Short Communication
Volume 16:05, 2025

Global Journal of Technology and Optimization

ISSN: 2229-8711

Open Access

Hybrid Algorithms: Diverse Solutions for Complex Problems

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Introduction

Hybrid evolutionary algorithms offer powerful solutions for complex optimization problems across diverse fields. These approaches blend local search with global exploration, often leading to significantly better solutions. For example, in logistics, a hybrid evolutionary algorithm was developed for the capacitated vehicle routing problem with time windows. This method combined an improved variable neighborhood search with a genetic algorithm, showing how careful integration yields superior solutions for complex logistics[1].

Addressing last-mile delivery, hybrid evolutionary algorithms tackle the Traveling Salesman Problem with Drone. This novel variant manages the intricate coordination between traditional vehicles and drones, optimizing delivery routes and times by integrating various evolutionary operators and local search strategies[2].

In energy systems, a hybrid evolutionary algorithm contributes to multi-objective optimization for proton exchange membrane fuel cells. This work demonstrates how combining different search mechanisms navigates complex design spaces to find optimal trade-offs between conflicting objectives, enhancing efficiency and performance[3].

For dynamic manufacturing, a hybrid evolutionary algorithm handles the flexible job shop scheduling problem, especially with uncertain processing times. It merges heuristic rules with evolutionary search, adapting to real-time changes and robustly optimizing complex schedules[4].

Feature selection in high-dimensional datasets benefits from hybrid evolutionary algorithms. One method merges genetic algorithms and particle swarm optimization, leveraging exploration and exploitation. This improves machine learning model accuracy and efficiency by identifying relevant features[5].

Optimal reconfiguration of radial distribution networks, considering distributed generation and electric vehicles, is advanced by hybrid evolutionary algorithms. This approach minimizes power losses and improves voltage profiles in modern power grids, adapting to new energy sources and loads[6].

In cloud computing, a hybrid evolutionary algorithm combining NSGA-II and Particle Swarm Optimization (PSO) enables efficient task scheduling. This integrated approach balances objectives like minimizing execution time and cost, optimizing resource utilization in dynamic cloud infrastructures[7].

Another novel hybrid evolutionary algorithm for feature selection integrates an improved harmony search with a genetic algorithm. This combination enhances the ability to identify optimal feature subsets, leading to better model performance and reduced computational complexity in machine learning[8].

For mobile robot navigation, a hybrid evolutionary algorithm develops path planning in dynamic environments. It generates collision-free and optimized paths efficiently, demonstrating the importance of integrating diverse search strategies to handle real-time obstacles and changing conditions[9].

Finally, in medical applications, a hybrid evolutionary algorithm is designed for medical image segmentation. This aims to accurately delineate structures within complex biological images. Combining different evolutionary strategies improves segmentation precision and robustness, crucial for diagnosis and treatment planning[10].

Description

Hybrid evolutionary algorithms have proven to be versatile tools for tackling a variety of complex optimization challenges across numerous domains. These sophisticated methods integrate different computational intelligence techniques to achieve superior performance. For instance, in the critical field of logistics, a specialized hybrid evolutionary algorithm was developed to address the capacitated vehicle routing problem with time windows [1]. This solution cleverly combines an improved variable neighborhood search with a genetic algorithm, demonstrating a practical approach to achieving significantly better outcomes in intricate logistics scenarios. Extending this, another significant area of research involves hybrid evolutionary algorithms applied to the Traveling Salesman Problem with Drone, a novel variant crucial for last-mile delivery. This particular research illustrates how integrating various evolutionary operators and local search strategies can efficiently manage the complex coordination required between traditional vehicles and drones, thereby optimizing delivery routes and overall delivery times [2].

Beyond logistics, these algorithms make substantial impacts in other technical fields. In energy systems, for example, a hybrid evolutionary approach focuses on the multi-objective optimization of proton exchange membrane fuel cells. This work highlights how blending different search mechanisms effectively navigates complex design spaces to identify optimal trade-offs among conflicting objectives, ultimately enhancing the efficiency and performance of these energy devices [3]. Similarly, within manufacturing, a hybrid evolutionary algorithm was developed to address the dynamic flexible job shop scheduling problem, particularly under conditions of uncertain processing times. This solution underscores the effectiveness of merging heuristic rules with evolutionary search, allowing for robust optimization of complex manufacturing schedules that can adapt to real-time changes [4].

The domain of data science and machine learning also greatly benefits from these integrated approaches. A notable hybrid evolutionary algorithm merges genetic algorithms and particle swarm optimization for effective feature selection in high-dimensional datasets. This method leverages the distinct strengths of both algorithms – the exploration power of genetic algorithms and the exploitation capability of particle swarm optimization – to significantly improve the accuracy and efficiency of machine learning models by pinpointing the most relevant features [5]. Echoing this utility, another novel hybrid evolutionary algorithm also targets feature selection. This one integrates an improved harmony search with a genetic algorithm, demonstrating how such combinations can enhance the ability to identify optimal subsets of features, leading to better model performance and reduced computational complexity in a range of machine learning applications [8].

Furthermore, hybrid evolutionary algorithms play a crucial role in modern infrastructure management and cloud environments. A specific hybrid evolutionary algorithm targets the optimal reconfiguration of radial distribution networks, factoring in both distributed generation and the increasing presence of electric vehicles. This method showcases how combining evolutionary operators effectively minimizes power losses and improves voltage profiles within contemporary power grids, adapting well to complexities introduced by new energy sources and varied electrical loads [6]. In cloud computing, research proposes a hybrid evolutionary algorithm that combines NSGA-II and PSO for efficient task scheduling. This integrated approach skillfully balances multiple objectives, such as minimizing execution time and cost, thereby optimizing resource utilization within dynamic cloud infrastructures [7].

Finally, these algorithms are pushing boundaries in robotics and medical imaging. A developed hybrid evolutionary algorithm aids in path planning for mobile robots operating in dynamic environments. This particular algorithm demonstrates a remarkable capability to generate collision-free and optimized paths efficiently, emphasizing the critical importance of integrating different search strategies to effectively manage real-time obstacles and continuously changing conditions in robotic navigation [9]. In a specialized medical context, a hybrid evolutionary algorithm is specifically designed for medical image segmentation. This approach aims for accurate delineation of structures within complex biological images. By combining various evolutionary strategies, it significantly improves the precision and robustness of segmentation, which is an indispensable factor for accurate diagnosis and informed treatment planning in clinical settings [10].

Conclusion

Hybrid evolutionary algorithms stand out as a highly effective class of computational methods that fuse various optimization techniques to address complex challenges across numerous domains. Recent studies underscore their broad utility, particularly in logistics, where they optimize intricate problems like capacitated vehicle routing with time windows and the Traveling Salesman Problem with Drone. Here, combining local search with global exploration leads to enhanced route planning and resource coordination. These algorithms also prove instrumental in energy systems, enabling multi-objective optimization for proton exchange membrane fuel cells, and in manufacturing, where they facilitate dynamic job shop scheduling even under uncertain processing times by adapting to real-time changes. In the realm of data science, hybrid approaches significantly boost feature selection for high-dimensional datasets. By merging methods such as genetic algorithms, particle swarm optimization, and harmony search, they achieve improved machine learning model performance and greater efficiency. Additionally, these integrated algorithms contribute to the optimal reconfiguration of power distribution networks, accounting for distributed generation and electric vehicles, and ensure efficient task scheduling within dynamic cloud computing environments. In robotics, they facilitate advanced, collision-free path planning for mobile robots navigating complex dynamic settings. Concurrently, in medical applications, they provide precise and robust image segmentation, which is indispensable for accurate diagnosis and effective treatment planning. This consistent body of work confirms that integrating diverse search mechanisms within a hybrid framework consistently yields more precise, robust, and efficient solutions for a wide array of challenging real-world problems.

Acknowledgement

None.

Conflict of Interest

None.

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How to cite this article: Herrera, Matías. "Hybrid Algorithms: Diverse Solutions for Complex Problems." *Global J Technol Optim* 16 (2025):471.

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Received: 30-Sep-2025,ManuscriptNo.gjto-25-176027; **Editor assigned:** 02-Oct-2025,PreQCNo.P-176027; **Reviewed:** 14-Oct-2025,QCNo.Q-176027; **Revised:** 21-Oct-2025,ManuscriptNo.R-176027; **Published:** 28-Oct-2025, DOI: 10.37421/2229-8711.2025.16.471