

Black-Box Optimization Benchmarking for Noiseless Function Testbed using Particle Swarm Optimization

Mohammed El-Abd
University of Waterloo
Waterloo, Ontario, Canada
mhelabd@pami.uwaterloo.ca

Mohamed S. Kamel
University of Waterloo
Waterloo, Ontario, Canada
mkamel@pami.uwaterloo.ca

ABSTRACT

This paper benchmarks the Particle Swarm Optimization (PSO) algorithm using the noise-free BBOB 2009 testbed.

Categories and Subject Descriptors

G.1.6 [Numerical Analysis]: Optimization; Global Optimization, Unconstrained Optimization; F.2.1 [Analysis of Algorithms and Problem Complexity]: Numerical Algorithms and Problems

General Terms

Algorithms

Keywords

Benchmarking, Black-box optimization, Evolutionary computation, Particle Swarm Optimization

1. INTRODUCTION

Particle Swarm Optimization (PSO) [1, 5] is an optimization method widely used to solve continuous nonlinear functions. It is a stochastic optimization technique that emerged from simulations of the birds flocking and fish schooling behaviors.

The algorithm used is a simple PSO algorithm utilizing the *gbest* (global best) model.

2. ALGORITHM PRESENTATION

The only design choice made was to select the absorbing boundaries to handle any particles leaving the search space, where the position is set to the boundary and the velocity is reset to zeros. Fig. 1 shows the MATLAB code for PSO algorithm.

The simulations for 2; 5; 10 and 20 D were done with the MATLAB-code and took 12 hours and 19 minutes. No parameter tuning was done and the crafting effort CrE [4] is computed to zero.

3. RESULTS

The swarm has 40 particles with the parameters set as $c1 = c2 = 1.4944$ and $w = 0.792$.

Results from experiments according to [3] on the benchmark functions given in [2, 4] are presented in Figures 2 and 3 and in Table 1.

4. CPU TIMING EXPERIMENT

For the timing experiment, PSO was run with a maximum of 10^4 function evaluations and restarted until 30 seconds has passed (according to Figure 2 in [4]). The experiments have been conducted with an Intel Core 2 Quad 2.4 GHz under Windows XP using the MATLAB-code provided. The time per function evaluation was 1.1; 1.3; 1.4; 1.5; 1.8 times 10^{-5} seconds in dimensions 2; 3; 5; 10; 20 respectively.

5. REFERENCES

- [1] R. C. Eberhart and J. Kennedy. A new optimizer using particle swarm theory. In *Proc. of the 6th International Symposium on Micro Machine and Human Science*, pages 39–43, 1995.
- [2] S. Finck, N. Hansen, R. Ros, and A. Auger. Real-parameter black-box optimization benchmarking 2009: Presentation of the noiseless functions. Technical Report 2009/20, Research Center PPE, 2009.
- [3] N. Hansen, A. Auger, S. Finck, and R. Ros. Real-parameter black-box optimization benchmarking 2009: Experimental setup. Technical Report RR-6828, INRIA, 2009.
- [4] N. Hansen, S. Finck, R. Ros, and A. Auger. Real-parameter black-box optimization benchmarking 2009: Noiseless functions definitions. Technical Report RR-6829, INRIA, 2009.
- [5] J. Kennedy and R. C. Eberhart. Particle swarm optimization. In *Proc. of IEEE International Conference on Neural Networks*, volume 4, pages 1942–1948, 1995.

Permission to make digital or hard copies of all or part of this work for personal or classroom use is granted without fee provided that copies are not made or distributed for profit or commercial advantage and that copies bear this notice and the full citation on the first page. To copy otherwise, to republish, to post on servers or to redistribute to lists, requires prior specific permission and/or a fee.

GECCO '09, July 8–12, 2009, Montréal Québec, Canada.
Copyright 2009 ACM 978-1-60558-505-5/09/07 ...\$5.00.

f1 in 5-D, N=15, mFE=7880					f1 in 20-D, N=15, mFE=2.00e6					f2 in 5-D, N=15, mFE=12560					f2 in 20-D, N=15, mFE=2.00e6						
Δf	#	ERT	10%	90%	RT _{succ}	#	ERT	10%	90%	RT _{succ}	#	ERT	10%	90%	RT _{succ}	#	ERT	10%	90%	RT _{succ}	
10	15	4.1e1	3.3e1	5.0e1	4.1e1	15	9.7e2	8.8e2	1.1e3	9.7e2	10	15	2.6e3	2.5e3	2.8e3	2.6e3	8	1.8e6	1.2e6	2.7e6	1.3e6
1	15	2.7e2	2.5e2	2.9e2	2.7e2	14	1.5e5	3.3e3	3.1e5	1.5e5	1	15	3.6e3	3.5e3	3.8e3	3.6e3	8	1.8e6	1.2e6	2.6e6	1.3e6
1e-1	15	6.8e2	6.3e2	7.2e2	6.8e2	14	1.5e5	5.4e3	3.1e5	1.5e5	1e-1	15	4.3e3	4.2e3	4.5e3	4.3e3	8	1.8e6	1.1e6	2.6e6	1.3e6
1e-3	15	2.2e3	2.1e3	2.3e3	2.2e3	14	1.5e5	1.1e4	3.2e5	1.5e5	1e-3	15	6.1e3	5.9e3	6.3e3	6.1e3	8	1.8e6	1.2e6	2.6e6	1.3e6
1e-5	15	3.9e3	3.7e3	4.0e3	3.9e3	14	1.6e5	1.6e4	3.2e5	1.6e5	1e-5	15	8.2e3	7.9e3	8.5e3	8.2e3	8	1.8e6	1.2e6	2.6e6	1.3e6
1e-8	15	6.6e3	6.4e3	6.8e3	6.6e3	14	1.7e5	2.4e4	3.3e5	1.6e5	1e-8	15	1.1e4	1.1e4	1.1e4	1.1e4	8	1.8e6	1.2e6	2.6e6	1.3e6
f3 in 5-D, N=15, mFE=500000					f3 in 20-D, N=15, mFE=2.00e6					f4 in 5-D, N=15, mFE=500000					f4 in 20-D, N=15, mFE=2.00e6						
Δf	#	ERT	10%	90%	RT _{succ}	#	ERT	10%	90%	RT _{succ}	#	ERT	10%	90%	RT _{succ}	#	ERT	10%	90%	RT _{succ}	
10	14	3.7e4	1.5e3	7.9e4	3.7e4	0	<i>21e+0</i>	<i>16e+0</i>	<i>56e+0</i>	<i>5.0e4</i>	10	15	2.4e3	2.2e3	2.6e3	2.4e3	1	2.8e7	1.3e7	>3e7	2.0e6
1	13	8.9e4	1.4e4	1.6e5	4.9e4						1	11	2.3e5	1.3e5	3.5e5	1.8e5	0	<i>23e+0</i>	<i>15e+0</i>	<i>36e+0</i>	<i>5.6e4</i>
1e-1	8	4.5e5	2.7e5	7.6e5	2.0e5						1e-1	1	7.0e6	3.3e6	>7e6	8.1e3					
1e-3	8	4.5e5	2.7e5	7.6e5	2.0e5						1e-3	1	7.0e6	3.3e6	>7e6	1.2e4					
1e-5	8	4.5e5	2.7e5	7.6e5	2.0e5						1e-5	1	7.0e6	3.3e6	>7e6	1.5e4					
1e-8	8	4.6e5	2.7e5	7.7e5	2.0e5						1e-8	1	7.0e6	3.3e6	>7e6	1.8e4					
f5 in 5-D, N=15, mFE=320					f5 in 20-D, N=15, mFE=2.00e6					f6 in 5-D, N=15, mFE=19880					f6 in 20-D, N=15, mFE=2.00e6						
Δf	#	ERT	10%	90%	RT _{succ}	#	ERT	10%	90%	RT _{succ}	#	ERT	10%	90%	RT _{succ}	#	ERT	10%	90%	RT _{succ}	
10	15	1.0e2	9.6e1	1.1e2	1.0e2	8	1.8e6	1.1e6	2.8e6	1.0e6	10	15	5.4e2	4.2e2	6.7e2	5.4e2	9	1.4e6	8.1e5	2.3e6	7.2e5
1	15	1.5e2	1.3e2	1.6e2	1.5e2	8	1.8e6	1.1e6	2.8e6	1.0e6	1	15	1.9e3	1.7e3	2.2e3	1.9e3	7	2.4e6	1.5e6	3.7e6	1.2e6
1e-1	15	1.6e2	1.5e2	1.8e2	1.6e2	8	1.8e6	1.1e6	2.8e6	1.0e6	1e-1	15	3.2e3	2.9e3	3.4e3	3.2e3	7	2.4e6	1.6e6	3.8e6	1.2e6
1e-3	15	1.6e2	1.5e2	1.8e2	1.6e2	8	1.8e6	1.1e6	2.8e6	1.0e6	1e-3	15	6.6e3	6.3e3	6.9e3	6.6e3	7	2.6e6	1.8e6	4.2e6	1.3e6
1e-5	15	1.6e2	1.5e2	1.8e2	1.6e2	8	1.8e6	1.1e6	2.8e6	1.0e6	1e-5	15	1.1e4	1.0e4	1.1e4	1.1e4	7	2.8e6	2.0e6	4.5e6	1.4e6
1e-8	15	1.6e2	1.5e2	1.8e2	1.6e2	8	1.8e6	1.1e6	2.7e6	1.0e6	1e-8	15	1.7e4	1.6e4	1.7e4	1.7e4	5	5.0e6	3.3e6	9.0e6	1.7e6
f7 in 5-D, N=15, mFE=500000					f7 in 20-D, N=15, mFE=2.00e6					f8 in 5-D, N=15, mFE=500000					f8 in 20-D, N=15, mFE=2.00e6						
Δf	#	ERT	10%	90%	RT _{succ}	#	ERT	10%	90%	RT _{succ}	#	ERT	10%	90%	RT _{succ}	#	ERT	10%	90%	RT _{succ}	
10	15	2.7e2	1.8e2	3.7e2	2.7e2	12	5.8e5	2.7e5	9.0e5	5.7e5	10	15	9.6e2	8.7e2	1.1e3	9.6e2	15	1.8e5	1.5e5	2.2e5	1.8e5
1	15	3.1e3	1.9e3	4.4e3	3.1e3	0	<i>62e-1</i>	<i>29e-1</i>	<i>17e+0</i>	<i>1.1e5</i>	1	14	4.2e4	5.9e3	8.3e4	4.1e4	11	1.2e6	8.9e5	1.5e6	1.0e6
1e-1	7	6.9e5	4.4e5	1.1e6	2.9e5						1e-1	14	6.7e4	3.1e4	1.1e5	6.5e4	11	1.4e6	1.1e6	1.8e6	1.2e6
1e-3	6	8.5e5	5.3e5	1.5e6	2.7e5						1e-3	14	1.8e5	1.5e5	2.2e5	1.7e5	11	2.0e6	1.7e6	2.4e6	1.6e6
1e-5	6	8.5e5	5.3e5	1.5e6	2.7e5						1e-5	14	3.2e5	2.9e5	3.6e5	3.0e5	7	3.9e6	2.9e6	5.8e6	1.9e6
1e-8	6	8.5e5	5.3e5	1.5e6	2.7e5						1e-8	7	1.0e6	7.9e5	1.5e6	4.8e5	1	<i>3.0e7</i>	<i>1.5e7</i>	<i>>3e7</i>	<i>2.0e6</i>
f9 in 5-D, N=15, mFE=500000					f9 in 20-D, N=15, mFE=2.00e6					f10 in 5-D, N=15, mFE=500000					f10 in 20-D, N=15, mFE=2.00e6						
Δf	#	ERT	10%	90%	RT _{succ}	#	ERT	10%	90%	RT _{succ}	#	ERT	10%	90%	RT _{succ}	#	ERT	10%	90%	RT _{succ}	
10	15	8.5e2	7.3e2	9.7e2	8.5e2	14	1.2e6	9.6e5	1.4e6	1.1e6	10	8	6.1e5	4.4e5	9.0e5	3.4e5	0	<i>84e+1</i>	<i>33e+1</i>	<i>81e+2</i>	<i>2.0e6</i>
1	13	1.2e5	4.2e4	2.1e5	8.1e4	0	<i>75e-1</i>	<i>45e-1</i>	<i>99e-1</i>	<i>2.0e6</i>	1	4	1.6e6	1.0e6	3.3e6	4.6e5					
1e-1	12	1.4e5	6.2e4	2.4e5	1.0e5						1e-1	0	<i>10e+0</i>	<i>31e-2</i>	<i>37e+0</i>	<i>4.5e5</i>					
1e-3	11	3.4e5	2.5e5	4.5e5	2.6e5						1e-3										
1e-5	7	7.9e5	5.8e5	1.2e6	4.0e5						1e-5										
1e-8	5	1.3e6	8.9e5	2.2e6	4.9e5						1e-8										
f11 in 5-D, N=15, mFE=500000					f11 in 20-D, N=15, mFE=2.00e6					f12 in 5-D, N=15, mFE=500000					f12 in 20-D, N=15, mFE=2.00e6						
Δf	#	ERT	10%	90%	RT _{succ}	#	ERT	10%	90%	RT _{succ}	#	ERT	10%	90%	RT _{succ}	#	ERT	10%	90%	RT _{succ}	
10	15	1.3e4	9.8e3	1.6e4	1.3e4	15	1.4e5	1.3e5	1.6e5	1.4e5	10	13	8.1e4	5.7e3	1.5e5	8.0e4	8	1.8e6	1.1e6	2.8e6	1.0e6
1	15	4.8e4	4.0e4	5.5e4	4.8e4	15	4.1e5	4.0e5	4.3e5	4.1e5	1	5	1.0e6	6.5e5	1.8e6	4.0e5	0	<i>64e-1</i>	<i>19e-1</i>	<i>80e+4</i>	<i>1.8e6</i>
1e-1	15	9.4e4	8.1e4	1.1e5	9.4e4	15	6.9e5	6.6e5	7.1e5	6.9e5	1e-1	3	2.0e6	1.2e6	6.0e6	5.0e5					
1e-3	15	1.9e5	1.7e5	2.1e5	1.9e5	15	1.3e6	1.3e6	1.3e6	1.3e6	1e-3	1	7.0e6	3.3e6	>7e6	5.0e5					
1e-5	14	3.6e5	3.2e5	3.9e5	3.4e5	0	<i>1.8e-7</i>	<i>31e-8</i>	<i>87e-7</i>	<i>2.0e6</i>	1e-5	0	<i>41e-1</i>	<i>24e-4</i>	<i>36e+0</i>	<i>4.5e5</i>					
1e-8	8	8.8e5	6.9e5	1.3e6	4.8e5						1e-8										
f13 in 5-D, N=15, mFE=500000					f13 in 20-D, N=15, mFE=2.00e6					f14 in 5-D, N=15, mFE=500000					f14 in 20-D, N=15, mFE=2.00e6						
Δf	#	ERT	10%	90%	RT _{succ}	#	ERT	10%	90%	RT _{succ}	#	ERT	10%	90%	RT _{succ}	#	ERT	10%	90%	RT _{succ}	
10	11	2.1e5	1.1e5	3.2e5	1.6e5	5	4.0e6	2.3e6	8.0e6	1.2e6	10	15	1.8e1	1.3e1	2.4e1	1.8e1	15	5.0e2	4.4e2	5.6e2	5.0e2
1	3	2.0e6	1.2e6	6.0e6	5.0e5	2	1.3e7	5.5e6	>3e7	1.8e4	1	15	2.3e2	2.0e2	2.6e2	2.3e2	15	3.0e3	2.7e3	3.2e3	3.0e3
1e-1	1	7.0e6	3.3e6	>7e6	5.0e5	1	2.8e7	1.3e7	>3e7	2.0e6	1e-1	15	8.6e2	8.1e2	9.1e2	8.6e2	15	6.0e3	5.8e3	6.2e3	6.0e3
1e-3	0	<i>57e-1</i>	<i>26e-2</i>	<i>21e+0</i>	<i>2.2e4</i>	1	2.8e7	1.3e7	>3e7	2.0e6	1e-3	15	4.1e3	3.8e3	4.3e3	4.1e3	15	5.0e4	4.7e4	5.4e4	5.0e4
1e-5						0	<i>22e+0</i>	<i>49e-2</i>	<i>21e+1</i>	<i>7.1e4</i>	1e-5	15	5.5e4	4.3e4	6.8e4	5.5e4	0	<i>44e-6</i>	<i>40e-6</i>	<i>55e-6</i>	<i>2.0e6</i>
1e-8											1e-8	0	<i>90e-8</i>	<i>63e-8</i>	<i>20e-7</i>	<i>4.5e5</i>					
f15 in 5-D, N=15, mFE=500000					f15 in 20-D, N=15, mFE=2.00e6					f16 in 5-D, N=15, mFE=500000					f16 in 20-D, N=15, mFE=2.00e6						
Δf	#	ERT	10%	90%	RT _{succ}	#	ERT	10%	90%	RT _{succ}	#	ERT	10%	90%	RT _{succ}	#	ERT	10%	90%	RT _{succ}	
10	15	8.1e3	2.9e3	1.3e4	8.1e3	0	<i>49e+0</i>	<i>20e+0</i>	<i>98e+0</i>	<i>7.1e4</i>	10	15	2.9e2	2.0e2	3.9e2	2.9e2	14	1.5e5	9.9e3	3.2e5	1.5e5
1	3	2.1e6	1.2e6	6.1e6	5.0e5						1	15	3.8e3	2.8e3	4.9e3	3.8e3	0	<i>47e-1</i>	<i>18e-1</i>	<i>77e-1</i>	<i>1.4e6</i>
1e-1	1	7.1e6	3.3e6	>7e6	5.0e5						1e-1	12	1.6e5	7.7e4	2.5e5	1.1e5					
1e-3	1	7.1e6	3.3e6	>7e6	5.0e5						1e-3	6	9.4e5	6.4e5	1.6e6	3.					

```

function PSO(FUN, DIM, ftarget, maxfunevals)

% Set algorithm parameters
popsize = 40;
c1 = 1.4944;%2;
c2 = 1.4944;%2;
w = 0.792;
xbound = 5;
vbound = 5;

% Allocate memory and initialize
xmin = -xbound * ones(1,DIM);
xmax = xbound * ones(1,DIM);
vmin = -vbound * ones(1,DIM);
vmax = vbound * ones(1,DIM);

x = 2 * xbound * rand(popsize,DIM) - xbound;
v = 2 * vbound * rand(popsize,DIM) - vbound;
pbest = x;

% update pbest and gbest
cost_p = feval(FUN, pbest');
[cost,index] = min(cost_p);
gbest = pbest(index,:);

maxfunevals = min(1e5 * DIM, maxfunevals);
%maxfunevals = min(10000, maxfunevals);
maxiterations = ceil(maxfunevals/popsize);

for iter = 2 : maxiterations
    % Update inertia weight
    % w = 0.9 - 0.8*(iter-2)/(maxiterations-2);

    % Update velocity
    v = w*v + c1*rand(popsize,DIM).*(pbest-x) + c2*rand(popsize,DIM).*(repmat(gbest,popsize,1)-x);

    % Clamp velocity
    s = v < repmat(vmin,popsize,1);
    v = (1-s).*v + s.*repmat(vmin,popsize,1);
    b = v > repmat(vmax,popsize,1);
    v = (1-b).*v + b.*repmat(vmax,popsize,1);

    % Update position
    x = x + v;

    % Clamp position - Absorbing boundaries
    % Set x to the boundary
    s = x < repmat(xmin,popsize,1);
    x = (1-s).*x + s.*repmat(xmin,popsize,1);
    b = x > repmat(xmax,popsize,1);
    x = (1-b).*x + b.*repmat(xmax,popsize,1);

    % Clamp position - Absorbing boundaries

    % Set v to zero
    b = s | b;
    v = (1-b).*v + b.*zeros(popsize,DIM);

    % Update pbest and gbest if necessary
    cost_x = feval(FUN, x');
    s = cost_x < cost_p;
    cost_p = (1-s).*cost_p + s.*cost_x;
    s = repmat(s',1,DIM);
    pbest = (1-s).*pbest + s.*x;
    [cost,index] = min(cost_p);
    gbest = pbest(index,:);

    % Exit if target is reached
    if feval(FUN, 'fbest') < ftarget
        break;
    end
end
end

```

Figure 1: PSO MATLAB-code.

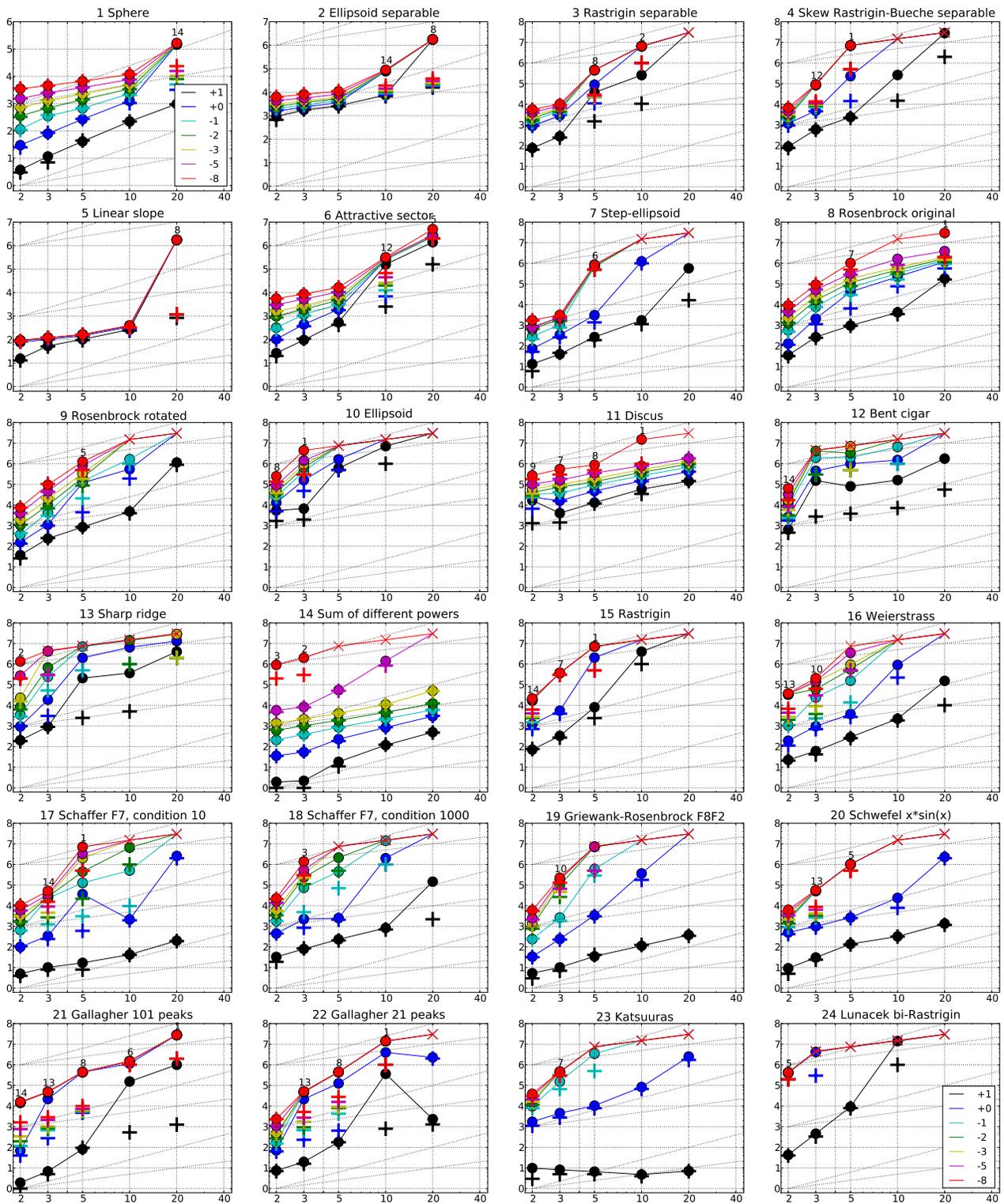


Figure 2: Expected Running Time (ERT, ●) to reach $f_{\text{opt}} + \Delta f$ and median number of function evaluations of successful trials (+), shown for $\Delta f = 10, 1, 10^{-1}, 10^{-2}, 10^{-3}, 10^{-5}, 10^{-8}$ (the exponent is given in the legend of f_1 and f_{24}) versus dimension in log-log presentation. The ERT(Δf) equals to $\#FEs(\Delta f)$ divided by the number of successful trials, where a trial is successful if $f_{\text{opt}} + \Delta f$ was surpassed during the trial. The $\#FEs(\Delta f)$ are the total number of function evaluations while $f_{\text{opt}} + \Delta f$ was not surpassed during the trial from all respective trials (successful and unsuccessful), and f_{opt} denotes the optimal function value. Crosses (×) indicate the total number of function evaluations $\#FEs(-\infty)$. Numbers above ERT-symbols indicate the number of successful trials. Annotated numbers on the ordinate are decimal logarithms. Additional grid lines show linear and quadratic scaling.

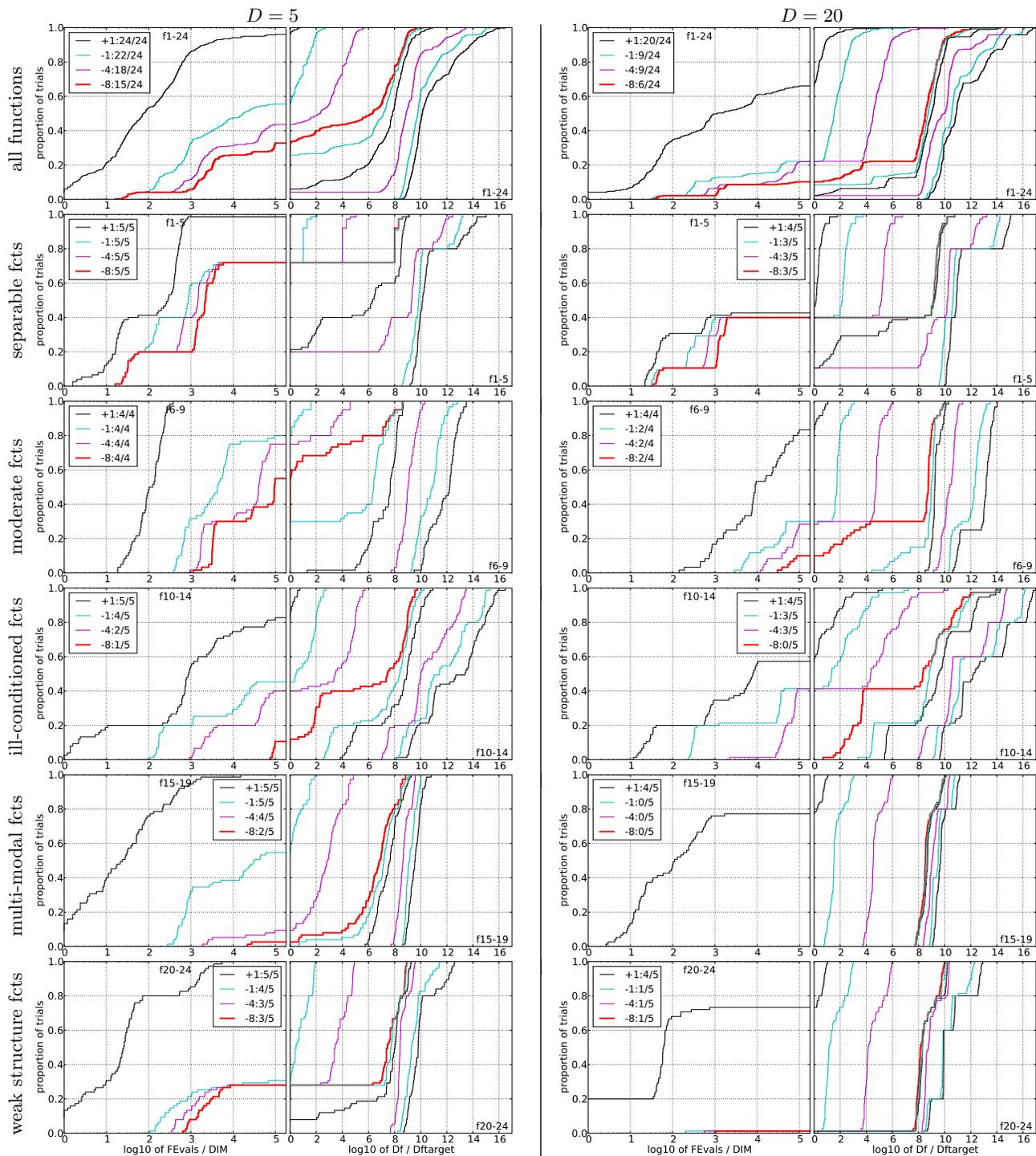


Figure 3: Empirical cumulative distribution functions (ECDFs), plotting the fraction of trials versus running time (left) or Δf . Left subplots: ECDF of the running time (number of function evaluations), divided by search space dimension D , to fall below $f_{\text{opt}} + \Delta f$ with $\Delta f = 10^k$, where k is the first value in the legend. Right subplots: ECDF of the best achieved Δf divided by 10^k (upper left lines in continuation of the left subplot), and best achieved Δf divided by 10^{-8} for running times of $D, 10D, 100D \dots$ function evaluations (from right to left cycling black-cyan-magenta). Top row: all results from all functions; second row: separable functions; third row: misc. moderate functions; fourth row: ill-conditioned functions; fifth row: multi-modal functions with adequate structure; last row: multi-modal functions with weak structure. The legends indicate the number of functions that were solved in at least one trial. FEvals denotes number of function evaluations, D and DIM denote search space dimension, and Δf and Df denote the difference to the optimal function value.