

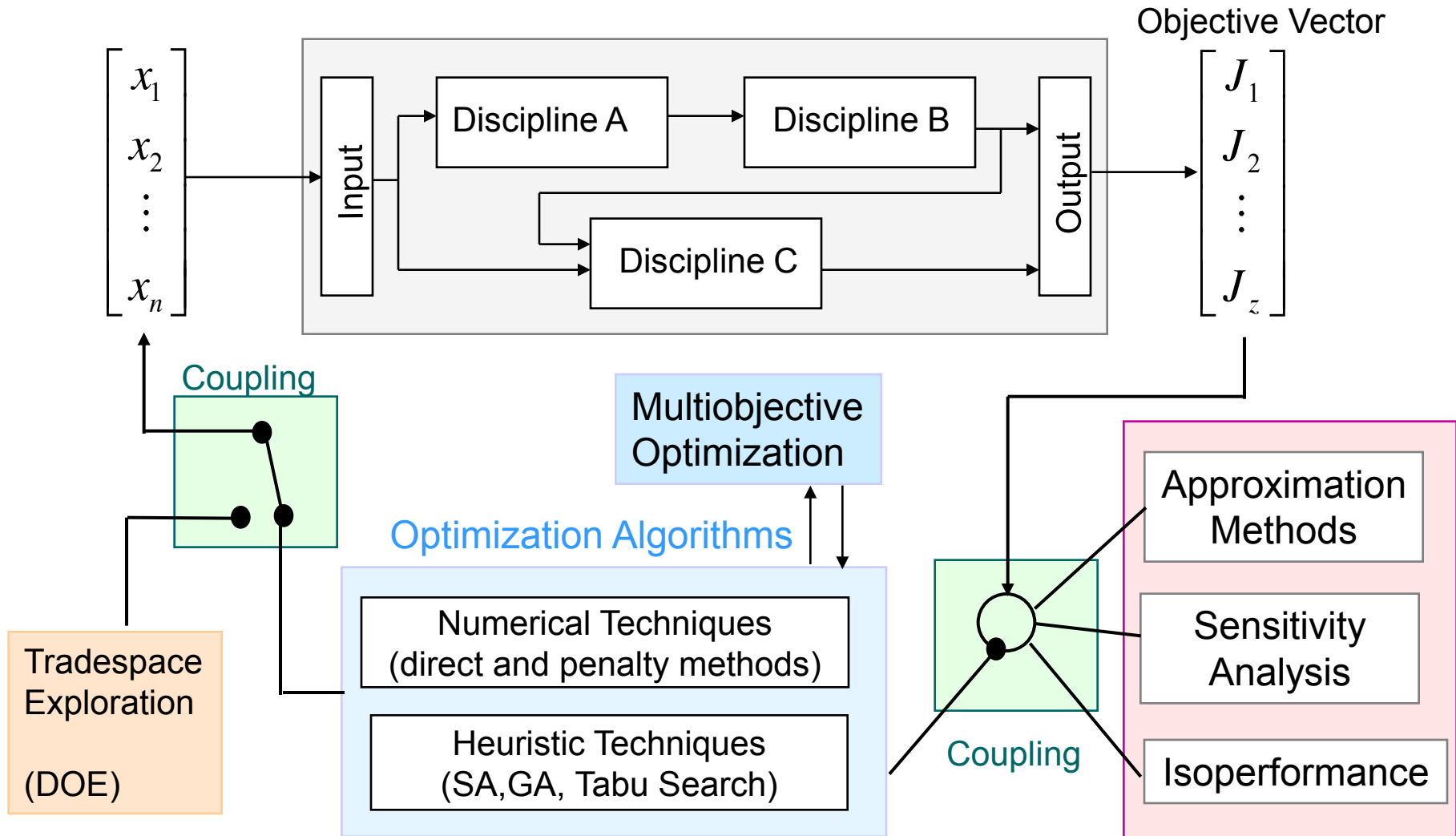
# Multidisciplinary System Design Optimization (MSDO)

## Multiobjective Optimization (I)

### Lecture 14

by

Dr. Anas Alfaris



- Why multiobjective optimization?
- Example – twin peaks optimization
- History of multiobjective optimization
- Weighted Sum Approach
- Pareto-Optimality
- Dominance and Pareto Filtering

Design problem may be formulated as a problem of Nonlinear Programming (NLP). When Multiple objectives (criteria) are present we have a MONLP

$$\min \mathbf{J}(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{p})$$

$$\text{s.t. } \mathbf{g}(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{p}) \leq 0$$

$$\mathbf{h}(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{p}) = 0$$

$$x_{i, LB} \leq x_i \leq x_{i, UB} \quad (i = 1, \dots, n)$$

$$\text{where } \mathbf{J} = \begin{bmatrix} J_1(\mathbf{x}) & \dots & J_z(\mathbf{x}) \end{bmatrix}^T$$

$$\mathbf{x} = \begin{bmatrix} x_1 & \dots & x_i & \dots & x_n \end{bmatrix}^T$$

$$\mathbf{g} = \begin{bmatrix} g_1(\mathbf{x}) & \dots & g_{m_1}(\mathbf{x}) \end{bmatrix}^T$$

$$\mathbf{h} = \begin{bmatrix} h_1(\mathbf{x}) & \dots & h_{m_2}(\mathbf{x}) \end{bmatrix}^T$$

The objective can be a vector **J** of  $z$  system responses or characteristics we are trying to maximize or minimize

$$\mathbf{J} = \begin{bmatrix} J_1 \\ J_2 \\ J_3 \\ J_i \\ \vdots \\ J_z \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} \text{cost } [\$] \\ \text{- range [km]} \\ \text{weight [kg]} \\ \text{- data rate [bps]} \\ \vdots \\ \text{- ROI } [\%] \end{bmatrix}$$

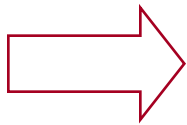
Often the objective is a scalar function, but for real systems often we attempt multi-objective optimization:

$$\mathbf{x} \mapsto \mathbf{J}(\mathbf{x})$$

Objectives are usually conflicting.

While multidisciplinary design can be associated with the traditional disciplines such as aerodynamics, propulsion, structures, and controls there are also the lifecycle areas of manufacturability, supportability, and cost which require consideration.

After all, it is the balanced design with **equal or weighted treatment** of performance, cost, manufacturability and supportability which has to be the ultimate goal of multidisciplinary system design optimization.



**Design attempts to satisfy multiple, possibly conflicting objectives at once.**

## Design Decisions

Aspect Ratio  
Dihedral Angle  
Vertical Tail Area  
Engine Thrust  
Skin Thickness

# of Engines  
Fuselage Splices  
Suspension Points  
Location of Mission  
Computer  
Access Door  
Locations

## Example: F/A-18 Aircraft

## Objectives

Speed  
Range  
Payload Capability  
Radar Cross Section  
Stall Speed  
Stowed Volume

Acquisition cost  
Cost/Flight hour  
MTBF  
Engine swap time  
Assembly hours

Avionics growth  
Potential

Design  
Optimization

### Aircraft Design

max {range}  
max {passenger volume}  
max {payload mass}  
min {specific fuel consumption}  
max {cruise speed}  
min {lifecycle cost}

$$\mathbf{J} = \begin{bmatrix} J_1 \\ J_2 \\ \vdots \\ J_z \end{bmatrix}$$

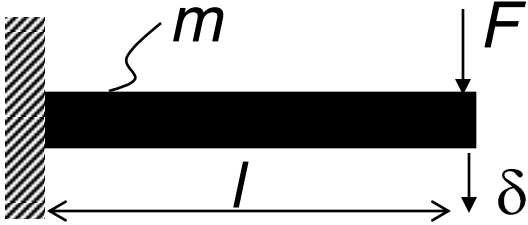
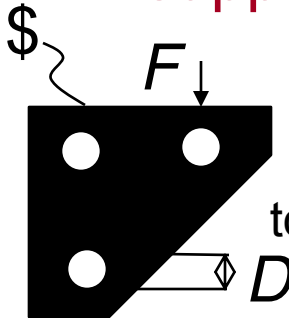
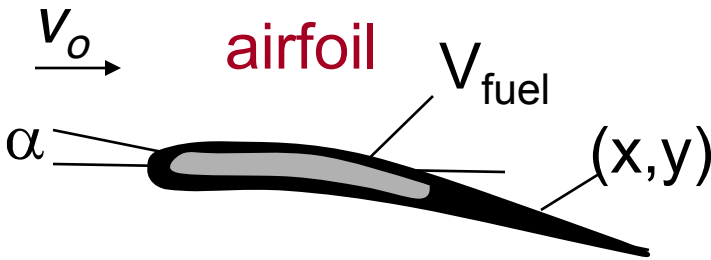
Operations  
Research

### Production Planning

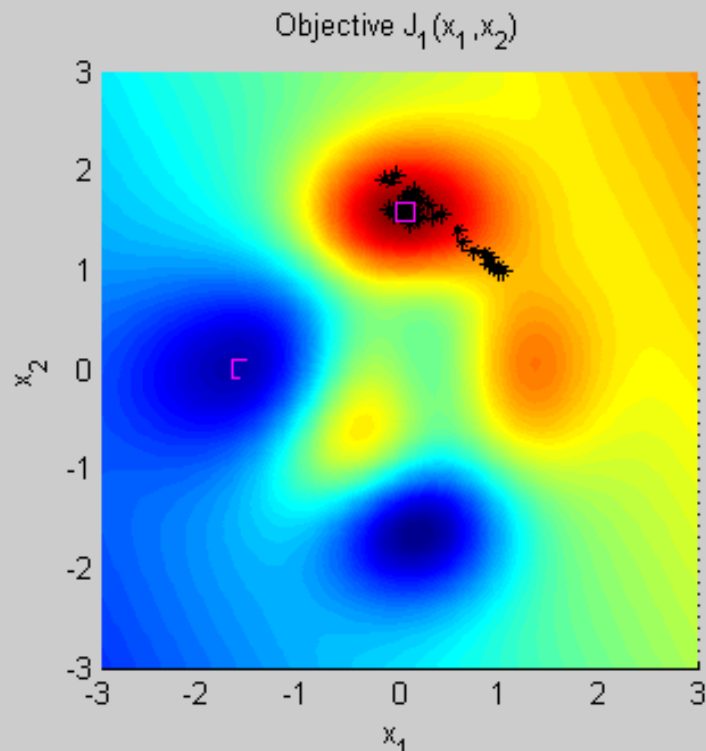
max {total net revenue}  
max {min net revenue in any time period}  
min {backorders}  
min {overtime}  
min {finished goods inventory}



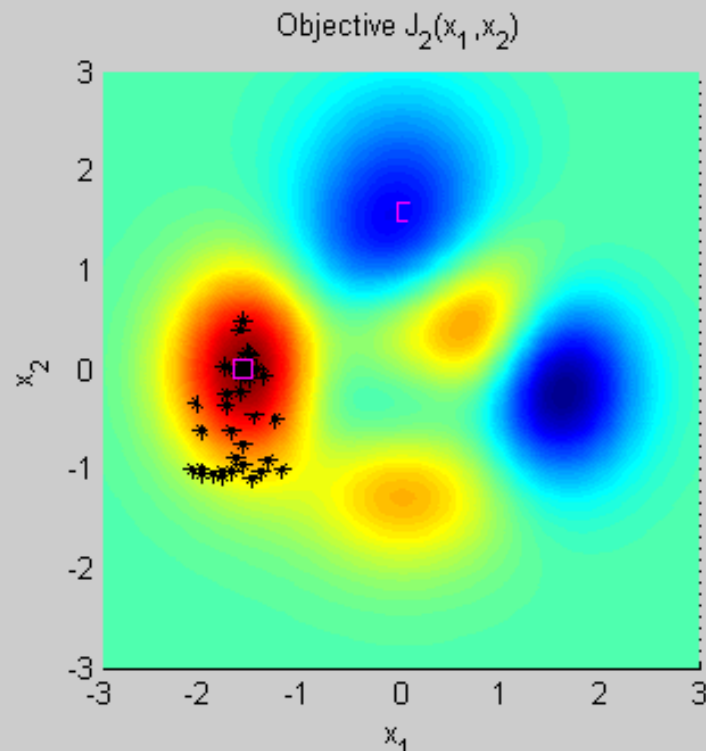
- Multiobjective Optimization
  - Optimizing conflicting objectives
  - e.g., Cost, Mass, Deformation
  - Issues: Form Objective Function that represents designer preference! Methods used to date are largely primitive.
- Multidisciplinary Design Optimization
  - Optimization involves several disciplines
  - e.g. Structures, Control, Aero, Manufacturing
  - Issues: Human and computational infrastructure, cultural, administrative, communication, software, computing time, methods
- All optimization is (or should be) multiobjective
  - Minimizing mass alone, as is often done, is problematic

single objective	single discipline	multiple disciplines
	<p><b>cantilever beam</b></p>  <p>Minimize displacement s.t. mass and loading constraint</p>	<p><b>support bracket</b></p>  <p>Minimize stamping costs (mfg) subject to loading and geometry constraint</p>
multiple obj.	single discipline	multiple disciplines
	<p><b>airfoil</b></p>  <p>Maximize <math>C_L/C_D</math> <u>and</u> maximize wing fuel volume for specified <math>\alpha</math>, <math>v_o</math></p>	<p><b>commercial aircraft</b></p> <p>Minimize SFC <u>and</u> maximize cruise speed s.t. fixed range and payload</p>

Objective:  $\max \mathbf{J} = [J_1 \ J_2]^T$  (demo)



$$J_1 = 3 - x_1^2 e^{-x_1^2 - (x_2+1)^2} - 10 \left( \frac{x_1}{5} - x_1^3 - x_2^5 \right) e^{-x_1^2 - x_2^2} - 3e^{-(x_1+2)^2 - x_2^2} + 0.5 (2x_1 + x_2)$$



$$J_2 = 3 + x_2^2 e^{x_2^2 - (x_1+1)^2} - 10 \left( -\frac{x_2}{5} + x_2^3 - x_1^5 \right) e^{x_2^2 - x_1^2} - 3e^{-(2-x_2)^2 - x_1^2}$$

Optimum for  $J_1$  alone:

$$\mathbf{x}^{1*} = \begin{Bmatrix} 0.0532 \\ 1.5973 \end{Bmatrix}$$

$$J_1^* = 8.9280$$

$$J_2(\mathbf{x}^{1*}) = -4.8202$$

Optimum for  $J_2$  alone:

$$\mathbf{x}^{2*} = \begin{Bmatrix} -1.5808 \\ 0.0095 \end{Bmatrix}$$

$$J_1(\mathbf{x}^{2*}) = -6.4858$$

$$J_2^* = 8.1118$$

Each point  $\mathbf{x}^{1*}$  and  $\mathbf{x}^{2*}$  optimizes objectives  $J_1$  and  $J_2$  individually. Unfortunately, at these points the other objective exhibits a low objective function value. There is no single point that simultaneously optimizes both objectives  $J_1$  and  $J_2$  !

- Want to do well with respect to both  $J_1$  and  $J_2$
- Define new objective function:  $J_{tot} = J_1 + J_2$
- Optimize  $J_{tot}$

Result:

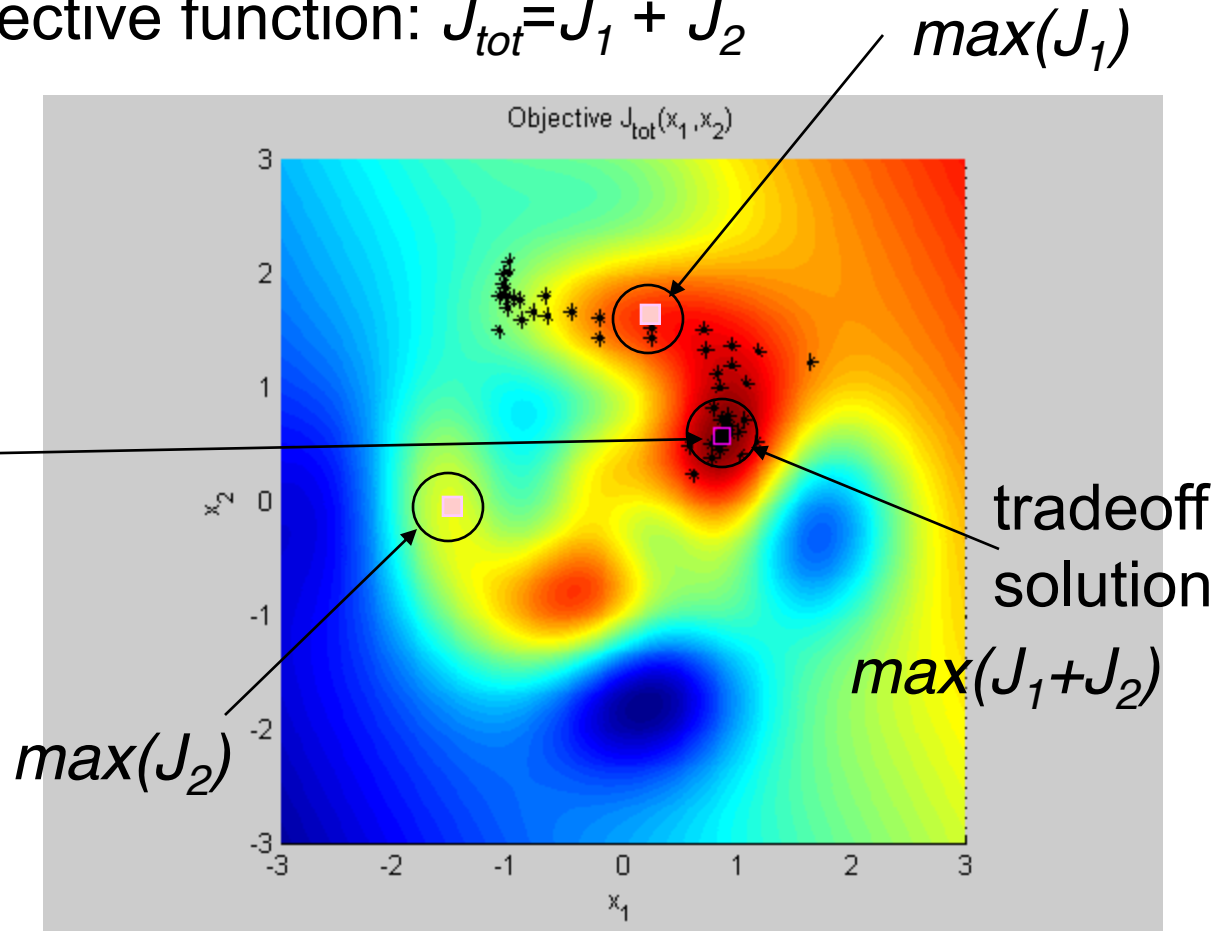
$$\mathbf{x}^{tot*} =$$

$$\begin{Bmatrix} 0.8731 \\ 0.5664 \end{Bmatrix}$$

$$J_{tot}^* = 6.1439$$

$$\mathbf{J}(\mathbf{x}^{tot*}) =$$

$$\begin{Bmatrix} 3.0173 \\ 3.1267 \end{Bmatrix} = \begin{Bmatrix} J_1 \\ J_2 \end{Bmatrix}$$



- Life is about making decisions. Most people attempt to make the “best” decision within a specified set of possible decisions.
- In 1881, King’s College (London) and later Oxford Economics Professor **F.Y. Edgeworth** is the first to define an optimum for multicriteria economic decision making. He does so for the multiutility problem within the context of two consumers,  $P$  and  $\pi$ :
  - *“It is required to find a point  $(x,y)$  such that in whatever direction we take an infinitely small step,  $P$  and  $\pi$  do not increase together but that, while one increases, the other decreases.”*
  - **Reference:** Edgeworth, F.Y., *Mathematical Psychics*, P. Keagan, London, England, 1881.

- **Born in Paris in 1848** to a French Mother and Genovese Father
- Graduates from the **University of Turin** in 1870 with a degree in **Civil Engineering**
  - Thesis Title: “The Fundamental Principles of **Equilibrium** in Solid Bodies”
- While working in Florence as a Civil Engineer from 1870-1893, Pareto takes up the study of philosophy and politics and is one of the **first to analyze economic problems with mathematical tools**.
- In 1893, Pareto becomes the Chair of Political Economy at the **University of Lausanne in Switzerland**, where he creates his two most famous theories:
  - Circulation of the Elites
  - **The Pareto Optimum**
    - ***“The optimum allocation of the resources of a society is not attained so long as it is possible to make at least one individual better off in his own estimation while keeping others as well off as before in their own estimation.”***
    - **Reference:** Pareto, V., *Manuale di Economia Politica*, Societa Editrice Libreria, Milano, Italy, 1906. Translated into English by A.S. Schwier as *Manual of Political Economy*, Macmillan, New York, 1971.

- After the translation of Pareto's *Manual of Political Economy* into English, **Prof. Wolfram Stadler** of San Francisco State University begins to apply the notion of Pareto Optimality to the fields of engineering and science in the **middle 1970's**.
- The applications of multi-objective optimization in engineering design grew over the following decades.
- **References:**
  - Stadler, W., "A Survey of Multicriteria Optimization, or the Vector Maximum Problem," *Journal of Optimization Theory and Applications*, Vol. 29, pp. 1-52, 1979.
  - Stadler, W. "Applications of Multicriteria Optimization in Engineering and the Sciences (A Survey)," *Multiple Criteria Decision Making – Past Decade and Future Trends*, ed. M. Zeleny, JAI Press, Greenwich, Connecticut, 1984.
  - Ralph E. Steuer, "Multicriteria Optimization - Theory, Computation and Application", 1985



Traditionally - single objective constrained optimization:

$$\max \mathbf{J} = f(\mathbf{x})$$

$$s.t. \quad \mathbf{x} \in S$$

$f(\mathbf{x}) \mapsto J$  objective function

$S \mapsto$  feasible region

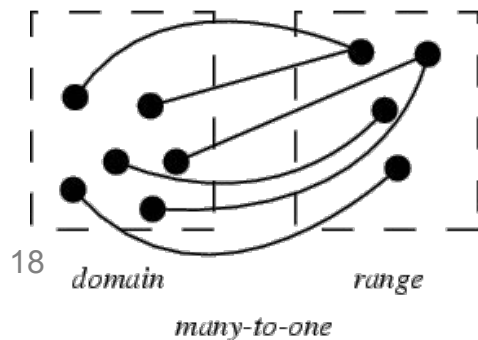
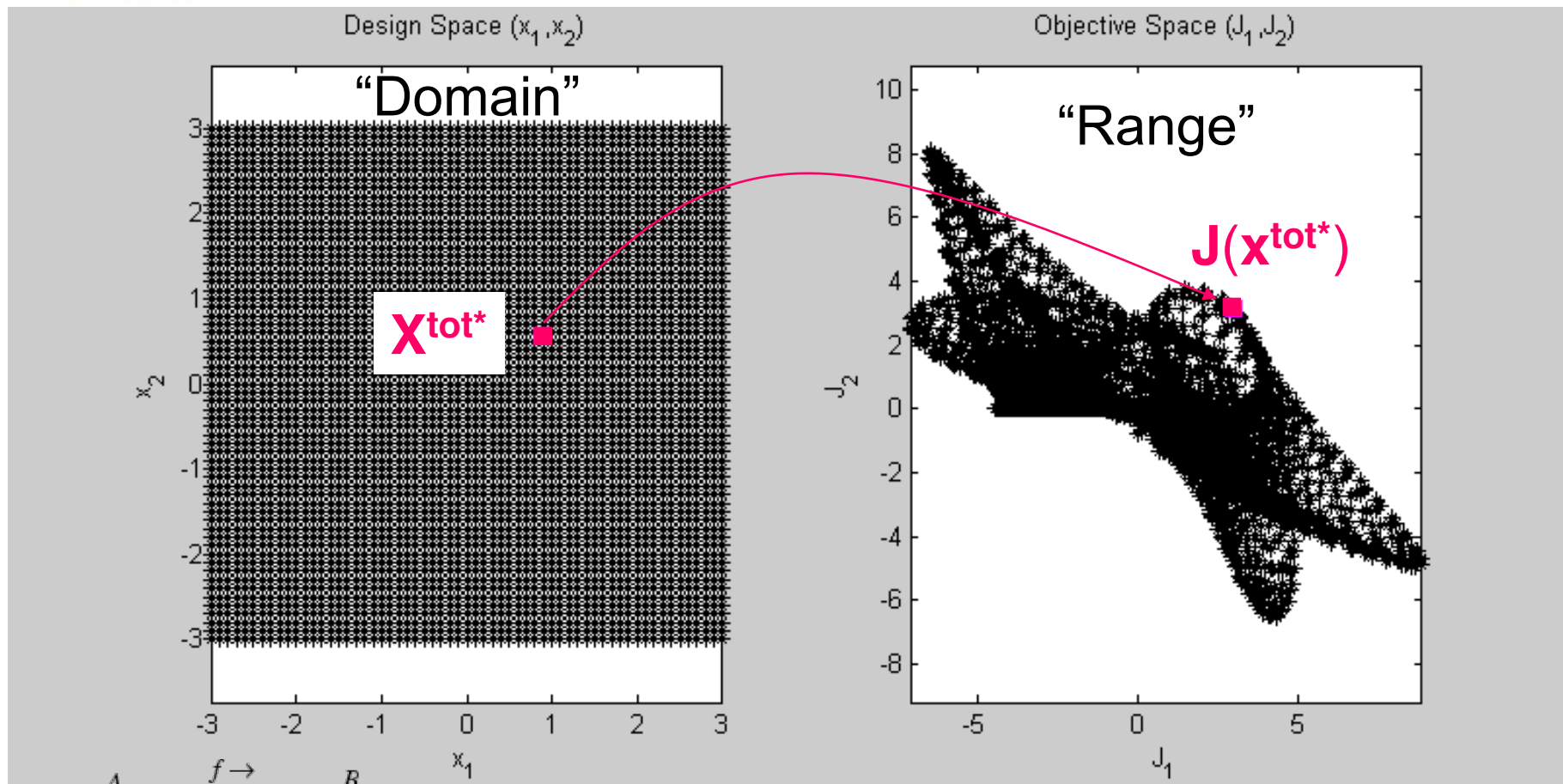
If  $f(\mathbf{x})$  linear & constraints linear & single objective = LP

If  $f(\mathbf{x})$  linear & constraints linear & multiple obj. = MOLP

If  $f(\mathbf{x})$  and/or constraints nonlinear & single obj. = NLP

If  $f(\mathbf{x})$  and/or constraints nonlinear & multiple obj. = MONLP

*Ref: Ralph E. Steuer, "Multicriteria Optimization - Theory, Computation and Application", 1985*



A function  $f$  which may (but does not necessarily) associate a given member of the range of  $f$  with more than one member of the domain of  $f$ .

## Trivial Case:

There is a point  $x^* \in S$  that simultaneously optimizes all objectives  $J_i$ , where  $1 \leq i \leq z$

Such a point almost never exists - i.e. there is no point that will simultaneously optimizes all objectives at once

## Two fundamental approaches:

### Scalarization Approaches

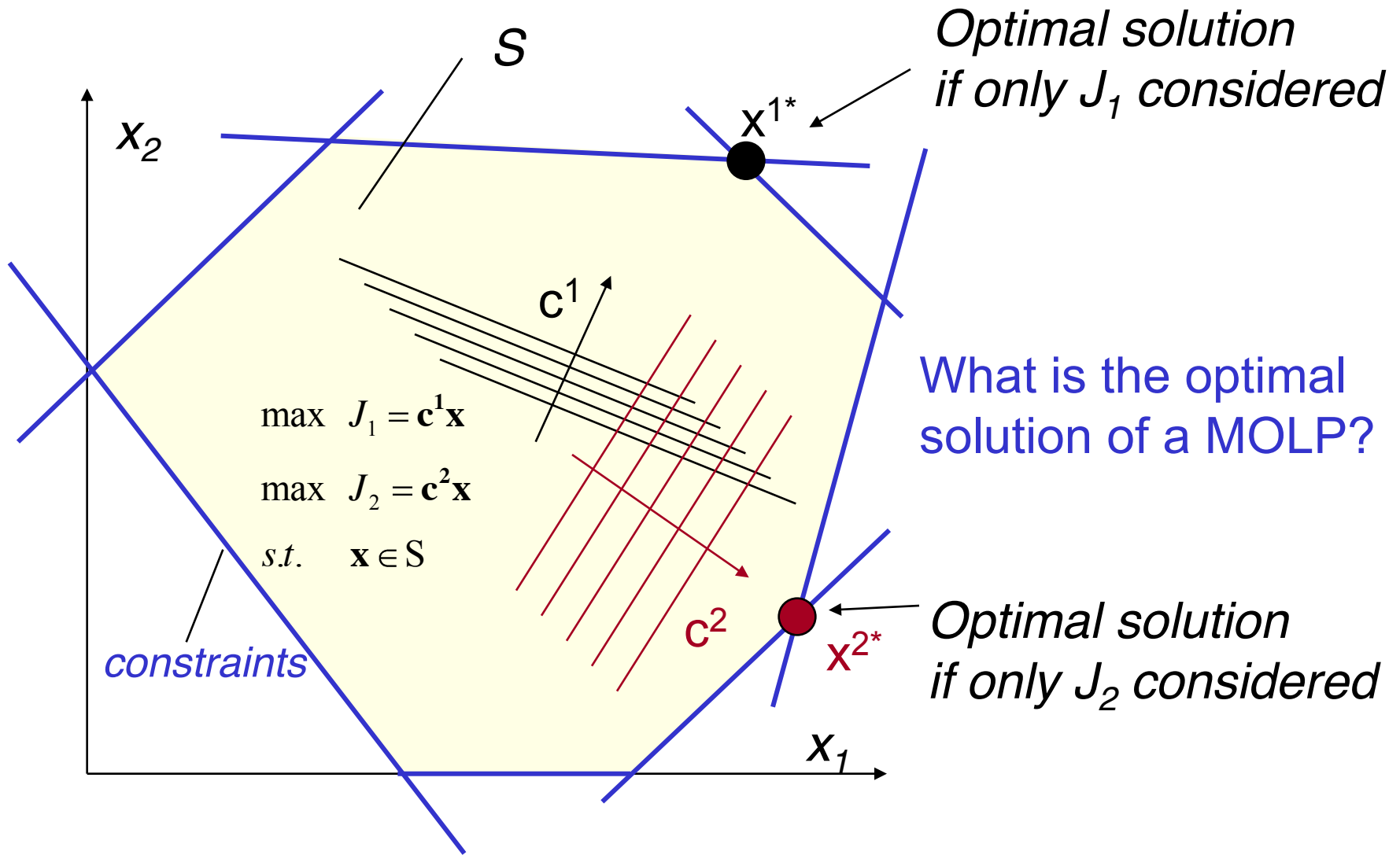
$$\begin{aligned} \max \quad & U(J_1, J_2, \dots, J_z) \\ \text{s.t.} \quad & J_i = f_i(\mathbf{x}) \quad 1 \leq i \leq z \\ & \mathbf{x} \in S \end{aligned}$$

**Preferences  
included upfront**

### Pareto Approaches

$$\begin{aligned} J_i^1 &\geq J_i^2 \quad \forall i \\ \text{and } J_i^1 &> J_i^2 \text{ for} \\ &\text{at least one } i \end{aligned}$$

**Preferences  
included a posteriori**



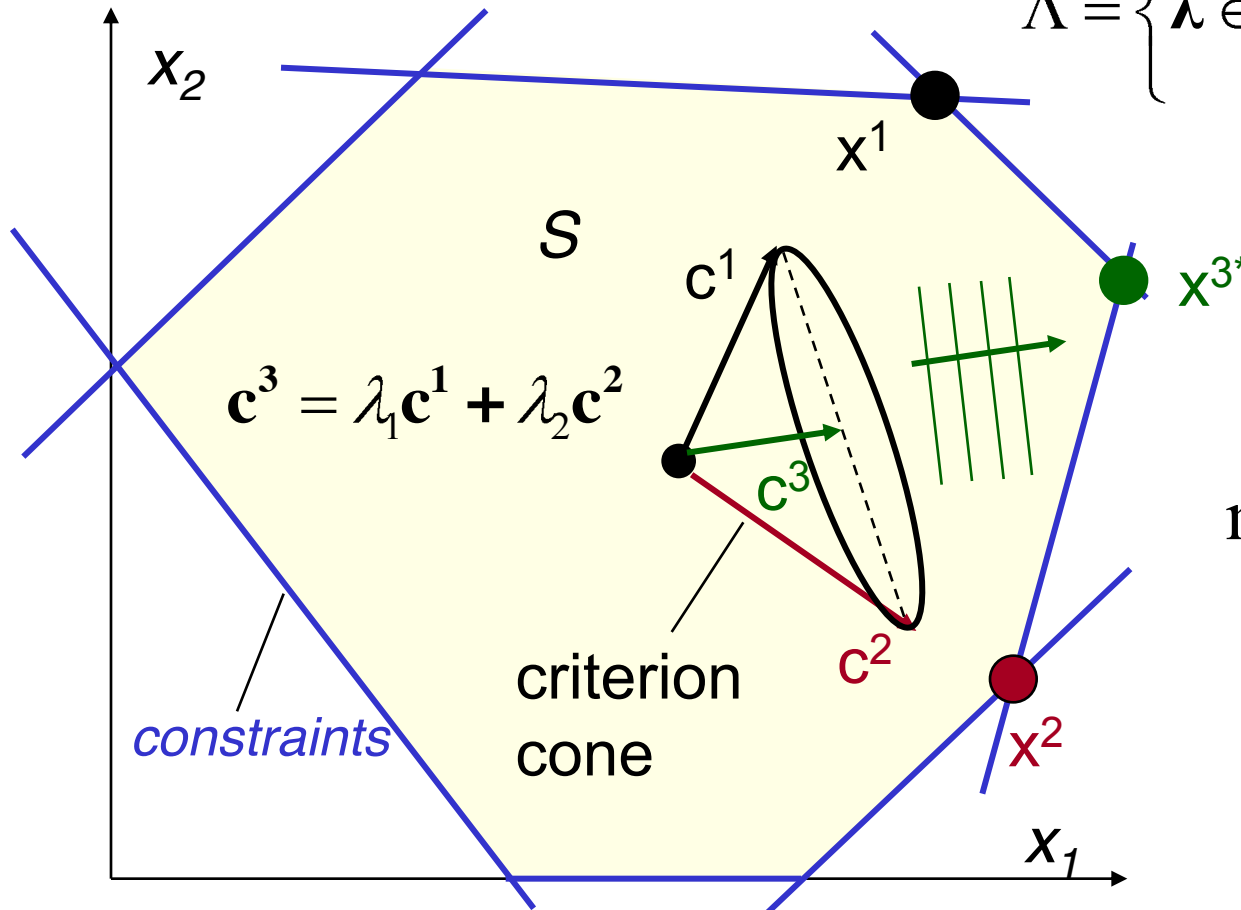
Each objective  $i$  is multiplied by a strictly positive scalar  $\lambda_i$

$$\Lambda = \left\{ \boldsymbol{\lambda} \in \mathbb{R}^z \mid \lambda_i > 0, \sum_{i=1}^k \lambda_i = 1 \right\}$$

Solve the composite or WSLP:

$$\max \lambda^T \mathbf{C} \mathbf{x} \mid \mathbf{x} \in S$$

## Strictly convex combination of objectives



*We are trying to build the “optimal” automobile*

There are six consumer groups:

- G1: “25 year old single” (Cannes, France)
- G2: “family w/3 kids” (St. Louis, MO)
- G3: “electrician/entrepreneur” (Boston, MA)
- G4: “traveling salesman” (Montana, MT)
- G5: “old lady” (Rome, Italy)
- G6: “taxi driver” (Hong Kong, China)

Objective Vector:

J1: Turning Radius [m]  
J2: Acceleration [0-60mph]  
J3: Cargo Space [m<sup>3</sup>]  
J4: Fuel Efficiency [mpg]  
J5: Styling [Rating 0-10]  
J6: Range [km]  
J7: Crash Rating [poor-excellent]  
J8: Passenger Space [m<sup>3</sup>]  
J9: Mean Time to Failure [km]

Assignment: Determine  $\lambda_i$ ,  $i=1\dots 9$

$$\sum_{i=1}^9 \lambda_i = 1000$$

- Scaling is critical in multiobjective optimization
- Scale each objective by  $sf_i$ :  $\bar{J}_i = J_i / sf_i$
- Common practice is to scale by  $sf_i = J_i^*$
- Alternatively, scale to initial guess  $\bar{\mathbf{J}}(\mathbf{x}_0) = [1 \dots 1]^T$
- Multiobjective optimization then takes place in a non-dimensional, unit-less space
- Recover original objective function values by reverse scaling

Example:

$J_1 = \text{range [sm]}$

$J_2 = \text{fuel efficiency [mpg]}$

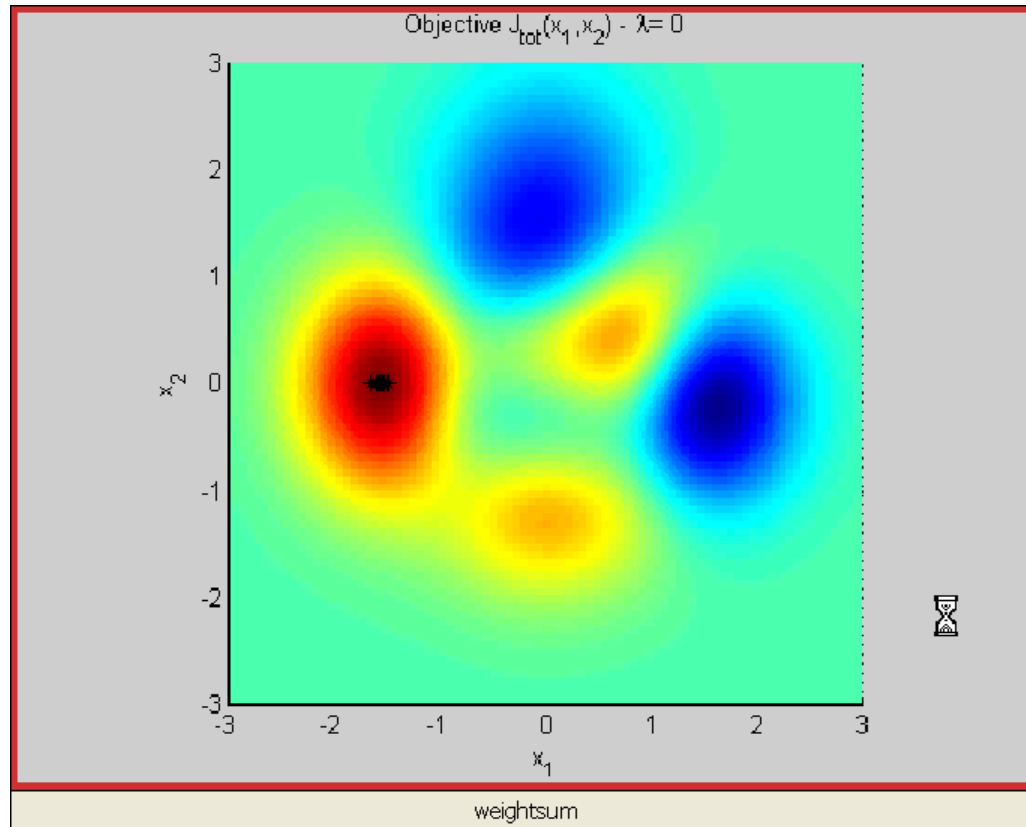
Saab 9-5

$sf_1 = 573.5 \text{ [sm]}$

$sf_2 = 36 \text{ [mpg]}$

Suzuki "Swift"

$$J_{tot} = \lambda J_1 + 1 - \lambda J_2 \quad \text{where } \lambda \in [0,1]$$

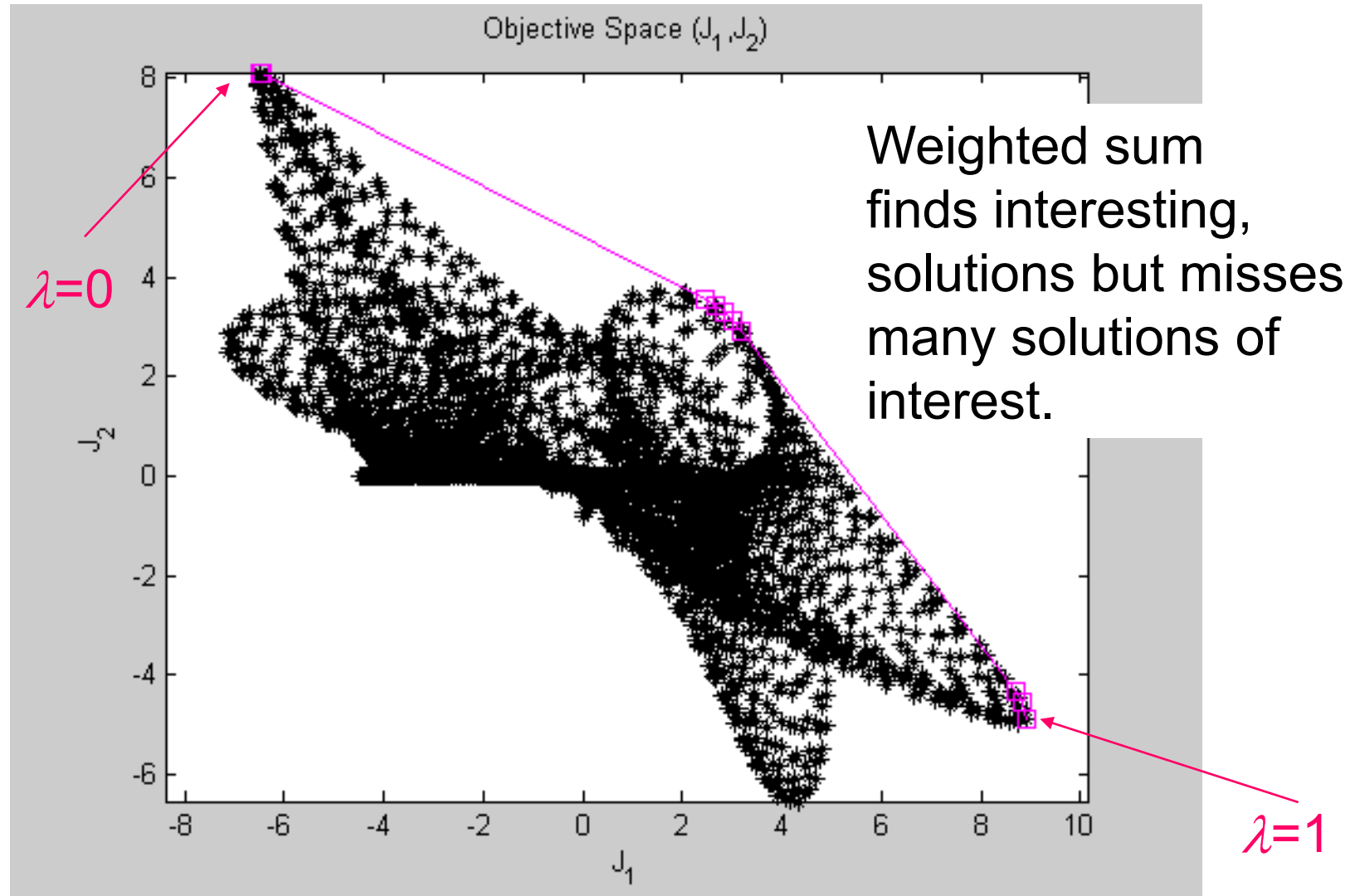


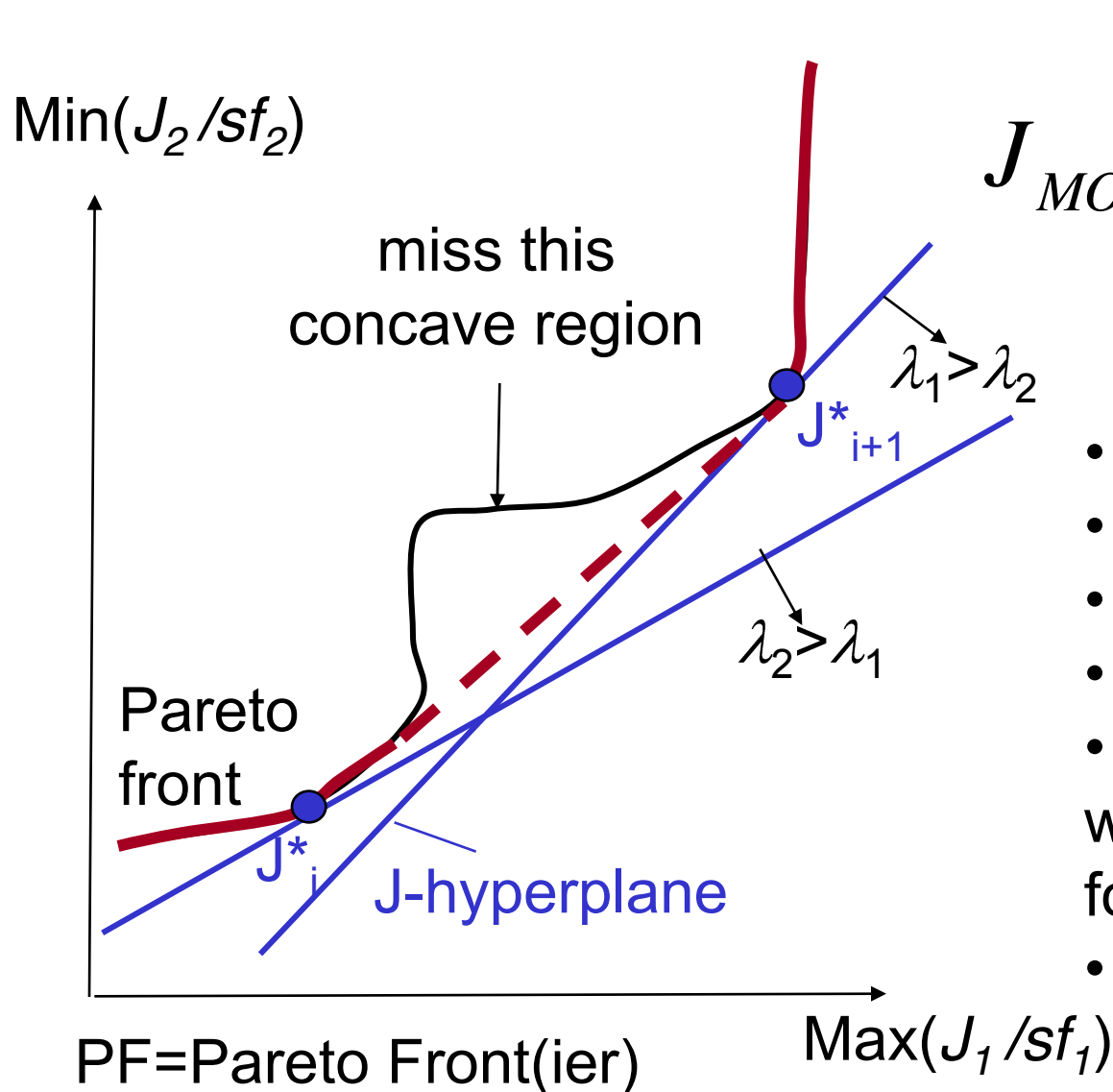
$$\Delta\lambda = 0.05$$

Demo:

At each setting of  $\lambda$  we solve a new single objective optimization problem – the underlying function changes at each increment of  $\lambda$







$$J_{MO} = \sum_{i=1}^z \frac{\lambda_i}{sf_i} J_i$$

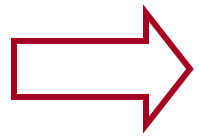
weight

scale factor

- convert back to SOP
- LP in J-space
- easy to implement
- scaling important !
- weighting determines which point along PF is found
- misses concave PF

$\mathbf{x}^*$  optimal if  $\mathbf{J} \mathbf{x}^* \geq \mathbf{J} \mathbf{x}$  (maximization)

for  $\mathbf{x}^* \in S$  and for  $\mathbf{x} \neq \mathbf{x}^*$



This is why multiobjective optimization is also sometimes referred to as vector optimization

$\mathbf{x}^*$  must be an efficient solution

$\mathbf{x} \in S$  is efficient if and only if (iff) its objective vector (criteria)  $\mathbf{J}(\mathbf{x})$  is non-dominated

A point  $\mathbf{x} \in S$  is efficient if it is not possible to move feasibly from it to increase an objective without decreasing at least one of the others

Let  $\mathbf{J}^1, \mathbf{J}^2 \in \mathbb{R}^z$  be two objective (criterion) vectors.

Then  $\mathbf{J}^1$  dominates  $\mathbf{J}^2$  (weakly) iff

$$\mathbf{J}^1 \geq \mathbf{J}^2 \quad \text{and} \quad \mathbf{J}^1 \neq \mathbf{J}^2$$

$$J^i = \begin{bmatrix} J_1 \\ J_2 \\ \vdots \\ J_z \end{bmatrix}$$

More

precisely:  $J_i^1 \geq J_i^2 \quad \forall i$  and  $J_i^1 > J_i^2$  for at least one  $i$

Also  $\mathbf{J}^1$  strongly dominates  $\mathbf{J}^2$  iff

More

precisely:

$$\mathbf{J}^1 > \mathbf{J}^2$$

$$J_i^1 > J_i^2 \quad \forall i$$

## Set Theory:

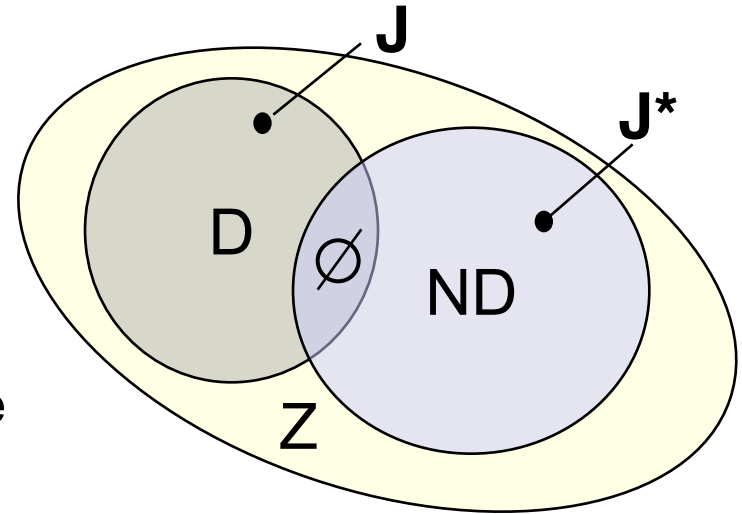
$\mathbf{x} \in S$   
 $\mathbf{J}, \mathbf{J}^* \in Z$  A solution must be feasible

$D \cap ND = \emptyset$  A solution is either dominated or non-dominated but cannot be both at the same time

$D \subset Z, ND \subset Z$  All dominated and non-dominated solutions must be feasible

$D \cup ND = Z$  All feasible solutions are either non-dominated or dominated

$\mathbf{J}^* \quad \mathbf{x}^* \in ND$  Pareto-optimal solutions are non-dominated



- Whereas the idea of dominance refers to vectors in criterion space  $J$ , the idea of efficiency refers to points in decision space  $x$ .
- Can use this criterion as a Pareto Filter if the design space has been explored (e.g. DoE).

max{range} [km]  
min{cost} [\$/km]  
max{passengers} [-]  
max{speed} [km/h]

Multiobjective  
Aircraft Design

#1	#2	#3	#4	#5	#6	#7	#8
7587	6695	3788	8108	5652	6777	5812	7432
321	211	308	278	223	355	401	208
112	345	450	88	212	90	185	208
950	820	750	999	812	901	788	790



Which designs are non-dominated ? (5 min)

Algorithm for extracting non-dominated solutions:

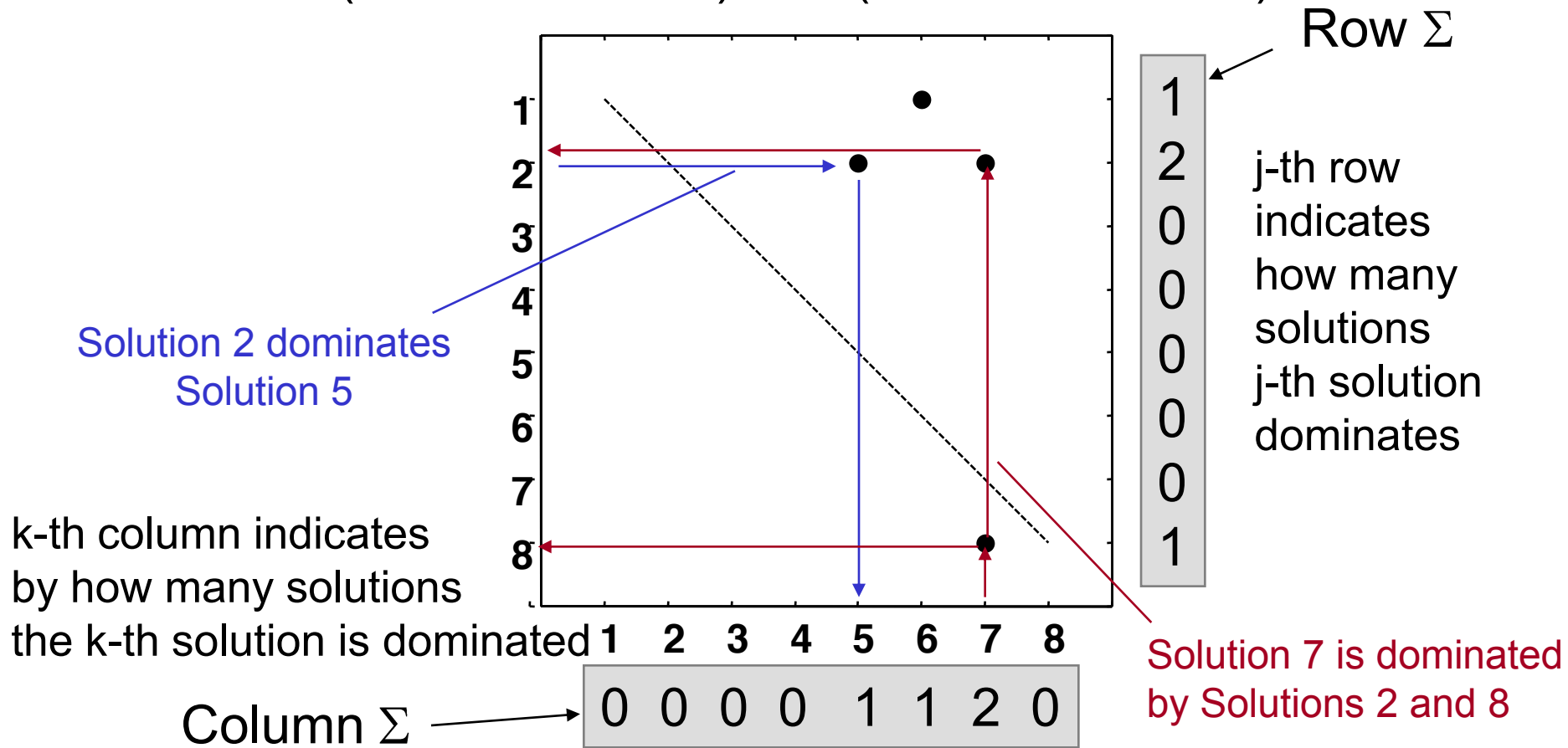
Pairwise comparison

#1	#2	Score #1	Score #2	#1	#6	Score #1	Score #6
$\begin{pmatrix} 7587 \\ 321 \\ 112 \\ 950 \end{pmatrix}$	$\begin{pmatrix} 6695 \\ 211 \\ 345 \\ 820 \end{pmatrix}$	1	0	$\begin{pmatrix} 7587 \\ 321 \\ 112 \\ 950 \end{pmatrix}$	$\begin{pmatrix} 6777 \\ 355 \\ 90 \\ 901 \end{pmatrix}$	1	0
>	>	0	1	>	<	1	0
>	<	0	1	>	>	1	0
>	>	1	0	>	>	1	0
		2	2			4	0
Neither #1 nor #2 dominate each other				Solution #1 dominates solution #6			

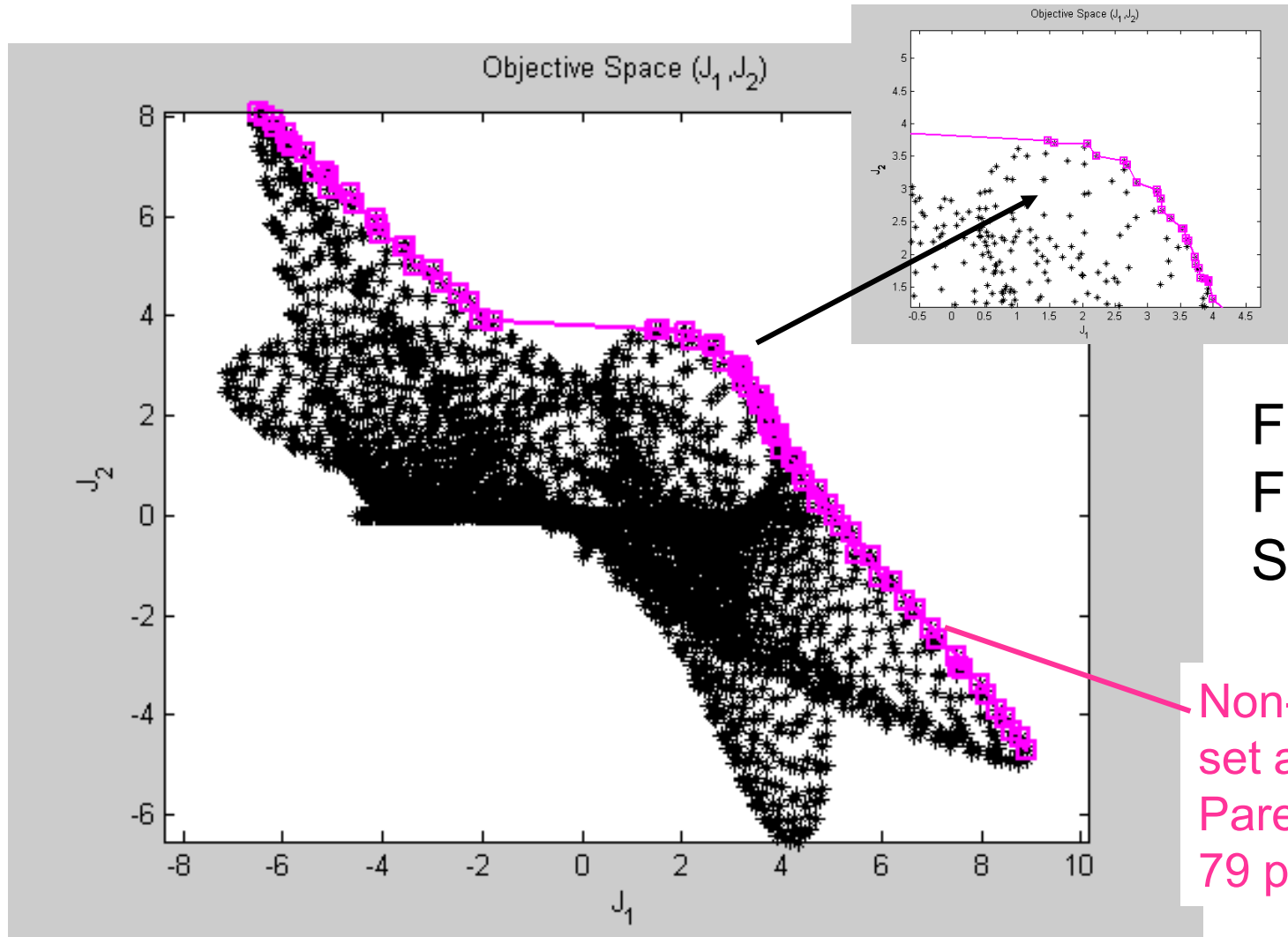
In order to be dominated a solution must  
have a "score" of 0 in pairwise comparison



Shows which solution dominates which other solution (horizontal rows) and (vertical columns)

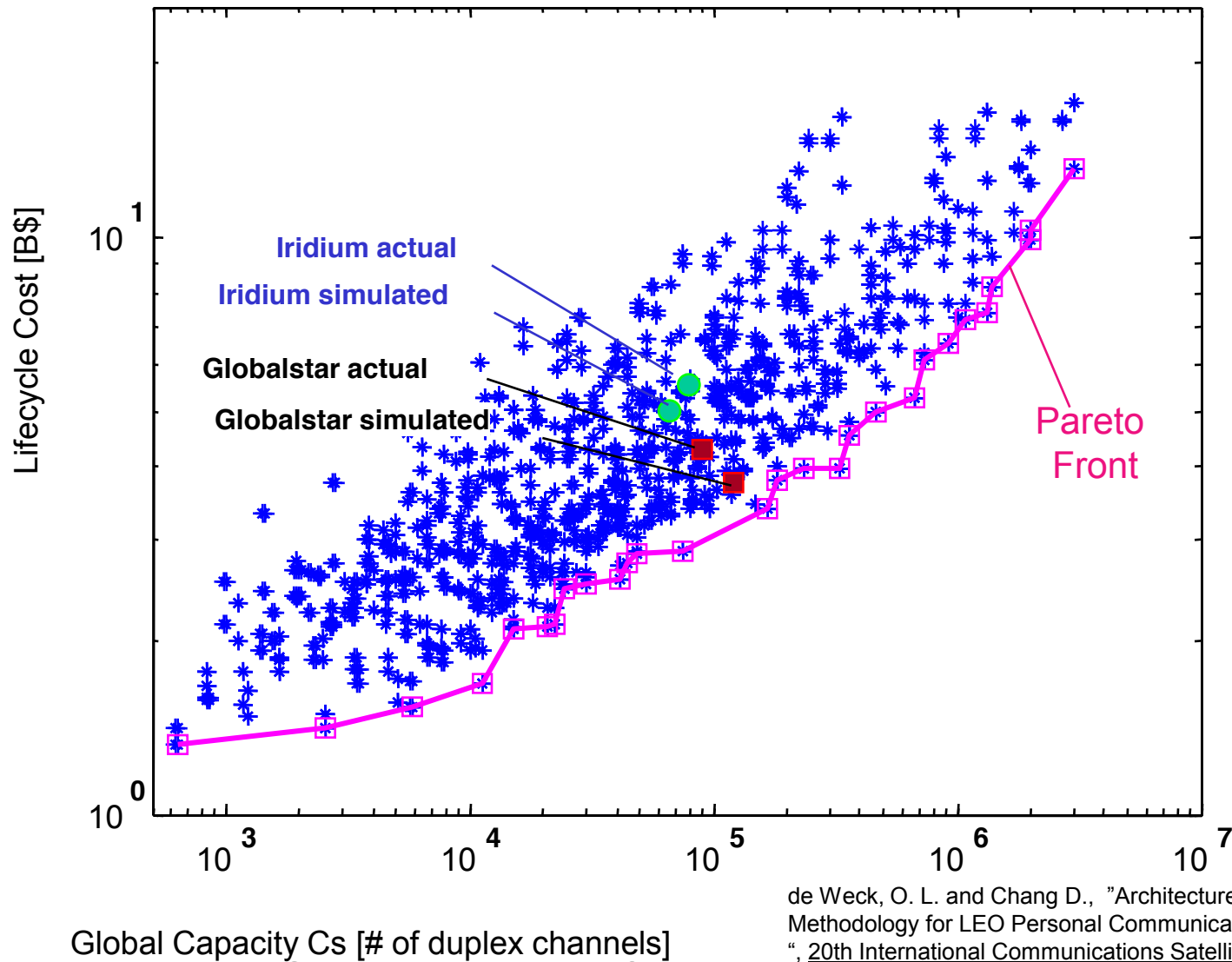


*Non-dominated solutions have a zero in the column  $\Sigma$  !*

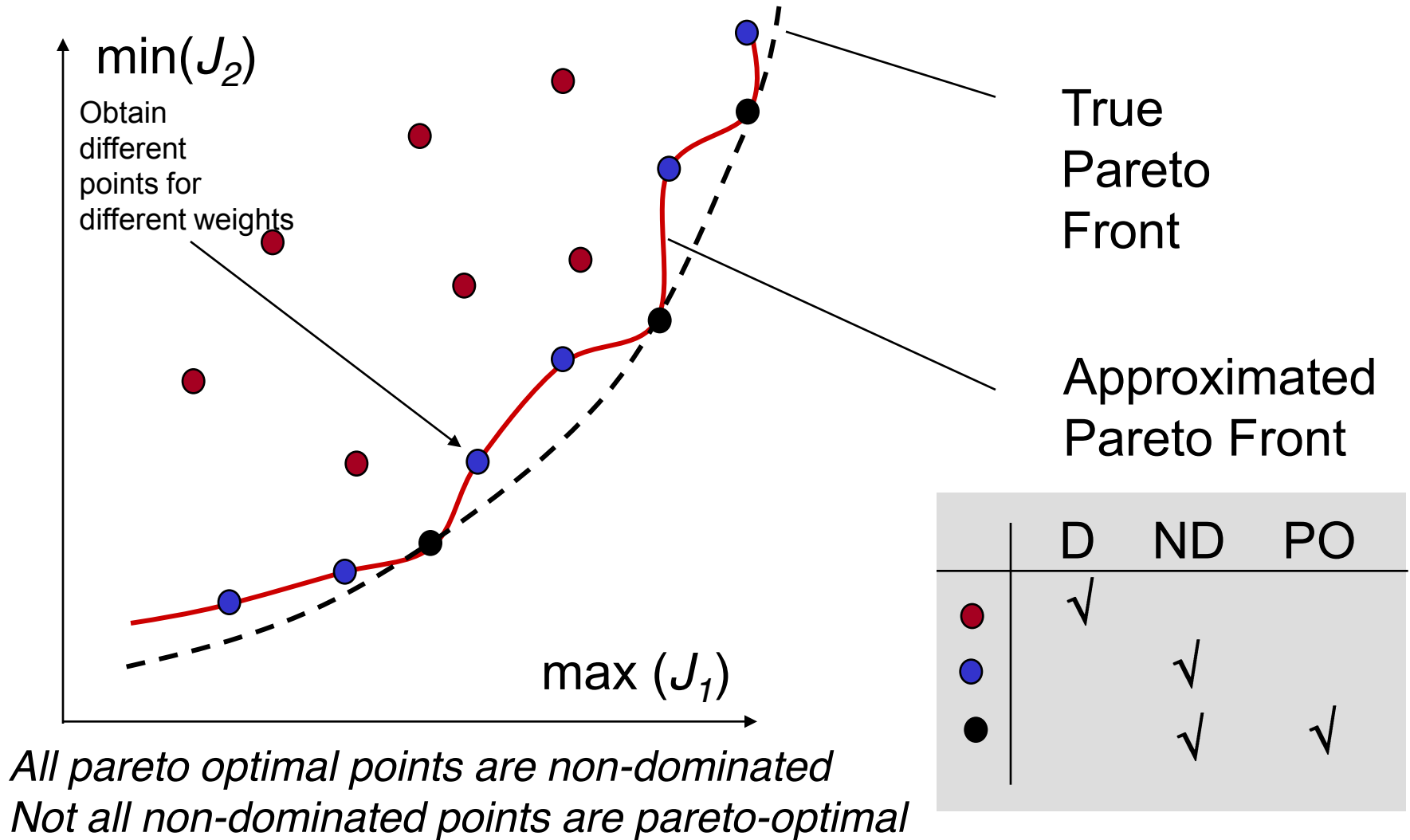


Filtered the  
Full Factorial  
Set: 3721

Non-dominated  
set approximates  
Pareto frontier:  
79 points (2.1%)



de Weck, O. L. and Chang D., "Architecture Trade Methodology for LEO Personal Communication Systems", 20th International Communications Satellite Systems Conference, Paper No. AIAA-2002-1866, Montréal, Québec, Canada, May 12-15, 2002.



*It's easier to show dominatedness than non-dominatedness !!!*

- A multiobjective problem has more than one optimal solution
- All points on Pareto Front are non-dominated
- Methods:
  - Weighted Sum Approach (Caution: Scaling !)
  - Pareto-Filter Approach
  - Methods for direct Pareto Frontier calculation next time:
    - AWS (Adaptive Weighted Sum)
    - NBI (Normal Boundary Intersection)

The key difference between multiobjective optimization methods can be found in how and when designer preferences are brought into the process.

.... More in next lecture

Pareto Optimal means .....

“Take from Peter to pay Paul”

MIT OpenCourseWare  
<http://ocw.mit.edu>

ESD.77 / 16.888 Multidisciplinary System Design Optimization  
Spring 2010

For information about citing these materials or our Terms of Use, visit: <http://ocw.mit.edu/terms>.