

# Exploiting structures in multiobjective simulation optimization problems

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SIAM OP 23

# Outlines

Intro, ParMOO, and Problem Types

Early Results

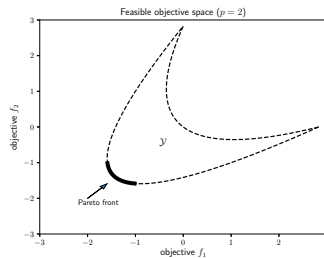
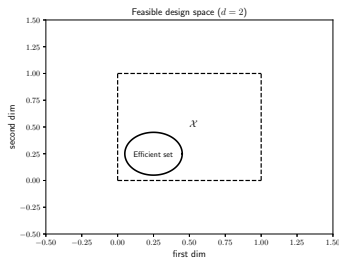
# Multiojective Optimization Problems

$$\min_{x \in \mathcal{X}} F(x)$$



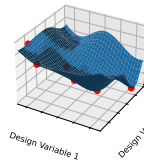
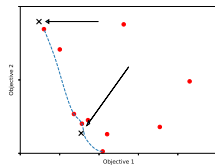
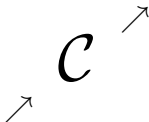
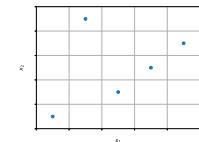
$$F : \mathcal{X} \rightarrow \mathcal{Y}$$

expensive  
blackbox process

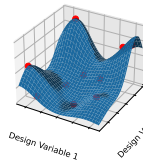


# Multiobjective Response Surface Methodology

or Model-Based Optimization or Active Learning



Simulation 1 output



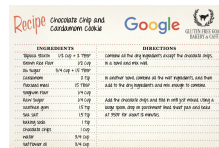
Simulation 2 output

**Challenge 1:**  
**Mixed vars & problem types**  
**+**  
**Unusual computing environments**

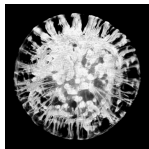
# Commercial solutions



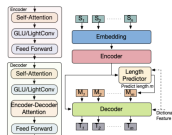
*"Using Bayesian optimization for balancing metrics in recommendation systems" by Yunbao Ouyang et al. on LinkedIn Engineering Blog.*



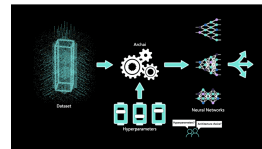
*"The makings of a smart cookie" by Daniel Golovin on Google Research Blog.*



*"Accelerating molecular optimization with AI" by Payel Das et al. on IBM Research Blog.*



*"Optimizing model accuracy and latency using Bayesian multi-objective NAS" by David Eriksson et al. on Meta AI Research Blog.*



*"Archai can design your neural network with state-of-the-art NAS" by Shital Shah et al. on Microsoft Research Blog.*

# Commercial solvers

## General purpose: (solver + backend)

Google – OSS Vizier + Pythia backend

[5] Song et al. OSS Vizier: distributed infrastructure and API for reliable and flexible black-box optimization. In Proc. 2022 AutoML-Conf.

Meta – BoTorch + Ax backend

[6] Balandat et al. BoTorch: a framework for efficient monte-carlo Bayesian optimization. In NeurIPS 2020.

## Special purpose: (solver + special purpose deployment)

IBM – Query-based Molecular Optimization (QMO)

[7] Hoffman et al. Optimizing molecules using efficient queries from property evaluations. Nature Machine Intelligence 4:21–31 (2022).

Microsoft – Archai for NAS

[8] Shah et al. Archai: platform for neural architecture search. Microsoft Research (Jul, 2022).

# **Challenge 2:**

## **SOA blackbox optimization**

**+**

## **Exploiting problem structure**



# SOA in blackbox optimization



*"Optimization and root finding (scipy.optimize)" in SciPy v1.10.0 [9].*



*Stochastic dimension reduction explained in this context by Stefan [10].*



*SOS structure can be exploited by DFO solver POUNDERS in TAO [11].*

[9] Virtanen et al. *SciPy 1.0: fundamental algorithms for scientific computing in Python*. *Nature Methods* 17:261–272 (2020).

[10] Wild. *Optimization and learning with zeroth-order stochastic oracles*. *SIAM News* 56(1):1,3 (2023).

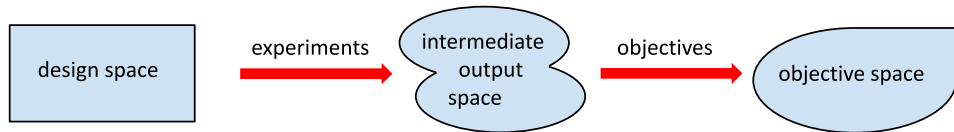
[11] Wild. *Solving derivative-free nonlinear least squares problems with POUNDERS*. In *Advances and Trends in Optimization with Engineering Applications* (2017).

## Design goals:

1. Highly customizable framework for multiobjective RSM
2. Flexible problem types (mixed-variables, constraints, etc.)
3. Easy to use, deploy, and extend (unforeseen use-cases and environments)
4. Solve large-scale problems + exploit structure and domain knowledge

[12] Chang and Wild. *Designing a framework for solving multiobjective simulation optimization problems*. ArXiv preprint 2304.06881 (2023).

# Problem structures



**Sum-of-squares structure:**

$$h_i(x, S(x)) = \sum_{j \in N_i} (S_j(x))^2$$

where each  $N_1, \dots, N_o$  is an index set.

Increases order of approximation  $\Rightarrow$   
increases order of convergence

**Heterogeneous MOOPs:**

$$\begin{aligned} h_1(x, S(x)) &= S_1(x) \\ h_2(x, S(x)) &= \|x\|^2 \end{aligned}$$

Use expensive surrogate models for  $h_1$  (i.e.,  $S_1$ ) but not for  $h_2$

## Sample code

```
from parmoo import MOOP
from parmoo.optimizers import LocalGPS as gps
from parmoo.searches import LatinHypercube as lhs
from parmoo.surrogates import GaussRBF as rbf
from parmoo.acquisitions import UniformWeights as wsum
# Create MOOP object with GPS optimizer
moop = MOOP(gps)
# Add a continuous + categorical design variable
moop.addDesign({'name': "x1", 'lb': 0.0, 'ub': 1.0})
moop.addDesign({'name': "x2", 'des_type': "cat", 'levels': 3})
# Define and add a simulation function (with surrogates and search)
def s(x): return [(x["x1"]-.2)**2, (x["x1"]-.8)**2] if x["x2"]==0 else [9,9]
moop.addSimulation({'name': "sim", 'm': 2, 'sim_func': s,
                   'search': lhs, 'surrogate': rbf})
# Add 2 objectives
moop.addObjective({'name': "f1", 'obj_func': lambda x, s: s["sim"][0]})
moop.addObjective({'name': "f2", 'obj_func': lambda x, s: s["sim"][1]})
# Add 3 weighted-sum acquisition functions
for i in range(3):
    moop.addAcquisition({'acquisition': wsum})
# Solve with 5 iterations and fetch numpy struct of solutions
moop.solve(5)
results = moop.getPF()
```

# ParMOO Release



Written in Python

Version 0.2.0 is now available on available on pip,  
conda-forge, and GitHub

<https://github.com/parmoo/parmoo>

<https://parmoo.readthedocs.io>



## Example 1: Fayans EDF Model Calibration

Find params  $x \in [0, 1]^{13}$  to fit the Fayans model to data  $d_i$ :

$$M(\xi_i; x) \approx d_i \quad i = 1, \dots, 198$$

ParMOO simulation:

$$S_i(x) = M(\xi_i; x) - d_i, \quad i = 1, \dots, 198;$$

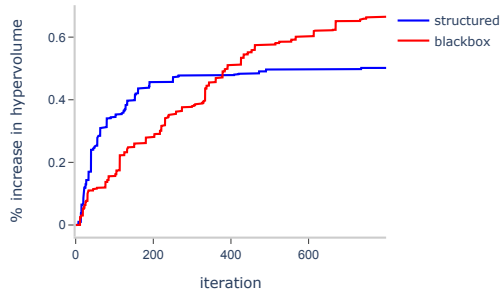
Min SOS across 3 observable classes

$$F_t = \sum_{i=1}^{m_t} (S_{t,i}(x))^2$$

[16] Bollapragada et al. Optimization and supervised machine learning methods for fitting numerical physics models without derivatives. *Journal of Physics G* 48(2):024001 (2020).

# Fayans Solution with ParMOO

- ▶ Approximated Fayans model using inv dist weighting on existing dataset
- ▶ Implemented parallel solver in ParMOO using libEnsemble
- ▶ Just **14-25 lines of Python code**
- ▶ Ran for **10K** sim evals
- ▶ Compared against **same solver w/o exploiting SOS structure**
- ▶ Structure-exploiting is better at small budgets, blackbox can be better at large budgets



## Example 2: Material Manufacturing with ParMOO

Choose optimal settings for material manufacturing in a continuous flow reactor (CFR)

We know how to make a desired material, need to produce at scale:

1. **Maximize the product** (battery electrolyte: TFML)
2. Can increase temperature to **reduce reaction time**
3. Too much heat activates a side reaction; need to **minimize unwanted byproduct**

Challenges:

- ▶ Mixed variable types
- ▶ Heterogeneous objectives
- ▶ Must send experiments to run on CFR



# CFR Optimization with ParMOO

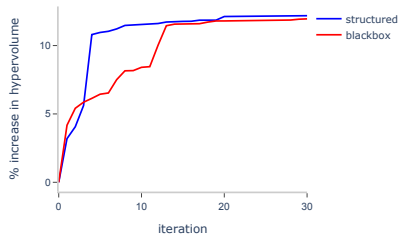
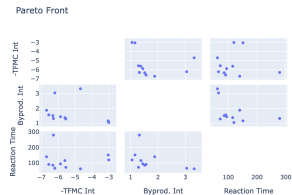
Extend MOOP class to send/receive experiment data using MDML library (Apache Kafka)

Used categorical variable embeddings

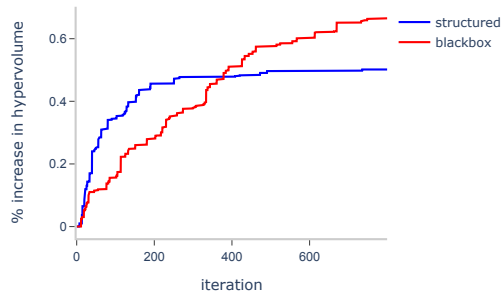
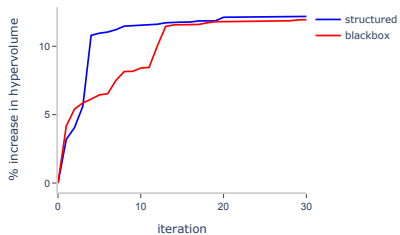
Modeled Product/Byproduct as simulations and reaction time using algebraic equation of input



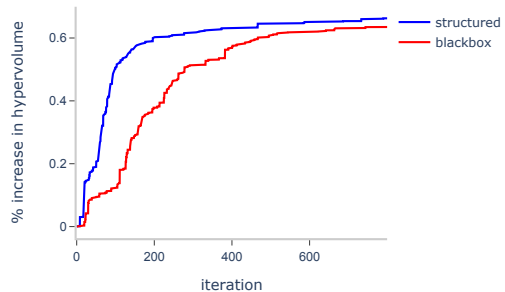
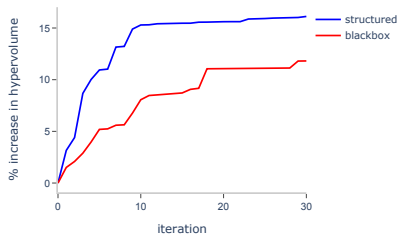
[17] Chang et al. A framework for fully autonomous design of materials via multiobjective optimization and active learning: challenges and next steps. In ICLR 2023, Workshop on ML4Materials.



## Two different problems, same issue...



# Solution



# References

- [5] Song et al. *OSS Vizier: distributed infrastructure and API for reliable and flexible black-box optimization*. In *Proc. 2022 AutoML-Conf*.
- [6] Balandat et al. *BoTorch: a framework for efficient monte-carlo Bayesian optimization*. In *NeurIPS 2020*.
- [7] Hoffman et al. *Optimizing molecules using efficient queries from property evaluations*. *Nature Machine Intelligence* 4:21–31 (2022).
- [8] Shah et al. *Archai: platform for neural architecture search*. *Microsoft Research* (Jul, 2022).
- [9] Virtanen et al. *SciPy 1.0: fundamental algorithms for scientific computing in Python*. *Nature Methods* 17:261–272 (2020).
- [10] Wild. *Optimization and learning with zeroth-order stochastic oracles*. *SIAM News* 56(1):1,3 (2023).
- [11] Wild. *Solving derivative-free nonlinear least squares problems with POUNDERS*. In *Advances and Trends in Optimization with Engineering Applications* (2017).
- [12] Chang and Wild. *Designing a framework for solving multiobjective simulation optimization problems*. *ArXiv preprint 2304.06881* (2023).
- [15] Chang and Wild. *ParMOO: A Python library for parallel multiobjective simulation optimization*. *JOSS* 8(82):4468 (2023).
- [16] Bollapragada et al. *Optimization and supervised machine learning methods for fitting numerical physics models without derivatives*. *Journal of Physics G* 48(2):024001 (2020).
- [17] Chang et al. *A framework for fully autonomous design of materials via multiobjective optimization and active learning: challenges and next steps*. In *ICLR 2023 Workshop on ML4Materials*.

## Resources

GitHub: `github.com/parmoo/parmoo`

Docs: `parmoo.readthedocs.io`

PyPI: `pip install parmoo`

Conda: `conda install --channel=conda-forge parmoo`

E-mail: `tchang@anl.gov`

E-mail: `parmoo@mcs.anl.gov`

*Chang and Wild. JOSS 8(82):4468 (2023)*

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