



# Local Search Based on a Local Utopia Point for the Multiobjective Travelling Salesman Problem

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# Presentation Plan

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- TSP and multiobjective TSP
- Overview of the algorithm
- Local search procedures (ULS and PLS)
- Evolutionary algorithm – Local search trade-off
- Experiments
- Results
- Conclusion



# TSP and multiobjective TSP

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- Travelling Salesman Problem

- Find **the shortest route** connecting  $n$  cities
- Formally, for a given  $n \times n$  **cost matrix**  $C = [c_{ij}]$ ,  $i, j \in \{1, \dots, n\}$  minimize:

$$f(p) = c_{p(n)p(1)} + \sum_{i=1}^{n-1} c_{p(i)p(i+1)}$$

subject to  $p \in P_n$ , where  $P_n$  - the set of all permutations of numbers  $1, \dots, n$

- Multiobjective TSP

- Minimize  **$m$  objective functions**  $f_j(p)$ ,  $j = 1, \dots, m$
- Each  $f_j(p)$  is calculated using a **different cost matrix**  $C_j$
- Real life criteria example: **time** and **money**



# Overview of the Algorithm

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- NSGA-II with a local search
- Genotype = permutation
- Operator: inver-over

```
select (randomly) a city  $c$  from  $S'$ 
repeat
{
  if ( $rand() \leq p$ )
    select the city  $c'$  from the remaining cities in  $S'$ 
  else
  {
    select (randomly) an individual from  $P$ 
    assign to  $c'$  the 'next' city to the city  $c$  in the selected individual
  }
  if (the next city or the previous city of city  $c$  in  $S'$  is  $c'$ )
    exit from repeat loop
  inverse the section from the next city of city  $c$  to the city  $c'$  in  $S'$ 
   $c = c'$ 
}
```

Source:

Tao, G., Michalewicz, Z. „Inver-over Operator for the TSP”, Parallel Problem Solving from Nature PPSN V, Lecture Notes in Computer Science Volume 1498, 1998, pp 803-812



# Local search procedures

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- ULS

Local Search Based on a Local Utopia Point

- PLS

Pareto-based Local Search

Local search is used for improving new specimens (in a new population and those generated by genetic operators)



# Local search procedures

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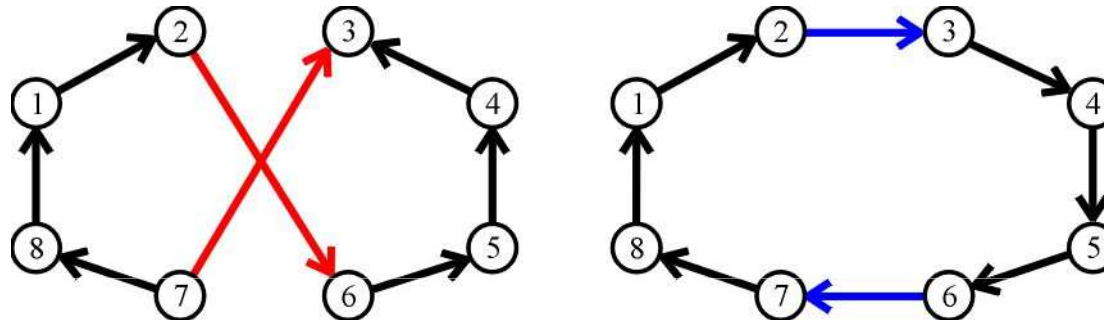
- Both ULS and PLS are best-improvement procedures
- Best-improvement local search loop:

```
repeat
  improved := false
  for  $x' \in N(x)$  do
    if  $x'$  is better than  $x$  then
       $x := x'$ 
      improved := true
    end if
  end for
until (not improved)
```

- Various neighbourhood generation procedures and acceptance criteria are possible

# Local search procedures

- Both ULS and PLS use **neighbourhoods** generated by the 2-opt operator



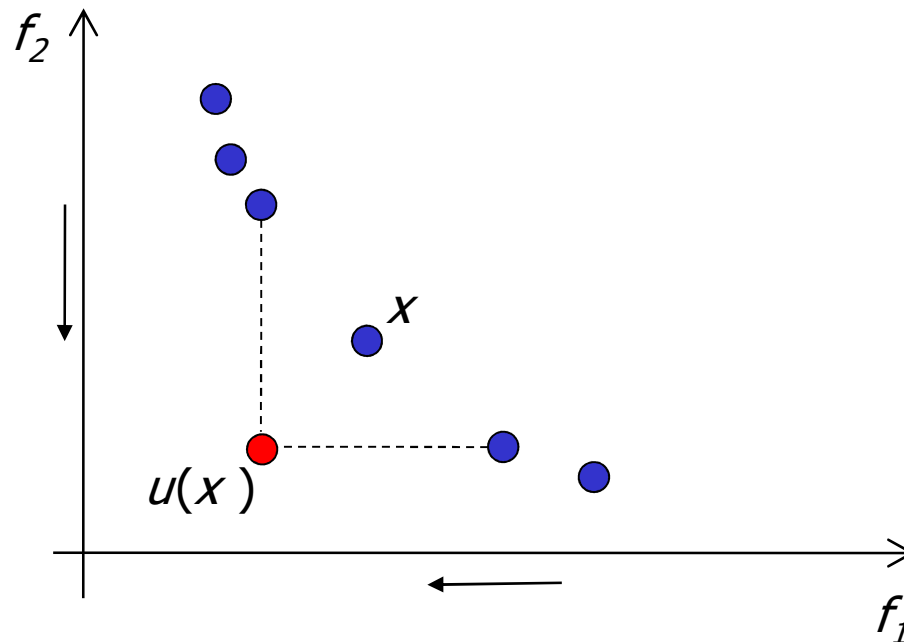
Source: <http://www.devx.com/dotnet/Article/33574/0/page/3>

- Different **acceptance criteria** are used
  - PLS:  $x'$  is accepted if it **Pareto-dominates**  $x$  (that is, is not worse w.r.t. all criteria and better w.r.t. at least one)
  - ULS:  $x'$  is accepted if it is **closer to a local utopia point**  $u(x)$  than  $x$  is

# Local utopia point in the ULS

- A utopia point  $u(x)$  is generated for a given  $x$
- All coordinates set to maximum values of objectives in the population  $P$  less than those of  $x$
- Formally, each coordinate  $u(x)_i$  is set to:

$$u(x)_i = \max \{ f_i(x') : x' \in P - \{x\} \wedge f_i(x') < f_i(x) \}$$







# The ULS procedure

IN:  $d$  - the dimensionality of the objective space  
 $x$  - the solution to improve  
 $P$  - current population,  $x \in P$

OUT:  $x$  - the solution improved by the local search

```
for  $i = 1, \dots, d$  do                                     # 1. Establish a local utopia point
   $u(x)_i = \text{MIN\_VALUE}$ 
  for  $x' \in P - \{x\}$  do
    if  $f_i(x') < f_i(x)$  and  $f_i(x') > u(x)_i$  then
       $u(x)_i = f_i(x')$ 
    end if
  end for
end for

repeat                                                    # 2. Improve the solution
  improved := false
  for  $x' \in N(x)$  do
    if  $d(F(x'), u(x)) < d(F(x), u(x))$  then # 2.1. Check if the new solution
       $x := x'$                                # is better than the old one
      improved := true
    end if
  end for
until (not improved)

return x
```



# The PLS procedure

IN:  $d$  - the dimensionality of the objective space  
 $x$  - the solution to improve  
 $P$  - current population,  $x \in P$

OUT:  $x$  - the solution improved by the local search

```
for  $i = 1, \dots, d$  do                                     # 1. Establish a local utopia point
   $u(x)_i = \text{MIN VALUE}$ 
  for  $x' \in P - \{x\}$  do
    if  $f_i(x') < f_i(x)$  and  $f_i(x') > u(x)_i$  then
       $u(x)_i = f_i(x')$ 
    end if
  end for
end for

repeat                                                    # 2. Improve the solution
  improved := false
  for  $x' \in N(x)$  do
    if  $x' \succ x$  then # 2.1. Check if the new solution
       $x := x'$                                      # is better than the old one
      improved := true
    end if
  end for
until (not improved)

return x
```



## Evolutionary algorithm – Local search trade-off

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- Computational resources can be assigned to EA and local search in various proportions
- Several strategies tested:
  - **PLS(P = 1.0)** – local search performed for each specimen
  - **PLS(P = 0.5)** – local search performed for each specimen with probability  $\frac{1}{2}$
  - **PLS(asc)** – probability of performing the local search increasing from 0.0 to 1.0 with time
  - **PLS(desc)** – probability of performing the local search decreasing from 1.0 to 0.0 with time
  - **PLS(none)** – no local search (100% resources assigned to the EA)



# Experiments

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- Test instances **kroAB $nnn$** , for  $nnn = 100, 150, 200, 300, 400, 500, 750$  and  $1000$ <sup>[1]</sup>
- Population size: 100
- Running time: **300 seconds**
- Random inverse rate:  $\eta = 0.02$
- **30 repetitions** for each test instance and algorithm

[1] Thibaut Lust: Multiobjective TSP (2015).

<https://sites.google.com/site/thibautlust/research/multiobjective-tsp>

Accessed 29 January 2015



# Results

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- **Median** values for hypervolume and IGD calculated from 30 runs
- **Statistical test** performed with the hypothesis that ULS and a compared method produce the same median results
- **Interpretation:**
  - + better median for ULS,  $p\text{-value} \leq 0.05$
  - # better median for ULS,  $p\text{-value} > 0.05$
  - worse median for ULS
- **Family-wise error:**
  - + family-wise probability of type I error  $\leq 0.05$
  - # family-wise probability of type I error  $> 0.05$
  - ULS produced worse result for one of the test instances



# Results

**Table 9.** Results of the statistical analysis comparing hypervolume and IGD values obtained using the ULS method with other tested methods.

$N$	Hypervolume					IGD				
	none	PLS ( $P = 0.5$ )	PLS ( $P = 1.0$ )	PLS (asc)	PLS (desc)	none	PLS ( $P = 0.5$ )	PLS ( $P = 1.0$ )	PLS (asc)	PLS (desc)
100	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+
150	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+
200	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+
300	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+
400	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+
500	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+
750	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+
1000	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+
F-W	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+



# Results

**Table 10.** Results of the statistical analysis comparing the results obtained using the PLS (desc) method with other tested methods.

$N$	Hypervolume					IGD				
	none	PLS ( $P = 0.5$ )	PLS ( $P = 1.0$ )	PLS (asc)	ULS	none	PLS ( $P = 0.5$ )	PLS ( $P = 1.0$ )	PLS (asc)	ULS
100	+	+	-	+	-	+	+	-	+	-
150	+	+	-	+	-	+	+	-	+	-
200	+	+	-	+	-	+	+	-	+	-
300	+	+	+	+	-	+	+	#	+	-
400	+	+	+	+	-	+	+	+	+	-
500	+	+	+	+	-	+	+	+	+	-
750	+	+	+	+	-	+	#	+	+	-
1000	+	+	+	+	-	+	+	+	+	-
F-W	+	+	-	+	-	+	#	-	+	-

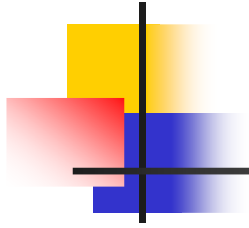


# Conclusion

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- A **local search method based on a local utopia point (ULS)** was proposed
- ULS was compared to a **Pareto-based local search (PLS)** on several instances of the multiobjective TSP
- For the Pareto-based method **five different strategies** of invoking the local search procedure were tested
- **Best PLS** performs the local search with probability  $P = 1.0$  at the beginning of the optimization and the reduces this probability linearly to  $P = 0.0$
- ULS **outperformed all** Pareto-based methods





Thank you!  
(questions?)