

Development and Exploration of Exhaustive, Stepwise and Heuristic Algorithms for Automated Population Pharmacokinetic Modelling

Zhonghui Huang¹ Joseph F Standing¹ Frank Kloprogge²

¹Infection, Immunity and Inflammation Research Teaching Department, UCL Great Ormond Street Institute of Child Health, London

²UCL Institute for Global Health, University College London, London, United Kingdom

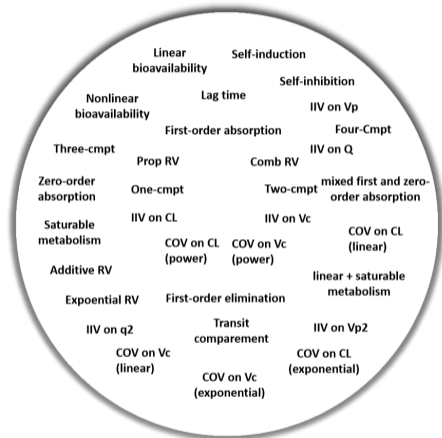
PAGE 31 2023

Table of Contents

- 1 Introduction
 - Modelling in Pharmacokinetics
 - Current Human Modelling Strategy
 - Automated Modelling: Inspired from Nature
- 2 Methods
 - Search space
 - Simulated datasets
 - Fitness Function
 - Algorithm Design
 - Algorithm Performance Evaluation
- 3 Results
 - Fitness Function
 - Results: R Shiny App
 - Algorithm Performance
- 4 Conclusion



Introduction: Build a Non-Linear Mixed Effect Model



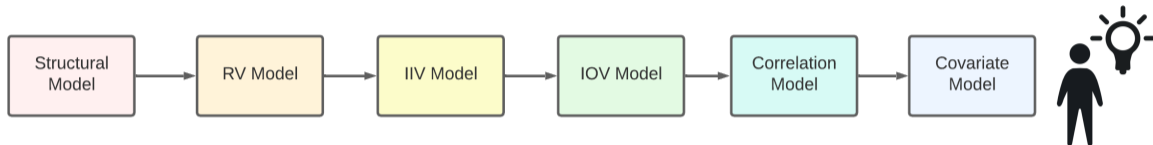
Questions when build a model:

- First-order absorption?
- Any absorption delay?
- Fixed or linear bioavailability?
- 1,2,3,4 compartment model?
- Saturable metabolism?
- Random effects on parameters?
- Residual error model?
- Covariate impact? Linear? Power?

Knowledge base/search space for a PopPK analysis

Introduction: Human Modelling Strategy

Workflow



Features:

- Decisions made in a sequential manner.
- A locally optimal solution made at each stage.
- Usually no backtracking.

PHARMACOMETRICS

Interaction Between Structural, Statistical, and Covariate Models in Population Pharmacokinetic Analysis

Janet R. Wade,^{1,3} Stuart L. Beal,² and Nancy C. Sambol^{1,4}

Introduction: Inspired from Nature - Genetic Algorithms

A Genetic Algorithm-Based, Hybrid Machine Learning Approach to Model Selection

Robert R. Bies,^{1,*} Matthew F. Muldoon,² Bruce G. Pollock,³
Steven Manuck,⁴ Gwenn Smith,⁵ and Mark E. Sale⁶

Received August 4, 2005—Final January 10, 2006—Published Online March 28, 2006

A genetic algorithm based global search strategy for population pharmacokinetic/pharmacodynamic model selection

Mark Sale^{1,2} & Eric A. Sherer¹

¹Next Level Solutions, LLC, Raleigh, NC; ²Modeling and Simulation, Kinertgen Inc., Research Triangle Park, NC and ³Chemical Engineering, Louisiana Tech University, Ruston, LA, USA

Correspondence
Dr Mark Sale MD, Department of Medicine, Indiana University, 1001 West 10th St, W7138, Indianapolis, IN 46202, USA.
Tel: +1 317 630 8768
Fax: +1 317 630 8185
E-mail: mark@nextlevelbohs.com


Keywords
genetic algorithm, NONMEM, pharmacokinetics

Received
28 February 2013

Accepted
4 June 2013

Accepted Article Published Online
17 June 2013

Population pharmacokinetic model selection assisted by machine learning

Emeric Sibieude^{1,2} · Akash Khandelwal³ · Pascal Girard² · Jan S. Hesthaven⁴ · Nadia Terranova² 

Received: 1 February 2021 / Accepted: 17 October 2021 / Published online: 27 October 2021
© The Author(s) 2021


Application of a single-objective, hybrid genetic algorithm approach to pharmacokinetic model building

Eric A. Sherer · Mark E. Sale · Bruce G. Pollock · Chandra P. Belani · Merrill J. Egorin · Percy S. Ivy · Jeffrey A. Lieberman · Stephen B. Manuck · Stephen R. Marder · Matthew F. Muldoon · Howard I. Scher · David B. Solit · Robert R. Bies

Pharmacometrics

Genetic Algorithm Guided Population Pharmacokinetic Model Development for Simvastatin, Concurrently or Non-Concurrently Co-Administered With Amlodipine

Ayyappa Chaturvedula, PhD^{1a}, Mark E. Sale, MD², and Howard Lee, MD, PhD^{3b}



ACCP
The American College of Clinical Pharmacology

The Journal of Clinical Pharmacology
14(2) 141–149
© 2013, The American College of Clinical Pharmacology
DOI: 10.1002/jcp.176

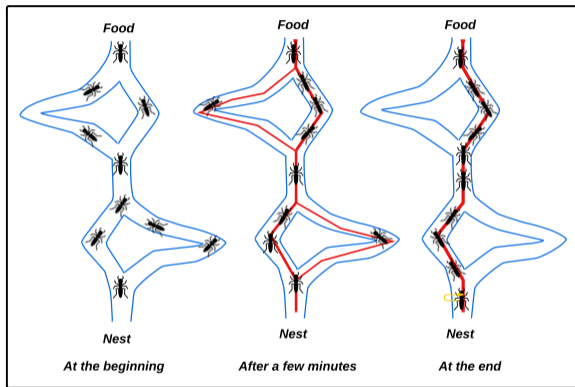
Development of a genetic algorithm and NONMEM workbench for automating and improving population pharmacokinetic/pharmacodynamic model selection

Mohamed Ismail¹ · Mark Sale² · Yifan Yu¹ · Nikhil Pillai¹ · Sihang Liu¹ · Beth Pflug³ · Robert Bies^{1,4} 

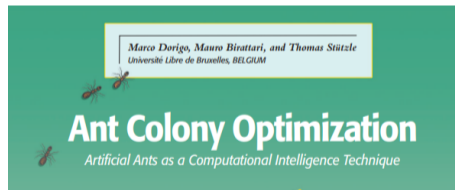
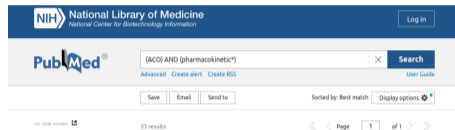
Received: 18 September 2020 / Accepted: 7 September 2021 / Published online: 3 October 2021
© The Author(s), under exclusive licence to Springer Science+Business Media, LLC, part of Springer Nature 2021



Introduction: Inspired from Nature - Ant Colony Optimisation

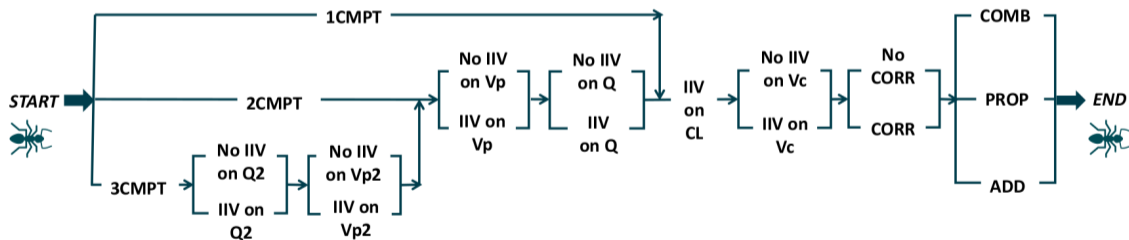


Ant foraging behaviours
Positive Feedback



Introduction: Inspired from Nature - Ant Colony Optimisation

Diagram of ACO path for PopPK analysis



Current evaluation methods for automated modelling

- Limited range of models tested
- Success judged by “better fit” than human model
 - “Better fit” definitions: Lower fitness values
 - Lower AIC, BIC or OFV
 - Lower AIC, BIC or OFV + penalty (convergence, covariance step, shrinkage...)
- Fitting all possible models (“exhaustive approach”) allows finding the true best model given the data (not usually done)

Aim and Objectives

How do automated modelling algorithms perform for selecting a “true best model”?

Objectives

- Generate 1,2 3 compartment with different random and residual models (72 cases)
- Fit All possible models (exhaustive algorithm \implies ground truth)
- Evaluate different fitness functions
- Compare: Stepwise, GA and ACO algorithms against ground truth using identified fitness function

Model fitting done in nlmixr2

GA, Genetic Algorithm

ACO, Ant Colony Optimisation

Table of Contents

- 1 Introduction
 - Modelling in Pharmacokinetics
 - Current Human Modelling Strategy
 - Automated Modelling: Inspired from Nature
- 2 **Methods**
 - Search space
 - Simulated datasets
 - Fitness Function
 - Algorithm Design
 - Algorithm Performance Evaluation
- 3 Results
 - Fitness Function
 - Results: R Shiny App
 - Algorithm Performance
- 4 Conclusion



Methods: General workflow



Methods: Search Space

Model Components in the Search Space

Component No.	Description	Options
1	No. of compartments	1, 2, 3
2	Presence or not presence of IIV on V_c	0 (no), 1 (yes)
3	Presence or not presence of IIV on V_p	0 (no), 1 (yes)
4	Presence or not presence of IIV on Q	0 (no), 1 (yes)
5	Presence or not presence of IIV on V_{p2}	0 (no), 1 (yes)
6	Presence or not presence of IIV on Q_2	0 (no), 1 (yes)
7	Presence or not presence of correlation	0 (no), 1 (yes)
8	Residual unexplained Model (RUV)	additive, proportional, combined

V_c , central volume of distribution

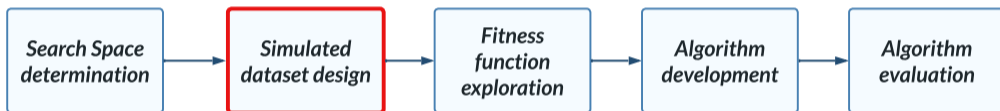
V_p , first peripheral volume of distribution

Q , inter-compartmental clearance for the first peripheral compartment

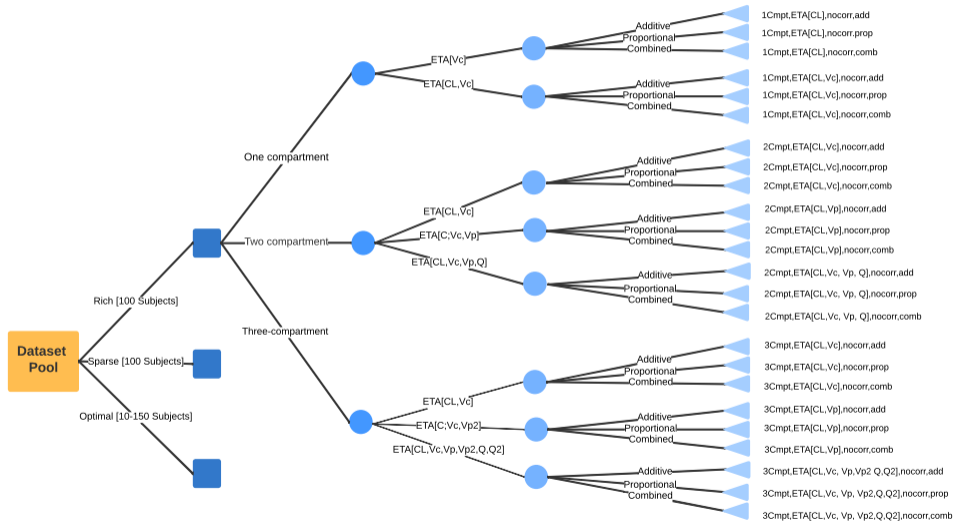
V_{p2} , second peripheral volume of distribution

Q_2 , inter-compartmental clearance for the second peripheral compartment

Methods: General workflow



Methods: Characteristics of 72 Simulated Cases



Methods: General workflow

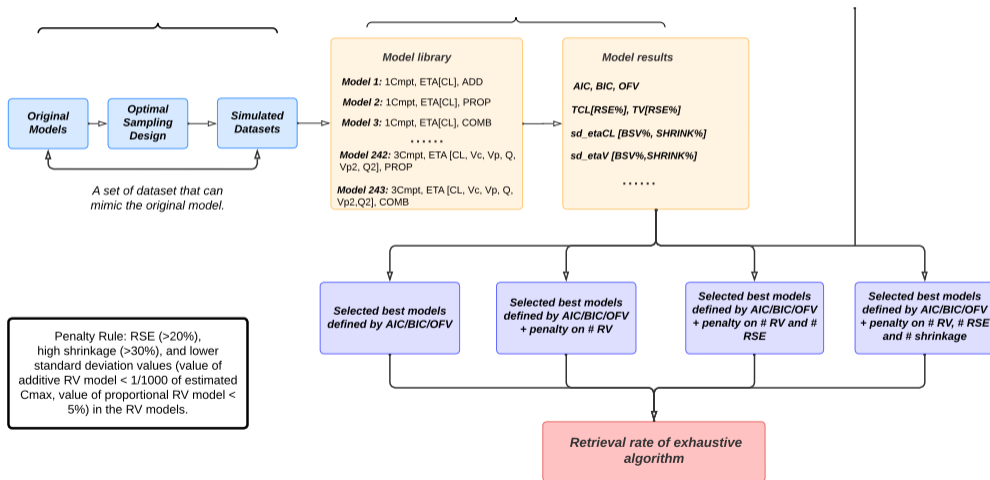


Methods: Fitness Function Exploration

Step 1: Generation of simulated datasets

Step 2: Parameter Estimation

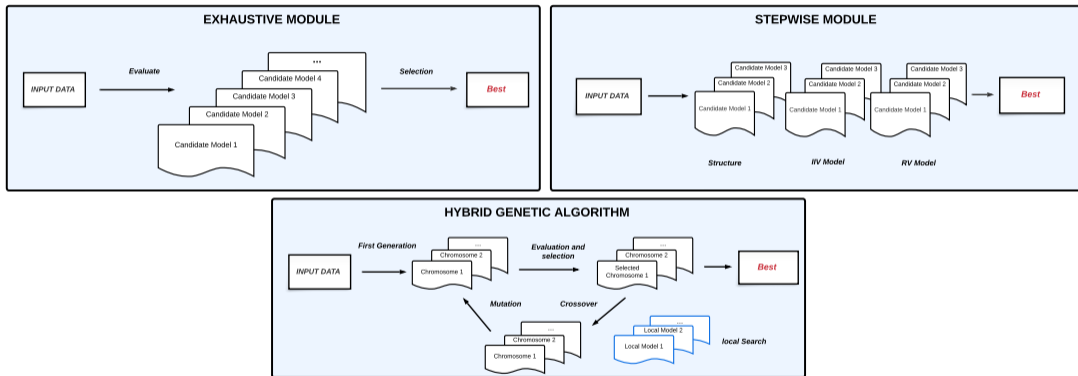
Step 3: Criteria evaluation



Methods: General workflow



Methods: General Workflow of Designed Algorithms



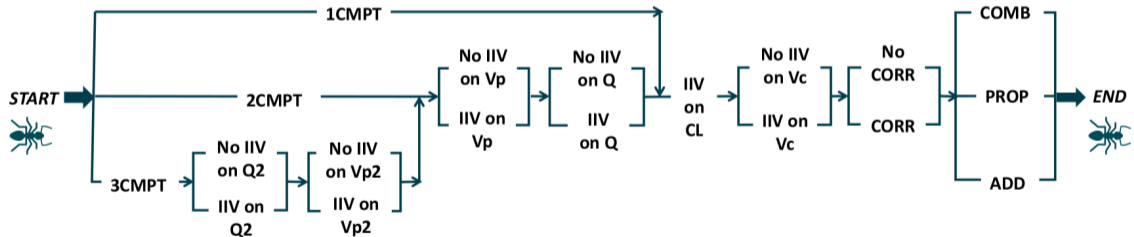
ALGORITHM DESIGN:

ACO in PopPK modelling



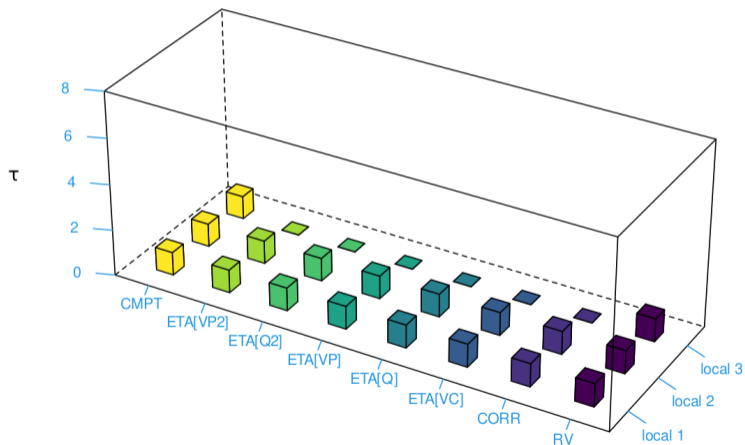
Methods: ACO design in PopPK modelling

Step 1. Solution Construction



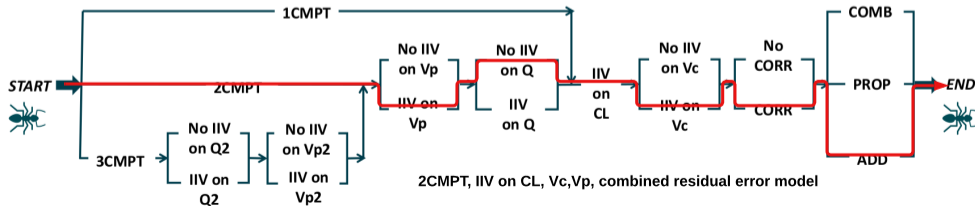
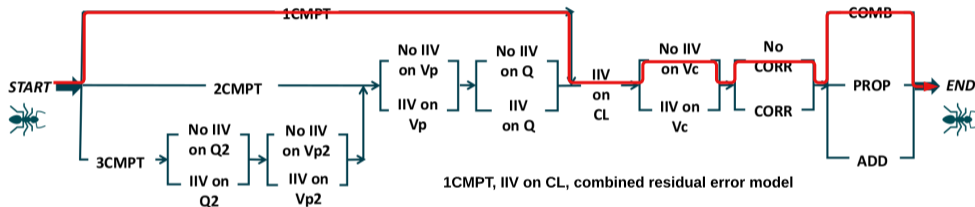
Methods: ACO design in PopPK modelling

Step 2. Pheromone initialisation



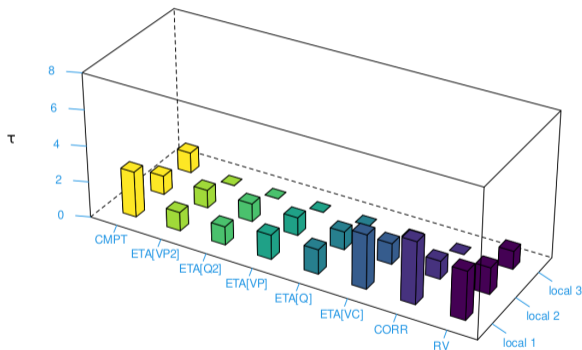
Methods: ACO design in PopPK modelling

Step 3. Ant Practice



Methods: ACO design in PopPK modelling

Step 4. Pheromone generation and evaporation

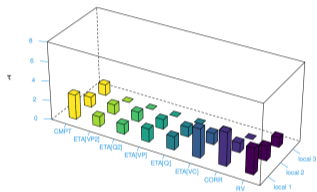


Pheromone generation $\Delta\tau = \frac{1}{\text{Rank}(\text{fitness})}$

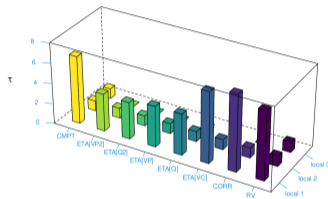
After pheromone evaporation $\tau = (1 - \rho)\tau_0 + \Delta\tau$

Methods: ACO design in PopPK modelling

Step 5. Start new travel and repeat the process

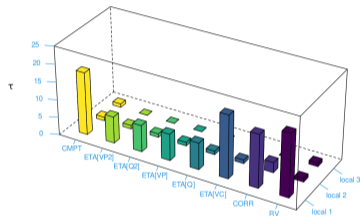


Travel 1



Travel 2

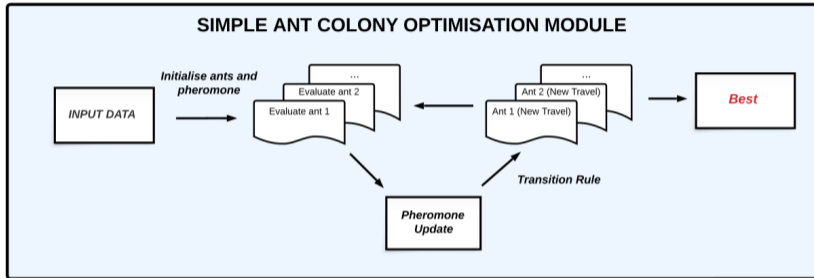
...



Travel 15

The probability of each node/local path was calculated based on the ratio of the pheromone deposited on that each node/local path to the total pheromone present in all nodes for the corresponding group.

Methods: ACO design in PopPK modelling



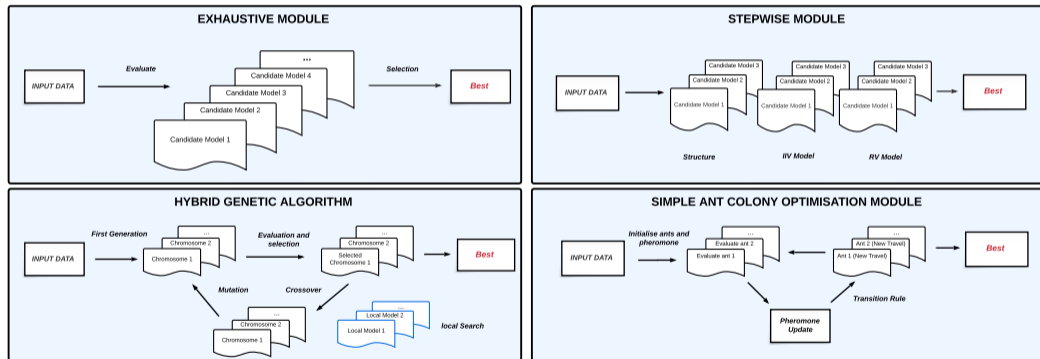
- Initialisation
- Parameter estimation and model evaluation
- Pheromone update for the next travel

Methods: General workflow



Methods: General Workflow of Designed Algorithms

Performance evaluation



Accuracy rate, percentage of models selected by the test algorithms that matched the “true best models” identified by exhaustive algorithm for 72 cases.

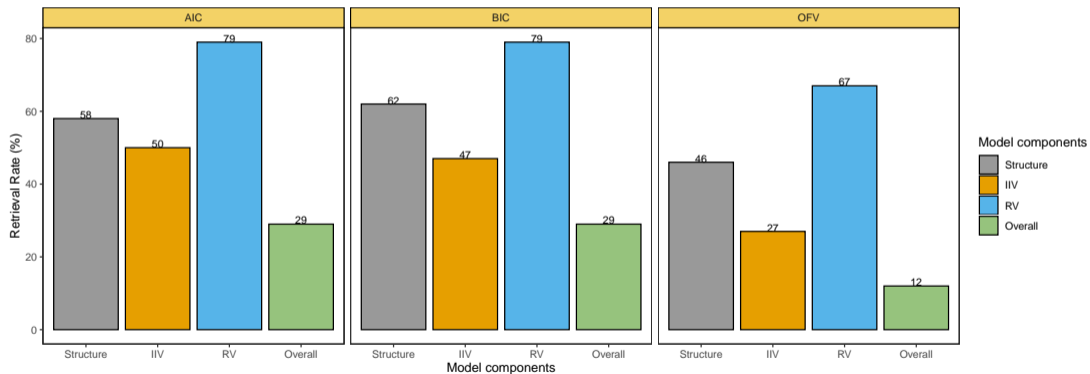
Table of Contents

- 1 Introduction
 - Modelling in Pharmacokinetics
 - Current Human Modelling Strategy
 - Automated Modelling: Inspired from Nature
- 2 Methods
 - Search space
 - Simulated datasets
 - Fitness Function
 - Algorithm Design
 - Algorithm Performance Evaluation
- 3 Results
 - Fitness Function
 - Results: R Shiny App
 - Algorithm Performance
- 4 Conclusion



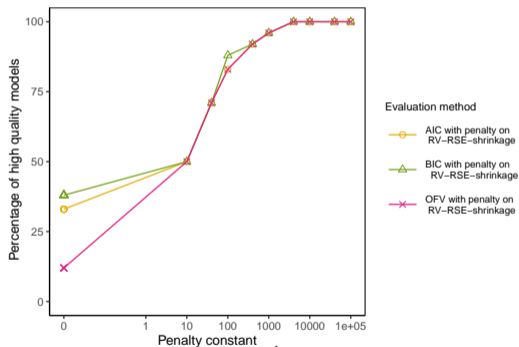
Results: Fitness Function

Retrieval rate of simulated models by exhaustive algorithm using only AIC, BIC and OFV

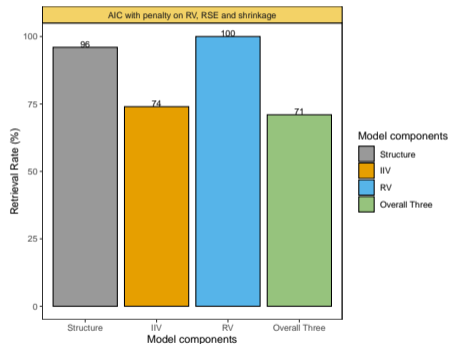


Results: Fitness Function

Percentages of high quality models selected by exhaustive algorithm



Retrieval rate of simulated models by exhaustive algorithm using the fitness function



$$fitness = AIC + \sum_{i=1}^k 10000 \mathbb{1}_{RSE > 20\%} + 10000 \mathbb{1}_{Shrinkage > 30\%} + 10000 \mathbb{1}_{\sigma_1 < 1, \sigma_2 < 0.05}$$

ALGORITHMS: APP DEMO

Results: R Shiny App Interface

AUTO-PPK ☰

AUTOMATIC POPULATION PHARMACOKINETIC MODELLING PLATFORM

Input dataset
Choose CSV file
Browse... No file selected

Initial estimate

ka 6	cl 4	vc 0.2
q 1	sigm2 (prop) 2	sigm2 (abs) 1

GA set

Population size 6	Maximum of iterations 4	Mutation rate 0.2
Crossover rate 1	No. of generations for local search 2	Significant difference 1

ACO set

Number of ants 6	Maximum of iterations 4	Evaporation rate 0.2
Initial pheromone 1	Minimum pheromone 2	Alpha 1

Run GA algorithm Run Stepwise Algorithms Run ACO Algorithm

Go GA output
 Generate outputs

Go stepwise output
 Generate outputs

Go ACO output
 Generate outputs

Results: R Shiny App Interface

Case 1. 1Cmpt, IIV on CL, additive residual error model (Sparse data)

GA set

Population size	Maximum of iterations	Mutation rate
<input type="text" value="6"/>	<input type="text" value="6"/>	<input type="text" value="0.2"/>
Crossover rate	No. of generations for local search	Significant difference
<input type="text" value="1"/>	<input type="text" value="3"/>	<input type="text" value="1"/>

ACO set

Number of ants	Maximum of iterations	Evaporation rate
<input type="text" value="6"/>	<input type="text" value="6"/>	<input type="text" value="0.4"/>
Initial pheromone	Minimum pheromone	Alpha
<input type="text" value="1"/>	<input type="text" value="1"/>	<input type="text" value="1"/>

Run GA algorithm Run Stepwise Algorithm Run ACO Algorithm

Go GA output
 Generate outputs

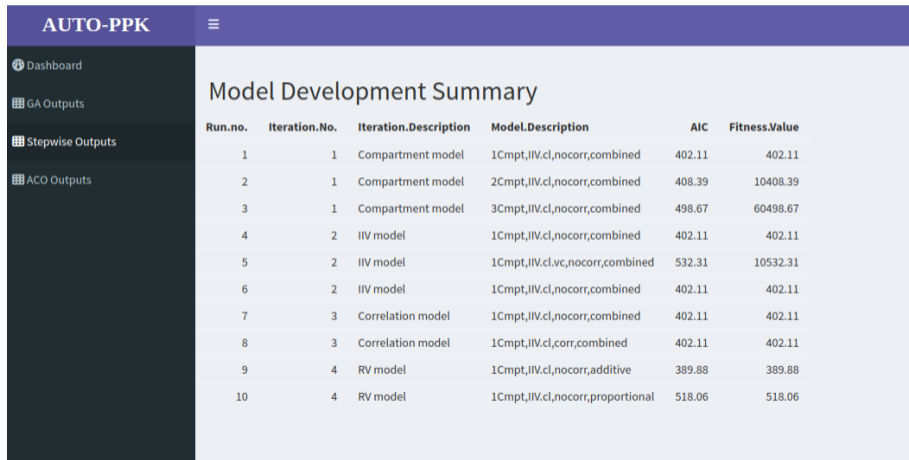
Go stepwise output
 Generate outputs

Go ACO output
 Generate outputs

Running stepwise algorithms Doing step 3

Results: R Shiny App Interface

Case 1. 1Cmpt, IIV on CL, additive residual error model (Sparse data)

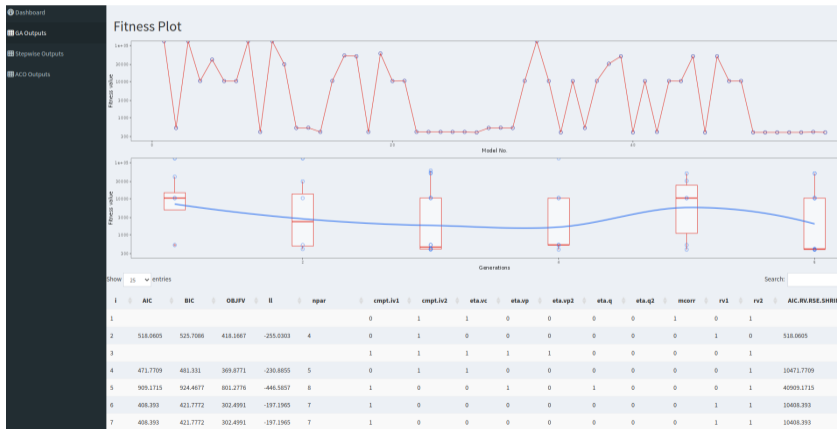


The screenshot displays the AUTO-PPK R Shiny App interface. On the left is a dark sidebar with navigation options: Dashboard, GA Outputs, Stepwise Outputs, and ACO Outputs. The main content area has a purple header with the text 'AUTO-PPK' and a hamburger menu icon. Below the header, the title 'Model Development Summary' is centered. A table with 7 columns follows: Run.no., Iteration.No., Iteration.Description, Model.Description, AIC, and Fitness.Value. The table lists 10 iterations, each with a unique model description and associated AIC and Fitness values.

Run.no.	Iteration.No.	Iteration.Description	Model.Description	AIC	Fitness.Value
1	1	Compartment model	1Cmpt,IIV.cl,nocorr,combined	402.11	402.11
2	1	Compartment model	2Cmpt,IIV.cl,nocorr,combined	408.39	10408.39
3	1	Compartment model	3Cmpt,IIV.cl,nocorr,combined	498.67	60498.67
4	2	IIV model	1Cmpt,IIV.cl,nocorr,combined	402.11	402.11
5	2	IIV model	1Cmpt,IIV.cl.vc,nocorr,combined	532.31	10532.31
6	2	IIV model	1Cmpt,IIV.cl,nocorr,combined	402.11	402.11
7	3	Correlation model	1Cmpt,IIV.cl,nocorr,combined	402.11	402.11
8	3	Correlation model	1Cmpt,IIV.cl,corr,combined	402.11	402.11
9	4	RV model	1Cmpt,IIV.cl,nocorr,additive	389.88	389.88
10	4	RV model	1Cmpt,IIV.cl,nocorr,proportional	518.06	518.06

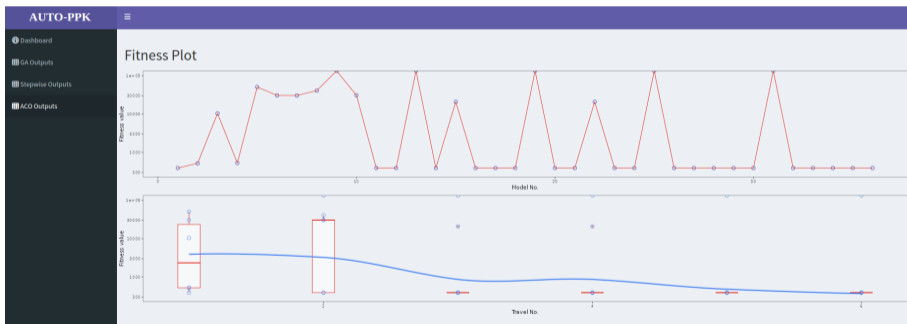
Results: R Shiny App Interface

Genetic Algorithm Output



Results: R Shiny App Interface

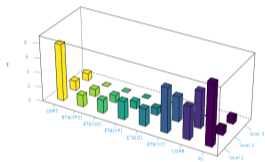
ACO Algorithm Output



Results: R Shiny App Interface

ACO Algorithm Output

Pheromone Plot



Show 25 entries

Search:

i	AIC	BIC	OB.FV	ll	ngar	cmpt.lv	eta.vc	eta.vp	eta.vp2	eta.q	eta.q2	mcarr	rv	AIC.RSE.SHRIK
1	389.877	397.5251	289.9831	-190.9385	4	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	389.877
2	518.0605	525.7086	418.1667	-255.0303	4	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	518.0605
3	398.8801	410.3522	294.3862	-193.44	6	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	10398.8801
4	525.2227	536.6948	421.3288	-256.6113	6	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	525.2227
5	671.4269	686.7231	563.5331	-327.7135	8	3	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	50671.4269
6	536.7686	552.0648	429.8748	-260.3843	8	3	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	30536.7686
7	415.801	429.1851	309.9071	-200.9005	7	2	0	0	0	1	0	0	1	30415.801
8	721.2218	742.254	607.3279	-349.6109	11	3	1	0	1	1	0	0	2	40721.2218

Results: GA and ACO Final Parameter setting

GA parameters

- Population size: 10
- Crossover probability: 1
- Mutation rate: 0.2
- Maximum of iterations: 15

ACO parameters

- Ant size : 10
- Evaporation rate: 0.4
- Alpha value: 1
- Maximum of iterations: 15

Results: Algorithm Performance

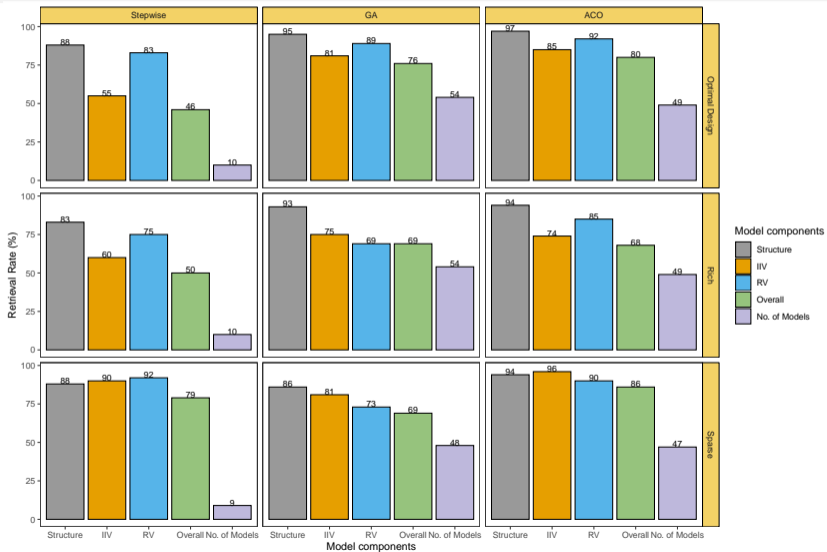


Table of Contents

- 1 Introduction
 - Modelling in Pharmacokinetics
 - Current Human Modelling Strategy
 - Automated Modelling: Inspired from Nature
- 2 Methods
 - Search space
 - Simulated datasets
 - Fitness Function
 - Algorithm Design
 - Algorithm Performance Evaluation
- 3 Results
 - Fitness Function
 - Results: R Shiny App
 - Algorithm Performance
- 4 Conclusion



Conclusion

Fitness Function

- Consider RSE and shrinkage, variance of RV model
- 10000 penalty was appropriate
- May need to revise when extending to other model/data types

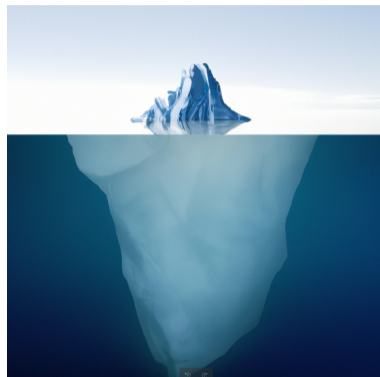
Algorithm Performance

- Optimal design data: ACO and GA similar, both outperform stepwise
- Rich data: ACO and GA similar, both outperform stepwise
- **Sparse data: ACO superior to GA and stepwise, stepwise better than GA**

Future Work

Considerations in the future

- Oral/other routes of administration
- Nonlinear kinetics
- Setting initial estimates
- Application to Real-World Data
- Publish as R-package



Acknowledgements

Funder:

- Clinical Informatics Research Programme
- John Lipscombe Memorial Travel Awards



People:

- Prof Joseph Standing
- Dr. Frank Klopogge



Thank you for your attention!

Questions & Answers

