SPSA with Hessian on the BBOB 2009 Noise-free Testbed

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ABSTRACT

This paper benchmarks the Simultaneous Perturbation Stochastic Algorithm (SPSA) with Hessian approximation [4] on the BBOB 2009 noise-free testbed. The algorithm is an extension to the widely used SPSA algorithm.

Categories and Subject Descriptors

G.1.6 [Numerical Analysis]: Optimization—global optimization, unconstrained optimization; F.2.1 [Analysis of Algorithms and Problem Complexity]: Numerical Algorithms and Problems

General Terms

Algorithms

Keywords

Benchmarking, Black-box optimization, evolutionary computation, stochastic optimization

1. INTRODUCTION

The presented algorithm is an extension to the basic SPSA algorithm. To simultaneous iteration of the Hessian should increase the perfromance of the algorithm.

2. ALGORITHM PRESENTATION

In Fig. 1 the main algorithm is presented.

3. EXPERIMENTAL PROCEDURE

The gain rates were set to their recommended values alpha = 0.602 and gamma = 0.101, instead of the respective optimal values. The maximal number of restarts is 100 and each run performs maximal $1e5 \times \text{DIM}$ iterations. The experiments were conducted on a Cluster with 2.44 GHz CPUs (machine_type x86_64) under Octave 3.0.2.

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GECCO'09, July 8–12, 2009, Montréal Québec, Canada. Copyright 2009 ACM 978-1-60558-505-5/09/07 ...\$5.00.

4. RESULTS

Results from experiments according to [2] on the benchmark functions given in [1, 3] are presented in Figures 2 and 3 and in Table 1.

5. CPU TIMING EXPERIMENT

For the timing experiment the same multistart algorithm was run on f_8 and restarted until at least 30 seconds had passed (according to Figure 2 in [2]). The results were 8.0; 8.2; 8.2; 8.5; 16 and 22×10^{-4} seconds per function evaluation in dimension 2; 3; 5; 10; 20 and 40, respectively. The dependency of CPU time on the search space dimensionality is not negligible.

6. CONCLUSION

This paper reports the result for the basic SPSA on the BBOB 2009 noise-free testbed.

Acknowledgments

The author would like to acknowledge the great work of the BBOB team with particular kudos the Anne Auger, Nikolaus Hansen and Raymond Ros. This work was supported by the Austrian Science Fund (FWF) under grant P19069-N18.

7. REFERENCES

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```
% SPSA2 with Feedback and Weighting Mechanism for BBOB Workshop
                                                                               % gain sequences
                                                                               ck = c0*(k+1)^{-(-gamma)};
function SPSA2(FUN, DIM, ftarget, maxfunevals)
                                                                               ckBar = cOBar*(k+1)^(-gamma);
                                                                               sumck = sumck + ck^2*ckBar^2;
                                                                               ak = a0*(k + 1 + A)^(-alpha);
   % multistart such that ftarget is reached with reasonable prob.
   for ilaunch = 1:100; % relaunch optimizer up to 100 times
                                                                               % gradient and hessian approximation
                                           % initial scenario
                                                                               % generation of the simultaneous perturbation vector
        if ilaunch == 1
           xstart = 8 * rand(DIM, 1) - 4;
                                                                               for i = 1:lambda
          lambda = 1:
                                                                                   % for gradient recursion
       else
            choice = round(2*rand) + 1:
                                                                                   % function evaluation
            switch choice
                                                                                   yplus = FUN(x + ck.*delta);
                                                                                   yminus = FUN(x - ck.*delta);
               case 1 % new point
                                                                                   yplusH = FUN(x + ck.*delta + ckBar.*deltaH);
                   xstart = 8 * rand(DIM, 1) - 4;
                                                                                   yminusH = FUN(x - ck.*delta + ckBar.*deltaH);
               case 2
                         % improve old point
                                                                                   \mbox{\ensuremath{\mbox{\%}}} gradient approximation
                   if max(abs(x)) < 5
                                                                                   Gk = (i-1)/i*Gk + 1/i*(yplus-yminus)./(2*ck*delta);
                      xstart = x;
                    else
                                                                                   \% gradient approximation for hessian matrix
                       xstart = 8 * rand(DIM, 1) - 4;
                                                                                   dGk = (i-1)/i*dGk + 1/i*((yplusH-yplus)./(ckBar.*deltaH) - ...
                   end
                                                                                         (yminusH-yminus)./(ckBar.*deltaH));
               case 3 % increase lambda
                                                                                   hhat = dGk./(2*ck)*(delta.^(-1));
                   lambda = ceil(lambda * sqrt(2));
                                                                                   HkHat = (i-1)/i*HkHat + 1/(2*i)*(hhat + hhat');
            end % switch case
                                                                                   % feedback term
                                                                                   Dk = delta*(1./delta)' - eye(DIM);
        end
                                                                                   DkBar = deltaH*(1./deltaH), - eye(DIM);
                                                                                   psik = DkBar'*HkBarBar*Dk + DkBar'*HkBarBar+HkBarBar*Dk;
                                                                                   Psik = (i-1)/i*Psik + 1/(2*i)*(psik + psik');
        [x,termvalue] = alg(FUN,xstart, DIM,ftarget,maxfunevals,lambda);
        if termvalue == 1
                                                                               % weights
                                                                               wk = 1/(k+1)^{(0.501)}; % for noise free settimgs
           break;
        end
                                                                               % hessian matrix recursion
                                                                               HkBar = (1-wk)*HkBar + wk*(HkHat - Psik);
end % of function
                                                                               % hessian matrix for update (must be positiv definite)
                                                                               try
function [x,termvalue] = alg(FUN,x, DIM, ftarget, maxfunevals,lambda)
                                                                                   HkBarBar = sqrtm(HkBar*HkBar + 1e-5*exp(-k+1)*eye(DIM));
                                                                               catch
                                                                                   HkBarBar = diag(diag(HkBar + 1e-3*exp(-k+1)*eye(DIM)));
   % initialize parameter
   alpha = 0.602;
                                                                               end
   gamma = 0.101;
    if isinf(maxfunevals)
                                                                               if cond(HkBarBar) > 1e10 || max(max(abs(imag(HkBarBar)))) >= 0
                                                                                   HkBarBar = diag(diag(HkBar + 1e-3*exp(-k+1)*eye(DIM)));
       kmax = 1e5*DIM;
    else
       kmax = maxfunevals/4/lambda;
   end
                                                                               % update of the search point
                                                                               xnew = x - ak*(HkBarBar\Gk);
   A = kmax*0.1:
                                                                               % blocking
                                                                               if max(abs(xnew - x)) < 10
   % initialize counters
   k = 0; % iteration counter
                                                                                  x = xnew;
   % initialize hessian matrix and sum of loss measurements
   HkBar = eye(DIM);
                                                                               % termination criteria
   HkBarBar = zeros(DIM):
                                                                               fit = feval(FUN,x);
   Gk = zeros(DIM.1):
                                                                               if max(isnan(x)) == 1 \mid \mid max(isinf(x)) == 1 \mid \mid fit > 1e30
   dGk = zeros(DIM,1);
                                                                                   termvalue = 0;
   Psik = zeros(DIM);
                                                                                   break;
    sumck = 0:
   HkHat = zeros(DIM);
                                                                               if feval(FUN, 'fbest') < ftarget || ...</pre>
   % determine initial parameter
                                                                                  feval(FUN, 'evaluations') >= maxfunevals
   % a0
                                                                                   termvalue = 1;
    a0 = 1:
                                                                                   break;
   X = repmat(x,1,10);
                                                                               end
   % c0
   dummy = feval(FUN,X);
                                                                               k = k + 1:
    c0 = max([5*std(dummy,1),1e-5]);
   cOBar = 2*cO:
                                                                           end % of iteration
   while k < kmax
                                                                       end % of function
```

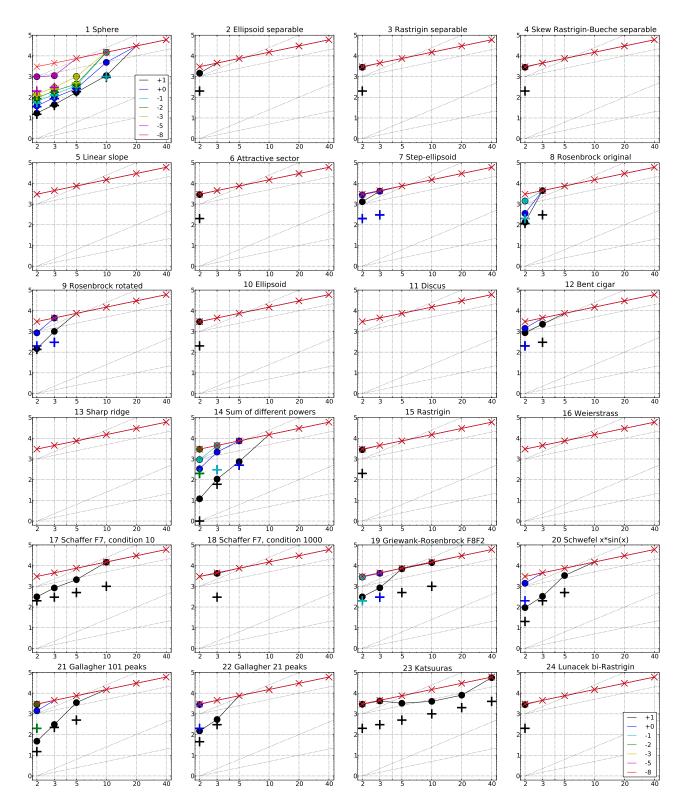


Figure 2: Expected Running Time (ERT, ullet) to reach $f_{\mathrm{opt}} + \Delta f$ and median number of function evaluations of successful trials (+), shown for $\Delta f = 10, 1, 10^{-1}, 10^{-2}, 10^{-3}, 10^{-5}, 10^{-8}$ (the exponent is given in the legend of f_1 and f_{24}) versus dimension in log-log presentation. The $\mathrm{ERT}(\Delta f)$ equals to $\#\mathrm{FEs}(\Delta f)$ divided by the number of successful trials, where a trial is successful if $f_{\mathrm{opt}} + \Delta f$ was surpassed during the trial. The $\#\mathrm{FEs}(\Delta f)$ are the total number of function evaluations while $f_{\mathrm{opt}} + \Delta f$ was not surpassed during the trial from all respective trials (successful and unsuccessful), and f_{opt} denotes the optimal function value. Crosses (×) indicate the total number of function evaluations $\#\mathrm{FEs}(-\infty)$. Numbers above ERT-symbols indicate the number of successful trials. Annotated numbers on the ordinate are decimal logarithms. Additional grid lines show linear and quadratic scaling.

| 2.6 | f1 in 5-D, N=15, mFE=500 # ERT 10% 90% RT _{succ} | f1 in 20-D, N=15, mFE=2000 # ERT 10% 90% RTsucc | A 6 | f2 in 5-D, N=15, mFE=500 # ERT 10% 90% BTsucc | f2 in 20-D, N=15, mFE=2000 |
|-----------------------|---|---|-----------------------|---|---|
| $\frac{\Delta f}{10}$ | # ERT 10% 90% RT _{succ} 15 1.7e2 1.5e2 1.9e2 1.7e2 | # ERT 10% 90% RT _{succ} 0 21e+1 13e+1 27e+1 2.8e1 | $\frac{\Delta f}{10}$ | # ERT 10% 90% RT _{succ} 0 40e+4 22e+3 18e+5 4.0e2 | # ERT 10% 90% RT _{succ} 0 16e+6 36e+5 66e+6 4.4e1 |
| $\frac{1}{1e-1}$ | 15 2.7e2 2.5e2 2.8e2 2.7e2 14 3.6e2 3.4e2 3.9e2 3.4e2 | | 1 | | |
| 1e-1 | 7 1.0e3 9.8e2 1.0e3 4.7e2 | | 1e - 1 1e - 3 | | |
| 1e-5 | 0 11e-4 52e-6 89e-4 4.5e2 | | 1e-5 | | |
| 1e-8 | f3 in 5-D, N=15, mFE=500 | f3 in 20-D, N=15, mFE=2000 | 1e - 8 | f4 in 5-D, N=15, mFE=500 | f4 in 20-D, N=15, mFE=2000 |
| Δf | # ERT 10% 90% RT _{succ} | # ERT 10% 90% RT _{succ} | Δf | # ERT 10% 90% RT _{succ} | # ERT 10% 90% RT _{succ} |
| 10 1 | 0 23e+1 82e+0 80e+1 1.1e2 | 0 20e+2 90e+1 57e+2 3.5e1 | 10 1 | 0 29e+1 17e+1 11e+2 5.6e1 | 0 21e+2 11e+2 63e+2 1.7e1 |
| $1\mathrm{e}-1$ | | | $1\mathrm{e}-1$ | | |
| 1e - 3 1e - 5 | | | 1e-3 1e-5 | | |
| $1\mathrm{e}-8$ | | | 1e-8 | | |
| Δf | f_5 in 5-D, N=15, mFE=500 # ERT 10% 90% RT _{succ} | f5 in 20-D, N=15, mFE=2000 # ERT 10% 90% RT _{succ} | Δf | f6 in 5-D, N=15, mFE=500 # ERT 10% 90% RT _{succ} | f6 in 20-D, N=15, mFE=2000 # ERT 10% 90% RT _{succ} |
| 10 | 0 11e+1 73e+0 14e+1 3.9e1 | 0 33e+1 24e+1 43e+1 6.3e2 | 10 | 0 $16e+4$ $23e+3$ $45e+4$ $5.6e1$ | 0 86e+4 35e+4 14e+5 3.9e1 |
| $\frac{1}{1e-1}$ | | | $\frac{1}{1e-1}$ | | |
| 1e-3 | | | 1e-3 | | |
| 1e-5 1e-8 | | | 1e-5 1e-8 | | |
| 10-0 | f7 in 5-D, N=15, mFE=500 | f7 in 20-D, N=15, mFE=2000 | 10-0 | f8 in 5-D, N=15, mFE=500 | f8 in 20-D, N=15, mFE=2000 |
| $\frac{\Delta f}{10}$ | # ERT 10% 90% RT _{succ} 0 32e+1 76e+0 15e+2 1.0e0 | # ERT 10% 90% RT _{SUCC} 0 22e+2 14e+2 46e+2 1.0e0 | $\frac{\Delta f}{10}$ | # ERT 10% 90% RT _{succ} 0 16e+3 22e+2 51e+3 4.0e2 | # ERT 10% 90% RT _{SUCC} |
| 10 | | 0 226+2 146+2 406+2 1.060 | 1 | 0 10e+3 22e+2 31e+3 4.0e2 | 0 41e+4 17e+4 66e+4 2.2e1 |
| 1e - 1 1e - 3 | | | 1e - 1 1e - 3 | | |
| $1\mathrm{e}-5$ | | | 1e-5 | | |
| 1e-8 | | | 1e-8 | | |
| Δf | f9 in 5-D, N=15, mFE=500 # ERT 10% 90% RT _{succ} | f9 in 20-D, N=15, mFE=2000 # ERT 10% 90% RT _{succ} | Δf | f10 in 5-D, N=15, mFE=500 # ERT 10% 90% RT _{succ} | f10 in 20-D, N=15, mFE=2000 # ERT 10% 90% RT _{succ} |
| 10 1 | 0 23e+2 52e+1 11e+3 1.6e2 | 0 97e+3 35e+3 24e+4 3.5e1 | 10 1 | 0 52e+4 49e+3 23e+5 2.5e2 | 0 90e+5 50e+5 15e+6 2.5e1 |
| 1e-1 | | | 1e-1 | | |
| 1e - 3 1e - 5 | | | 1e - 3 1e - 5 | | |
| 1e-5 | | | 1e-5 1e-8 | | |
| | f ₁₁ in 5-D, N=15, mFE=500 | f ₁₁ in 20-D, N=15, mFE=2000 | A 6 | f12 in 5-D, N=15, mFE=500 | f12 in 20-D, N=15, mFE=2000 |
| $\frac{\Delta f}{10}$ | # ERT 10% 90% RT _{succ} 0 74e+1 64e+0 48e+4 3.2e2 | # ERT 10% 90% RT _{succ} 0 33e+4 20e+3 61e+5 7.9e2 | $\frac{\Delta f}{10}$ | # ERT 10% 90% RT _{SUCC} 0 21e+6 29e+3 $30e+7$ 1.2e2 | # ERT 10% 90% RT _{succ} 0 12e+8 27e+7 43e+8 3.5e1 |
| 1 | | | 1 | | |
| 1e-1 1e-3 | | | 1e - 1 1e - 3 | | |
| 1e-5 1e-8 | | | 1e - 5 1e - 8 | | |
| | f13 in 5-D, N=15, mFE=500 | f ₁₃ in 20-D, N=15, mFE=2000 | 16-8 | f14 in 5-D, N=15, mFE=500 | f ₁₄ in 20-D, N=15, mFE=2000 |
| $\Delta f = 7$ | # ERT 10% 90% RT _{succ} | # ERT 10% 90% RT _{succ} | Δf | # ERT 10% 90% RT _{succ} | # ERT 10% 90% RT _{succ} |
| 10 1 | 0 72e+1 30e+1 16e+2 3.5e1 | 0 30e+2 23e+2 37e+2 1.2e1 | 10 1 | 7 7.4e2 6.1e2 8.8e2 3.4e2 1 7.4e3 7.4e3 7.5e3 5.0e2 | 0 13e+1 44e+0 25e+1 3.1e1 |
| 1e-1 | | | 1e-1 | 0 11e+0 15e-1 46e+0 7.0e1 | |
| 1e-3 1e-5 | | | 1e - 3 1e - 5 | | |
| $1\mathrm{e}-8$ | | | 1e-8 | <u> </u> | |
| Δf | f15 in 5-D, N=15, mFE=500 # ERT 10% 90% RT _{succ} | f15 in 20-D, N=15, mFE=2000 # ERT 10% 90% RT _{succ} | Δf | f16 in 5-D, N=15, mFE=500 # ERT 10% 90% RT _{succ} | # ERT 10% 90% RT _{Succ} |
| 10 | 0 22e+1 53e+0 62e+1 1.4e2 | 0 18e+2 12e+2 35e+2 5.0e1 | 10 | 0 12e+1 29e+0 16e+1 2.2 e2 | 0 86e+0 64e+0 11e+1 3.5e2 |
| $1 \\ 1e-1$ | | | $\frac{1}{1e-1}$ | | |
| 1e-3 1e-5 | | | 1e - 3 1e - 5 | | |
| 1e-8 | | | 1e-8 | | |
| Δf | f17 in 5-D, N=15, mFE=500 # ERT 10% 90% RT _{SUCC} | f17 in 20-D, N=15, mFE=2000 # ERT 10% 90% RT _{SUCC} | Δf | f18 in 5-D, N=15, mFE=500 # ERT 10% 90% RT _{Succ} | # ERT 10% 90% RT _{SUCC} |
| | # ERT 10% 90% RT _{succ} 3 2.1e3 1.8e3 2.4e3 3.6e2 | # ERT 10% 90% RT _{succ} 0 36e+0 20e+0 11e+1 3.9e1 | 10 | # ERT 10% 90% RT _{succ} 0 39e+0 18e+0 16e+1 2.5e2 | # ERT 10% 90% RT _{succ} 0 10e+1 60e+0 52e+1 4.4e1 |
| $1 \\ 1e-1$ | 0 $13e+0$ $54e-1$ $28e+0$ $2.5e2$ | | $\frac{1}{1e-1}$ | | |
| 1e-3 | | | 1e-3 | | |
| 1e-5 1e-8 | | | 1e-5 1e-8 | | |
| | f ₁₉ in 5-D, N=15, mFE=500 | f19 in 20-D, N=15, mFE=2000 | 10 0 | f20 in 5-D, N=15, mFE=500 | f20 in 20-D, N=15, mFE=2000 |
| $\frac{\Delta f}{10}$ | | # ERT 10% 90% RT _{succ} 0 30e+0 25e+0 51e+0 1.6e2 | $\frac{\Delta f}{10}$ | # ERT 10% 90% RT _{succ} 2 3.3e3 3.0e3 3.8e3 2.7e2 | # ERT 10% 90% RT _{succ} 0 12e+4 71e+3 18e+4 2.5e1 |
| | 0 18e+0 12e+0 58e+0 1.6e2 | | 1 | 0 93e+1 30e-1 31e+3 3.2e2 | |
| 1e-1 1e-3 | | | 1e - 1 1e - 3 | | |
| 1e - 5 | | | 1e-5 | | |
| 1e-8 | f21 in 5-D, N=15, mFE=500 | f21 in 20-D, N=15, mFE=2000 | 1e - 8 | f ₂₂ in 5-D, N=15, mFE=500 | f22 in 20-D, N=15, mFE=2000 |
| Δf | # ERT 10% 90% RT _{succ} | # ERT 10% 90% RT _{succ} | Δf | | # ERT 10% 90% RT _{succ} |
| | | 0 84e+0 76e+0 85e+0 1.5e1 | 10 1 | 0 $64e+0$ $19e+0$ $77e+0$ $5.0e1$ | 0 85e+0 83e+0 86e+0 1.7e1 |
| 1e-1 | | | 1e-1 | | |
| 1e - 3 1e - 5 | | | 1e - 3 1e - 5 | | |
| $1\mathrm{e}-8$ | | | 1e-8 | | |
| Δf | | f23 in 20-D, N=15, mFE=2000 # ERT 10% 90% RT _{succ} | Δf | | # ERT 10% 90% RT _{succ} |
| 10 | 2 3.3e3 2.8e3 3.8e3 2.5e2 | 3 8.0e3 6.7e3 9.3e3 1.3e3 | 10 | 0 	 93e + 0 	 62e + 0 	 12e + 1 	 1.8e2 | 0 59e+1 46e+1 71e+1 4.4e1 |
| $\frac{1}{1e-1}$ | | 0 12e+0 89e-1 25e+0 1.1e2 | $\frac{1}{1e-1}$ | | |
| 1e-3 | | | 1e-3 | | |
| 1e-5 1e-8 | | | 1e - 5 1e - 8 | | |
| | | • | - 0 | • | 1 |

Table 1: Shown are, for a given target difference to the optimal function value Δf : the number of successful trials (#); the expected running time to surpass $f_{\rm opt} + \Delta f$ (ERT, see Figure 2); the 10%-tile and 90%-tile of the bootstrap distribution of ERT; the average number of function evaluations in successful trials or, if none was successful, as last entry the median number of function evaluations to reach the best function value (RT_{succ}). If $f_{\rm opt} + \Delta f$ was never reached, figures in *italics* denote the best achieved Δf -value of the median trial and the 10% and 90%-tile trial. Furthermore, N denotes the number of trials, and mFE denotes the maximum of number of function evaluations executed in one trial. See Figure 2 for the names of functions.

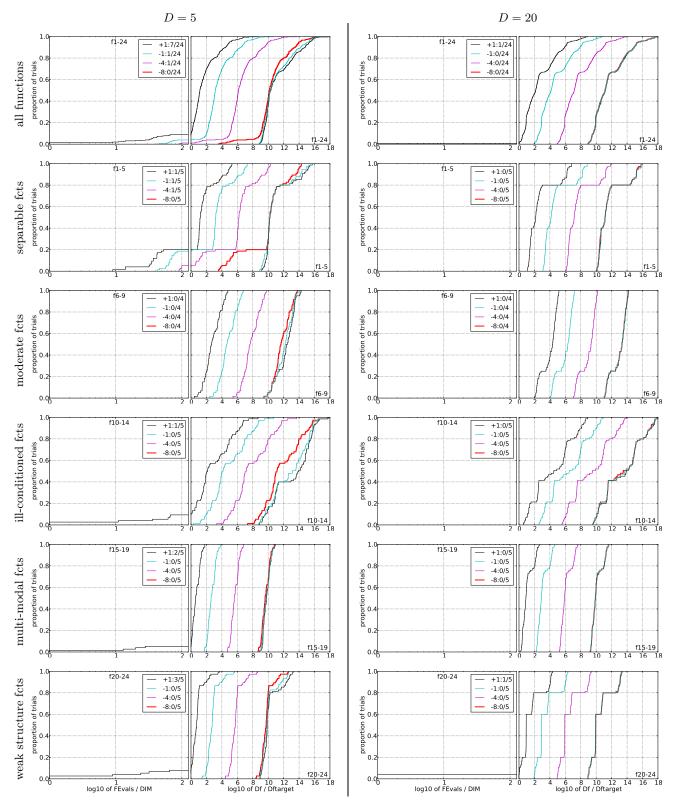


Figure 3: Empirical cumulative distribution functions (ECDFs), plotting the fraction of trials versus running time (left subplots) or versus Δf (right subplots). The thick red line represents the best achieved results. Left subplots: ECDF of the running time (number of function evaluations), divided by search space dimension D, to fall below $f_{\rm opt} + \Delta f$ with $\Delta f = 10^k$, where k is the first value in the legend. Right subplots: ECDF of the best achieved Δf divided by 10^k (upper left lines in continuation of the left subplot), and best achieved Δf divided by 10^{-8} for running times of D, $10\,D$, $100\,D$... function evaluations (from right to left cycling black-cyan-magenta). Top row: all results from all functions; second row: separable functions; third row: misc. moderate functions; fourth row: ill-conditioned functions; fifth row: multi-modal functions with adequate structure; last row: multi-modal functions with weak structure. The legends indicate the number of functions that were solved in at least one trial. FEvals denotes number of function evaluations, D and DIM denote search space dimension, and Δf and Df denote the difference to the optimal function value.