A Hybrid Heuristic for the Multi-objective Knapsack Problem Doctoral thesis proposal

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- Models many real applications.

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A Hybrid Heuristic for the Multi-objective Knapsack Problem

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Even for the bi-objective case, some medium sized instances has shown to be hard to solve exactly.

This reason motivates the development of heuristic methods.

Proposal

This work proposes the development of a heuristic for the MOKP based on an evolutionary algorithm called shuffled complex evolution (SCE).

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As a performance improvement for the approach, a multi-dimensional indexing strategy will be used for handling the large amount of solutions.

The SCE has been successfully used for solving optimization problems, among then, the multi-dimensional knapsack problem (MKP) (also a contribution of this work).

Introduction

Contributions and Publications

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The Multi-objective Knapsack Problem

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Multi-objective optimization problems

Definition

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x is the decision variable;

X denotes the set of feasible solutions;

y is the objective vector, each one has to be maximized.

Multi-objective optimization problems

Dominance

The Multi-objective Knapsack Problem

Consider two decision vectors $a, b \in X$.

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Consider two decision vectors a, $b \in X$. Vector a dominates b if, and only if a is at least as good as b in all objectives and better than b in at least one objective.

$$dom(\mathbf{a}, \mathbf{b}) = \begin{cases} \forall i \in \{1, 2, \dots, m\} : f_i(\mathbf{a}) \geqslant f_i(\mathbf{b}) \text{ and} \\ \exists j \in \{1, 2, \dots, m\} : f_j(\mathbf{a}) > f_j(\mathbf{b}) \end{cases}$$

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The set of all efficient solutions.

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Multi-objective optimization problems

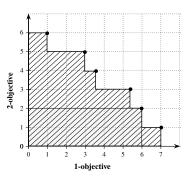


Figure: Example of a Pareto set for a bi-objective problem.

The multi-objective knapsack problem

Problem Definition

A problem instance with n items and m objectives:

$$\max \ f(\mathbf{x}) = \left(f_1(\mathbf{x}), f_2(\mathbf{x}), \dots, f_m(\mathbf{x})\right)$$
 subject to $w(\mathbf{x}) \leqslant W$
$$\mathbf{x} \subseteq \{1, \dots, n\}$$

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A $\mathcal{N}\mathcal{P}\text{-Hard}$ problem for which the Pareto optimal set tends to grow exponentially with the number of objectives.

The multi-objective knapsack problem

Knapsack dominance

Consider two solutions x, y for a MOKP.

We say $x \underline{\text{knapsack-dominates}} y$, denoted as $dom_k(x, y)$, if x dominates y and does not weight more than y.

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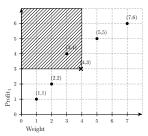
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Multi-dimensional Indexing of MOKP solutions

Dominance check operation

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However, if solutions are mapped into points in a multi-dimensional space, this operation corresponds on checking whether a point exists in a certain region.

Formally:

if
$$dom_k(\mathbf{y}, \mathbf{x})$$
 then $pnt(\mathbf{y}) \in R(\mathbf{x})$

where

$$pnt(\mathbf{x}) = \left(f_1(\mathbf{x}), \dots, f_m(\mathbf{x}), w(\mathbf{x})\right)$$

$$R(\mathbf{x}) = \left\{a \in \mathbb{R}^{m+1} \mid a_{m+1} \leqslant w(\mathbf{x}) \text{ and } a_i \geqslant f_i(\mathbf{x}), i \in \{1, \dots, m\}\right\}$$

Formally:

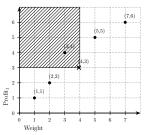
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Multidimensional solution indexing

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The problem of determining whether a point exists in a certain region of space is known as range search.

For efficiency reason range search operations is usually executed with the assistance of a k-d tree.

The k-d tree is a type of binary search tree for indexing multi-dimensional data with simple construction and low space usage.

The Multi-dimensional Indexing

Multidimensional solution indexing

Unlike a standard binary tree, that uses only one key for all levels of the tree, the k-d tree uses k keys and cycles through these keys for successive levels of the tree.

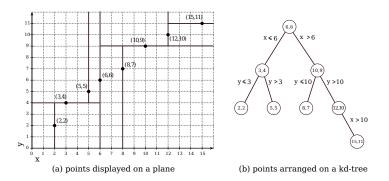
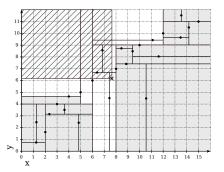


Figure: Example of points indexed in a k-d tree.

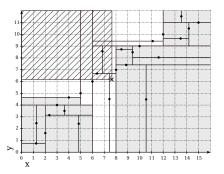
Multidimensional solution indexing

Example of dominance check operation using k-d tree:



Multidimensional solution indexing

Example of dominance check operation using k-d tree:



The efficiency of this pruning action grows with the amount of points.

The Multi-dimensional Indexing

Multi-dimensional Indexing of MOKP solutions

Use case on an exact method

The Multi-dimensional Indexing

Nemhauser and Ullmann's algorithm

As an application of the indexing proposal we will use the k-d tree in an state-of-art exact dynamic programming algorithm for the MOKP.

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- 1: function $\mathrm{DP}(\boldsymbol{p}, \boldsymbol{w}, W)$
- $S^0 = \{\emptyset\}$
- 3: **for** $k \leftarrow 1$, n **do**
- 4: $S_*^k = S^{k-1} \cup \{x \cup k \mid x \in S^{k-1}\}$

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               S_{*}^{k} = S^{k-1} \cup \{x \cup k \mid x \in S^{k-1}\}
                                                                                                   solutions extension
4:
               S^k = \{ \mathbf{x} \mid \exists \mathbf{a} \in S^k : dom_k(\mathbf{a}, \mathbf{x}) \}
                                                                                            ▷ partial dominance filter
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         end for
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4: S_*^k = S^{k-1} \cup \{x \cup k \mid x \in S^{k-1}\} \triangleright solutions extension

5: S^k = \{x \mid \nexists a \in S_*^k : dom_k(a, x)\} \triangleright partial dominance filter

6: end for

7: P = \{x \mid \nexists a \in S^n : dom(a, x) \mid w(x) \leq W\} \triangleright dominance/feasibility
```

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                                                                                                7:
         return P
```

9. end function

Bazgan's dynamic programming algorithm

1: function BAZDP(p, w, W)

2:
$$S^0 = \{\emptyset\}$$

Bazgan's dynamic programming algorithm

Item reordering

1: function BAZDP(p, w, W)

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Feasible extension

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4: for k \leftarrow 1, n do

5: S^k_* = \{x \cup \{o_k\} \mid x \in S^{k-1} \land w(x) + w_{o_k} \leqslant W\}
```

Defficiency avoidance

```
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6: \cup \{x \mid x \in S^{k-1} \land w(x) + w_{o_k} + \dots + w_{o_n} > W\}
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Unpromising elimination

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3: o_{1}, \dots, o_{n} = \mathcal{O}^{max}

4: for k \leftarrow 1, n do

5: S_{*}^{k} = \{x \cup \{o_{k}\} \mid x \in S^{k-1} \land w(x) + w_{o_{k}} \leq W\}

6: \cup \{x \mid x \in S^{k-1} \land w(x) + w_{o_{k}} + \dots + w_{o_{n}} > W\}

7: S^{k} = \{x \in S_{*}^{k} \mid (\nexists a \in S_{*}^{k}) [dom_{k}(a, x) \lor dom(lb(a), ub(x))]\}
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```
1: function BAZDP(p, w, W)
2: S^0 = \{\emptyset\}
3: o_1, \ldots, o_n = \mathcal{O}^{max}
4: for k \leftarrow 1, n do
5: S_*^k = \{x \cup \{o_k\} \mid x \in S^{k-1} \land w(x) + w_{o_k} \leqslant W\}
6: \cup \{x \mid x \in S^{k-1} \land w(x) + w_{o_k} + \ldots + w_{o_n} > W\}
7: S^k = \{x \in S_*^k \mid (\nexists a \in S_*^k) [dom_k(a, x) \lor dom(lb(a), ub(x))]\}
8: end for
9: return S^n
10: end function
```

Dominance check operation

```
1: function BAZDP(p, w, W)

2: S^0 = \{\emptyset\}

3: o_1, \dots, o_n = \mathcal{O}^{max}

4: for k \leftarrow 1, n do

5: S_*^k = \{x \cup \{o_k\} \mid x \in S^{k-1} \land w(x) + w_{o_k} \leqslant W\}

6: \cup \{x \mid x \in S^{k-1} \land w(x) + w_{o_k} + \dots + w_{o_n} > W\}

7: S^k = \{x \in S_*^k \mid (\nexists a \in S_*^k) \left[ \frac{dom_k}{dom_k}(a, x) \lor \frac{dom}{dom}(lb(a), ub(x)) \right] \}

8: end for

9: return S^n

10: end function
```

Computational Experiments

Computational experiments on bi-dimensional instances:

A) Random instances:

$$p_i^J \in [1, 1000],$$

 $w_i \in [1, 1000].$

B) Unconflicting instances:

$$\rho_i^1 \in [111, 1000],
\rho_i^2 \in [\rho_i^1 - 100, \rho_i^1 + 100],
w_i \in [1, 1000].$$

C) Conflicting instances:

$$\begin{array}{l} p_i^1 \in [1,1000], \\ p_i^2 \in [\max\{900-p_i^1;1\}, \min\{1100-p_i^1,1000\}], \\ w_i \in [1,1000]. \end{array}$$

D) Conflicting instances with correlated weight:

$$\begin{array}{l} p_i^1 \in [1,1000], \\ p_i^2 \in [\max\{900-p_i^1;1\},\min\{1100-p_i^1,1000\}], \\ w_i \in [p_i^1+p_i^2-200,p_i^1+p_i^2+200]. \end{array}$$

The Multi-dimensional Indexing

Computational Experiments

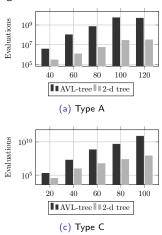
Average CPU-time for bi-objective instances:

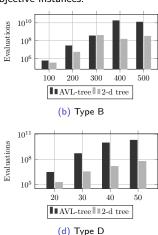
Instance			AVL tree	2-d tree	
Type	n	ND	time (s)	time (s)	speedup
Α	40	38.1	0.06	0.06	1.0
А	60	73.1	1.12	0.88	1.3
	80	125.6	19.81	11.89	1.7
	100	180.4	165.24	76.50	2.2
	120	233.9	708.53	361.87	2.0
В	100	3.1	0.02	0.08	0.3
Ь	200	10.0	0.80	5.09	0.2
	300	24.9	9.45	88.30	0.1
	400	36.2	95.39	730.04	0.1
	500	53.7	255.57	2824.65	0.1
	20	36.6	0.00	0.00	1.0
C	40	102.8	0.65	0.42	1.5
	60	231.9	28.98	14.09	2.1
	80	358.0	564.10	241.54	2.3
	100	513.8	3756.57	1605.19	2.3
	20	174.9	0.15	0.12	1.3
U	30	269.3	16.82	7.60	2.2
	40	478.0	395.76	186.67	2.1
	50	553.4	2459.48	1417.94	1.7

The Multi-dimensional Indexing

Computational Experiments

Average number of solution evaluations for bi-objective instances:





Computational Experiments

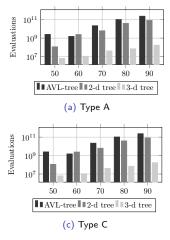
 $\label{prop:condition} \mbox{Average CPU-time for 3-objective instances:}$

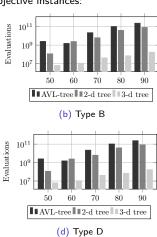
Instance			AVL tree	2-d tree		3-d tree	
Type	n	ND	time (s)	time (s)	speedup	time (s)	speedup
Α	50	557.5	41.2	21.3	1.9	18.5	2.2
	60	1240.0	485.9	247.8	1.9	79.9	6.0
	70	1879.3	3179.5	1038.0	3.0	614.5	5.1
	80	2540.5	6667.9	3796.0	1.7	2943.9	2.2
	90	3528.5	24476.5	12916.7	1.8	3683.7	6.6
В	100	18.0	0.1	0.3	0.3	0.3	0.3
D	200	65.4	11.4	34.4	0.3	29.1	0.4
	300	214.2	307.7	631.5	0.5	583.2	0.5
	400	317.0	4492.9	8464.9	0.5	5402.2	8.0
С	20	254.4	0.06	0.05	1.2	0.03	2.17
	30	1066.6	9.69	4.18	2.3	1.30	7.46
	40	2965.5	471.68	153.21	3.1	30.50	15.5
D	20	4087.7	23.6	10.9	2.2	1.9	12.5
	30	8834.5	8914.2	3625.3	2.5	1019.5	8.7

The Multi-dimensional Indexing

Computational Experiments

Average number of solution evaluations for 3-objective instances:





A Hybrid Heuristic for the Multi-objective Knapsack Problem

The Multi-dimensional Indexing

Conclusions

The multi-dimensional indexing is applicable to the problem requiring considerably less solution evaluations, especially on hard instances.

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Algorithm speedup 2.3 for bi-dimensional cases and up to 15.5 on 3-dimensional cases.

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The multi-dimensional indexing was not efficient on *easy* instances for which the set of solutions is relatively small.

The Multi-dimensional Indexing

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Several instances are still intractable due the large number of intermediate solutions.

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Several instances are still intractable due the large number of intermediate solutions.

For this reason this work proposes to use the indexing strategy in conjunction with an evolutionary metaheuristic.

A Hybrid Heuristic for the Multi-objective Knapsack Problem

The Shuffled Complex Evolution

The Shuffled Complex Evolution

A Hybrid Heuristic for the Multi-objective Knapsack Problem

The Shuffled Complex Evolution

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A population of N*M individuals is randomly taken from the solution space;

The population is then sorted by descending order of fitness and the best global solution is identified;

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The Shuffled Complex Evolution

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The population is then shuffled into N complexes, each containing M individuals;

In this shuffling process the first individual goes to the first complex, the second individual goes to the second complex, individual N goes to N-th complex, individual (N+1)-th goes back to the first complex, etc;

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The Shuffled Complex Evolution

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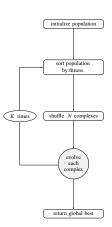
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A Hybrid Heuristic for the Multi-objective Knapsack Problem

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At first the best individual of the subcomplex is considered for the crossing;

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If the latter crossing did not result in any improvement, the best individual of whole population is considered;

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In each step a subcomplex of P individuals is selected from the complex;

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If the new solution is not better than the worst one, the best individual of the complex is considered for a crossing;

If the latter crossing did not result in any improvement, the best individual of whole population is considered;

Finally, if all the crossing steps couldn't generate a better individual, the worst individual of the subcomplex is replaced by a new random solution taken from the feasible solution space.



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In each step a subcomplex of P individuals is selected from the complex;

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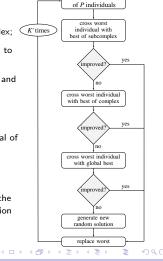
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select a subcomplex

The Shuffled Complex Evolution

The Shuffled Complex Evolution

Use case for the MKP

A Hybrid Heuristic for the Multi-objective Knapsack Problem

The Shuffled Complex Evolution

The SCE for MKP

the SCE is easily applied to any optimization problem. The only steps needed to be specified is (a) the creation of a new random solution and (b) the crossing procedure of two solutions.

A Hybrid Heuristic for the Multi-objective Knapsack Problem

The Shuffled Complex Evolution

The SCE for MKP

New random solution generation for the MKP.

1: function New Random Solution

The SCE for MKP

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- 1: function New Random solution
- 2: $v \leftarrow \mathsf{shuffle}(1, 2, \dots, n)$

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The SCE for MKP

- 1: function New Random Solution
- 2: $v \leftarrow \mathsf{shuffle}(1, 2, \dots, n)$
- 3: $s \leftarrow \emptyset$
- 4: for $i \leftarrow 1 : n$ do
- 5: $s \leftarrow s \cup \{v_i\}$

The SCE for MKP

```
1: function New Random Solution
```

- 2: $v \leftarrow \mathsf{shuffle}(1, 2, \dots, n)$
- 3: $s \leftarrow \emptyset$
- 4: **for** $i \leftarrow 1 : n$ **do**
- 5: $s \leftarrow s \cup \{v_i\}$
- 6: **if** s is not feasible **then**

The SCE for MKP

```
1: function New RANDOM SOLUTION

2: v \leftarrow \text{shuffle}(1, 2, ..., n)

3: s \leftarrow \emptyset

4: for i \leftarrow 1 : n do

5: s \leftarrow s \cup \{v_i\}

6: if s is not feasible then

7: s \leftarrow s - \{v_i\}

8: end if
```

The SCE for MKP

```
1. function NEW BANDOM SOLUTION
         v \leftarrow \mathsf{shuffle}(1, 2, \dots, n)
         s \leftarrow \emptyset
 3.
        for i \leftarrow 1 : n do
              s \leftarrow s \cup \{v_i\}
 5:
              if s is not feasible then
 6.
                   s \leftarrow s - \{v_i\}
 7:
              end if
 8.
         end for
 g.
         return s
10:
11: end function
```

The SCE for MKP

Crossing procedure for the MKP.

1: function Crossing(x^w : worst individual, x^b : better individual, c)

The SCE for MKP

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1: function $CROSSING(x^w : worst individual, x^b : better individual, c)$

2: $v \leftarrow \mathsf{shuffle}(1, 2, \dots, n)$

The SCE for MKP

```
1: function CROSSING(x^w: worst individual, x^b: better individual, c)
2: v \leftarrow \text{shuffle}(1,2,\ldots,n)
3: for i \leftarrow 1: c do
4: j \leftarrow v_i
```

The SCE for MKP

```
1: function CROSSING(x^w: worst individual, x^b: better individual, c)
2: v \leftarrow \text{shuffle}(1, 2, \dots, n)
3: for i \leftarrow 1 : c do
4: j \leftarrow v_i
5: x_j^w \leftarrow x_j^b
6: end for
```

The SCE for MKP

```
1: function Crossing(x^w: worst individual, x^b: better individual, c)
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        for i \leftarrow 1 : c do
3.
4:
            j \leftarrow v_i
        x_j^w \leftarrow x_j^b end for
5:
6.
        if s^w is not feasible then
7:
8.
             repair sw
        end if
g.
```

The SCE for MKP

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1: function Crossing(x^w: worst individual, x^b: better individual, c)
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 6.
        if s^w is not feasible then
 7:
 8.
              repair sw
        end if
 g.
         return sw
10:
11: end function
```

Computational Experiments

Parameters used for SCE:

- *N* = 20: number of complexes;
- M = 20: number of individuals in each complex;
- P = 5: number of individuals in each subcomplex;
- K = 300: number of algorithm iterations;
- \bullet K'=20: number of iterations used in the complex evolving process;
- c = n/5: number of genes carried from parent in crossing process.

The Shuffled Complex Evolution

Computational Experiments

SCE and SCEcr performance on Chu-Beasley problems.

		α	tin	ne (s)	quality(%)		
n	m		SCE	SCEcr	SCE	SCEcr	
100	5	0.25	1.22	0.17	96.51	99.73	
		0.50	1.34	0.18	97.42	99.86	
		0.75	1.37	0.17	98.87	99.91	
	10	0.25	1.32	0.25	95.68	99.53	
		0.50	1.51	0.25	96.65	99.76	
		0.75	1.46	0.27	98.54	99.96	
	30	0.25	1.74	1.20	95.38	97.96	
		0.50	1.79	0.89	96.41	99.18	
		0.75	1.72	0.95	98.18	99.52	
	5	0.25	2.87	0.69	93.22	99.86	
250		0.50	2.82	0.70	94.88	99.94	
		0.75	2.93	0.69	97.57	99.96	
	10	0.25	3.08	0.87	93.14	99.58	
		0.50	3.03	0.79	94.55	99.79	
		0.75	3.12	0.84	97.16	99.88	
	30	0.25	3.74	1.52	93.10	98.42	
		0.50	3.74	1.36	94.20	99.33	
		0.75	3.99	1.48	96.64	99.59	
500	5	0.25	5.62	1.25	91.37	99.77	
		0.50	5.72	1.24	93.39	99.88	
		0.75	5.88	1.20	96.42	99.92	
	10	0.25	5.97	1.41	91.62	99.51	
		0.50	6.11	1.36	93.09	99.77	
		0.75	5.47	1.21	96.24	99.84	
	30	0.25	6.20	1.96	91.37	98.76	
		0.50	6.26	1.82	92.56	99.42	
		0.75	6.05	1.73	95.97	99.67	

Computational Experiments

SCEcr performance on Glover-Kochenberger problems.

#	n	m	tim	e(s)	quality(%)			
			SCE	SCEcr	SCE	SCEcr		
01	100	15	1.47	0.08	97.66	99.24		
02	100	25	1.61	0.09	97.94	98.94		
03	150	25	2.51	0.09	97.22	99.09		
04	150	50	3.56	0.09	97.40	98.52		
05	200	25	3.55	0.09	96.88	99.28		
06	200	50	4.81	0.10	97.68	98.90		
07	500	25	7.30	0.10	97.12	99.54		
08	500	50	12.20	0.11	97.27	99.33		
09	1500	25	24.61	0.12	95.40	98.22		
10	1500	50	33.79	0.13	97.50	99.64		
11	2500	100	121.28	0.15	97.95	99.70		

The Shuffled Complex Evolution

Conclusions

The SCE algorithm for MKP proved to be able to achieve fast convergence ratio, finding good quality near optimal solutions, demanding small amount of computational time.

A Hybrid Heuristic for the Multi-objective Knapsack Problem

The Shuffled Complex Evolution

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The core concept as a variable fixing procedure proved to be efficient to reduce the size of the problems which provided fast execution time, producing higher quality solutions.

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The core concept as a variable fixing procedure proved to be efficient to reduce the size of the problems which provided fast execution time, producing higher quality solutions.

At least 99.02% of best known, in less than 2 seconds for every instance.

A SCE for the MOKP

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As seen in previous sections the SCE is easily applied to any optimization problem.



A SCE for the MOKP

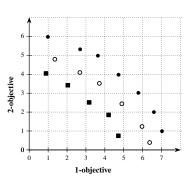
As seen in previous sections the SCE is easily applied to any optimization problem.

The fact that the MKP shares the same solution representation as the MOKP allow us to use the same procedures used on MKP.

Non-dominated Sort

Fitness computation for multi-objective solutions.

```
function NDSORT(S: solution set)
        i = 0
 2:
        while S \neq \emptyset do
 3:
            for s \in S do
 4.
                if \nexists x \in S : dom(x, s) then
 5:
                    o_s = i
6:
                    S = S - x
 7.
                end if
8:
            end for
9:
            i = i + 1
10.
        end while
11:
12: end function
```



Final Doctoral Schedule

	Weeks										
Activities	November		December			January					
		3°	4°	1°	2°	3°	4°	1°	2°	3°	4°
Literature review	•	•	•								
Implementation and adjustments	•		•	•							
Computational experiments			•	•	•						
CEC Paper writing						•	•	•			
CEC Paper submission									•		
Thesis writing				•	•	•	•	•	•	•	

A Hybrid Heuristic for the Multi-objective Knapsack Problem

The Shuffled Complex Evolution