



GECCO'13 Black-Box Optimization Benchmarking: Workshop Chairs' Welcome Message



Welcome to the Black-Box Optimization Benchmarking (BBOB) 2013 workshop!

This workshop is a follow up of the BBOB 2009 workshop in Montreal, the BBOB 2010 workshop in Portland, and the BBOB 2012 workshop in Philadelphia. The workshop focuses on benchmarking continuous optimizers—a crucial task to assess performance of optimizers quantitatively, understand weaknesses and strengths of each algorithm, and a compulsory path to evaluate new algorithm designs. Because this task is tedious and difficult to realize, we have furnished to the participants:

- ✦ the choice and implementation of two well-motivated single-objective benchmark function testbeds for noiseless and noisy optimization,
- ✦ the design of an experimental set-up,
- ✦ the generation of data output, and
- ✦ the post-processing and presentation of the results in graphs and tables.

Over the years, the BBOB workshop has allowed to establish a standard for benchmarking continuous optimizers. The code for running experiments and for post-processing data as well as the collected data are made available on the website <http://coco.gforge.inria.fr/>. This year, a new version of the post-processing code furthermore allowed a focus towards *expensive optimization* where only a small budget of function evaluations is affordable.

We would like to thank the different participants for their contributions and are happy to announce that we have accepted 12 papers presenting the results of about 30 new algorithm variants and of which three papers use the new expensive optimization scenario. For further news about the workshop please check our webpage, and subscribe to the mailing lists!

The BBOBies,

<http://coco.gforge.inria.fr/>

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BBOB 2013 Organization

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