

# Parallelization for Space Trajectory Optimization

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**Abstract**—The impact of parallelization on the optimization process of space mission trajectories is investigated in this contribution. As space mission trajectory reference model, the well known *Cassini1* benchmark, published by the European Space Agency (ESA), is considered and solved here with the MIDACO optimization software. It can be shown that significant speed ups can be gained by applying parallelization.

**Keywords:** Space Trajectory, Cassini Mission, MIDACO, Parallelization, openMP

## I. INTRODUCTION

Interplanetary space mission trajectory optimization is known to be a challenging task. Due to the highly non-linear and non-convex nature of those problems, evolutionary and hybrid algorithms are widely in use for this kind of application (see for example [5], [1], [3] or [15]). In order to investigate and compare the performance of such algorithms for space trajectory design, the European Space Agency (ESA) publishes a database of Global Trajectory Optimization (GTOP) problems (see [4]) and encourages researchers from space engineering and operational research to submit perpetuate best known solutions to these benchmarks. This benchmark set is known as the GTOP database and represents trajectory models of real-world interplanetary space missions. Table I lists the major benchmark problems from the GTOP database together with the number of decision variables, the number of submissions of perpetuate best known solutions and the time between the first and last of such solution submission. The difficulty of these problems is reflected in the time span between the first and last solution submission reported in Table I, which takes between several months and even years.

TABLE I: GTOP database benchmark problems

| Benchmark  | Variables | Number of submissions | Time between first and last submission |
|------------|-----------|-----------------------|----------------------------------------|
| Cassini1   | 6         | 3                     | 6 Month                                |
| GTOC1*     | 8         | 2                     | 13 Month                               |
| Messenger* | 26        | 7                     | 52 Month                               |
| Cassini2*  | 22        | 7                     | 14 Month                               |
| Rosetta    | 22        | 7                     | 6 Month                                |
| Sagas      | 12        | 1                     | -                                      |

\*Best known solution found by MIDACO

The MIDACO software [14] was developed as a general purpose optimization solver in collaboration with ESA and EADS/Astrium Ltd and has been extensively tested on space

applications. MIDACO currently represents the state-of-the-art for interplanetary trajectory optimization (see for example [13]) and holds three unbroken record solutions on the GTOP benchmarks listed in Table I, including the best known solution to the most difficult problem: Messenger. Readers who are interested in the algorithm of MIDACO are referred to [9], where the details of the Ant Colony Optimization (ACO) algorithm of MIDACO can be found. Readers with a particular interest in the constraint handling technique of MIDACO are referred to [10]. Note that the performance strength of MIDACO does not only rely on its fundamental ACO algorithm, but also on its sophisticated software implementation which took over 7 years of development for the current version.

In this contribution the potential benefit of parallelization for space mission planning is investigated. In order to have a rigorous numerical evaluation (with 400 test runs) and taking into account the computational effort to solve the GTOP benchmark problem: Cassini1. The Cassini1 benchmark is based on the Cassini mission launched by NASA in 1997 and which is a famous reference among space trajectories. This mission represents an interplanetary flight from Earth to Saturn using several gravitational swing-by manoeuvres at Venus, Earth and Jupiter. Figure 1 displays the mission trajectory and highlights its major events.

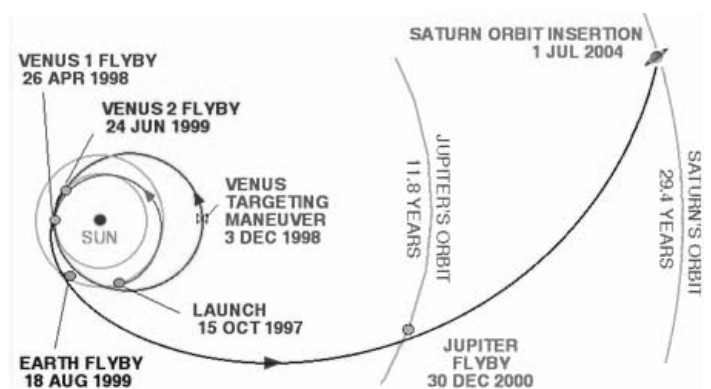


Fig. 1. Interplanetary trajectory of NASA's Cassini Mission (1997)

This paper is structured as follows: In Section II, the parallelization approach by MIDACO is explained and briefly discussed. In Section III, the numerical results by MIDACO for solving the Cassini1 benchmark are presented in regard to the impact of different parallelization factors. The paper finishes with some conclusions and an outlook on possible

future research. An Appendix lists detailed information for the numerical results presented in Section III.

## II. THE PARALLELIZATION APPROACH BY MIDACO

A key feature of the MIDACO optimization software is its calling by *reverse communication*<sup>1</sup> [7]. This means, that the call to the objective function and constraints happens outside the MIDACO source code. This concept does not only guarantee a numerically stable gateway to other languages, but also enables the software to be enriched by a valuable option of distributed computing. Within one reverse communication step MIDACO does accept and returns an arbitrary large number of  $P$  iterates at once. Hence, those  $P$  iterates can be evaluated in parallel, outside and independently from the MIDACO source code. This idea of passing a block of  $P$  iterates at once within one reverse communication step to the optimization algorithm is taken from the code NLPQLP by Schittkowski [8].

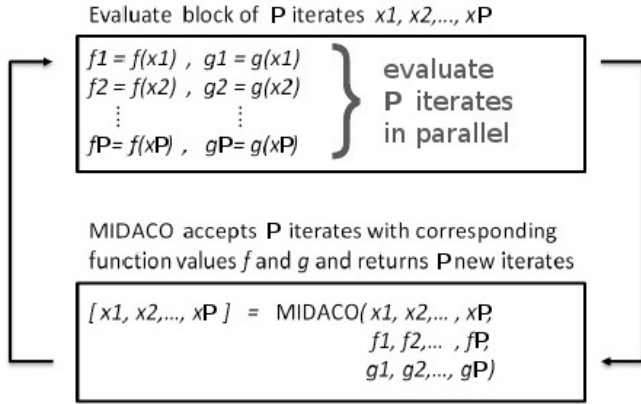


Fig. 2. MIDACO's reverse communication loop over a block of  $P$  iterates

Figure 2 illustrates the essential reverse communication loop over the function evaluation calls and the MIDACO code. Within one loop, a block of  $P$  iterates (also called "individuals" in evolutionary algorithms) is evaluated regarding their objective function  $f(x)$  and constraints  $g(x)$ . Then those iterates are passed together with their corresponding objective and constraint values to the MIDACO code. Within MIDACO those iterates are then processed and MIDACO calculates and returns a new block of  $P$  iterates that needs to be evaluated again. This concept allows an independent and user controlled distributed computing of the objective and constraint function evaluation. In other words, the parallelization option is valid for any language on any CPU architecture without the necessity of adapting the MIDACO source code itself. This includes in particular multi-core PC's, PC-Clusters and GPGPU (General Purpose Graphical Processing Unit) based computation. As the parallelization factor  $P$  can be arbitrary large, MIDACO is also suitable for massive parallelization.

As this parallelization approach aims on distributing the function evaluation calls, it is intended for problems where the function evaluation are numerically expensive to compute, which is often the case for complex real-world applications.

In contrast to this, MIDACO's parallelization approach is not promising for applications, which are very cheap to compute, as the numerical overhead due to the distributed computing exceeds the benefit of parallelized function calls.

For further details on the parallelization approach by MIDACO, please consult [11] or [12]

## III. NUMERICAL RESULTS

This section displays the numerical results obtained by MIDACO on the Cassini1 benchmark taken from the GTOP database [4]. The focus of this section is the influence of the parallelization factor  $P$  (see Section II) on the MIDACO performance to solve this benchmark. The Cassini1 benchmark problem considers 6 continuous decision variables and 4 non-linear constraints. The best known solution to Cassini1 corresponds to an objective function value of about  $f(x) = 4.9307$ .

Table III displays the average results of 400 individual test runs on Cassini1 in regard to different parallelization factors  $P$  of 1,2,4 and 8. Note that  $P = 1$  represents the serial mode for MIDACO and acts here as the reference. Because the numerical results in Table II are based on a lot of test runs, a moderate precision of 1% was considered for the success criteria on the objective function value. The lower bounds for all variables were considered as starting point for every test run. All MIDACO parameters were set on default, thus the results represent the **out-of-the-box** performance of MIDACO. All test have been conducted on the same PC with Intel i7 4702MQ CPU with 2.2 GHz clock rate and 8 GB RAM. All source codes were written in C/C++ and compiled with gcc using openMP for parallelization. Note that the considered CPU is a quad-core processor supporting hyper-threading. Therefore speed ups for a parallelization factor of until  $P = 8$  are possible under this setup.

The abbreviations for Table II are as follows:

|               |                                                     |
|---------------|-----------------------------------------------------|
| $P$           | Parallelization factor for MIDACO (see Section II)  |
| $f(x)$        | Average objective function value for solution $x$   |
| <i>Blocks</i> | Average number of processed blocks (see Section II) |
| <i>Eval</i>   | Average number of function evaluation in total      |
| <i>Time</i>   | Average total CPU-time in Seconds                   |

TABLE II: Average Results for different  $P$

| $P$ | $f(x)$   | <i>Blocks</i> | <i>Eval</i> | <i>Time</i> |
|-----|----------|---------------|-------------|-------------|
| 1   | 4.977279 | 3150654       | 3150654     | 99          |
| 2   | 4.977542 | 1683175       | 3366349     | 57          |
| 4   | 4.977675 | 991475        | 3965898     | 38          |
| 8   | 4.977332 | 458177        | 3665418     | 23          |

The individual details on the results displayed in Table II can be found in the Appendix. The convergence curves of the 100 individual test runs corresponding to average results displayed in Table II are shown in Figure 3, Figure 4, Figure 5 and Figure 6. The average *Time* is indicated in those figures as vertical red line.

<sup>1</sup>"I'm not entirely unconvinced that it's not totally evil" Victor Eijkhout on *reverse communication* (Computer Programming Forum, 2002).

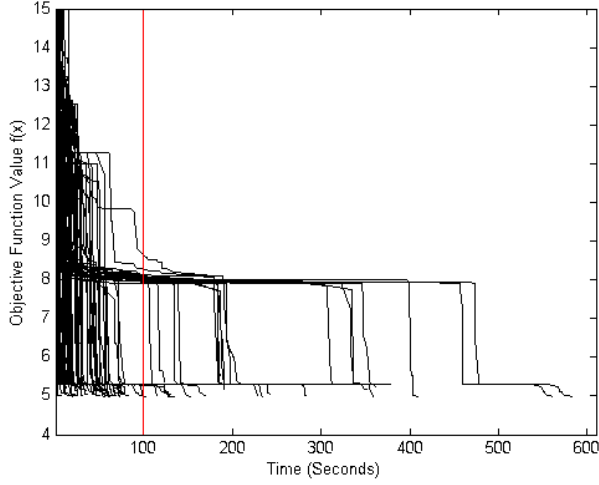


Fig. 3. Convergence curves of 100 test runs with factor  $P = 1$

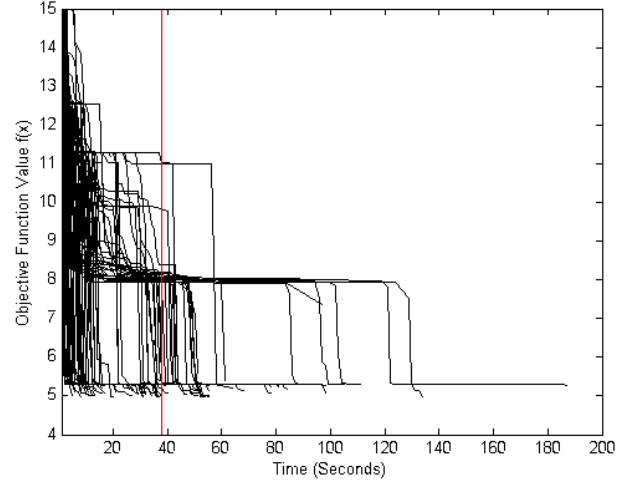


Fig. 5. Convergence curves of 100 test runs with factor  $P = 4$

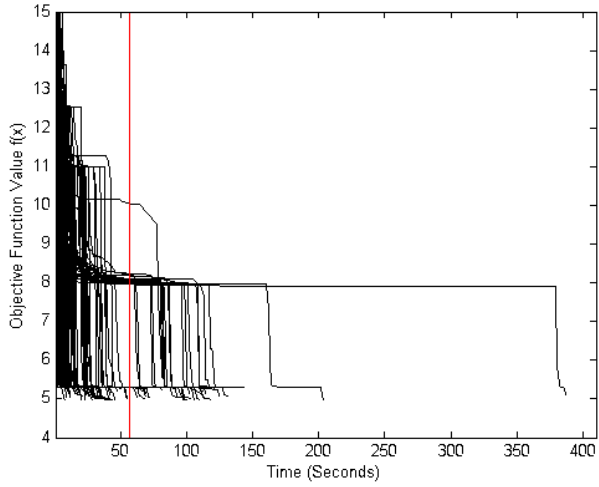


Fig. 4. Convergence curves of 100 test runs with factor  $P = 2$

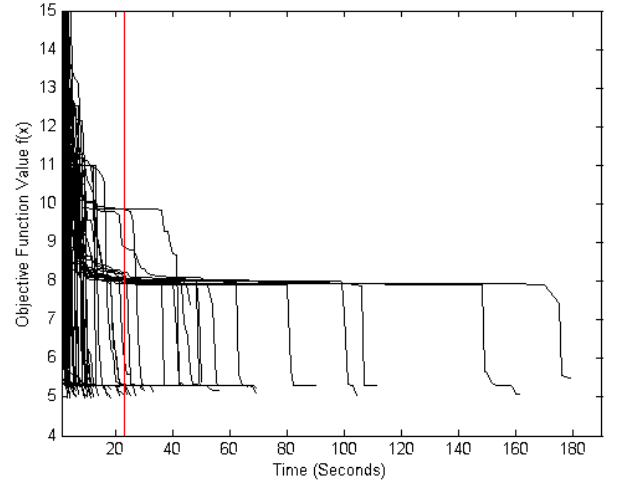


Fig. 6. Convergence curves of 100 test runs with factor  $P = 8$

From Figures 3 to 6 it can be observed that only few test runs have exceptional long cpu-runtime behaviour and heavily influence the average results. In all cases, but particular in case of  $P=8$ , it can be seen that majority of test runs converges to the best known solution well under the average cpu *Time* indicated as red line.

As mentioned in Section II, the efficiency of the parallelization strategy by MIDACO depends on the cpu-time expense of the problem functions (objective and constraints). While for cheap cpu-time problems MIDACO's parallelization strategy is not promising and might even slow down the overall performance due to an increased overhead by the parallelization effort, significant speed ups for cpu-time expensive applications can be expected.

The cpu-time cost of Cassini1 on the considered CPU takes about 0.00003<sup>1</sup> Seconds, which is fairly cheap but still consid-

<sup>1</sup>Average Time (99) divided by average evaluation (3150654) is about 0.00003

erable more expensive than trivial optimization benchmarks<sup>2</sup>. However, with such a cheap evaluation cost of Cassini1 the effectiveness of MIDACO's parallelization strategy is weakened by the additional overhead of the parallelization effort. Table III compares the potential<sup>3</sup> speed up with the actual<sup>4</sup> measured speed up for the here considered parallelization factors  $P = 2$ ,  $P = 4$  and  $P = 8$ .

<sup>2</sup>Note that for comparison the trivial *Sphere* benchmark  $f(x) = \sum_{i=1}^6 x_i^2$  takes less than 0.0000001 Seconds on the considered CPU setup and is therefore around two to three magnitudes faster to evaluate than the Cassini1 benchmark.

<sup>3</sup>The potential speed up is calculated as average *Blocks* for  $P = 1$  divided by average *Blocks* for considered  $P$

<sup>4</sup>The potential speed up is calculated as average *Time* for  $P = 1$  divided by average *Time* for considered  $P$

TABLE III: Potential and actual speed up for different  $P$ 

| $P$ | Potential Speed Up | Actual Speed Up |
|-----|--------------------|-----------------|
| 2   | 1.87               | 1.74            |
| 4   | 3.18               | 2.61            |
| 8   | 6.88               | 4.31            |

From Table III it can be seen that the actual speed up is well below the potential speed for  $P=2$  and  $P=3$ , which is expected for reasons explained above. Furthermore it can be seen from Table III that the potential speed up is very efficient. In case of the actual speed up, a maximal speed up of 4.31 times could be achieved for the factor  $P=8$ . Even though this actual speed up remains well below the potential one of 6.88, it is still a significant improvement in regard to the total cpu-time required to solve the Cassini1 benchmark.

In addition to those speed ups reported in Table III it can be seen in Table II, that the average number of function evaluation is not greatly effected (increased) by the parallelization factor. If and for how large parallelization factors such behaviour could be observed would be an interesting question (see the Conclusions).

#### IV. CONCLUSIONS

A numerical investigation on the impact of parallelization on the optimization performance for MIDACO on the Cassini1 space trajectory benchmark has been presented. It could be shown, that the parallelization approach by MIDACO is very effective in regard to serial processed function evaluation (denoted as *Blocks* in Section II and Section III, which were considered as the potential speed up. Due to the relatively cheap cpu-time cost of the Cassini1 benchmark, the actual speed was lower as the potential one. However, still significant speed up could be realized. As expected, the highest actual speed up could be realized by the highest parallelization factor  $P=8$  and was around 4.31 times in regard to the serial cpu-runtime behaviour.

As the MIDACO software is suitable for massive parallelization, future research might focus on higher parallelization factors, which might be available for example in Cloud environments (see [6]) or by GPGPU programming (see [16]). In case the observed speed up behaviour in Section III does scale up for massive parallelization, significant reductions in the in the cpu-time required for space trajectory optimization could be realized by the here proposed approach.

#### ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

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#### APPENDIX

Here the individual results of all 400 test runs corresponding to Table II are given in detail. Note that Table II summarizes the here displayed results in terms of average values.

Note that for the highest parallelization factor  $P=8$  in two cases (test run Nr. 2 and Nr. 53) the cpu-time was less than 0.5 Seconds and is reported as zero in Table X, because the time was measured as integer and rounded to the next integer value.

TABLE IV: Results of 100 MIDACO test runs with factor  $P=1$ 

| Run | $f(x)$   | Blocks   | Eval     | Time |
|-----|----------|----------|----------|------|
| 1   | 4.977984 | 634563   | 634563   | 20   |
| 2   | 4.979983 | 1564283  | 1564283  | 50   |
| 3   | 4.979983 | 1560674  | 1560674  | 49   |
| 4   | 4.979761 | 996363   | 996363   | 31   |
| 5   | 4.977521 | 1470711  | 1470711  | 47   |
| 6   | 4.976461 | 698658   | 698658   | 22   |
| 7   | 4.977437 | 2096160  | 2096160  | 66   |
| 8   | 4.979034 | 782702   | 782702   | 25   |
| 9   | 4.979987 | 4856985  | 4856985  | 153  |
| 10  | 4.979858 | 1849866  | 1849866  | 58   |
| 11  | 4.968665 | 390831   | 390831   | 12   |
| 12  | 4.979537 | 2405631  | 2405631  | 77   |
| 13  | 4.972406 | 3000136  | 3000136  | 95   |
| 14  | 4.979983 | 1488174  | 1488174  | 47   |
| 15  | 4.978690 | 3159815  | 3159815  | 102  |
| 16  | 4.979224 | 2300385  | 2300385  | 78   |
| 17  | 4.979473 | 11786614 | 11786614 | 378  |
| 18  | 4.979983 | 1460200  | 1460200  | 46   |
| 19  | 4.972406 | 2847729  | 2847729  | 90   |
| 20  | 4.977124 | 9048186  | 9048186  | 283  |
| 21  | 4.978985 | 1944079  | 1944079  | 62   |
| 22  | 4.974628 | 625015   | 625015   | 19   |
| 23  | 4.975823 | 8590399  | 8590399  | 270  |
| 24  | 4.979996 | 810530   | 810530   | 26   |
| 25  | 4.979959 | 18469458 | 18469458 | 582  |
| 26  | 4.979964 | 7449400  | 7449400  | 234  |
| 27  | 4.979935 | 561689   | 561689   | 20   |
| 28  | 4.964064 | 2608602  | 2608602  | 83   |
| 29  | 4.979983 | 1193247  | 1193247  | 37   |
| 30  | 4.979994 | 1562439  | 1562439  | 49   |
| 31  | 4.979689 | 2537028  | 2537028  | 80   |
| 32  | 4.979963 | 804678   | 804678   | 26   |
| 33  | 4.976789 | 2218286  | 2218286  | 69   |
| 34  | 4.979696 | 4116111  | 4116111  | 130  |
| 35  | 4.979988 | 1658249  | 1658249  | 52   |
| 36  | 4.975766 | 1389870  | 1389870  | 44   |
| 37  | 4.977942 | 3692762  | 3692762  | 115  |
| 38  | 4.972406 | 2543443  | 2543443  | 80   |
| 39  | 4.977991 | 490550   | 490550   | 16   |
| 40  | 4.965957 | 1908810  | 1908810  | 60   |
| 41  | 4.980000 | 2020655  | 2020655  | 63   |
| 42  | 4.979846 | 11189586 | 11189586 | 352  |
| 43  | 4.963218 | 11226499 | 11226499 | 351  |
| 44  | 4.979963 | 678642   | 678642   | 21   |
| 45  | 4.972406 | 2214351  | 2214351  | 70   |
| 46  | 4.979983 | 1039529  | 1039529  | 33   |
| 47  | 4.979983 | 996306   | 996306   | 31   |
| 48  | 4.972406 | 2321249  | 2321249  | 73   |
| 49  | 4.979964 | 2285161  | 2285161  | 73   |
| 50  | 4.979722 | 2513016  | 2513016  | 79   |

TABLE V: continuation of Table IV

| Run     | $f(x)$   | Blocks   | Eval     | Time |
|---------|----------|----------|----------|------|
| 51      | 4.954630 | 150707   | 150707   | 5    |
| 52      | 4.979995 | 4124385  | 4124385  | 130  |
| 53      | 4.979983 | 915442   | 915442   | 29   |
| 54      | 4.978756 | 1831653  | 1831653  | 58   |
| 55      | 4.979959 | 17949198 | 17949198 | 560  |
| 56      | 4.979964 | 7208676  | 7208676  | 228  |
| 57      | 4.961516 | 3929263  | 3929263  | 123  |
| 58      | 4.979734 | 1383746  | 1383746  | 44   |
| 59      | 4.979983 | 823451   | 823451   | 26   |
| 60      | 4.979983 | 812499   | 812499   | 26   |
| 61      | 4.979417 | 1452461  | 1452461  | 45   |
| 62      | 4.979983 | 782138   | 782138   | 25   |
| 63      | 4.979983 | 768841   | 768841   | 24   |
| 64      | 4.979983 | 762085   | 762085   | 25   |
| 65      | 4.976705 | 2340658  | 2340658  | 73   |
| 66      | 4.975556 | 5365385  | 5365385  | 169  |
| 67      | 4.972406 | 2020084  | 2020084  | 64   |
| 68      | 4.978712 | 11389810 | 11389810 | 361  |
| 69      | 4.979878 | 4231856  | 4231856  | 134  |
| 70      | 4.974724 | 794829   | 794829   | 25   |
| 71      | 4.979974 | 7734391  | 7734391  | 242  |
| 72      | 4.979863 | 1765480  | 1765480  | 56   |
| 73      | 4.978351 | 967558   | 967558   | 30   |
| 74      | 4.978690 | 2383832  | 2383832  | 75   |
| 75      | 4.979634 | 951710   | 951710   | 31   |
| 76      | 4.979945 | 933795   | 933795   | 29   |
| 77      | 4.979903 | 1863150  | 1863150  | 59   |
| 78      | 4.977014 | 1142396  | 1142396  | 36   |
| 79      | 4.979903 | 1751927  | 1751927  | 56   |
| 80      | 4.979327 | 2662533  | 2662533  | 83   |
| 81      | 4.978690 | 2239531  | 2239531  | 71   |
| 82      | 4.977057 | 7272740  | 7272740  | 227  |
| 83      | 4.978822 | 1127953  | 1127953  | 35   |
| 84      | 4.969337 | 2090187  | 2090187  | 67   |
| 85      | 4.972406 | 1775203  | 1775203  | 59   |
| 86      | 4.978269 | 467810   | 467810   | 15   |
| 87      | 4.975477 | 2193450  | 2193450  | 69   |
| 88      | 4.979900 | 6094782  | 6094782  | 190  |
| 89      | 4.974309 | 1929402  | 1929402  | 61   |
| 90      | 4.979973 | 3082588  | 3082588  | 97   |
| 91      | 4.979991 | 11454753 | 11454753 | 359  |
| 92      | 4.979900 | 5964797  | 5964797  | 186  |
| 93      | 4.979903 | 1651414  | 1651414  | 57   |
| 94      | 4.979950 | 13044396 | 13044396 | 409  |
| 95      | 4.978598 | 2195714  | 2195714  | 69   |
| 96      | 4.977777 | 415837   | 415837   | 15   |
| 97      | 4.978018 | 1422327  | 1422327  | 51   |
| 98      | 4.977777 | 393412   | 393412   | 13   |
| 99      | 4.972406 | 1433660  | 1433660  | 45   |
| 100     | 4.972406 | 1563214  | 1563214  | 49   |
| Average | 4.977279 | 3150654  | 3150654  | 99   |

TABLE VI: Results of 100 MIDACO test runs with factor  $P=2$ 

| Run | $f(x)$   | Blocks   | Eval     | Time |
|-----|----------|----------|----------|------|
| 1   | 4.979626 | 3723189  | 7446378  | 125  |
| 2   | 4.979811 | 823985   | 1647970  | 29   |
| 3   | 4.977298 | 1309535  | 2619070  | 48   |
| 4   | 4.979799 | 3648436  | 7296872  | 121  |
| 5   | 4.977298 | 1290976  | 2581952  | 44   |
| 6   | 4.966056 | 3038267  | 6076534  | 102  |
| 7   | 4.979846 | 675180   | 1350360  | 23   |
| 8   | 4.976996 | 557607   | 1115214  | 19   |
| 9   | 4.979880 | 6101350  | 12202700 | 204  |
| 10  | 4.974892 | 3093822  | 6187644  | 102  |
| 11  | 4.976996 | 572843   | 1145686  | 19   |
| 12  | 4.978202 | 1131451  | 2262902  | 39   |
| 13  | 4.977298 | 1251422  | 2502844  | 41   |
| 14  | 4.979998 | 218417   | 436834   | 8    |
| 15  | 4.979990 | 11620840 | 23241680 | 387  |
| 16  | 4.971464 | 1328647  | 2657294  | 46   |
| 17  | 4.976073 | 3521386  | 7042772  | 118  |
| 18  | 4.975577 | 2067524  | 4135048  | 69   |
| 19  | 4.969733 | 614025   | 1228050  | 21   |
| 20  | 4.974039 | 501268   | 1002536  | 16   |
| 21  | 4.979424 | 1106061  | 2212122  | 38   |
| 22  | 4.978912 | 1884980  | 3769960  | 63   |
| 23  | 4.971760 | 3386629  | 6773258  | 114  |
| 24  | 4.979975 | 589672   | 1179344  | 20   |
| 25  | 4.979651 | 1409073  | 2818146  | 47   |
| 26  | 4.977581 | 2869706  | 5739412  | 98   |
| 27  | 4.979507 | 1294413  | 2588826  | 44   |
| 28  | 4.976996 | 433889   | 867778   | 15   |
| 29  | 4.979587 | 1623279  | 3246558  | 55   |
| 30  | 4.979417 | 2433451  | 4866902  | 81   |
| 31  | 4.980001 | 2029523  | 4059046  | 69   |
| 32  | 4.978123 | 4268357  | 8536714  | 143  |
| 33  | 4.979233 | 484752   | 969504   | 17   |
| 34  | 4.977714 | 2129517  | 4259034  | 72   |
| 35  | 4.979669 | 322493   | 644986   | 11   |
| 36  | 4.979781 | 4134746  | 8269492  | 137  |
| 37  | 4.979704 | 726053   | 1452106  | 24   |
| 38  | 4.977835 | 1966773  | 3933546  | 66   |
| 39  | 4.979921 | 898723   | 1797446  | 30   |
| 40  | 4.976903 | 1266382  | 2532764  | 44   |
| 41  | 4.977893 | 407239   | 814478   | 13   |
| 42  | 4.979271 | 3232605  | 6465210  | 110  |
| 43  | 4.976996 | 350835   | 701670   | 12   |
| 44  | 4.977641 | 666430   | 1332860  | 23   |
| 45  | 4.979924 | 595292   | 1190584  | 20   |
| 46  | 4.979951 | 1088631  | 2177262  | 37   |
| 47  | 4.974799 | 1061696  | 2123392  | 36   |
| 48  | 4.977274 | 274627   | 549254   | 9    |
| 49  | 4.979951 | 1069341  | 2138682  | 36   |
| 50  | 4.979661 | 354971   | 709942   | 13   |

TABLE VII: Continuation of Table VI

| Run     | $f(x)$   | Blocks  | Eval    | Time |
|---------|----------|---------|---------|------|
| 51      | 4.978162 | 3920970 | 7841940 | 131  |
| 52      | 4.979973 | 2052396 | 4104792 | 69   |
| 53      | 4.960803 | 321004  | 642008  | 11   |
| 54      | 4.979086 | 342840  | 685680  | 12   |
| 55      | 4.979910 | 3320904 | 6641808 | 112  |
| 56      | 4.975623 | 690574  | 1381148 | 24   |
| 57      | 4.980005 | 3360194 | 6720388 | 114  |
| 58      | 4.979951 | 1015462 | 2030924 | 34   |
| 59      | 4.979918 | 563052  | 1126104 | 19   |
| 60      | 4.977835 | 1816105 | 3632210 | 62   |
| 61      | 4.979999 | 3015752 | 6031504 | 103  |
| 62      | 4.975951 | 513609  | 1027218 | 17   |
| 63      | 4.979811 | 1099075 | 2198150 | 38   |
| 64      | 4.978982 | 768515  | 1537030 | 26   |
| 65      | 4.967622 | 287169  | 574338  | 9    |
| 66      | 4.979999 | 2977349 | 5954698 | 101  |
| 67      | 4.976951 | 1259014 | 2518028 | 42   |
| 68      | 4.978839 | 264759  | 529518  | 9    |
| 69      | 4.969801 | 158413  | 316826  | 6    |
| 70      | 4.979626 | 3387947 | 6775894 | 112  |
| 71      | 4.979252 | 2021042 | 4042084 | 68   |
| 72      | 4.972052 | 731549  | 1463098 | 24   |
| 73      | 4.979959 | 705007  | 1410014 | 24   |
| 74      | 4.979986 | 1157456 | 2314912 | 40   |
| 75      | 4.978982 | 712109  | 1424218 | 25   |
| 76      | 4.979045 | 1921115 | 3842230 | 64   |
| 77      | 4.975886 | 374254  | 748508  | 12   |
| 78      | 4.979651 | 1029597 | 2059194 | 35   |
| 79      | 4.967682 | 4036956 | 8073912 | 134  |
| 80      | 4.979926 | 2025497 | 4050994 | 68   |
| 81      | 4.979914 | 412101  | 824202  | 13   |
| 82      | 4.979574 | 321976  | 643952  | 11   |
| 83      | 4.978941 | 575479  | 1150958 | 19   |
| 84      | 4.979910 | 3193435 | 6386870 | 106  |
| 85      | 4.979982 | 1514681 | 3029362 | 50   |
| 86      | 4.979713 | 3741935 | 7483870 | 125  |
| 87      | 4.970984 | 873412  | 1746824 | 29   |
| 88      | 4.979567 | 2456899 | 4913798 | 81   |
| 89      | 4.979484 | 828254  | 1656508 | 27   |
| 90      | 4.979945 | 688771  | 1377542 | 23   |
| 91      | 4.978960 | 565252  | 1130504 | 19   |
| 92      | 4.969893 | 1604404 | 3208808 | 54   |
| 93      | 4.975888 | 2784096 | 5568192 | 91   |
| 94      | 4.979974 | 1167624 | 2335248 | 39   |
| 95      | 4.979792 | 845008  | 1690016 | 29   |
| 96      | 4.977131 | 1295013 | 2590026 | 43   |
| 97      | 4.979001 | 990827  | 1981654 | 34   |
| 98      | 4.979994 | 1413400 | 2826800 | 48   |
| 99      | 4.978966 | 2745732 | 5491464 | 93   |
| 100     | 4.969381 | 2999164 | 5998328 | 100  |
| Average | 4.977542 | 1683175 | 3366349 | 57   |

TABLE VIII: Results of 100 MIDACO test runs with factor  $P=4$

| Run | $f(x)$   | Blocks  | Eval     | Time |
|-----|----------|---------|----------|------|
| 1   | 4.968922 | 1431676 | 5726704  | 54   |
| 2   | 4.971511 | 833567  | 3334268  | 31   |
| 3   | 4.973130 | 1063314 | 4253256  | 40   |
| 4   | 4.977000 | 269367  | 1077468  | 10   |
| 5   | 4.960430 | 1502910 | 6011640  | 57   |
| 6   | 4.976738 | 398792  | 1595168  | 15   |
| 7   | 4.979103 | 879457  | 3517828  | 33   |
| 8   | 4.979873 | 681842  | 2727368  | 26   |
| 9   | 4.979569 | 368704  | 1474816  | 14   |
| 10  | 4.979970 | 427066  | 1708264  | 16   |
| 11  | 4.979131 | 1414875 | 5659500  | 53   |
| 12  | 4.979688 | 423417  | 1693668  | 16   |
| 13  | 4.976741 | 711161  | 2844644  | 26   |
| 14  | 4.978922 | 46636   | 186544   | 2    |
| 15  | 4.979097 | 2022189 | 8088756  | 78   |
| 16  | 4.979747 | 1366228 | 5464912  | 51   |
| 17  | 4.976741 | 695877  | 2783508  | 27   |
| 18  | 4.979084 | 470328  | 1881312  | 18   |
| 19  | 4.976741 | 690255  | 2761020  | 26   |
| 20  | 4.978605 | 904992  | 3619968  | 35   |
| 21  | 4.976741 | 685592  | 2742368  | 27   |
| 22  | 4.979869 | 817873  | 3271492  | 31   |
| 23  | 4.979961 | 306488  | 1225952  | 11   |
| 24  | 4.977321 | 170120  | 680480   | 7    |
| 25  | 4.977688 | 1765484 | 7061936  | 68   |
| 26  | 4.979676 | 5000549 | 20002196 | 187  |
| 27  | 4.973130 | 985374  | 3941496  | 37   |
| 28  | 4.973130 | 975521  | 3902084  | 38   |
| 29  | 4.979871 | 304398  | 1217592  | 12   |
| 30  | 4.977531 | 142290  | 569160   | 5    |
| 31  | 4.979263 | 2615295 | 10461180 | 97   |
| 32  | 4.975010 | 883368  | 3533472  | 34   |
| 33  | 4.974607 | 2602611 | 10410444 | 98   |
| 34  | 4.966905 | 799476  | 3197904  | 32   |
| 35  | 4.978406 | 1439354 | 5757416  | 55   |
| 36  | 4.977864 | 134178  | 536712   | 6    |
| 37  | 4.980004 | 2539428 | 10157712 | 98   |
| 38  | 4.978637 | 504270  | 2017080  | 19   |
| 39  | 4.978552 | 2132687 | 8530748  | 81   |
| 40  | 4.979065 | 2013011 | 8052044  | 78   |
| 41  | 4.973130 | 930710  | 3722840  | 36   |
| 42  | 4.979682 | 202715  | 810860   | 8    |
| 43  | 4.979688 | 310655  | 1242620  | 12   |
| 44  | 4.973130 | 926380  | 3705520  | 35   |
| 45  | 4.979311 | 769244  | 3076976  | 29   |
| 46  | 4.979073 | 1469810 | 5879240  | 55   |
| 47  | 4.979361 | 1468505 | 5874020  | 55   |
| 48  | 4.980001 | 377724  | 1510896  | 15   |
| 49  | 4.978368 | 3477869 | 13911476 | 134  |
| 50  | 4.978851 | 548068  | 2192272  | 21   |

TABLE IX: Continuation of Table VIII

| Run     | $f(x)$   | Blocks  | Eval     | Time |
|---------|----------|---------|----------|------|
| 51      | 4.972068 | 225980  | 903920   | 9    |
| 52      | 4.978406 | 1346624 | 5386496  | 51   |
| 53      | 4.977415 | 1213581 | 4854324  | 47   |
| 54      | 4.979745 | 2950371 | 11801484 | 111  |
| 55      | 4.979952 | 948251  | 3793004  | 37   |
| 56      | 4.979621 | 669042  | 2676168  | 27   |
| 57      | 4.980004 | 1345300 | 5381200  | 51   |
| 58      | 4.979786 | 1385440 | 5541760  | 53   |
| 59      | 4.979852 | 345289  | 1381156  | 13   |
| 60      | 4.972603 | 530454  | 2121816  | 20   |
| 61      | 4.979938 | 984685  | 3938740  | 37   |
| 62      | 4.979947 | 1445522 | 5782088  | 55   |
| 63      | 4.980003 | 786099  | 3144396  | 30   |
| 64      | 4.979949 | 565311  | 2261244  | 21   |
| 65      | 4.979115 | 2822195 | 11288780 | 105  |
| 66      | 4.980000 | 1368590 | 5474360  | 52   |
| 67      | 4.977688 | 1483076 | 5932304  | 55   |
| 68      | 4.979688 | 215739  | 862956   | 8    |
| 69      | 4.975184 | 264689  | 1058756  | 10   |
| 70      | 4.979514 | 278619  | 1114476  | 11   |
| 71      | 4.973130 | 835188  | 3340752  | 31   |
| 72      | 4.977688 | 1318261 | 5273044  | 51   |
| 73      | 4.978491 | 973650  | 3894600  | 36   |
| 74      | 4.973130 | 828223  | 3312892  | 32   |
| 75      | 4.979232 | 450134  | 1800536  | 17   |
| 76      | 4.972918 | 399605  | 1598420  | 15   |
| 77      | 4.979584 | 666744  | 2666976  | 26   |
| 78      | 4.979787 | 1410684 | 5642736  | 55   |
| 79      | 4.977073 | 1600335 | 6401340  | 61   |
| 80      | 4.979688 | 203148  | 812592   | 9    |
| 81      | 4.979317 | 117888  | 471552   | 5    |
| 82      | 4.978090 | 397275  | 1589100  | 14   |
| 83      | 4.979962 | 310188  | 1240752  | 13   |
| 84      | 4.976052 | 2147969 | 8591876  | 81   |
| 85      | 4.979965 | 818121  | 3272484  | 32   |
| 86      | 4.979988 | 1663266 | 6653064  | 64   |
| 87      | 4.973769 | 1074652 | 4298608  | 41   |
| 88      | 4.979786 | 1324276 | 5297104  | 51   |
| 89      | 4.979999 | 398502  | 1594008  | 16   |
| 90      | 4.978531 | 121201  | 484804   | 5    |
| 91      | 4.979899 | 741904  | 2967616  | 28   |
| 92      | 4.979688 | 156422  | 625688   | 6    |
| 93      | 4.976703 | 301461  | 1205844  | 11   |
| 94      | 4.973130 | 758712  | 3034848  | 29   |
| 95      | 4.979887 | 941007  | 3764028  | 35   |
| 96      | 4.979688 | 137513  | 550052   | 5    |
| 97      | 4.979912 | 1025244 | 4100976  | 39   |
| 98      | 4.979911 | 2105429 | 8421716  | 84   |
| 99      | 4.978349 | 416583  | 1666332  | 17   |
| 100     | 4.979139 | 427313  | 1709252  | 17   |
| Average | 4.977675 | 991475  | 3965898  | 38   |

TABLE X: Results of 100 MIDACO test runs with factor  $P=8$ 

| Run | $f(x)$   | Blocks  | Eval     | Time |
|-----|----------|---------|----------|------|
| 1   | 4.979992 | 296152  | 2369216  | 15   |
| 2   | 4.979447 | 18090   | 144720   | 0    |
| 3   | 4.979746 | 981382  | 7851056  | 50   |
| 4   | 4.974262 | 111520  | 892160   | 5    |
| 5   | 4.977147 | 185485  | 1483880  | 9    |
| 6   | 4.961017 | 147473  | 1179784  | 8    |
| 7   | 4.978063 | 17893   | 143144   | 1    |
| 8   | 4.967886 | 405032  | 3240256  | 20   |
| 9   | 4.980005 | 628804  | 5030432  | 31   |
| 10  | 4.979967 | 1227563 | 9820504  | 60   |
| 11  | 4.977202 | 242486  | 1939888  | 12   |
| 12  | 4.979381 | 1350673 | 10805384 | 66   |
| 13  | 4.979944 | 702115  | 5616920  | 35   |
| 14  | 4.974159 | 319526  | 2556208  | 15   |
| 15  | 4.961017 | 131462  | 1051696  | 7    |
| 16  | 4.974036 | 415935  | 3327480  | 21   |
| 17  | 4.979789 | 511485  | 4091880  | 25   |
| 18  | 4.979944 | 693228  | 5545824  | 34   |
| 19  | 4.979868 | 192582  | 1540656  | 9    |
| 20  | 4.979306 | 228889  | 1831112  | 12   |
| 21  | 4.979613 | 1161154 | 9289232  | 56   |
| 22  | 4.961017 | 118406  | 947248   | 6    |
| 23  | 4.971417 | 95302   | 762416   | 5    |
| 24  | 4.979946 | 93208   | 745664   | 5    |
| 25  | 4.979515 | 586578  | 4692624  | 28   |
| 26  | 4.979360 | 94583   | 756664   | 5    |
| 27  | 4.979360 | 94181   | 753448   | 5    |
| 28  | 4.976555 | 78922   | 631376   | 4    |
| 29  | 4.979985 | 94973   | 759784   | 4    |
| 30  | 4.961017 | 106502  | 852016   | 6    |
| 31  | 4.977316 | 245139  | 1961112  | 12   |
| 32  | 4.979828 | 59693   | 477544   | 3    |
| 33  | 4.979092 | 77389   | 619112   | 4    |
| 34  | 4.976318 | 330043  | 2640344  | 16   |
| 35  | 4.979564 | 247922  | 1983376  | 12   |
| 36  | 4.979984 | 44914   | 359312   | 3    |
| 37  | 4.979036 | 222371  | 1778968  | 11   |
| 38  | 4.979067 | 100949  | 807592   | 5    |
| 39  | 4.975697 | 199430  | 1595440  | 9    |
| 40  | 4.976327 | 218784  | 1750272  | 12   |
| 41  | 4.971829 | 20826   | 166608   | 1    |
| 42  | 4.968860 | 360179  | 2881432  | 18   |
| 43  | 4.979860 | 197694  | 1581552  | 9    |
| 44  | 4.979394 | 469150  | 3753200  | 23   |
| 45  | 4.978357 | 381507  | 3052056  | 20   |
| 46  | 4.979627 | 117283  | 938264   | 6    |
| 47  | 4.978478 | 135961  | 1087688  | 6    |
| 48  | 4.978799 | 474435  | 3795480  | 24   |
| 49  | 4.978677 | 336900  | 2695200  | 16   |
| 50  | 4.977714 | 1401823 | 11214584 | 69   |

TABLE XI: Continuation of Table X

| Run     | $f(x)$   | Blocks  | Eval     | Time |
|---------|----------|---------|----------|------|
| 51      | 4.978654 | 587892  | 4703136  | 29   |
| 52      | 4.979472 | 524771  | 4198168  | 25   |
| 53      | 4.979735 | 3679    | 29432    | 0    |
| 54      | 4.979958 | 48590   | 388720   | 3    |
| 55      | 4.976677 | 3310001 | 26480008 | 161  |
| 56      | 4.979652 | 2145672 | 17165376 | 104  |
| 57      | 4.979845 | 2265321 | 18122568 | 111  |
| 58      | 4.979467 | 245022  | 1960176  | 12   |
| 59      | 4.978962 | 285583  | 2284664  | 14   |
| 60      | 4.979886 | 943349  | 7546792  | 46   |
| 61      | 4.976318 | 261912  | 2095296  | 13   |
| 62      | 4.974684 | 235505  | 1884040  | 12   |
| 63      | 4.978243 | 107857  | 862856   | 5    |
| 64      | 4.979860 | 169262  | 1354096  | 8    |
| 65      | 4.979975 | 59168   | 473344   | 3    |
| 66      | 4.979931 | 240143  | 1921144  | 12   |
| 67      | 4.970576 | 74366   | 594928   | 4    |
| 68      | 4.971739 | 1421631 | 11373048 | 69   |
| 69      | 4.979433 | 549763  | 4398104  | 27   |
| 70      | 4.978824 | 467981  | 3743848  | 23   |
| 71      | 4.974357 | 294552  | 2356416  | 14   |
| 72      | 4.979358 | 15721   | 125768   | 1    |
| 73      | 4.975325 | 61921   | 495368   | 3    |
| 74      | 4.977317 | 1827550 | 14620400 | 90   |
| 75      | 4.979775 | 288764  | 2310112  | 14   |
| 76      | 4.978663 | 154960  | 1239680  | 8    |
| 77      | 4.980001 | 337983  | 2703864  | 17   |
| 78      | 4.979135 | 278835  | 2230680  | 13   |
| 79      | 4.972899 | 54674   | 437392   | 3    |
| 80      | 4.979965 | 1082869 | 8662952  | 53   |
| 81      | 4.979860 | 133399  | 1067192  | 7    |
| 82      | 4.979850 | 199851  | 1598808  | 10   |
| 83      | 4.979456 | 282213  | 2257704  | 13   |
| 84      | 4.978636 | 203299  | 1626392  | 11   |
| 85      | 4.978943 | 951734  | 7613872  | 46   |
| 86      | 4.979890 | 119626  | 957008   | 6    |
| 87      | 4.979795 | 674112  | 5392896  | 33   |
| 88      | 4.979009 | 206281  | 1650248  | 11   |
| 89      | 4.979715 | 614780  | 4918240  | 30   |
| 90      | 4.978799 | 414409  | 3315272  | 21   |
| 91      | 4.979278 | 118087  | 944696   | 5    |
| 92      | 4.979860 | 117163  | 937304   | 6    |
| 93      | 4.979996 | 368753  | 2950024  | 18   |
| 94      | 4.977104 | 782207  | 6257656  | 39   |
| 95      | 4.979746 | 763346  | 6106768  | 37   |
| 96      | 4.979961 | 185314  | 1482512  | 10   |
| 97      | 4.975756 | 210025  | 1680200  | 10   |
| 98      | 4.972595 | 354758  | 2838064  | 17   |
| 99      | 4.979150 | 3660198 | 29281584 | 179  |
| 100     | 4.973305 | 138900  | 1111200  | 7    |
| Average | 4.977332 | 458177  | 3665418  | 23   |