



Advances on Many-objective Evolutionary Optimization

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Outline

- Basic concepts
 - Multi-, many-objective optimization
- Scalability issues and fundamentals of many-objective optimization
- Various approaches to many-objective optimization
- Conclusions

2

Multi-objective Optimization

- Find vectors of decision variables,

$$x = (x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n) \in S$$
Decision space
- Subject to certain constraints,

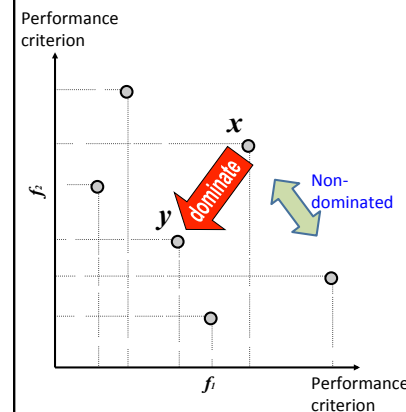
$$x \in F, F \subseteq S$$
Feasible solutions
- Simultaneously optimizing two or more performance criteria expressed as a vector of objective functions.

Objective space

Maximize $f(x) = (f_1(x), f_2(x), \dots, f_m(x))$

3

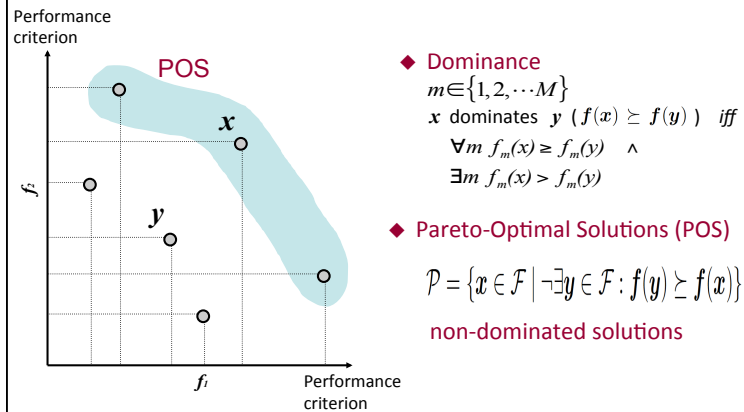
Pareto Dominance



◆ **Dominance**
 $m \in \{1, 2, \dots, M\}$
 x dominates y ($f(x) \succeq f(y)$) iff
 $\forall m f_m(x) \geq f_m(y) \wedge$
 $\exists m f_m(x) > f_m(y)$

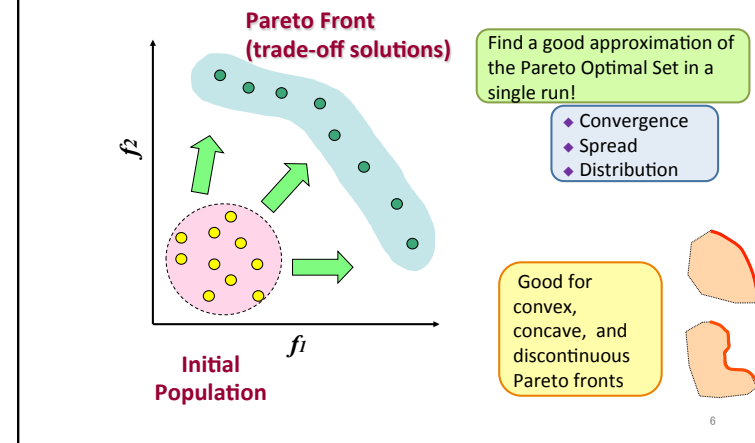
4

Pareto Optimum Solutions (POS)



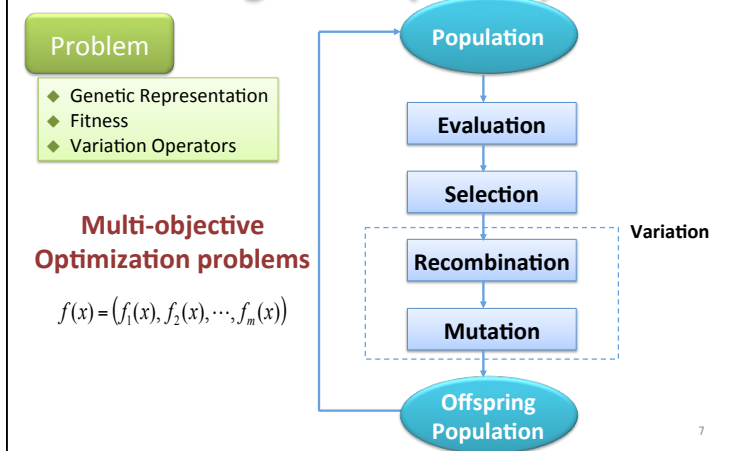
5

Evolutionary Multi-objective Optimization



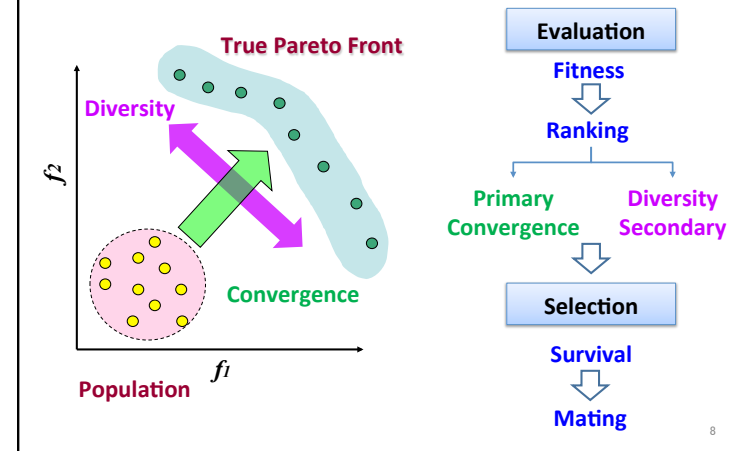
6

Multi-objective Evolutionary Algorithm (MOEA)



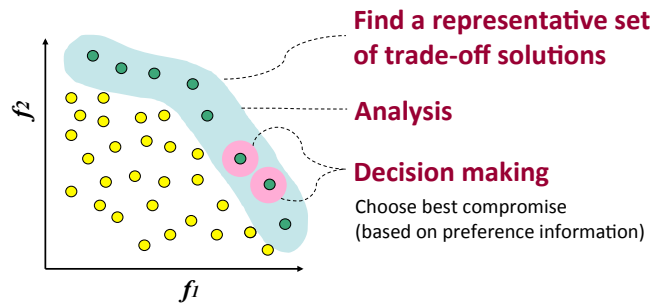
7

Primary and Secondary Rankings



8

Optimization, Analysis, and Decision Making

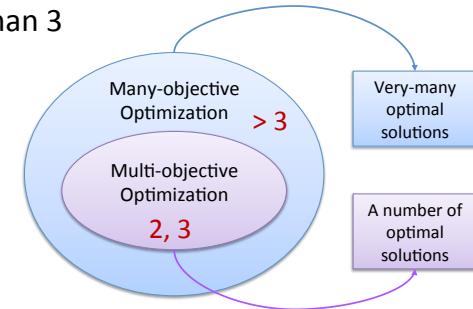


- ◆ Decision making before search: define a single objective
- ◆ Decision making after search: find/approximate Pareto set first
- ◆ Decision making during search: guide search interactively

9

Many-objective Evolutionary Optimization

- Evolutionary multi-objective optimization where the number of objectives to optimize is more than 3



10

From Multi- to Many-objective Evolutionary Optimization

- Evolutionary algorithms are quite effective for 2 and 3 objective-problems
- MOEAs do not scale up well on many-objective problems

Reasons?
What do we need to fix?

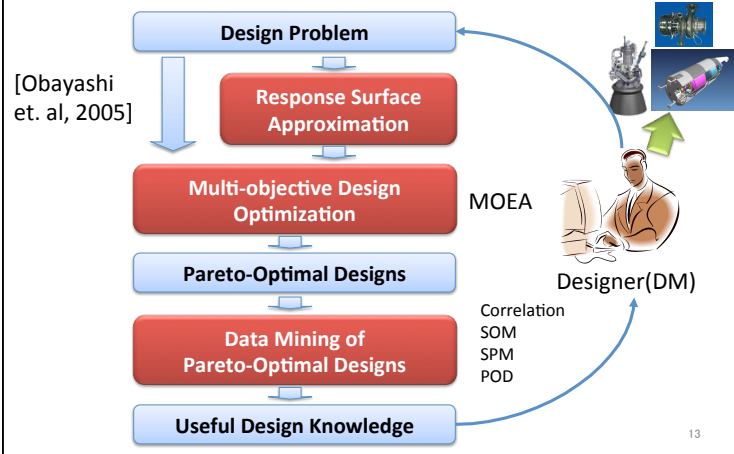
11

Real World Design Problems

- Multiple objective functions
 - Nonlinear, multimodal, discontinuous
 - Objective function evaluation is very expensive
- Extraction of useful design knowledge is important
 - Design knowledge is more appreciated than "exact" optimal design parameter values

12

Real-World Design Innovation with Multi-objective Design Exploration (MODE)

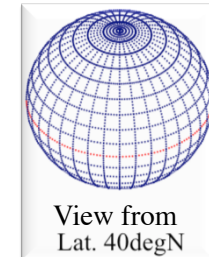
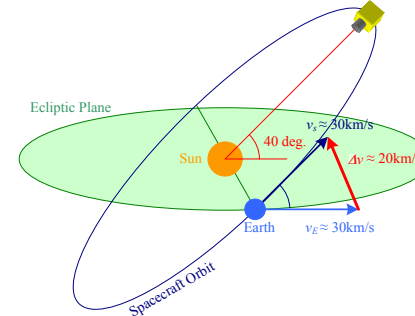


Mission: Observation of Polar Region of the Sun

[Oyama, 2011]



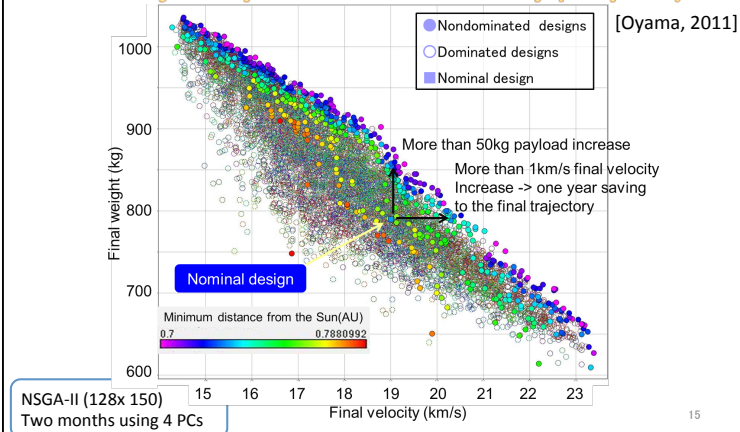
- Orbit largely inclines with the ecliptic plane (40 deg.)
- Large delta-v (20km/s) is required



14

MODE of Pareto Front Full Trajectory of Solar Observatory (5 Cycles)

[Oyama, 2011]



MODE for Large Scale Many-Objective Problems

- MODE has been used successfully for 2 and 3 objective problems



- Demands for MODE applicable to large scale many-objective problems



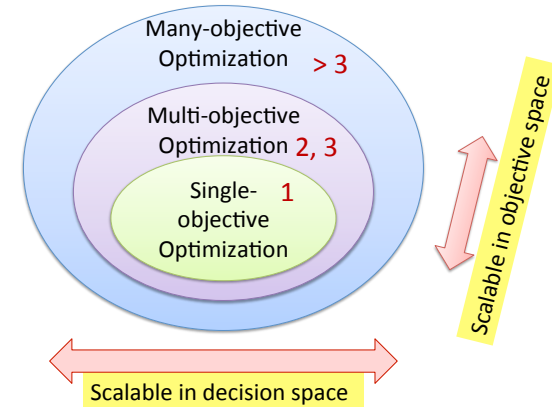
16

Real-World Design Innovation: Problems Characteristics – Algorithm's Issues

Problem Characteristics	Algorithm's implications
Various formulations: - Multi-, many-objectives - Few, many variables	Handle within a single framework: Any-objective optimizer - Scalability in objective space - Scalability in decision space
Extract design knowledge	- Good approx. of the Pareto optimal set: convergence, spread, distribution - A large number of solutions
Expensive fitness evaluation	- Few generations - Parallelization - One shot (one run): Adaptive, low standard deviations

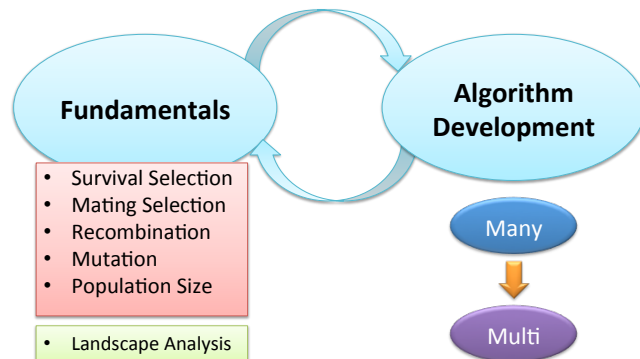
17

Any-objective Optimization



18

Approach to Effective Any-objective Optimization



19

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20

MNK-Landscapes

$$f(\cdot) = (f_1(\cdot), \dots, f_M(\cdot)) : B^N \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^M$$

M , number of objectives

N , number of bits

$B=\{0,1\}$

Fitness of string x in i -th objective

[Kauffman, 1993]

$$f_i(x) = \frac{1}{N} \sum_{j=1}^N f_{i,j}(x_j, z_1^{(i,j)}, z_2^{(i,j)}, \dots, z_{K_i}^{(i,j)})$$

$$f_{i,j} : B^{K_i+1} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$$

Fitness contribution of bit x_j

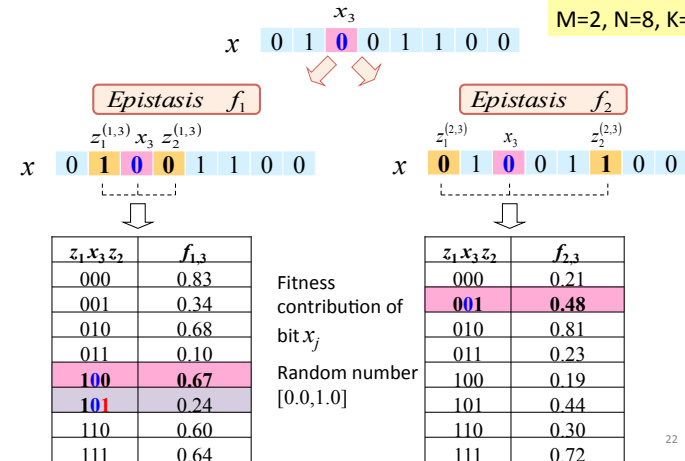
Random number $[0.0, 1.0]$

K_i bits interacting with x_j

21

MNK-Landscapes: Example

$M=2, N=8, K=2$



Number of Interacting Bits K_i

$$f_i(x) = \frac{1}{N} \sum_{j=1}^N f_{i,j}(x_j, z_1^{(i,j)}, z_2^{(i,j)}, \dots, z_{K_i}^{(i,j)})$$

K_i bits interacting with x_j

$K_i = 0$

- One peaked, smooth, highly correlated i -th landscape



Varying K_i from 1 to $N-1$

- Increasingly rugged multi-peaked i -th landscape



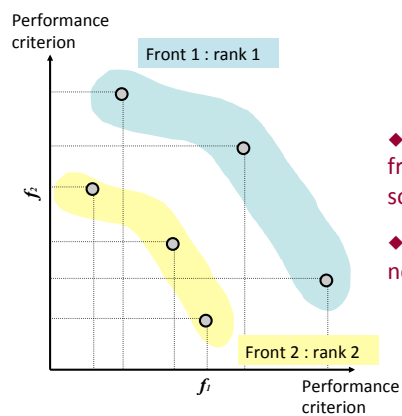
23

Features of MNK-Landscapes by Enumeration

- Enumerate MNK-landscapes
 - M : 2-10 objectives
 - N : 10, 15, 20 bits
 - K : 0, 5, 15, 25, 35, 50 (%N) bits
- Rank solutions by non-dominated sorting
- Average on 30 landscapes: L1-L30

24

Non-dominated Sorting



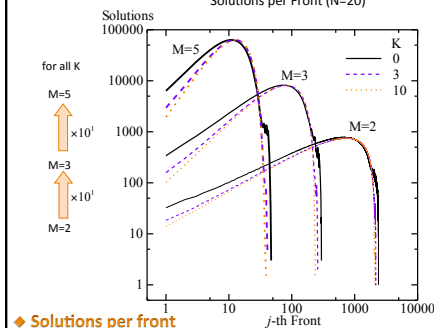
Goldberg
- NSGA-II, Deb et.al

- ◆ Classifies a population in fronts of non-dominated solutions
- ◆ Ranks solutions by their non-domination front

25

Effects of Number of Objectives Number of Non-Dominated Solutions and Fronts

[Aguirre and Tanaka, MNK-Landscapes, 2004]
Solutions per Front (N=20)



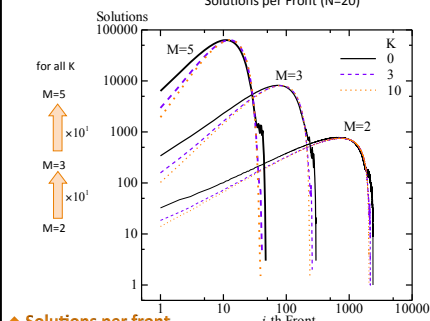
◆ Solutions per front
increase with M

◆ Number of fronts
decrease with M

26

Effects of Number of Objectives Number of Non-Dominated Solutions and Fronts

[Aguirre and Tanaka, MNK-Landscapes, 2004]
Solutions per Front (N=20)



◆ Solutions per front
increase with M

◆ Number of fronts
decrease with M

27

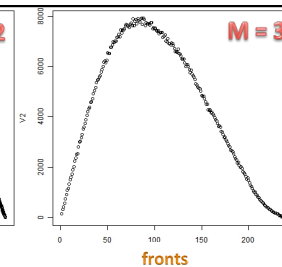
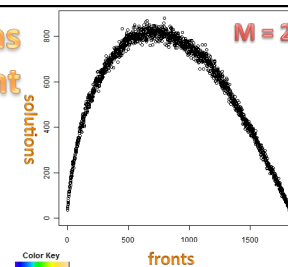
Implications?

Objective Space
Selection
dominance
diversity estimation

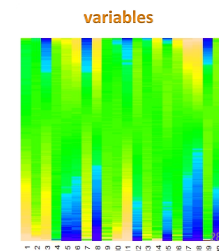
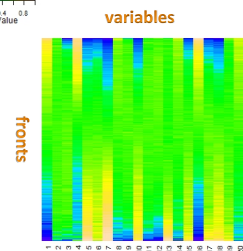
Variable Space
Variation Operators
crossover
mutation

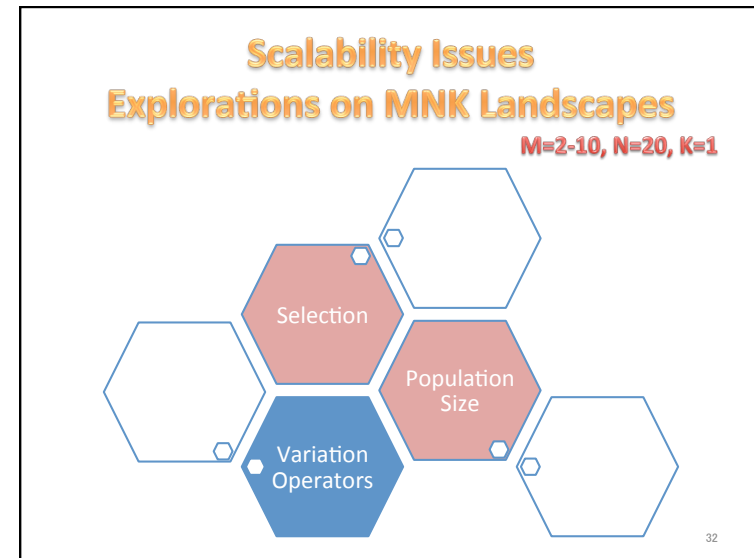
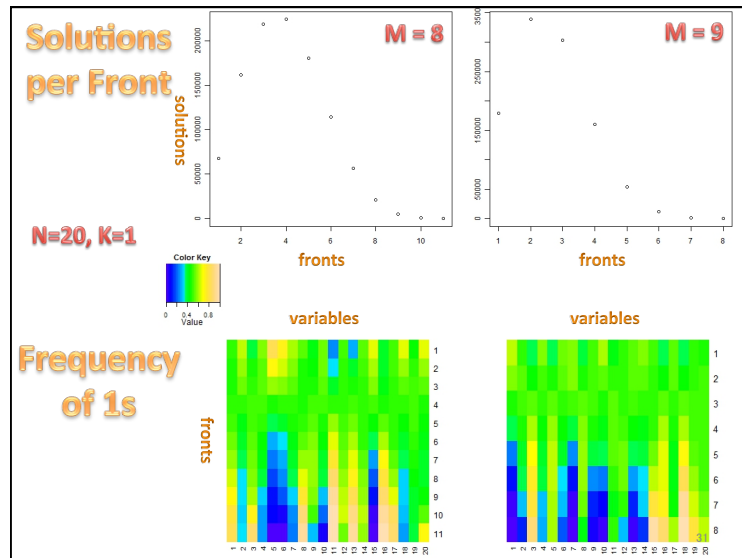
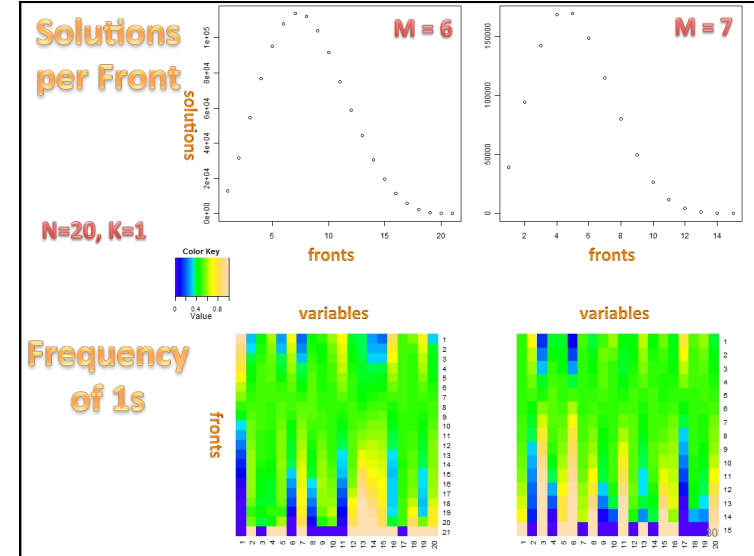
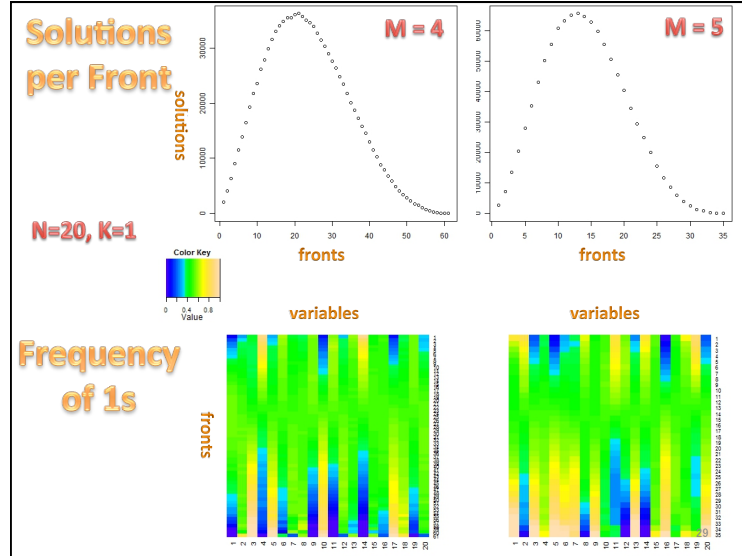
Solutions per Front

N=20, K=1



Frequency of 1s





Scalability Issues : Selection

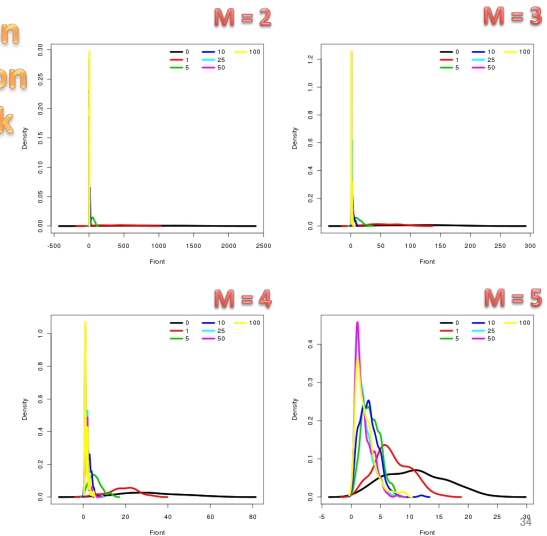
- Population Distribution by True Rank
- Non-dominated and True Pareto Optimal Solutions

33

Population Distribution True Rank

$N=20, K=1$

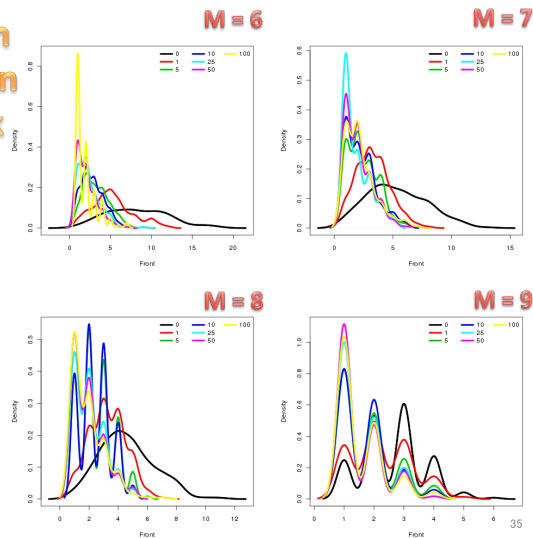
PopSize = 200



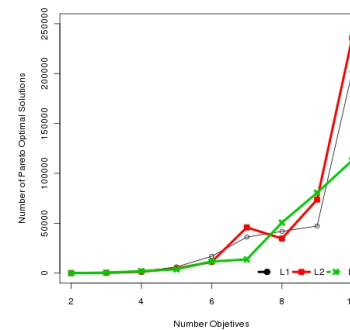
Population Distribution True Rank

$N=20, K=1$

PopSize = 200



Number of True Pareto Optimal Solutions

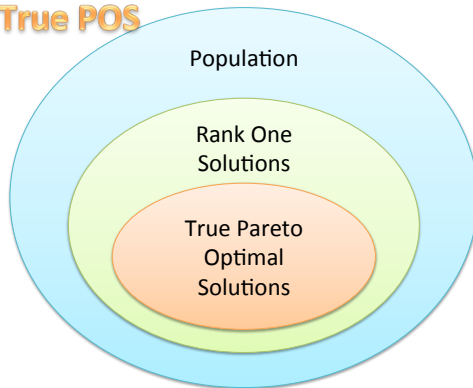


M	L1	L2	L3
2	26	18	56
3	152	330	376
4	1,554	1,349	2,014
5	6,265	4,701	3,846
6	16,845	11,177	11,673
7	36,142	45,806	13,714
8	41,836	34,655	50,646
9	47,203	73,691	80,539
10	202,001	235,812	112,945

36

Population

- * Rank One Solutions
- * True POS

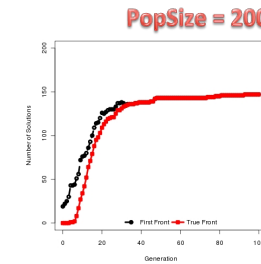
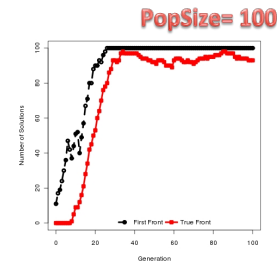
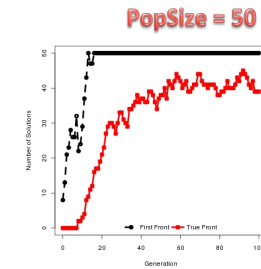


37

Population

- * Rank One Solutions
- * True POS

$M = 3$ objectives
 $|POS| = 152$

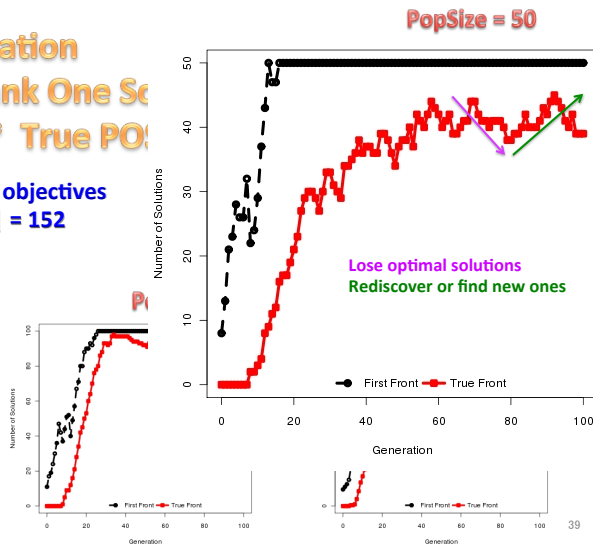


38

Population

- * Rank One Solutions
- * True POS

$M = 3$ objectives
 $|POS| = 152$



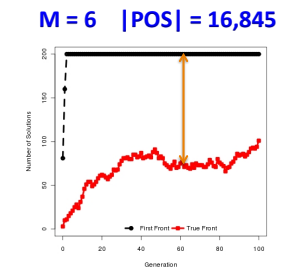
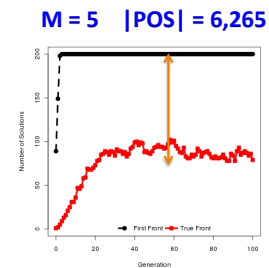
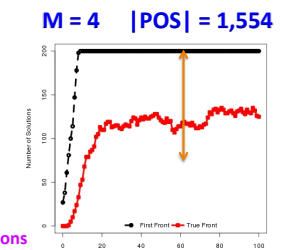
39

Small Population

- * Rank One Solutions
- * True POS

PopSize = 200

- $|POS|$ increase with M , but
- Capacity of selection to retain optimal solutions in the population reduces with M



40

Scalability Issues : Selection Lapse

- Ranking
 - Based on current population
 - Does not completely capture true order in objective space
- Lost of optimal solutions

41

Population Size

- Many more solutions are required to represent the Pareto front
- Larger populations can support better the evolutionary process

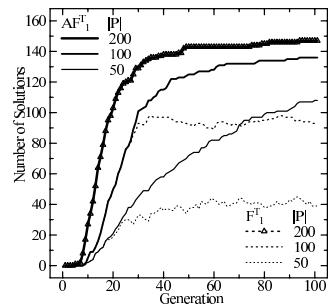
42

Large Population : 1/3, 2/3, 4/3 |POS|

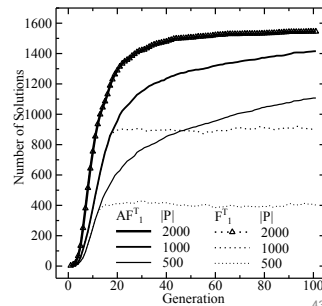
* Rank One Solutions

* Accumulated True POS

M = 3 objectives
|POS| = 152



M = 4 objectives
|POS| = 1,554



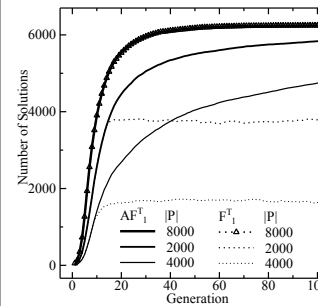
43

Large Population : 1/3, 2/3, 4/3 |POS|

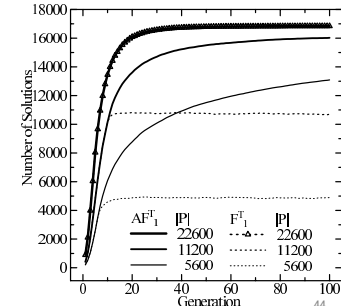
* Rank One Solutions

* Accumulated True POS

M = 5 objectives
|POS| = 6,265

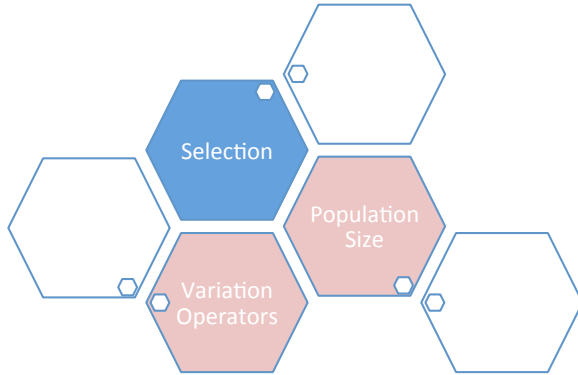


M = 6 objectives
|POS| = 16,845



44

Scalability Issues Explorations on DTLZ Test Functions



45

DTLZ test functions

DTLZ2

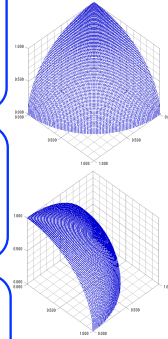
$$\begin{aligned} f_1 &= (1+g) \prod_{i=1}^{M-1} \cos(y_i \pi/2) \\ f_{m=2:M-1} &= (1+g) \prod_{i=1}^{M-1} \cos(y_i \pi/2) \sin(y_{M-m+1} \pi/2) \\ f_M &= (1+g) \sin(y_1 \pi/2) \\ g &= \sum_{i=1}^k (z_i - 0.5)^2 \end{aligned}$$

DTLZ3

$$\begin{aligned} f_1 &= (1+g) \prod_{i=1}^{M-1} \cos(y_i \pi/2) \\ f_{m=2:M-1} &= (1+g) \prod_{i=1}^{M-1} \cos(y_i \pi/2) \sin(y_{M-m+1} \pi/2) \\ f_M &= (1+g) \sin(y_1 \pi/2) \\ g &= 100 \left[k + \sum_{i=1}^k ((z_i - 0.5)^2 - \cos(20\pi(z_i - 0.5))) \right] \end{aligned}$$

DTLZ4

$$\begin{aligned} f_1 &= (1+g) \prod_{i=1}^{M-1} \cos(y_i^\alpha \pi/2) \\ f_{m=2:M-1} &= (1+g) \prod_{i=1}^{M-1} \cos(y_i^\alpha \pi/2) \sin(y_{M-m+1} \pi/2) \\ f_M &= (1+g) \sin(y_1^\alpha \pi/2) \\ g &= \sum_{i=1}^k (z_i - 0.5)^2 \end{aligned}$$

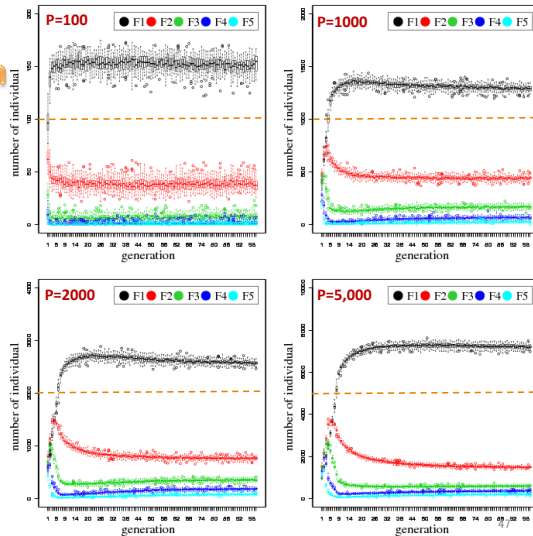
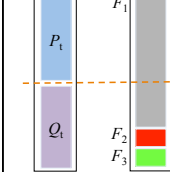


46

Fronts Distribution (NSGA-II)

Non-dominated sorting

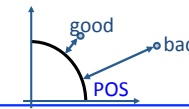
$$R_i = P_i \cup Q_i$$



Proximity Indicator

- Measures convergence of solutions
- Smaller values of I_p indicate that the population P is closer to the true Pareto front

Convergence



How close is the set obtained by the algorithms to POS ?

Proximity Indicator

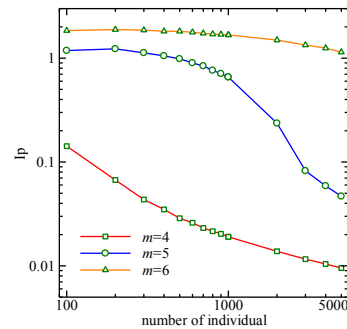
$$I_p = \text{median}_{x \in P} \left\{ \left[\sum_{i=1}^m (f_i(x))^2 \right]^{\frac{1}{2}} - 1 \right\} \quad f_m : \text{objective function}$$

48

Population Size: Effect on Convergence

Variables: $n = m + 9$

➤ NSGA-II (DTLZ2)

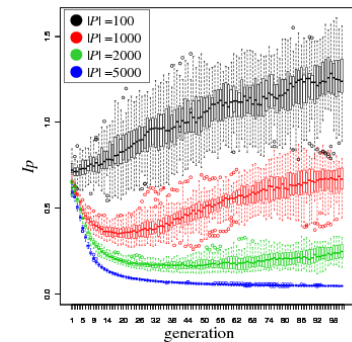
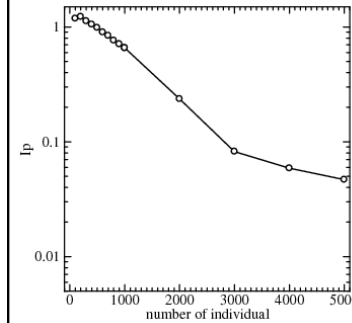


Good convergence

Large population

49

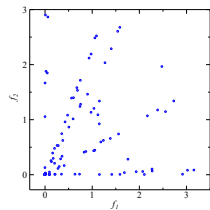
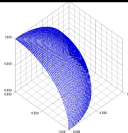
Proximity Indicator Over the Generations (NSGA-II)



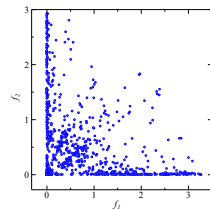
Objectives: $m = 5$

50

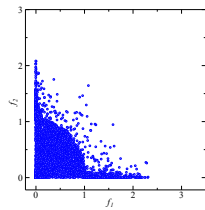
Population Size: Effect on Distribution of Solutions



$m=5, |P|=100$



$m=5, |P|=1000$



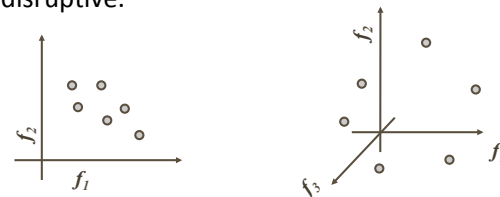
$m=5, |P|=5000$

- Solutions tend to concentrate along the axis
- When the population increases the solutions tends to cluster towards the central regions of objective space

51

Disruptive Recombination ?

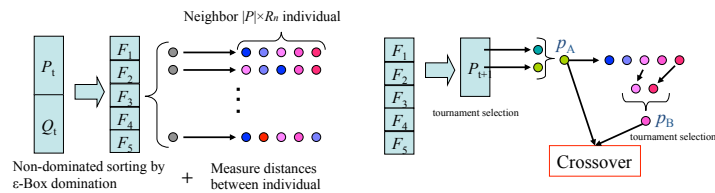
- Non-dominated solutions in many-objective problems cover a larger portion of objective and variable space
- Difference between individuals in the instantaneous population is expected to be larger.
- Recombining two very different individuals could be too disruptive.



52

Neighborhood Recombination : Method

- Calculates the distance between individuals in objective space and keeps a record of the $|P| \times Rn$ closets neighbors of each individual
- We set the parameter Rn to 2% 5% 10%

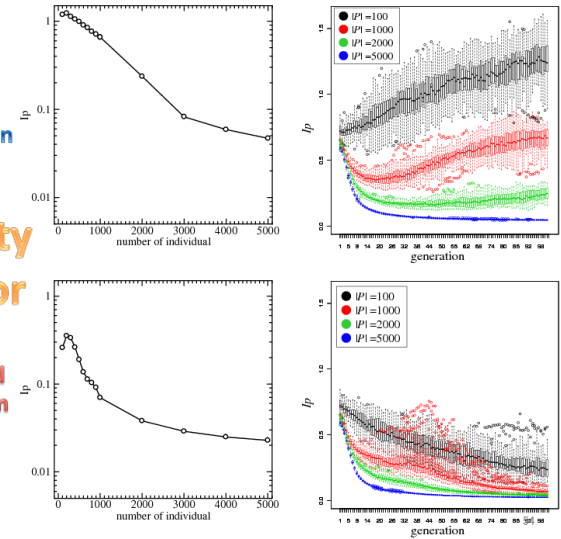


53

Unrestricted Recombination

Proximity Indicator

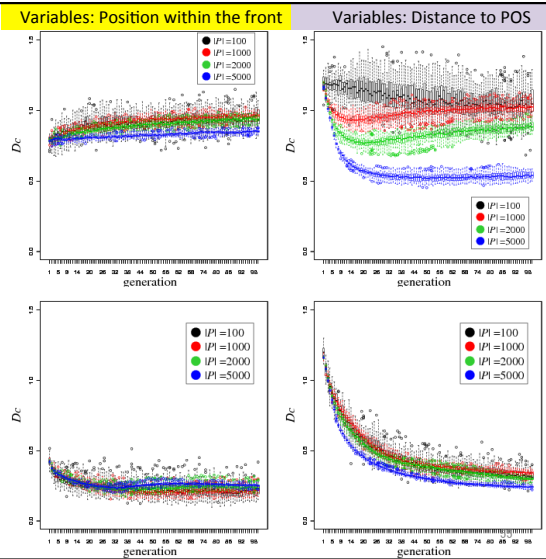
Neighborhood Recombination



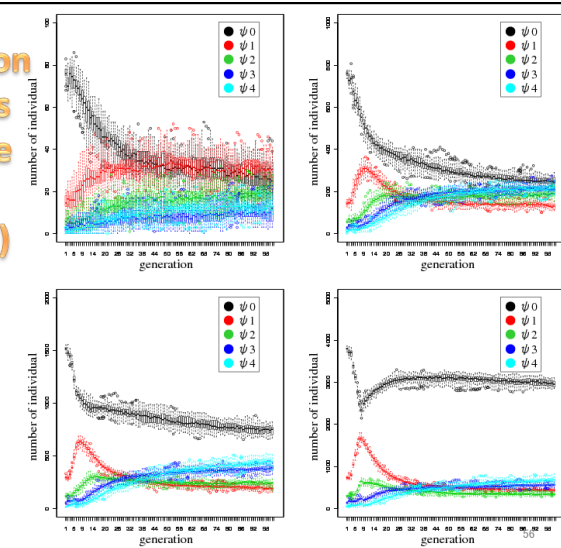
Unrestricted Recombination

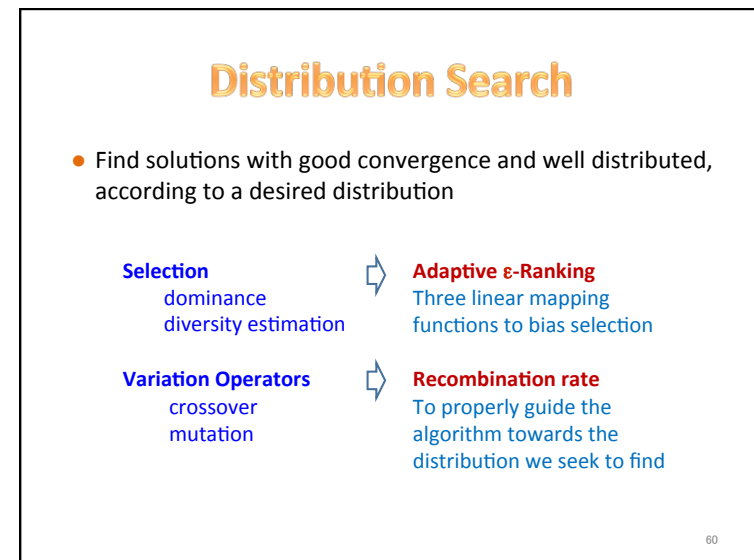
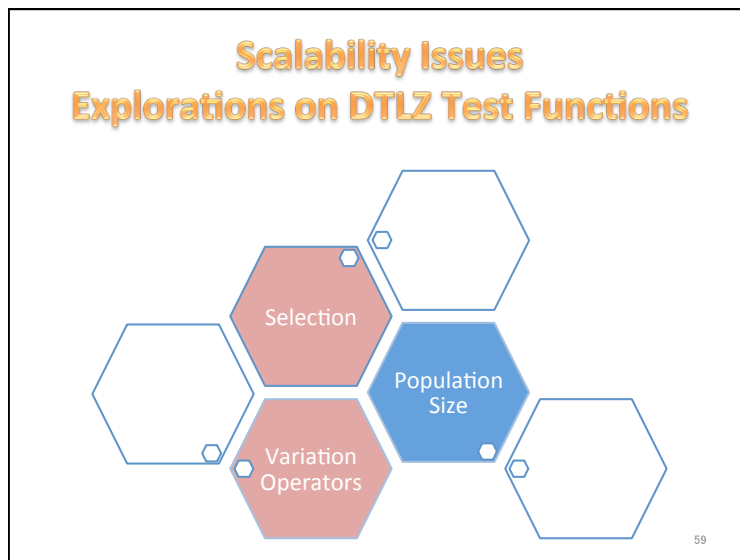
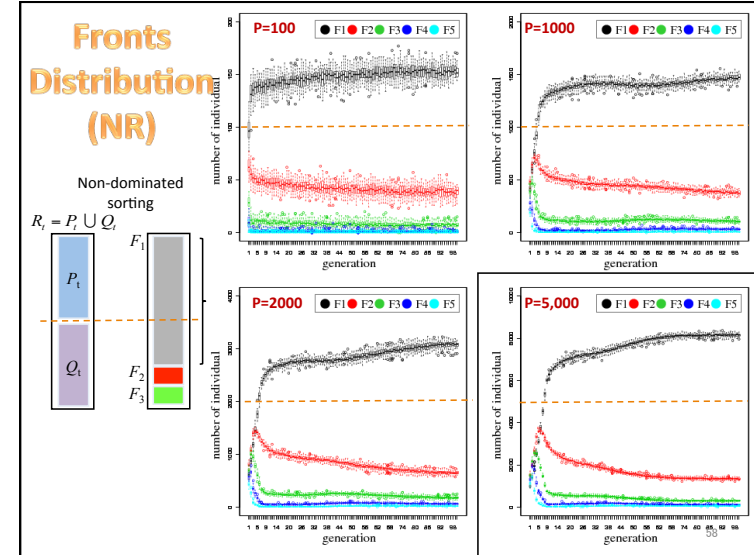
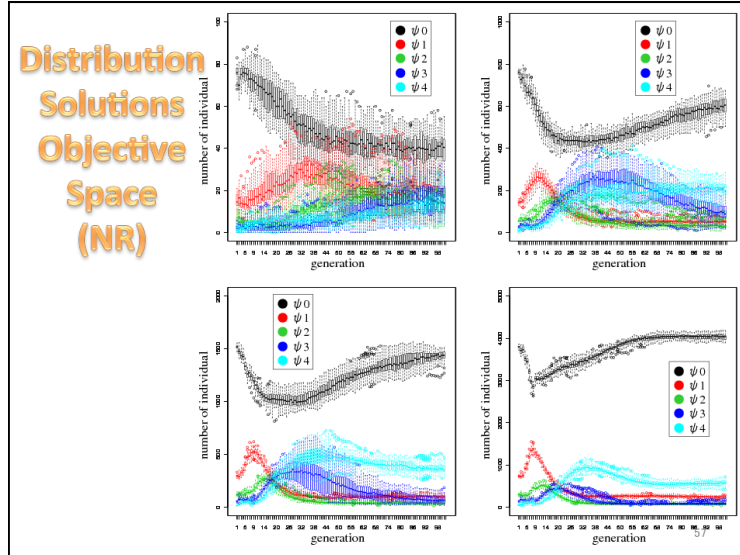
Mates Distance

Neighborhood Recombination



Distribution Solutions Objective Space (NSGA-II)



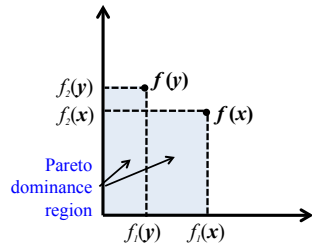


Pareto Dominance and ε -Dominance

◆ Dominance

x dominates y iff

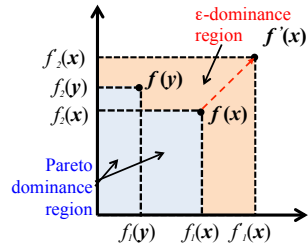
$$\forall i f_i(x) \geq f_i(y) \quad \wedge \quad \exists i f_i(x) > f_i(y) \quad i = 1, 2, \dots, m$$



◆ ε -Dominance

x ε -dominates y iff

$$f(x) \mapsto^\varepsilon f'(x) \quad \forall i f'_i(x) \geq f_i(y) \quad \wedge \quad \exists i f'_i(x) > f_i(y)$$



61

Mapping Functions for ε -Dominance

$$f(x) \mapsto^\varepsilon f'(x)$$

• Various functions have been used

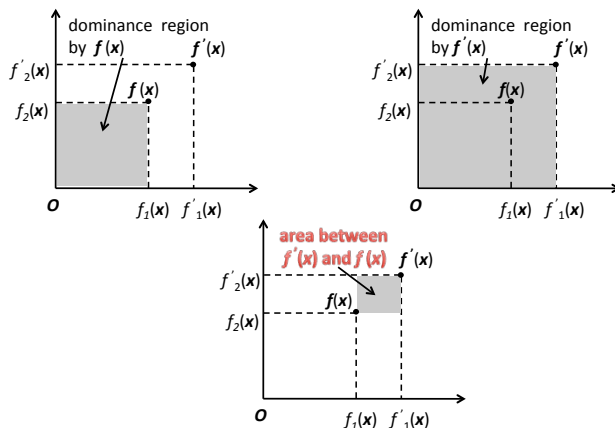
- ✓ Logarithmic [Leumanns et al.] [Deb] [Aguirre, Tanaka]
- ✓ Multiplicative [Leumanns et al.] [Aguirre, Tanaka]
- ✓ Additive [Leumanns et al.]

• In this work we study three additive linear functions

- Additive Constant
- Expansion from the Center
- Contraction from the Center

62

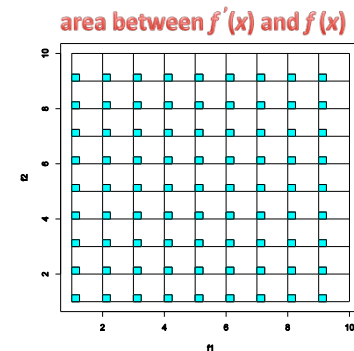
Dominance Regions and Area between $f(x)$ and $f'(x)$



63

Additive Constant

$$f'_i(x) = f_i(x) + \varepsilon, \quad i = 1, \dots, m$$



distributions of solutions evenly spaced

64

Expansion from the Center

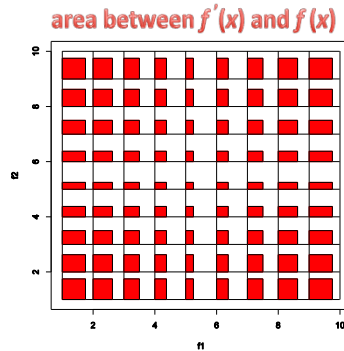
$$f'_i(x) = f_i(x) + \varepsilon + \delta_i,$$

$$i = 1, \dots, m$$

$$\delta_i = \gamma \frac{|f_i(x) - \bar{f}_i|}{\frac{1}{2}|f_i^{\max} - f_i^{\min}|}$$

$$\bar{f}_i = \frac{1}{2}(f_i^{\max} + f_i^{\min})$$

solutions spaced by a distance that increases linearly from the center towards the extremes of objective space



65

Contraction from the Center

$$f'_i(x) = f_i(x) + \varepsilon + \delta_i,$$

$$i = 1, \dots, m$$

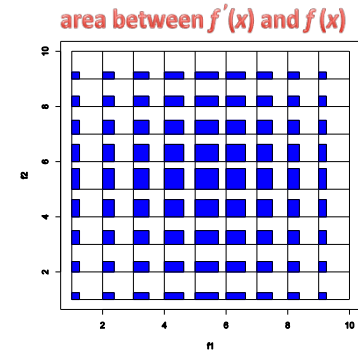
$$f_i(x) > \bar{f}_i$$

$$\delta_i = \gamma \frac{|f_i(x) - f_i^{\max}|}{\frac{1}{2}|f_i^{\max} - f_i^{\min}|}$$

Otherwise

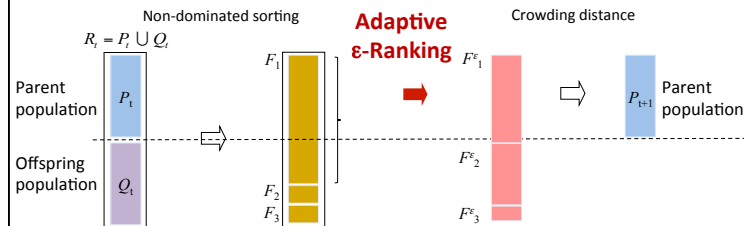
$$\delta_i = \gamma \frac{|f_i(x) - f_i^{\min}|}{\frac{1}{2}|f_i^{\max} - f_i^{\min}|}$$

solutions spaced by a distance that decreases linearly from the center towards the extremes



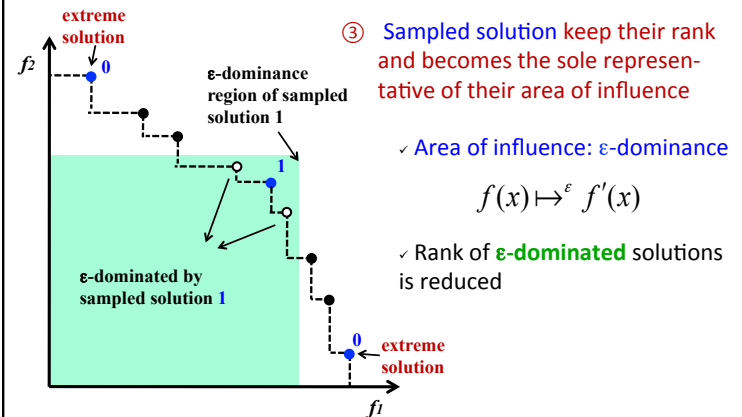
66

Adaptive ε -Ranking

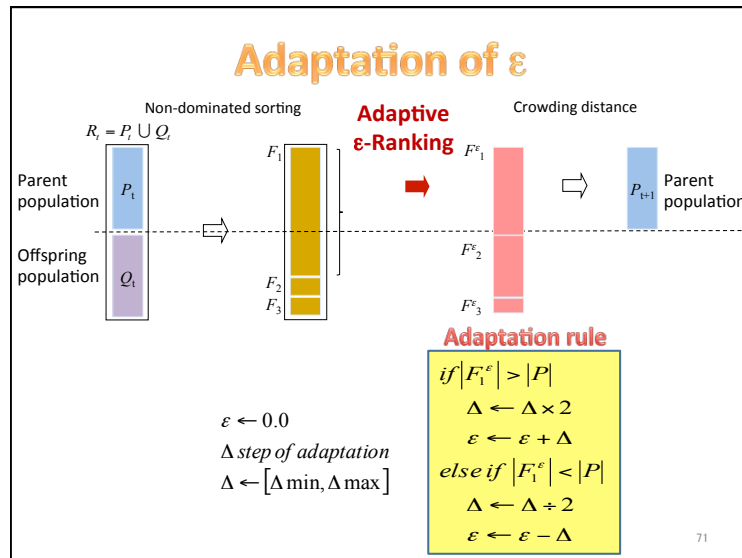
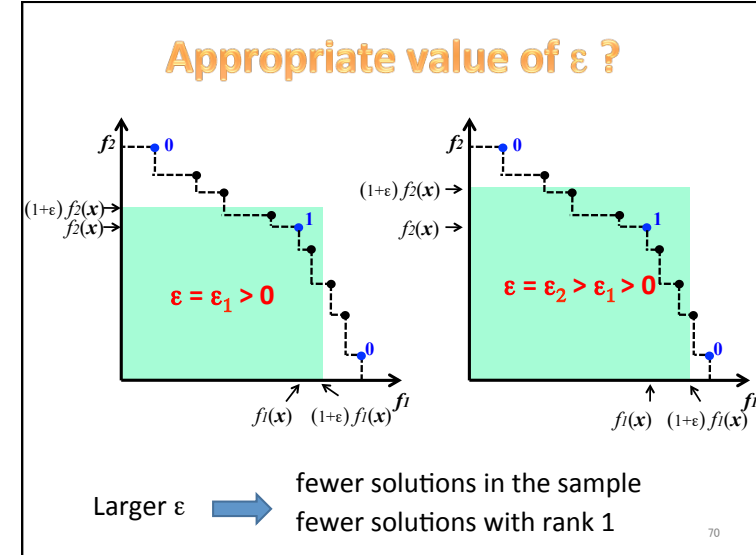
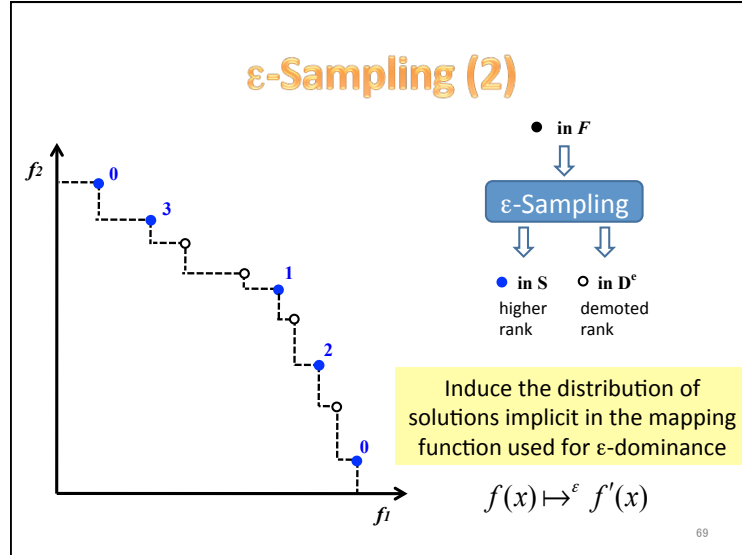


67

ε -Sampling



68



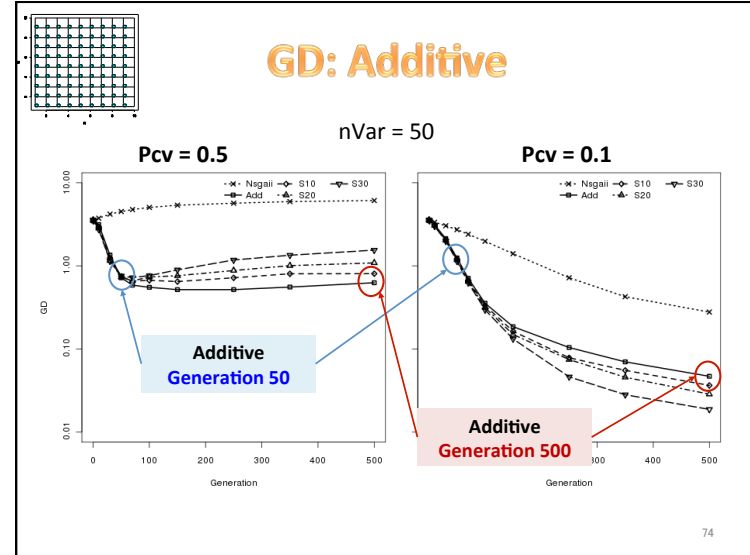
- ### Test Problems and Parameters
- Problems
 - DTLZ2, DTLZ3, DTL4 functions
 - 6 objectives
 - Number of variables, **nVar 10, 30, 50**
 - Algorithm Parameters
 - SBX Crossover, Polynomial Mutation
 - Crossover rate per variable, **Pcv 0.5, 0.1**
 - Three mapping functions for ϵ -dominance, Additive, Expansion, Contraction
 - **Population size 300**
 - **Number of generations 500**
- 72

Performance Measures

- Convergence
 - Generational Distance (GD) to True Pareto Front
- Distribution of Solutions
 - Scatter Plots
 - Hexagonal Binning Plots

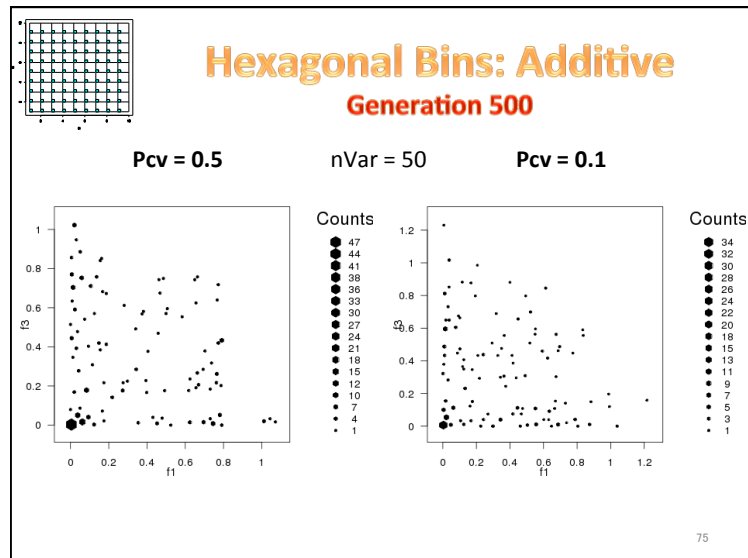
73

GD: Additive



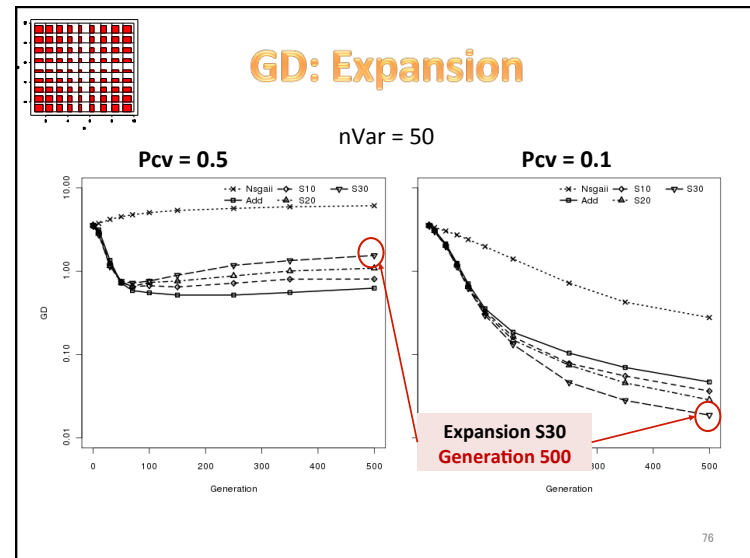
74

Hexagonal Bins: Additive Generation 500

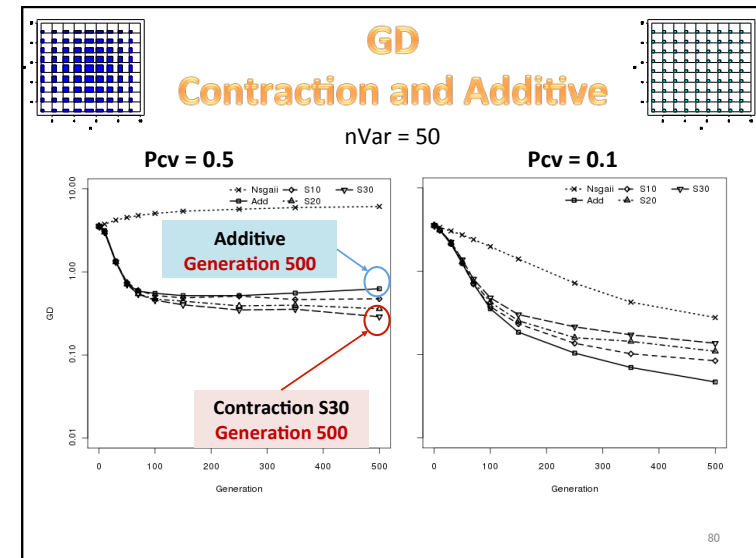
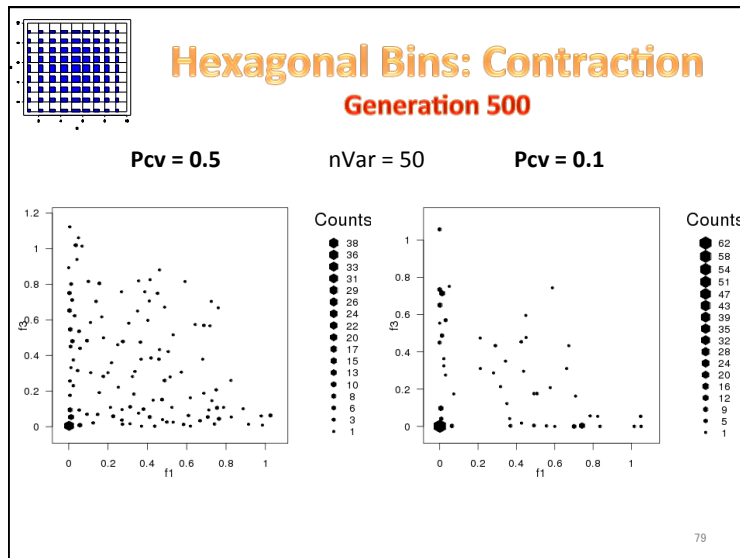
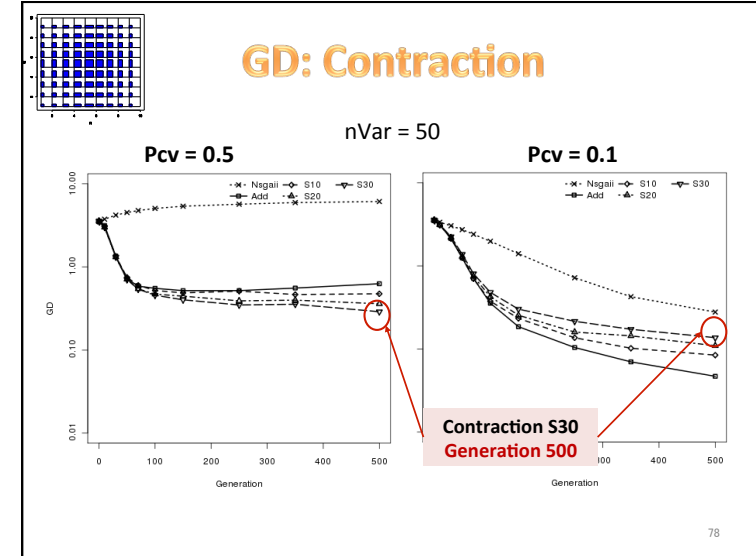
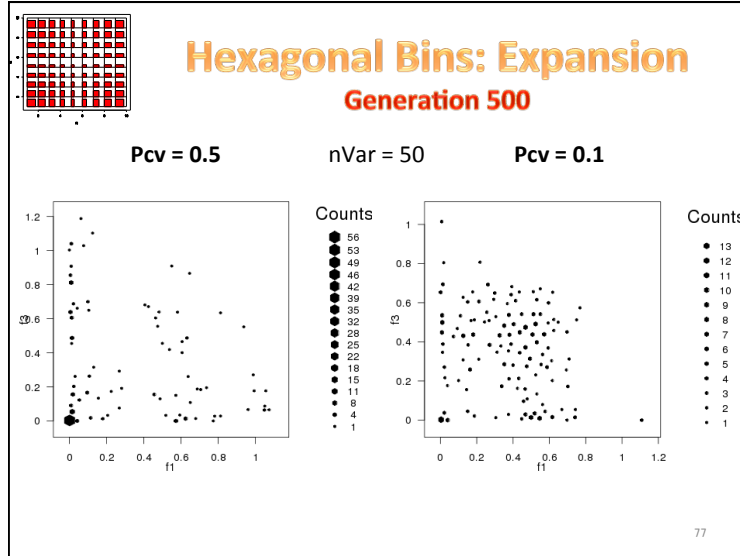


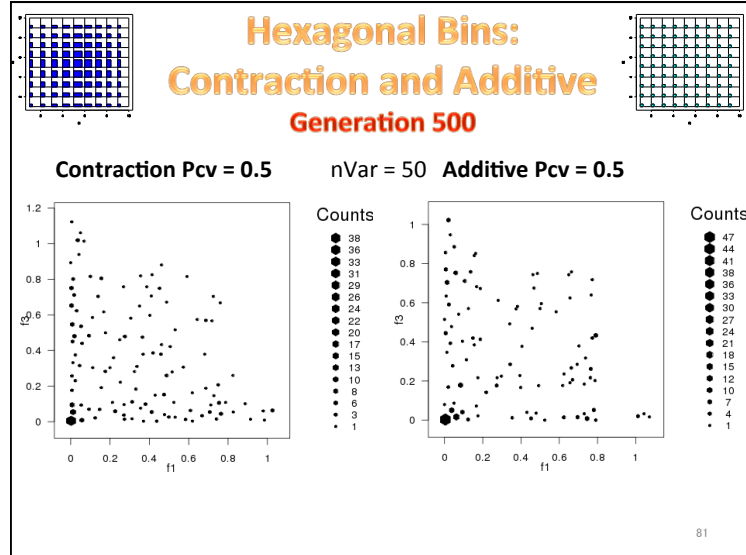
75

GD: Expansion



76





Distribution Search: Conclusions

- In many-objective continuous problems a smaller recombination rate per variable can increase substantially convergence of solutions.
- Selection alone without considering a proper recombination rate cannot induce the distribution we seek to achieve.

82

Outline

- Basic concepts
 - Multi-, many-objective optimization
- Scalability issues and fundamentals of many-objective optimization
- Various approaches to many-objective optimization
- Conclusions

83

Various Approaches to Many-objective Optimization

- Pareto Dominance Extensions
- Scalarizing Functions
 - Decomposition
 - Performance Indicators
- Objective space partitioning
- Dimensionality reduction

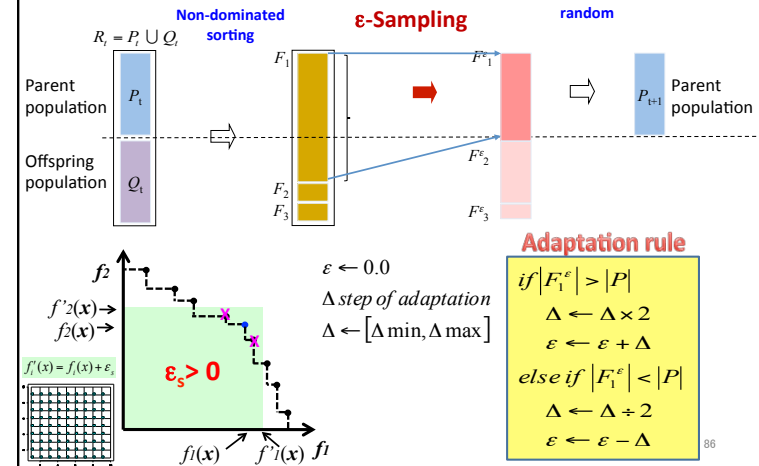
84

The Adaptive ε -Sampling and ε -Hood EMyO (A ε S ε H)

- **Survival Selection**
 - Eliminate inferior solutions: Dominance
 - Get a well distributed sample: **Adaptive ε -Sampling**
 - Reduces dropping of optimal solutions: Improves selection
- **Mating Selection**
 - Create ε -Neighborhoods: **Adaptive ε -Hood**
 - Balance search effort: More reproductive opportunities to under-represented regions
- **Recombination**
 - Within the ε -Neighborhood
 - Improves effectiveness of recombination

85

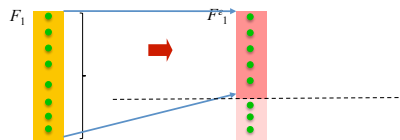
Adaptive ε -Sampling (A ε S)



86

Adaptive ε -Sampling : Why ?

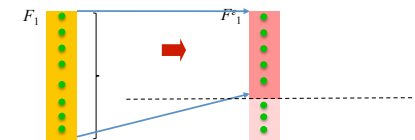
- Non-dominated in population



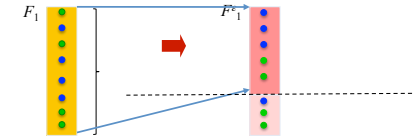
87

Adaptive ε -Sampling : Why ?

- Non-dominated in population

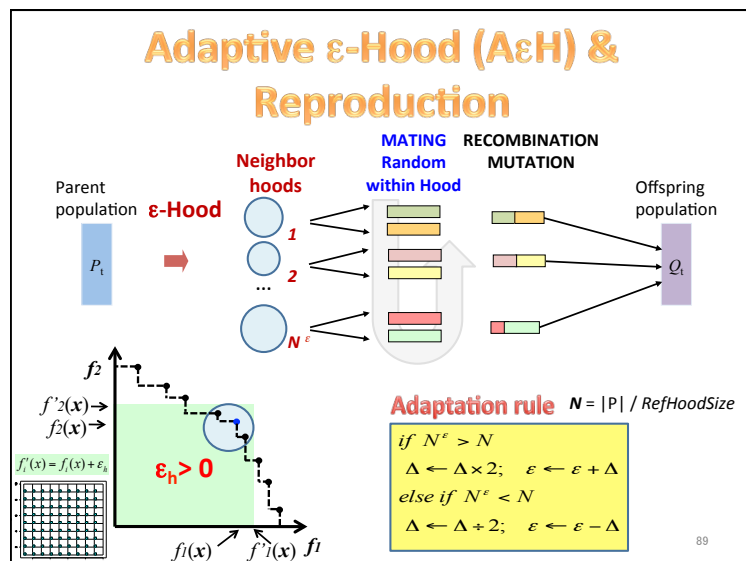


- Non-dominated in population
- Superior in the landscape



ε -Sampling reduces dropping of superior solutions

88



Parameters and Problems

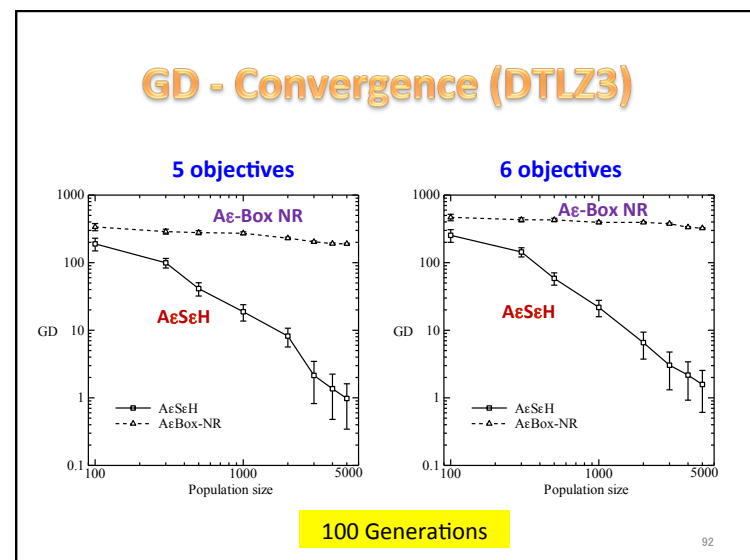
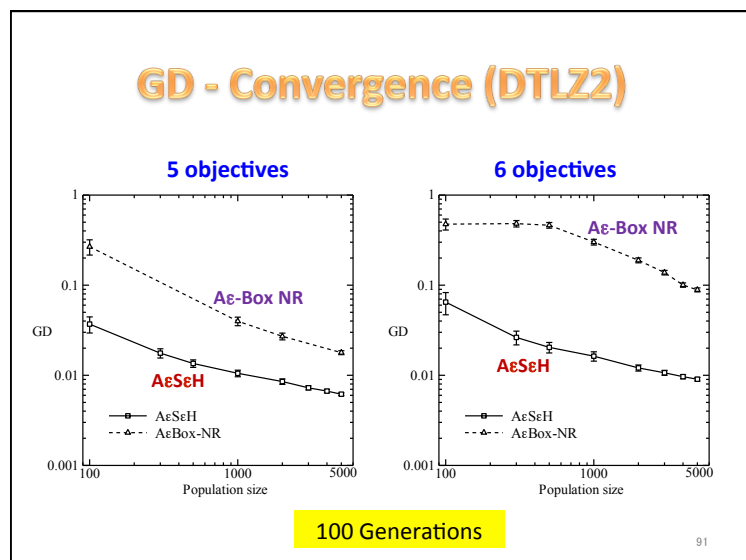
EMyO :

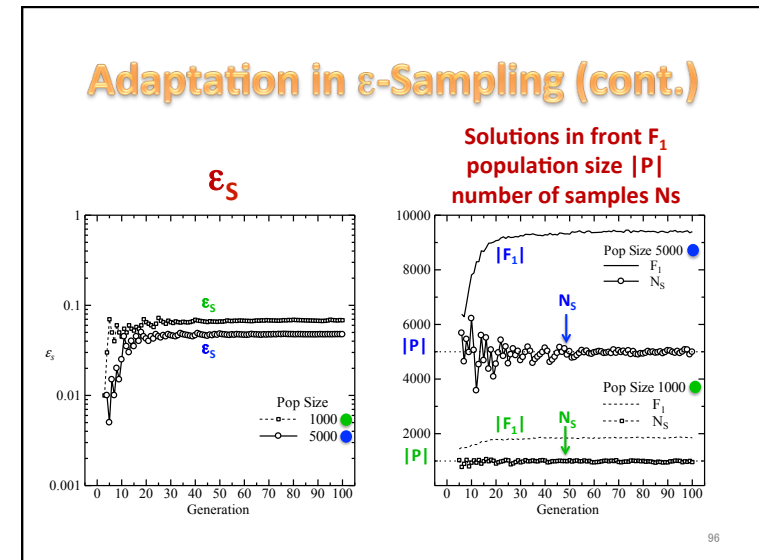
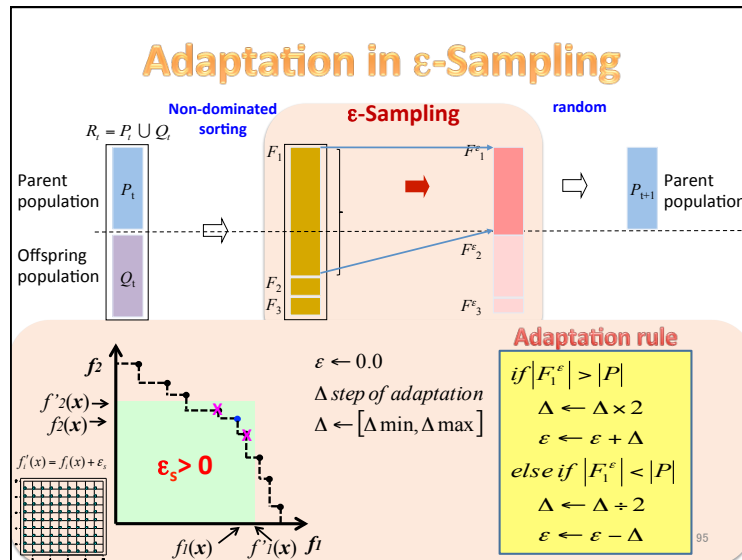
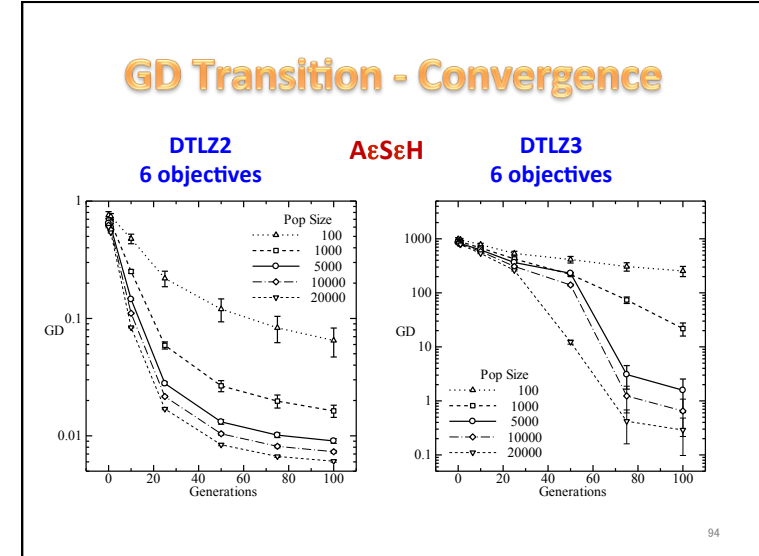
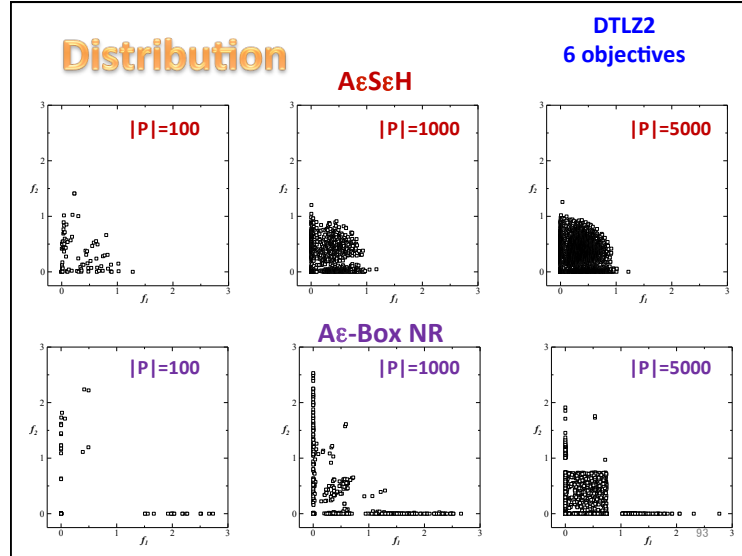
- Adaptive ϵ -Sampling & Adaptive ϵ -Hood (A ϵ SeH)
- Adaptive ϵ -Box with Neighborhood Recombination (A ϵ -Box NR) [LION 06]

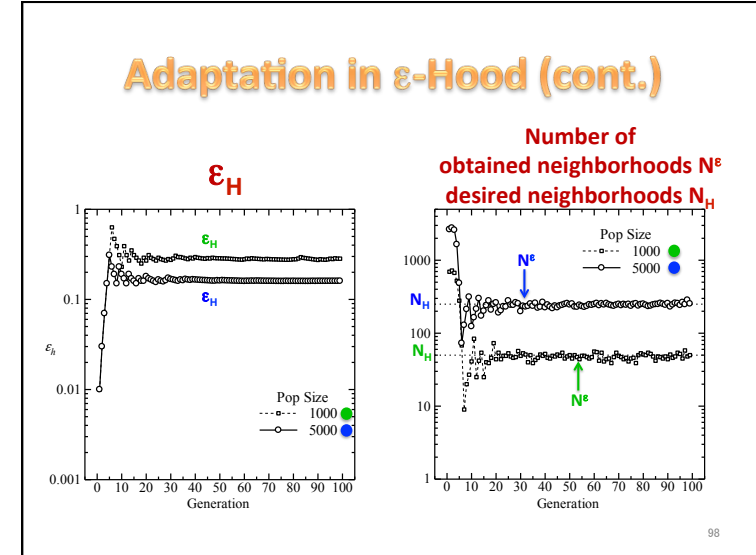
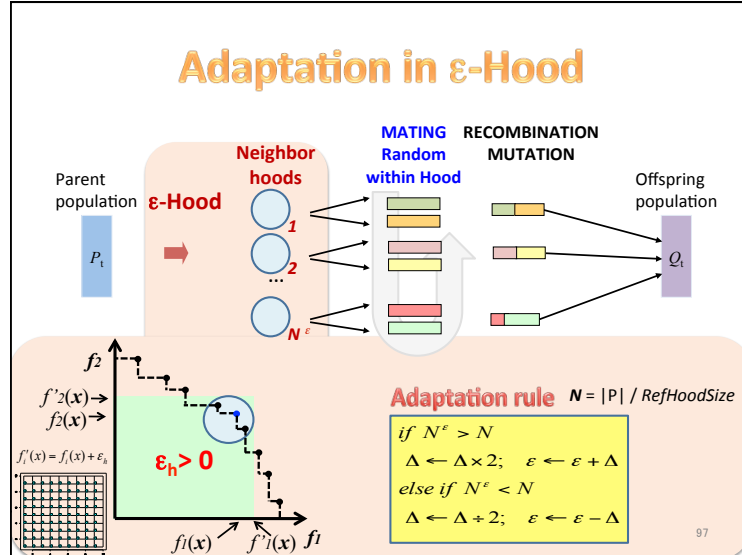
Objectives	$m = 4 - 6$
Variables	$n = m + 9$
Population size	$P = 100-5000$ (10000, 20000)
Ref Hood Size (Num Hoods)	$H=20$ ($N=P/H$)
Crossover	SBX, $\eta_c = 15$
Crossover rate	$p_c = 1.0$
Crossover rate per variable	$p_e = 0.5$
Mutation	Polynomial, $\eta_m = 20$
Mutation rate	$p_m = 1.0 / n$
Generations	100, 500
Runs	30

Problems:

- DTLZ2, DTLZ3, DTLZ4
- Performance measures
 - Generational Distance GD
 - Scatter Plots







- ### Conclusions
- Have a better understanding of the problems associated to many-objective optimization
 - Progress on the fundamentals for many-objective optimization
 - A number of algorithms that are considerably better than conventional multi-objective optimizers
 - Many-objective optimizers are being used as a practical tool
 - Still a lot of challenges ahead
- 99

Thank you for listening

100