738	11153.58683	13298.09210
f_{11}	7540.617987	11481.260145	40447.548688	57228.683666	3521.901521	4544.804011	5380.432052	9916.347692
f_{12}	529993877.325	1881773956.29	3893556.27222	6415173.6097	26105108.937	41876679.0862	3680108.181	10059039.63
f_{13}	7943.9249	508209.562668	4622.698553	8892.775994	8246.515295	12675.845535	2976.841354	11376.986338
f_{14}	728122.833253	1329183.17224	132194.7952	365560.8816	548410.338286	941547.524763	234045.940166	867160.306892
f_{15}	2660.465784	181957.060133	1799.506503	3362.509604	1899.073444	2914.44348	1976.789124	4485.415275
f_{16}	4749.254663	5847.826738	4817.483738	5632.3022	3852.700054	5228.663526	3519.494945	4796.802728
f_{17}	4397.496352	4958.418182	3842.206015	4450.177422	3790.72056	4730.994585	3582.785882	5463.216947
f_{18}	1357845.39305	1938893.27972	146426.2736	763318.8226	1004224.20385	2315010.29868	631040.14635	1335739.59138
f_{19}	2482.170159	26455.706954	2098.9496	4767.529535	2263.725158	3927.459947	2071.077067	3664.159878
f_{20}	4968.497438	5436.604051	5231.026486	5690.748998	5109.460563	5781.300835	3627.777893	5228.430669
f_{21}	3180.746656	3355.4783	2921.900122	3085.692252	2885.574085	3127.356835	2926.350399	3199.986183
f_{22}	17808.897744	19562.986646	19213.375668	20278.929093	18695.522312	20167.413741	17548.33905	19547.15124
f_{23}	4907.519646	5819.207866	3352.556985	4222.436894	3582.043556	4779.921248	3418.983204	3609.098575
f_{24}	5173.249408	5946.12042	4060.951302	4095.429519	3801.368588	4042.426859	3998.054028	4216.824895
f_{25}	4089.118918	4548.285768	3153.485413	3236.61784	3348.382262	3407.526581	3176.3038	3264.318532
f_{26}	8557.498566	20159.11458	11924.799473	11924.799473	3021.136025	4682.035439	2900.000382	9867.5518
f_{27}	3200.023355	3772.409153	3194.809213	3201.670732	3200.024171	3494.618132	3200.023542	3200.023953
f_{28}	4947.745152	5948.213156	3295.122914	3340.280383	3456.828432	3542.571307	3300.807691	3354.717338
f_{29}	6004.774424	7090.642544	5208.711727	5970.628689	5462.328635	6178.559061	4541.195471	5739.291549
f_{30}	7798.106217	202435555.594	3584.974771	10674.217331	3920.327039	7139.460728	3850.317099	15318.554601
w/t/l	0/0/30	0/0/30	8/0/22	8/0/22	5/0/25	6/0/24	17/0/13	16/0/14

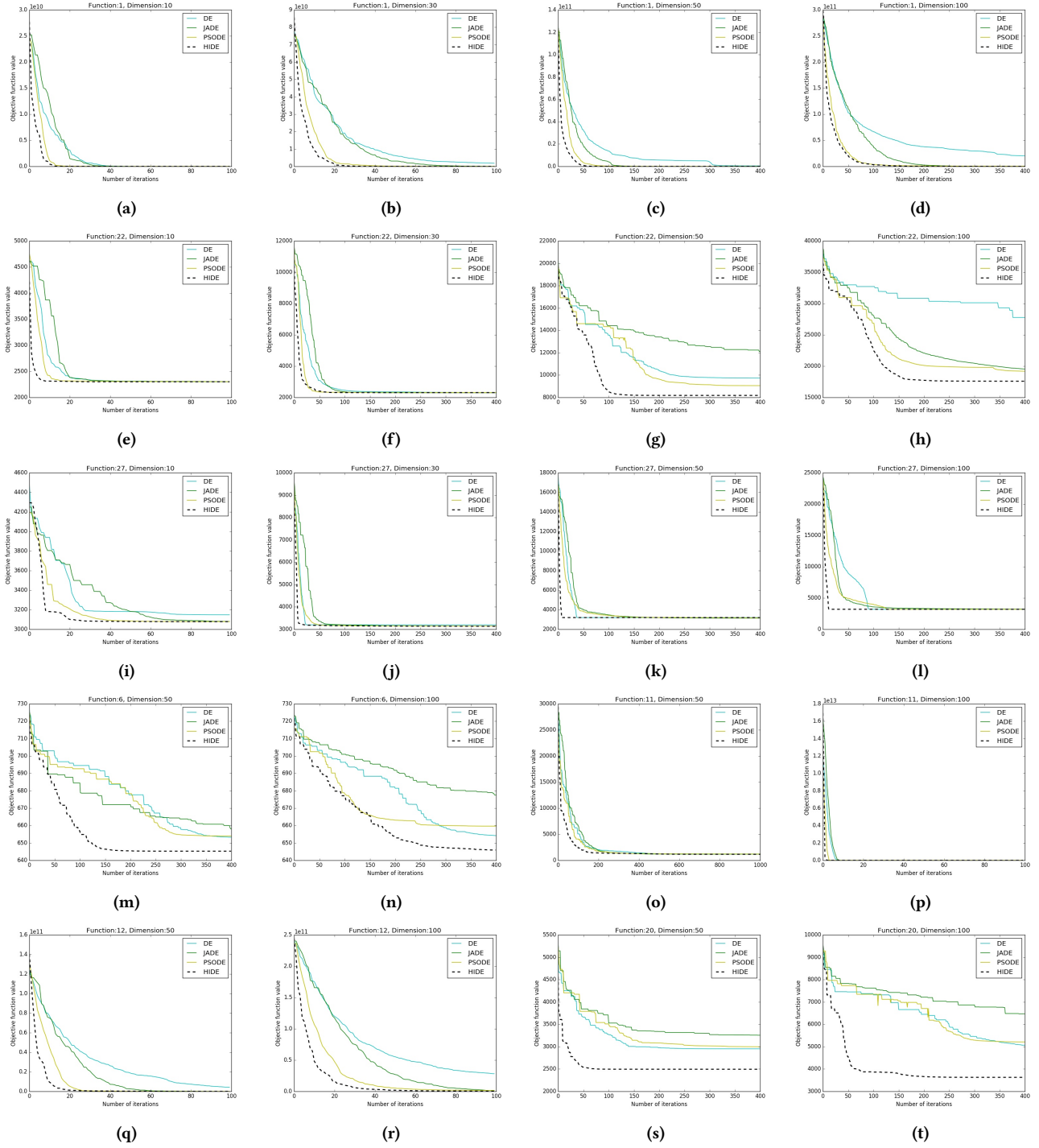


Figure 4: Comparison analysis over various functions and dimensions

tied as the best algorithm for the objective function and l represents the no of test functions where it does not finish first. The utilization of the evaluation metric facilitates a definitive comparison of the different algorithms under consideration.

Tables 3 and 4 highlight the performance of the algorithms for $D=10$ and 30 respectively. For $D=10$, HIDE depicts impressive performance. It registered a "w/t/l" score of 12/7/11 in the best case and 14/4/12 in the mean of population case. In both these test functions, JADE achieved the second best performance registering a w/t/l of

5/7/18 on the best optimal value case and 9/4/17 on the mean of optimal value case. On D=30, HIDE achieved maximum number of wins in both best and mean case (17 and 18 respectively). JADE achieved second position with 8 and 9 wins in the best and mean case. The decent performance of JADE can be attributed to the adaptive nature of its parameter selection which enables enhancement of its convergence rate.

The results for D=50 and D=100 (higher dimensions) have been summarized in tables 5 and 6. On D=50, HIDE depicted exceptional performance, outperforming all other algorithms. It registered 17 wins in the best case and 18 wins in the mean case. Classical DE shows no wins in any case in high dimensional settings owing to its slow convergence rate and inability to attain global optimum thus highlighting the usefulness of the modifications introduced in the variants including HIDE. Similarly for D=100, HIDE again outperforms all other algorithms by an appreciable margin. From a functional standpoint, it would be worthwhile to highlight that HIDE outperformed the other algorithm on majority on the composite and hybrid functions, particularly on the higher dimensional settings. The efficiency of HIDE can be attributed to the hierarchical nature of crossover selection and concurrency in vector configurations at the higher hierarchy levels. The tabular results reinforce the fact that HIDE outperforms JADE, PODE and DE. On close analysis, it can be witnessed that HIDE falls behind the other algorithms on a small fraction of unimodal functions such as f_5, f_7 on lower dimensions due to fast convergence during early stages of execution. However, the performance of higher dimensions, particularly on the more involved functions highlights utility for real world problems.

The tabular results are complemented through the graphical representations in Fig. 4. Analysis of the plots clearly depicts that HIDE shows a better convergence rate as compared to the other algorithms. As the analysis transcends to higher dimensional settings, the proposed approach outperforms majority of the algorithms in terms of both convergence rate and optimality. HIDE and PODE produce similar performance trend as observed from Fig. 4(a,b,e,f,i,j,m,n), HIDE produces better end results than PODE, DE and JADE in majority of the cases. The trends of relative performance of HIDE and other algorithms as observed in the tables on lower dimensions is complemented by Fig. 4(a,b,e,f,i,j,m,n). On higher dimensions, HIDE significantly outperforms other algorithms by large margins, especially in Fig. 4(s,t) where it depicts exceptional performance on both convergence rate and optimality. Similarly, in Fig. 4(k, l, o, p) HIDE shows a faster convergence than any other algorithms considered for comparisons, hence validating the claim that the proposed approach is able to overcome the issue of slow convergence with Differential Evolution algorithm. This is remarkable trait in HIDE enhances its utility for high dimensional problems where fast convergence to global optimum value is required, hence making it superior to the other considered algorithms and several variants of the DE algorithm.

5 CONCLUSION

Differential Evolution has been regarded as one of the most successful optimization algorithms and over the years, several variants

have been proposed to enhance its convergence rate and performance. In the present work, we introduced a hierarchy influenced variant of the classical DE algorithm and modeled the same on the brain motor operation. The algorithm was characterized by global leader, local leaders and an effector population. The global leader and distributed local leaders interacted to facilitate gross motion via a greedy exploration strategy. The local leaders and their effectors interacted to control intricate motion for smooth convergence. A hierarchical crossover parameter was introduced to characterize the hierarchical transition between the two interactions. The influence of the vector configurations at the higher levels of hierarchy enabled the algorithm to avoid local minima in most objective functions. The same is complemented through our result observations wherein we significantly outperform several popular algorithm on complex multimodal functions in higher dimensional settings. Our proposed approach has sought to establish a viable tradeoff between fast optimization, robust convergence and low number of control parameters. The performance analysis of the algorithm highlights the particular effectiveness of the proposed approach on high dimensional hybrid and composite functions. The observed results provide sufficient motivation to extend the scope of the work to complex high dimensional real life problems including image enhancement, traveling salesman problem and flexible job-shop scheduling.

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