



Probability Distribution Based Evolutionary Algorithms

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广东省计算智能与网络
空间信息重点实验室



Outline

1. Background

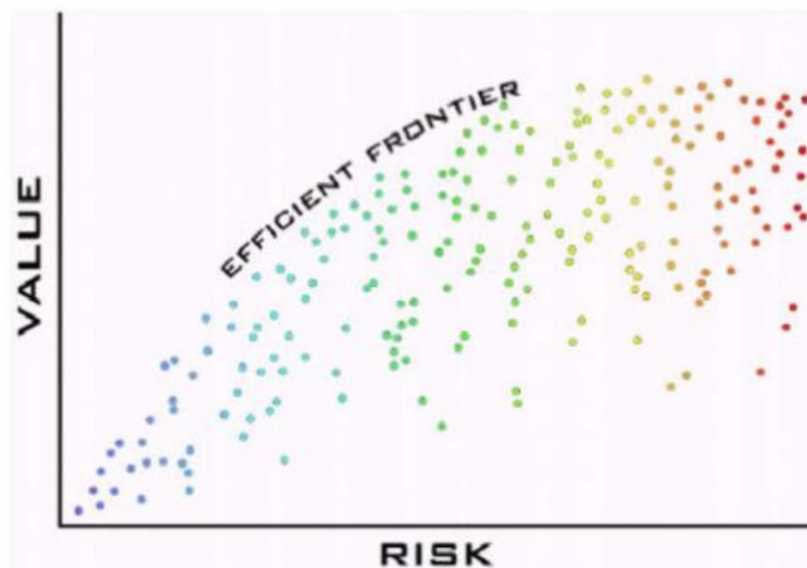
2. Probability Distribution Based EAs for Seeking Multiple Solutions

3. Probability Distribution Based EAs for Discrete Optimization

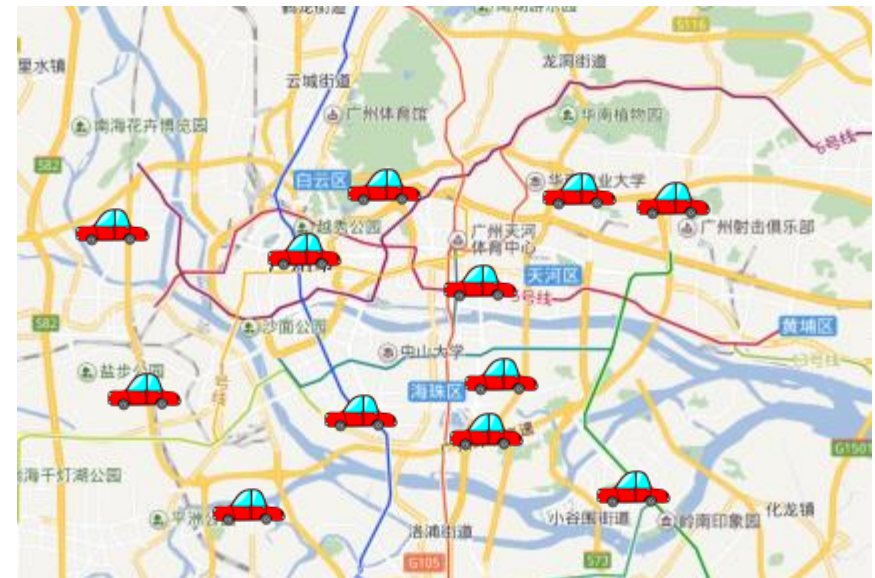
4. Applications & Future Work

Data-Driven Optimization

- In big-data environment, many problems are driven by **data**



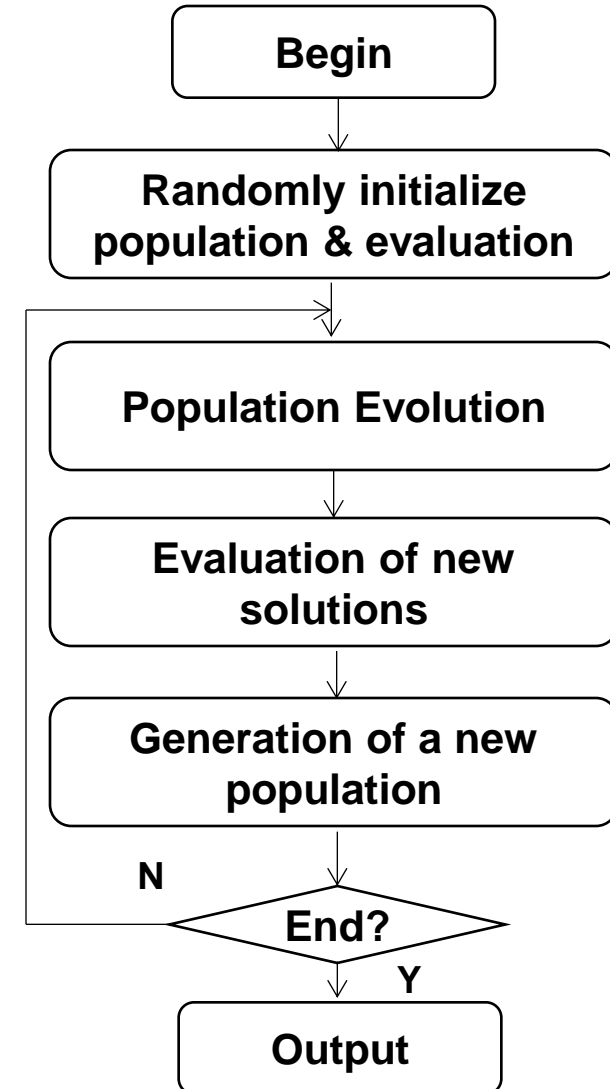
Portfolio Optimization



Order Dispatching

Evolutionary Computation

- ❑ **Population-based stochastic algorithms** which simulate intelligent behaviors
- ❑ **Popular Algorithms**
 - Genetic algorithms (GA)
 - Differential evolution (DE)
- ❑ **Meta-heuristics**
 - Particle swarm optimization (PSO)
 - Ant colony optimization (ACO)
 - ...
- ❑ **Advantages**
 - Do not make any assumption about the underlying fitness landscape
 - Find approximated solutions within acceptable time

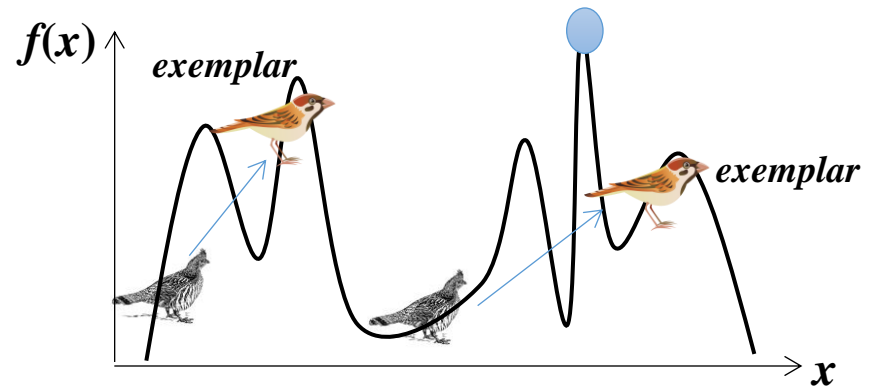
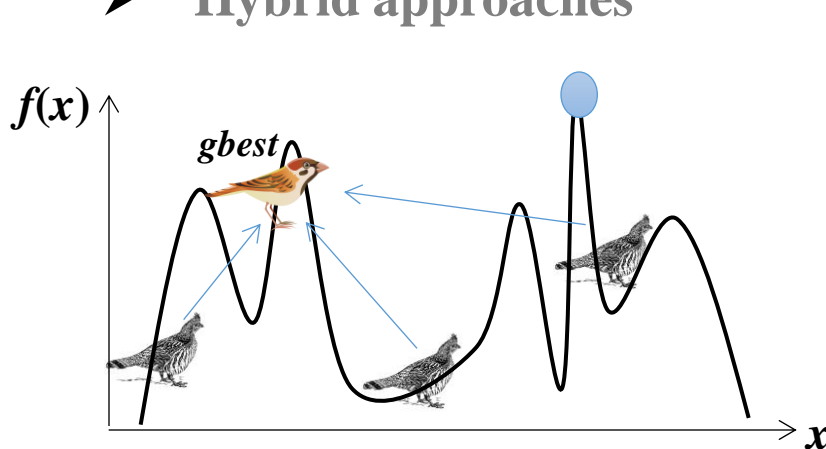


Challenge 1: Premature Convergence



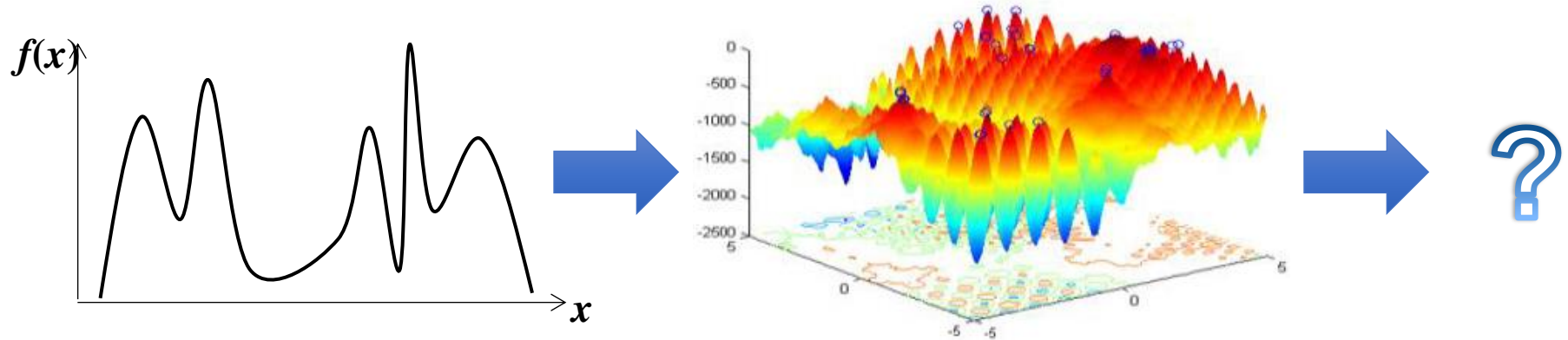
❑ How to escape from local optima in multimodal problems has long been a key issue in EC research

- Parameter adaption ([APSO](#), Zhan et al., 2009)
- Modified mutation \ update rules ([Local Topology PSO](#), Kennedy & Mendes, 2002, [CLPSO](#), Liang et al. 2006, etc.)
- Hybrid approaches



Improved PSO variants:
local neighborhood topology
multi-swarm PSOs
try to introduce more exemplars to
improve search diversity

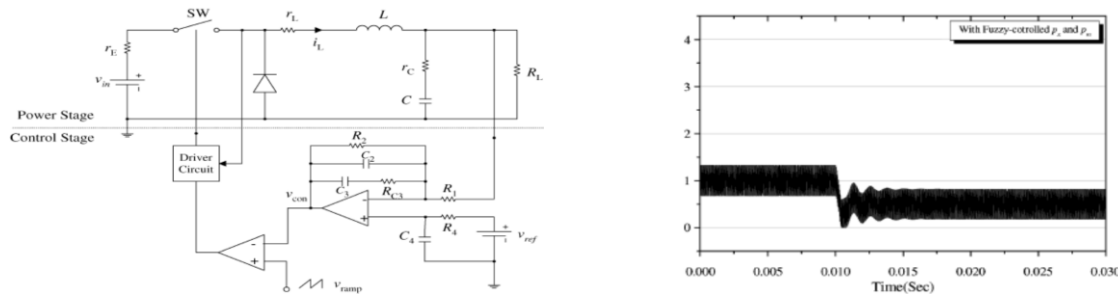
Challenge 2: Curse of Dimensionality



- ❑ The **search space** is enlarged exponentially
- ❑ The **number of local optima** increases rapidly
- ❑ The **execution time** becomes too long

Other Challenges

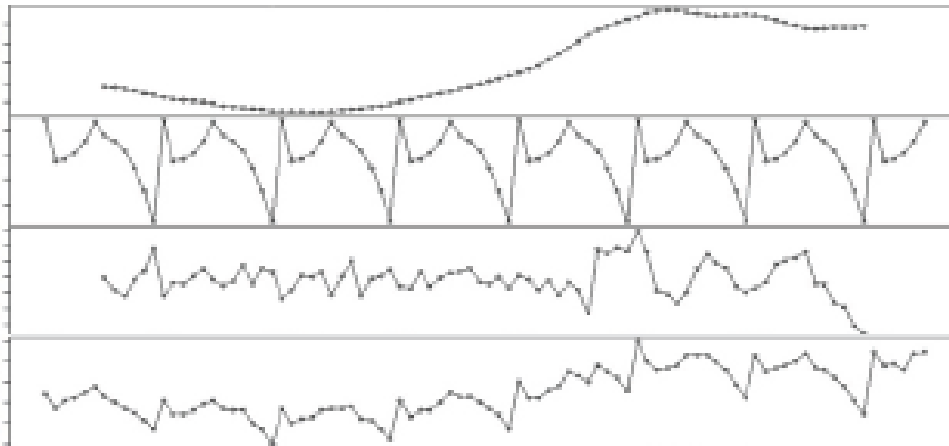
❑ Mixed Variable Optimization



continuous variables
categorical variables

Optimal Design of Power Electronic Circuits

❑ Optimization under Uncertain / Dynamic Environment

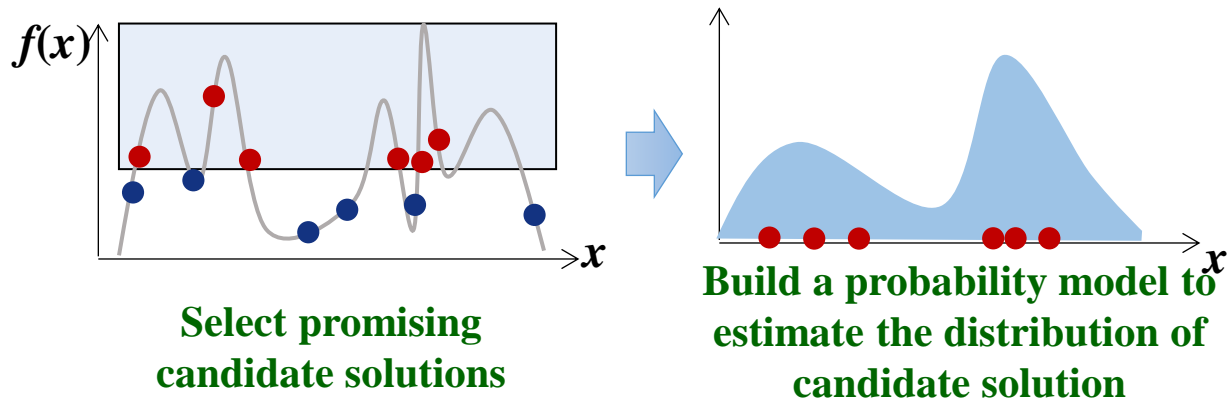


Maximize Profit
Minimize Risk

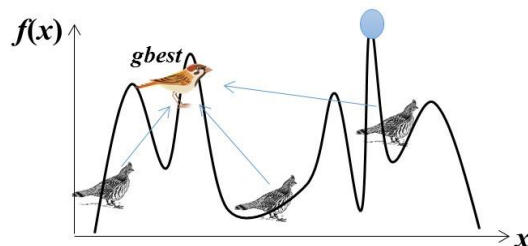
Robust Optimization

Probability-Based EAs (1)

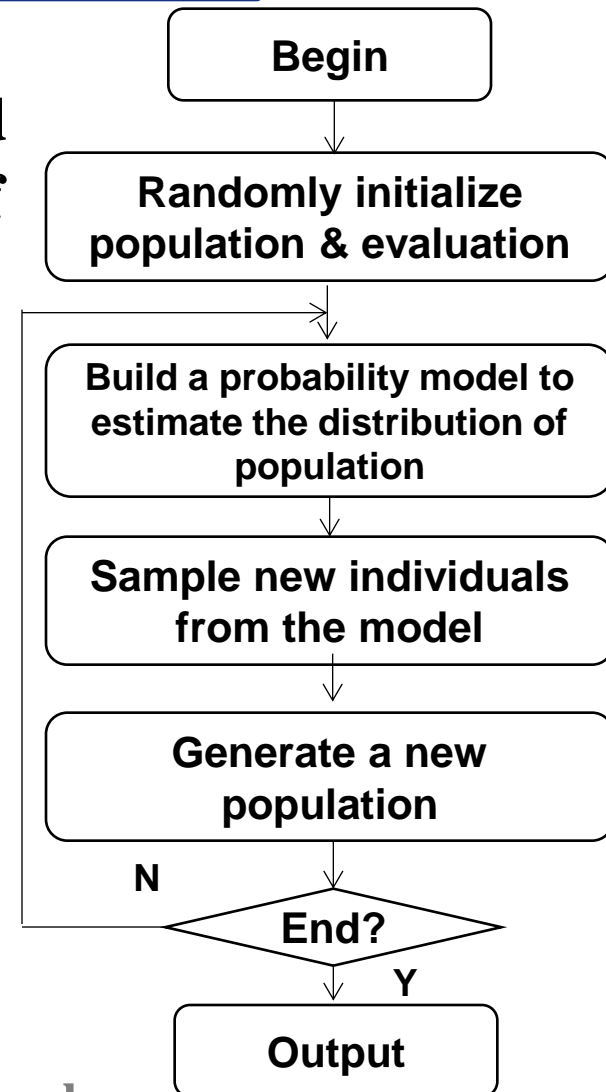
- ❑ **Estimation of Distribution Algorithm (EDA, Lozano et al., 2002):** building and sampling explicit probabilistic models of promising candidate solutions



EDA: focus on the global fitness landscape



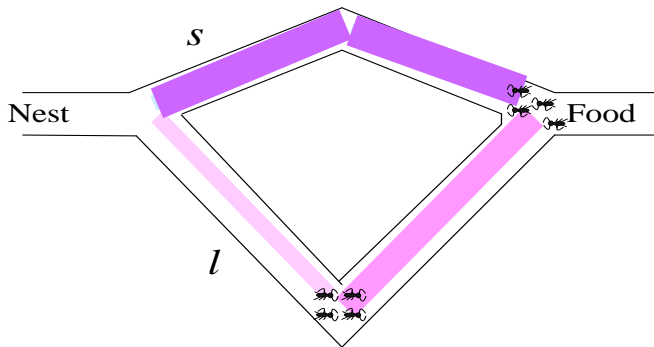
PSO: focus on the local neighborhood around the exemplar



Probability-Based EAs (2)

- ❑ In a broad sense, there are also some other EC algorithms that implicitly use probability distribution

- **Ant Colony Optimization (ACO, Dorigo et al., 1996)**



The pheromone depositing behavior can be viewed as building a probability distribution in the search space.

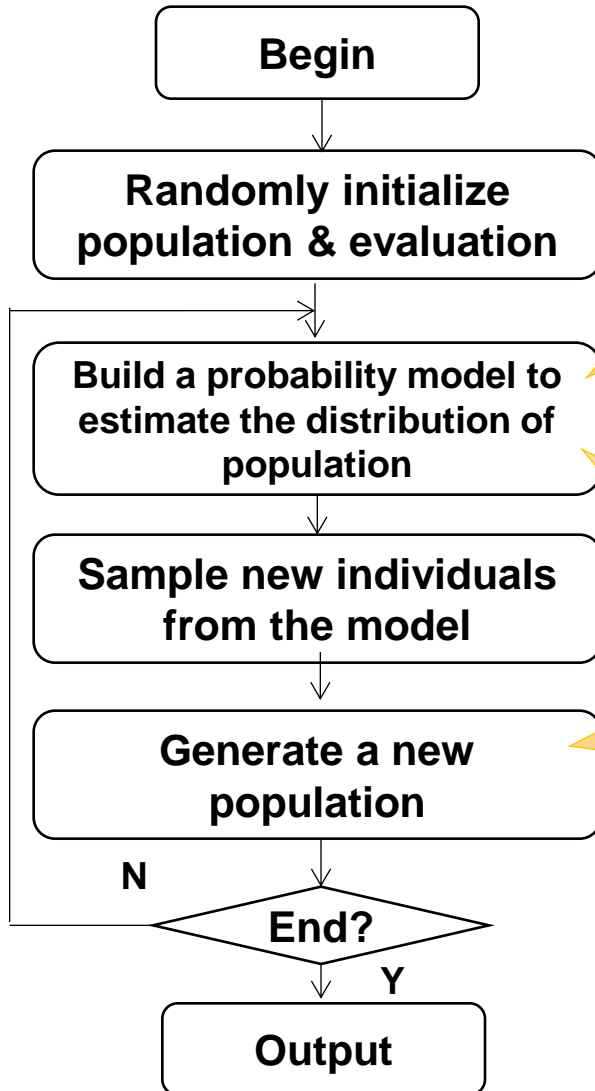
- ❑ **Strengths**

- **Good at global optimization and diversity preservation**

- ❑ **Weakness**

- **Speed, Precision**

An Outline of Our Study



1 Probability Distribution Based EAs for Seeking Multiple Solutions

Build a framework with local (niched) probability distribution to improve search diversity of EC

2 Probability Distribution Based EAs for Discrete Optimization

Build a framework for probability distribution based EC algorithms for solving mixed-variable optimization problems



Outline

1. Background

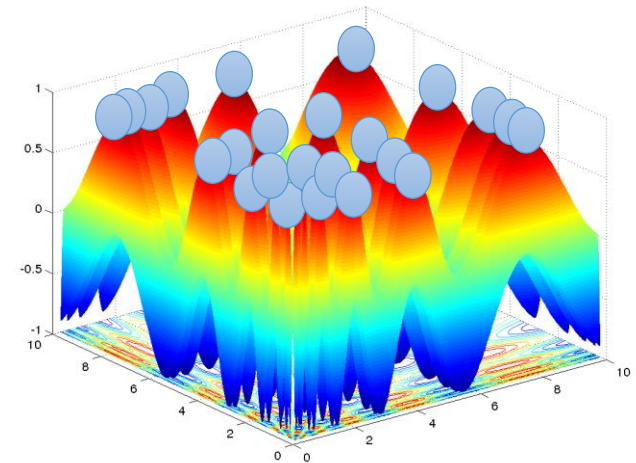
2. Probability Distribution Based EAs for Seeking Multiple Solutions

3. Probability Distribution Based EAs for Discrete Optimization

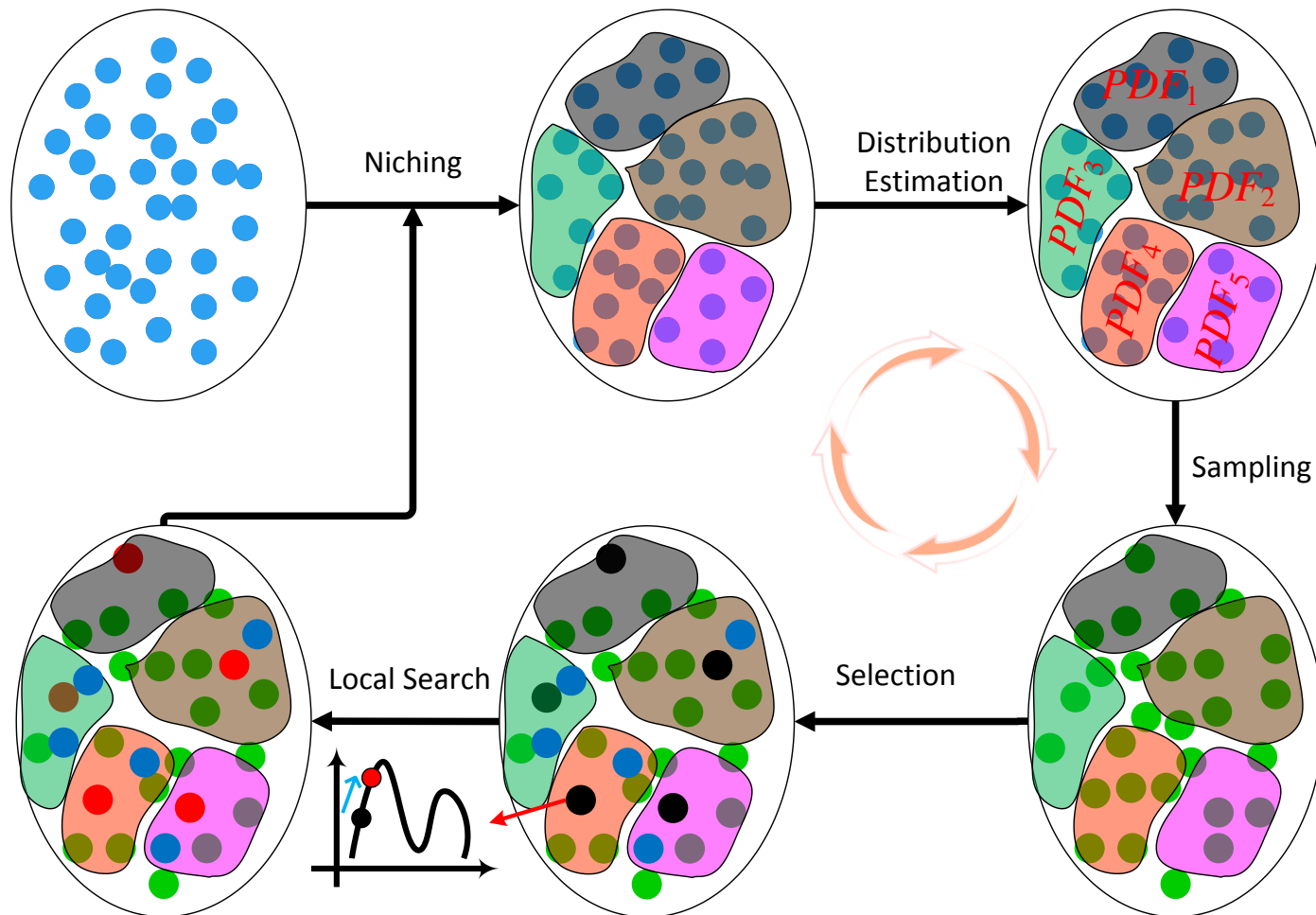
4. Applications & Future Work

Motivation

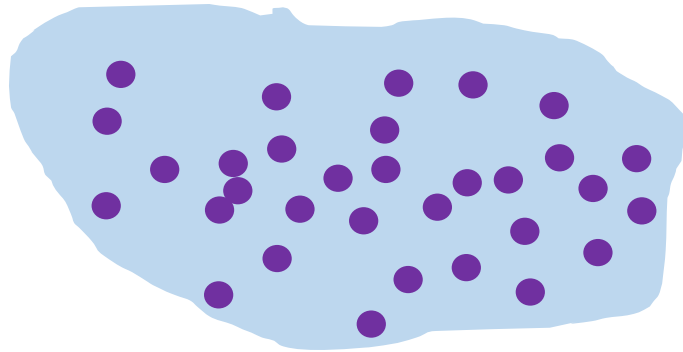
- ❑ Seeking multiple optimal solutions requires **extremely high search diversity**
 - By now, almost all approaches to seek multiple solutions are based on PSO or DE
 - On some high dimension problems with many local optima, the detection rates of many approaches are below 15%, or even 0%.
- ❑ EDA has shown good search diversity, but the potential of probability distribution based evolution for seeking multiple solutions have not been explored



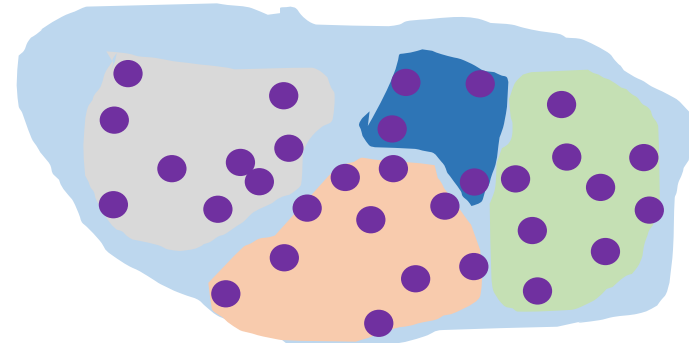
□ Combine Probability-Distribution Based EC with Niching



Niching



Population



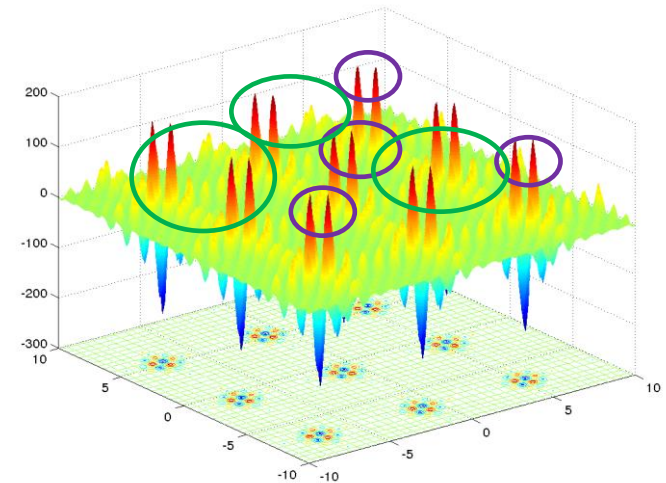
Niching

- **Fitness Sharing (Goldberg and Richardson, 1987)**
- **Crowding (Thomsen, 2004)**
- **Speciation (Li, 2005)**
- **Clustering (Gao and Yen, et al., 2014; Qu and Suganthan, et al. 2012)**

Multimodal EDA

❑ 1) Niching with Dynamic Niche Size

- $C = \{c_1, c_2, \dots, c_t\}$ (different integers)
- Random selection before each generation
- Small size beneficial for exploitation
- Large size profitable for exploration
- Better balance between exploration and exploitation (than with a fixed size)

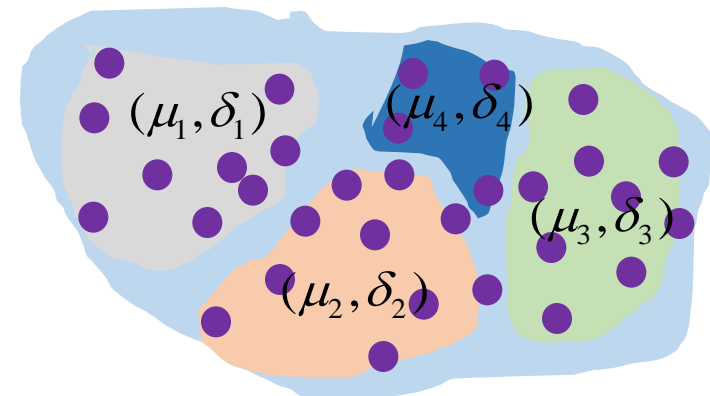


❑ 2) Distribution Estimation

- Estimating each niche separately
- All individuals in one niche participating in the estimation to keep high diversity

$$\mu_i^d = \frac{1}{M} \sum_{j=1}^M x_j^d$$

$$\delta_i^d = \sqrt{\frac{1}{M-1} \sum_{j=1}^M (x_j^d - \mu_i^d)^2}$$

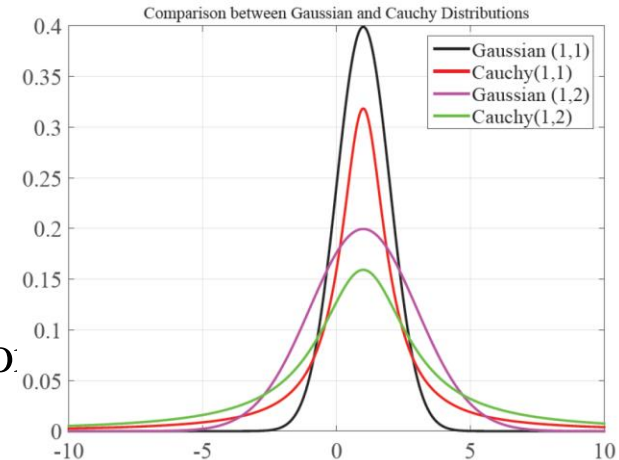


Multimodal EDA

❑ 3) Sampling with Cauchy / Gaussian Distribution

$$C_i = \begin{cases} \text{Cauchy}(\mu_i, \delta_i) & \text{if } \text{rand}() \leq 0.5 \\ \text{Gaussian}(\mu_i, \delta_i) & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$

- Cauchy Distribution (long tail, beneficial for explo.
- Gaussian Distribution (narrow tail, profitable for exploitation)
- Better balance between exploration and exploitation



❑ 4) Selection with the Neighborhood Replacement Rule

❑ 5) Local Search to Accelerate Search

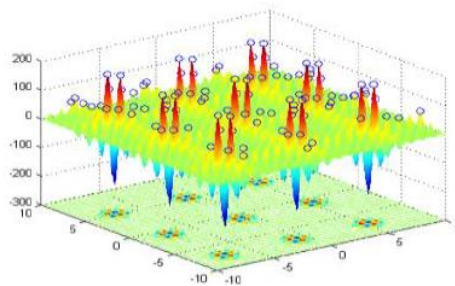
- Adaptively conduct around seeds of niches
- Local search by sampling N points using Gaussian Distribution around seeds

$$N(\mu, \delta) \quad \mu = \text{seed}_i, \delta = 1.0E-4$$

Results of Multimodal EDA

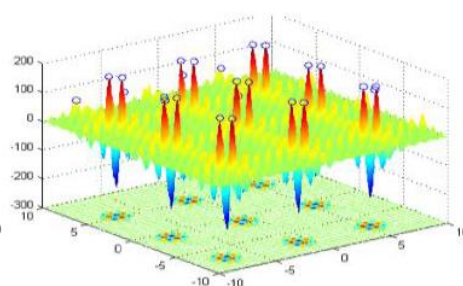
Clustering for Crowding (MCEDA)

Clustering for Speciation (MSEDA)

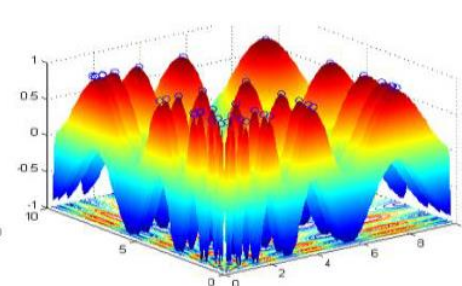


LMCEDA

(e) F_6

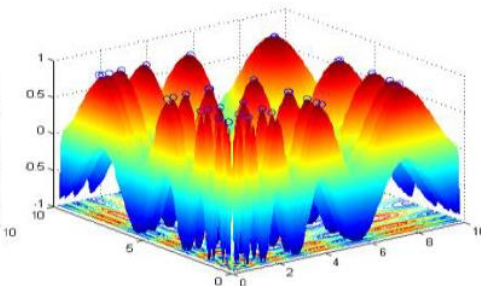


LMSEDA

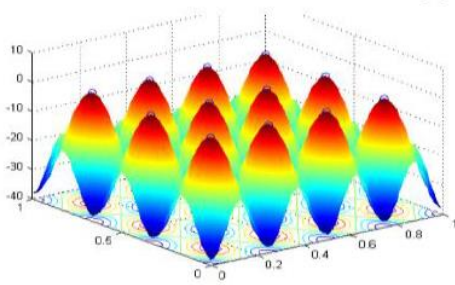


LMCEDA

(f) F_7

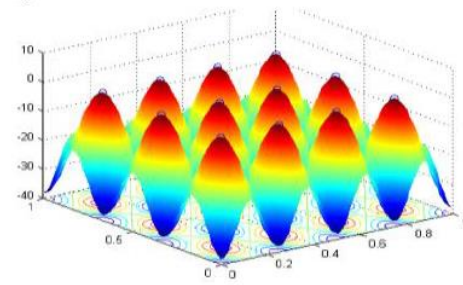


LMSEDA

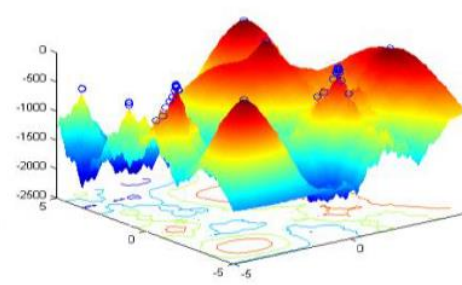


LMCEDA

(g) F_{10}

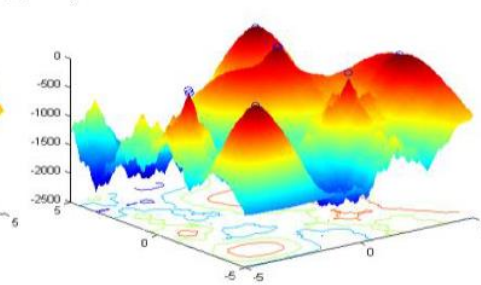


LMSEDA

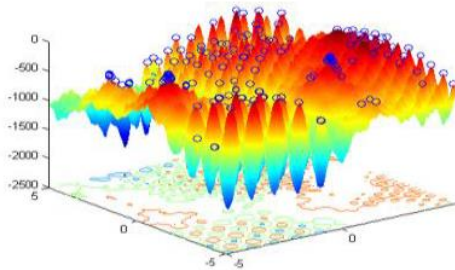


LMCEDA

(h) F_{11}

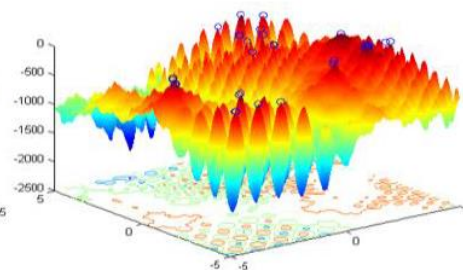


LMSEDA

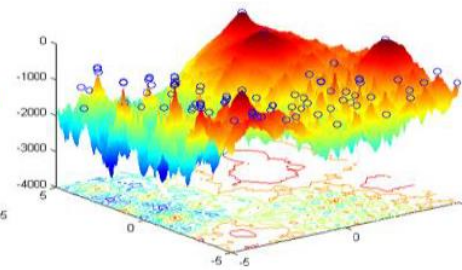


LMCEDA

(i) F_{12}

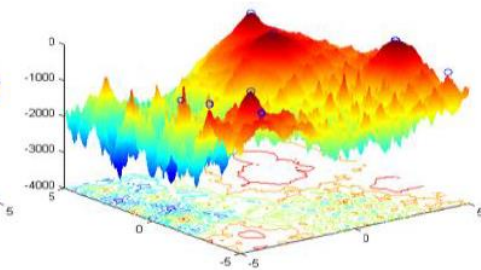


LMSEDA



LMCEDA

(j) F_{13}



LMSEDA

Results of Multimodal EDA

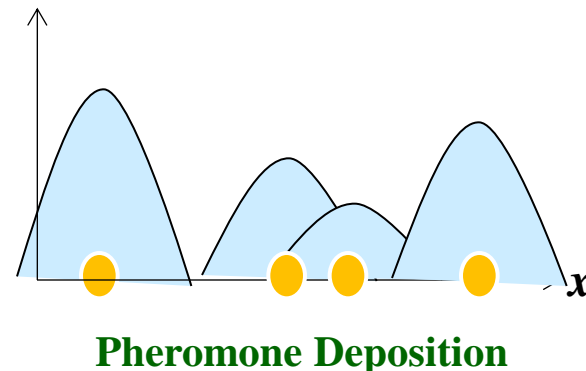
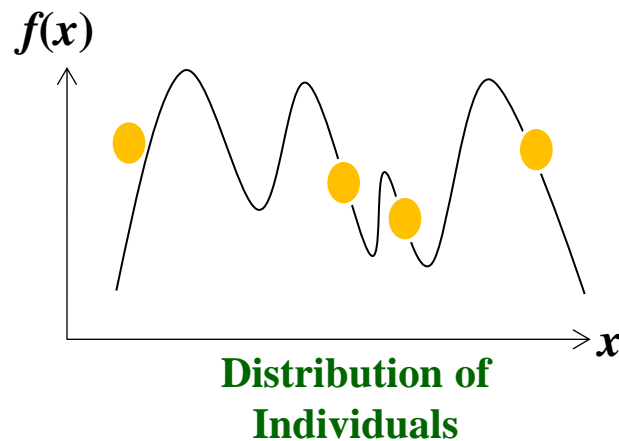


F	Self_CCDE			Self_CSDE			LoICDE			LoISDE			PNPCDE			LMCEDA			LMSEDA		
	PR	SR	CS	PR	SR	CS	PR	SR	CS	PR	SR	CS	PR	SR	CS	PR	SR	CS	PR	SR	CS
F ₁	1.000	1.000	3.55E+2	1.000	1.000	7.15E+2	1.000	1.000	1.73E+2	1.000	1.000	1.68E+2	1.000	1.000	1.62E+2	1.000	1.000	3.23E+2	1.000	1.000	3.41E+2
F ₂	1.000	1.000	7.61E+2	1.000	1.000	1.03E+3	1.000	1.000	1.24E+3	0.486	0.353	3.25E+4	1.000	1.000	1.08E+3	1.000	1.000	1.07E+3	1.000	1.000	8.97E+2
F ₃	1.000	1.000	5.55E+2	1.000	1.000	7.23E+2	1.000	1.000	5.84E+2	1.000	1.000	7.48E+2	1.000	1.000	8.33E+2	1.000	1.000	5.06E+2	1.000	1.000	4.84E+2
F ₄	1.000	1.000	7.07E+3	0.907	0.706	2.97E+4	1.000	1.000	1.48E+4	0.265	0.020	4.91E+4	1.000	1.000	2.28E+4	1.000	1.000	1.18E+4	1.000	1.000	6.37E+3
F ₅	1.000	1.000	1.97E+3	1.000	1.000	3.38E+3	1.000	1.000	1.88E+3	0.814	0.627	1.91E+4	1.000	1.000	3.69E+3	1.000	1.000	3.78E+3	1.000	1.000	2.51E+3
F ₆	0.972	0.647	1.37E+5	0.760	0.020	1.97E+5	1.000	1.000	9.58E+4	0.056	0.000	2.00E+5	0.806	0.157	1.97E+5	0.990	0.843	1.64E+5	0.973	0.588	1.43E+5
F ₇	0.884	0.020	1.97E+5	0.696	0.000	2.00E+5	0.858	0.020	2.00E+5	0.029	0.000	2.00E+5	0.875	0.000	2.00E+5	0.782	0.000	2.00E+5	0.712	0.000	2.00E+5
F ₈	0.997	0.902	2.35E+5	0.695	0.000	4.00E+5	0.000	0.000	4.00E+5	0.012	0.000	4.00E+5	0.000	0.000	4.00E+5	0.352	0.000	4.00E+5	0.622	0.000	4.00E+5
F ₉	0.459	0.000	4.00E+5	0.265	0.000	4.00E+5	0.421	0.000	4.00E+5	0.005	0.000	4.00E+5	0.473	0.000	4.00E+5	0.333	0.000	4.00E+5	0.281	0.000	4.00E+5
F ₁₀	1.000	1.000	8.15E+3	1.000	1.000	1.51E+4	1.000	1.000	3.04E+4	0.083	0.000	2.00E+5	1.000	1.000	2.16E+4	1.000	1.000	1.02E+4	0.998	0.980	1.23E+4
F ₁₁	0.824	0.255	1.92E+5	0.565	0.000	2.00E+5	0.667	0.000	2.00E+5	0.167	0.000	2.00E+5	0.667	0.000	2.00E+5	0.667	0.000	2.00E+5	0.905	0.451	1.80E+5
F ₁₂	0.591	0.000	2.00E+5	0.409	0.000	2.00E+5	0.615	0.000	2.00E+5	0.125	0.000	2.00E+5	0.015	0.000	2.00E+5	0.750	0.000	2.00E+5	0.990	0.922	1.09E+5
F ₁₃	0.667	0.000	2.00E+5	0.493	0.000	2.00E+5	0.634	0.000	2.00E+5	0.167	0.000	2.00E+5	0.637	0.000	2.00E+5	0.667	0.000	2.00E+5	0.667	0.000	2.00E+5
F ₁₄	0.667	0.000	4.00E+5	0.500	0.000	4.00E+5	0.663	0.000	4.00E+5	0.167	0.000	4.00E+5	0.592	0.000	4.00E+5	0.667	0.000	4.00E+5	0.667	0.000	4.00E+5
F ₁₅	0.370	0.000	4.00E+5	0.287	0.000	4.00E+5	0.358	0.000	4.00E+5	0.125	0.000	4.00E+5	0.152	0.000	4.00E+5	0.699	0.000	4.00E+5	0.738	0.000	4.00E+5
F ₁₆	0.663	0.000	4.00E+5	0.232	0.000	4.00E+5	0.621	0.000	4.00E+5	0.167	0.000	4.00E+5	0.010	0.000	4.00E+5	0.667	0.000	4.00E+5	0.667	0.000	4.00E+5
F ₁₇	0.260	0.000	4.00E+5	0.103	0.000	4.00E+5	0.238	0.000	4.00E+5	0.076	0.000	4.00E+5	0.000	0.000	4.00E+5	0.456	0.000	4.00E+5	0.620	0.000	4.00E+5
F ₁₈	0.353	0.000	4.00E+5	0.016	0.000	4.00E+5	0.222	0.000	4.00E+5	0.157	0.000	4.00E+5	0.160	0.000	4.00E+5	0.657	0.000	4.00E+5	0.660	0.000	4.00E+5
F ₁₉	0.150	0.000	4.00E+5	0.000	0.000	4.00E+5	0.054	0.000	4.00E+5	0.027	0.000	4.00E+5	0.000	0.000	4.00E+5	0.451	0.000	4.00E+5	0.458	0.000	4.00E+5
F ₂₀	0.069	0.000	4.00E+5	0.000	0.000	4.00E+5	0.125	0.000	4.00E+5	0.088	0.000	4.00E+5	0.000	0.000	4.00E+5	0.250	0.000	4.00E+5	0.250	0.000	4.00E+5
bprs	9			5			7			2			6			9			13		

MEDA performs well on high-dimensional multimodal problems with many local optima, as they can locate more globally optimal solutions.

Multimodal ACO

- ❑ ACO is developed for discrete optimization (Dorigo et al., 1996)
- ❑ By modeling pheromone as probability distribution, ACO can also solve continuous problems (Socha and Dorigo, 2008)
- ❑ The capability of EDA is usually limited by the distribution model (usually Cauchy or Gaussian)
- ❑ The pheromone depositing behavior of ACO may provide a more flexible probability distribution



Multimodal ACO

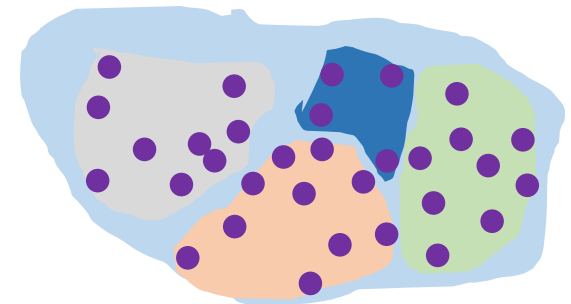
❑ 1) Niching with Dynamic Niche Size

❑ 2) Pheromone Deposition

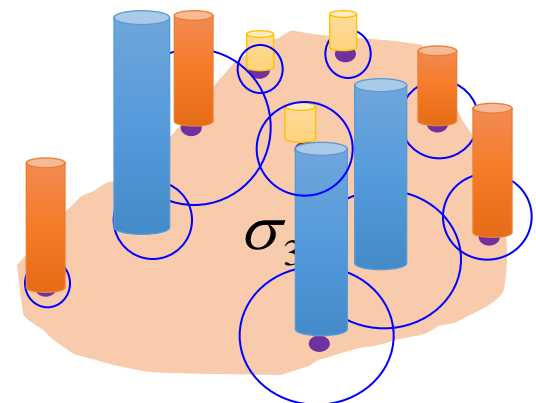
- Each individual deposits pheromone according to its fitness
- The pheromone of an individual determines the probability of sampling new children around this individual
- Adaptive configuration for the parameter σ

$$w_i = \frac{1}{\sigma NP \sqrt{2\pi}} e^{-\frac{(\text{rank}(i)-1)^2}{2\sigma^2 NP^2}}$$

$$p_j = \frac{w_j}{\sum_{i=1}^{NP} w_i}$$



Niching



Pheromone Deposition to form a probability distribution for each niche

Multimodal ACO

❑ 3) Sampling new solutions

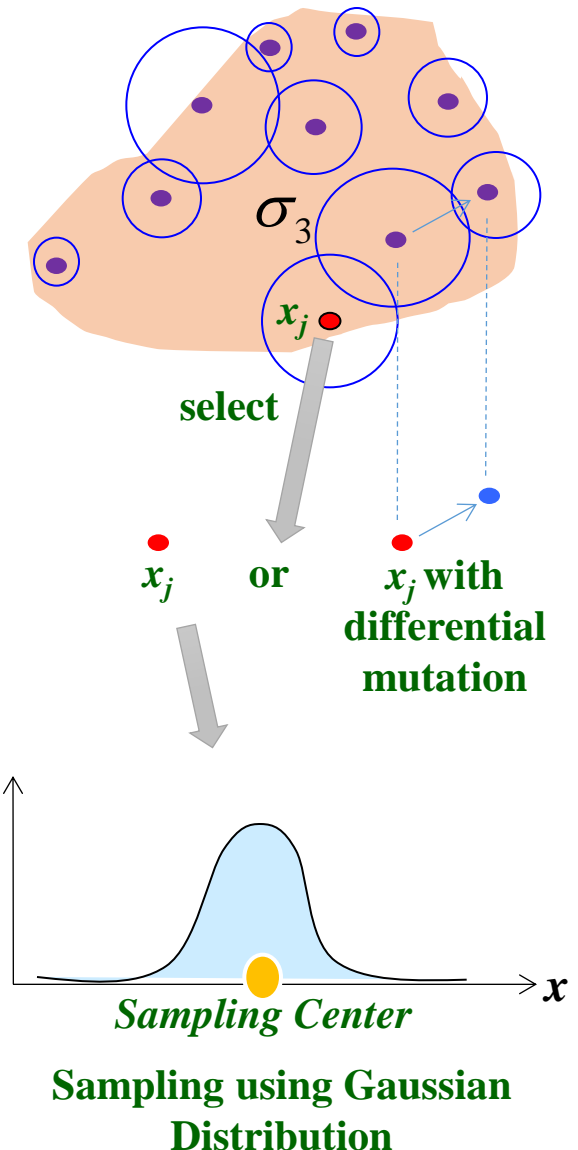
- Step 1. Select an individual according to their pheromone distribution
- Step 2. Determine the center of sampling

$$\mu = \begin{cases} x_j \text{ (selected solution)} & \text{rand}() \leq 0.5 \\ u = x_j + F(\mathbf{x}_{seed} - x_j) & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$

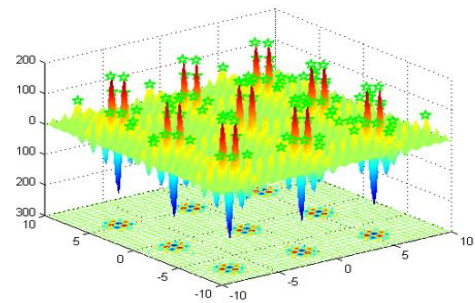
- Step 3. Sampling with Gaussian Distribution
- Step 4. Repeat 1-3 until a new generation has been built

❑ 4) Selection with the Neighborhood Replacement Rule

❑ 5) Local Search

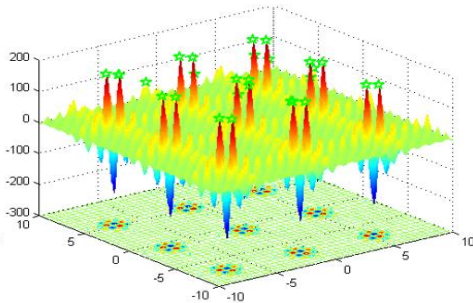


Results of AM-ACO

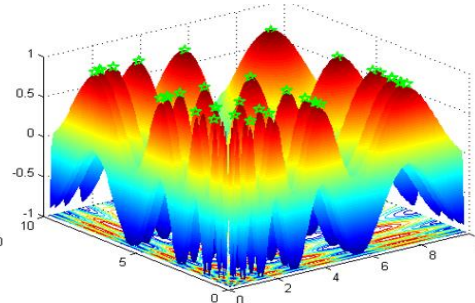


LAMC-ACO

(e) F_6

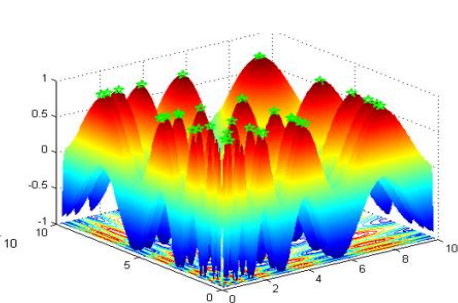


LAMS-ACO

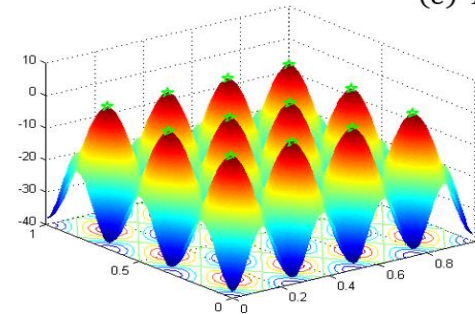


LAMC-ACO

(f) F_7

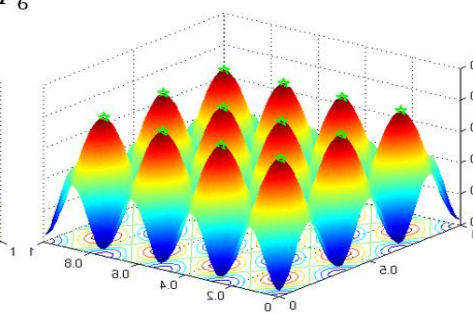


LAMS-ACO

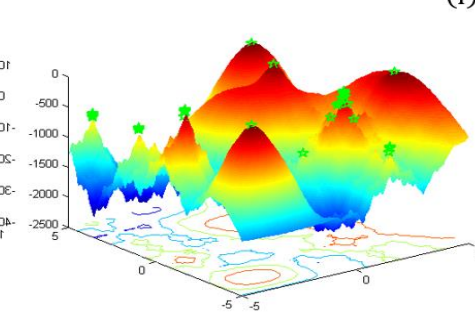


LAMC-ACO

(g) F_{10}

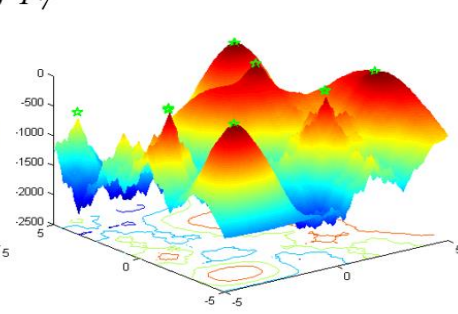


LAMS-ACO

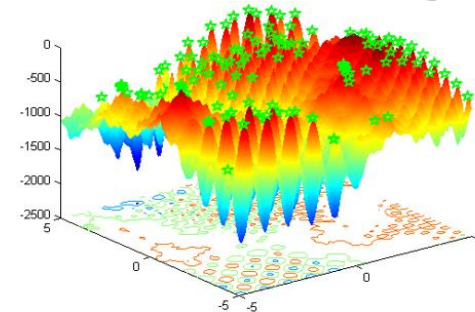


LAMC-ACO

(h) F_{11}

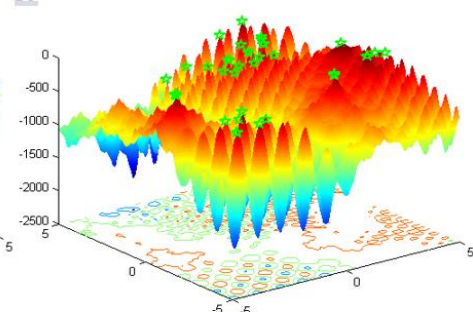


LAMS-ACO

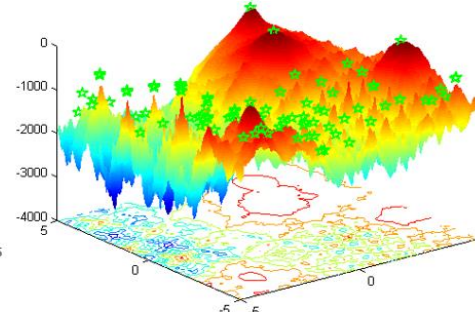


LAMC-ACO

(i) F_{12}

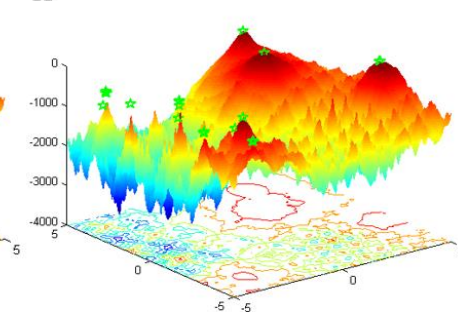


LAMS-ACO



LAMC-ACO

(j) F_{13}



LAMS-ACO

Results of AM-ACO

F	Self_CSDE			LoICDE			LoISDE			PNPCDE			MOMMOP			LAMC-ACO			LAMS-ACO		
	PR	SR	CS	PR	SR	CS	PR	SR	CS	PR	SR	CS	PR	SR	CS	PR	SR	CS	PR	SR	CS
F_1	1.000	1.000	7.15E+2	1.000	1.000	1.73E+2	1.000	1.000	1.68E+2	1.000	1.000	1.62E+2	1.000	1.000	1.66E+2	1.000	1.000	2.59E+2	1.000	1.000	2.14E+2
F_2	1.000	1.000	1.03E+3	1.000	1.000	1.24E+3	0.486	0.353	3.25E+4	1.000	1.000	1.08E+3	1.000	1.000	1.09E+3	1.000	1.000	5.35E+2	1.000	1.000	4.90E+2
F_3	1.000	1.000	7.23E+2	1.000	1.000	5.84E+2	1.000	1.000	7.48E+2	1.000	1.000	8.33E+2	1.000	1.000	9.58E+2	1.000	1.000	3.50E+2	1.000	1.000	3.53E+2
F_4	0.907	0.706	2.97E+4	1.000	1.000	1.48E+4	0.265	0.020	4.91E+4	1.000	1.000	2.28E+4	1.000	1.000	3.50E+4	1.000	1.000	5.04E+3	1.000	1.000	3.50E+3
F_5	1.000	1.000	3.38E+3	1.000	1.000	1.88E+3	0.814	0.627	1.91E+4	1.000	1.000	3.69E+3	1.000	1.000	1.48E+4	1.000	1.000	1.42E+3	1.000	1.000	1.10E+3
F_6	0.760	0.020	1.97E+5	1.000	1.000	9.58E+4	0.056	0.000	2.00E+5	0.806	0.157	1.97E+5	1.000	1.000	5.61E+4	0.999	0.980	1.10E+5	0.990	0.824	1.05E+5
F_7	0.696	0.000	2.00E+5	0.858	0.020	2.00E+5	0.029	0.000	2.00E+5	0.875	0.000	2.00E+5	1.000	1.000	6.32E+4	0.789	0.000	2.00E+5	0.716	0.000	2.00E+5
F_8	0.695	0.000	4.00E+5	0.000	0.000	4.00E+5	0.012	0.000	4.00E+5	0.000	0.000	4.00E+5	1.000	1.000	2.85E+5	0.680	0.000	4.00E+5	0.782	0.000	4.00E+5
F_9	0.265	0.000	4.00E+5	0.421	0.000	4.00E+5	0.005	0.000	4.00E+5	0.473	0.000	4.00E+5	1.000	1.000	2.95E+5	0.348	0.000	4.00E+5	0.295	0.000	4.00E+5
F_{10}	1.000	1.000	1.51E+4	1.000	1.000	3.04E+4	0.083	0.000	2.00E+5	1.000	1.000	2.16E+4	1.000	1.000	4.24E+4	1.000	1.000	9.47E+3	1.000	1.000	9.02E+3
F_{11}	0.565	0.000	2.00E+5	0.667	0.000	2.00E+5	0.167	0.000	2.00E+5	0.667	0.000	2.00E+5	0.938	0.647	1.73E+5	0.683	0.000	2.00E+5	0.974	0.843	1.40E+5
F_{12}	0.409	0.000	2.00E+5	0.615	0.000	2.00E+5	0.125	0.000	2.00E+5	0.015	0.000	2.00E+5	0.949	0.627	1.73E+5	0.824	0.098	1.99E+5	0.983	0.863	1.03E+5
F_{13}	0.493	0.000	2.00E+5	0.634	0.000	2.00E+5	0.167	0.000	2.00E+5	0.637	0.000	2.00E+5	0.667	0.000	2.00E+5	0.667	0.000	2.00E+5	0.676	0.000	2.00E+5
F_{14}	0.500	0.000	4.00E+5	0.663	0.000	4.00E+5	0.167	0.000	4.00E+5	0.592	0.000	4.00E+5	0.667	0.000	4.00E+5	0.667	0.000	4.00E+5	0.667	0.000	4.00E+5
F_{15}	0.287	0.000	4.00E+5	0.358	0.000	4.00E+5	0.125	0.000	4.00E+5	0.152	0.000	4.00E+5	0.627	0.000	4.00E+5	0.740	0.000	4.00E+5	0.748	0.000	4.00E+5
F_{16}	0.232	0.000	4.00E+5	0.621	0.000	4.00E+5	0.167	0.000	4.00E+5	0.010	0.000	4.00E+5	0.650	0.000	4.00E+5	0.667	0.000	4.00E+5	0.667	0.000	4.00E+5
F_{17}	0.103	0.000	4.00E+5	0.238	0.000	4.00E+5	0.076	0.000	4.00E+5	0.000	0.000	4.00E+5	0.512	0.000	4.00E+5	0.608	0.000	4.00E+5	0.708	0.000	4.00E+5
F_{18}	0.016	0.000	4.00E+5	0.222	0.000	4.00E+5	0.157	0.000	4.00E+5	0.160	0.000	4.00E+5	0.497	0.000	4.00E+5	0.667	0.000	4.00E+5	0.667	0.000	4.00E+5
F_{19}	0.000	0.000	4.00E+5	0.054	0.000	4.00E+5	0.027	0.000	4.00E+5	0.000	0.000	4.00E+5	0.223	0.000	4.00E+5	0.500	0.000	4.00E+5	0.502	0.000	4.00E+5
F_{20}	0.000	0.000	4.00E+5	0.125	0.000	4.00E+5	0.088	0.000	4.00E+5	0.000	0.000	4.00E+5	0.125	0.000	4.00E+5	0.272	0.000	4.00E+5	0.348	0.000	4.00E+5
bprs	5			7			2			6			11			9			15		

AM-ACO achieved even better results than MEDA. E.g., for the most difficult problem F_{20} , AM-ACO yields a detection rate 34.8%, MEDA is 25%, while most other existing approaches are below 12.5%

Conclusion

- ❑ Probability Distribution Based EC algorithms are good at maintaining sufficient search diversity
- ❑ Combining Probability Distribution Based EC & Niching is promising for problems with high diversity requirement, e.g., seeking multiple solutions in multimodal optimization
- ❑ Local search and parameter adaption are helpful to improve search efficiency
- ❑ Implicit Probability Distribution Approaches, e.g., ACO, may sometimes provide a more flexible way to build distribution

"Multimodal Estimation of Distribution Algorithms" , *IEEE Transactions on Cybernetics*, vol. 47, no. 3, pp. 636-650, 2017.

"Adaptive Multimodal Continuous Ant Colony Optimization" , *IEEE Transactions on Evolutionary Computation*, vol. 21, no. 2, pp. 191-205, 2017.



Outline

1. Background

- Multimodal Optimization
- Probability Distribution Based EAs

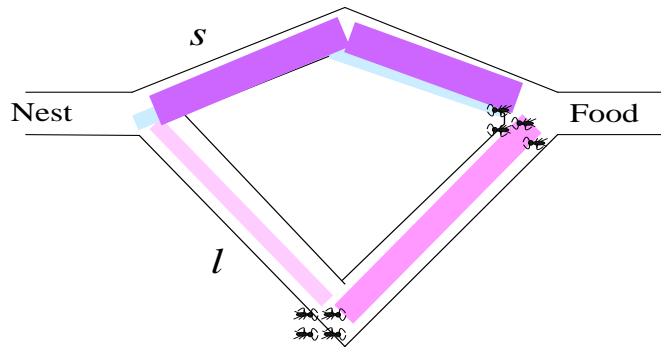
2. Probability Distribution Based EAs for Seeking Multiple Solutions

3. Probability Distribution Based EAs for Discrete Optimization

4. Applications & Future Work

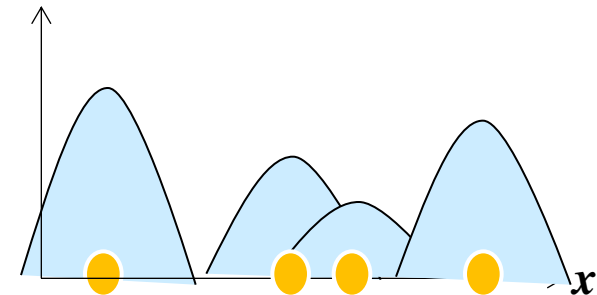
Motivation

- ❑ Probability Distribution is suitable on both continuous and discrete problems



ACO in discrete space

Probability
distribution



Pheromone Deposition

ACO in continuous space

- ❑ Some popular EC algorithms, e.g., PSO, are originally defined on continuous real vector space

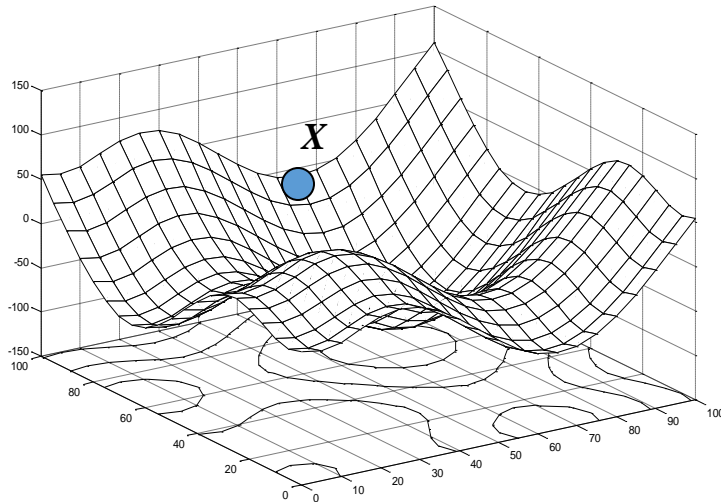
$$\text{Velocity Update } v_i^j \leftarrow wv_i^j + c_1r_1^j(pbest_i^j - x_i^j) + c_2r_2^j(gbest^j - x_i^j), \quad j = 1, 2, \dots, n$$

- ❑ Is it possible to use Probability Distribution to build a more general discrete PSO (DE, etc.) framework?

Set-Based Representation

COPs can be formulated in the abstract as “find from a set E a subset X that satisfies some constraints and optimizes the objective function f ” (Lin and Kernighan 1973)

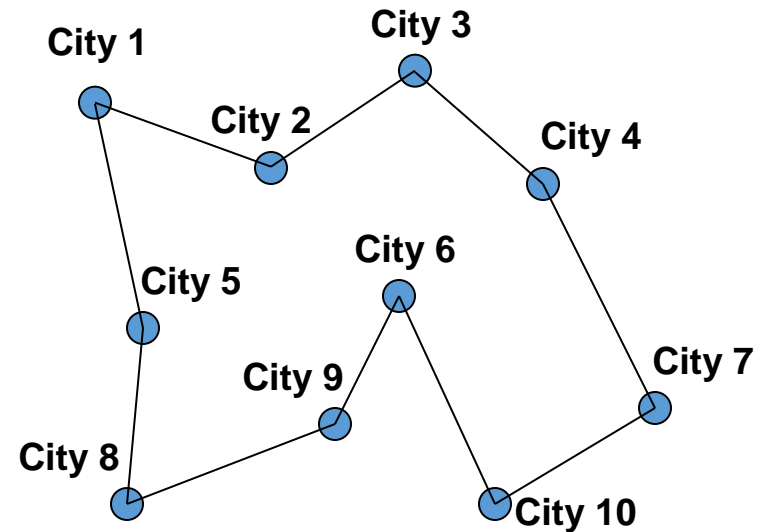
Continuous Search Space



Representation:
Real Vector

$$\mathbf{x}_i (x_i^1, x_i^2, \dots, x_i^n)$$

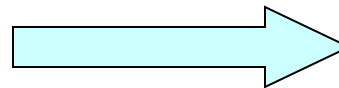
Discrete Search Space



Representation: Set

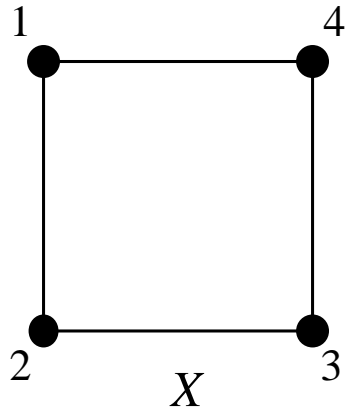
$$\{(1,2), (2,3), (3,4), \dots, (1,5)\}$$

?



Set-Based Representation

□ Position: a crisp set



$$E = \{(1,2), (1,3), (1,4), (2,3), (2,4), (3,4)\}$$

$$E^1 = \{(1,2), (1,3), (1,4)\}$$

$$E^2 = \{(1,2), (2,3), (2,4)\}$$

$$E^3 = \{(1,3), (2,3), (3,4)\}$$

$$E^4 = \{(1,4), (2,4), (3,4)\}$$

$$X = \{(1,2), (2,3), (3,4), (1,4)\}$$

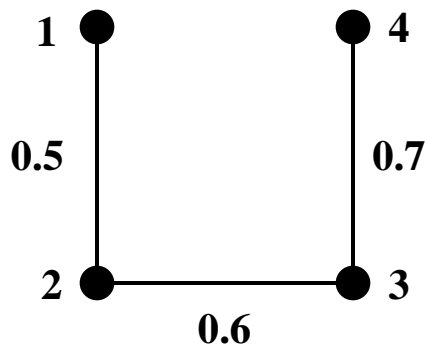
$$X^1 = \{(1,2), (1,4)\}$$

$$X^2 = \{(1,2), (2,3)\}$$

$$X^3 = \{(2,3), (3,4)\}$$

$$X^4 = \{(1,4), (3,4)\}$$

□ Velocity: a set with possibilities



$$V = \{(1,2) / 0.5, (2,3) / 0.6, (3,4) / 0.7\}$$

$$V^1 = \{(1,2) / 0.5\}$$

$$V^2 = \{(1,2) / 0.5, (2,3) / 0.6\}$$

$$V^3 = \{(2,3) / 0.6\}$$

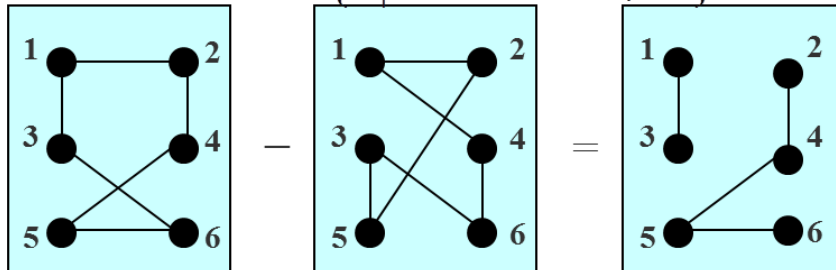
Velocity Update

- ❑ Essence of velocity update: build a **probability distribution of the “promising elements”** for particles to learn from

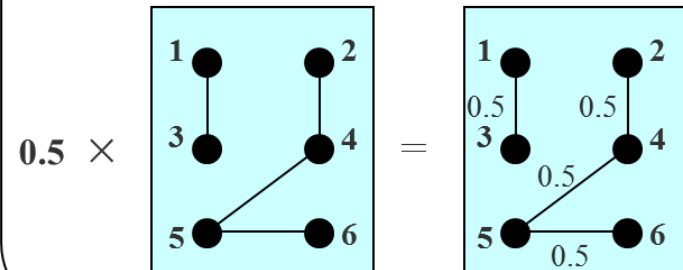
$$V_i^j \leftarrow \omega V_i^j + c_1 r_1^j (PBest_i^j - X_i^j) + c_2 r_2^j (GBest^j - X_i^j), \quad j = 1, 2, \dots, n$$

**Position – Position
(crisp set – crisp set)**

$$A - B = \{e \mid e \in A \text{ and } e \notin B\}$$



Coefficient * Crisp set



Union of two sets with possibilities

$$V_1^1 = \{(1, 2)/0.6, (1, 4)/0.9\}$$

$$V_1^2 = \{(1, 2)/0.9, (1, 3)/0.3\}$$

$$V_1^1 + V_1^2 = \{(1, 2)/0.9, (1, 3)/0.3, (1, 4)/0.9\}$$

Position Update

- ❑ Particles use the elements sampling from the probability distribution defined by “velocity” to update positions

Convert the velocity (probability distribution) into a crisp set

$$cut_{\alpha}(V_i^j) = \{e \mid e \in V_i^j \text{ and } p(e) \geq \alpha\}$$



Learn from the elements in $cut_{\alpha}(V_i^j)$



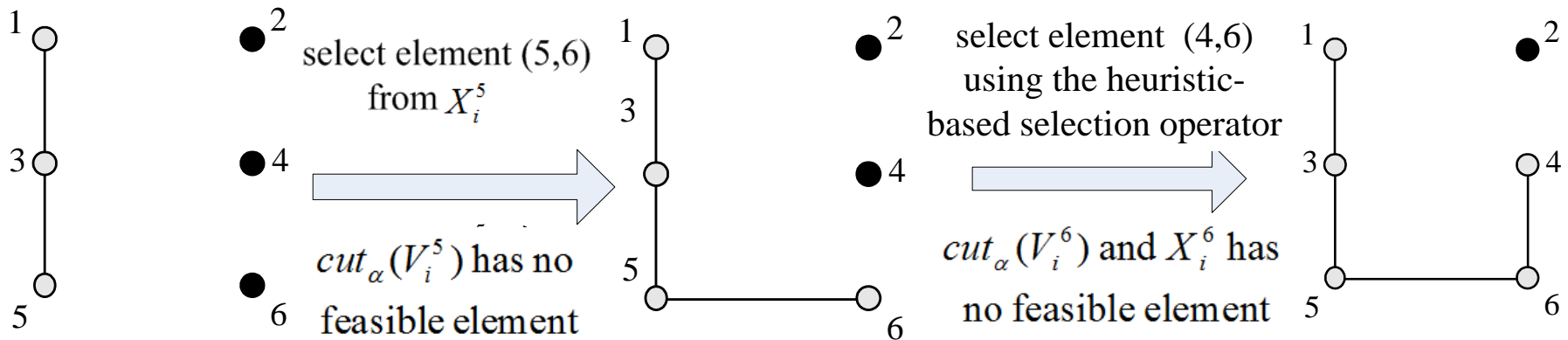
Reuse the elements from the previous position X_i^j



Use other unselected elements to build a complete feasible solution

Constraint Handling

□ Step-by-Step



□ Build and Repair

X_i

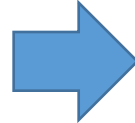
$cut_\alpha(V_i^j)$

New Position (infeasible)

Build

repair

{item 2,
item 3,
item 4}



Item 1	selected
Item 2	unselected
Item 3	selected
Item 4	unselected
Item 5	selected
Item 6	unselected

Item 1	selected
Item 2	selected
Item 3	selected
Item 4	selected
Item 5	selected
Item 6	unselected

Item 1	selected
Item 2	selected
Item 3	unselected
Item 4	selected
Item 5	selected
Item 6	unselected

Search Behavior

Velocity update in GPSO

$$v_i^j \leftarrow \omega v_i^j + c_1 r_1^j (pbest_i^j - x_i^j) + c_2 r_2^j (gbest^j - x_i^j), \quad j = 1, 2, \dots, n$$

Redefine Discrete PSO



S-GPSO

Velocity update in LPSO

$$v_i^j \leftarrow \omega v_i^j + c_1 r_1^j (pbest_i^j - x_i^j) + c_2 r_2^j (lbest_i^j - x_i^j), \quad j = 1, 2, \dots, n$$



S-LPSO

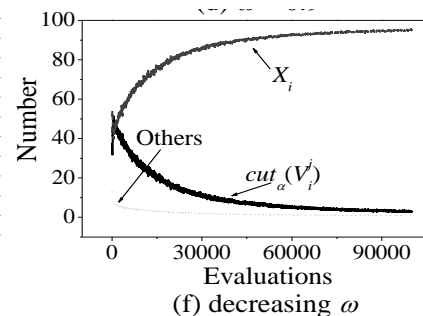
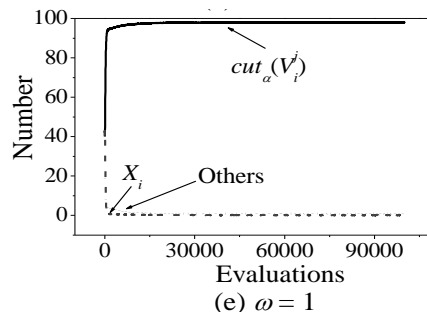
Velocity update in CLPSO

$$v_i^j \leftarrow \omega \cdot v_i^j + cr^j (pbest_{f_i(j)}^j - x_i^j), \quad j = 1, 2, \dots, n$$



S-CLPSO

Different PSO variants can be directly extended to their discrete versions based on the S-PSO.



Parameter configurations in original PSO can be still used in S-PSO

Conclusion



- ❑ **Probability Distribution can also be used to extend EC algorithms from continuous space to discrete space**
- ❑ **Different kinds of PSO variants (including multiobjective ones) can be extended to their discrete versions**
- ❑ **First verified on TSP and MKP,**
- ❑ **Solve other discrete optimization problems:**
 - ❑ **Vehicle routing (Gong et al., 2012)**
 - ❑ **Coverage array generation (Wu et al., 2015)**

“A novel set-based particle swarm optimization method for discrete optimization problem”, *IEEE Transactions on Evolutionary Computation*, 2010

"Set-Based Discrete Particle Swarm Optimization Based on Decomposition for Permutation-Based Multiobjective Combinatorial Optimization Problems", *IEEE Trans. on Cybernetics*, in press

“Set-based discrete particle swarm optimization and its applications: a survey”, *Frontiers of Computer Science*, 2018



Outline

1. Background

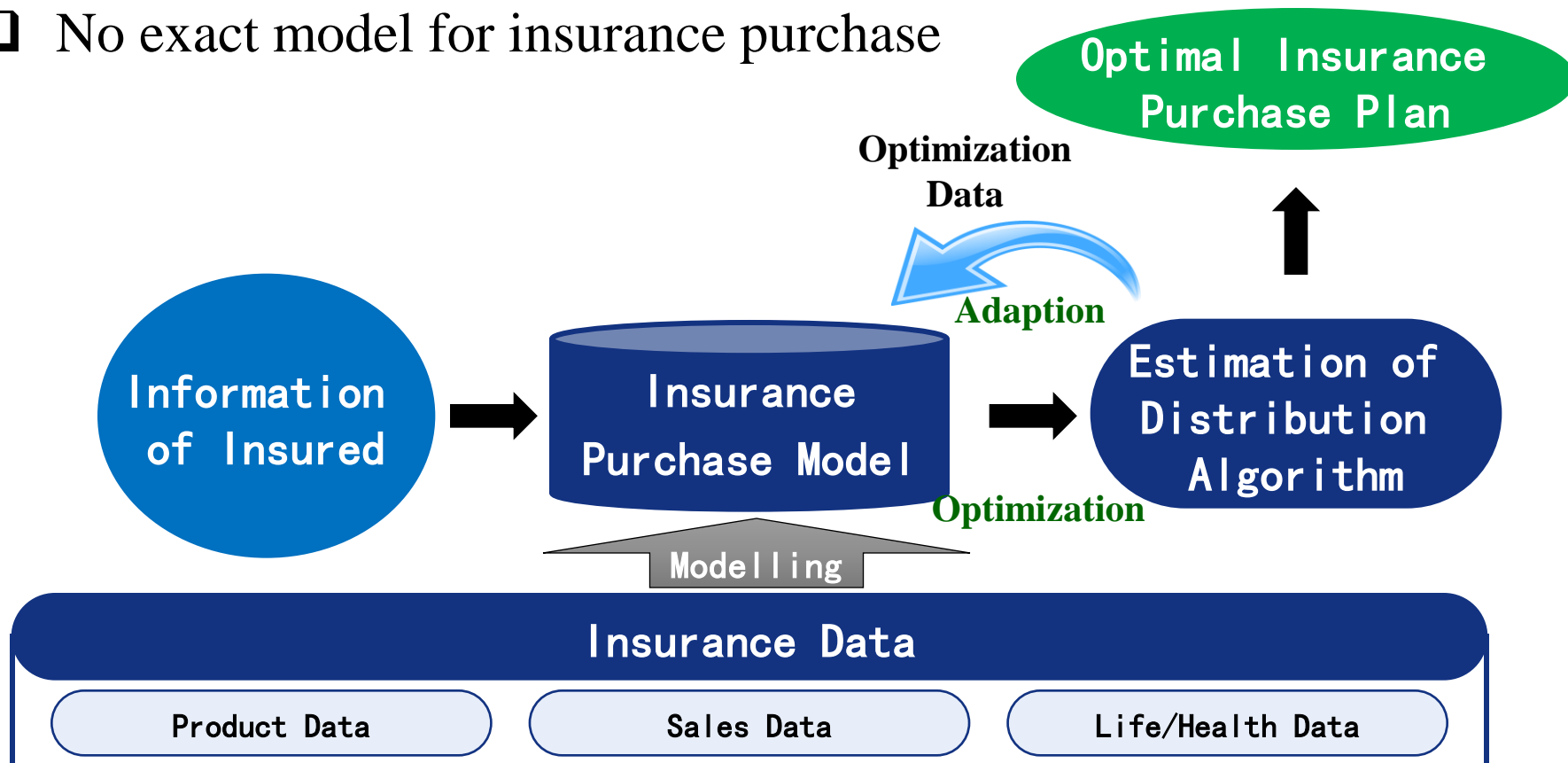
2. Probability Distribution Based EAs for Seeking Multiple Solutions

3. Probability Distribution Based EAs for Discrete Optimization

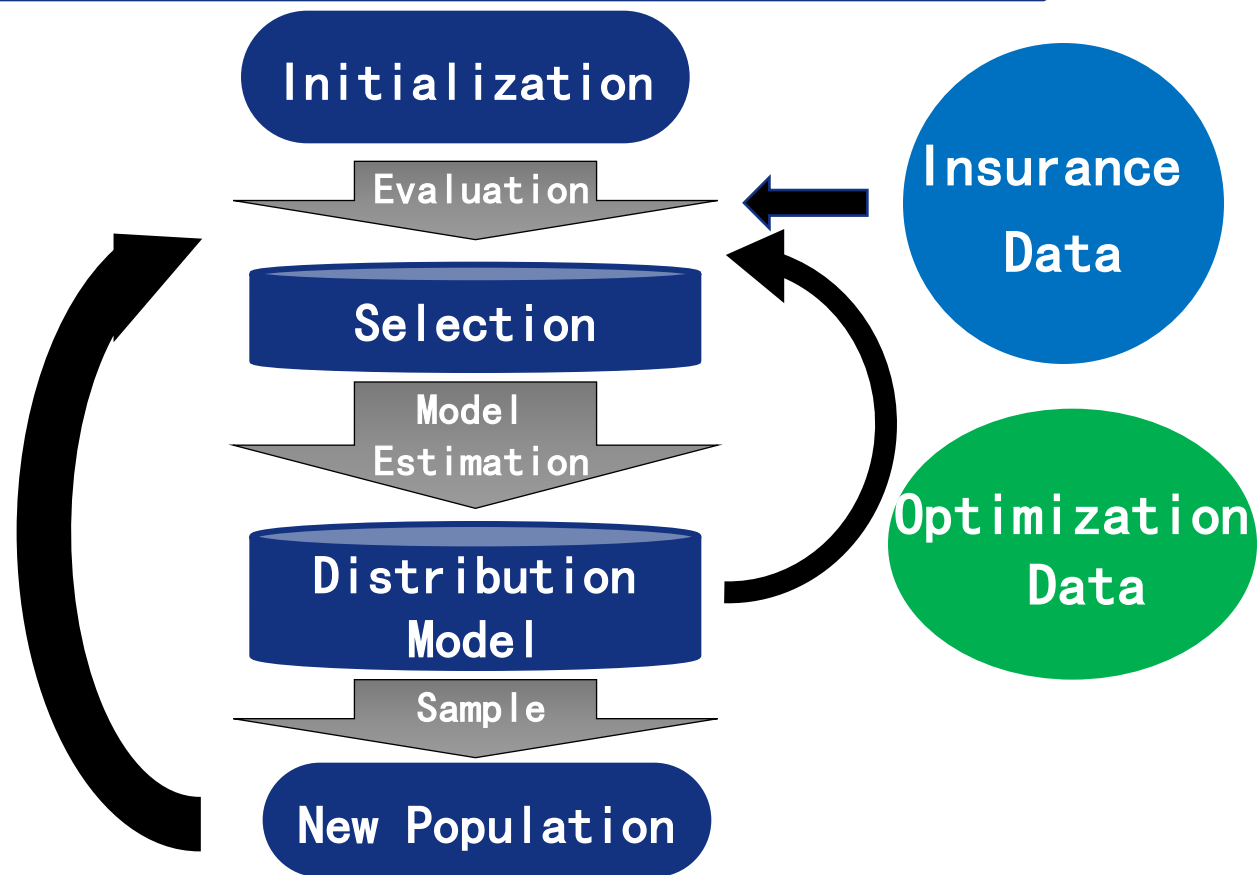
4. Applications & Future Work

Application 1: Insurance Purchase Optimization

- ❑ Insurance is an important way for investment and risk aversion
- ❑ Many insurance products exist
- ❑ No exact model for insurance purchase



Estimation of Distribution Approach



"An Adaptive Estimation of Distribution Algorithm for Multi-Policy Insurance Investment Planning" , *IEEE Transactions on Evolutionary Computation*, Accepted in Nov. 2017

Application 2: Dynamic Vehicle Routing

❑ Definition

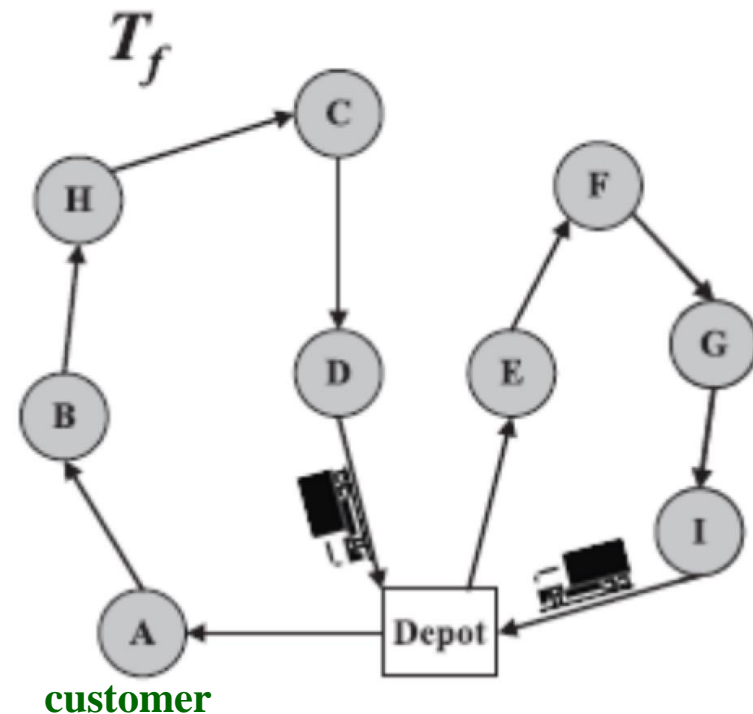
- Designing routes for a fleet of vehicles to serve a set of customers

❑ Objective:

- Minimize total travel distances subject to various constraints

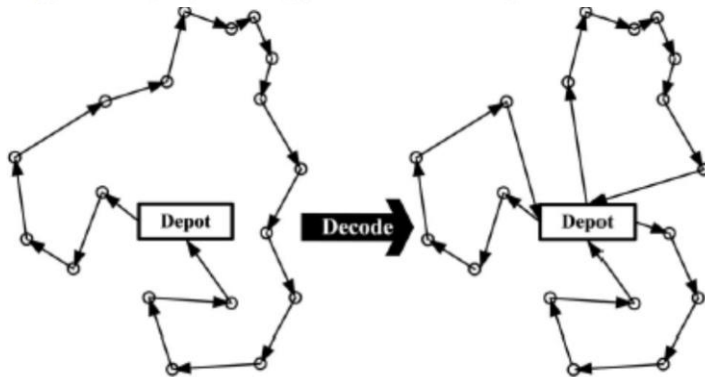
❑ A crucial issue in transportation and logistics systems

❑ NP-hard



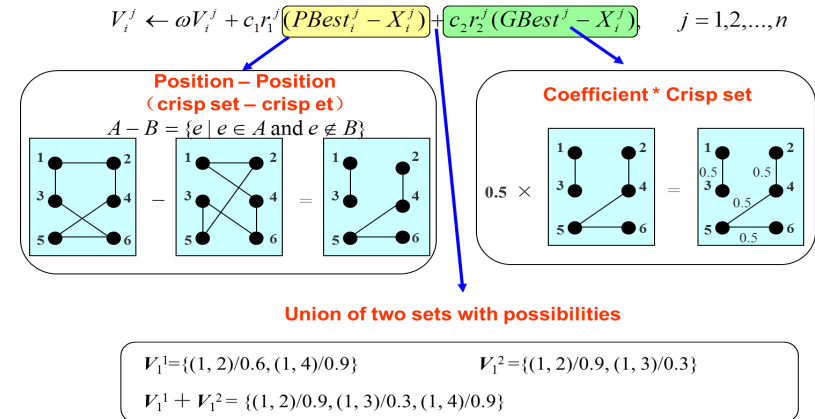
Probability-based EC for Vehicle Routing

$$X_i^d = [\langle nb_1, d \rangle, \langle d, nb_2 \rangle], nb_1, nb_2 \in \{0, 1, \dots, d-1, d+1, n\}$$

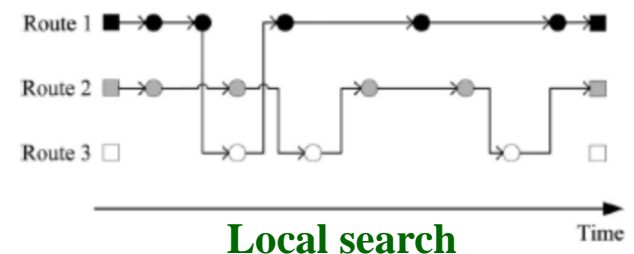
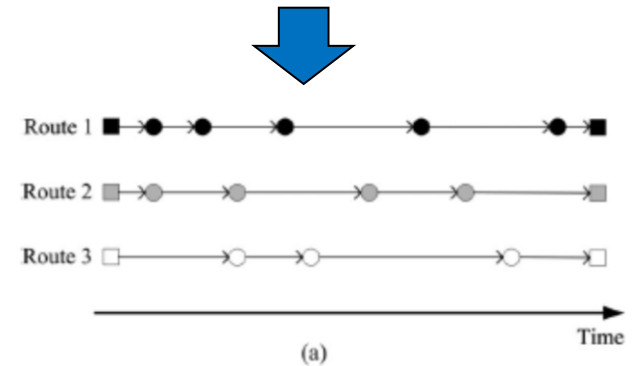


**Set-based Representation
with a decoding scheme**

- Provide new best-known results on 60+ benchmark instances



Set-based comprehensive learning PSO



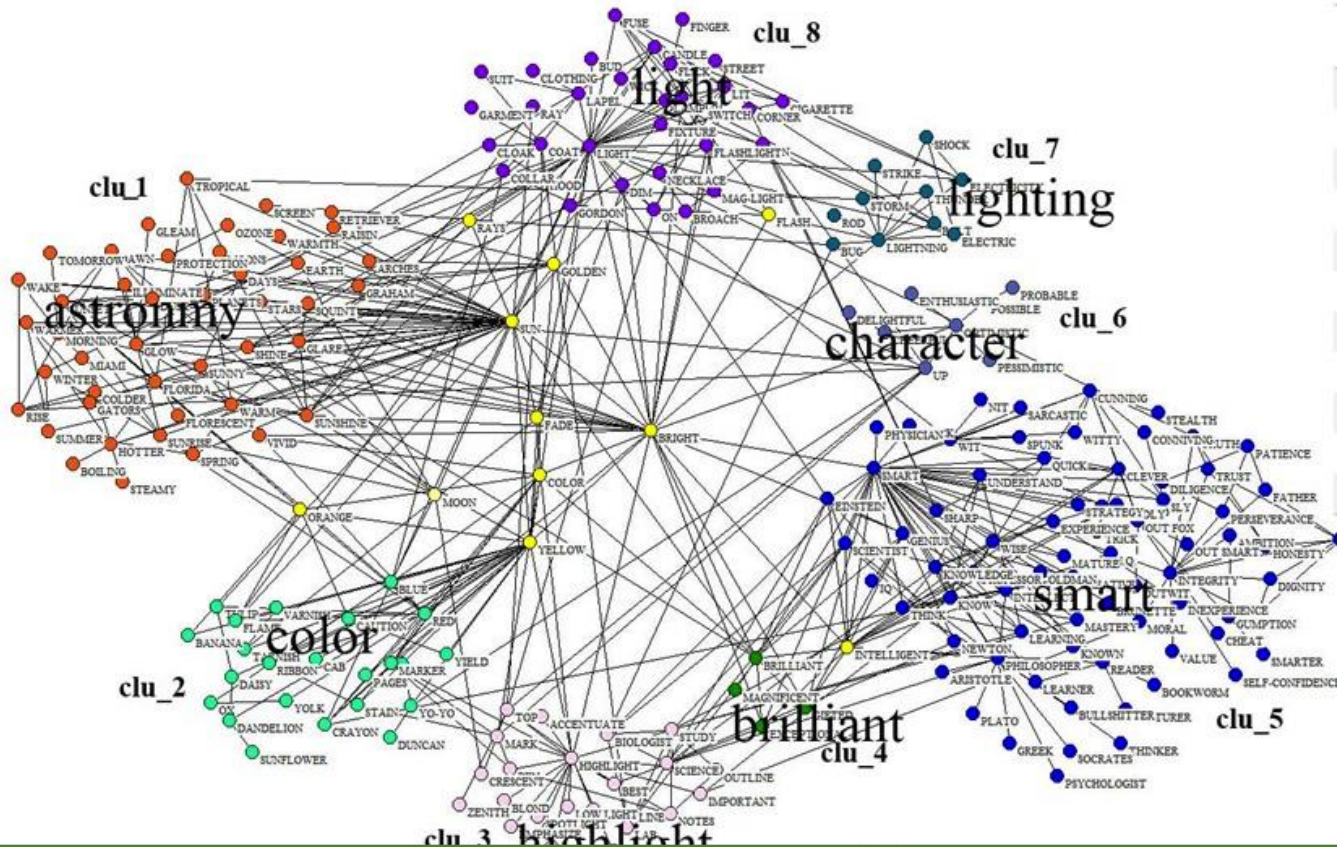
Historical data

- “A Dynamic Logistic Dispatching System With Set-Based Particle Swarm Optimization”, ***IEEE TSMC-Systems***, in press, 2017



Application 3: Community Detection

❑ Detection of Overlapping Social Network Communities



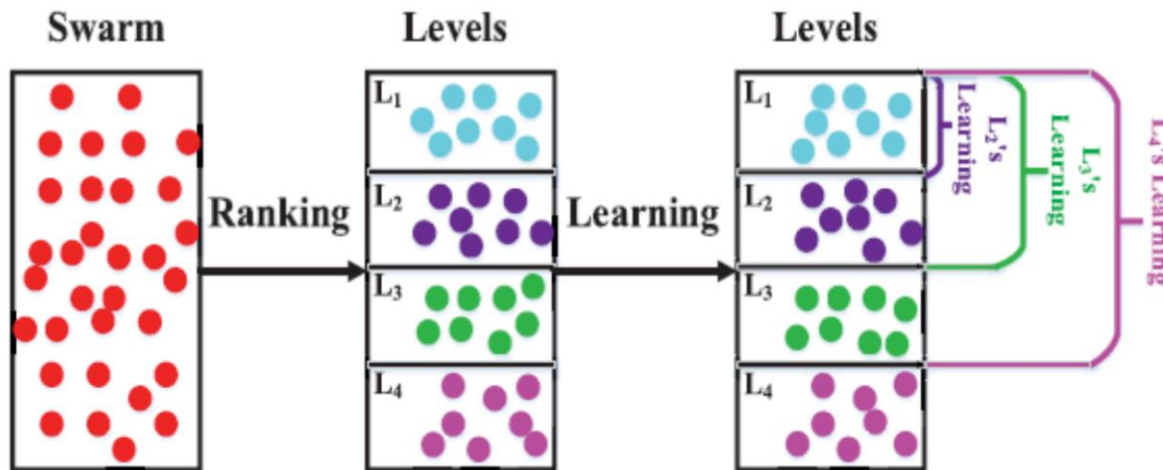
“A Maximal Clique Based Multiobjective Evolutionary Algorithm for Overlapping Community Detection”, *IEEE Transactions on Evolutionary Computation*, 2017

Potential Future Work

❑ Large-scale and high-dimensional problems

- **Cooperatively Coevolution** (Li and Yao, 2013 etc., ...)
- **Competitive Swarm Optimizer** (Cheng & Jin, 2015)

Level-based Learning / Segment-Based Predominant Learning Optimizer



Exploration:

- A lot of exemplars

Exploitation:

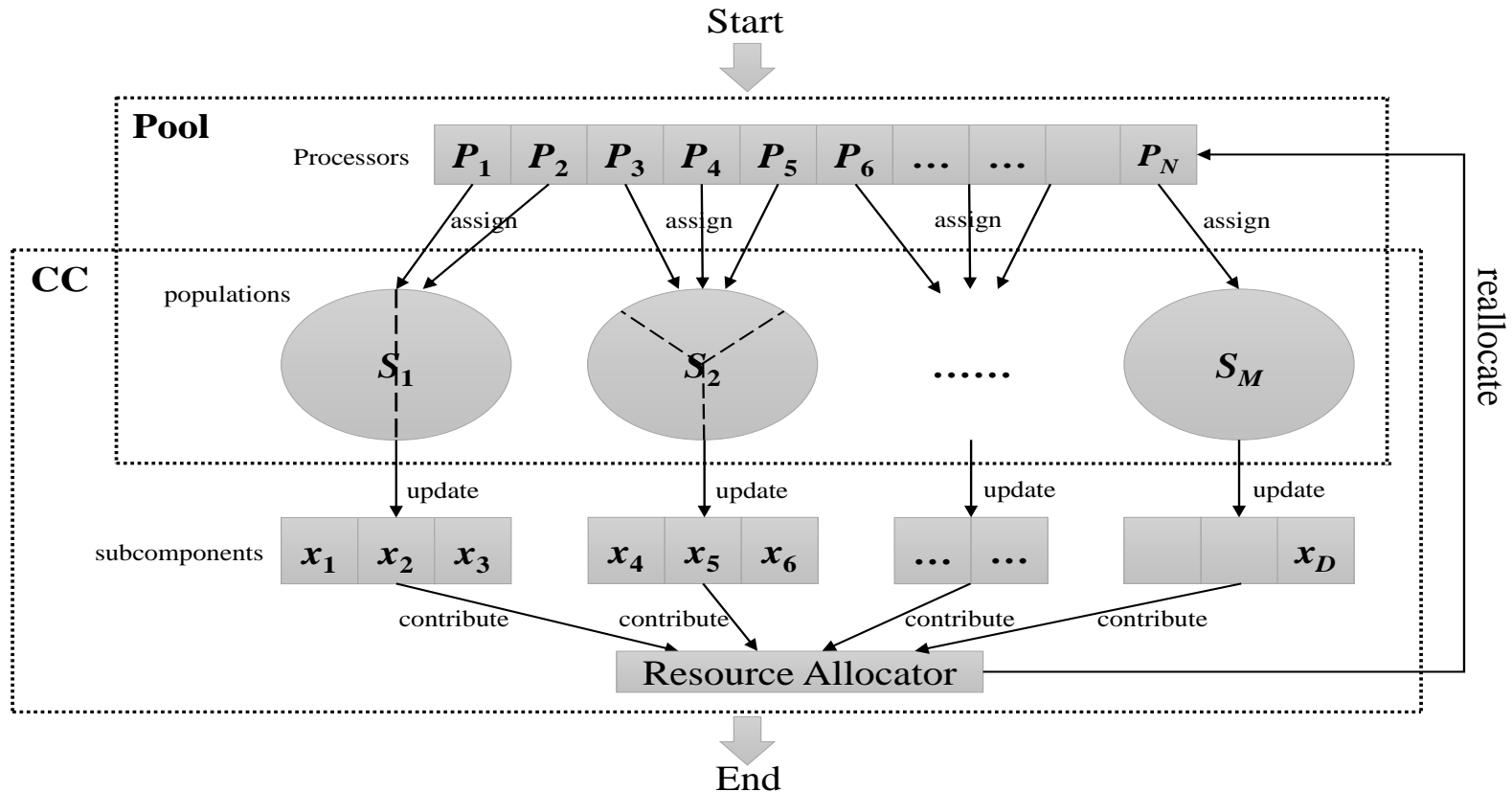
- Predominant exemplars
- Short distances between learners and exemplars

“A Level-based Learning Swarm Optimizer for Large Scale Optimization”, *IEEE Transactions on Evolutionary Computation*, in press

“Segment-Based Predominant Learning Swarm Optimizer for Large-Scale Optimization,” *IEEE Transactions on Cybernetics*, vol. 47, no. 9, pp. 2896-2910, 2017

Potential Future Work

❑ Distributed Design & Implementation



“Distributed Cooperative Co-evolution with Adaptive Computing Resource Allocation for Large Scale Optimization”, *IEEE Transactions on Evolutionary Computation*, in press

Conclusions



- ❑ **Probability distribution based EC algorithms are good at preserving search diversity**
- ❑ **Probability distribution is also helpful to extend applicable domain of EC algorithms**
- ❑ **Potential future studies**
 - **Large-scale optimization**
 - **Cooperatively coevolution**
 - **Parallel & distributed design & implementation**
 - **Optimization under uncertainty**
 - **Real world applications**



**Thanks for your
attention!**