

# Leader Glowworm Swarm Optimization Algorithm for Solving Nonlinear Equations Systems

**Abstract.** This paper presents a leader glowworm swarm optimization algorithm (LGSO) for solving nonlinear equations systems. Since glowworm swarm optimization algorithm has bad optimized ability at high dimension, proposing glowworm swarm optimization algorithm with leader mechanism to strengthen the global optimization ability. Through various types nonlinear equations testing, experiment results show that the proposed algorithm has strong global searching capability and quickly finding the solutions of the equations, thus obviously improving the optimization global ability.

**Streszczenie.** Zaprezentowano optymalizacyjny algorytm mrówkowy "światlikowy" do rozwiązywania system równań nieliniowych. Ponieważ algorytm ten ma słabe możliwości optymalizacyjne przy dużych rozmiarach wprowadzono wspomagający mechanizm prowadzący „leader”. (Algorytm mrówkowy światlikowy do rozwiązywania systemu równań nieliniowych)

**Keywords:** Glowworm Swarm Optimization (GSO); Leader Glowworm Swarm Optimization (LGSO); Nonlinear Equation Systems.

**Słowa kluczowe:** algorytm mrówkowy, równania nieliniowe.

## Introduction

Glowworm swarm optimization (GSO) [1-3] is a new method of swarm intelligence based algorithm for optimizing multi-modal functions raised by K. N. Krishnanad and D. Ghose in 2005. This algorithm becomes a new research hotspot of computational intelligence draw our sights on it. With the research deeper and deeper, it's been used at noisy text of sensor [4] and simulating robots [5]. Though GSO has strong universal, but there are also premature, the search accuracy is not high, optimization of high-dimensional is poor, post-iteration efficiency is not high defects. In response to these defects, many scholars proposed many improvements algorithm according to their field of study features, but the algorithms' improving ability of high-dimensional optimization is not quite obviously. In the large-scale optimization problems, having poor ability of searching optimization in high dimensional space is a major problem of constraining glowworm swarm algorithm's application.

Systems of nonlinear equations arise in many domains of practical importance such as engineering, mechanics, medicine, chemistry, and robotics. Solving such a system involves finding all the solutions (there are situations when more than one solution exists) of the polynomial equations contained in the mentioned system. The problem is nondeterministic polynomial-time hard, and it is having very high computational complexity due to several numerical issues [12]. There are several approaches for solving these types of problems. Van Hentenryck et al. [12] divided these approaches into two main categories: 1) interval methods that are generally robust but tend to be slow; 2) continuation methods that are effective for problems for which the total degree is not too high [12].

The limitations of Newton's method are pointed out in the aforementioned works. Bader [13] mentioned that standard direct methods, such as Newton's method, are impractical for large-scale problems because of their high linear algebra costs and large memory requirements. Bader proposed a tensor method using Krylov subspace methods for solving large scale systems of linear equations. There is a condition to be fulfilled—the equations must be continuously differentiable at least once. Bader's paper also provides a good review of similar research for solving systems of equations. Krylov subspace methods based on moment matching are also used by Salimbahrami and Lohmann [14]. Effati and Nazemi [15] proposed a very efficient approach for solving nonlinear systems of equations. Although there are several existing approaches

for solving systems of nonlinear equations, there are still limitations of the existing techniques, and, still, more research is to be done.

This paper introduces the leading ideas to solve this problem. Proposed a leader glowworm swarm optimization (LGSO), and applied to solving systems nonlinear equations. Experimental results show that the LGSO algorithm has good results in high-dimensional space optimization and accuracy of the solution of equations.

This paper is organized as follows. In section 2, the problem of systems nonlinear equations is described. In section 3, a basic glowworm swarm optimization is introduced. In section 4 we will introduce our leader glowworm swarm optimization, algorithm followed by the experimental results and analysis in section 5. The conclusions are given in section 6.

## Description of the Problem of Nonlinear Equation

A system of nonlinear equations should include at least two or more linear or nonlinear equations. The system of equations will have a solution just when it is non-singular and has a point in the real-value continuous space.

Generally, the systems of nonlinear equations can be described as the following:

$$(1) \quad \begin{cases} f_1(x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n) = 0 \\ f_2(x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n) = 0 \\ \dots\dots\dots\dots\dots\dots\dots\dots\dots\dots \\ f_n(x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n) = 0 \end{cases}$$

where  $f: R^n \rightarrow R$  ;  $\{X = x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n \mid x_i \in R^n\}$ .

Supposed  $X^*$  is the solution of the system of equation,  $X^*$  should match each equation in the system. Then the system of equations has the same solutions as the following equation:

$$(2) \quad \sum_{i=1}^n |f_i(x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n)| = 0$$

defining  $P(X) = \sum_{i=1}^n |f_i(x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n)|$ ,  $X$  is an arbitrary point in the real-value space. Obviously, there is  $P(X) \geq 0$ .

So, the search of  $X^*$  can be treated as a search for the minimum of the problem  $P(X)$ .

Based on the above analysis, the solving of a system of equations can be transformed into the following minimization one:

$$(3) \quad \text{Min}P(X) = \sum_{i=1}^n |f_i(x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n)|$$

In the following work, GSO will be introduced to find out the solution of the above problem. With equation (3) as the computational model for the fitness function.

### Basic Glowworm Swarm Optimization Algorithm (GSO)

In GSO, each glowworm distributes in the objective function definition space. These glowworms carry own luciferin respectively, and has the respective field of vision scope called local-decision range. Their brightness concerns with in the position of objective function value. The brighter the glow, the better is the position, namely has the good target value. The glow seeks for the neighbor set in the local-decision range, in the set, a brighter glow has a higher attraction to attract this glow toward this traverse, and the flight direction each time different will change along with the choice neighbor. Moreover, the local-decision range size will be influenced by the neighbor quantity, when the neighbor density will be low, glow's policy-making radius will enlarge favors seeks for more neighbors, otherwise, the policy-making radius reduces. Finally, the majority of glowworm return gathers at the multiple optima of the given objective function.

Each glowworm  $i$  encodes the object function value  $J(x_i(t))$  at its current location  $x_i(t)$  into a luciferin value  $l_i$  and broadcasts the same within its neighbourhood. The set of neighbours  $N_i(t)$  of glowworm  $i$  consists of those glowworms that have a relatively higher luciferin value and that are located within a dynamic decision domain and updating by formula (1) at each iteration.

Local-decision range update:

$$(4) \quad r_d^i(t+1) = \min\{r_s, \max\{0, r_d^i(t) + \beta(n_t - |N_i(t)|)\}\};$$

and  $r_d^i(t+1)$  is the glowworm  $i$ 's local-decision range at the  $t+1$  iteration,  $r_s$  is the sensor range,  $n_t$  is the neighbourhood threshold, the parameter  $\beta$  affects the rate of change of the neighbourhood range.

The number of glow in local-decision range:

$$(5) \quad N_i(t) = \{j : \|x_j(t) - x_i(t)\| < r_d^i; l_i(t) < l_j(t)\};$$

and,  $x_j(t)$  is the glowworm  $i$ 's position at the  $t$  iteration,  $l_j(t)$  is the glowworm  $i$ 's luciferin at the  $t$  iteration.; the set of neighbours of glowworm  $i$  consists of those glowworms that have a relatively higher luciferin value and that are located within a dynamic decision domain whose range  $r_d^i$  is bounded above by a circular sensor range  $r_s$  ( $0 < r_d^i < r_s$ ). Each glowworm  $i$  selects a neighbour  $J$

with a probability  $P_{ij}(t)$  and moves toward it. These movements that are based only on local information, enable the glowworms to partition into disjoint subgroups, exhibit a

simultaneous taxis-behaviour toward and eventually co-locate at the multiple optima of the given objective function.

Probability distribution used to select a neighbour:

$$(6) \quad p_{ij}(t) = \frac{l_j(t) - l_i(t)}{\sum_{k \in N_i(t)} l_k(t) - l_i(t)};$$

Movement update:

$$(7) \quad x_i(t+1) = x_i(t) + s \left( \frac{x_j(t) - x_i(t)}{\|x_j(t) - x_i(t)\|} \right);$$

Luciferin-update:

$$(8) \quad l_i(t) = (1 - \rho)l_i(t-1) + \gamma J(x_i(t));$$

and  $l_i(t)$  is a luciferin value of glowworm  $i$  at the  $t$  iteration,  $\rho \in (0, 1)$  leads to the reflection of the cumulative goodness of the path followed by the glowworms in their current luciferin values, the parameter  $\gamma$  only scales the function fitness values,  $J(x_i(t))$  is the value of test function.

The GSO algorithm as follows [11]:

Set number of dimensions =  $m$

Set number of glowworm =  $n$

Let  $S$  be the step size

Let  $x_i(t)$  be the location of glowworm  $i$  at time  $t$   
deploy\_agents\_randomly;

for  $i = 1$  to  $n$  do  $l_i(0) = l_0$

$r_d^i(0) = r_0$

set maximum iteration number =  $iter\_max$ ;

set  $t = 1$ ;

while ( $t \leq iter\_max$ ) do:

{

for each glowworm  $i$  do: %Lucifeerin-update phase

$l_i(t) = (1 - \rho)l_i(t-1) + \gamma J(x_i(t));$  % See (8)

for each glowworm  $i$  do: %Movement- phase

{

$N_i(t) = \{j : \|x_j(t) - x_i(t)\| < r_d^i; l_i(t) < l_j(t)\};$

for each glowworm  $j \in N_i(t)$  do:

$p_{ij}(t) = \frac{l_j(t) - l_i(t)}{\sum_{k \in N_i(t)} l_k(t) - l_i(t)};$  % See (6)

$j = \text{Select\_glowworm}(\bar{p});$

$x_i(t+1) = x_i(t) + s \left( \frac{x_j(t) - x_i(t)}{\|x_j(t) - x_i(t)\|} \right);$  % See (7)

$r_d^i(t+1) = \min\{r_s, \max\{0, r_d^i(t) + \beta(n_t - |N_i(t)|)\}\};$

% See (4) }

$t \leftarrow t + 1;$

}

## Leader Glowworm Swarm Optimization Algorithm (LGSO)

### Thought of LGSO Algorithm

In basic GSO algorithm foundation, introduce leader mechanisms. Before each generation of the algorithm, set the best glowworm's position as the leader in the current generation. After each generation, all glowworms are moved to the location of the leader, so that the glowworm swarm has high ability of searching global optimization, and improving the algorithm's ability in high dimensional space optimization. Improved algorithm updates the location as the following formula:

$$(9) \quad x_i(t) = x_i(t) + rand * (x_{leader}(t) - x_i(t));$$

where,  $x_{leader}(t)$  is the position of the  $t$  th leader,  $x_i(t)$  is the position of the glowworm.

## LGSO algorithm

The basic step of LGSO as below:

Step 1 Initialization parameters of  $\rho, \gamma, \beta, s, l_0, m, n$ , initialization the position of each glowworm.

Step 2 To each glow, updating luciferin value according to equation (8).

Step 3 Selects conforms to the condition glowworm according to equation (5).

Step 4 Select the optimal location of the current generation of glowworm swarm and set it to the leader

Step 5 Using (6) to select the distribution  $j(j \in N_i(t))$ , and updating with equation (7).

Step 6 Revision search radius by equation (4).

Step 7 Each glowworms move to the leader position according to (9).

Step 8 One iteration complete, enter the next iteration, judges whether to satisfy the termination condition, satisfied the withdrawal circulation, the record result, otherwise transferred Step 2.

The flow chart of LGSO as below:

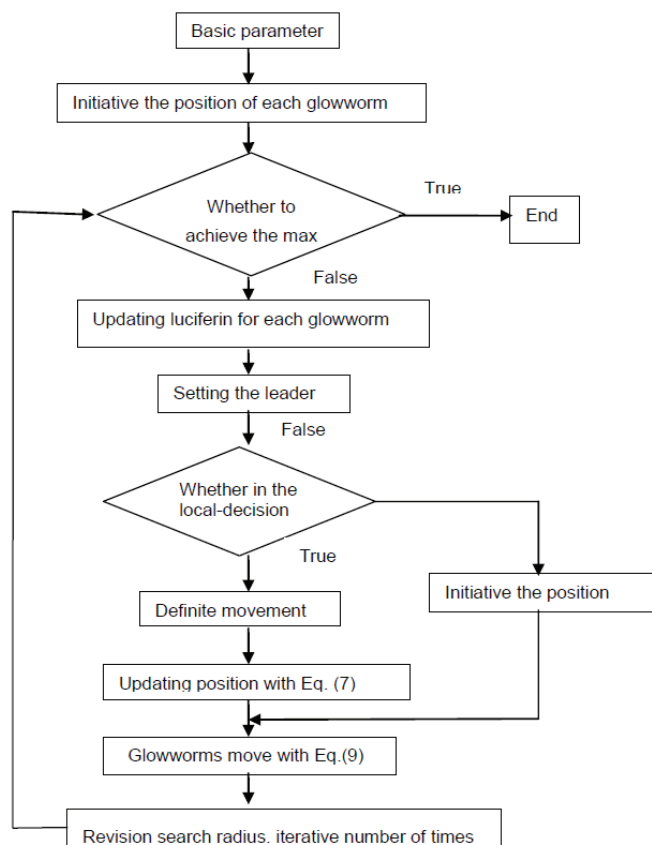


Figure 1. GSO-D Algorithm Flow Chart

## Experimental Results Comparison

### Test functions

In order to test the effective of our algorithm, we take there high-dimension test functions [9] to verify and compare with Particle swarm optimization (PSO), Artificial fish-swarm algorithm (ASFA) [7-8], GSO. The three test functions are as below:

$$F_1 : \quad f_1(x) = \sum_{i=1}^n x_i^2, \quad -100 \leq x_i \leq 100$$

$(i = 1, 2, \dots, n; n = 20)$ , the objective function value is 0 at  $(0, 0, \dots, 0)$ .

$F_2$  :  $f_2(x) = \sum_{i=1}^n (x_i + 0.5)^2$ ,  
 $-10 \leq x_i \leq 10, (i = 1, 2, \dots, n; n = 20)$ , the objective  
function value is 0 at  $(0, 0, \dots, 0)$ .

$F_3$  :  $f_3(x) = \sum_{i=1}^n ix_i^2, -5.12 < x_i < 5.12$ , the  
objective function value is 0 at  $(0, 0)$ .

### Test nonlinear equations system

$$E_1 : \begin{cases} f_1(x_1, x_2) = \cos(2x_1) - \cos(2x_2) - 0.4 = 0 \\ f_1(x_1, x_2) = 2(x_2 - x_1) + \sin(2x_2) - \sin(2x_1) - 1.2 = 0 \end{cases}$$

$$E_2 : \begin{cases} f_1(x_1, x_2) = \exp(x_1) + x_1x_2 - 1 = 0 \\ f_1(x_1, x_2) = \sin(x_1x_2) + x_1 + x_2 - 1 = 0 \end{cases}$$

$$E_3 : \begin{cases} 0 = x_1 - 0.25428722 - 0.18324857x_4x_3x_9 \\ 0 = x_2 - 0.37842197 - 0.16275449x_1x_{10}x_6 \\ 0 = x_3 - 0.27162577 - 0.16955071x_1x_2x_{10} \\ 0 = x_4 - 0.19807914 - 0.15585316x_7x_1x_6 \\ 0 = x_5 - 0.44166728 - 0.19950920x_7x_6x_3 \\ 0 = x_6 - 0.14654133 - 0.18922793x_8x_5x_{10} \\ 0 = x_7 - 0.42937161 - 0.21180486x_2x_5x_8 \\ 0 = x_8 - 0.07056438 - 0.17081208x_1x_7x_6 \\ 0 = x_9 - 0.34504906 - 0.19612740x_{10}x_6x_8 \\ 0 = x_{10} - 0.42651102 - 0.21466544x_4x_8x_1 \end{cases}$$

$$E_4 : \begin{cases} x_1^2 + x_3^2 = 1 \\ x_2^2 + x_4^2 = 1 \\ x_5x_3^3 + x_6x_4^3 = c_1 \\ x_5x_1^3 + x_6x_2^3 = c_2 \\ x_5x_1x_3^2 + x_6x_4^2x_2 = c_3 \\ x_5x_1^2x_3 + x_6x_2^2x_4 = c_4 \end{cases}, \text{ where } C_i, i = 1, \dots, 4 \text{ is}$$

random, we set them as 0;

$$E_5 : \begin{cases} (x_k + \sum_{i=1}^{n-k-1} x_i x_{i+k})x_n - c_k = 0, 1 \leq k \leq n-1 \\ \sum_{l=1}^{n-1} x_l + 1 = 0 \end{cases}$$

where  $C_i, i = 1, \dots, 4$  is random, we set them as 0,  $n = 20$ .

### Test platform and parameter

The PSO, ASFA, GSO and LGSO are code in MATLAB7.0 and implemented on Intel Core2 T5870 2.00GHz machine with 2G RAM under windows 7 platform. The set of PSO, ASFA, GSO and LGSO's parameters are as below:  $n = 500$ , max of iteration  $\max t = 300$ ,  $\rho = 0.4$ ,  $\gamma = 0.6$ ,  $\beta = 0.08$ , moving step  $s = 0.03$ ,  $n_i = 5$  and initialization of luciferin  $l_0 = 5$ . In the test part of the equation, the literature compared with the literature [10].

### Analyses of results

To test the function  $F_1 \sim F_3$ , do 10 times independent experiments, Find the best value, worst value, average, running times and compared with the PSO, ASFA, GSO. Result as table 1. PSO is fast, but has poor accuracy. Considering the run time and accuracy, this paper presents the LGSO for high-dimensional and the domain of a wider range of large-scale optimization problems has better optimization algorithm superior. Table 2~4 is the results of equations problems of Classical algorithm, we can see that the proposed algorithm LGSO the highest accuracy in the solution, computation time is also good.

Figure 2 to Figure 9 are LGSO, PSO, ASFA and GSO algorithm convergence curves, visually see the LGSO calculation of high accuracy, fast convergence and high-dimensional functions for greater processing power.

Table.1 Experimental comparison between PSO, ASFA, GSO and LGSO

| Function | Algorithm | Best value     | Worst value    | Average value  | Running time |
|----------|-----------|----------------|----------------|----------------|--------------|
| $F_1$    | PSO       | 22.3447889201  | 32.34743982752 | 27.1827846718  | 3.556s       |
|          | ASFA      | 4.572934e+002  | 8.234511e+002  | 6.469821e+002  | 308.759s     |
|          | LGSO      | 1.9087733e-004 | 4.4534521e-004 | 2.8392271e-004 | 142.146s     |
|          | GSO       | 2.2345496e+004 | 2.2234592e+004 | 1.7784242e+004 | 134.996s     |
| $F_2$    | PSO       | 0.1134592343   | 0.4234892034   | 0.2172830646   | 3.900s       |
|          | ASFA      | 0.011232347    | 0.0045879232   | 0.0023437976   | 387.721s     |
|          | LGSO      | 0.03452e-004   | 1.3423418e-004 | 1.1628304e-004 | 147.251s     |
|          | GSO       | 1.848132e+002  | 3.231412e+002  | 2.4531444e+002 | 145.605s     |
| $F_3$    | PSO       | 36.2312349179  | 65.2128934751  | 56.4081229098  | 4.228s       |
|          | ASFA      | 0.1323452662   | 0.8234521934   | 0.3863685092   | 526.283s     |
|          | LGSO      | 0.1132523443   | 0.6235421132   | 0.4310187476   | 227.247s     |
|          | GSO       | 2.4315125e+003 | 4.1239571e+003 | 3.4519933e+003 | 66s          |

Table.2  $E_1$  experimental of comparison

| Algorithm        | Solution           | Functions values      |
|------------------|--------------------|-----------------------|
| Newton's method  | (0.15,0.49)        | (-0.00168,0.01497)    |
| Secant method    | (0.15,0.49)        | (-0.00168,0.01497)    |
| Broyden's method | (0.15,0.49)        | (-0.00168,0.01497)    |
| Effati's method  | (0.1575,0.4970)    | (-0.005455,0.00739)   |
| EA approach      | (0.157772,0.49458) | (0.001264,0.000969)   |
| PSO              | (0.16,0.5001)      | (-0.012847,0.022260)  |
| ASFA             | (0.15752,0.4983)   | (0.144787, 0.088160)  |
| PGSO             | (0.1575,0.4969)    | (-0.001676, 0.009154) |
| GSO              | (0.15752,0.4983)   | (-0.001681, 0.009161) |

Table.3  $E_2$  experimental of comparison

| Algorithm       | Solution           | Functions values       |
|-----------------|--------------------|------------------------|
| Effati's method | (0.0096,0.9976)    | (-0.019223,0.016776)   |
| EA approach     | (-0.00138,1.00270) | (-0.00276,-6.37E-005)  |
| PSO             | (-0.00162,1.02324) | (-0.13542,1.2317)      |
| ASFA            | (0.000087,1.00813) | (-3.23E-003,-0.021854) |
| PGSO            | (-0.00006,1.00017) | (-4.24E-004,0.0021218) |
| GSO             | (-0.00222,1.00364) | (-0.551603, 1.646274)  |

Table.4  $E_3E_4E_5$  experimental of comparison

| Equations | Algorithm | Best value     | Worst value    | Average value  | Running time |
|-----------|-----------|----------------|----------------|----------------|--------------|
| $E_3$     | PSO       | 0.2149153531   | 1.0626433514   | 1.0003785224   | 4.024s       |
|           | ASFA      | 0.0420855131   | 0.6339623349   | 0.2432108752   | 401.139s     |
|           | LGSO      | 0.0116202850   | 0.0131201501   | 0.0119872412   | 120.931s     |
|           | GSO       | 6.9591574399   | 7.2428441893   | 7.0012453321   | 117.453s     |
| $E_4$     | PSO       | 0.0224930425   | 0.1166318044   | 0.097765522    | 2.745s       |
|           | ASFA      | 0.0068685785   | 0.0076475297   | 0.007124334    | 280.548s     |
|           | LGSO      | 0.0019527707   | 0.0060514520   | 0.003444587    | 78.513s      |
|           | GSO       | 0.661728548    | 0.9835675001   | 0.887666342    | 77.048s      |
| $E_5$     | PSO       |                |                |                | 17.518s      |
|           | ASFA      | 2.4298693e-004 | 5.4097120e-004 | 4.0032155e-004 | 1389.453s    |
|           | LGSO      | 1.2387994e-005 | 6.6280149e-005 | 3.8923456e-005 | 169.743s     |
|           | GSO       | 2.6788358e-005 | 3.0290678e-005 | 2.9871524e-005 | 159.381s     |

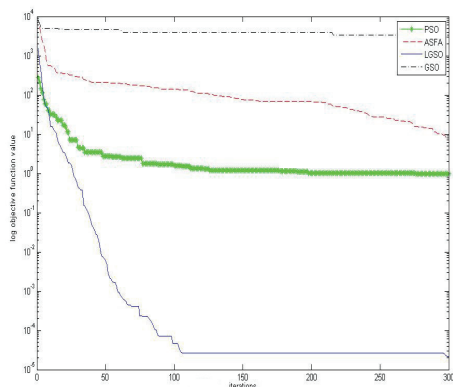


Fig. 2  $F_1$  curves of the objective functions value

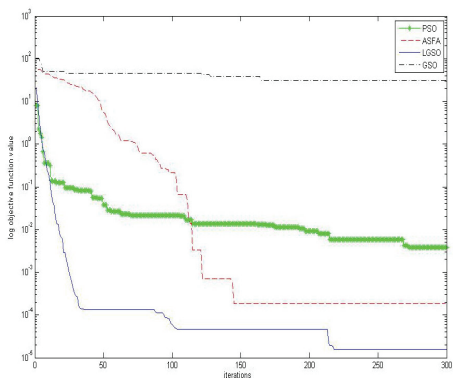


Fig. 3  $F_2$  curves of the objective functions value

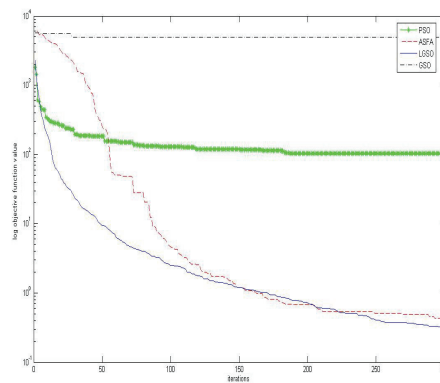


Fig. 4  $F_3$  curves of the objective functions value

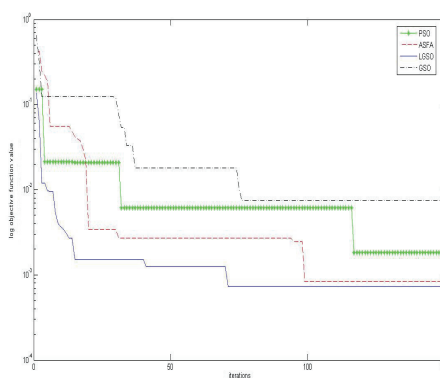


Fig. 5  $E_1$  curves of the objective functions value

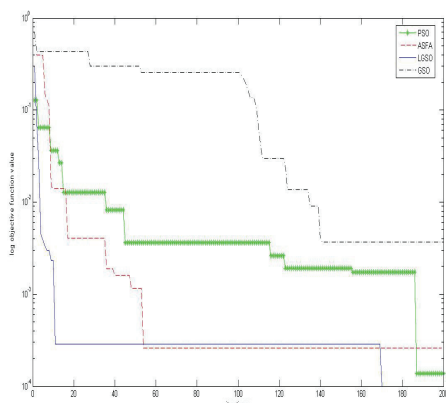


Fig.  $E_2$  curves of the objective functions value

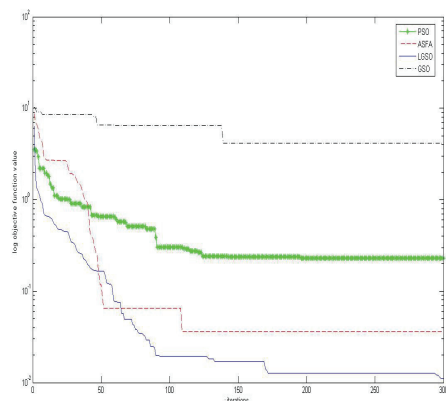


Fig. 7  $E_3$  curves of the objective functions value

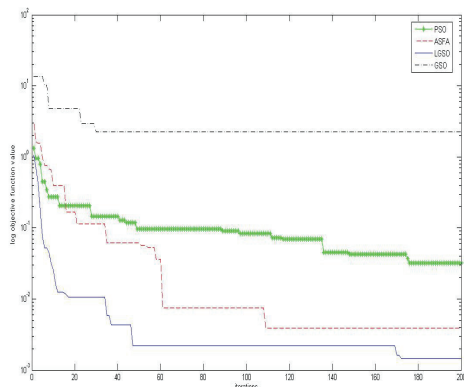


Fig. 8  $E_4$  curves of the objective functions value

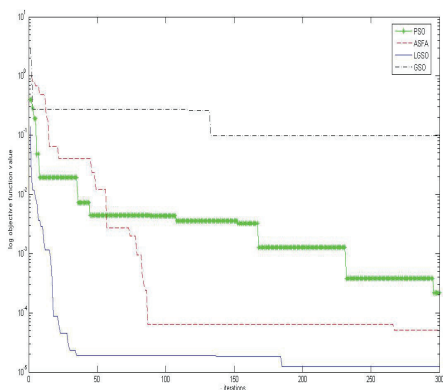


Fig. 9  $E_5$  curves of the objective functions value

## Conclusions

For Glowworm swarm optimization (GSO) the accuracy is not high, the disadvantage of slow convergence, this paper presents leader glowworm swarm optimization (LGSO). In basic GSO algorithm foundation, introduce leader mechanisms. Before each generation of the algorithm, set the best glowworm's position as the leader in the current generation. After each generation, all glowworms are moved to the location of the leader, so that the glowworm swarm has high ability of searching global optimization, and improving the algorithm's ability in high dimensional space optimization. Experiments show that the new algorithm has strong global search ability and fast convergence rate, accuracy has greatly improved, and can be effectively used in high-dimensional problems of nonlinear equations.

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