A Comparison of Chaotic Electromagnetic Field Optimization Algorithms

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Abstract: This paper investigates the performance of various Electromagnetic Field Optimization (EFO) algorithms. To improve the performance of the EFO algorithm, ten chaotic maps – Chebyshev, Circle, Gauss, Iterative, Logistic, Piecewise, Sine, Singer, Sinusoidal and Tent are incorporated in the EFO. To compare the performance of the constructed EFO algorithms, a case study of the identification of the model parameters of a cultivation process model is studied. An experimental data set from E. coli BL21(DE3)pPhyt109 fed-batch cultivation process is used. Based on the results of 30 runs of each EFO, some statistical and InterCriteria analyses are performed. As a result, the iterative EFO and tent chaotic map EFO are outlined as the best-performing EFO algorithms. These algorithms achieve the best objective value (best and mean value) and have a good distribution of the results.

Keywords: Chaotic maps, Electromagnetic field optimization, InterCriteria analysis, E. coli BL21(DE3)pPhyt109 fed-batch cultivation.

Introduction

Metaheuristic algorithms, such as the Genetic algorithm, Particle Swarm Intelligence, Artificial Bee Colony, etc. have been effectively employed for various complex tasks. Among the existing metaheuristic algorithms, the Electromagnetic field optimization (EFO) [\[1\]](#page-14-0) is a promising algorithm, inspired by the behaviour of electromagnets with different polarities and takes advantage of a nature-inspired ratio, known as the golden ratio.

The EFO algorithm has been applied in several areas [\[19,](#page-15-0) [30,](#page-15-1) [34,](#page-15-2) [38,](#page-16-0) [41,](#page-16-1) [48\]](#page-16-2). Improvements of the EFO have been published in [\[2–](#page-14-1)[5,](#page-14-2) [49\]](#page-16-3). The results of some of the enhanced EFO in the literature are based on chaotic maps [\[17,](#page-14-3) [21,](#page-15-3) [24,](#page-15-4) [39,](#page-16-4) [40\]](#page-16-5). In the paper [\[39\]](#page-16-4), an effective technique of the EFO algorithm based on a fuzzy entropy criterion was proposed. Additionally, a novel chaotic strategy was embedded into the EFO. A series of experiments demonstrated the superior performance of the proposed technique. The author in [\[17\]](#page-14-3) developed an improved version of the EFO based on chaotic maps. The obtained results were compared with other wellknown algorithms demonstrating the ability of the improved EFO to efficiently solve different problems. A diversification step with chaos in the EFO was presented in [\[24\]](#page-15-4). The obtained results were compared with those of recent and improved algorithms in the literature to show the performance and effectiveness of the proposed algorithm. Two non-parametric statistical tests, the Wilcoxon rank-sum and the Friedman test, were performed to determine the significance of the results. Here, ICrA is applied instead.

The InterCriteria Analysis (ICrA) was developed to gain additional insight into the nature of the criteria involved in a multicriteria problem, and to discover on this basis existing relations between the criteria themselves [\[9\]](#page-14-4). It is based on the apparatus of the index matrices [\[7\]](#page-14-5), and the intuitionistic fuzzy sets [\[6,](#page-14-6) [8\]](#page-14-7) and can be applied to decision-making in different areas of knowledge.

The approach was thoroughly discussed in several papers dedicated to various areas of application [\[20,](#page-15-5)[44\]](#page-16-6) and still finds scientific interest [\[18,](#page-15-6)[22,](#page-15-7)[45,](#page-16-7)[46\]](#page-16-8). In this paper, ICrA has been applied to compare the numerical results from the EFO algorithm combined with 10 different chaotic maps [\[20\]](#page-15-5). The chaotic maps incorporated into the EFO are Chebyshev, Circle, Gauss, Iterative, Logistic, Piecewise, Sine, Singer, Sinusoidal and Tent. The 10 EFO algorithms have been applied to a model parameter identification problem of a non-linear *E. coli* fed-batch cultivation process.

Cultivation processes are characterized by complex non-linear dynamics and modelling them presents a hard combinatorial optimization problem. *E. coli* is still the most important host organism for recombinant protein production [\[47\]](#page-16-9). Cultivation of recombinant micro-organisms e.g. *E. coli*, in many cases, is the only economical way to produce pharmaceutical biochemicals, such as interleukins, insulin, interferons, enzymes and growth factors. Simple bacteria like *E. coli* are employed to produce these substances, making it easier to harvest them in large quantities for medical use. *E. coli* BL21(DE3)pPhyt109 fed-batch cultivation for bacterial phytase extracellular production [\[36\]](#page-15-8) has been used as a case study here.

The rest of the paper is organized as follows. In Sections 2, 3 and 4, the InterCriteria Analysis, Chaos theory, and the EFO background are presented, respectively. In Section 5, the used test case – a model parameter identification of an *E. coli*BL21(DE3)pPhyt109 fed-batch cultivation process – is presented. Section 6 shows numerical results and a discussion. A conclusion and directions for future work are included in Section 7.

InterCriteria Analysis

InterCriteria analysis, based on the apparatuses of Index Matrices (IM) [\[10](#page-14-8)[–12\]](#page-14-9) and Intuitionistic Fuzzy Sets (IFS) [\[6,](#page-14-6)[14\]](#page-14-10), is given in details in [\[9\]](#page-14-4). Here, for completeness, the proposed idea is briefly presented.

Let the initial IM is presented in the form of Eq. [\(17\)](#page-7-0), where, for every *p*,*q*, $(1 \le p \le m, 1 \le m)$ $q \leq n$, C_p is a criterion, taking part in the evaluation; O_q – an object to be evaluated; $C_p(O_q)$ – a real number (the value assigned by the *p*-th criteria to the *q*-th object).

$$
A = \begin{array}{c|cccc} & O_1 & \dots & O_q & \dots & O_n \\ \hline C_1 & C_1(O_1) & \dots & C_1(O_q) & \dots & C_1(O_n) \\ \vdots & \vdots & \ddots & \vdots & \ddots & \vdots \\ C_p & C_p(O_1) & \dots & C_p(O_q) & \dots & C_p(O_n) \\ \vdots & \vdots & \ddots & \vdots & \ddots & \vdots \\ C_m & C_m(O_1) & \dots & C_m(O_q) & \dots & C_m(O_n) \end{array} \tag{1}
$$

Let O denotes the set of all objects being evaluated, and $C(O)$ is the set of values assigned by a

given criteria *C* (i.e., $C = C_p$ for some fixed *p*) to the objects, i.e.,

$$
O \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} \{O_1, O_2, O_3, \ldots, O_n\}, \ C(O) \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} \{C(O_1), C(O_2), C(O_3), \ldots, C(O_n)\}.
$$

Let $x_i = C(O_i)$. Then the following set can be defined:

$$
C^*(O) \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} \{ \langle x_i, x_j \rangle | i \neq j \& \langle x_i, x_j \rangle \in C(O) \times C(O) \}.
$$

Further, if $x = C(O_i)$ and $y = C(O_i)$, $x \prec y$ will be written iff $i < j$.

In order to find the agreement between two criteria, the vectors of all internal comparisons for each criterion are constructed, which elements fulfill one of the three relations *R*, *R* and *R*. The nature of the relations is chosen such that for a fixed criterion *C* and any ordered pair $\langle x, y \rangle$ ∈ $C^*(O)$:

$$
\langle x, y \rangle \in R \Leftrightarrow \langle y, x \rangle \in \overline{R},\tag{2}
$$

$$
\langle x, y \rangle \in \tilde{R} \Leftrightarrow \langle x, y \rangle \notin (R \cup \overline{R}), \tag{3}
$$

$$
R \cup \overline{R} \cup \tilde{R} = C^*(O). \tag{4}
$$

For example, if " R " is the relation " \lt ", then \overline{R} is the relation " \gt ", and vice versa.

For the effective calculation of the vector of internal comparisons (denoted further by $V(C)$) only the subset of $C(O) \times C(O)$ needs to be considered, namely:

$$
C^{\prec}(O) \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} \{ \langle x, y \rangle \mid x \prec y \& \langle x, y \rangle \in C(O) \times C(O), \}
$$

due to Eqs. [\(2\)](#page-2-0)-[\(4\)](#page-2-1). For brevity, $c^{i,j} = \langle C(O_i), C(O_j) \rangle$.

Then for a fixed criterion *C* the vector of lexicographically ordered pair elements is constructed:

$$
V(C) = \{c^{1,2}, c^{1,3}, \dots, c^{1,n}, c^{2,3}, c^{2,4}, \dots, c^{2,n}, c^{3,4}, \dots, c^{3,n}, \dots, c^{n-1,n}\}.
$$
\n
$$
(5)
$$

In order to be more suitable for calculations, $V(C)$ is replaced by $\hat{V}(C)$, where its *k*-th component (1 $\leq k \leq \frac{n(n-1)}{2}$ $\frac{(-1)}{2}$) is given by:

$$
\hat{V}_k(C) = \begin{cases} 1, & \text{iff } V_k(C) \in R, \\ -1, & \text{iff } V_k(C) \in \overline{R}, \\ 0, & \text{otherwise.} \end{cases}
$$

When comparing two criteria the degree of "agreement" (μ_{CC}) is usually determined as the number of matching components of the respective vectors. The degree of "disagreement" ($v_{C,C}$) is usually the number of components of opposing signs in the two vectors. From the way of computation it is obvious that $\mu_{C,C'} = \mu_{C',C}$ and $v_{C,C'} = v_{C',C}$. Moreover, $\langle \mu_{C,C'}, v_{C,C'} \rangle$ is an Intuitionistic Fuzzy Pair (IFP).

There may be some pairs $\langle \mu_{C,C'}, v_{C,C'} \rangle$, for which the sum $\mu_{C,C'} + v_{C,C'}$ is less than 1. The difference $\pi_{C,C}$ is considered as a degree of "uncertainty:

$$
\pi_{C,C'} = 1 - \mu_{C,C'} - \nu_{C,C'}.\tag{6}
$$

Four different algorithms for calculation of $\mu_{CC'}$ and $v_{CC'}$ are known [\[37\]](#page-15-9):

- μ -biased ICrA algorithm: This algorithm follows the rules presented in [\[13,](#page-14-11) Table 3], where the rule for $=$, $=$ for two criteria *C* and *C'* is assigned to $\mu_{C,C}$.
- **v-biased ICrA algorithm**: In this case the rule for $=$, $=$ for two criteria *C* and *C'* is assigned to $v_{C,C}$. It should be noted that in such case a criteria compared to itself does not necessarily yield $\langle 1, 0 \rangle$.
- Balanced ICrA algorithm: This algorithm follows the rules in [\[13,](#page-14-11) Table 2], where the rule for $=$, $=$ for two criteria *C* and *C'* is assigned a half to both $\mu_{C,C'}$ and $v_{C,C'}$. It should be noted that in such case a criteria compared to itself does not necessarily yield $\langle 1, 0 \rangle$.
- Unbiased ICrA algorithm: This algorithm follows the rules in [\[13,](#page-14-11) Table 1]. It should be noted that in such case a criterion compared to itself does not necessarily yield $\langle 1, 0 \rangle$, too.

In this research μ -biased ICrA algorithm is applied. The pseudo-code of the algorithm is presented below as Algorithm [1](#page-3-0).

Algorithm $1 : \mu$ -biased

Require: Vectors $\hat{V}(C)$ and $\hat{V}(C')$

1: **function** DEGREES OF AGREEMENT AND DISAGREEMENT($\hat{V}(C), \hat{V}(C')$) 2: $V \leftarrow \hat{V}(C) - \hat{V}(C')$ 3: $\mu \leftarrow 0$ 4: $v \leftarrow 0$ 5: **for** $i \leftarrow 1$ to $\frac{n(n-1)}{2}$ do 6: **if** $V_i = 0$ then 7: $\mu \leftarrow \mu + 1$ 8: **else if** abs $(V_i) = 2$ then \triangleright abs (V_i) : the absolute value of V_i 9: $v \leftarrow v + 1$ 10: end if 11: end for 12: $\mu \leftarrow \frac{2}{n(n-1)} \mu$ 13: $V \leftarrow \frac{2}{n(n-1)}V$ 14: **return** μ , ν 15: end function

As a result of applying ICrA to IM *A* (Eq. [\(1\)](#page-1-0)), the following IM is constructed:

that determines the degrees of "agreement" (μ_{C_i,C_j}) and "disagreement" (v_{C_i,C_j}) between criteria $C_1, ..., C_m$ [\[9\]](#page-14-4).

,

The analysis was carried out using the cross-platform software ICrAData [\[25\]](#page-15-10). The obtained ICrA results are analyzed based on the proposed in [\[13\]](#page-14-11) consonance and dissonance scale. For

ease of use the scheme for defining the consonance and dissonance between each pair of criteria is presented in Table [1.](#page-4-0)

Interval of $\mu_{C,C'}$	Meaning
$[0.00 - 0.05]$	strong negative consonance (SNC)
$(0.05 - 0.15]$	negative consonance (NC)
$(0.15 - 0.25)$	weak negative consonance (WNC)
$(0.25 - 0.33]$	weak dissonance (WD)
$(0.33 - 0.43]$	dissonance(D)
$(0.43 - 0.57]$	strong dissonance (SD)
$(0.57 - 0.67]$	dissonance(D)
$(0.67 - 0.75)$	weak dissonance (WD)
$(0.75 - 0.85]$	weak positive consonance (WPC)
$(0.85 - 0.95]$	positive consonance (PC)
$(0.95 - 1.00]$	strong positive consonance (SPC)

Table 1. Consonance and dissonance scale [\[13\]](#page-14-11)

Chaos theory

Chaos is defined as a phenomenon to study the random and unpredictable deterministic behavior of the system. Chaos randomness is significantly distinct from statistical randomness in the context of inherent ability for search space in order to improve optimization. The following different types of chaotic maps (M1-M10) are used in the paper:

M1. Chebyshev map

According to [\[42,](#page-16-10) [43\]](#page-16-11) the Chebyshev map is given by:

$$
w_{n+1} = \cos(t \cos^{-1}(w_n)).
$$
\n(7)

M2. Circle map

The following expression represents the circle map [\[29\]](#page-15-11):

$$
w_{n+1} = w_n + \beta - (\alpha - 2\pi) \mod (1),\tag{8}
$$

where $\alpha = 0.5, \beta = 0.2$. *M3. Gauss map* The nonlinear Gauss map (also known as mouse map, [\[29\]](#page-15-11)) can be expressed as:

$$
w_{n+1} = \exp(-\alpha w_n^2) + \beta,\tag{9}
$$

where α and β are real parameters.

M4. Iterative map This chaotic map is defined by [\[32\]](#page-15-12):

$$
w_{n+1} = \sin\left(\frac{\alpha \pi}{w_n}\right),\tag{10}
$$

where $\alpha \in (0, 1)$.

M5. Logistic map

A logistic map explains the complex behavior without the randomness appeared from deterministic system which is defined as following [\[31\]](#page-15-13):

$$
w_{n+1} = cw_n (1 - w_n),
$$
\n(11)

where $w_0 \in (0, 1)$, $w_0 \notin \{0, 0.25, 0.50, 0.75, 1\}$ with $c = 4$ is called a chaotic sequence.

M6. Piecewise map

The piecewise map [\[32\]](#page-15-12) is defined as following:

$$
w_{n+1} = \begin{cases} \frac{w_n}{k}, & 0 < w_n < k \\ \frac{w_n - k}{0.5 - k}, & k \le w_n < 0.5 \\ \frac{1 - k - w_n}{0.5 - k}, & 0.5 \le w_n < 1 - k \\ \frac{1 - w_n}{k}, & 1 - k < w_n < 1 \end{cases} \tag{12}
$$

M7. Sine map

The mathematical formulation of sine map [\[23\]](#page-15-14) is:

$$
w_{n+1} = \frac{\alpha}{4} (\sin \pi w_n), \tag{13}
$$

where $0 < \alpha \leq 4$.

M8. Singer map

Singer map can be expressed as [\[15\]](#page-14-12):

$$
w_{n+1} = \mu (7.86w_n - 23.31w_n^2 + 28.75w_n^3 - 13.302875w_n^4),
$$
\n(14)

where $\mu \in (0.9, 1.08)$.

M9. Sinusoidal map

Mathematically, the sinusoidal map can be expressed as [\[31\]](#page-15-13):

$$
w_{n+1} = \alpha w_t^2 \sin(\pi w_n), \tag{15}
$$

where $\alpha = 2.3$.

M10. Tent map

Ten map is expressed by the following equation [\[33\]](#page-15-15):

$$
w_{n+1} = \begin{cases} \frac{w_n}{0.07}, & w_n < 0.7\\ \frac{10(1 - w_n)}{3}, & w_n \ge 0.7 \end{cases}
$$
 (16)

The advantages of chaos theory with non-invertible map scan carry out the overall search space at a higher speed than stochastic search [\[26,](#page-15-16) [27\]](#page-15-17) due to the non-repetition and ergodicity of chaos [\[28\]](#page-15-18). It depends on searching of global optimum on chaotic motion properties such as ergodicity, regularity and stochastic properties.

Electromagnetic field optimization

EFO is a population-based algorithm and each solution vector is represented by one group of electromagnets (electromagnetic particle). The number of electromagnets of an electromagnetic particle is determined by the number of variables of the optimization problem. Therefore, each electromagnet of the electromagnetic particle corresponds to one variable of the optimization problem. Moreover, all electromagnets of the same electromagnetic particle have the same polarity. However, each electromagnet can apply a force of attraction or repulsion on the peerelectromagnets that correspond to the same variable of the optimization problem.

According to [\[1\]](#page-14-0) the EFO works as follows:

- First, a population of electromagnetic particles is generated randomly, and the fitness of each particle is evaluated by a fitness function; then, particles are sorted according to their fitness.
- Second, sorted particles are divided into three groups, and a portion of the electromagnetic population is allocated to each group; the first group is called the positive field and consists of the fittest electromagnetic particles with positive polarity, the second group is called the the negative field and consists of the electromagnetic particles with the lowest fitness and negative polarity, and the remaining electromagnetic particles form a group called the neutral field, which has a small negative polarity almost near zero.
- Finally, in each iteration of the algorithm, a new electromagnetic particle is shaped and evaluated by a fitness function. If the generated electromagnetic particle is fitter than the worst electromagnetic particle in the population, then the generated particle will be inserted into the sorted population according to its fitness and obtain a polarity based on its position in the population; moreover, the worst particle will be eliminated.

This process continues until it reaches the maximum number of iterations or finds the expected near-optimal solution.

EFO parameters setting plays a significant role in the performance of EFO. The most important parameter of EFO is *Nemp*, which determines the number of electromagnetic particles of the population. A small number of particles inside the population will cause finding local minima instead of global minima due to the lack of knowledge about the search space. Additionally, a large population will lead to slow convergence. In [\[1\]](#page-14-0) is found out that a population smaller than 50 tends to find local minima, and a population greater than problem dimension increases the computational time.

The parameters *Pfield* and *Nfield* parameters determine the percentage of the allocated population to the each of the three groups with different polarities. Other important parameters of EFO are *Psrate* (the probability of selecting electromagnets of the generated electromagnetic particle from electromagnets of the positive field without changing them) and *Rrate* (the possibility of

Table 2. Range of the main EFO parameters

changing one electromagnet of the generated electromagnetic particle with a randomly generated electromagnet). In Table [2](#page-7-1) the proposed in [\[1\]](#page-14-0) range of parameters values are presented.

A large value for *Pfield* increases the global search and slows down convergence, while a small value for P_{field} reduces the global search and increases the local search [\[1\]](#page-14-0). Here, Eq. [\(17\)](#page-7-0) is used for calculation of the *Nfield* value:

$$
N_{field} = \frac{1 - P_{field}}{2}.\tag{17}
$$

Based on a set of numerical experiments other EFO parameters are set to the following values:

 $N_{emp} = 50;$ $P_{field} = 0.1;$ *Nfield* is calculated based on Eq. [\(17\)](#page-7-0); $Ps_{rate} = 0.2;$ $R_{rate} = 0.4$; and $Max_{gen} = 200$ (maximum number of iterations).

Series of 30 runs of each EFO algorithm are performed on the test case – cultivation model parameters identification problem.

Case study

As a case study the model parameter identification problem of a non-linear fed-batch cultivation process of *E. coli* BL21(DE3)pPhyt109 is used. The following differential equation system is considered [\[16,](#page-14-13) [36\]](#page-15-8):

$$
\frac{dX}{dt} = \mu X - \frac{F_{in}}{V}X,\tag{18}
$$

$$
\frac{dS}{dt} = -q_S X + \frac{F_{in}}{V} (S_{in} - S),\tag{19}
$$

$$
\frac{dP}{dt} = qpX - \frac{F_{in}}{V}P,\tag{20}
$$

$$
\frac{dV}{dt} = F_{in},\tag{21}
$$

where

$$
\mu = \mu_{max} \frac{S}{k_S + S}, \ q_S = \frac{1}{Y_{S/X}} \mu, \ q_P = \frac{1}{Y_{P/X}} \mu,
$$
\n(22)

and *X* is the biomass concentration, [g/l]; *S* is the substrate concentration, [g/l]; *P* is the product concentration, [g/l]; F_{in} is the feeding rate, [l/h]; *V* is the bioreactor volume, [l]; S_{in} is the substrate concentration in the feeding solution, [g/l]; μ , q_S and q_P are the specific rate functions, [1/h]; μ_{max} is the maximum specific growth rate, [1/h]; k_S is the saturation constant, [g/l]; $Y_{S/X}$ and $Y_{P/X}$ are the yield coefficients, [-].

For the model (Eq. [\(18\)](#page-7-2)-Eq. [\(22\)](#page-8-0)) the parameters that will be identified are μ_{max} , k_S , $Y_{S/X}$ and *YP*/*X*.

Let $Z_{\text{mod}} \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} [X_{\text{mod}} \ S_{\text{mod}}]$ (model predictions for biomass and substrate) and $Z_{\text{exp}} \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} [X_{\text{exp}} \ S_{\text{exp}}]$ (known experimental data for biomass and substrate). Then putting $Z = Z_{mod} - Z_{exp}$, we define the objective function as:

$$
J = ||Z||^2 \to \min,\tag{23}
$$

where $\|\|$ denotes the ℓ^2 -vector norm.

For the model parameters identification we use experimental data for biomass and glucose concentration of an *E. coli* BL21(DE3)pPhyt109 fed-batch cultivation process. The detailed description of the process condition and experimental data are presented in [\[35\]](#page-15-19).

Results and discussion

Numerical results

The proposed mathematical model consists of a set of four ODEs (Eqs[.18-](#page-7-2)[21\)](#page-7-3) with three dependent state variables $x = [X \ S \ P]$ and four unknown parameters $p = [\mu_{max} k_S Y_{S/X} Y_{P/X}]$.

The ranges of the model parameters are as follows:

$$
0.1 \le \mu_{max} \le 0.9; \ 0.001 \le k_S \le 0.5; \ 0.5 \le Y_{S/X} \le 10; \ 0.5 \le Y_{P/X} \le 10. \tag{24}
$$

The numerical experiments were performed on Intel $\mathbb R$ CoreTMi7-8700 CPU $\mathbb Q$ 3.20 GHz, 3192 MHz, 32 GB Memory (RAM), with a Windows 10 pro (64 bit) operating system. The considered competing algorithms were implemented in Matlab R2019a. The mathematical model of *E*.*coli* was created in the Simulink R2019a environment. The solver options were the automatic variable step size and ode45 (Runge–Kutta).

The model parameters are estimated by 10 different EFO algorithms using different chaotic maps, as follows: EFO algorithm M1 using Chebyshev chaotic map, EFO M2 – Circle chaotic map, M3 – Gauss chaotic map, M4 – Iterative chaotic map, M5 – Logistic chaotic map, M6 – Piecewise chaotic map, M7 – Sine chaotic map, M8 – Singer chaotic map, M9 – Sinusoidal chaotic map and M10 – Tent chaotic map. Due to the stochastic nature of the applied algorithms series of 30 runs for each algorithm are performed. The obtained best estimates of the model parameters, as well as the corresponding value of objective function *J* are presented in Table [3.](#page-9-0) The best three results are marked in bold.

As can be seen the best objective function values are obtained based on EFO algorithm with Gauss, Iterative and Sinusoidal chaotic maps. The worst results are observed for EFO with Chebyshev and Singer chaotic maps. The performance of EFO with Logistic and Sine chaotic maps is identical, as well as the performance of Circle and Piecewise chaotic maps.

A graphical comparisons can be used to establish the presence or absence of systematic deviations between the model predictions and the real measurements (experimental data). Such quantitative measure is also an important evidence for the adequacy of the obtained models. The model predictions of the state variables *X*, *S* and *P*, based on 10 estimated sets of model parameters, are compared to the experimental data of *E. coli* fed-batch process in Figs. [1-](#page-9-1)[3.](#page-10-0)

The graphical results show that the all models fit well the experimental data. Only model M2 (Circle chaotic map) show some different behaviour for the substrate dynamics.

To compare the performance of the 10 considered EFO algorithms statistical analysis of the numerical results are performed. The data from 30 runs of the algorithms, e.g., the observed values of the objective function *J* and the estimated values of the model parameters (μ_{max} , k_S , $Y_{S/X}$ and $Y_{P/X}$), are analysed. The summary statistics of the results (mean values, SD, and the median of the estimated values) are presented as box plot diagrams in Fig. [4](#page-10-1) and Fig. [5.](#page-11-0)

Fig. 1 Experimental data and models predictions for biomass concentration of an *E. coli* BL21(DE3)pPhyt109 cultivation model

Fig. 2 Experimental data and models predictions for substrate concentration of an *E. coli* BL21(DE3)pPhyt109 cultivation model

Fig. 3 Experimental data and models predictions for product concentration of an *E. coli* BL21(DE3)pPhyt109 cultivation model

Fig. 4 Box plot with the results from the parameter identification – objective function value

The results show that the best *J* value observed for M3 is an outlier value. The best mean result for *J* is achieved by M4. Given the data for *J* values, the algorithms M1, M2, M3, M8 and M9 do not produce results with a normal distribution. In the case of model parameters value data,

Fig. 5 Box plot with the results from the parameter identification – model parameters values

only a few EFO algorithms show a normal distribution of the estimates. The considered model parameter identification problem is very complex. The mathematical model is highly non-linear and the use of row experimental data makes the problem difficult to solve. This is why all EFO algorithms exhibit such behaviour – the longer the box, the more dispersed the data and the data distribution is positive or negative skewed (Fig. [5\)](#page-11-0).

Based on the numerical results (obtained objective function values) the algorithms M9, M4 and M3 find solutions with the higher accuracy. However, the statistical analysis show that the M3 and M9 do not have good distribution of the estimates. So, the EFO algorithm M4, using Iterative chaotic map, is the algorithm with the best overall performance.

ICrA results

To perform ICrA ten IMs are constructed. Eeach IM consists 30 columns (30 runs of EFO algorithms) and 5 rows (results for *J* and four model parameters):

Input IM^{*j*} = 30 *J* ... μ_{max} *k^S* ... $Y_{S/X}$ $Y_{P/X}$... ,

where the obtained estimations for *J* and model parameters are used; *i* = 1−10, for M1 to M10.

In the beginning, the ICrA is applied to the 10 *IMⁱ* . As a result the following IMs are obtained:

*Out put*₁ $IM_i =$

To evaluate the correlations between the 10 EFO (M1-M10) the ICrA is again performed over the IMs *Out put*₁*IM*_{*i*}. Thus, the considered ICrA criteria *C* are the 10 EFO algorithms – M1 is *C*1, M2 is *C*2, etc. As a result an IM of the correlations between criteria C_i is obtained.

The resulting degree of "agreement" (μ_{C_i, C_j}) and "disagreement" (ν_{C_i, C_j}) between the criteria are presented as IMs, as follows:

 $Output_2 IM_{\mu_{C_i,C_j}} =$

 $Output_2$ $IM_{v_{C_i,C_j}} =$

The obtained results are visualized in Fig. [6.](#page-13-0)

Fig. 6 Representation of the results in the intuitionistic fuzzy interpretation triangle

The EFO algorithms that show similar performance, based on the ICrA results, are the following (in descending order of similarity):

group 1 M4-M10, M6-M7;

group 2 M7-M9, M2-M7, M6-M9;

group 3 M1-M5, M2-M6, M8-M10.

It is found that EFO algorithms with Piecewise and Sine chaotic maps have similar performance. These algorithms are related with the algorithms using Circle and Sinusoidal chaotic maps. Only EFO algorithms with Gauss chaotic map show performance that is not related to the performance of the other 9 EFO algorithms. The higher degree of agreement is found for the M4-M10. M4 is the best performed EFO algorithm (Iterative chaotic map) and M10 is one of the algorithms that produces best mean *J* value.

The conducted analyses, both statistical and ICrA, made it possible to determine the best among the ten EFO algorithms. M4 and M10 are selected as the algorithms with the best performance.

Conclusion

The performance of the 10 different EFO algorithms is investigated. As a case study *E. coli* BL21(DE3)pPhyt109, a non-linear fed-batch cultivation process is used. Different chaotic maps are incorporated in each EFO. The results obtained using Chebyshev, Circle, Gaussian, Iterative, Logistic, Partial, Sinusoidal, Singer, Sinusoidal and Tent chaotic maps are compared. Based on the performed statistical analysis and InterCriteria analysis, EFO with Iterative chaotic map and EFO with Tent chaotic map are indicated as the best performed EFO algorithms.

As future work directions, the results obtained here can be confirmed (i) based on the application of the chaotic EFO algorithms to another case study or (ii) the same chaotic maps be incorporated in another metaheuristic algorithm applied to the model parameter identification of an *E. coli* BL21(DE3)pPhyt109 non-linear fed-batch cultivation process.

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