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# An adaptive multi-population differential artificial bee colony algorithm for many-objective service composition in cloud manufacturing

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**Abstract** Several conflicting criteria must be optimized simultaneously during the service composition and optimal selection (SCOS) in cloud manufacturing, among which tradeoff optimization regarding the quality of the composite services is a key issue in successful implementation of manufacturing tasks. This study improves the artificial bee colony (ABC) algorithm by introducing a synergetic mechanism for food source perturbation, a new diversity maintenance strategy, and a novel computing resources allocation scheme to handle complicated many-objective SCOS problems. Specifically, differential evolution (DE) operators with distinct search behaviors are integrated into the ABC updating equation to enhance the level of information exchange between the foraging bees, and the control parameters for reproduction operators are adapted independently. Meanwhile, a scalarization based approach with active diversity promotion is used to enhance the selection pressure. In this proposal, multiple size adjustable subpopulations evolve with distinct reproduction operators according to the utility of the generating offspring so that more computational resources will be allocated to the better performing reproduction operators. Experiments for addressing benchmark test instances and SCOS problems indicate that the proposed algorithm has a competitive performance and scalability behavior compared with contesting algorithms.

**Keywords** Cloud manufacturing; Many-objective optimization; Evolutionary algorithm; Service composition;

## 1. Introduction

Cloud manufacturing (CMfg) refers to a service-oriented networked manufacturing model in which service consumers are enabled to configure, select, and utilize resources on demand so as to complete customized manufacturing tasks [9]. Adapted from the cloud computing model and Internet of things (IoT) into the field of manufacturing, CMfg was first coined by Li *et al.* [17] and is gaining significant attention from both academia and industry. CMfg aims at connecting consumers with small and medium-sized enterprises or individual engineers to form temporary, reconfigurable production lines, providing consumers with capable and qualified design and manufacturing services in a virtual community.

To facilitate the access and utilization of resources in heterogeneous environments, manufacturing resources or capacities in CMfg are virtualized and delivered in the form of services. However, due to the functional limitation of a single service, the complexity of a manufacturing task calls for a composite service in which multiple isolated resources are

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