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# Supplementary File of 'Efficient Resource Allocation in Cooperative Co-evolution for Large-scale Global Optimization'

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TABLE I: The average fitness values  $\pm$  standard deviations on the CEC'2010 and CEC'2013 functions over 25 independent runs. The significantly better results are in bold font (Wilcoxon rank sum test with Holm *p*-value correction,  $\alpha$ =0.05).  $R^+$ ,  $R^-$  and *p*-value are obtained through multiple-problem analysis by the Wilcoxon test between CCFR-I (U= $D_i$ ) and its competitors.

CEC'2010 Functions							
F	CCFR-I $(U = D_i)$	CCFR-I $(U = 2D_i)$	CCFR-I $(U = 10D_i)$				
$\begin{array}{c} f_1 \\ f_2 \\ f_3 \end{array}$	1.20e-05±4.89e-06	1.31e-05±5.19e-06	1.68e-05±6.54e-06↑				
	2.75e+01±5.25e+00	5.13e+01±5.04e+00↑	1.52e+02±7.22e+00↑				
	4.56e+00±4.63e-01	5.56e+00±4.63e-01↑	8.10e+00±4.65e-01↑				
$f_{4} \\ f_{5} \\ f_{6} \\ f_{7} \\ f_{8}$	8.33e+10±6.16e+10	8.69e+10±4.68e+10	1.06e+11±4.31e+10↑				
	7.23e+07±1.32e+07	7.32e+07±1.22e+07	9.12e+07±1.74e+07↑				
	7.74e+05±7.15e+05	7.83e+05±8.28e+05	7.28e+05±8.51e+05				
	<b>1.49e-03±2.47e-04</b>	1.66e-03±2.78e-04↑	2.14e-03±3.90e-04↑				
	3.19e+05±1.08e+06	6.38e+05±1.46e+06	9.57e+05±1.70e+06↑				
$f_9$ $f_{10}$ $f_{11}$ $f_{12}$ $f_{13}$	9.38e+06±1.18e+06 1.41e+03±1.01e+02 1.03e+01±2.71e+00 <b>1.17e+00±4.57e+00</b> 3.18e+02±9.91e+01	8.81e+06±1.05e+06 1.42e+03±7.83e+01 9.72e+00±2.11e+00 4.72e+00±1.75e+01↑ 3.25e+02±1.01e+02	$1.05e+07\pm1.44e+06\uparrow  1.61e+03\pm1.10e+02\uparrow  1.00e+01\pm2.59e+00  7.49e+00\pm2.30e+01\uparrow  4.03e+02\pm9.45e+01\uparrow$				
$f_{14}$ $f_{15}$ $f_{16}$ $f_{17}$ $f_{18}$	2.48e+07±2.85e+06	2.48e+07±2.85e+06	2.48e+07±2.85e+06				
	2.81e+03±1.31e+02	2.81e+03±1.31e+02	2.81e+03±1.31e+02				
	2.01e+01±2.62e+00	2.01e+01±2.62e+00	2.01e+01±2.62e+00				
	9.78e+00±1.09e+01	9.78e+00±1.09e+01	9.78e+00±1.09e+01				
	1.14e+03±1.82e+02	1.14e+03±1.82e+02	1.14e+03±1.82e+02				
$f_{19} \\ f_{20}$	1.16e+06±9.47e+04	1.16e+06±9.47e+04	1.16e+06±9.47e+04				
	1.01e+09±8.96e+08	1.01e+09±8.96e+08	1.01e+09±8.96e+08				
$R^+$ $R^ p$ -value	_	168.0	170.0				
	_	42.0	40.0				
	_	2.66e-02	1.71e-02				
	CH	EC'2013 Functions					
F	$\text{CCFR-I } (U = D_i)$	$\text{CCFR-I } (U = 2D_i)$	$\text{CCFR-I } (U = 10D_i)$				
$\begin{array}{c}f_1\\f_2\\f_3\end{array}$	1.30e-05±3.18e-06	1.40e-05±3.49e-06	1.80e-05±4.65e-06↑				
	5.51e-01±1.47e+00	5.33e+01±1.70e+01↑	3.14e+02±2.05e+01↑				
	2.00e+01±3.06e-07	<b>2.00e+01</b> ± <b>3.23e-07</b> ↓	2.00e+01±3.89e-04↑				
$f_4 \\ f_5 \\ f_6 \\ f_7$	4.50e+07±1.66e+07	5.26e+07±2.22e+07	7.47e+07±2.31e+07↑				
	2.53e+06±2.67e+05	2.47e+06±3.75e+05	2.62e+06±3.88e+05				
	1.06e+06±1.19e+03	<b>1.06e+06±1.30e+03</b> ↓	1.07e+06±1.64e+03↑				
	8.60e+06±1.90e+07	9.94e+06±2.64e+07	1.04e+07±1.85e+07				
$f_8 \\ f_9 \\ f_{10} \\ f_{11}$	9.61e+09±1.59e+10	9.61e+09±1.59e+10	9.61e+09±1.59e+10				
	1.85e+08±2.79e+07	1.84e+08±2.70e+07	1.84e+08±2.73e+07				
	9.47e+07±1.86e+05	9.46e+07±3.84e+05	<b>9.43e+07±3.44e+05</b> ↓				
	3.25e+08±3.24e+08	2.53e+08±3.33e+08	3.28e+08±3.38e+08				
$f_{12} \\ f_{13} \\ f_{14}$	6.00e+08±7.09e+08	6.00e+08±7.09e+08	6.00e+08±7.09e+08				
	9.28e+08±5.33e+08	9.28e+08±5.33e+08	9.28e+08±5.33e+08				
	2.14e+09±2.11e+09	2.14e+09±2.11e+09	2.14e+09±2.11e+09				
$f_{15}$	8.25e+06±3.28e+06	8.25e+06±3.28e+06	8.25e+06±3.28e+06				
$R^+$ $R^ p$ -value		49.5 70.5 6.25e-01	89.5 30.5 1.60e-01				

The symbols  $\uparrow$  and  $\downarrow$  denote that the CCFR-I ( $U=D_i$ ) algorithm performs significantly better than and worse than this algorithm by the Wilcoxon rank sum test at the significance level of 0.05, respectively.

### I. Sensitivity Study of the Parameter U of CCFR

Table I summarizes the results of CCFR-I with different values of the parameter U (see Eq. (6a) in the paper) on the CEC'2010 and CEC'2013 large-scale functions [1], [2].  $D_i$  is the dimensionality of the i-th subcomponent.

For the functions with separable variables (i.e., the CEC'2010 functions  $f_1$ – $f_{13}$  and the CEC'2013 functions  $f_1$ – $f_7$ ), the smaller the value of U is, the better the performance of CCFR is in general. This is because CCFR with a small value of U can early stop the evolution of stagnant subpopulations. It can save more computational resources on stagnant variables than CCFR with a larger value of U. Therefore, we use  $U = D_i$  as the default setting of U. For the functions without separable variables, the subpopulations hardly enter a stagnant state, so there are no differences between the performance of CCFR-I with different values of U. Overall, the CCFR-I algorithms with different values of U have similar performance on most of the CEC'2010 and CEC'2013 functions.

# II. SCALABILITY STUDY OF CCFR

We used the block-rotated ellipsoid function [3] to study the performance of CCFR-I, CBCC1-I, CBCC2-I and CC-I with the scale-up dimensionality of the function and the scale-up number of subcomponents. The dimensionality of the function

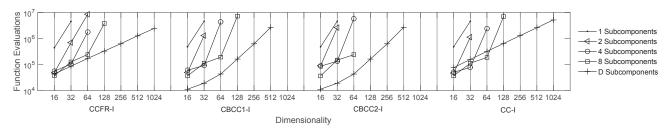


Fig. 1: The average function evaluations used by CCFR-I, CBCC1-I, CBCC2-I and CC-I on the block-rotated ellipsoid function over the successful runs out of 10 runs.

(i.e., D) ranges from  $2^4$  to  $2^{10}$ . The numbers of subcomponents are  $\{1,2,4,8,D\}$ . Within  $10^7$  function evaluations, if the best overall objective value is smaller than a target value (i.e., 0.1) in a run, CCFR-I stops running and this run is considered to be successful. Fig. 1 shows the average number of function evaluations over successful runs out of 10 runs. CCFR-I can reach the target value within  $10^7$  function evaluations when there are less than 64 variables in a subcomponent. When the number of the variables in a subcomponent is equal to or smaller than eight, the number of function evaluations increases linearly as the dimensionality of the function and the number of subcomponents increase. When there are more than eight variables in a subcomponent, the number of function evaluations increases rapidly and linearly as the dimensionality of the function and the number of subcomponents increase. It can be seen in Fig. 1 that CBCC1-I, CBCC2-I and CC-I have similar performance to CCFR-I, but for CCFR-I, as the dimensionality of the function and the number of subcomponents increase, the number of function evaluations increases less rapidly than the other three CC algorithms.

### III. PERFORMANCE OF CCFR WITH DG AND IDG2

In order to study the effect of decomposition on the performance of CCFR, we tested CCFR with two grouping methods (DG [4] and IDG2 [5]). DG is a differential grouping method with a theoretical foundation, which is able to group the interdependent variables together with a high accuracy. In DG, the parameter  $\epsilon$  was set to  $10^{-3}$ , which is recommended in [4]. IDG2 is an improved variant of DG, which is able to group the interdependent variables together better than DG. Table II summarizes the grouping results of IDG2 and DG.

Table III summarizes the optimization results of CCFR, CBCC1 [6], CBCC2 [6] and DECC [4] with IDG2 and DG. Note that, for the algorithms with IDG2 and DG, the function evaluations spent on groupings (see the 'FEs' column in Table II) are counted as part of the computational budget. The results show that CCFR-IDG2 and CCFR-DG perform better than the other peer algorithms on the CEC'2010 and CEC'2013 functions.

CCFR-DG performs significantly better than the other peer algorithms with DG on most of the separable functions ( $f_1$ - $f_3$ ). For almost all the partially separable functions (the CEC'2010 functions  $f_4$ - $f_{18}$ ; the CEC'2013 functions  $f_4$ - $f_{11}$ ), the differences between the results of the algorithms with DG are not significant. For the CEC'2010 functions  $f_7$ ,  $f_8$  and  $f_{13}$ , because DG is not able to identify the interdependence between variables, there is interdependence between the subcomponents formed by DG. CCFR-DG performs worse than CBCC1-DG and DECC-DG by several orders of magnitude. This indicates that if there is interdependence between subcomponents, optimizing each subcomponent one by one may be a good way.

CCFR-IDG2 outperforms the other peer algorithms on most of the separable and partially separable functions (the CEC'2010 functions  $f_1$ - $f_{18}$ ; the CEC'2013 functions  $f_1$ - $f_{11}$ ), especially on the separable functions ( $f_1$ - $f_3$ ). For the partially separable functions on which CCFR-IDG2 performs worse, the differences between the results of CCFR and the other peer algorithms are not significant. For the functions on which CCFR-IDG2 performs better, the differences are significant. For the nonseparable functions (the CEC'2010 functions  $f_{19}$ - $f_{20}$ ; the CEC'2013 functions  $f_{12}$ - $f_{15}$ ), all the variables are grouped into one subcomponent. Therefore, the algorithms with IDG2 have similar performance on these nonseparable functions.

For most of the functions, the algorithms with IDG2 perform better than the ones with DG. This is because IDG2 can identify the interdependence between variables with higher accuracies than DG (see Table II). The results show that compared with DG, IDG2 makes CCFR perform much better than the other peer algorithms. For most of the functions on which CCFR-IDG2 performs worse than CCFR-DG, the performance of CCFR-IDG2 and CCFR-DG does not differ greatly. For most of the functions on which CCFR-IDG2 performs better than CCFR-DG, CCFR-IDG2 significantly outperforms CCFR-DG by several orders of magnitude due to the higher grouping accuracies of IDG2 in identifying the interdependence between variables (e.g., the CEC'2010 functions  $f_7$ ,  $f_8$ ,  $f_{13}$  and  $f_{18}$ ; the CEC'2013 functions  $f_4$ ,  $f_7$ ,  $f_8$  and  $f_{11}$ ). The experimental results show that the performance of CCFR is dependent on the decomposition method. A high grouping accuracy can improve the performance of CCFR, especially for the nonseparable variables.

# IV. COMPARISON BETWEEN CCFR-IDG2 AND NON-CC ALGORITHMS

Table IV summarizes the results of CCFR-IDG2, MA-SW-Chains [7] and MOS-CEC2013 [8]. MA-SW-Chains and MOS-CEC2013 were ranked the first in the IEEE CEC'2010 and CEC'2013 competitions on large-scale global optimization,

TABLE II: The grouping results on the CEC'2010 and CEC'2013 functions. The values of IDG2 and DG are separated by "/". The bold font indicates IDG2 performs better than DG; the gray background indicates IDG2 performs worse than DG.

						CEC'2010 Fur	nctions					
							IDG2 / I	$DG (\epsilon = 10^{-3})$				
F	Sep	No	n-Sep			Sep			Non-sep			
	Vars	Vars	Groups	FEs	Formed Vars	Captured Vars	Accuracy	Formed Subcomponents	Captured Subcomponents	Accuracy		
$f_1$ $f_2$ $f_3$	1000 1000 1000	0 0 0	0 0 0	500501 / 1001000 500501 / 1001000 500501 / 1001000	1000 / 1000 1000 / 1000 0 / 1000	1000 / 1000 1000 / 1000 0 / 1000	100.0% / 100.0% 100.0% / 100.0% 0.0% / 100.0%	0 / 0 0 / 0 1 / 0	0 / 0 0 / 0 0 / 0	100.0% / 100.0% 100.0% / 100.0% 100.0% / 100.0%		
f <sub>4</sub> f <sub>5</sub> f <sub>6</sub> f <sub>7</sub> f <sub>8</sub>	950 950 950 950 950	50 50 50 50 50	1 1 1 1	500501 / 14554 500501 / 905450 500501 / 906332 500501 / 67742 500501 / 23286	950 / 33 950 / 950 854 / 950 950 / 248 950 / 134	950 / 33 950 / 950 854 / 950 950 / 248 950 / 133	100.0% / 3.5% 100.0% / 100.0% 89.9% / 100.0% 100.0% / 26.1% 100.0% / 14.0%	1 / 10 1 / 1 2 / 1 1 / 4 1 / 5	1 / 1 1 / 1 1 / 1 1 / 0 1 / 0	100.0% / 100.09 100.0% / 100.09 100.0% / 100.09 <b>100.0%</b> / <b>0.09</b> <b>100.0%</b> / <b>0.09</b>		
$f_9$ $f_{10}$ $f_{11}$ $f_{12}$ $f_{13}$	500 500 500 500 500	500 500 500 500 500	10 10 10 10 10	500501 / 270802 500501 / 272958 500501 / 270640 500501 / 271390 500501 / 50328	500 / 500 500 / 500 0 / 501 500 / 500 500 / 131	500 / 500 500 / 500 0 / 500 500 / 500 500 / 107	100.0% / 100.0% 100.0% / 100.0% 0.0% / 100.0% 100.0% / 100.0% 100.0% / 21.4%	10 / 10 10 / 10 11 / 10 10 / 10 10 / 34	10 / 10 10 / 10 10 / 9 10 / 10 10 / 0	100.0% / 100.0% 100.0% / 100.0% <b>100.0%</b> / <b>90.0%</b> 100.0% / 100.0% <b>100.0%</b> / <b>0.0%</b>		
$f_{14}$ $f_{15}$ $f_{16}$ $f_{17}$ $f_{18}$	0 0 0 0	1000 1000 1000 1000 1000	20 20 20 20 20 20	500501 / 21000 500501 / 21000 500501 / 21128 500501 / 21000 500501 / 39624	0 / 0 0 / 0 0 / 4 0 / 0 0 / 78	0 / 0 0 / 0 0 / 0 0 / 0 0 / 0	100.0% / 100.0% 100.0% / 100.0% 100.0% / 100.0% 100.0% / 100.0% 100.0% / 100.0%	20 / 20 20 / 20 20 / 20 20 / 20 20 / 50	20 / 20 20 / 20 20 / 16 20 / 20 20 / 0	100.0% / 100.09 100.0% / 100.09 <b>100.0% / 80.09</b> 100.0% / 100.09 <b>100.0% / 0.09</b>		
$f_{19} \\ f_{20}$	0	1000 1000	1 1	500501 / 2000 500501 / 155430	0 / 0 0 / 33	0 / 0 0 / 0	100.0% / 100.0% 100.0% / 100.0%	1 / 1 1 / 241	1 / 1 1 / 0	100.0% / 100.0% 100.0% / 0.0%		
				1	•	CEC'2013 Fur	nctions	•				
	_	Non Con		Sen Non-Sep					IDG2 / I	$DG \ (\epsilon = 10^{-3})$		
F	Sep Vars	INO	п-зер	FEs	Sep		Non-sep					
		Vars	Groups	FES	Formed Vars	Captured Vars	Accuracy	Formed Subcomponents	Captured Subcomponents	Accuracy		
$f_1$ $f_2$ $f_3$	1000 1000 1000	0 0 0	0 0 0	500501 / 1001000 500501 / 1001000 500501 / 1001000	1000 / 1000 1000 / 1000 0 / 1000	1000 / 1000 1000 / 1000 0 / 1000	100.0% / 100.0% 100.0% / 100.0% 0.0% / 100.0%	0 / 0 0 / 0 1 / 0	0 / 0 0 / 0 0 / 0	100.0% / 100.0% 100.0% / 100.0% 100.0% / 100.0%		
$f_4$ $f_5$ $f_6$	700 700 700	300 300 300	7 7 7	500501 / 15792 500501 / 527026 500501 / 579848	700 / 40 700 / 707 0 / 752	700 / 40 700 / 700 0 / 700	100.0% / 5.7% 100.0% / 100.0% 0.0% / 100.0%	7 / 13 7 / 10 8 / 5	7 / 3 7 / 6 7 / 3	100.0% / 58.3% 100.0% / 66.7% 100.0% / 50.0%		

		Vars	Groups		Formed Vars	Captured Vars	Accuracy	Formed Subcomponents	Captured Subcomponents	Accuracy
$\begin{array}{c} f_1 \\ f_2 \\ f_3 \end{array}$	1000 1000 1000	0 0 0	0 0 0	500501 / 1001000 500501 / 1001000 500501 / 1001000	1000 / 1000 1000 / 1000 0 / 1000	1000 / 1000 1000 / 1000 0 / 1000	100.0% / 100.0% 100.0% / 100.0% 0.0% / 100.0%	0 / 0 0 / 0 1 / 0	0 / 0 0 / 0 0 / 0	100.0% / 100.0% 100.0% / 100.0% 100.0% / 100.0%
$ \begin{array}{c} f_4 \\ f_5 \\ f_6 \\ f_7 \end{array} $	700 700 700 700	300 300 300 300	7 7 7 7	500501 / 15792 500501 / 527026 500501 / 579848 500501 / 11452	700 / 40 700 / 707 0 / 752 700 / 64	700 / 40 700 / 700 0 / 700 700 / 64	100.0% / 5.7% 100.0% / 100.0% 0.0% / 100.0% 100.0% / 9.1%	7 / 13 7 / 10 8 / 5 7 / 10	7 / 3 7 / 6 7 / 3 7 / 0	100.0% / 58.3% 100.0% / 66.7% 100.0% / 50.0% 100.0% / 0.0%
$f_8$ $f_9$ $f_{10}$ $f_{11}$	0 0 0 0	1000 1000 1000 1000	20 20 20 20 20	500501 / 22682 500501 / 17650 500501 / 48650 500501 / 9102	200 / 4 0 / 0 0 / 152 0 / 1	0 / 0 0 / 0 0 / 0 0 / 0	100.0% / 100.0% 100.0% / 100.0% 100.0% / 100.0% 100.0% / 100.0%	18 / 25 20 / 20 20 / 18 20 / 18	18 / 14 20 / 20 20 / 14 20 / 0	80.0% / 65.0% 100.0% / 100.0% 100.0% / 65.0% 100.0% / 0.0%
$f_{12} \\ f_{13} \\ f_{14}$	0 0 0	1000 905 905	1 1 1	500501 / 149894 409966 / 18786 409966 / 26698	0 / 50 0 / 0 0 / 0	0 / 0 0 / 0 0 / 0	100.0% / 100.0% 100.0% / 100.0% 100.0% / 100.0%	1 / 222 1 / 20 1 / 19	1 / 0 1 / 0 1 / 0	100.0% / 0.0% 100.0% / 0.0% 100.0% / 0.0%
$f_{15}$	0	1000	1	500501 / 2000	0 / 0	0 / 0	100.0% / 100.0%	1 / 1	1 / 1	100.0% / 100.0%

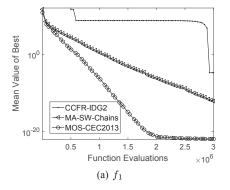
respectively. For the partially separable functions (the CEC'2010 functions  $f_4$ – $f_{18}$ ; the CEC'2013 functions  $f_4$ – $f_{11}$ ) on which CCFR-IDG2 performs better than MA-SW-Chains, the differences between the results of CCFR-IDG2 and MA-SW-Chains are significant. For the partially separable functions on which CCFR-IDG2 performs worse than MA-SW-Chains, the differences are not significant except for the CEC'2010 function  $f_{12}$ . CCFR-IDG2 performs worse than MOS-CEC2013 on most of the CEC'2010 and CEC'2013 functions. For the nonseparable functions (the CEC'2010 functions  $f_{19}$ – $f_{20}$ ; the CEC'2013 functions  $f_{12}$ – $f_{15}$ ), CCFR-IDG2 optimizes all the decision variables together and performs significantly worse than MA-SW-Chains and MOS-CEC2013. This indicates that the optimizer used by CCFR-IDG2 (i.e., SaNSDE) is inferior to MA-SW-Chains and MOS-CEC2013. The results show that CCFR-IDG2 performs worse than MA-SW-Chains and MOS-CEC2013. The previous experimental results have shown that for a given optimizer (i.e., SaNSDE), CCFR is superior to the other peer algorithms with the same optimizer.

Fig. 2 shows the convergence of CCFR-IDG2, MA-SW-Chains and MOS-CEC2013. Because CCFR-IDG2 spends 500501 function evaluations grouping the decision variables, in Fig. 2 the convergence lines of CCFR-IDG2 start from 500502 function evaluations. For separable function  $f_1$ , CCFR-IDG2 optimizes each separable variable one by one and converges slowly, but when CCFR-IDG2 finishes optimizing the last variable with the largest weight value, the best overall objective value drops sharply.  $f_8$  is a partially separable function with imbalance between subcomponents. For  $f_8$ , compared with MA-SW-Chains and MOS-CEC2013, in the beginning of the evolutionary process, CCFR-IDG2 converges very slowly. When the first evolutionary cycle ends (about  $0.8 \times 10^6$  function evaluations), CCFR-IDG2 starts to select the subpopulation with the greatest contribution

TABLE III: The average fitness values  $\pm$  standard deviations on the CEC'2010 and CEC'2013 functions over 25 independent runs. The significantly better results are in bold font (Wilcoxon rank sum test with Holm p-value correction,  $\alpha$ =0.05).  $R^+$ ,  $R^-$  and p-value have similar meanings as in Table I.

	CEC'2010 Functions							
F	CCFR-IDG2	CBCC1-IDG2	CBCC2-IDG2	DECC-IDG2	CCFR-DG	CBCC1-DG	CBCC2-DG	DECC-DG
$f_1$ $f_2$ $f_3$	1.6e-05±6.5e-06	1.7e+07±2.1e+07↑	1.7e+07±2.1e+07↑	1.7e+07±2.1e+07↑	4.8e+08±9.8e+07	2.9e+07±3.1e+07↓	2.9e+07±3.1e+07↓	2.9e+07±3.1e+07↓
	1.7e+02±8.6e+00	4.7e+03±4.8e+02↑	4.7e+03±4.8e+02↑	4.7e+03±4.8e+02↑	3.2e+02±1.7e+01	4.7e+03±4.8e+02↑	4.7e+03±4.8e+02↑	4.7e+03±4.8e+02↑
	1.2e+01±3.7e-01	1.2e+01±3.7e-01	1.2e+01±3.7e-01	1.2e+01±3.7e-01	1.1e+01±3.8e-01	1.2e+01±3.7e-01↑	1.2e+01±3.7e-01↑	1.2e+01±3.7e-01↑
f <sub>4</sub>	1.3e+11±7.5e+10	7.4e+10±4.8e+10↓	1.1e+11±2.9e+10	8.9e+10±4.6e+10↓	4.3e+10±1.6e+10	3.5e+11±2.0e+11↑	5.1e+10±3.1e+10	7.8e+11±5.5e+11↑
f <sub>5</sub>	9.2e+07±1.6e+07	6.8e+07±1.1e+07↓	6.8e+07±9.4e+06↓	6.7e+07±1.0e+07↓	4.9e+08±2.4e+07	6.9e+07±1.0e+07↓	6.9e+07±1.0e+07↓	6.9e+07±1.1e+07↓
f <sub>6</sub>	6.8e+05±7.1e+05	1.1e+06±7.9e+05↑	1.1e+06±6.9e+05↑	6.4e+05±6.8e+05	1.1e+07±7.5e+05	1.3e+06±6.4e+05↓	1.3e+06±6.4e+05↓	8.1e+05±7.2e+05↓
f <sub>7</sub>	2.0e-03±3.5e-04	7.9e+04±1.0e+04↑	1.1e+05±1.8e+04↑	4.2e+04±1.2e+04↑	2.7e+07±7.0e+07	1.1e+05±8.5e+04↓	7.6e+09±6.6e+09↑	6.0e+04±3.3e+04↓
f <sub>8</sub>	3.2e+05±1.1e+06	8.8e+05±1.6e+06↑	1.1e+06±1.7e+06↑	5.2e+05±1.3e+06↑	2.6e+08±1.9e+08	4.6e+06±8.8e+06↓	6.3e+07±6.0e+07↓	1.5e+07±2.3e+07↓
$f_9$ $f_{10}$ $f_{11}$ $f_{12}$ $f_{13}$	1.3e+07±1.7e+06	2.1e+07±2.2e+07	4.4e+09±7.0e+08↑	5.4e+07±6.4e+07↑	1.1e+07±1.4e+06	1.8e+07±2.1e+07	1.8e+07±2.1e+07	3.3e+07±2.0e+07↑
	1.8e+03±1.4e+02	3.4e+03±1.7e+02↑	4.6e+03±7.7e+02↑	4.3e+03±1.8e+02↑	1.6e+03±1.2e+02	3.2e+03±1.7e+02↑	3.2e+03±1.7e+02↑	4.1e+03±1.7e+02↑
	2.0e+01±3.3e+00	2.4e+01±2.4e+00↑	2.5e+01±2.3e+00↑	2.3e+01±2.1e+00↑	1.1e+01±2.5e+00	2.3e+01±2.2e+00↑	2.3e+01±2.1e+00↑	2.3e+01±2.7e+00↑
	2.0e+01±2.2e+01	2.6e+04±7.4e+03↑	3.7e+04±9.7e+03↑	2.3e+04±8.8e+03↑	4.6e+00±6.9e+00	2.2e+04±6.3e+03↑	2.2e+04±6.3e+03↑	1.9e+04±7.3e+03↑
	5.3e+02±1.0e+02	2.6e+04±7.8e+03↑	3.9e+04±6.2e+03↑	2.5e+04±7.8e+03↑	2.8e+06±9.2e+05	5.8e+03±4.4e+03↓	1.6e+04±7.8e+03↓	8.7e+03±3.9e+03↓
$f_{14}$ $f_{15}$ $f_{16}$ $f_{17}$ $f_{18}$	3.1e+07±3.3e+06	3.5e+07±2.6e+06↑	9.5e+09±5.2e+08↑	3.3e+07±2.7e+06↑	2.5e+07±2.9e+06	2.8e+07±2.1e+06↑	2.8e+07±2.1e+06↑	2.7e+07±2.2e+06↑
	3.2e+03±1.5e+02	4.4e+03±1.5e+02↑	4.6e+03±1.7e+02↑	4.4e+03±1.9e+02↑	2.8e+03±1.3e+02	4.0e+03±1.5e+02↑	4.0e+03±1.5e+02↑	4.0e+03±1.6e+02↑
	2.0e+01±2.6e+00	1.9e+01±3.2e+00	2.0e+01±3.4e+00	2.0e+01±4.0e+00	2.4e+01±4.3e+00	2.0e+01±3.4e+00↓	2.1e+01±3.1e+00	2.1e+01±3.4e+00
	6.7e+01±8.7e+01	1.3e+02±8.9e+01↑	7.2e+02±3.4e+02↑	8.0e+01±5.2e+01↑	1.1e+01±1.1e+01	3.6e+01±4.9e+01↑	3.6e+01±4.9e+01↑	2.4e+01±3.7e+01
	1.4e+03±1.9e+02	1.3e+03±1.9e+02	1.7e+03±2.4e+02↑	1.2e+03±1.5e+02↓	1.3e+08±9.9e+07	6.9e+09±2.3e+09↑	1.4e+10±2.0e+09↑	2.1e+10±3.9e+09↑
$f_{19} \\ f_{20}$	1.3e+06±1.0e+05	1.3e+06±1.0e+05	1.3e+06±1.0e+05	1.3e+06±1.0e+05	1.2e+06±9.5e+04	1.2e+06±9.5e+04	1.2e+06±9.5e+04	1.2e+06±9.5e+04
	2.0e+09±1.8e+09	2.0e+09±1.8e+09	2.0e+09±1.8e+09	2.0e+09±1.8e+09	3.1e+07±6.6e+06	1.4e+10±2.7e+09↑	1.6e+08±1.5e+08↑	3.3e+10±5.9e+09↑
R <sup>+</sup> R <sup>-</sup> p-value		165.0 45.0 2.51e-02	174.0 36.0 1.00e-02	153.0 57.0 7.31e-02		123.0 87.0 5.02e-01	137.0 73.0 2.32e-01	123.0 87.0 5.02e-01
F	CCFR-IDG2	CBCC1-IDG2	CBCC2-IDG2	CEC'2013 Fund	ctions CCFR-DG	CBCC1-DG	CBCC2-DG	DECC-DG
$ \begin{array}{c} F \\ \hline f_1 \\ f_2 \\ f_3 \end{array} $	1.8e-05±4.5e-06	4.6e+07±1.3e+08↑	4.6e+07±1.3e+08↑	4.6e+07±1.3e+08↑	4.8e+08±6.9e+07	6.2e+07±1.3e+08↓	6.2e+07±1.3e+08↓	6.2e+07±1.3e+08↓
	3.6e+02±2.1e+01	2.1e+04±1.0e+03↑	2.1e+04±1.0e+03↑	2.1e+04±1.0e+03↑	7.4e+02±4.0e+01	2.1e+04±1.0e+03↑	2.1e+04±1.0e+03↑	2.1e+04±1.0e+03↑
	2.1e+01±1.2e-02	2.1e+01±1.2e-02	2.1e+01±1.2e-02	2.1e+01±1.2e-02	2.0e+01±6.0e-07	2.1e+01±1.1e-02↑	2.1e+01±1.1e-02↑	2.1e+01±1.1e-02↑
f <sub>4</sub>	9.6e+07±4.0e+07	2.2e+08±6.0e+07↑	6.6e+10±5.6e+09↑	2.9e+08±9.7e+07↑	9.1e+10±5.6e+10	8.7e+10±5.1e+10	4.6e+11±2.8e+11↑	8.3e+10±4.7e+10
f <sub>5</sub>	2.8e+06±3.2e+05	2.6e+06±4.3e+05	2.5e+06±4.7e+05↓	3.0e+06±4.7e+05	3.0e+06±5.2e+05	2.8e+06±3.6e+05	2.6e+06±4.4e+05↓	3.3e+06±4.0e+05↑
f <sub>6</sub>	1.1e+06±1.0e+03	1.1e+06±1.7e+03↓	1.1e+06±1.8e+03↓	1.1e+06±1.6e+03↓	1.1e+06±1.6e+03	1.1e+06±2.1e+03↓	1.1e+06±1.5e+03↓	1.1e+06±2.3e+03↓
f <sub>7</sub>	2.0e+07±2.9e+07	2.2e+07±2.6e+07	9.9e+07±3.7e+08	2.4e+07±3.8e+07	1.4e+08±9.7e+07	1.2e+08±3.9e+07	1.6e+10±1.4e+10↑	1.4e+08±7.1e+07
f <sub>8</sub>	6.6e+10±9.5e+10	2.3e+13±1.6e+13↑	1.1e+12±1.7e+11↑	7.4e+13±5.8e+13↑	1.6e+15±1.0e+15	2.0e+15±1.5e+15	5.9e+15±4.3e+15↑	2.0e+15±1.4e+15
f <sub>9</sub>	1.9e+08±2.8e+07	2.6e+08±4.0e+07↑	2.3e+08±3.0e+07↑	3.0e+08±5.7e+07↑	1.9e+08±2.8e+07	2.5e+08±3.8e+07↑	2.2e+08±2.9e+07↑	2.9e+08±5.2e+07↑
f <sub>10</sub>	9.5e+07±1.8e+05	9.4e+07±2.8e+05↓	9.4e+07±2.5e+05↓	9.5e+07±3.0e+05↓	9.5e+07±3.1e+05	9.4e+07±6.1e+05↓	9.4e+07±6.6e+05↓	9.4e+07±2.4e+05↓
f <sub>11</sub>	4.2e+08±3.4e+08	5.0e+09±1.5e+10	7.3e+10±1.2e+11↑	2.8e+09±1.1e+10	2.8e+10±6.0e+10	4.5e+10±6.1e+10↑	5.2e+12±3.7e+12↑	4.7e+10±5.7e+10↑
$f_{12} \\ f_{13} \\ f_{14}$	1.6e+09±1.6e+09	1.6e+09±1.6e+09	1.6e+09±1.6e+09	1.6e+09±1.6e+09	8.0e+07±8.3e+06	6.0e+10±8.3e+09↑	6.6e+08±1.3e+08↑	1.2e+11±1.4e+10↑
	1.2e+09±6.0e+08	1.2e+09±6.0e+08	1.2e+09±6.0e+08	1.2e+09±6.0e+08	2.0e+09±1.0e+09	4.0e+09±1.5e+09↑	4.1e+10±2.7e+10↑	6.3e+09±1.9e+09↑
	3.4e+09±3.1e+09	3.5e+09±3.2e+09	3.5e+09±3.2e+09	3.5e+09±3.2e+09	7.4e+09±8.5e+09	1.3e+10±1.2e+10↑	5.0e+11±1.2e+12↑	8.9e+09±6.8e+09
$f_{15}$	9.8e+06±3.7e+06	9.9e+06±3.7e+06	9.9e+06±3.7e+06	9.9e+06±3.7e+06	8.3e+06±3.3e+06	8.3e+06±3.3e+06	8.3e+06±3.3e+06	8.3e+06±3.3e+06
$R^+$	_	107.0	107.0	112.0	_	80.0	99.0	91.0
$R^-$	_	13.0	13.0	8.0	_	40.0	21.0	29.0
p-value	_	5.37e-03	5.37e-03	1.53e-03	_	2.77e-01	2.56e-02	8.33e-02

The symbols  $\uparrow$  and  $\downarrow$  have similar meanings as in Table I



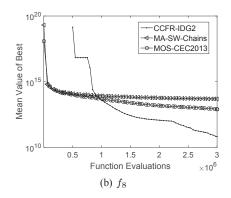


Fig. 2: The average convergence on two selected CEC'2013 functions over 25 independent runs.

to undergo evolution. CCFR-IDG2 then converges much faster than MA-SW-Chains and MOS-CEC2013. This indicates that if the optimizer used by CCFR-IDG2 performs well on a function, CCFR might outperform MA-SW-Chains and MOS-CEC2013 on that function.

To improve the performance of CCFR-IDG2, we replaced SaNSDE with CMAES [9]. Table V summarizes the results of CCFR-IDG2 with CMAES. CCFR-IDG2 with CMAES significantly outperforms MA-SW-Chains on almost all the CEC'2010 and CEC'2013 functions. CCFR-IDG2 with CMAES performs significantly better than MOS-CEC2013 by several orders of magnitude on most of the partially separable functions (the CEC'2010 functions  $f_4$ - $f_{18}$ ; the CEC'2013 functions  $f_4$ - $f_{11}$ ).

TABLE IV: The average errors  $\pm$  standard deviations on the CEC'2010 and CEC'2013 functions over 25 independent runs. The significantly better results are in bold font (Wilcoxon rank sum test with Holm p-value correction,  $\alpha$ =0.05).  $R^+$ ,  $R^-$  and p-value have similar meanings as in Table I.

CEC'2010 Functions							
F	CCFR-IDG2	MA-SW-Chains	MOS-CEC2013				
$\begin{array}{c} f_1 \\ f_2 \\ f_3 \end{array}$	1.62e-05±6.55e-06	3.88e-14±3.59e-14↓	0.00e+00±0.00e+00↓				
	1.73e+02±8.62e+00	8.63e+02±5.84e+01↑	0.00e+00±0.00e+00↓				
	1.22e+01±3.66e-01	<b>5.41e-13</b> ± <b>2.13e-13</b> ↓	1.65e-12±6.73e-14↓				
$f_{4} \\ f_{5} \\ f_{6} \\ f_{7} \\ f_{8}$	1.26e+11±7.50e+10	$2.94e+11\pm9.32e+10\uparrow$	1.56e+10±6.02e+09↓				
	9.15e+07±1.61e+07	$1.75e+08\pm1.03e+08\uparrow$	1.11e+08±2.25e+07↑				
	6.85e+05±7.05e+05	$3.52e+04\pm1.72e+05$	1.22e-07±6.43e-08↓				
	2.04e-03±3.45e-04	$3.30e+02\pm1.40e+03$	0.00e+00±0.00e+00↓				
	3.19e+05±1.08e+06	$9.28e+06\pm2.36e+07\uparrow$	1.95e+00±8.03e+00↓				
$f_{9}$ $f_{10}$ $f_{11}$ $f_{12}$ $f_{13}$	1.34e+07±1.68e+06 1.81e+03±1.43e+02 1.99e+01±3.26e+00 2.03e+01±2.23e+01 5.26e+02±1.04e+02	$\begin{array}{c} 1.45\text{e}{+}07{\pm}1.59\text{e}{+}06 \\ 2.06\text{e}{+}03{\pm}1.19\text{e}{+}02{\uparrow} \\ 3.69\text{e}{+}01{\pm}8.24\text{e}{+}00{\uparrow} \\ 3.19\text{e}{-}06{\pm}5.32\text{e}{-}07{\downarrow} \\ 1.09\text{e}{+}03{\pm}6.29\text{e}{+}02{\uparrow} \end{array}$	<b>3.46e+06±4.49e+05</b> ↓ 3.78e+03±1.47e+02↑ 1.91e+02±4.07e-01↑ <b>0.00e+00±0.00e+00</b> ↓ 7.14e+02±5.68e+02				
$f_{14} \\ f_{15} \\ f_{16} \\ f_{17} \\ f_{18}$	3.08e+07±3.35e+06	$3.34e+07\pm3.37e+06\uparrow$	9.80e+06±6.03e+05↓				
	3.18e+03±1.51e+02	$2.69e+03\pm9.75e+01\downarrow$	7.44e+03±1.84e+02↑				
	<b>2.01e+01±2.62e+00</b>	$1.08e+02\pm1.51e+01\uparrow$	3.82e+02±1.55e+01↑				
	6.72e+01±8.68e+01	$1.26e+00\pm9.45e-02\downarrow$	2.83e-07±7.97e-08↓				
	1.37e+03±1.93e+02	$1.87e+03\pm5.79e+02\uparrow$	1.54e+03±7.46e+02				
$f_{19} \\ f_{20}$	1.28e+06±1.01e+05	2.85e+05±1.74e+04↓	2.91e+04±2.14e+03↓				
	1.97e+09±1.83e+09	1.05e+03±7.59e+01↓	3.52e+02±4.43e+02↓				
$R^+$ $R^ p$ -value	_	143.0	73.0				
	_	67.0	137.0				
	_	1.56e-01	2.32e-01				
	CE	EC'2013 Functions					
F	CCFR-IDG2	MA-SW-Chains	MOS-CEC2013				
$\begin{array}{c} f_1 \\ f_2 \\ f_3 \end{array}$	1.77e-05±4.52e-06	8.49e-13±1.09e-12↓	<b>1.27e-22</b> ± <b>7.41e-23</b> ↓				
	<b>3.64e+02±2.06e+01</b>	1.22e+03±1.14e+02↑	8.32e+02±4.48e+01↑				
	2.07e+01±1.21e-02	2.14e+01±5.62e-02↑	<b>9.18e-13</b> ± <b>5.12e-14</b> ↓				
$f_4 \\ f_5 \\ f_6 \\ f_7$	9.56e+07±4.03e+07	4.58e+09±2.46e+09↑	1.74e+08±7.87e+07↑				
	2.80e+06±3.18e+05	<b>1.87e+06±3.06e+05</b> ↓	6.94e+06±8.85e+05↑				
	1.06e+06±1.05e+03	1.01e+06±1.53e+04↓	1.48e+05±6.43e+04↓				
	2.03e+07±2.94e+07	3.45e+06±1.27e+06	1.62e+04±9.10e+03↓				
$f_8 \\ f_9 \\ f_{10} \\ f_{11}$	6.63e+10±9.52e+10	4.85e+13±1.02e+13↑	8.00e+12±3.07e+12↑				
	1.89e+08±2.83e+07	1.07e+08±1.68e+07↓	3.83e+08±6.29e+07↑				
	9.48e+07±1.82e+05	9.18e+07±1.06e+06↓	<b>9.02e+05</b> ± <b>5.07e+05</b> ↓				
	4.17e+08±3.43e+08	2.19e+08±2.98e+07	<b>5.22e+07</b> ± <b>2.05e+07</b> ↓				
$f_{12} \\ f_{13} \\ f_{14}$	1.56e+09±1.58e+09	1.25e+03±1.05e+02↓	2.47e+02±2.54e+02↓				
	1.21e+09±6.00e+08	1.98e+07±1.82e+06↓	3.40e+06±1.06e+06↓				
	3.39e+09±3.06e+09	1.36e+08±2.11e+07↓	2.56e+07±7.94e+06↓				
$f_{15}$	9.82e+06±3.69e+06	$5.71e+06\pm7.57e+05$	2.35e+06±1.94e+05↓				
$R^+$ $R^ p$ -value	_	34.0	41.0				
	_	86.0	79.0				
	_	1.51e-01	3.03e-01				

The symbols ↑ and ↓ have similar meanings as in Table I.

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TABLE V: The average errors  $\pm$  standard deviations on the CEC'2010 and CEC'2013 functions over 25 independent runs. The significantly better results are in bold font (Wilcoxon rank sum test with Holm p-value correction,  $\alpha$ =0.05).  $R^+$ ,  $R^-$  and p-value have similar meanings as in Table I.

CEC'2010 Functions								
F	CCFR-IDG2 (CMAES)	MA-SW-Chains	MOS-CEC2013					
$\begin{array}{c} f_1 \\ f_2 \\ f_3 \end{array}$	5.50e-17±2.15e-17	3.88e-14±3.59e-14↑	0.00e+00±0.00e+00↓					
	5.41e+02±4.80e+01	8.63e+02±5.84e+01↑	0.00e+00±0.00e+00↓					
	1.02e+00±3.98e-01	<b>5.41e-13</b> ± <b>2.13e-13</b> ↓	1.65e-12±6.73e-14↓					
$ f_4 f_5 f_6 f_7 f_8 $	4.28e-03±4.98e-03 1.10e+08±1.60e+07 9.58e+00±8.51e-01 4.47e-07±1.73e-06 1.25e+06±1.85e+06	$2.94e+11\pm9.32e+10\uparrow 1.75e+08\pm1.03e+08\uparrow 3.52e+04\pm1.72e+05\uparrow 3.30e+02\pm1.40e+03\uparrow 9.28e+06\pm2.36e+07\uparrow$	1.56e+10±6.02e+09↑ 1.11e+08±2.25e+07 1.22e-07±6.43e-08↓ 0.00e+00±0.00e+00↓ 1.95e+00±8.03e+00					
$f_9$ $f_{10}$ $f_{11}$ $f_{12}$ $f_{13}$	9.28e-06±5.47e-06 1.29e+03±6.14e+01 2.35e-01±4.08e-01 1.28e-10±9.64e-11 4.73e+00±3.79e+00	$\begin{array}{c} 1.45\text{e}{+}07{\pm}1.59\text{e}{+}06{\uparrow} \\ 2.06\text{e}{+}03{\pm}1.19\text{e}{+}02{\uparrow} \\ 3.69\text{e}{+}01{\pm}8.24\text{e}{+}00{\uparrow} \\ 3.19\text{e}{-}06{\pm}5.32\text{e}{-}07{\uparrow} \\ 1.09\text{e}{+}03{\pm}6.29\text{e}{+}02{\uparrow} \end{array}$	3.46e+06±4.49e+05↑ 3.78e+03±1.47e+02↑ 1.91e+02±4.07e-01↑ <b>0.00e+00±0.00e+00</b> ↓ 7.14e+02±5.68e+02↑					
$f_{14} \\ f_{15} \\ f_{16} \\ f_{17} \\ f_{18}$	2.61e-19±3.26e-20	3.34e+07±3.37e+06↑	9.80e+06±6.03e+05↑					
	2.04e+03±8.22e+01	2.69e+03±9.75e+01↑	7.44e+03±1.84e+02↑					
	8.07e-13±2.60e-14	1.08e+02±1.51e+01↑	3.82e+02±1.55e+01↑					
	7.42e-24±1.63e-25	1.26e+00±9.45e-02↑	2.83e-07±7.97e-08↑					
	1.09e+01±6.87e+00	1.87e+03±5.79e+02↑	1.54e+03±7.46e+02↑					
$f_{19} \\ f_{20}$	2.12e+04±2.21e+03	2.85e+05±1.74e+04↑	2.91e+04±2.14e+03↑					
	8.50e+02±2.50e+01	1.05e+03±7.59e+01↑	3.52e+02±4.43e+02↓					
$R^+$ $R^ p$ -value	_	207.0	157.0					
	_	3.0	53.0					
	_	1.40e-04	5.22e-02					
	CEC	C'2013 Functions						
F	CCFR-IDG2 (CMAES)	MA-SW-Chains	MOS-CEC2013					
$f_1 \\ f_2 \\ f_3$	5.52e-17±5.70e-18 <b>4.35e+02</b> ± <b>3.55e+01</b> 2.04e+01±5.30e-02	8.49e-13±1.09e-12↑ 1.22e+03±1.14e+02↑ 2.14e+01±5.62e-02↑	<b>1.27e-22</b> ± <b>7.41e-23</b> ↓ 8.32e+02±4.48e+01↑ <b>9.18e-13</b> ± <b>5.12e-14</b> ↓					
$ f_4 f_5 f_6 f_7 $	5.58e+03±2.73e+04	4.58e+09±2.46e+09↑	1.74e+08±7.87e+07↑					
	2.19e+06±3.11e+05	<b>1.87e+06±3.06e+05</b> ↓	6.94e+06±8.85e+05↑					
	9.99e+05±1.26e+04	1.01e+06±1.53e+04↑	<b>1.48e+05±6.43e+04</b> ↓					
	2.22e-08±4.21e-08	3.45e+06±1.27e+06↑	1.62e+04±9.10e+03↑					
$f_8 \\ f_9 \\ f_{10} \\ f_{11}$	4.89e+03±1.23e+03	4.85e+13±1.02e+13↑	8.00e+12±3.07e+12↑					
	1.59e+08±3.33e+07	1.07e+08±1.68e+07↓	3.83e+08±6.29e+07↑					
	9.11e+07±1.35e+06	9.18e+07±1.06e+06↑	<b>9.02e+05±5.07e+05</b> ↓					
	4.64e-05±7.47e-05	2.19e+08±2.98e+07↑	5.22e+07±2.05e+07↑					
$f_{12} \\ f_{13} \\ f_{14}$	1.01e+03±5.20e+01	1.25e+03±1.05e+02↑	2.47e+02±2.54e+02↓					
	2.58e+06±3.00e+05	1.98e+07±1.82e+06↑	3.40e+06±1.06e+06↑					
	3.63e+07±3.21e+06	1.36e+08±2.11e+07↑	2.56e+07±7.94e+06↓					
$f_{15}$	2.80e+06±2.77e+05	5.71e+06±7.57e+05↑	2.35e+06±1.94e+05↓					
$R^+$ $R^ p$ -value	_	103.0	77.0					
	_	17.0	43.0					
	_	1.25e-02	3.59e-01					

The symbols  $\uparrow$  and  $\downarrow$  have similar meanings as in Table I.