**Mutation Method Selection**

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( Methods and materials)

To find the balance between exploration and exploitation 4 methods were checked:

1. Exploitation first method - Select random neighbor from the first neighbors for the first 100 generations and select random neighbor from second neighbors after 100 generations
2. Exploration first method - Select random neighbor from the second neighbors for the first 100 generations and select random neighbor first neighbors after 100 generations
3. Combined method - Select random neighbor from the second neighbors for the first 100 generations, then select random neighbor first neighbors for more 150 generations, and after 250 generations select random neighbor from the second neighbors again.
4. Random Method – Select a random configuration from the non-simulated configurations

Those methods were tested in 4 different stop conditions:

1. Regular - global 1240 generations.
2. Aggressive - global 1240 generations and local if the concept for 30 generations in a row.
3. Medium - global 1240 generations and local if the concept for 50 generations in a row.
4. Ease - global 1240 generations and local if the concept for 100 generations in a row.

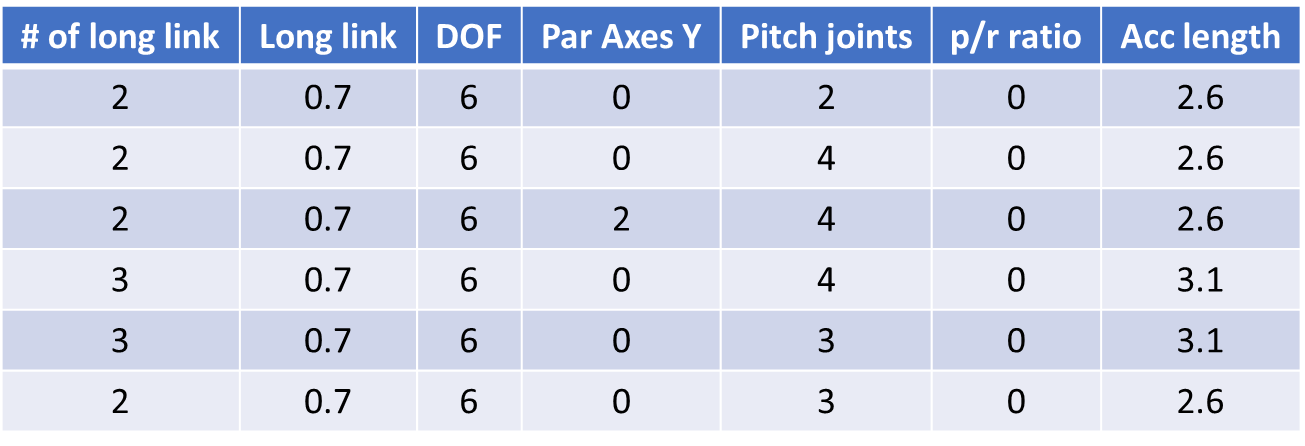
(Results)

**Exploration - Exploitation first method**

**Exploitation - Exploration first method**

To find the best mutation method 6 large concepts were chosen randomly (can be seen in Table 7).

Table 7- Checked Concepts



The selected concepts were fully sorted, all the configurations in those concepts were simulated and their results are known. To compare the methods, each method runs 30 times, for a maximum of 1240 generations. For each method, two indices were calculated: Hyper–Volume(HV) which bigger value means better result and minimum value of the manipulability. In figure 1 it can be seen HV at each generation for each method.

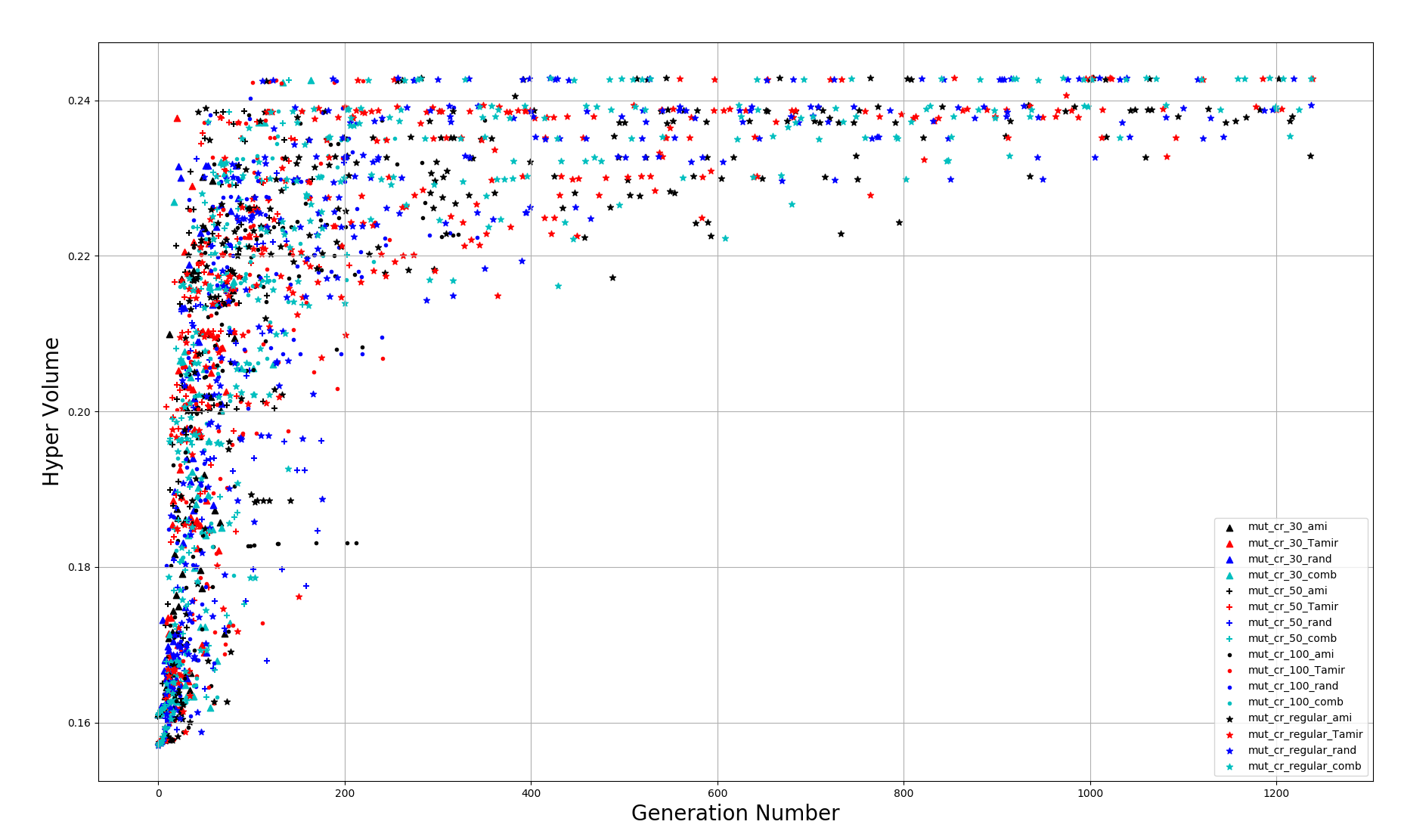


Figure - HyperVolume Vs Generation

In figure 2 it can be seen minimum manipulability at each generation for each method.

From those figures, it can be seen that the most significant changes have occurred in the first 300 generations. Another thing that can be seen that except for the regular stop condition, all the stop conditions get their final position until generation number 200.

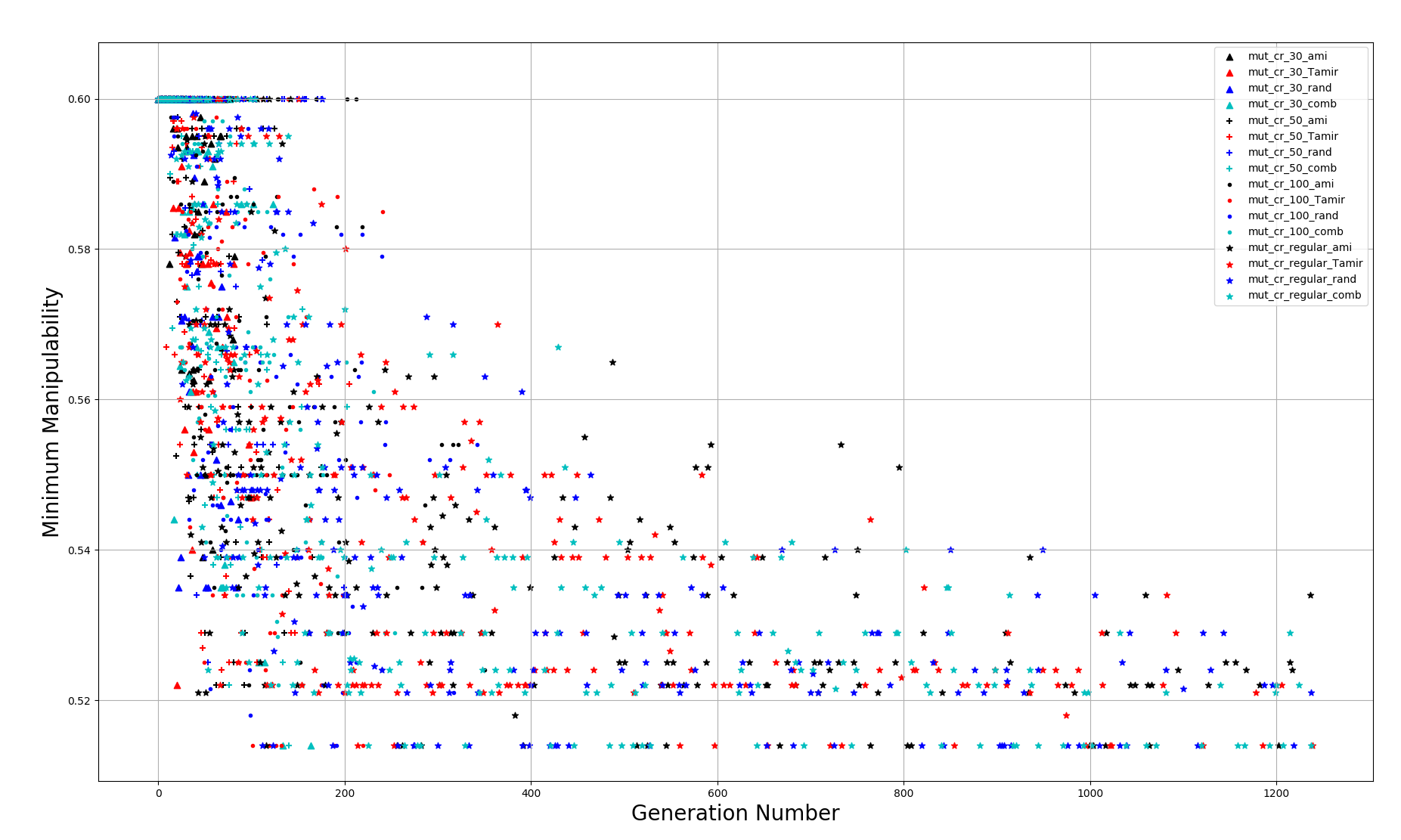


Figure - Minimum Manipulability Vs Generation

To compare the algorithms Wilcoxon test was applied over the results of each method of the 30 runs. Wilcoxon test return P-Value, which P-Value lower than 0.05 means there is a statistical significance that one method its better than another. For the HV index - from figure 3 it can be seen that methods with the same stop conditions are in the same population. The selected methods are with the highest median (figure 4). It can be seen that the regular stop condition (which simulate the Fair resource allocation method), gives the best results, but between the mutation methods, there is no statistical significance for any method. But because of this test compare only six fully sort concepts, the disadvantages of the fair method don’t take into account, such as the simulation time, and the number of concepts to optimize which will make the algorithm to stop early, after about 150-200 generations.

For the Regular stop condition, the selected method is Regular-Combined.

From figure 4 it can be seen that the 3 best methods that not in the regular stop condition are: Aggressive-Combine, Aggressive-Exploration, Ease-Exploration, in this order.

From figure 3 it can be seen that Aggressive-Exploration is a statistical significance better then Ease-Exploration, but there is no clear decision between Aggressive-Combine and Aggressive-Exploration, the Aggressive-Combine method was selected because in Aggressive stop condition the algorithm will reach to a high number of generation( can reach to even more than 1000 generations) and in advanced generation more exploration is preferred.

The two selected methods (Aggressive-Combine, Regular-Combined) will also be compared with the Random method at each stop condition.

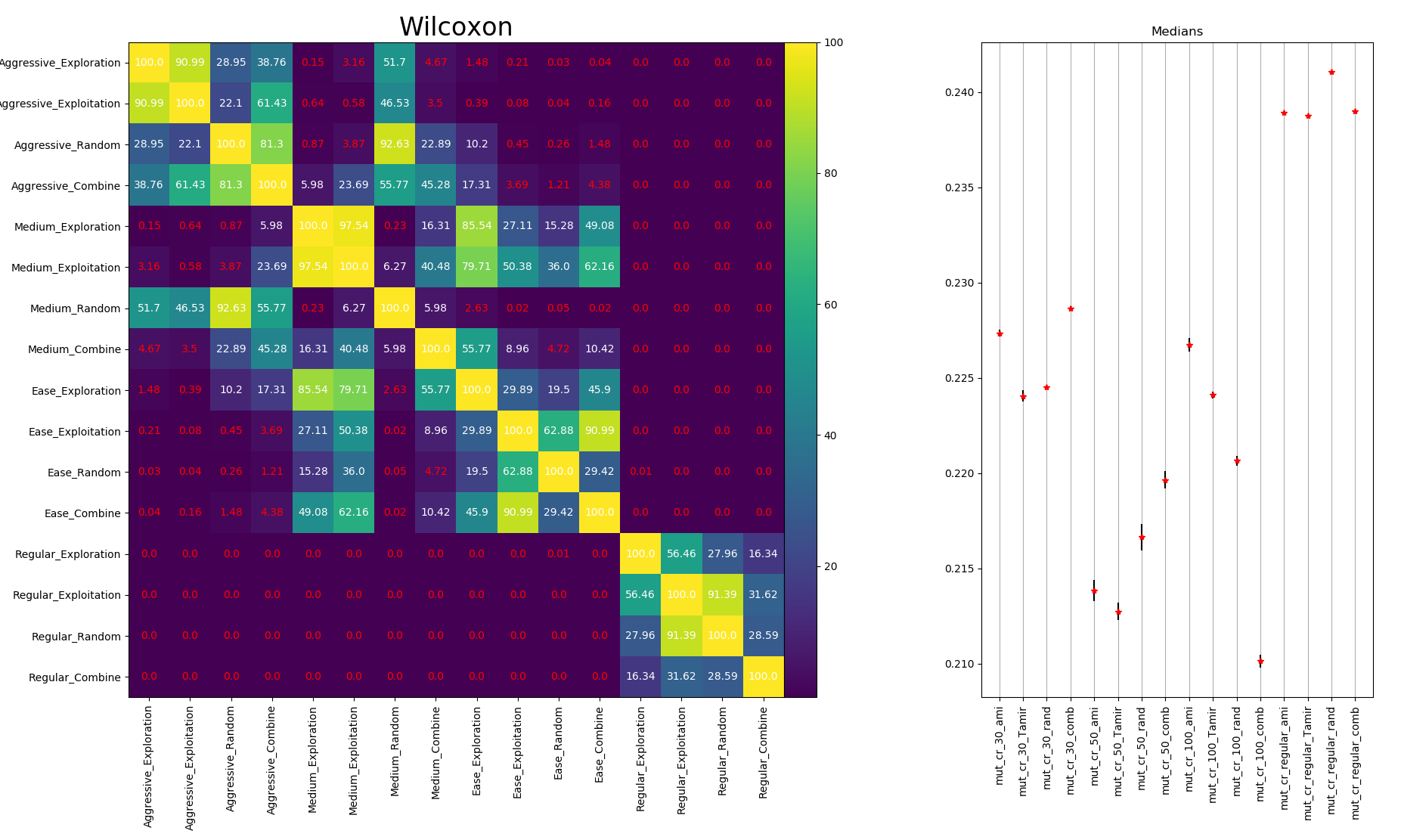


Figure 3- Wilcoxon: HV

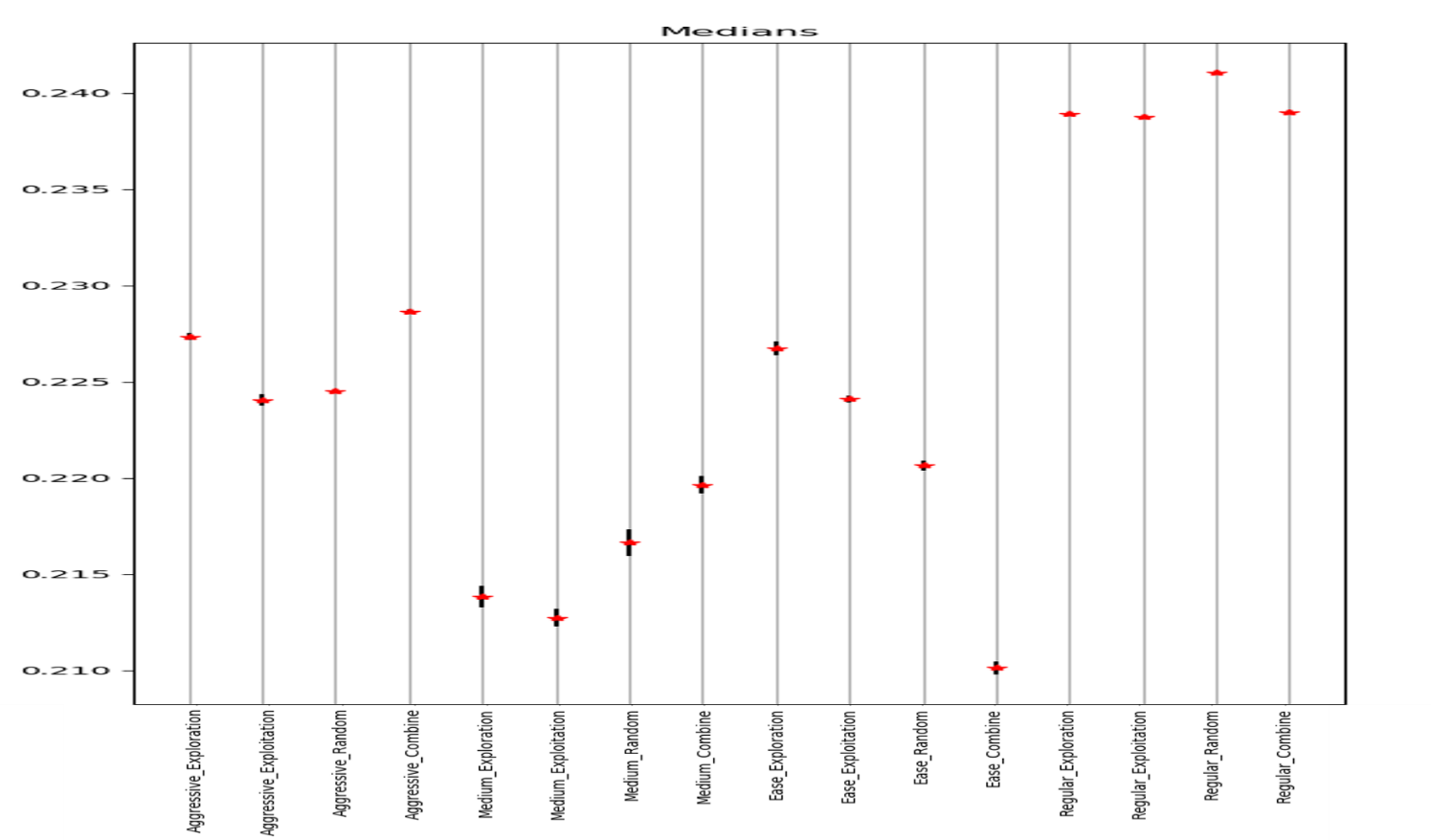


Figure – Median: HV

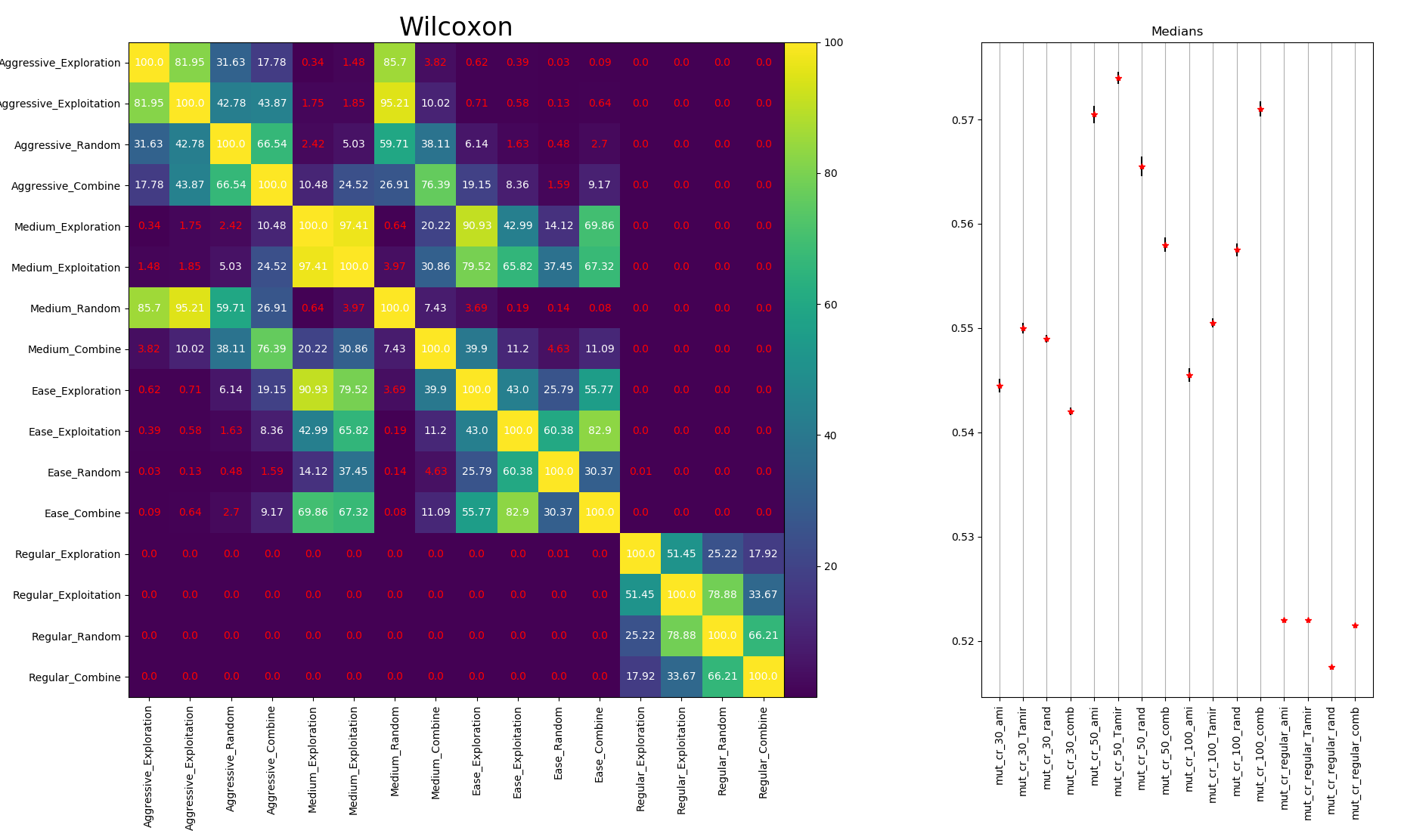


Figure - Wilcoxon: Min Manipulability

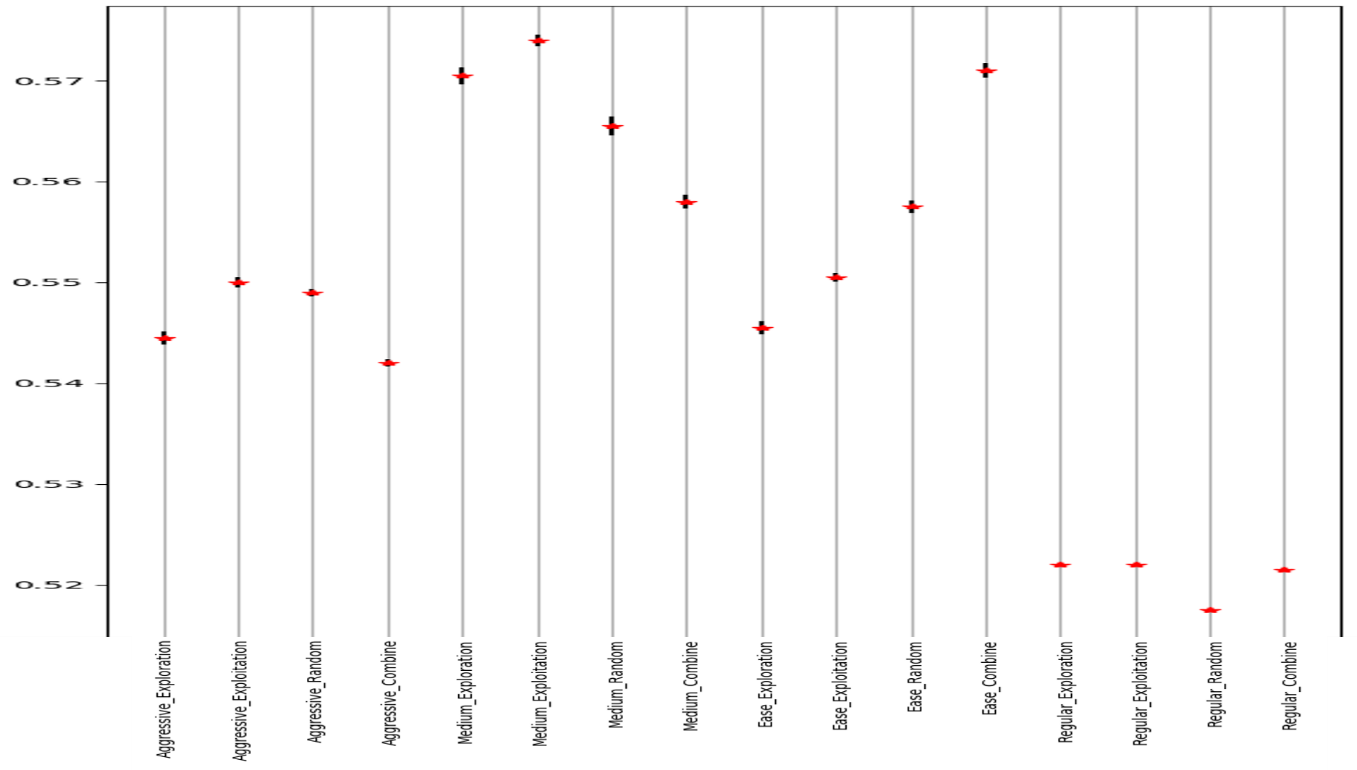


Figure - Median: Min Manipulability