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# Novel Meta-Heuristic Algorithm for Feature Selection, Unconstrained Functions and Engineering Problems

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**ABSTRACT** This paper proposes a Sine Cosine hybrid optimization algorithm with Modified Whale Optimization Algorithm (SCMWOA). The goal is to leverage the strengths of WOA and SCA to solve problems with continuous and binary decision variables. The SCMWOA algorithm is first tested on nineteen datasets from the UCI Machine Learning Repository with different numbers of attributes, instances, and classes for feature selection. It is then employed to solve several benchmark functions and classical engineering case studies. The SCMWOA algorithm is applied for solving constrained optimization problems. The two tested examples are the welded beam design and the tension/compression spring design. The results emphasize that the SCMWOA algorithm outperforms several comparative optimization algorithms and provides better accuracy compared to other algorithms. The statistical analysis tests, including one-way analysis of variance (ANOVA) and Wilcoxon's rank-sum, confirm that the SCMWOA algorithm performs better.

**INDEX TERMS** Artificial intelligence, machine learning, optimization, sine cosine algorithm, modified whale optimization algorithm.

## I. INTRODUCTION

Stochastic algorithms are traditionally characterized as a heuristic, although current research often labels them meta-heuristics. According to Glover's example, all-natural algorithms are termed metaheuristic [1]. Generally speaking, heuristic refers to the process of finding or detecting through trial and error. Meta- shows a level achieved above and

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beyond the fundamental heuristic as they are not problem-specific. In his foundational work [1], Fred Glover coined the word "metaheuristics" as "a master technique that drives other heuristics towards the local optimum to generate answers that have to be produced differently" [2]. So, metaheuristics can be considered as randomized local searches. While quality solutions may be found to optimize problems within an acceptable amount of time, there is no guarantee that the optimal solution might be achieved. It is most probable that these techniques will succeed. Yet, this is

impossible. For high probability global optimization, almost any metaheuristic technique may be used [3].

Meta-heuristics have two characteristics in terms of search behavior: intensification and diversification [4]. Diversifying entails developing various solutions that look at the search field across the globe and intensifying implies restricting the search field to a limited area with superior information. A proper balance between intensity and diversity should be maintained throughout the solution selection process to speed algorithm concordance. The solution is selected for optimum convergence while randomization enhances the search for the location of Optima. A balance between these two components often offers worldwide optimism [5], [6].

Optimization is the process of discovering a solution to a given optimization problem that provides the greatest or least objective function value. It is the subject of a wide variety of machine techniques that are based on artificial neural networks [7], [8]. Several famous optimization algorithms have become accessible for different applications, and many technologies are ready and available in major scientific code libraries. Given an optimization problem, selecting what algorithms can thus be challenging for solving such a problem. Optimization is how a predefined function can have a lowest or highest output for the input parameters of a given problem to be optimized. In machine learning, where the functions' input parameters are numerical, such as the floating-point values, continuous functions optimization arises. The function usually returns parameter evaluation of the real world. Continuous function optimization can be helpful to distinguish between such problems with discrete variables, which is known as combined optimization problems [9].

Various techniques may be determined, organized, and called to optimize the problems involving continuous functions [10], [11]. The needed information about the objective function to be applied throughout the optimization process depends on the technique of optimization classification. The more information about the target function is available and understood, the more accessible it is to be optimized since the needed knowledge can be employed in an effective way. The significant difference between different optimization algorithms is how to identify the destination function in one location. The feature first derivative may be employed to get a possible solution (gradient or route). It can distinguish itself from the other not-calculated gradient data [12].

Metaheuristic optimization means the optimization process that applies metaheuristic techniques. Nearly every area of life can be involved, from holiday preparation to internet travel, engineering to business and other applications [13]–[15]. Using such available resources is maximized because of the continuous scarcity of time, resources, and money. The majority of problems to be optimized are restrictive, multimodal, and non-linear real-world problems. In case of a goal is set, sometimes, the optimal solutions to be obtained are not always available. Usually, a failed or faultless response is not simple to be found.

A range of popular metaheuristic algorithms is covered in this article [16], [17].

This paper introduces a hybrid Sine Cosine (SC) Modified Whale Optimization Algorithm (WOA) called SCMWOA. Although the WOA algorithm shows superiority in various single-objective optimization problems, it suffers from local optima stagnation and a low convergence rate. The WOA is considered simple, capable, flexible, and easy to be utilized, and the distinctive advantages of WOA cannot be achieved using traditional optimizers. By increasing the number of random agents in the modified WOA (MWOA), the global search can be more effective and be achieved to avoid local optima. The SCMWOA algorithm is proposed by balancing the updating process of the agents' positions in the search space between the sine cosine and the modified WOA algorithms during iterations to avoid a low convergence rate.

The SCMWOA algorithm evaluation in the experiments is divided into three scenarios. The first scenario is designed to test the ability of the SCMWOA algorithm in feature selection problems based on nineteen different tested datasets from the UCI public machine learning repository. The SCMWOA is compared to original Grey Wolf Optimizer (bGWO) [18], bPSO [19], Stochastic Fractal Search (bSFS) [20], Whale Optimization Algorithm (bWOA) [21], Multiverse Optimization (bMVO) [22], Satin Bowerbird Optimizer (bSBO) [23], Firefly Algorithm (bFA) [24], bGA [25] algorithms, Modified GWO (bMGWO) [26], hybrid of Particle Swarm Optimization (PSO) and GWO (bGWO-PSO) [27], hybrid of Genetic Algorithm (GA) and GWO (bGWO-GA) [26], and hybrid of SCA and PSO (bSCA-PSO) [28] in which  $b$  at the front of a name denotes the binary variant of the algorithm.

The next scenario examines the SCMWOA algorithm's ability to solve benchmark functions divided into unimodal and multimodal functions. Twenty-three functions are employed in this scenario. The SCMWOA in the second scenario is compared to original GWO [18], PSO [19], WOA [21], Feedforward Error Propagation (FEP) algorithm [29], Gravitational Search Algorithm (GSA) [30], GA [25] algorithms, Enhanced Grey Wolf Optimizer (EGWO) [31], hybrid of Crow Search Algorithm (CSA) and GWO (GWO-CSA) [31], and hybrid of SCA and PSO (bSCA-PSO) [28]. The third and last scenario is designed in this work for testing the ability of the algorithm for solving classical constrained optimization problems of tension/compression spring design (TCSD) [32] and welded beam design [33]. In addition, the SCMWOA algorithm results are compared in the third scenario with the original GWO [18], PSO [19], WOA [21], and GSA [34] algorithms' results to get the minimum cost.

The main contribution of this work can be summarized as follows.

- A Sine Cosine Modified Whale Optimization Algorithm (SCMWOA) is presented.
- A binary SCMWOA is presented.
- Ability of the binary SCMWOA algorithm in feature selection problems is tested.

- Ability of the SCMWOA algorithm to solve twenty-three benchmark functions is tested.
- Ability of the SCMWOA algorithm for solving two constrained optimization problems of Tension/Compression Spring and Welded Beam designs is confirmed.

The following sections are organized as follows. The materials and methods of the WOA, modified WOA, and SCA algorithms are discussed in Section II. Section III and IV present the proposed SCMWOA algorithm in continuous and discrete forms. Section V shows the results and discussion of the designed scenarios of feature selection, benchmark functions, and solving constrained optimization problems. Conclusion and future work are introduced in Section VI.

## II. MATERIALS AND METHODS

In this section, the WOA, modified WOA, and SCA optimization algorithms are presented.

### A. WHALE OPTIMIZATION ALGORITHM

This algorithm was first proposed in 2016 [21]. It mimics the bubble-net foraging strategy of humpback whales. In this algorithm, a number of  $n$  whales in the WOA algorithm can “swim” in an  $n$ -dimensional search space. To get the food (global solution), the position of each whale should be updated in the space search during iterations. To achieve this, the following equation was implemented in the WOA algorithm.

$$X(t+1) = X^*(t) - A \cdot |C \cdot X^*(t) - X(t)| \quad (1)$$

where the vector  $X(t)$  represents the  $t^{\text{th}}$  iteration's solution. The vector  $X^*(t)$  indicates the prey's possible position. The “.” symbol between vectors represents the pairwise multiplication. The  $A$  and  $C$  vectors are updated during iterations as  $A = 2a \cdot r_1 - a$ ,  $C = 2 \cdot r_2$ .  $a$  is decreasing linearly from 2 to 0.  $r_1$  and  $r_2$  are selected randomly between  $[0, 1]$ .

The exploitation phase of the WOA algorithm is based on a shrinking encircling mechanism that decreases with the value of  $a$ , and a spiral updating and is calculated as the distance between whale's location and location of the prey. The process of spiral is expressed as in the following equation.

$$X(t+1) = |X^*(t) - X(t)| \cdot e^{bl} \cdot \cos(2\pi l) + X^*(t) \quad (2)$$

where  $l$  is selected randomly between  $[-1, 1]$ . The spiral's shape is represented by the constant  $b$ . To simulate the process of prey's encircling and spiral movement, this equation is applied.

$$X(t+1) = \begin{cases} X^*(t) - A \cdot D & \text{if } r_3 < 0.5 \\ D' \cdot e^{bl} \cdot \cos(2\pi l) + X^*(t) & \text{otherwise} \end{cases} \quad (3)$$

where  $r_3$  is selected randomly in  $[0, 1]$  to control switching between a spiral or circular movement.

On the other side, the exploration Phase (searching for a prey) is done based on the vector  $A$ . By this process, the agent goes away from the leader. Thus, the agent position will be updated according to a random whale  $X_r$ . This allows the

### Algorithm 1 : The WOA Algorithm [21]

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1: Initialize WOA population  $X_i(i = 1, 2, \dots, n)$ , size  $n$ ,
   maximum iterations  $Max_{iter}$ , and objective function  $F_n$ .
2: Initialize WOA parameters  $a, A, C, l, r_1, r_2, r_3$ 
3: Calculate objective function  $F_n$  for each  $X_i$ 
4: Find best solution  $X^*$ 
5: while  $t \leq Max_{iter}$  do
6:   for  $(i = 1 : i < n + 1)$  do
7:     if  $(r_3 < 0.5)$  then
8:       if  $(|A| < 1)$  then
9:         Update current agents' positions by Eq. 1
10:      else
11:        Select a random agent  $X_r$ 
12:        Update current agents' positions by Eq. 4
13:      end if
14:    else
15:      Update current agents' positions by Eq. 2
16:    end if
17:  end for
18:  Update  $a, A, C, l, r_3$ 
19:  Calculate objective function  $F_n$  for each  $X_i$ 
20:  Find best solution  $X^*$ 
21: end while
22: Return  $X^*$ 

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optimizer a more global search. This can be achieved by the following equation.

$$X(t+1) = X_r - A \cdot |C \cdot X_r - X| \quad (4)$$

The  $A$  vector is used to control switching between exploration and exploitation. The termination criterion of the WOA algorithm will be due to the number of iterations. The pseudo-code of the original WOA algorithm is shown in Algorithm 1.

### B. MODIFIED WHALE OPTIMIZATION ALGORITHM

As presented in the original WOA algorithm in the previous section, the position of search agent is changed/updated based on only one random whale, named  $X_r$ , that is determined from the population randomly to give the optimizer a more global search capability (exploration ability). By increasing the number of random agents in the modified WOA (MWOA), the global search can be more effective and be achieved. The following equation is applied to replace equation 4 of the original WOA algorithm for increasing the number of random agents up to three agents and give the algorithm more exploration ability.

$$X(t+1) = w_1 * X_\alpha + \zeta * w_2 * (X_\beta - X_\gamma) + (1 - \zeta) * w_3 * (X(t) - X_\alpha) \quad (5)$$

where the three random agents are indicated as  $X_\alpha, X_\beta$ , and  $X_\gamma$  which are employed in the MWOA algorithm instead of

**Algorithm 2** : The SCMWOA Meta-Heuristic Algorithm

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```

1: Initialize SCMWOA algorithm population  $X_i(i = 1, 2, \dots, n)$ , size  $n$ , maximum iterations  $Max_{iter}$ , objective function  $F_n$ .
2: Initialize SCMWOA algorithm parameters  $a, A, C, l, r_1, r_2, r_3, r_4, r_5, r_6, r_7, w_1, w_2, w_3, t = 1$ 
3: Calculate Objective function values  $F_n$  for each agent  $X_i$ 
4: Find best solution  $X^*$  based on  $F_n$ 
5: while  $t \leq Max_{iter}$  do
6:   for  $(i = 1 : i < n + 1)$  do
7:     if  $(t \% 2 == 0)$  then
8:       if  $(r_3 < 0.5)$  then
9:         if  $(|A| < 1)$  then
10:          Update current agents' positions based on the following equation
             $X(t + 1) = X^*(t) - A \cdot |C \cdot X^*(t) - X(t)|$ 
11:         else
12:          Select three different random agents  $X_\alpha, X_\beta$ , and  $X_\gamma$  from the population
13:          Update  $\zeta$  by the following equation.
             $\zeta = 1 - \left(\frac{t}{Max_{iter}}\right)^2$ 
14:          Update current agents' positions based on the following equation using random agents
             $X(t + 1) = w_1 * X_\alpha + \zeta * w_2 * (X_\beta - X_\gamma) + (1 - \zeta) * w_3 * (X(t) - X_\alpha)$ 
15:          end if
16:         else
17:          Update current agents' positions based on the following equation
             $X(t + 1) = |X^*(t) - X(t)| \cdot e^{bl} \cdot \cos(2\pi l) + X^*(t)$ 
18:          end if
19:         else
20:          if  $(r_7 < 0.5)$  then
21:            Update current agents' positions based on the following equation
             $X(t) + r_4 \times \sin(r_5) \times |r_6 X^*(t) - X(t)|$ 
22:          else
23:            Update current agents' positions based on the following equation
             $X(t) + r_4 \times \cos(r_5) \times |r_6 X^*(t) - X(t)|$ 
24:          end if
25:          end if
26:        end for
27:      Update parameters  $a, A, C, l, r_3, r_7$ 
28:      Calculate objective function  $F_n$  for each agent  $X_i$  and update old values
29:      Find best solution  $X^*$  based on  $F_n$  and update old value
30:      Set  $t = t + 1$ 
31:    end while
32: Return best solution  $X^*$ 

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one random agent. The parameter of  $\zeta$  is computed as follows.

$$\zeta = 1 - \left(\frac{t}{Max_{iter}}\right)^2 \quad (6)$$

where  $Max_{iter}$  as maximum number of iterations during the execution process. The  $w_1, w_2$ , and  $w_3$  parameters are selected randomly in  $[0, 1]$ .

### C. SINE COSINE ALGORITHM

The SCA algorithm was presented in [35] by switching between the sine and cosine based functions. To know the direction of the movement and how far the movement will be, SCA is based on a set of random variables. The following equation was used to update positions in this optimizer.

$$X(t + 1) = \begin{cases} X(t) + r_4 \times \sin(r_5) \\ \times |r_6 X^*(t) - X(t)| & r_7 < 0.5 \\ X(t) + r_4 \times \cos(r_5) \\ \times |r_6 X^*(t) - X(t)| & r_7 \geq 0.5 \end{cases} \quad (7)$$

where the position of current solution id represented as  $X(t)$ , while the best solution is indicated as  $X^*(t)$ . The  $r_5, r_6$ , and  $r_7$  parameters are selected randomly in  $[0, 1]$  during iterations. To make a balance between the process of exploration and the process of exploitation,  $r_4$  is changed during iterations as follows.

$$r_4 = a - \frac{a \times t}{Max_{iter}} \quad (8)$$

**Algorithm 3** :Binary SCMWOA Meta-Heuristic Algorithm

- 1: **Initialize** the SCMWOA algorithm configuration, including population and parameters
- 2: **Change** to binary solution (0 or 1) the current solutions
- 3: **Evaluate** the objective function
- 4: **Determine** the best solution based on the objective function
- 5: **Train** the model of k-NN and calculate error
- 6: **while**  $t \leq iters_{max}$  **do**
- 7:   **Apply** the SCMWOA algorithm
- 8:   **Update** the solutions to binary solutions by the following equation
 
$$X_d^{(t+1)} = \begin{cases} 1 & \text{if } Sigmoid(X^*) \geq 0.5 \\ 0 & \text{otherwise} \end{cases},$$

$$Sigmoid(X^*) = \frac{1}{1 + e^{-10(X^* - 0.5)}}$$
- 9:   **Evaluate** objective function for each agent
- 10:   **Update** parameters
- 11:   **Update** the best solution based on the objective function
- 12: **end while**
- 13: **Return** the optimal solution

**TABLE 1.** Datasets from UCI repository.

No.	Dataset	# Attributes	# Instances	# Classes
1	Hepatitis	19	155	2
2	Ionosphere	34	351	2
3	Vertebral	6	310	2
4	Seeds	7	210	3
5	Parkinsons	23	197	2
6	Australian	14	690	2
7	Blood	5	748	2
8	Breast_Cancer	10	699	2
9	Diabetes	8	768	2
10	Lymphography	18	148	4
11	Zoo	17	101	7
12	Ring	20	7400	2
13	Titanic	3	2201	2
14	Towonorm	20	7400	2
15	Waveform	21	5000	3
16	Tic-Tac-Toe	9	949	2
17	Mofn	10	1324	2
18	HAR (Smartphones)	561	10299	6
19	ISOLET	617	7797	26

**TABLE 2.** Binary SCMWOA algorithm configuration.

Parameter	Value
# Agents	10
# Iterations	100
Dimension	# Features in dataset
Domain	[0,1]
# Runs	20
Inertia factor of SC	0.1
$h_1$ of $f_n$	0.99
$h_2$ of $f_n$	0.01

where  $t$  as current iteration,  $a$  as constant, and  $Max_{iter}$  represents the maximum number of iterations.

**III. PROPOSED SCMWOA META-HEURISTIC ALGORITHM**

The presented Sine Cosine Modified Whale Optimization (SCMWOA) algorithm is explained in this section. The SCMWOA algorithm is shown in Algorithm 2. The presented

**TABLE 3.** Configuration of compared algorithms with 100 iterations and 10 agents for each one.

Algorithm	Parameter (s)	Value (s)
GWO	$a$	2 to 0
PSO	Inertia $W_{max}, W_{min}$	[0.9,0.6]
	Acceleration constants $C_1, C_2$	[2,2]
SFS	Maximum diffusion level	1
WOA	$a$	2 to 0
	$r$	[0,1]
MVO	Wormhole existence probability	[0.2,1]
SBO	Step size	0.94
	Mutation probability	0.05
	Upper and lower limit difference	0.02
FA	# fireflies	10
GA	Mutation ratio	0.1
	Crossover	0.9
	Selection mechanism	Roulette wheel
SCA	Parameters $r_2, r_3, r_4,$	[0,1]

algorithm is proposed by balancing the updating process of the agents' positions between the sine cosine and the modified WOA algorithms during iterations.

The SCMWOA algorithm starts by initializing the population and algorithm parameters, then calculates all agents' objective functions to get the initial best solution in steps from 1 to 4. For iterations  $t \% 2 = 0$  of current iteration  $t$ , the modified WOA algorithm is applied in steps from 8 to 18. As presented in the modified WOA algorithm, the position of the search agent is changed and updated based on three different random whales, named  $X_\alpha, X_\beta,$  and  $X_\gamma$ , that can be determined from the population to give the algorithm more global search capability. While for the rest of the iterations, the cosine algorithm is applied in steps from 20 to 25. Steps from 28 to 30 are applied to update the parameters and find the current best solution  $X^*$ .

The SCMWOA algorithm' computational complexity according to Algorithm (2) will be discussed. Let  $n$  as number

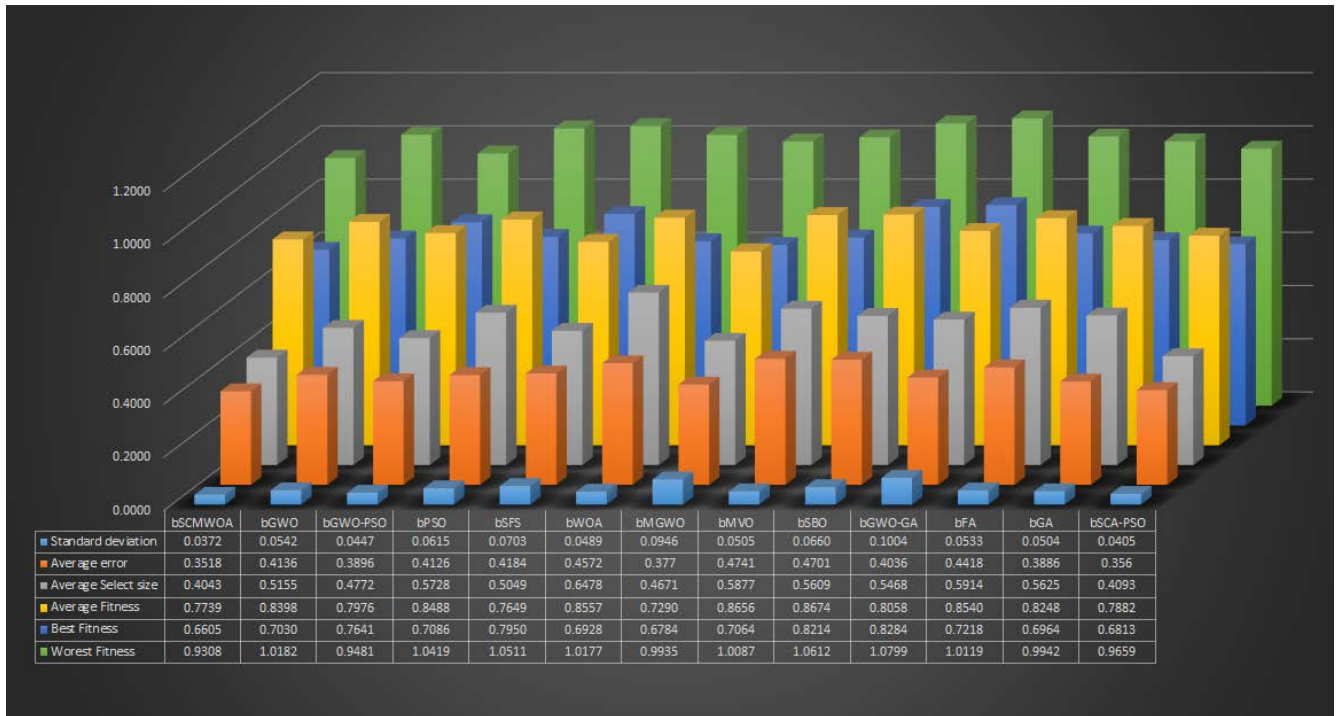


FIGURE 1. Feature selection average results acquired over all the datasets.

TABLE 4. Presented bSCMWOA and compared algorithms’ average error.

Dataset	bSCMWOA	bGWO	bGWO-PSO	bPSO	bSFS	bWAO	bMGWO	bMVO	bSBO	bGWO-GA	bFA	bGA	bSCA-PSO
Hepatitis	0.16576	0.17948	0.17262157	0.1698	0.17846471	0.16674	0.176151	0.16674	0.1843863	0.1883078	0.1736	0.16674	0.16942
Ionosphere	0.10314	0.11614	0.11716154	0.14391	0.12325556	0.12896	0.1047342	0.13793	0.1242556	0.1635718	0.13451	0.12383	0.1068
Vertebral	0.17501	0.18812	0.18617573	0.19346	0.19005922	0.1852	0.176801	0.20122	0.207535	0.1939427	0.19977	0.18909	0.17867
Seeds	0.25584	0.26584	0.21918571	0.24941	0.21912857	0.26084	0.2258429	0.24799	0.2272714	0.2272714	0.2587	0.2487	0.2595
Parkinsons	0.10416	0.1221	0.12254615	0.12024	0.10923846	0.11101	0.1202385	0.12255	0.0979308	0.1317769	0.11024	0.11562	0.11782
Australian	0.11892	0.13392	0.12174348	0.12566	0.11926522	0.12805	0.1504391	0.12935	0.1330478	0.1260913	0.13631	0.12392	0.12258
Blood	0.2088	0.2179	0.22331847	0.22513	0.23587309	0.2183	0.2181378	0.21729	0.217696	0.2072542	0.21186	0.22392	0.21246
Breast_Cancer	0.01134	0.0172	0.01848541	0.01334	0.0159103	0.01226	0.0184854	0.01291	0.0159103	0.017627	0.01505	0.01548	0.015
Diabetes	0.23981	0.23706	0.22495	0.24429	0.33510625	0.2437	0.2444813	0.23979	0.2276	0.2272938	0.24311	0.25171	0.24347
Lymphography	3.23427	3.39727	3.284078	3.46564	3.3099	3.56666	3.2245	3.73094	3.52511	3.38749	3.45952	3.15952	3.23793
Zoo	0.10255	0.11485	0.10716154	0.11562	0.12254615	0.13562	0.1148538	0.11408	0.1256231	0.1379308	0.12639	0.12101	0.10621
Ring	0.12594	0.12784	0.13220365	0.1335	0.1362588	0.13202	0.1289595	0.12916	0.1343934	0.1360155	0.13174	0.13383	0.1296
Titanic	0.19087	0.21433	0.20043261	0.20062	0.19071774	0.19817	0.1988236	0.19312	0.183434	0.1899824	0.20028	0.19476	0.19453
Townorm	0.00092	0.01797	0.01152238	0.03506	0.02887056	0.00313	0.0019463	0.01471	0.0210925	0.0382864	0.02563	0.03766	0.00458
WaveformEW	0.36132	0.37194	0.39727143	0.39493	0.36252941	0.36465	0.4053146	0.38467	0.3834659	0.4051946	0.39184	0.41159	0.36498
Tic-Tac-Toe	0.22575	0.24111	0.24330815	0.23814	0.2324116	0.22513	0.23149	0.22873	0.2690135	0.2583552	0.24425	0.24174	0.22941
Mofn	0.02994	0.08503	0.10634172	0.10158	0.106122	0.095	0.0657295	0.08673	0.0766365	0.1011263	0.10396	0.11031	0.0336
HAR (Smartphones)	0.3823	0.9561	0.8561	0.7878	0.9665	1.5427	0.6339	1.7141	1.8127	0.7456	1.2927	0.8566	0.38596
ISOLET	0.6476	0.8543	0.6583	0.881	0.9675	0.9685	0.7228	0.9368	0.9652	0.7846	0.9338	0.6582	0.65126
Average	0.3518	0.4136	0.3896	0.4126	0.4184	0.4572	0.3770	0.4741	0.4701	0.4036	0.4418	0.3886	0.3560

of population;  $M_t$  as total number of iterations. For each part of the algorithm, the time complexity can be defined as:

- Population initialization:  $O(1)$ .
- Parameters initialization:  $a, A, C, l, r_1, r_2, r_3, r_4, r_5, r_6, r_7, w_1, w_2, w_3, t = 1: O(1)$ .
- Calculating objective function values  $F_n$  for each agent  $X_i: O(n)$ .
- Finding the best solution  $X^*$  based on  $F_n: O(n)$ .
- Position updating:  $O(M_t \times n)$ .
- Diffusion process calculation:  $O(M_t \times n)$ .
- Updating  $\vec{a}$  by the exponential form:  $O(M_t)$ .
- Updating parameters  $a, A, C, l, r_3, r_7: O(M_t)$ .
- Objective function evaluation:  $O(M_t \times n)$ .

- Best individual update:  $O(M_t \times n)$ .
- Iteration counter increment:  $O(M_t)$ .

The overall complexity of the proposed SCMWOA algorithm is  $O(M_t \times n)$ . Considering the number of variables as  $m$ , the final computational complexity of the algorithm will be  $O(M_t \times n \times m)$ .

#### IV. BINARY SCMWOA ALGORITHM

The SCMWOA algorithm has a binary version based on MWOA and SCA. To get a probability value of two discrete classes, an activation function, named Sigmoid, can be employed for binary classification [36]. The classification using this function gives output values between zero or one. The optimizer’s outputs are changed to binary values from the







**TABLE 11.** Mean and standard deviation (StDev) of the suggested and compared algorithms over the benchmark functions ( $f_1$  to  $f_{23}$ ).

		SCMWOA	PSO	WOA	GWO	FEP	GSA	GA	EGWO	GWO-CSA	SCA-PSO
$f_1$	Mean	0.00E+00	0.000136	1.41E-30	6.59E-28	0.00057	2.53E-16	4.6E-172	1.74E-16	1.01E-28	1.11014E-20
	StDev	0.00E+00	0.000202	4.91E-30	6.34E-05	0.00013	9.67E-17	0.00E+00	3.69E-16	1.26E-28	1.83289E-20
$f_2$	Mean	2.1E-182	0.042144	1.06E-21	7.18E-17	0.0081	0.055655	3.44E-90	5.16E-11	1.50E-17	4.09460E-11
	StDev	0.00E+00	0.045421	2.39E-21	0.029014	0.00077	0.194074	6.13E-90	8.54E-11	1.25E-17	5.68981E-11
$f_3$	Mean	0.00E+00	70.12562	5.39E-07	3.29E-06	0.016	896.5347	1.7E-127	1.27E-01	5.18E-04	2.16858E-12
	StDev	0.00E+00	22.11924	2.93E-06	79.14958	0.014	318.9559	8.6E-127	2.83E-01	1.07E-03	1.03815E-11
$f_4$	Mean	1E-194	1.086481	0.072581	5.61E-07	0.3	7.35487	1.15E-75	1.55E+00	2.07E-07	8.47410E-08
	StDev	0.00E+00	0.317039	0.39747	1.315088	0.5	1.741452	2.45E-75	3.95E+00	3.00E-07	1.23324E-07
$f_5$	Mean	0.00E+00	96.71832	27.86558	26.81258	5.06	67.54309	28.37287	2.80E+01	2.70E+01	21.97646
	StDev	0.00E+00	60.11559	0.763626	69.90499	5.87	62.22534	0.582802	9.83E-01	5.00E-01	0.54774
$f_6$	Mean	0.121209	0.000102	3.116266	0.816579	0.00E+00	2.5E-16	3.932626	3.19E+00	1.23E+00	7.13998E-12
	StDev	0.154425	8.28E-05	0.532429	0.000126	0.00E+00	1.74E-16	0.431755	5.08E-01	2.62E-01	3.65884E-11
$f_7$	Mean	0.000225	0.122854	0.001425	0.002213	0.1415	0.089441	0.022992	1.19E-02	1.92E-03	0.00012
	StDev	0.000267	0.044957	0.001149	0.100286	0.3522	0.04339	0.021966	5.87E-03	9.88E-04	0.00010
$f_8$	Mean	-6514.05	-4841.29	-5080.76	-6123.1	-12554.5	-2821.07	-4080.18	-6.34E+03	-3.57E+03	-12569.486
	StDev	1077.84	1152.814	695.7968	-4087.44	52.6	493.0375	551.6504	6.13E+02	4.42E+02	2.39996E-07
$f_9$	Mean	0.00E+00	46.70423	0.00E+00	0.310521	0.046	25.96841	0.00E+00	1.87E+02	1.19E+00	0.00E+00
	StDev	0.00E+00	11.62938	0.00E+00	47.35612	0.012	7.470068	0.00E+00	5.25E-01	3.32E+00	0.00E+00
$f_{10}$	Mean	4.33E-17	0.276015	7.4043	1.06E-13	0.018	0.062087	7.99E-16	1.30E-01	1.37E-14	2.24609E-11
	StDev	0.00E+00	0.50901	9.897572	0.077835	0.0021	0.23628	1.07E-15	5.83E-01	3.53E-15	2.33547E-11
$f_{11}$	Mean	0.00E+00	0.009215	0.000289	0.004485	0.016	27.70154	0.00E+00	9.89E-03	0.00E+00	0.00E+00
	StDev	0.00E+00	0.007724	0.000289	0.006659	0.022	5.040343	0.00E+00	1.18E-02	0.00E+00	0.00E+00
$f_{12}$	Mean	0.144417	0.006917	0.339676	0.053438	9.2E-06	1.799617	0.556173	3.00E+00	4.92E-02	8.46465E-14
	StDev	0.343144	0.026301	0.214864	0.020734	3.6E-06	0.95114	0.063582	3.55E+00	8.54E-03	2.79106E-13
$f_{13}$	Mean	1.14E-34	0.006675	1.889015	0.654464	0.00016	8.899084	2.132497	2.70E+00	9.39E-01	0.00399
	StDev	2.54E-49	0.008907	0.266088	0.004474	0.000073	7.126241	0.174792	5.52E-01	2.09E-01	0.00928
$f_{14}$	Mean	0.9663	3.627168	2.111973	4.042493	1.22	5.859838	0.998004	6.42E+00	9.98E-01	1.13027
	StDev	2.13E-13	2.560828	2.498594	4.252799	0.56	3.831299	1.37E-09	5.03E+00	2.21E-05	0.50338
$f_{15}$	Mean	0.000523	0.000577	0.000572	0.000337	0.0005	0.003673	0.002318	7.58E-03	3.38E-04	3.13244E-04
	StDev	0.000237	0.000222	0.000324	0.000625	0.00032	0.001647	0.010072	9.76E-03	2.22E-05	2.17489E-05
$f_{16}$	Mean	-1.02163	-1.03163	-1.03163	-1.03163	-1.03	-1.03163	-1.03163	-1.03E+00	-1.03E+00	-1.0316
	StDev	1.64E-07	6.25E-16	4.2E-07	-1.03163	4.9E-07	4.88E-16	4.44E-06	2.26E-08	5.57E-06	4.40244E-16
$f_{17}$	Mean	0.387895	0.397887	0.397914	0.397889	0.398	0.397887	0.398223	3.98E-01	3.98E-01	0.39788
	StDev	7.99E-06	0.00E+00	2.7E-05	0.397887	1.5E-07	0.00E+00	0.001395	3.02E-07	2.93E-04	3.66527E-15
$f_{18}$	Mean	3.000023	3.00E+00	3.00E+00	3.000028	3.02	3.00E+00	3.000029	7.05E+00	3.00E+00	3.00E+00
	StDev	0.000157	1.33E-15	4.22E-15	3.00E+00	0.11	4.17E-15	4.22E-05	9.89E+00	1.97E-05	5.96540E-13
$f_{19}$	Mean	-3.86247	-3.86278	-3.85616	-3.86263	-3.86	-3.86278	-3.86272	-3.86E+00	-3.86E+00	-3.86278
	StDev	0.000488	2.58E-15	0.002706	-3.86278	0.000014	2.29E-15	9.02E-05	2.15E-03	2.52E-03	8.31755E-15
$f_{20}$	Mean	-3.25476	-3.26634	-2.98105	-3.28654	-3.27	-3.31778	-3.25066	-3.24E+00	-3.31E+00	-3.27168
	StDev	0.063134	0.060516	0.376653	-3.25056	0.059	0.023081	0.081811	7.11E-02	5.58E-03	0.06371
$f_{21}$	Mean	-5.5369	-6.8651	-7.04918	-10.1514	-5.52	-5.95512	-6.03721	-5.26E+00	-6.80E+00	-10.15319
	StDev	1.518415	3.019644	3.629551	-9.14015	1.59	3.737079	1.998973	3.08E+00	2.23E+00	4.46627E-15
$f_{22}$	Mean	-6.53255	-8.45653	-8.18178	-10.4015	-5.53	-9.68447	-6.76809	-7.56E+00	-8.76E+00	-10.40294
	StDev	2.168117	3.087094	3.829202	-8.58441	2.12	2.014088	2.628446	3.61E+00	6.47E-01	1.80672E-15
$f_{23}$	Mean	-6.66653	-9.95291	-9.34238	-10.534	-6.57	-10.5364	-5.79459	-7.02E+00	-8.82E+00	-10.53640
	StDev	2.434882	1.782786	2.414737	-8.55899	3.14	2.6E-15	2.643454	4.02E+00	5.52E-01	4.84794E-15

benchmark functions divided into unimodal and multimodal functions. The third and last scenario is designed in this work for testing the ability of the algorithm for solving two constrained optimization problems of Tension/Compression Spring and Welded Beam designs.

**A. FEATURE SELECTION SCENARIO**

Nineteen UCI repository datasets are tested in this work to analyze the ability of the proposed algorithm for feature selection problems. The nineteen datasets, shown in Table 1, are determined with various number of features/attributes, instances, and classed that the algorithms may be evaluated on working with various concerns. In this scenario, the presented algorithm of binary SCMWOA (bSCMWOA) is compared to the original bGWO [18], bPSO [19], bSFS [20], bWOA [21], bMVO [22], bSBO [23], bFA [24], bGA [25] algorithms, Modified GWO (bMGWO) [26], hybrid of PSO

and GWO (bGWO-PSO) [27], hybrid of GA and GWO (bGWO-GA) [26], and hybrid of SCA and PSO (bSCA-PSO) [28] in which  $b$  denotes the binary variant of the algorithm. Configuration of the presented SCMWOA and compared algorithms during the experiments are discussed in Tables 2 and 3 with 100 iterations and 10 agents initiated at the start of each algorithm.

For evaluating the feature selection ability of the proposed algorithm, the following metrics are employed in experiments. For  $M$  as the number repetitions,  $g_*$  represents the optimal solution, and  $N$  be the total number of points. The following equation can compute the Average Error for  $L$  as a class for point,  $C$  as classifier output for that point, and  $Match$  to represent the matching between the two inputs.

$$AvgError = 1 - \frac{1}{M} \sum_{j=1}^M \frac{1}{N} \sum_{i=1}^N Match(C_i, L_i) \quad (11)$$

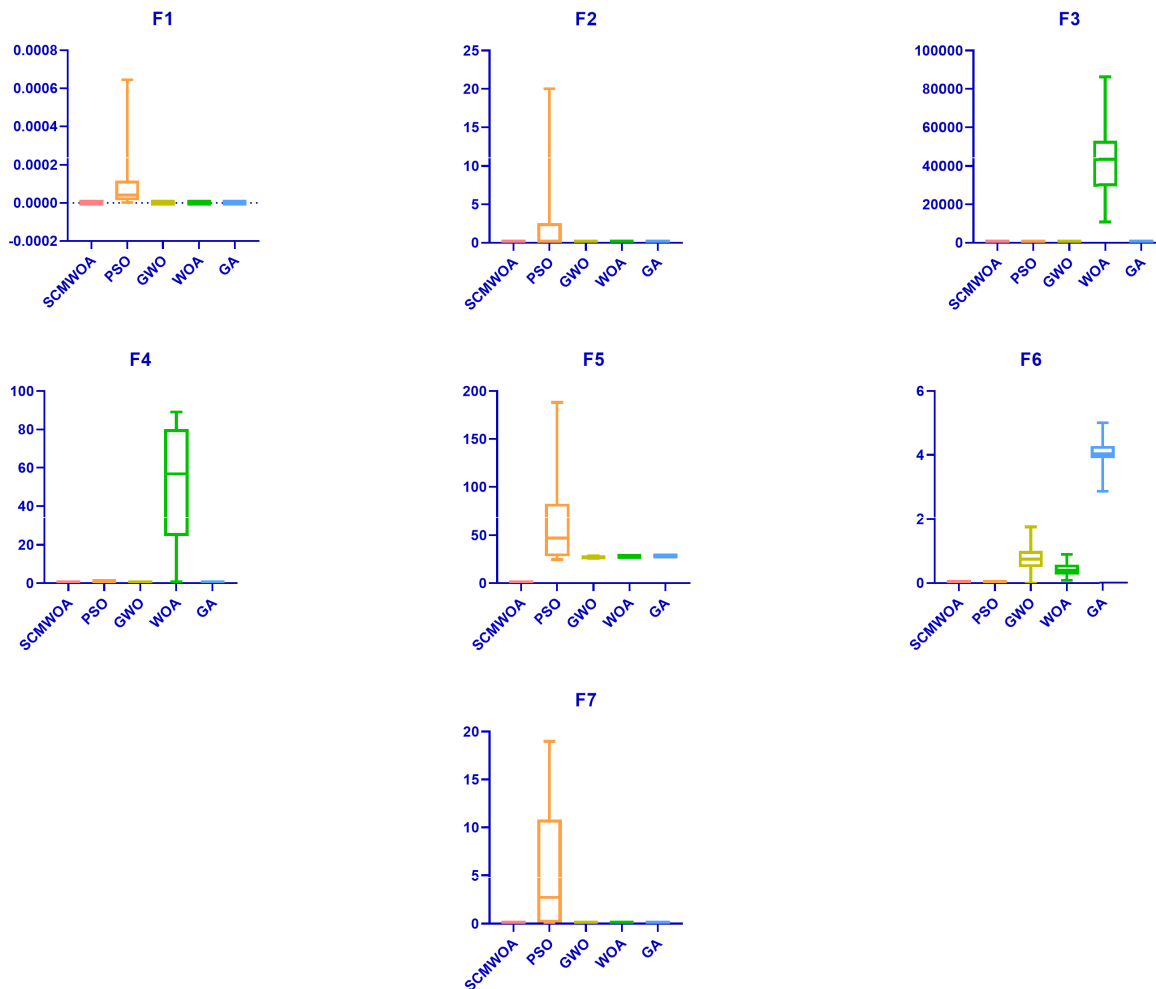


FIGURE 2. Box plot of the suggested and compared algorithms for benchmark function ( $f_1$  to  $f_7$ ).

The Average Fitness can be computed, for  $size(g_j^*)$  as the vector  $g_j^*$  size and  $D$  represents the size of dataset, as follows.

$$AvgSelectSize = \frac{1}{M} \sum_{j=1}^M \frac{size(g_j^*)}{D} \quad (12)$$

The Best Fitness and the Worst Fitness are computed as in the following equations.

$$BestF_n = \min_{j=1}^M g_j^* \quad (13)$$

$$WorstF_n = \max_{j=1}^M g_j^* \quad (14)$$

The Mean and the Standard Deviation (SD) are represented as in the following equations.

$$SD = \sqrt{\frac{1}{M-1} \sum (g_j^* - Mean)^2} \quad (15)$$

$$Mean = \frac{1}{M} \sum_{j=1}^M g_j^* \quad (16)$$

The results of the presented and compared algorithms based on average error for the nineteen datasets are shown

in Table 4. Average selected size-based results are presented in Table 5. The average fitness, best fitness, and worst fitness-based evaluation results are introduced in Tables 6, 7, and 8, respectively. The standard deviation fitness results of the tested algorithms are shown in Table 9. Tables 10 presented the p-values of the proposed and other tested algorithms for the nineteen datasets, which reflects the performance of the suggested algorithm with a p-value less than 0.005 for all datasets. Figure 1 shows the feature selection average results acquired over all the datasets, summary results, to measure the performance of the bSCMWOA algorithm. The results shown in tables from Table 4 to Table 10 and Figure 1 confirm the performance of the binary SCMWOA algorithm for feature selection problem.

**B. BENCHMARK FUNCTIONS SCENARIO**

This scenario tests the ability of the presented algorithm to get the best solution for the benchmark functions. Twenty-three functions, divided into seven unimodal, six multimodal, and ten multimodal-based fixed-dimension benchmark functions,

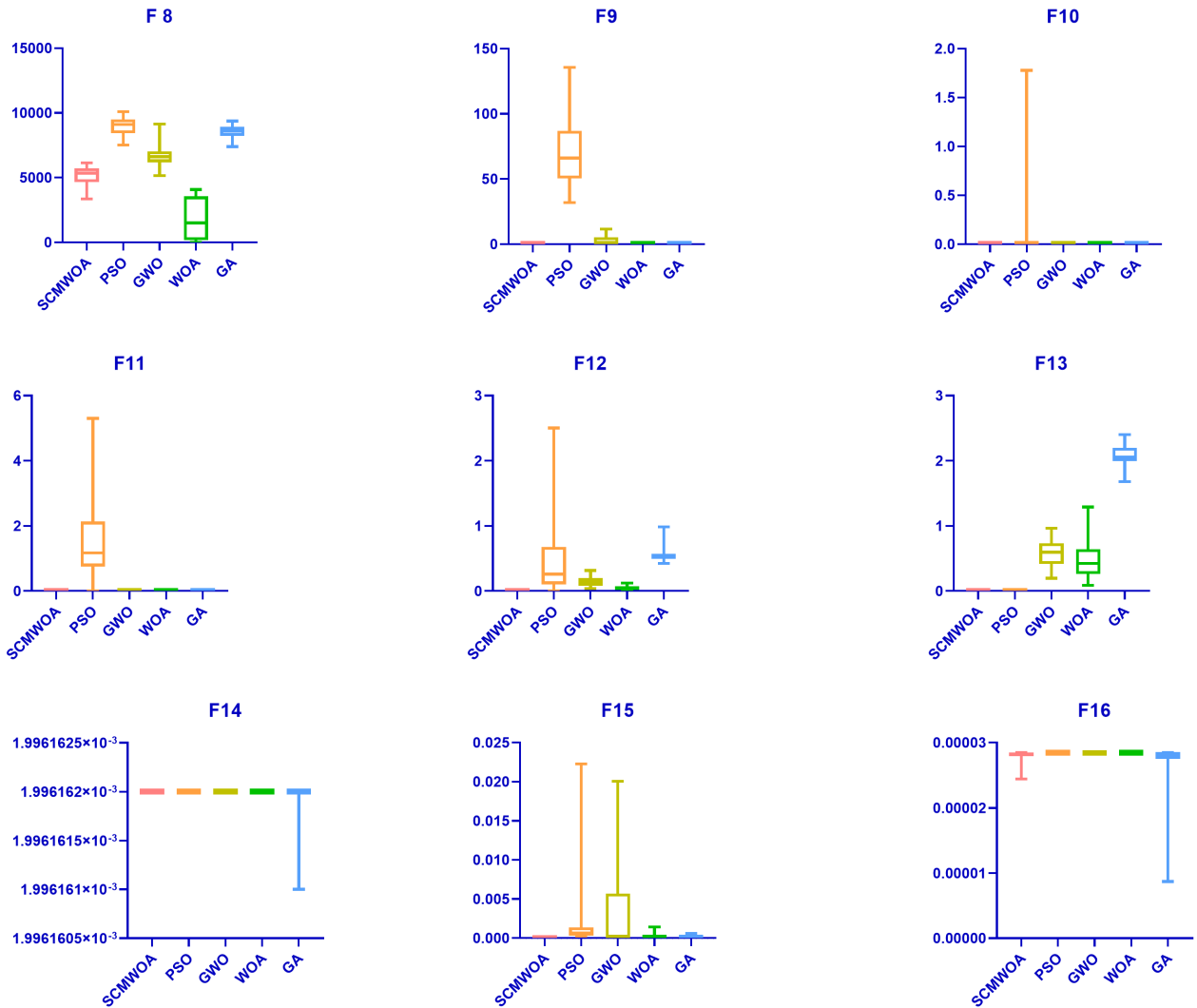


FIGURE 3. Box plot of the suggested and compared algorithms for benchmark function ( $f_8$  to  $f_{16}$ ).

are employed in this sub-section. Figure 21 describe the unimodal functions parameters and range. The multimodal and multimodal-based fixed dimension functions description of the range and minimum values are shown in Figures 22 and 23. The SCMWOA in the second scenario is compared to original GWO [18], PSO [19], WOA [21], FEP [29], GSA [30], GA [25] algorithms, EGWO [31], hybrid of CSA and GWO (GWO-CSA) [31], and hybrid of SCA and PSO (bSCA-PSO) [28].

The mean and standard deviation (StDev) results of the suggested and compared algorithms over the benchmark functions ( $f_1$  to  $f_{23}$ ) are shown in Table 11. This table shows that the proposed SCMWOA algorithm achieved zero values in Mean and StDev in some cases and better results than the compared single and hybrid algorithms in other cases. Table 12 shows the ANOVA test for sample functions ( $f_1, f_2, f_3, f_9, f_{11}, f_{23}$ ). The T-test analysis test for all benchmark functions ( $f_1$  to  $f_{23}$ ) using the suggested algorithm against the

compared algorithms is presented in Table 13. The histogram interpolation of a sample function ( $f_{11}$ ) based on the SCMWOA algorithm and PSO, GWO, WOA, and GA algorithms is discussed in Table 14.

Box plot of the suggested and compared algorithms for benchmark function ( $f_1$  to  $f_7$ ), ( $f_8$  to  $f_{16}$ ), and ( $f_{17}$  to  $f_{23}$ ) are shown in Figures 2, 3, and 4, respectively. The histogram of the suggested and compared algorithms for benchmark function ( $f_1, f_2, f_3, f_9, f_{11}$ , and  $f_{23}$ ) are tested and shown in Figure 5. The Quantile-Quantile (QQ) plot of the suggested and compared algorithms for benchmark function ( $f_1, f_2, f_3, f_9, f_{11}$ , and  $f_{23}$ ) and the convergence curves based on the benchmark functions ( $f_1, f_2, f_3, f_9, f_{11}$ , and  $f_{23}$ ) are presented in Figures 6 and 7.

The results of the proposed continuous SCMWOA algorithm in this scenario, compared to the state-of-the-art algorithms, confirm the performance of the algorithm for the benchmark functions.

TABLE 12. ANOVA test for sample functions ( $f_1, f_2, f_3, f_9, f_{11}, f_{23}$ ).

$f_1$					
	SS	DF	MS	F (DFn, DFd)	P value
Row Factor	1.46E-07	29	5.03E-09	F (29, 116) = 1.000	P = 0.4765
Column Factor	2.42E-07	4	6.05E-08	F (4, 116) = 12.04	P < 0.0001
Residual	5.83E-07	116	5.03E-09	-	-
$f_2$					
	SS	DF	MS	F (DFn, DFd)	P value
Row Factor	253	29	8.723	F (29, 116) = 1.000	P = 0.4765
Column Factor	269.7	4	67.43	F (4, 116) = 7.730	P < 0.0001
Residual	1012	116	8.723	-	-
$f_3$					
	SS	DF	MS	F (DFn, DFd)	P value
Row Factor	1.65E+09	29	56882271	F (29, 116) = 1.001	P = 0.4750
Column Factor	4.25E+10	4	1.06E+10	F (4, 116) = 186.8	P < 0.0001
Residual	6.59E+09	116	56818063	-	-
$f_9$					
	SS	DF	MS	F (DFn, DFd)	P value
Row Factor	3700	29	127.6	F (29, 116) = 0.9840	P = 0.4982
Column Factor	117171	4	29293	F (4, 116) = 225.9	P < 0.0001
Residual	15041	116	129.7	-	-
$f_{11}$					
	SS	DF	MS	F (DFn, DFd)	P value
Row Factor	8.828	29	0.3044	F (29, 116) = 1.001	P = 0.4754
Column Factor	56.84	4	14.21	F (4, 116) = 46.72	P < 0.0001
Residual	35.28	116	0.3041	-	-
$f_{23}$					
	SS	DF	MS	F (DFn, DFd)	P value
Row Factor	145.3	29	5.011	F (29, 116) = 1.037	P = 0.4274
Column Factor	561.1	4	140.3	F (4, 116) = 29.04	P < 0.0001
Residual	560.4	116	4.831	-	-

TABLE 13. T-test for the benchmark functions (from  $f_1$  to  $f_{23}$ ) based on the suggested SCMWOA algorithm against the compared algorithms.

	PSO	GWO	WOA	GA
$f_1$	<0.0001	<0.0001	<0.0001	<0.0001
$f_2$	<0.0001	<0.0001	<0.0001	<0.0001
$f_3$	<0.0001	<0.0001	<0.0001	<0.0001
$f_4$	<0.0001	<0.0001	<0.0001	0.0887
$f_5$	<0.0001	<0.0001	<0.0001	<0.0001
$f_6$	0.0103	<0.0001	<0.0001	<0.0001
$f_7$	0.0003	<0.0001	<0.0001	<0.0001
$f_8$	<0.0001	<0.0001	<0.0001	<0.0001
$f_9$	<0.0001	<0.0001	0.3256	1
$f_{10}$	0.1388	<0.0001	<0.0001	<0.0001
$f_{11}$	<0.0001	<0.0001	<0.0001	1
$f_{12}$	<0.0001	<0.0001	<0.0001	<0.0001
$f_{13}$	<0.0001	<0.0001	<0.0001	0.0001
$f_{14}$	<0.0001	<0.0001	<0.0001	<0.0001
$f_{15}$	0.0077	0.0049	<0.0001	0.0002
$f_{16}$	<0.0001	<0.0001	<0.0001	<0.0001
$f_{17}$	<0.0001	<0.0001	<0.0001	<0.0001
$f_{18}$	<0.0001	0.3256	0.0007	<0.0001
$f_{19}$	<0.0001	<0.0001	0.0006	<0.0001
$f_{20}$	<0.0001	<0.0001	<0.0001	<0.0001
$f_{21}$	0.0007	0.0021	0.0008	<0.0001
$f_{22}$	<0.0001	0.0077	<0.0001	<0.0001
$f_{23}$	0.1233	0.1233	<0.0001	<0.0001

C. SOLVING CONSTRAINED OPTIMIZATION PROBLEMS SCENARIO

This section is designed to validate the SCMWOA algorithm to solve two constrained optimization example of tension/compression spring and welded beam designs. The

two engineering problems are described mathematically in equations 17-23. In addition, the SCMWOA algorithm results are compared with GWO [18], WOA [21], GSA [34], and PSO [19] algorithms result to get the minimum cost.

1) TENSION/COMPRESSION SPRING DESIGN PROBLEM

Figure 8 shows the schematic diagram of tension/compression spring design (TCSD) [32]. TCSD is considered as a continuous constrained problem. The algorithm aims to minimize the volume of a coil spring under a constant tension/compression load. The TCSD has three design variables which are the number of spring’s active coils,  $L$ , the diameter of the winding,  $d$ , and the diameter of the wire,  $w$ . The mathematical formulation of the TCSD can be described as follows:

Minimize

$$f(w, d, L) = (L + 2)w^2d \tag{17}$$

Subject to the following constraints

$$g_1 = 1 - \frac{d^3 + L}{71785w^4} \leq 0$$

$$g_2 = \frac{d(4d - w)}{w^3(12566d - w)} + \frac{1}{5108w^2} - 1 \leq 0$$

$$g_3 = 1 - \frac{140.45w}{d^2L} \leq 0$$

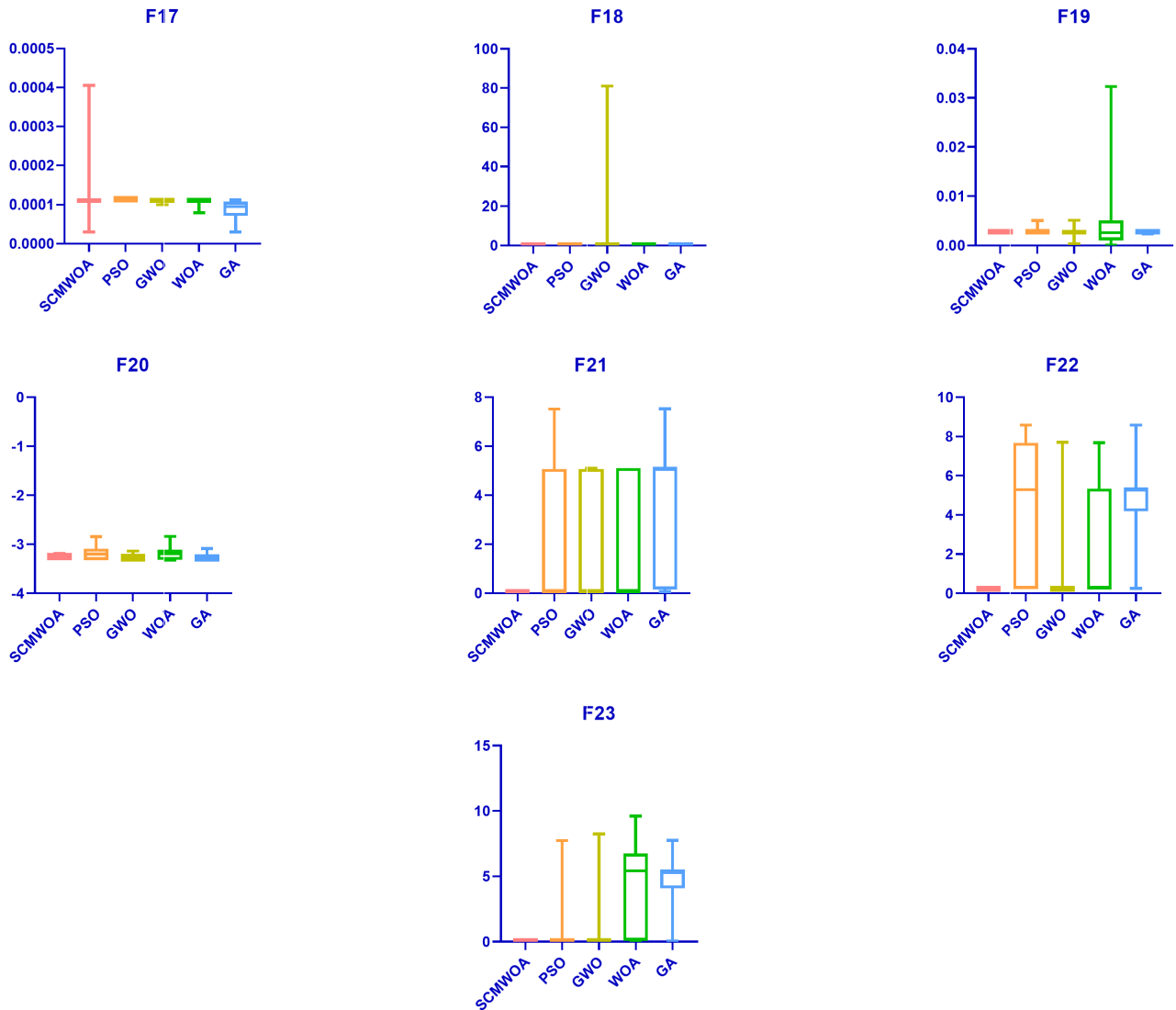


FIGURE 4. Box plot of the suggested and compared algorithms for benchmark function ( $f_{17}$  to  $f_{23}$ ).

$$g_4 = \frac{2(w+d)}{3} - 1 \leq 0 \tag{18}$$

where the three variables range are as follows:

$$\begin{aligned} 0.05 &\leq w \leq 2.0, \\ 0.25 &\leq d \leq 1.3, \\ 2.0 &\leq L \leq 15 \end{aligned} \tag{19}$$

The box plot results of Tension/Compression Spring design based on different algorithms are shown in Figure 9. The histogram results of Tension/Compression Spring design based on different algorithms are discussed in Figure 10. Table 17 shows the comparison of one sample t-test analysis of the tension/compression spring design among other algorithms.

Tables 15 and 16 presents the best solution and the statistical results of proposed and compared algorithms for

Tension/Compression Spring design Problem, respectively. The results of the proposed SCMWOA algorithm in this scenario compared to the state-of-the-art algorithms confirm the performance of the algorithm for solving the Tension/Compression Spring design.

### 2) WELDED BEAM DESIGN PROBLEM

The next constrained problem is the welded beam design [33]. The schematic diagram of the welded beam design is shown in Figure 11. It is considered as an important benchmark to test different optimization methods. The main objective is to minimize the fabricating cost of the welded beam which comprised of the setup, welding labor, and material costs. The properties constraints are on the shear stress, bending stress, buckling load, end deflection, and the side constraint. Four design variables of  $w$ ,  $L$ ,  $d$ , and  $h$  are considered here. The

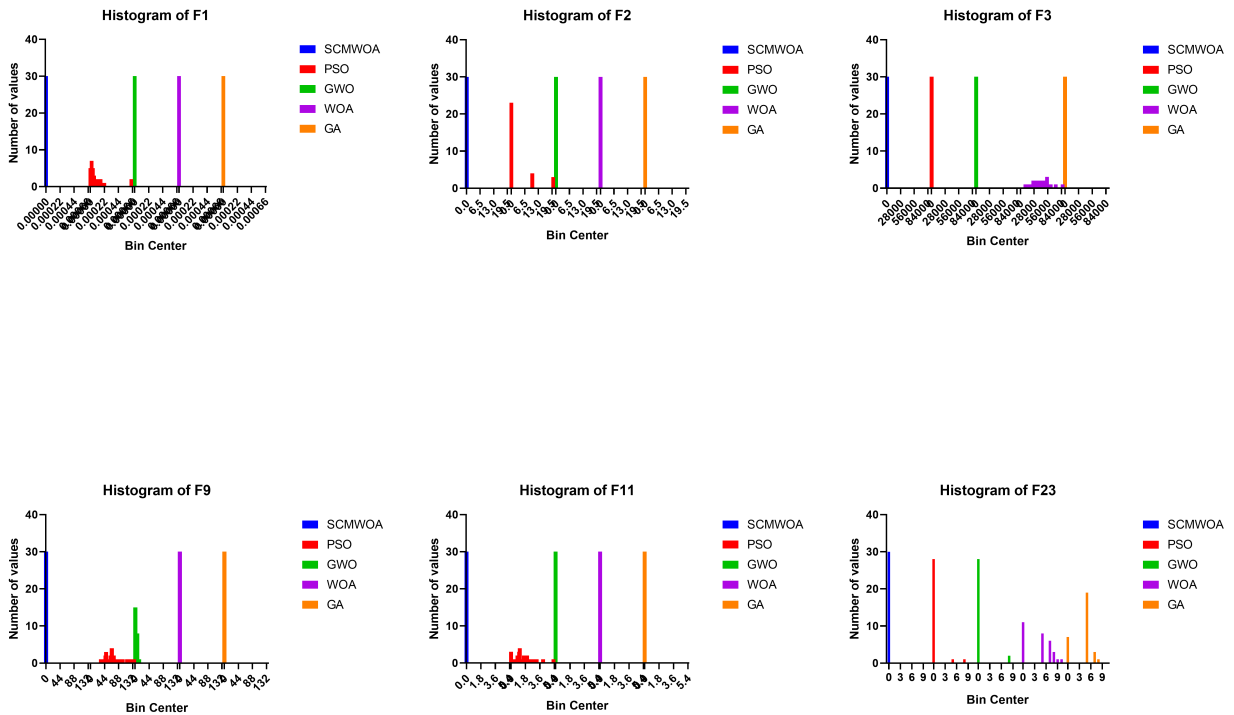


FIGURE 5. Histogram of the suggested and compared algorithms for benchmark function ( $f_1, f_2, f_3, f_9, f_{11},$  and  $f_{23}$ ).

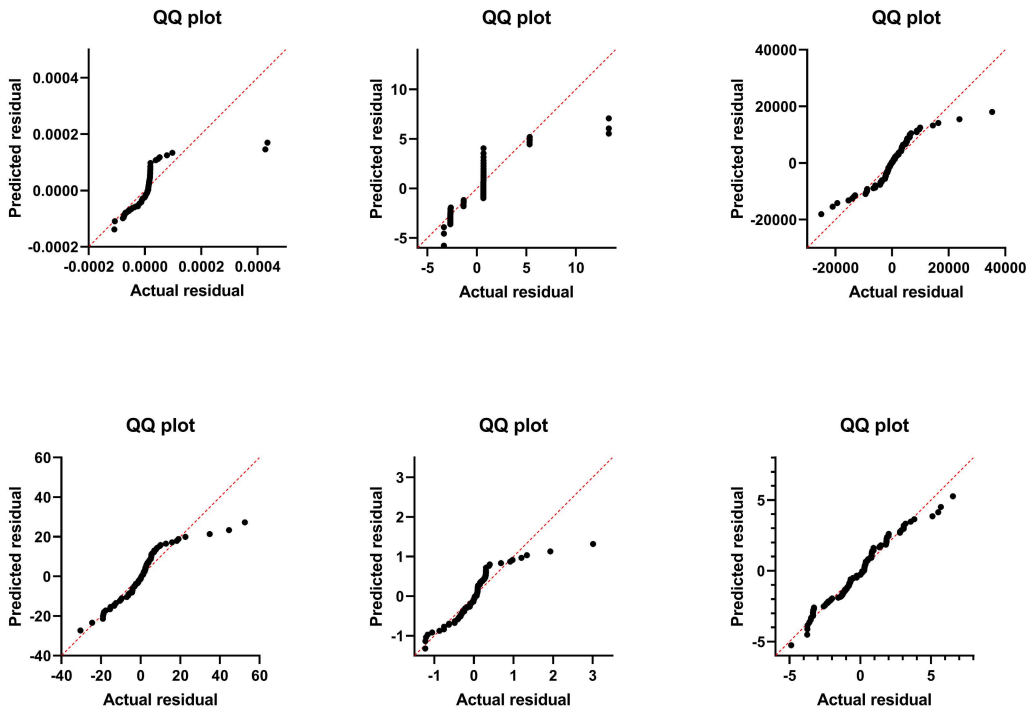


FIGURE 6. QQ plot of the suggested and compared algorithms for benchmark function ( $f_1, f_2, f_3, f_9, f_{11},$  and  $f_{23}$ ).

mathematical formulation of the problem can be described as follows:

Minimize

$$f(w, L, d, h) = 1.10471w^2L + 0.04811dh(14.0 + L) \tag{20}$$

Subject to the following constraints

$$\begin{aligned} g_1 &= w - h \leq 0 \\ g_2 &= \delta - 0.25 \leq 0 \\ g_3 &= \tau - 13, 600 \leq 0 \\ g_4 &= \sigma - 30, 000 \leq 0 \end{aligned}$$

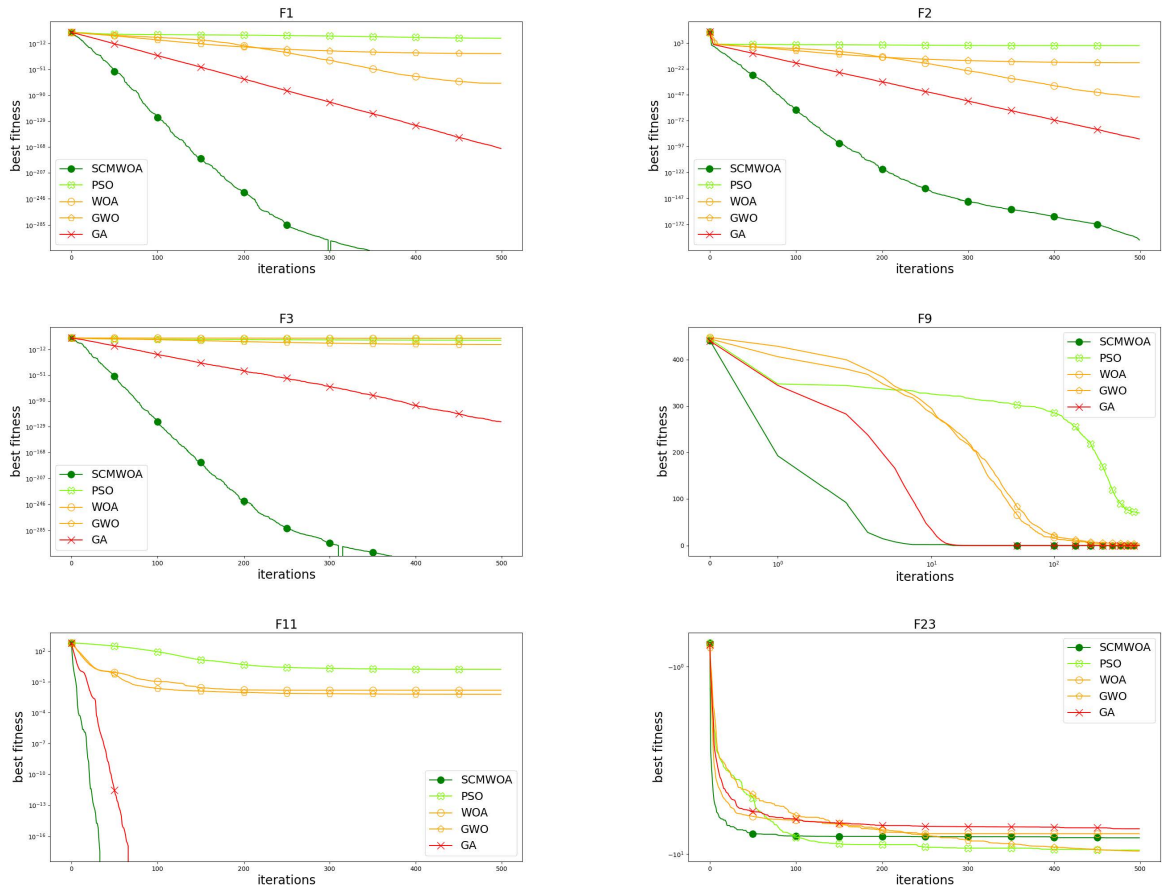


FIGURE 7. Convergence curves of the suggested and compared algorithms based on the benchmark functions ( $f_1, f_2, f_3, f_9, f_{11}$ , and  $f_{23}$ ).

TABLE 14. Interpolation of Histogram of a sample function ( $f_{11}$ ).

Asymmetric Sigmoidal, 5PL, X is log(concentration)	SCMWOA	PSO	GWO	WOA	GA
Best-fit values					
LogEC50	-3.4		-3.4	-3.4	-3.4
Hillslope	-4.564		-4.564	-4.564	-4.564
S	-1.815		-1.815	-1.815	-1.815
Top	115.5		115.5	115.5	115.5
Bottom	0.5455		0.5455	0.5455	0.5455
EC50	0.000398		0.000398	0.000398	0.000398
95% CI (asymptotic)					
Bottom	-0.5931 to 1.684	-0.5931 to 1.684	-0.5931 to 1.684	-0.5931 to 1.684	
EC50					
Goodness of Fit					
Degrees of Freedom	50		50	50	50
R squared	0		0	0	0
Adjusted R squared	-0.08		-0.08	-0.08	-0.08
Sum of Squares	883.6		883.6	883.6	883.6
Runs test					
Points above curve	1		1	1	1
Points below curve	54		54	54	54
Number of runs	2		2	2	2
P value (runs test)	0.0364		0.0364	0.0364	0.0364
Deviation from Model	Significant		Significant	Significant	Significant
Number of points					
# of X values	55	55	55	55	55
# Y values analyzed	55	55	55	55	55

$$\begin{aligned}
 g_5 &= 0.125 - w \leq 0 \\
 g_6 &= 6000 - P \leq 0 \\
 g_7 &= 0.10471w^2 + 0.04811hd(14 + L) - 0.5 \leq 0 \quad (21)
 \end{aligned}$$

where

$$\delta = \frac{65856}{30000 h.D^3}, \tau = \sqrt{\alpha^2 + \left(\frac{\alpha.\beta.L}{D}\right) + \beta^2}$$

**TABLE 15. Best solution of proposed and compared algorithms for Tension/Compression Spring design problem.**

Algorithm	Design Variables			Optimal Cost
	<i>w</i>	<i>d</i>	<i>L</i>	
PSO	0.051728	0.357644	11.244543	0.0126747
GSA	0.050276	0.323680	13.525410	0.0127022
WOA	0.051207	0.345215	12.004032	0.0126763
SCMWOA	0.051232	0.345805	11.959020	0.0126696

**TABLE 16. Statistical results of proposed and compared algorithms for Tension/Compression Spring design problem.**

Algorithm	Optimal Cost	Average	Standard Deviation	Function Evaluations
PSO	0.0126747	0.0139	0.0033	5460
GSA	0.0127022	0.0136	0.0026	4980
GWO	0.0126763	0.0135	0.0024	4820
SCMWOA	0.0126696	0.0134	0.0013	2460

**TABLE 17. One sample t-test analysis of the Tension/Compression Spring design problem based on different algorithms.**

	SCMWOA	PSO	GSA	GWO
Theoretical mean	0	0	0	0
Actual mean	0.01267	0.0128	0.01277	0.01282
Number of values	19	19	19	19
One sample t test				
t, df	t=1657, df=18	t=120.7, df=18	t=239.2, df=18	t=152.8, df=18
P value (two tailed)	0.0001	0.0001	0.0001	0.0001
P value summary	****	****	****	****
Significant (alpha=0.05)?	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
How big is the discrepancy?				
Discrepancy	0.01267	0.0128	0.01277	0.01282
SD of discrepancy	0.00003333	0.0004622	0.0002328	0.0003657
SEM of discrepancy	0.000007647	0.000106	0.0000534	0.0000839
95% confidence interval	0.01265 to 0.01269	0.01258 to 0.01303	0.01266 to 0.01288	0.01265 to 0.01300
R squared (partial eta squared)	1	0.9988	0.9997	0.9992

**TABLE 18. Best solution of proposed and compared algorithms for Welded beam design problem.**

Algorithm	Design Variables				Optimal Cost
	<i>w</i>	<i>L</i>	<i>d</i>	<i>h</i>	
PSO	0.202369	3.544214	9.048210	0.205723	1.728024
GSA	0.182129	3.856979	10.00000	0.203760	1.879952
WOA	0.205396	3.484293	9.037426	0.206276	1.730499
SCMWOA	0.205604	3.479712	9.041001	0.205739	1.726738

**TABLE 19. Statistical results of proposed and compared algorithms for Welded beam design problem.**

Algorithm	Optimal Cost	Average	Standard Deviation	Function Evaluations
PSO	1.728024	1.7422	0.01275	13770
GSA	1.879952	3.5761	1.28740	10750
WOA	1.730499	1.7320	0.02260	9900
SCMWOA	1.726738	1.7273	0.10162	8740

$$\alpha = \frac{6000}{\sqrt{2}wL}, \beta = \frac{QD}{J} \quad P = 0.61432 \times 10^6 \frac{dh^3}{6} \left( 1 - \frac{d\sqrt{30/48}}{28} \right) \quad (22)$$

$$Q = 6000 \left( 14 + \frac{L}{2} \right), D = \frac{1}{2} \sqrt{L^2 + (w + d)^2} \quad \text{where the four variables range are as follows:}$$

$$J = \sqrt{2}wL \left( \frac{L^2}{6} + \frac{(w + d)^2}{2} \right) \quad \begin{matrix} 0.1 \leq w, h \leq 2.0, \\ 0.1 \leq L, d \leq 10 \end{matrix} \quad (23)$$

$$\sigma = \frac{504,000}{hd^2} \quad \text{The box plot results of the Welded Beam design problem based on different algorithms are shown in Figure 12.}$$



TABLE 20. One sample t-test analysis of the welded beam design problem based on different algorithms.

	SCMWOA	PSO	GSA	WOA
Theoretical mean	0	0	0	0
Actual mean	1.727	1.73	1.893	1.734
Number of values	19	19	19	19
One sample t test				
t, df	t=1346, df=18	t=1508, df=18	t=238.2, df=18	t=921.5, df=18
P value (two tailed)	0.0001	0.0001	0.0001	0.0001
P value summary	****	****	****	****
Significant (alpha=0.05)?	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
How big is the discrepancy?				
Discrepancy	1.727	1.73	1.893	1.734
SD of discrepancy	0.005591	0.005	0.03464	0.008201
SEM of discrepancy	0.001283	0.001147	0.007948	0.001881
95% confidence interval	1.724 to 1.729	1.727 to 1.732	1.876 to 1.910	1.730 to 1.738
R squared (partial eta squared)	1	1	0.9997	1

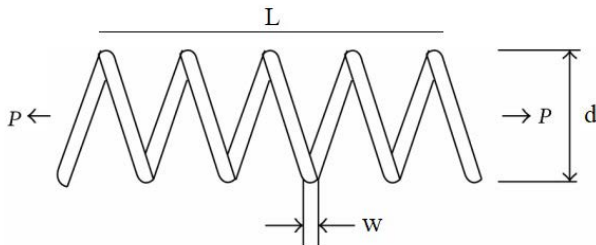


FIGURE 8. Tension/compression spring design problem [32].

Tension/Compression Spring Design

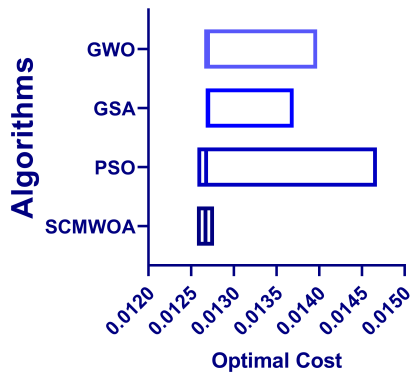


FIGURE 9. Box plot results of tension/compression spring design based on different algorithms.

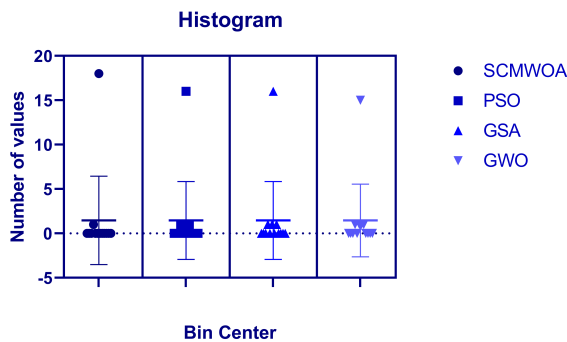


FIGURE 10. Histogram results of tension/compression spring design based on different algorithms.

The histogram results of the Welded Beam design problem based on different algorithms are shown in Figure 13. Table 20 shows the comparison of the one sample t-test

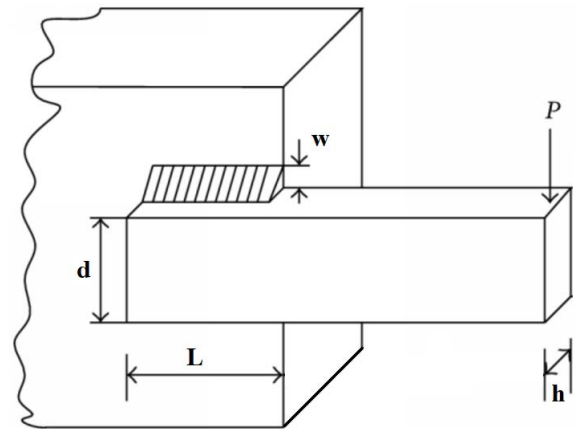


FIGURE 11. Welded beam design problem [33].

Welded Beam Design

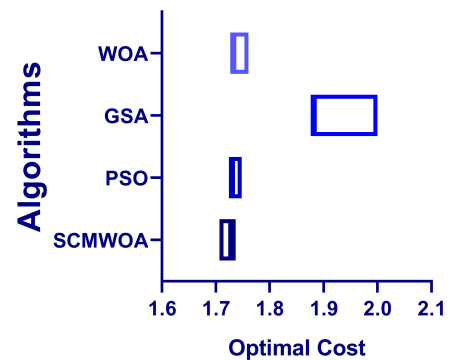


FIGURE 12. Box plot results of Welded Beam design problem based on different algorithms.

analysis of the welded beam design problem among other algorithms.

Tables 18 and 19 presents the best solution and the statistical results of proposed and compared algorithms for Welded Beam design problem, respectively. The results of the proposed SCMWOA algorithm in this scenario compared to the state-of-the-art algorithms confirm the performance of the algorithm for solving the Welded Beam design.

TABLE 21. Description of the unimodal benchmark functions.

Function	D	Range
$f_1(w) = \sum_{i=1}^n w^2$	30	[-100, 100]
$f_2(w) = \sum_{i=1}^n  w_i  + \prod_{i=1}^n  w_i $	30	[-10, 10]
$f_3(w) = \sum_{i=1}^n (\sum_{j=1}^i w_j)^2$	30	[-100, 100]
$f_4(w) = \max_i \{  w_i , 1 \leq i \leq D \}$	30	[-100, 100]
$f_5(w) = \sum_{i=1}^{D-1} [100(w_{i+1} - w_i^2)^2 - (w_i - 1)^2]$	30	[-30, 30]
$f_6(w) = \sum_{i=1}^D (w_i + 0.5)^2$	30	[-100, 100]
$f_7(w) = \sum_{i=1}^D iw_i^4 + rand[0, 1]$	30	[-1.28, 1.28]

TABLE 22. Description of the multimodal benchmark functions.

Function	D	Range	$f_{min}$
$f_{08}(w) = \sum_{i=1}^D -w_i \sin(\sqrt{ w_i })$	30	[-500, 500]	-12569.487
$f_{09}(w) = \sum_{i=1}^D [w_i^2 - 10 \cos(2\pi w_i) + 10]$	30	[-5.12, 5.12]	0
$f_{10}(w) = -20 \exp(-0.2 \sqrt{\sum_{i=1}^D w_i^2}) - \exp(\frac{1}{D} \sum_{i=1}^D \cos(2\pi w_i)) + 20 + \eta$	30	[-32, 32]	0
$f_{11}(w) = \frac{1}{4000} \sum_{i=1}^D w_i^2 - \prod_{i=1}^D \cos(\frac{w_i}{\sqrt{i}}) + 1$	30	[-600, 600]	0
$f_{12}(w) = \frac{\pi}{D} \{ 10 \sin^2(\pi y_i) + \sum_{i=1}^{D-1} (y_i - 1)^2 [1 + 10 \sin^2(\pi y_i + 1) + (yD - 1)^2 + \sum_{i=1}^D u(w_i, 10, 100, 4)] \}$	30	[-50, 50]	0
$y_i = 1 + \frac{w_i + 1}{4}, \quad u(w_i, h, k, m) = \begin{cases} k(w_i - h)^m & w_i > h \\ 0 & -h < w_i < h \\ k(-w_i - h)^m & w_i < -h \end{cases}$			
$f_{13}(w) = 0.1 \{ 10 \sin^2(3\pi y_i) + \sum_{i=1}^{D-1} (w_i - 1)^2 [1 + 10 \sin^2(3\pi y_i + 1)] + (w_n - 1)^2 [1 + \sin^2(2\pi w_n)] \} + \sum_{i=1}^n u(w_i, 5, 100, 4)$	30	[-50, 50]	0

TABLE 23. Description of multimodal based fixed-dimension benchmark functions.

Function	D	Range	$f_{min}$
$f_{14}(w) = \left( \frac{1}{500} + \sum_{j=1}^{25} \frac{1}{j + \sum_{i=1}^{25} (w_i - h_{ij})^6} \right)^{-1}$	2	[-65, 65]	1
$f_{15}(w) = \sum_{i=1}^{11} \left[ h_i - \frac{w_i(b_i^2 + b_i w_2)}{b_i^2 + b_i w_3 + w_4} \right]^2$	4	[-5, 5]	0.00030
$f_{16}(w) = 4w_1^2 - 2.1w_1^4 + \frac{1}{3}w_1^6 + w_1w_2 - 4w_2^2 + 4w_2^4$	2	[-5, 5]	-1.0316
$f_{17}(w) = \left( w_2 - \frac{5.1}{4\pi^2} w_1^2 + \frac{5}{\pi} w_1 + -6 \right)^2 + 10 \left( 1 - \frac{1}{8\pi} \right) \cos w_1 + 10$	2	[-5, 5]	0.398
$f_{18}(w) = [1 + (w_1 + w_2 + 1)^2 (19 - 14w_1 + 3w_1^2 - 14w_2 + 6w_1w_2 + 3w_2^2)] \times [30 + (2w_1 - 3w_2)^2 w (18 - 32w_1 + 12w_1^2 + 48w_2 - 36w_1w_2 + 27w_2^2)]$	2	[-2, 2]	3
$f_{19}(w) = -\sum_{i=1}^4 b_i \exp(-\sum_{j=1}^3 h_{ij} (w_j - p_{ij})^2)$	3	[1, 3]	-3.86
$f_{20}(w) = -\sum_{i=1}^4 b_i \exp(-\sum_{j=1}^6 h_{ij} (w_j - p_{ij})^2)$	6	[0, 1]	-3.32
$f_{21}(w) = -\sum_{i=1}^5 [(w - h_i)(w - h_i)^T + b_i]^{-1}$	4	[0, 10]	-10.1532
$f_{22}(w) = -\sum_{i=1}^7 [(w - h_i)(w - h_i)^T + b_i]^{-1}$	4	[0, 10]	-10.4028
$f_{23}(w) = -\sum_{i=1}^{10} [(w - h_i)(w - h_i)^T + b_i]^{-1}$	4	[0, 10]	-10.5363

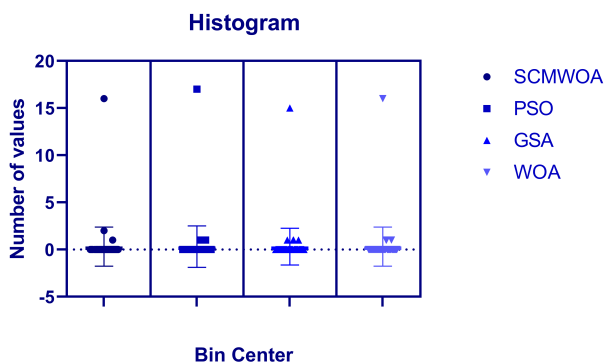


FIGURE 13. Histogram results of Welded Beam design problem based on different algorithms.

VI. CONCLUSION

This paper proposed an optimization algorithm called Sine Cosine hybrid with Modified Whale Optimization Algorithm (SCMWOA). The SCMWOA algorithm is tested using nineteen datasets, from the UCI Machine Learning Repository, with different number attributes, instances, and classes for feature selection. The SCMWOA algorithm is

also tested for twenty-three benchmark functions. The functions include seven unimodal, six multimodal, and ten multimodal based fixed-dimension functions. The two tested engineering problems are the tension/compression spring design and the welded beam design. The results emphasize that the SCMWOA algorithm outperforms several comparative optimization algorithms and provides high accuracy. Statistical analysis tests, including one-way analysis of variance (ANOVA) and Wilcoxon’s rank-sum, confirm that the SCMWOA algorithm has better performance. The SCMWOA algorithm will be tested for more classical engineering design problems in future work since the algorithm perform well only in the two mentioned problems in this paper. Other benchmark functions, such as CEC 2015 and CEC 2017, will also be considered in future work.

APPENDIX

This appendix includes three tables of benchmark functions. Table 21 shows the description of the unimodal benchmark functions. Table 22 shows the description of the multimodal benchmark functions. Table 23 shows the description of the multimodal based fixed-dimension benchmark functions.

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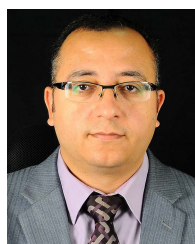
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