Accepted Manuscript

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PII:S0377-2217(14)00919-9DOI:10.1016/j.ejor.2014.11.015Reference:EOR 12633

To appear in: European Journal of Operational Research

Received date:31 October 2013Accepted date:7 November 2014

Please cite this article as: Sunith Bandaru, Tehseen Aslam, Amos H.C. Ng, Kalyanmoy Deb, Generalized Higher-level Automated Innovization with Application to Inventory Management, *European Journal* of Operational Research (2014), doi: 10.1016/j.ejor.2014.11.015

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Generalized Higher-level Automated Innovization with Application to Inventory Management

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Abstract

This paper generalizes the automated innovization framework using genetic programming in the context of higher-level innovization. Automated innovization is an unsupervised machine learning technique that can automatically extract significant mathematical relationships from Pareto-optimal solution sets. These resulting relationships describe the conditions for Paretooptimality for the multi-objective problem under consideration and can be used by scientists and practitioners as thumb rules to understand the problem better and to innovate new problem solving techniques; hence the name innovization (*innovation* through optimization). Higher-level innovization involves performing automated innovization on multiple Pareto-optimal solution sets obtained by varying one or more problem parameters. The automated innovization framework was recently updated using genetic program-We extend this generalization to perform higher-level automated ming. innovization and demonstrate the methodology on a standard two-bar biobjective truss design problem. The procedure is then applied to a classic case of inventory management with multi-objective optimization performed at both system and process levels. The applicability of automated innovization to this area should motivate its use in other avenues of operational research.

Keywords: Automated innovization, higher-level innovization, genetic programming, inventory management, metal-cutting, knowledge discovery, operational research

Preprint submitted to European Journal of Operational Research November 18, 2014

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