

A Derivative-Free Optimization Algorithm with Low-Dimensional Subspace Techniques for Large-Scale Problems

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Outline

- 1 Derivative-free optimization
- 2 A framework of subspace algorithms
- 3 A practical subspace algorithm: NEWUOAs
- 4 Numerical results
- 5 Concluding remarks

1. Derivative-free optimization

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 - f is smooth, but the derivatives are unavailable;
 - the function evaluation of f is expensive.

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- **Importance and difficulty**

We consider optimization without derivatives one of the most important, open, and challenging areas in computational science and engineering, and one with enormous practical potential.

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- use function evaluations as less as possible.

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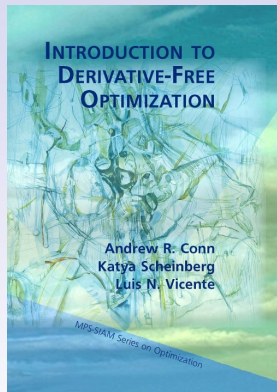
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- **Existing methods**

- Two main classes of rigorous methods in DFO:
 - directional methods, like direct search;
 - model-based methods, like trust-region methods.

1. Derivative-free optimization



A. R. Conn, K. Scheinberg,
and L. N. Vicente,
**Introduction to
Derivative-Free Optimization**,
MOS-SIAM Series on
Optimization, SIAM,
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Minimize Model Function

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- Model construction:

Objective Function $\xrightarrow{\text{Interpolation}}$ Model Function.

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- Quadratic interpolation:

$$Q(x) = f(x), \quad x \in \mathcal{I}.$$

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- What if $|\mathcal{I}| < (n+1)(n+2)/2$ (for example, $|\mathcal{I}| = O(n)$)?
- Regularization:

$$\min_{Q \in \mathcal{Q}} \mathcal{F}(Q)$$

$$\text{s.t. } Q(x) = f(x), \quad x \in \mathcal{I}.$$

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- quadratic-model-based methods:
 - in principle, the degree of freedom of a full quadratic model is $(n+1)(n+2)/2$;
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- difficult to exploit the structure.

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- **Basic idea**

- Solve a difficult problem by solving a sequence of easy problems;
- solve a large problem by solving a sequence of small problems.

2. A framework of subspace algorithms

- **Subspace techniques in optimization**

- Yuan, Ya-xiang. [Subspace techniques for nonlinear optimization](#). Some topics in industrial and applied mathematics 8 (2007): 206-218.
- Gould, Nick, A. Sartenaer, and Ph L. Toint. [On iterated-subspace minimization methods for nonlinear optimization](#). Rutherford Appleton Laboratory, 1994.

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- Coordinate-search ...

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$$\min_{d \in \mathcal{S}_k} f(x_k + d)$$

exactly or approximately, obtaining d_k .

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Step 4. Update the Iterate. If $f(x_k + d_k) < f(x_k)$, then

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- $\text{dist}(\nabla f(x_k), \mathcal{S}_k)$ is small enough $\iff \mathcal{S}_k \ni \tilde{g}_k \approx \nabla f(x_k)$
- d_k is exact enough \iff existing derivative-free algorithms

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 - The parameter RHOEND controls the precision of d_k .

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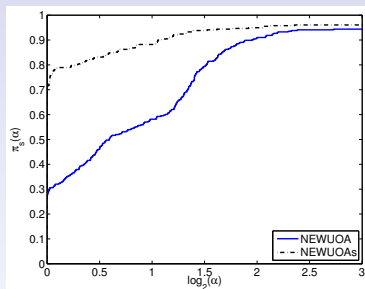
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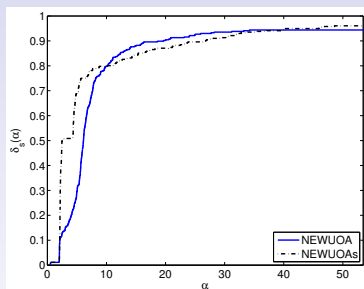
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- Relatively large problems ($n=50, 100, 150, 200$)



(a) Performance profile

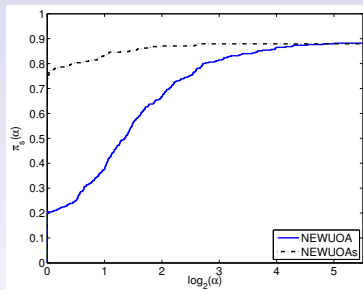


(b) Data profile

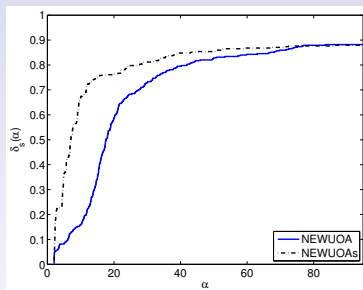
Fig 1 : Numerical comparison between NEWUOA and NEWUOAs ($\tau = 10^{-2}$)

4. Numerical results

- Relatively large problems ($n=50, 100, 150, 200$, cont.)



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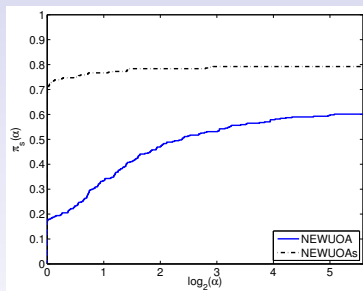


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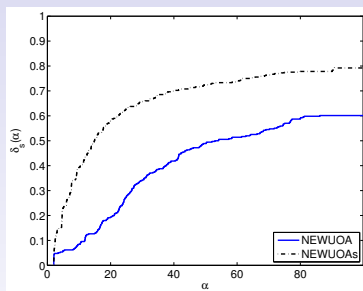
Fig 2 : Numerical comparison between NEWUOA and NEWUOAs ($\tau = 10^{-4}$)

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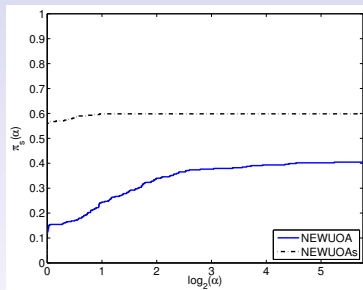


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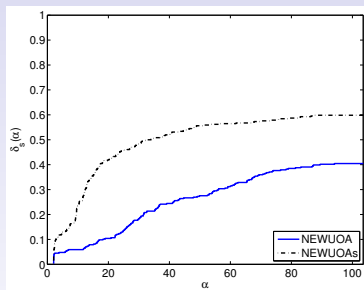
Fig 3 : Numerical comparison between NEWUOA and NEWUOAs ($\tau = 10^{-6}$)

4. Numerical results

- Relatively large problems ($n=50, 100, 150, 200, \text{cont.}$)



(a) Performance profile



(b) Data profile

Fig 4 : Numerical comparison between NEWUOA and NEWUOAs ($\tau = 10^{-8}$)

4. Numerical results

- Large problems

Tab 1 : The performance of NEWUODs on some 2000-dimensional problems

	f_{start}	f_{best}	$\#f$	CPU (s)
ARWHEAD	5.997000E+03	0.000000E+00	16095	6.42
BRYBND	7.200000E+04	6.486038E-09	50000	26.09
DIXMAANE	1.471453E+04	1.000000E+00	36264	21.12
DIXMAANF	2.734976E+04	1.000000E+00	36384	31.07
DIXMAANG	5.069653E+04	1.000000E+00	36393	22.72
DQRTIC	6.376035E+15	1.214880E-38	40854	14.70
GENHUMPS	5.122260E+07	1.624799E-26	36467	23.54
LIARWHD	1.170000E+06	2.428807E-24	16208	6.73
POWER	2.668667E+09	1.423292E-11	20130	19.19
SPARSQUR	5.627812E+05	6.381755E-30	16209	9.87

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- New strategy for defining the subspace
- Extend to constrained problems
- General preconditioning techniques

Obrigado!

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Happy birthday!

Happy birthday, Grandpa!

