

Swarm Robotics Solutions

Flocking

Cohesion=0: the boids spread out

Alignment=0: the boids stop

Separation=0: the boids crash

Particle Swarm Optimisation

Algorithm:

A particle computes the next position by taking into account a fraction of its current velocity v , the direction to its previous best location $pbest$, and the direction to the location of the best neighbor $gbest$. The movement towards other particles has some error.

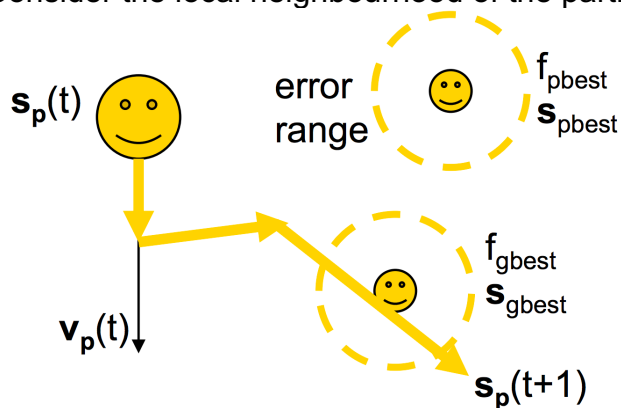
```
1 begin
2    $t = 0$ ;
3   initialize particles  $P(t)$ ;
4   evaluate particles  $P(t)$ ;
5   while (termination conditions are
6     unsatisfied)
7     begin
8        $t = t + 1$ ;
9       update weights
10      select  $pBest$  for each particle
11      select  $gBest$  from  $P(t-1)$ ;
12      calculate particle velocity
13       $P(t)$ ;
14      update particle position  $P(t)$ 
15      evaluate particles  $P(t)$ ;
16    end
17  end
```

From https://openi.nlm.nih.gov/detailedresult.php?img=PMC3926559_sensors-14-00299f4&req=4

Plot:

The plot will depend on how you initialise your velocity and the weight of the different vectors. The important thing is to draw your vectors following the graphic below.

Consider the local neighbourhood of the particles.



Swarm Engineering

Techniques for swarm design: trial-and-error, crowd-sourcing, bio-inspiration, machine learning (e.g. artificial evolution).

Homogenous swarms with team-level selection favour the evolution of cooperative behaviours.