

# Modification of Bacterial Foraging Optimization Algorithm using Elite Opposition Strategy

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**Abstract**— This research work presents the modification of Bacterial Foraging Optimization Algorithm (BFOA) using the elite opposition strategy. The BFOA uses a random search strategy which affect it convergence performance due poor diversification in the search process and the possibility of Oscillatory behaviour towards the search process. The Elite Opposition BFOA is developed to provide more search space so as to enhance more exploitation. The Elite Opposition BFOA (EOBFOA) and the BFOA have been tested using twelve standard benchmark functions (Unimodal and Multimodal benchmark functions). From the simulation result obtained, the EOBFOA outperform BFOA by obtaining better global minimum solution.

**Keywords**— bacterial foraging optimization, elite opposition, benchmark test function, chemotaxis.

## I. INTRODUCTION

Optimization is the process of finding the best solution to certain problems base on either finding the maximum or minimum solution with in a certain boundary using a particular objective function. In the world of optimization, traditional optimization methods have been applied in finding the best solution around a specific domain, however the traditional methods (gradient base methods) experience difficulties in finding global optimum [11]. Technically, optimization algorithms can be classified into deterministic and stochastic optimization methods. The deterministic algorithms usually have better solution for a particular optimization problem when the same set of initial values are use at the initial stage of the algorithms. However, such method usually engaged in local search process and easily trapped in local optima. The stochastic optimization methods mostly use a random search process that can enable it escape from local optima and search for a good solution after certain number of iterations [6].

In 2002, Passion was inspired by the foraging behaviour of Escherichia Coli, and propose the Bacteria Foraging Optimization Algorithm (BFOA). The field of BFOA at

present has attracted the attention of different researchers' in solving global optimization problem [4]. The BFOA based on social behaviour of the E.Coli bacterial has gain popularity and wider application in solving optimization problem ranging from robot coordination, distributed optimization and control [1]. One of the main challenges of BFOA is its poor convergence capability over multimodal and rough fitness application compared to other evolutionary algorithm such as Genetic Algorithm (GA) and Differential Evolution (DE) [12].

An Adaptive Bacterial Foraging Algorithm (ABFA) was applied in colour image enhancement using fuzzy entropy as an objective function. The ABFA technique optimized the objective function by varying the step size of the bacteria colony. The loss of unnecessary information from the image is reduce by placing constrain during the minimization of the entropy. The ABFA was also compared with the existing image enhancement technique (histogram equalization) and the ABFA outperformed the histogram equalization technique [10]. A multilevel Co-operative Bacterial Foraging Algorithm was applied in colour image segmentation that involved the combination of bacterial chemotaxis, cell-to-cell communication and adaptive scheme for the modification of the Bacterial Foraging Algorithm. A standard test image was used to evaluate the performance of the Co-operative Bacterial Foraging Algorithm with the traditional BFOA. The Co-operative Bacterial Foraging Algorithm outperformed the traditional BFOA in terms of finding a better threshold in less processing time [15].

Bacterial Foraging Optimization Algorithm was modified by varying the population of the bacteria for the purpose of image compression and applying it in fuzzy vector quantization to enable the reduction in average distortion estimation between reconstructed image and training image. The modified BFOA called the BFVPA ensure that the population size of the BFOA scale through variation in the stages of chemotaxis, swarming, elimination and communication sensing in the iteration process. BFVPA

perform better than BFOA when compare on PSNR for different images [9]. The same BFVPA was used in the optimization of palm print authentication. Both BFOA and BFVPA were used to select the combination of features that lead to the best performance in palm print base biometric identification system. The accuracy of the authentication system when using BFVPA technique is more than 97.65% when compare with BFOA with 96.65%. [8].

The performance of BFOA was improved using a social behaviour strategy by directing the movement of bacteria towards a lower value of cost function as against the usual random process of the algorithm. The new strategy enhances the lowering of number of iterations of the BFOA when applied to geometric transformation in image registration. The processing time of the algorithm with social behaviour strategy was 24% less when compared with BFOA [13]. Medical image alignment was performed between two images using BFOA. The optimization process was guided by similarity metrics as an objective function which measure the degree of resemblance between the source and target image. The author introduces h-BFOA as a modification to BFOA, due to some unnecessary chemotaxis steps that occurs as a result of oscillation in the position of the bacteria when they are close to the optimal value. The h-BFOA performs higher than the BFOA according to mean square error measure between the two algorithms [3].

The performance of bat algorithm was improved by modifying the algorithm with Elite Opposition Learning (OBL). The standard bat algorithm suffers from poor convergence and also been stuck in local minima. The modified bat base on OBL outperform the standard bat algorithm [17]. An improved BFOA algorithm based on Machine Learning frame work called the IBFO was used in the prediction of severity of somatization disorder. The BFOA was modified using the opposition base learning, the modified algorithm was better in terms of speed and accuracy of good solution [14]. Generally, the efficiency of any new or modified nature inspired optimization algorithm is usually tested using some set of standard benchmark test function which ranges from unimodal and multimodal benchmark test function [5]. The performance of one algorithm cannot be determined by the type of problem it solves most especially if the problems are specific with a different property. Therefore, to evaluate an optimization algorithm one most also identify the kind of problem it performs better [7].

## II. BACTERIAL FORAGING OPTIMIZATION ALGORITHM (BFOA) PROCESS

The Bacterial Foraging Optimization Algorithms is governed by four processes, which are chemotaxis, swarming, reproduction, elimination and dispersal [16].

### A. Chemotaxis

Let  $j$ ,  $k$ , and  $l$  denote the indices of chemotactic, reproduction and elimination dispersal events. The position of each bacterium in a group of  $S$  bacteria at  $j$ th chemotactic,  $k$ th reproduction steps and the  $l$ th elimination- dispersal event be represented in equation 1.

$$P(j, k, l) = \{ \theta^i(j, k, l) \mid i = 1, 2, 3 \dots \dots S \}$$

(1)

$\theta^i$  is the position of the  $i$ th bacterium, at  $j$ th chemotactic step, a  $k$ th reproduction step and  $l$ th elimination - dispersal event.

Let the cost of the  $i$ th bacterium at the location represented as  $J(i, j, k, l)$ .

The new position of the  $i$ th bacteria after a movement (tumbling) is defined as

$$\theta^i(j + 1, k, l) = \theta^i(j, k, l) + C(i)\Phi(j) \quad (2)$$

Where  $C(i)$  indicates the number of steps taken in the random direction indicated by the tumble. If the cost  $J(i, j + 1, k, l)$  at location  $\theta^i(j + 1, k, l)$  is lower than the cost at  $\theta^i(j, k, l)$ , then the bacterium will move in the same direction with step size  $C(i)$ .

### B. Swarming

In swarming the cell-to-cell communication is performed via information exchange through attractant to swarm together or via repellent to isolate each other. The cell to cell communication signal by the  $i$ th bacterium is represented in equation (3).

$$\sum_{i=1}^S J_{cc}(\theta, \theta^i(j, k, l)), i = 1, 2, 3 \dots \dots S \quad (3)$$

Collectively such cell-to-cell attraction and repulsion is given by equation (4).

$$J_{cc}(\theta, \theta^i(j, k, l)) = \sum_{i=1}^S J_{cc}(\theta, \theta^i(j, k, l)) = a + b \quad (4)$$

$$a = \sum_{i=1}^S [-d_{attract} \exp(-w_{attract} \sum_{m=1}^P (\theta_m - \theta_m^i)^2)] \quad (5)$$

$$b = \sum_{i=1}^S [-h_{repellent} \exp(-w_{repell} \sum_{m=1}^P (\theta_m - \theta_m^i)^2)] \quad (6)$$

$d_{attract}$  =depth of attractant

$w_{attract}$  = width of attractant

$h_{repellent}$  =height of repellent

$w_{repellent}$  = weight of repellent

Where,

$J_{cc}(\theta, P(j, k, l))$  is the objective function value. in swarming, the individuals climb as in equation (7)

$$J(i, j, k, l) = J(i, j, k, l) + J_{cc}(\theta, P) \quad (7)$$

Where  $i=1, 2, \dots, N$ ; ,  $j= 1,2,\dots,n$  and  $k$  is a random variable [2]. Where  $N$  is the population size, and  $(d_{a_i} d_{b_i} )$  is the dynamic bound of decision variable which can be obtained as follows:

$$d_{a_i} = \min(x_{i,j}) \quad (12)$$

$$d_{b_i} = \max(x_{i,j}) \quad (13)$$

The flowchart for the EOBFOA is shown in Fig. 1

### C. Reproduction

The reproduction of next generation bacteria cells occurs after certain number of chemotactic steps say  $N_c$ . Let the number of reproductive steps be  $N_{re}$ , the bacterium health is measured as the sum of its fitness value throughout its life

$$health = \sum_{j=i}^{N_c} J(i, j, k, l) \quad (8)$$

### D. Elimination Dispersal

This event is also predefined as the number of  $(N_{ed})$  of elimination dispersal event of a bacterium. The  $(P_{ed})$  is the probability of elimination-dispersal event of a bacterium. The chemotaxis provides the basis for local search. In case of avoiding a halt in local optima, bacteria will tend to disperse to other location in the search space with respect to the probability  $(P_{ed})$ .

## III. MODIFICATION OF BFOA USING ELITE OPPOSITION STRATEGY

The opposition-based strategy is basically a computational intelligence strategy that considers the current individual and its opposite individual simultaneously in order to get a better approximation. The elite opposition base strategy, which is an extension of opposition base strategy is one of the effective approaches in enhancing the performance of Evolutionary Algorithms (EA). Let  $P \in [x, y]$  be a real number. The opposition number of  $P(P^*)$  is defined in equation (9)

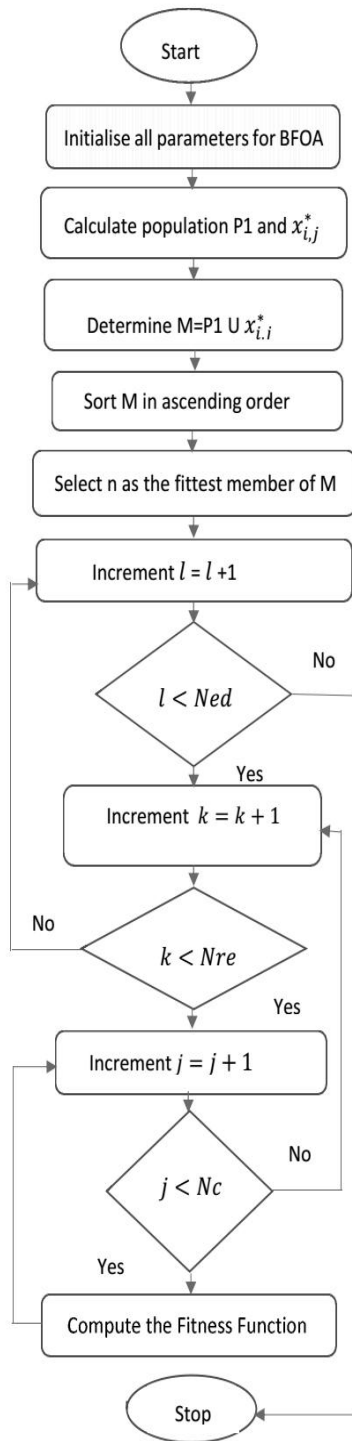
$$P^* = x + y - P \quad (9)$$

The main idea of elite based opposition is for any visible solution, calculate and evaluate the opposite solution at the same time, and chose the best individual. The equation for the elite base opposition is given in equation 10.

$$P1 = k(d_{a_i} + d_{b_i}) \quad (10)$$

$$x_{i,j}^* = P1 - x_{i,j} \quad (11)$$

Fig. 1. Flowchart of Elite Opposition BFOA



### III. PERFORMANCE EVALUATION OF BFOA AND EOBF OA

The performance of both algorithms was evaluated using twelve standard benchmark functions. The range of each test function and the Global Minimum (GM) are shown in table 1. The EOBF OA from analysis, performs better in all the test

function compare to BFOA on both unimodal (  $f1, f2, f3, f4, f5, f6$  ) and (  $f7, f8, f9, f10, f11, f12$  ) benchmark test function.

TABLE 1: BENCHMARK FUNCTIONS FOR BFOA AND EOBF OA

Function	Equations	Range	GM
<b>f1</b> (Griewank)	$f_1(x) = \frac{1}{4000} \sum_{i=1}^n (x_i^2) - \prod_{i=1}^n \cos(\frac{x_i}{\sqrt{i}}) + 1$	[-600 600]	$f(x^*) = 0$
<b>f2</b> (Sphere)	$f_2(x) = \sum_{i=1}^n x_i^2$	[-5.12 5.12]	$f(x^*) = 0$
<b>f3</b> (Zakrov)	$f_3(x) = \sum_{i=1}^n x_i^4 + (\frac{1}{2} \sum_{i=1}^n tx_i)^2 + (\frac{1}{2} \sum_{i=1}^n tx_i)^4$	[-5 10]	$f(x^*) = 0$
<b>f4</b> (Schwefel's 221)	$f_4(x) = f(x_1, \dots, x_n) = \max_{i=1, \dots, n}  x_i $	[-100 100]	$f(x^*) = 0$
<b>f5</b> (Schwefel's 222)	$f_5 = \sum_{i=1}^n  x_i  + \prod_{i=1}^n  x_i $	[-100 100]	$f(x^*) = 0$
<b>f6</b> (Schwefel's 223)	$f_6(x) = f(x_1, \dots, x_n) = \sum_{i=1}^n x_i^{2.0}$	[-10 10]	$f(x^*) = 0$
<b>f7</b> (Ackley)	$f_7(x) = -a \exp\left(\frac{1}{\sqrt{d}} \sum_{i=1}^d x_i^2\right) - \exp\left(\frac{1}{d} \sum_{i=1}^d \cos(cx_i)\right) + a + 1$	[-32.7 32.7]	$f(x^*) = 0$
<b>f8</b> (Drop wave)	$f_8(x) = -\frac{1 + \cos(\sqrt{\sum_{i=1}^n x_i^2})}{(\frac{1}{2} (\sum_{i=1}^n x_i^2 t) + \pi)}$	[-5.2 5.2]	$f(x^*) = -1$
<b>f9</b> (Goldstein and price)	$f_9 = [1 + (x_1 + x_2 + 1)^2(19 - 14x_2 + 3x_2^2 - 14x_2 + 6x_2)]$	[-2 2]	$f(x^*) = 3$
<b>f10</b> (Salomon)	$f_{10} = -\cos\left(2\pi \sqrt{\sum_{i=1}^d x_i^2}\right) + 0.1 \sqrt{\sum_{i=1}^d x_i^2} + 1$	[-100 100]	$f(x^*) = 0$
<b>f11</b> (Rosenbrok)	$f_{11}(x) = \sum_{i=1}^{n-1} [(x_i - 1)^2 + 100(x_i^2 - x_{i+1})^2]$	[-5 10]	$f(x^*) = 0$
<b>f12</b> (Rastrigin)	$f_{12} = \sum_{i=1}^n [x_i^2 - 10 \cos(2\pi x_i - x_{i+1})^2 + 10]$	[-5.12 5.12]	$f(x^*) = 0$

#### A Unimodal Test Function

Most of the Unimodal Test function are continuous, convex and the function can be defined over n-dimensional space. Table 2 shows the results for unimodal test function base on

statistical analysis. Fig. 2 to Fig. 6 shows the converging plot of BFOA and EOBFOA on different unimodal test function.

TABLE 2: UNIMODAL BENCHMARK FUNCTIONS

Algorithm	Metrics	<b>f1</b>	<b>f2</b>	<b>f3</b>	<b>f4</b>	<b>f5</b>	<b>f6</b>
BFOA	Best	5.7632E-05	8.8350E-05	3.0103E-04	0.0070	0.0101	2.5889E-19
	Worst	6.9968E-05	2.1180E-04	5.8613E-04	0.0298	0.0142	7.6261E-19
	Mean	6.3800E-05	1.5007E-04	4.4358E-04	0.0184	0.0122	3.8132E-19
	Std.	8.7227E-05	8.7292E-05	2.0159E-05	0.0161	0.0029	5.3923E-19
EOBFOA	Best	9.7350E-07	1.9324E-05	6.2877E-05	0.0081	0.0048	2.2573E-27
	Worst	5.2340E-05	2.2478E-04	1.7433E-04	0.0090	0.0049	1.0605E-23
	Mean	2.6657E-05	1.2205E-04	9.0307E-05	0.0086	0.0048	5.3036E-24
	Std.	3.6322E-05	1.4528E-04	1.1882E-04	6.1947E-04	7.4972E-04	7.4972E-24

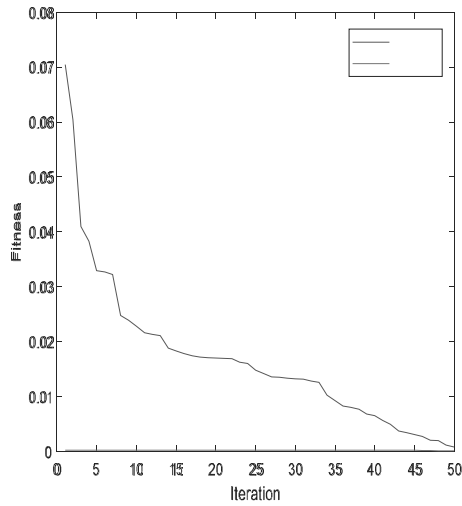


Fig. 2. Griewank BFOA and EOBFOA

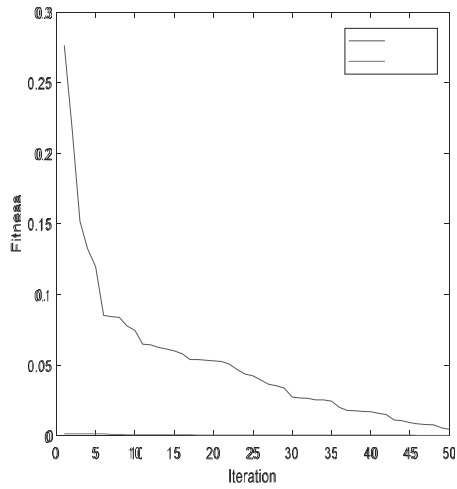


Fig. 2. Sphere BFOA and EOBFOA

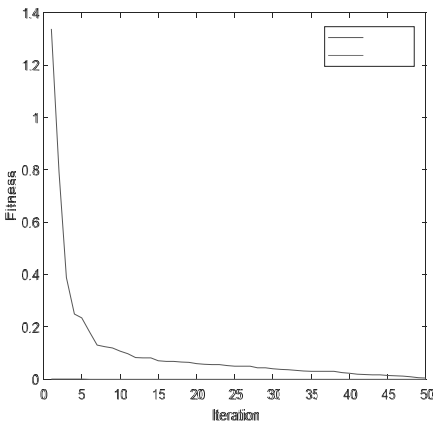


Fig. 3. Zakrov BFOA and EOBFOA

**B. Multimodal Test Functions**

The optimization test using multimodal benchmark functions was to check for the exploration performance of

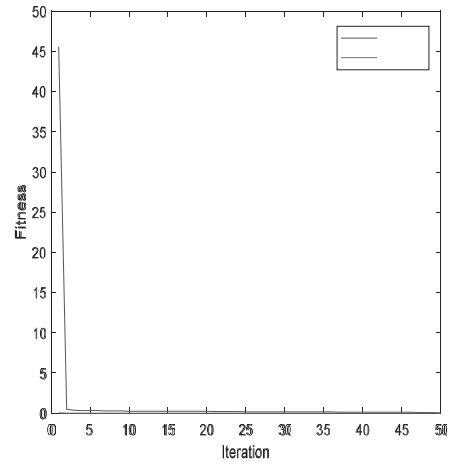


Fig. 4. Schwefel's 221 BFOA and EOBFOA

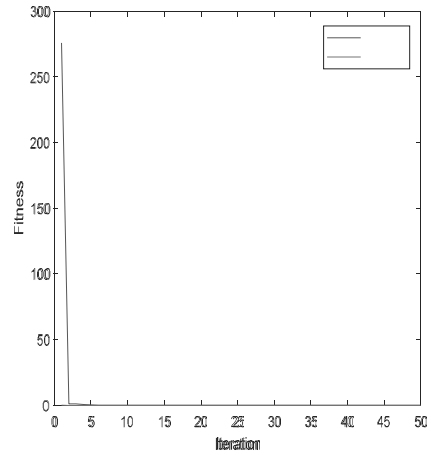


Fig. 5. Schwefel's 222 BFOA and EOBFOA

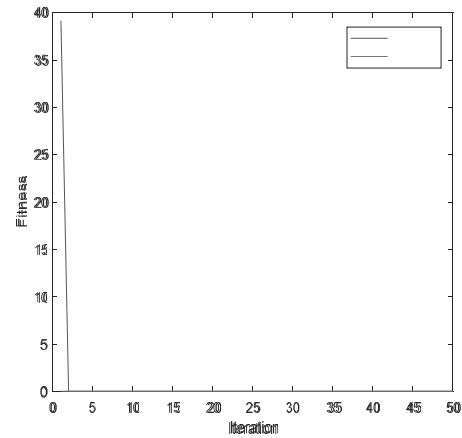


Fig. 6. Schwefel's 223 BFOA and EOBFOA

the BFOA and EOBFOA. Table 3, shows the simulation results for the using the multimodal test function and the

graphical representation of the convergence plot is also shown in Fig. 7 to Fig. 12.

TABLE 3: MULTIMODAL BENCHMARK FUNCTIONS

Algorithm	Metrics	<i>f7</i>	<i>f8</i>	<i>f9</i>	<i>f10</i>	<i>f11</i>	<i>f12</i>
BFOA	Best	0.0412	-0.9612	3.2677	8.6822E-04	0.1105	0.0872
	Worst	0.1968	-0.9638	3.2752	0.0053	0.1223	0.1093
	Mean	0.1190	-0.9747	3.2715	0.0032	0.1164	0.0983
	Std.	0.1100	0.0153	0.0053	0.0032	0.0084	0.01560
EOBFOA	Best	0.0146	-0.9923	3.0262	2.9487E-04	0.0013	0.0070
	Worst	0.0425	-0.9886	3.1375	0.0036	0.0124	0.0108
	Mean	0.0285	-0.9904	3.0819	0.0020	0.0068	0.0089
	Std.	0.0198	0.0026	0.0787	0.0024	0.0078	0.0027

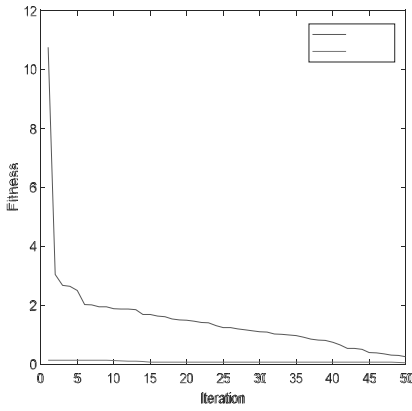


Fig. 7. Ackley BFOA and EOBFOA

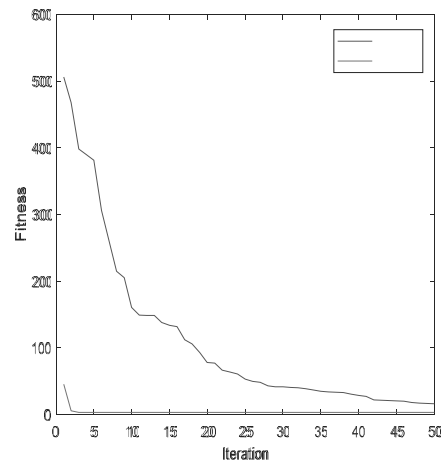


Fig. 9. Goldstein price BFOA and EOBFOA

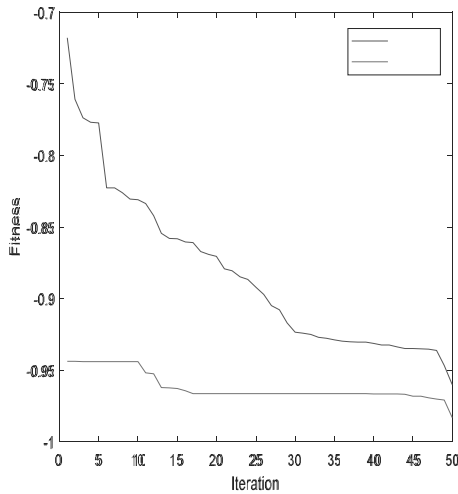


Fig. 8. Drop wave BFOA and EOBFOA

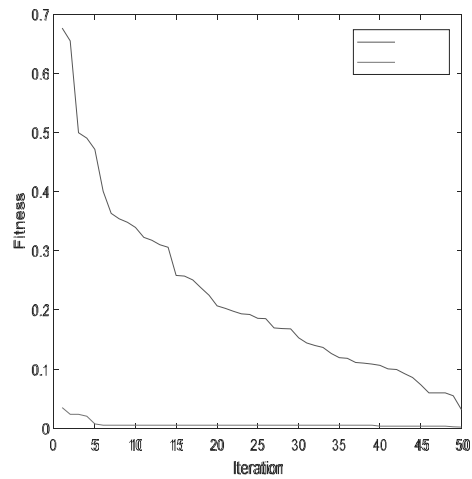


Fig. 10. Salomon BFOA and EOBFOA

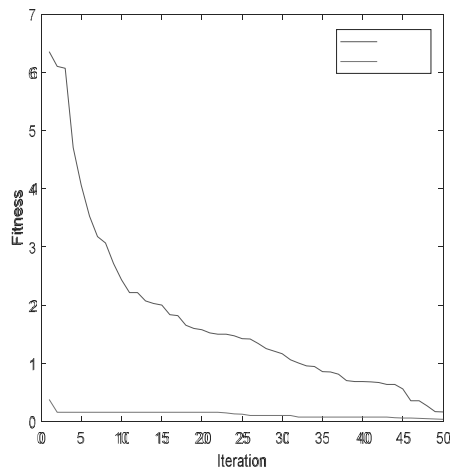


Fig. 11. Rosenbrock BFOA and EOBFOA

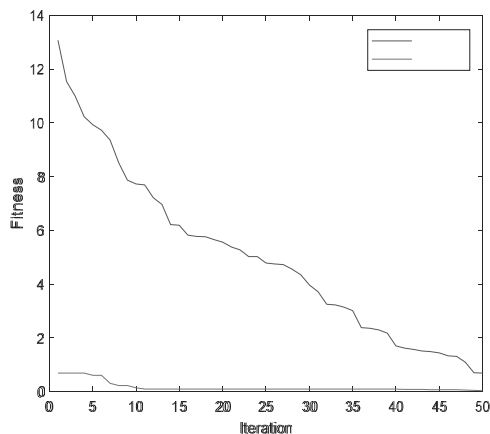


Fig. 12. Rastrigin BFOA and EOBFOA

#### IV. CONCLUSION

In this research, the EOBFOA is developed by modifying BFOA using the elite opposition strategy and tested on both unimodal and multimodal benchmark test function. The evaluation of both algorithms using best, worst, mean and standard deviation is performed, with the EOBFOA converging to a better solution than the BFOA. The convergence plot further shows that the elite opposition strategy provides more improvement to the standard BFOA by enhancing more diversification of the algorithm during search process. Further research will base on evaluating the performance of the EOBFOA at different parameter settings and also its application to medical images.

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