

Effective and Efficient Ways of Hybridizing GA with Various Methods While Reviewing a Wide Variety of Hybrid Genetic Approaches

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Abstract Hybrid genetic algorithms significant interest over the decade are increasingly used to resolve real-world problems. Genetic algorithm's ability to incorporate various techniques within its framework to produce a hybrid that secures the best from the blend. In this paper, different forms of integrations between genetic algorithms and various search and optimization techniques/methods will be focused on. This dissertation also aims to observe issues that acquire our consideration when designing a hybrid genetic algorithm that uses another search method as searching tools. Different approaches for employing these searching tool information and various mechanisms that acquire attaining a balance between global genetic algorithm and search tools.

Keywords Algorithms • Fitness • Genetic algorithm • Hybrid • Lamarckian • Local search • Population

1 Introduction

Genetic algorithm (GA) has a population-based search space and optimization methods that impersonator's the process of evolution naturally. The two main concepts of evolution are natural selection (NS) and genetic dynamics (GD) they are enthused by the development of methods. The basic principles of these techniques were first approached by Holland (1992) which are described, as examples in many papers. The recital of any genetic algorithm, like global optimization algorithm, are governed by the mechanism of balancing conflicting objectives, which exploit the paramount solution found till date and at the same time explore the search

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space for feasible solutions. The supremacy of genetic algorithms comes from the ability that combines both examination and utilization of an optimal way (Holland 1992).

Although this optimality of exploitation may be hypothetically factual for a GA, there are glitches in practice. These arise because Holland et al. presumed that population size is unlimited and that the fitness performance accurately reflected to the control of his solutions. The interactions between genes are very minor (Beasley et al. 1993).

The difficulty of finding the feasible solutions in supreme regions accounts the GA operator's poor performances that make minor changes in the neighborhood of the current solutions (Reeves 1994). Covering the full use of a local search tool in the GA could better perform the exploiting abilities of the searching algorithm without restricting its exploring performance (Hart 1994). When the right balances are between global exploration and the local exploitation competences than it achieves the algorithm could easily produce feasible solutions with accuracy (Lobo and Goldberg 1997).

A mixture of a GA and a local search method could rapidly increase the search to locate the exact global solutions required. In hybrid GA's, implementing a local search for the solution that are required by a GA for the most feasible space could increase union to the global optimum solution. The time consumed to achieve global optimality could further reduced when local search tools are used to speed up the locating of the most feasible search spaces also when locating the global optimum solution that starts within the basin of pull. The not so perfect choices of controlling parameters are other ways of limiting GA's in resolving real-world problems (Deb 1997) because of the detrimental effects with the trade-offs between utilization and exploration. Upon these parameters algorithms could either succeeding to find almost optimum solution by any efficient way or simply fail to find any solution. Choosing the correct parameters are time-consuming. Therefore, the use of strike controlling parameters become contradicting to the evolution of GA (Eiben et al. 1999).

For these reasons, various searching techniques need to be utilized for setting these values for the parameters while the search are still in progress. In this dissertation, hybrid genetic algorithms (HGA's) are thoroughly examined when putting in the different ways in which their roles for the search methods and GA are integrated. The dissertation plans to present a not to classified hybrid genetic algorithms, but to highlight on the possibilities when combining the search method together as a framework of GA. For an architectural taxonomy of combinatorial me-metic algorithms the reader could refer to (Krasnogor and Smith 2005; Moscato 1989; Talbi 2002), whereby meta-heuristics are classed basing on the designing of the search space and implantation space.

Gain an insight of the design issues of hybrid genetic algorithms (HGA's) while also reviewing the different mechanisms that have been utilized by authors when applying local search contributions within genetic search also having the various techniques that achieved a balance with exploration and utilization.

2 The Problem

Problems could also waste the resources of hybrids that use clustering techniques in the genotype domain to reduce unnecessary local search, in contrast to the Lamarckian approach which has been shown to help alleviate this problem (Joines and Kay 2002). Hart et al. (1995) pointed to the importance of considering the cost of learning, which has been ignored by most researchers when studying the impact of the Baldwinian strategy on the hybrid search by analyzing its performance based on the number of generations of the genetic algorithm only.

Joines et al. (2000) found that using the pure Lamarckian approach (100 % Lamarckian) produced the best convergence speed to the best known solution when solving the cell formation problem. Espinoza et al. (Sasaki and Tokoro 1997) used 75 % partial Lamarckian as the optimal leaning strategy in their hybrid to optimize two continuous functions. El-Mihoub et al. (2004) investigated the combined effect of probability of local search and leaning strategy on the hybrid performance and found that combing a low probability of local search with the pure Lamarckian learning strategy can improve the convergence speed without disrupting the schema processing. Ishibushi et al. (2005) found that the 5 % partial Lamarckian worked well on the multi-objective 0/1 knap-sack problem using a single population model, however, the 50 % partial Lamarckian was the optimal choice using the island model.

The same technique has been used to solve the three-matching problem (Magyar et al. 2000), where an adaptive hybrid algorithm selects one operator from eight recombination and local search operators based on their current and past benefit-cost ratio. Espinoza et al. (2001) used the change in coefficient of variation of the fitness function to determine whether the genetic algorithm is exploring new regions of the search space or exploiting the already visited regions.

Although the aim of combining a global genetic algorithm and a local search method is to get the best out of the exploring ability of the former, and the efficiency of the latter in reaching local optima, the two methods can interact in a more complicated way than the one described above. Rosin et al. (Goldberg and Voessner 1999) argued that the mutation operator in a hybrid plays a different role than it does in a pure genetic algorithm.

In this way, the global genetic algorithm decides on the individuals that should perform a local search and on its Duration SUMMARY In this paper, we have tried to put light on the effectiveness and efficiency of hybridizing GA with various techniques through reviewing some of the wide variety of hybrid genetic approaches.

However, for large and complicated search spaces, their role is limited to accelerating finding of the global optimum once the genetic algorithm isolates the most promising region and can be helpful in later stages of the search. Duration of Local Search Local search duration influences the balance between the global exploration of genetic algorithms and local refinement of the neighborhood search method in hybrid genetic algorithms (Hart et al. 2000; Ishibuchi et al. 2003).

Most of hybrid genetic algorithms that repair chromosomes to satisfy constraints are Lamarckian and the technique has been particularly effective in solving TSP (Juistron 1999). Baldwinian Learning allows an individual's fitness to be improved by applying a local search, whereas the genotype remains unchanged.

Their experiments showed that the algorithm is more efficient than a pure genetic algorithm and is stable against a greater range of parameter settings than the standard staged hybrid genetic algorithm. Hacker et al. (2002) proposed an approach that switches between global genetic and local search, based on the local topology of the search space.

Modifying the parameters of the local search, such as the frequency of local search, the duration of local search, and the probability of local search can help the hybrid to strike the balance between the two search methods.

3 Frequency of LS

The number of continuous uninterrupted generations that a genetic algorithm performs before applying local search is usually referred to as the frequency of local search.

The authors concluded that this adaptation mechanism allows the balance between the global genetic search and the local search to be adjusted according to the particularities of the search space, thus allowing significant improvements in the performance for different classes of problems.

4 LS Potential Technique

The LS potential selection mechanism has been proposed by Land (1998) to decide which individuals should perform the local search.

A hybrid with long local search duration will execute fewer generations of the genetic algorithm than a hybrid with shorter local duration, if both terminate after the same number of function evaluations. Leng proposed the guided genetic algorithm which is a hybrid genetic system that borrows the concept of feature and penalties from the guided local search (Leng 1999).

The effectiveness of adopting the pure Lamarckian approach, the pure Baldwinian approach, or any mixture of them in a hybrid is affected by the fitness landscape, the representations, the percentage of population performs local search and local search method used (Sasaki and Tokoro 1997; Tsang and Voudouris 1997; Jones et al. 2000; Houck et al. 1997; Turney 1996; Ishibuchi et al. 2005).

In the Lamarckian approach, the local search method is used as a refinement genetic operator that modifies the genetic structure of an individual and places it back in the genetic population.

They concluded that utilizing local search could be helpful for small search spaces in the early stages of search due to their role in helping the genetic algorithm to define the most promising regions of the search space.

In traditional hybrid genetic algorithms, a local search is applied to every individual in the population. The Lamarckian local search can disrupt the schema processing of the genetic algorithm which may lead to premature convergence and produce an ineffective search. The exploring ability of the genetic algorithm can be further improved by utilizing local search to ensure fair representation of different regions of a search. A decrease in the values of the coefficient of variance indicates that the genetic algorithm has converged to a small area of the search space and the search process can therefore be made more efficient by switching to a local search.

The basic idea of this approach ignores the role of local search in improving the sampling ability of the genetic algorithm. The first goal of the hybridization, which is the effectiveness of search, can be satisfied if a genetic algorithm and a local search method cooperate in the manner mentioned above. The ability of a genetic-local hybrid to solve hard problems quickly depends on the way of utilizing local search information and the mechanism of balancing genetic and local search. Due to their major impact on hybrid genetic performance, the discussion is concentrated on the strategies of utilizing local search information within a hybrid, and mechanisms that can be used to achieve a balance between exploration and exploitation.

However, in a hybrid algorithm to solve the static correction problem (Michalweiz and Nazhiyath 1995), the genetic search algorithm was allowed to continue uninterrupted for ten generations before applying a single iteration of waveform steepest ascent iteration to each individual in the population.

Different techniques, such as tuning, distribution-based (Hart 1994), fitness based (Hart 1994) techniques, and local search potential (Land 1998), have been proposed to decide on the optimal fraction of the population that should perform a local search. In the genetic-local hybrid, the main role of the genetic algorithm is to explore the search space in order to either isolate the most promising regions of the search space, or, to hit the global optimum. Researchers have proposed different techniques to enable the hybrid to mix both methods wisely or at least to reduce the consequences of the improper use of the expensive local search. The self-adaptation technique has also been used to adapt the duration of local search in a hybrid through encoding the number of local iterations into chromosomes (Mathais and Whitney 1992).

The self-adaptation techniques are reported to be successfully used to decide between different local search methods in solving the One Max problem, NK-Landscapes, and TSP (Krasnogor and Smith 2001). Joines and Kay (2002) combined evolutionary algorithms with random linkage and borrowed the concept of short memory from tabu search (Golver 1989) to avoid performing unnecessary local search on non-promising regions of the search space.

5 Conclusion

This can improve the ability of the genetic algorithm to direct the search to the most promising regions of the search space. When a GA has a global search method that is combined to a specific problem method such as the local searching method, the overall search capabilities are enhanced.

However, applying a local search to every individual in the population on costly function evaluations can waste resources without providing any more useful information.

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