



Numerical and Evolutionary Optimization

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Message from the Guest Editors

The development of powerful search and optimization techniques is of great importance in science and engineering, particularly in today's world, which requires researchers and practitioners to tackle a variety of challenging real-world problems as technology becomes an ever-more-important aspect of everyday life. There are two well-established and widely-known fields that are addressing these issues: (i) traditional numerical optimization techniques and (ii) comparatively recent bio-inspired heuristics. Both of these fields have developed approaches with their unique strengths and weaknesses, allowing them to solve some challenging problems while sometimes failing in others.

The aim of this SI is to collect papers on the intersection of numerical and evolutionary optimization. We strongly encourage the development of fast and reliable hybrid methods, that maximize the strengths and minimize the weaknesses of each underlying paradigm, while also being applicable to a broader class of problems. Moreover, this SI fosters the understanding and adequate treatment of real-world problems, particularly in emerging fields, such as health care and smart cities, among many others.

