TLBO with variable population

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Chen et al. (2016) propose a variation of TLBO.

Questions

- 1. Explain the basic and the proposed TLBO. For what other problems has it been used? Describe at least two applications, together with the corresponding optimization problem. Explain at least one other method that has been used for these applications. What results have been obtained? What are the advantages and shortcomings of these methods?
- 2. Implement the original and the proposed TLBO for a numerical example. Compare the results to those obtained by a known method. What are the advantages and shortcomings of the methods based on the obtained results?

References

Chen, D., Lu, R., Zou, F., and Li, S. (2016). Teaching-learning-based optimization with variable-population scheme and its application for ANN and global optimization. *Neurocomputing*, 173:1096–1111.