



www.ssbse.org/2011

introduction

Mark Harman
UCL
London

not a repeat of my FSE TB

not a repeat of my FSE TB

What is UCL CREST ?

What is SBSE ?

Why SBSE ?

Insight-rich

Generic

Software: the ideal engineering material to optimize

Why SSBSE ?

not a repeat of my FSE TB

What is UCL CREST ?

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What is SBSE ?

Why SBSE ? ... well OK, maybe some overlap

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... this is *SSBSE*

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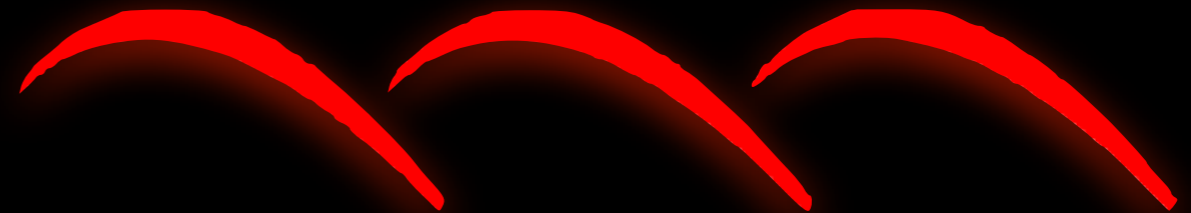
Generic

Software: the ideal engineering material to optimize

Why SSBSE ?

Centre for **R**esearch on **E**volution
Search and **T**esting Est. 2006

CREST



Centre for Research on Evolution Search and Testing Est. 2006

1 admin

4 faculty

8 post docs

11 PhD students

1-4 resident visiting scholars

CREST



Research

Research

Service Oriented Computing

Dependence Analysis

Clone Detection

Search Based Software Engineering

Quantitative Information Flow

Testing

Requirements Engineering

Digital Humanities

Three Repositories

SBSE Repository

SBSE Repository



SBSE REPOSITORY

This page collects the work which address the software engineering problems using metaheuristic search optimisation techniques (i. e. Genetic Algorithms) into the **Repository of Publications on Search Based Software Engineering**

SBSE

- SBSE repository is maintained by Yuanyuan Zhang
- 916 relevant publications are included
- Last updated on the 25 July 2011 ([Update logs](#))

 The number of publications in the year from 1976 to 2011.

 The ratio of SE research fields that involved SBSE.

 The ratio of publications number in the world countries.

Who's Who



This page designed and maintained by : [Dr. Yuanyuan Zhang](#)

Dr. Yuanyuan Zhang

SBSE Repository

SEBASE Software Engineering By Automated SEArch

Project | Community

Publications | Applications | Collaborators | Who's who

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Analysis

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Analysis

extended who's who

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Animations

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GP Bibliography



bibliography

The Genetic Programming Bibliography

[[Search It](#) | [Most recent](#) | [Top 10 Cited](#) | [Most Downloaded](#) | [Add to It](#)]

The bibliography is part of the [Collection of Computer Science Bibliographies](#).
It is maintained and managed by [William Langdon](#), [Steven Gustafson](#), and [John Koza](#).



[Add single entries](#) or email [William Langdon](#) or firstname DOT lastname AT-SYMBOL research DOT ge DOT com
a bibtex file containing the entries.

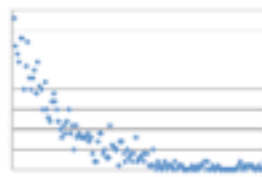
Bibtex file

[gp-bibliography.bib \(Compressed\)](#) Over 6000 GP references

Other formats

[refer format \(Compressed\)](#)

[text file \(Compressed\)](#)



[Author](#) format (split by first author)



[co authorship graphs](#)

Search Interfaces

The GP bibliography is one of the many online computer science bibliographies

There are several on line search tools for these bibliographies. For example:

- o [WWW form](#) based search

- o The [coauthor graphs](#) can also be used for searching by author name.

- o You can find all entries for an author using a URL like this one: <http://www.cs.bham.ac.uk/~wbl/biblio/gp-html/WilliamBLangdon.html>

Naturally you must replace **WilliamBLangdon.html** by the author's name.

Other Resources

- o [Bibliographies of evolutionary computation conferences](#).

- o [Hints](#) on using bibliographies with PC based word processing packages

- o [Links](#) to other information on bibliographies.

- o [Subdirectory](#) containing some [tools](#) and [templates](#) for maintaining bibliographies.

- o [Links](#) to other bibliographies.

- o [Home pages](#) of some GP researchers

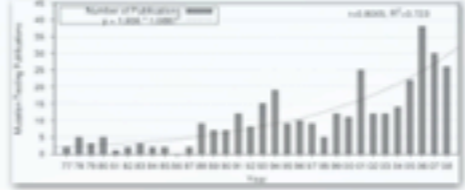
Mutation Testing Repository

HOME REPOSITORY THEORY TECHNIQUES ANALYSIS Search Publications

PUBLICATION EMPIRICAL STUDY TOOL

Mutation Testing Repository

Publications on Mutation Testing



Mutation Testing remains an active research area with growing interest... [READ MORE](#)

Repository News

Welcome to Mutation Testing repository

Mutation Testing is a fault-based software testing technique that has been widely studied for over three decades. The literature on mutation testing has contributed a set of **approaches**, tools and empirical studies. This repository aims to provide a full coverage of the publications in the literature on Mutation Testing.

Mutation Testing Survey

Using this repository, a comprehensive analysis and survey of Mutation Testing work has been conducted. The paper presents the results of several **development trend analyses**. These analyses provide evidence that mutation testing techniques and tools are reaching a state of maturity and applicability, while the topic of mutation testing itself is the subject of increasing interest. This paper is currently published as a technical report, available from [here](#). If you want to cite results from the survey, here is the BibTeX entry:

```
@ARTICLE{Jia10,  
  author = {Yue Jia and Mark Harman},  
  title = {(A)n (A)nalysis and (S)urvey of the (D)evelopment of (M)utation (T)esting},  
  journal = {IEEE Transactions on Software Engineering},  
  year = {2010},  
  volume = {To appear},  
  number = {},  
  pages = {}  
}
```

Quick Search

Search for paper author

[View all papers](#) | [authors](#)

Repository Status

Last update: 16/06/10
Number of Papers: 415
Number of Authors: 298
[Detailed status ...](#)

Missing Paper?

Email:
Title:

 | [email us](#)

Links

- [.: Mutation Testing Online](#)
- [.: Mutation Testing Wiki](#)

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COWs

CREST Open Workshop

Roughly one per month

Discussion based

Recorded and archived

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COW Attendance

- > 220 different researchers and practitioners
- > 100 different organisations
- > 20 countries

Previous 14 COWs

Nov 2009:	35 attendees:	Search Based Software Engineering
Dec 2009:	21 attendees:	Software Testing
Jan 2010:	34 attendees:	Using Static Analysis for Fault Prediction
Feb 2010:	31 attendees:	Operational Research for Software Engineering Methods
Mar 2010:	26 attendees:	Information Theory for Search Based software Engineering
Apr 2010:	24 attendees:	Dependence Analysis and Slicing for Programs and Models
May 2010:	24 attendees:	Information Flow and Security
Oct 2010:	34 attendees:	Mutation testing
Nov 2010:	36 attendees:	Code Provenance and Clone Detection
Jan 2011:	54 attendees:	Program Slicing and Dependence
Feb 2011:	34 attendees:	SBSE for Early Lifecycle Software Engineering
Apr 2011:	25 attendees:	Security and Code
May 2011:	51 attendees:	SBSE (with focus on Testing)
Jul 2011:	38 attendees:	Genetic Programming for Software Engineering

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typically 25 .. 50 people

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lots of SBSE

Upcoming COWs

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places limited to 34 ...

Oct 24th to 25th 2011: Predictive Models and SBSE

Nov 28th 2011: Code provenance and clone detection

Jan 31st to Feb 1st 2012: Testing and Verification

Upcoming COWs

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Jan 31st to Feb 1st 2012: Testing and Verification

What is SBSE

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let's listen to software engineers ...

... what sort of things do they say?

Software Engineers Say

Software Engineers Say

Software Engineers Say

We need to satisfy business and technical concerns

We need to reduce risk while maintaining completion time

We need increased cohesion and decreased coupling

We need fewer tests that find more nasty bugs

We need to optimise for all metrics M_1, \dots, M_n

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All have been addressed in the SBSE literature

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like code search?

like breadth first search?

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exhaustive

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random

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sweet spot



potentially
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Tabu Search Ant Colonies Particle Swarm Optimization
Hill Climbing Genetic Algorithms
Simulated Annealing Genetic Programming
Greedy LP Random
Estimation of Distribution Algorithms

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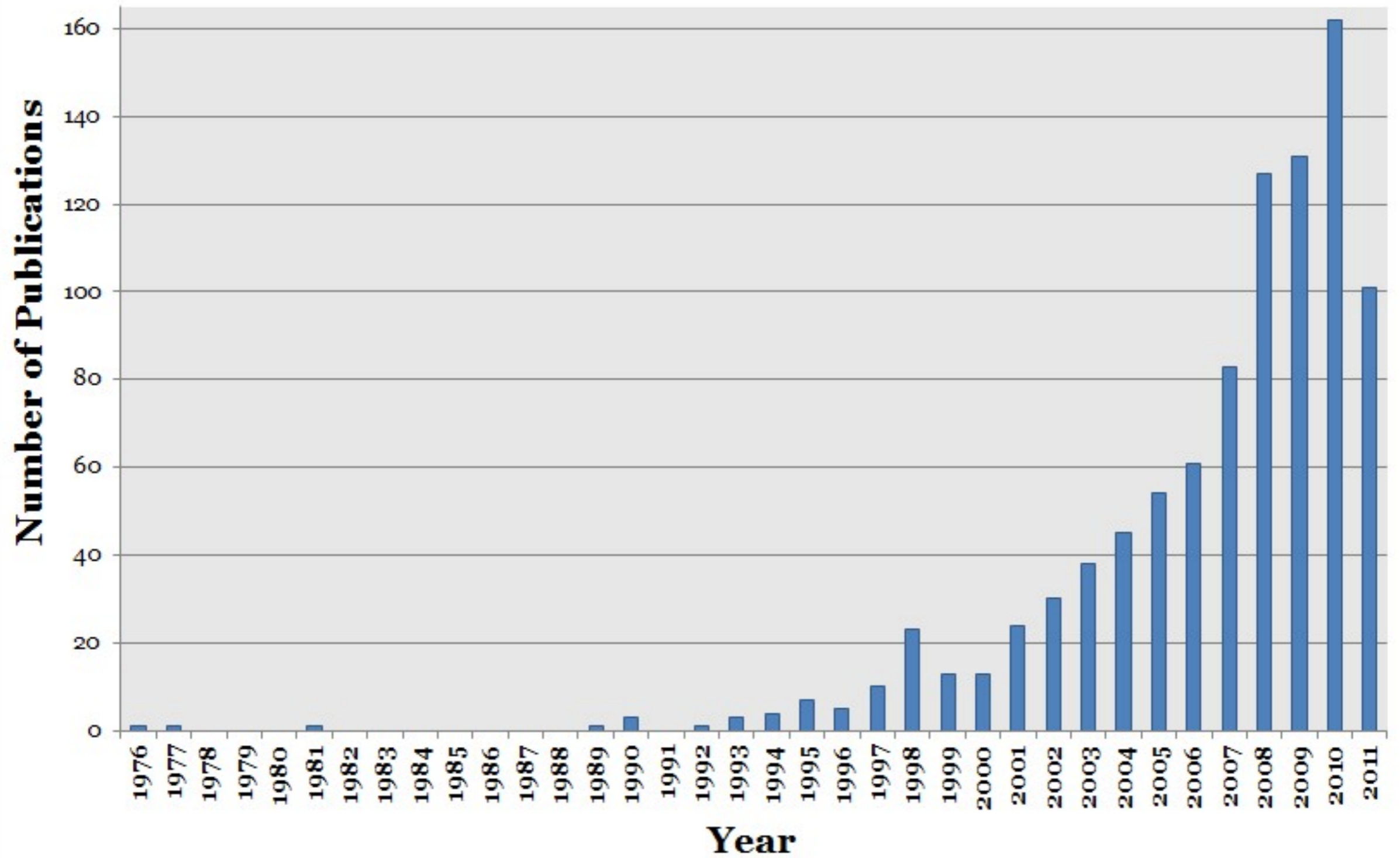
What is SBSE

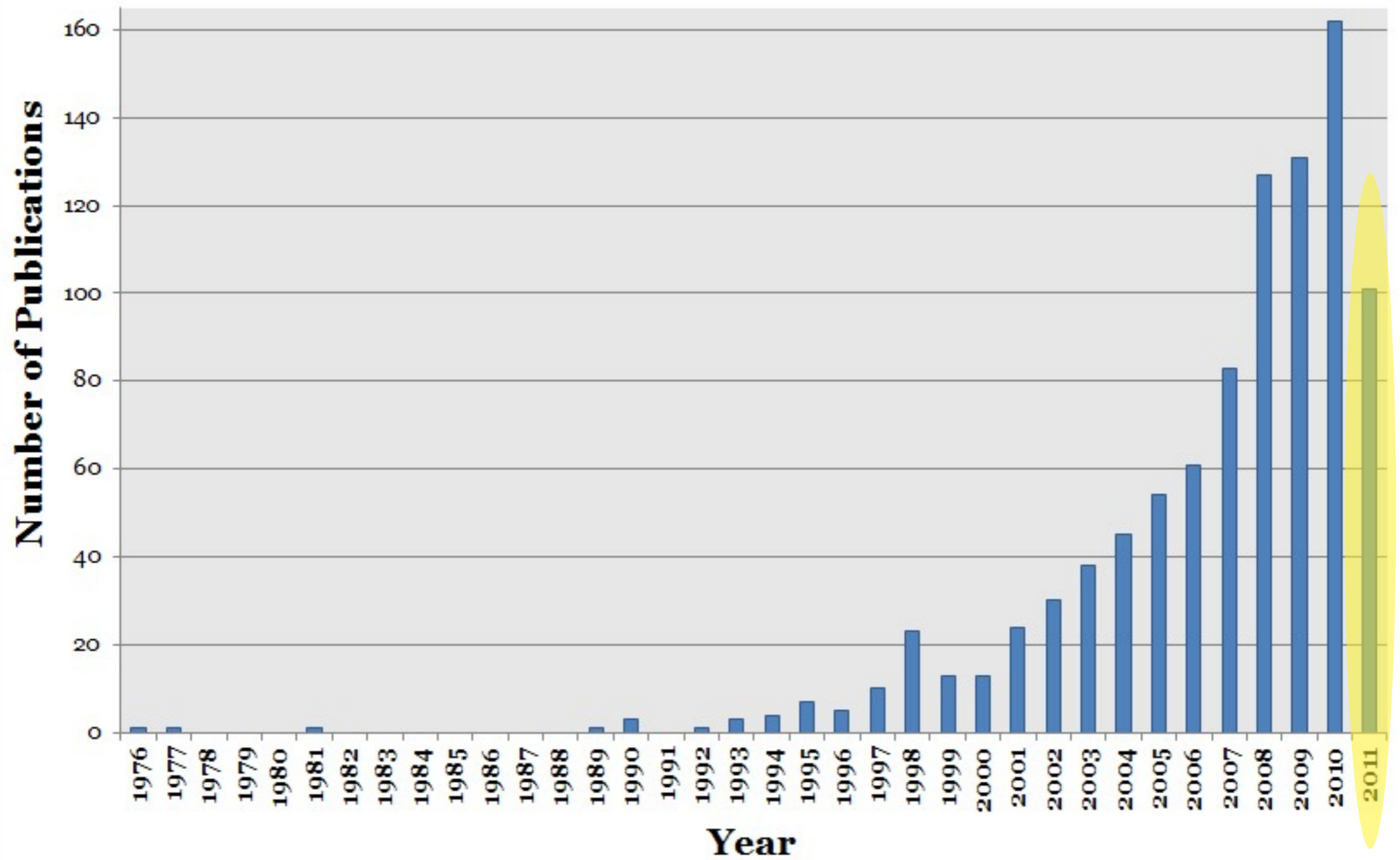
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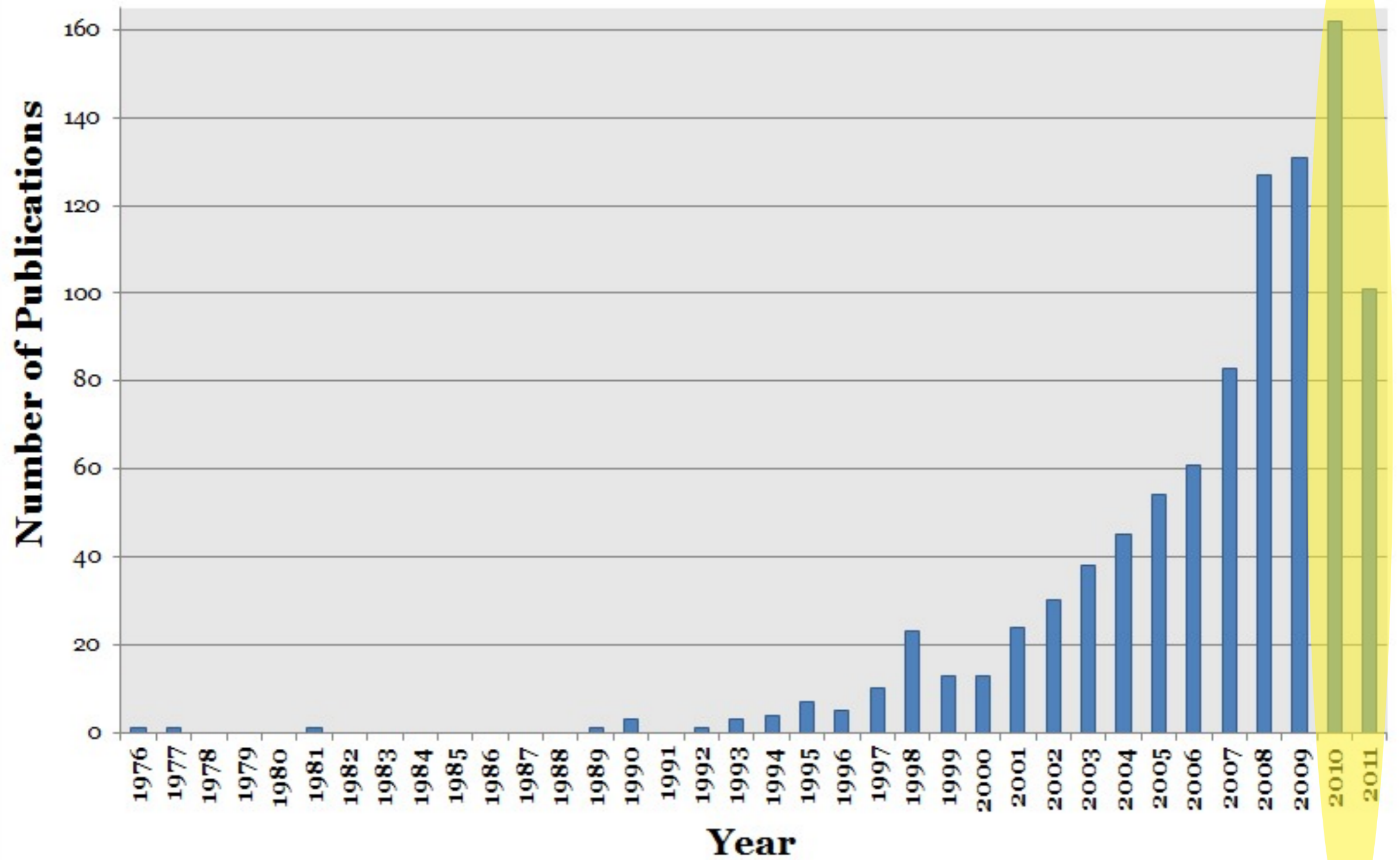
Tabu Search Ant Colonies Particle Swarm Optimization
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Genetic Programming
Simulated Annealing Greedy LP Random
Estimation of Distribution Algorithms

Wes Weimer, ThanVu Nguyen, Claire Le Goues, Stephanie Forrest.
Automatically Finding Patches Using Genetic Programming. ICSE 2009 best paper.

Growth Trends







Essential Ingredients for SBSE

Essential Ingredients for SBSE

Representation

Essential Ingredients for SBSE

Representation

Fitness Function

Essential Ingredients for SBSE

Representation

Fitness Function



The advantages of SBSE

The advantages of SBSE

The advantages of SBSE



Insight-rich



Scalable



Robust



Generic



Realistic

The advantages of SBSE



Insight-rich



Scalable



Robust



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Realistic

The advantages of SBSE



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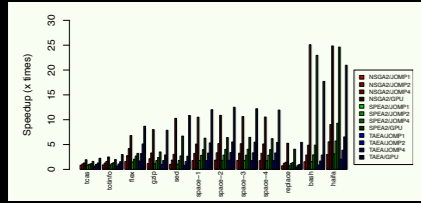


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The advantages of SBSE



Scalable



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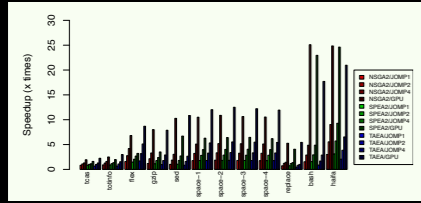


Generic



Realistic

The advantages of SBSE



Shin Yoo



Scalable



Insight-rich



Robust



Generic



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The advantages of SBSE



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Realistic

The advantages of SBSE



Márcio Barros



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Scalable



Robust



Generic



Realistic

The advantages of SBSE



$$\text{avg}\{f(y)\}_{y \in N(x)} = \frac{1}{|N(x)|} \sum_{y \in N(x)} f(y)$$

Márcio Barros

Insight-rich



Scalable



Robust

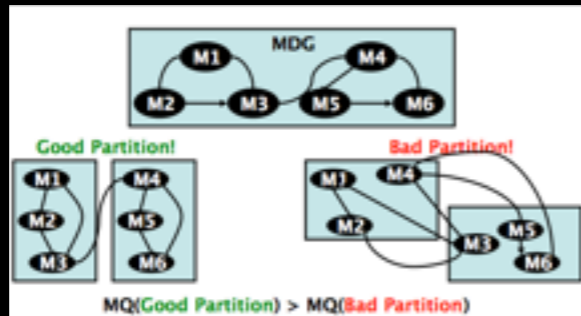


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Márcio Barros



Insight-rich

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Javier Ferrer



Scalable



Robust



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Insight-rich



Scalable



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Insight-rich



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The advantages of SBSE



Insight-rich



Scalable



Robust



Gay, Menzies et al.



Generic



Realistic

The advantages of SBSE



Insight-rich



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Scalable



Robust



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Realistic

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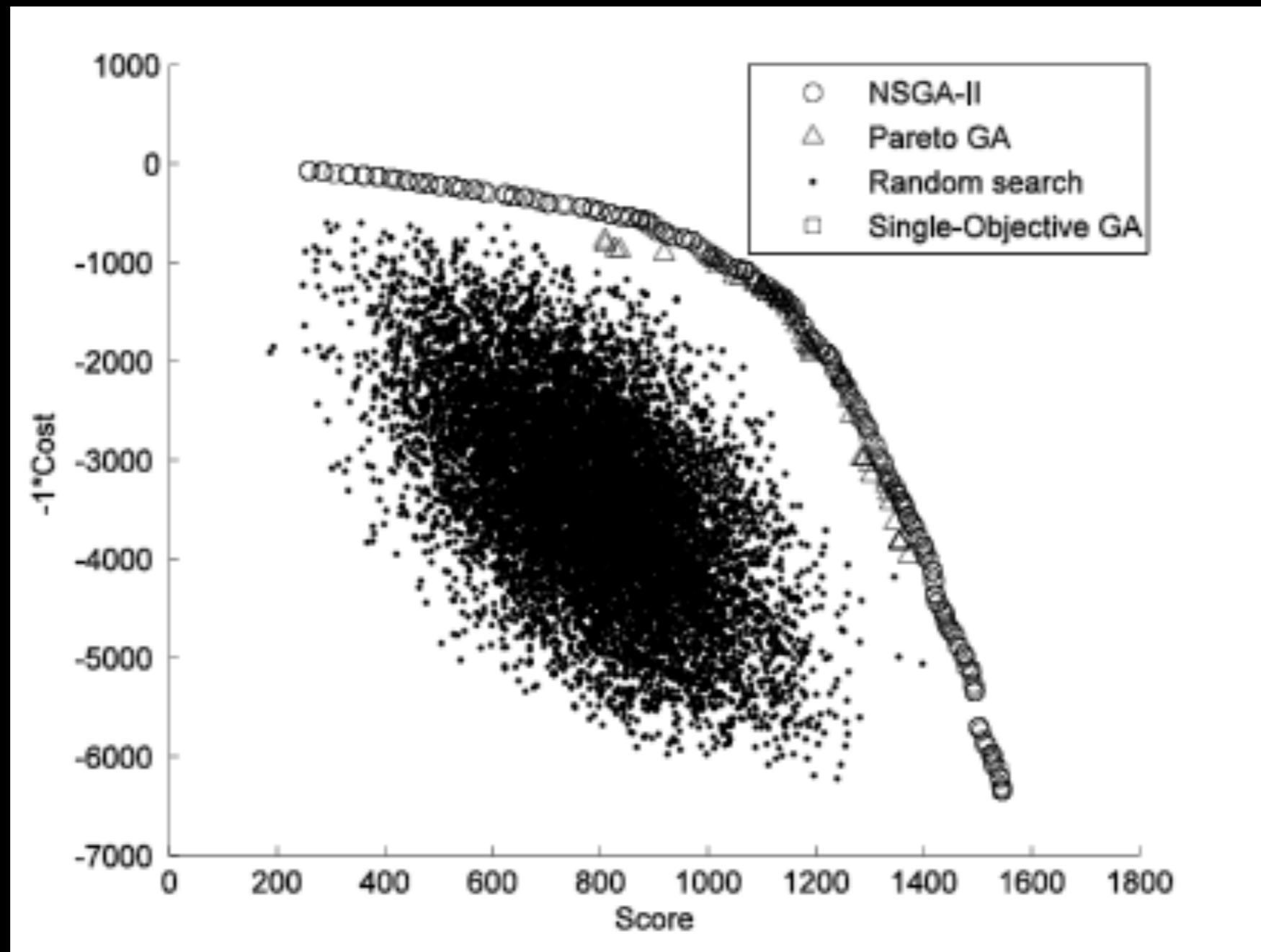
quick look at these two ...

SBSE for Requirements

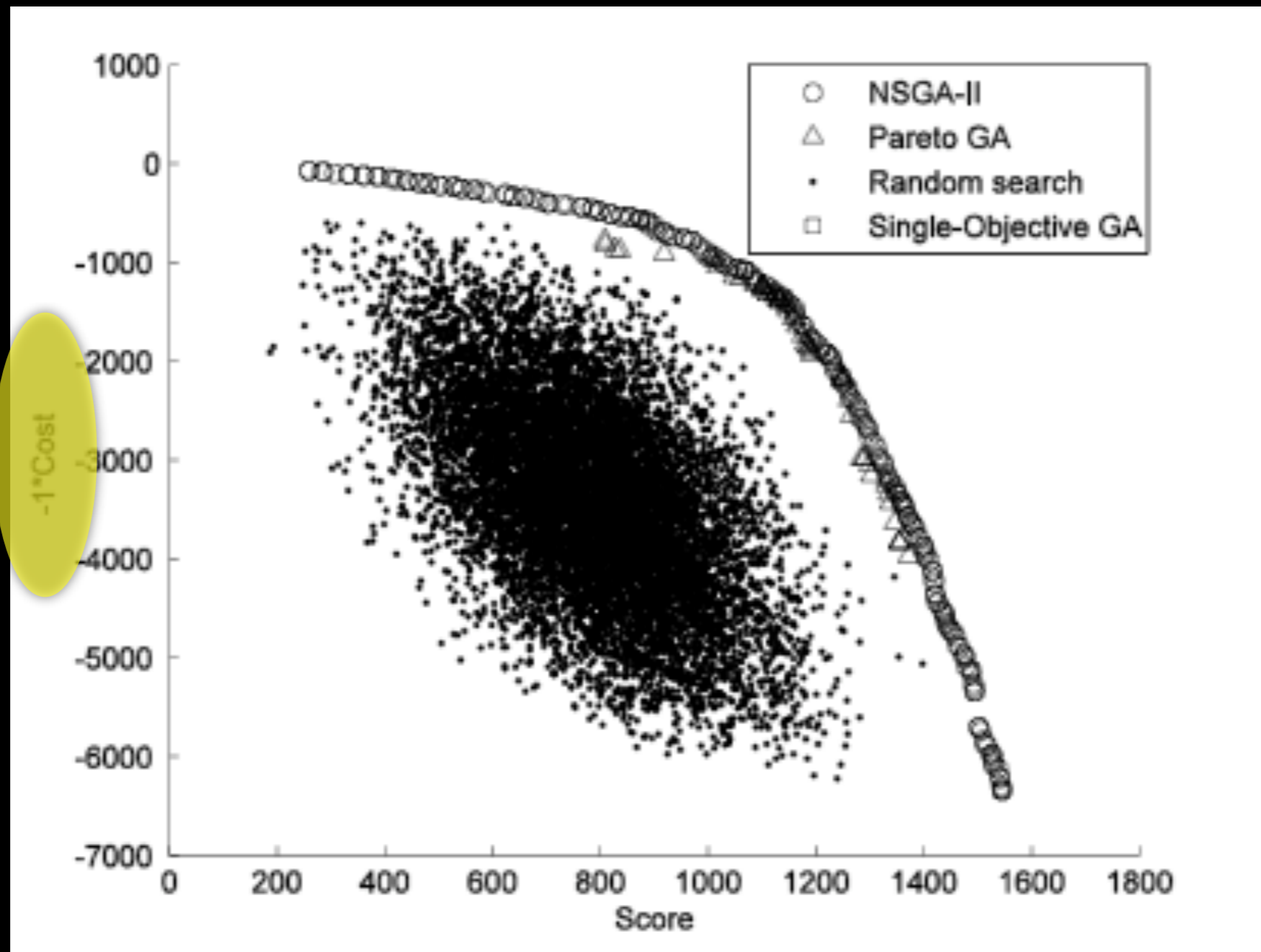




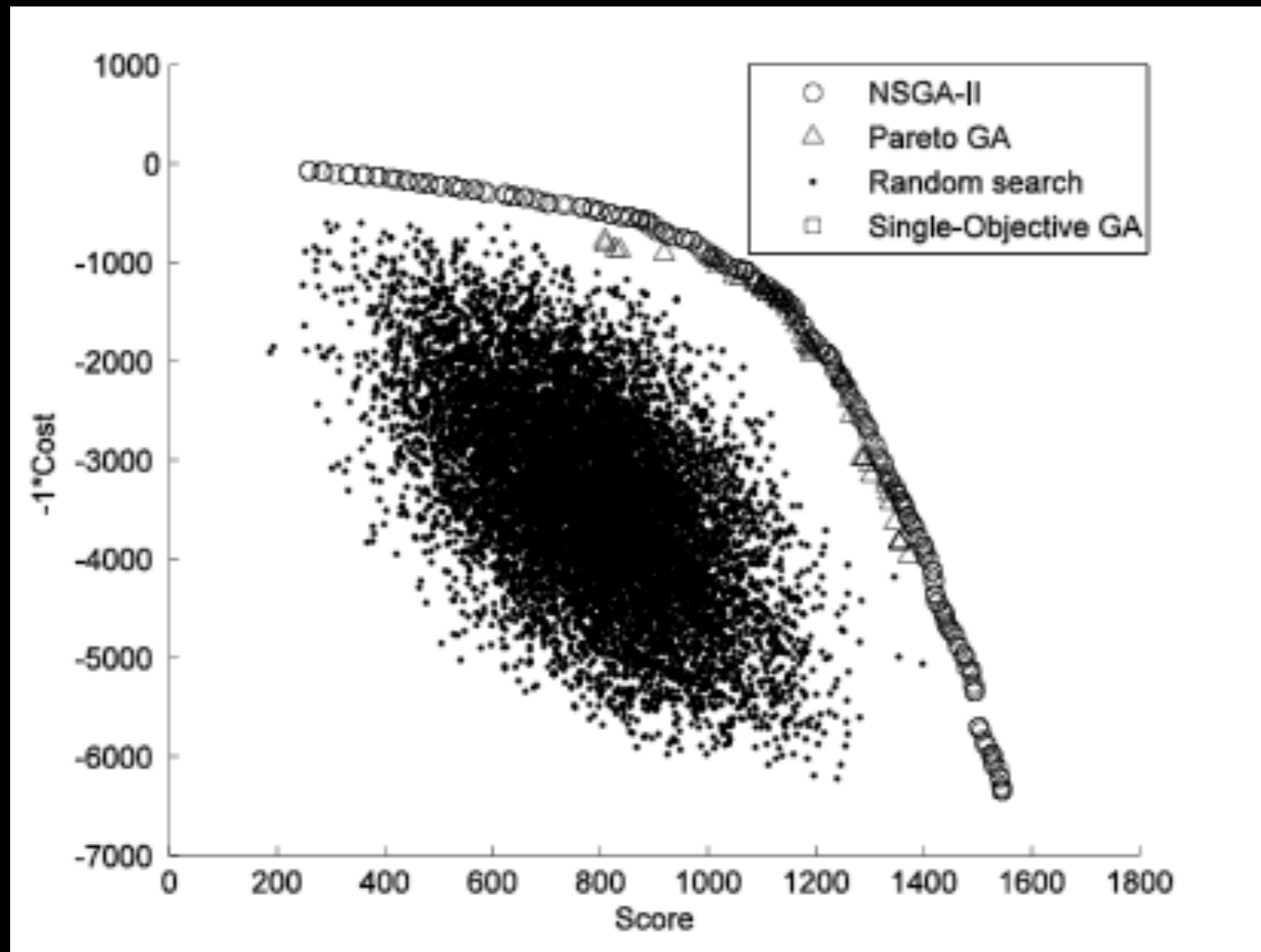
Motorola Cell Phone Requirements



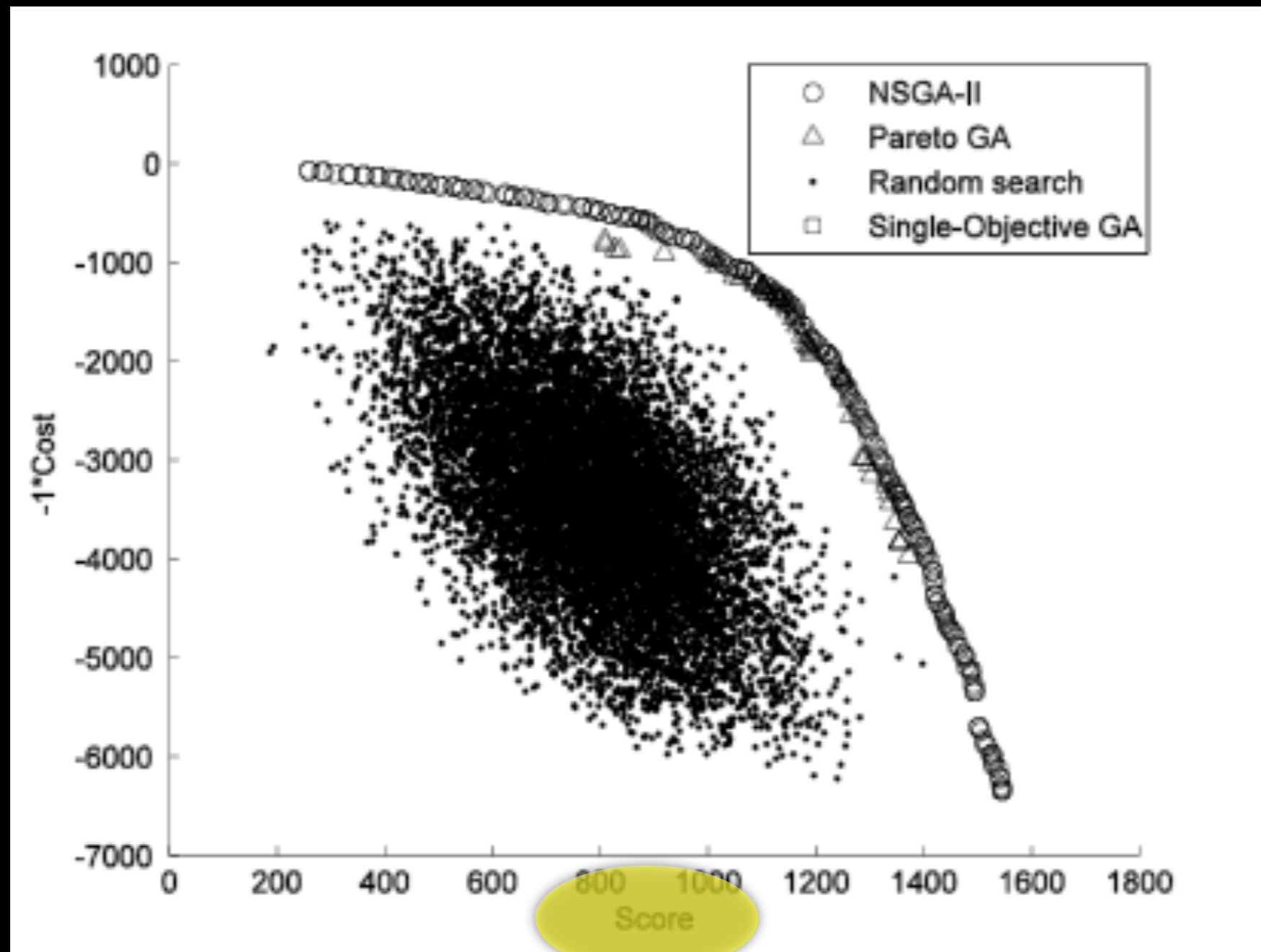
Motorola Cell Phone Requirements



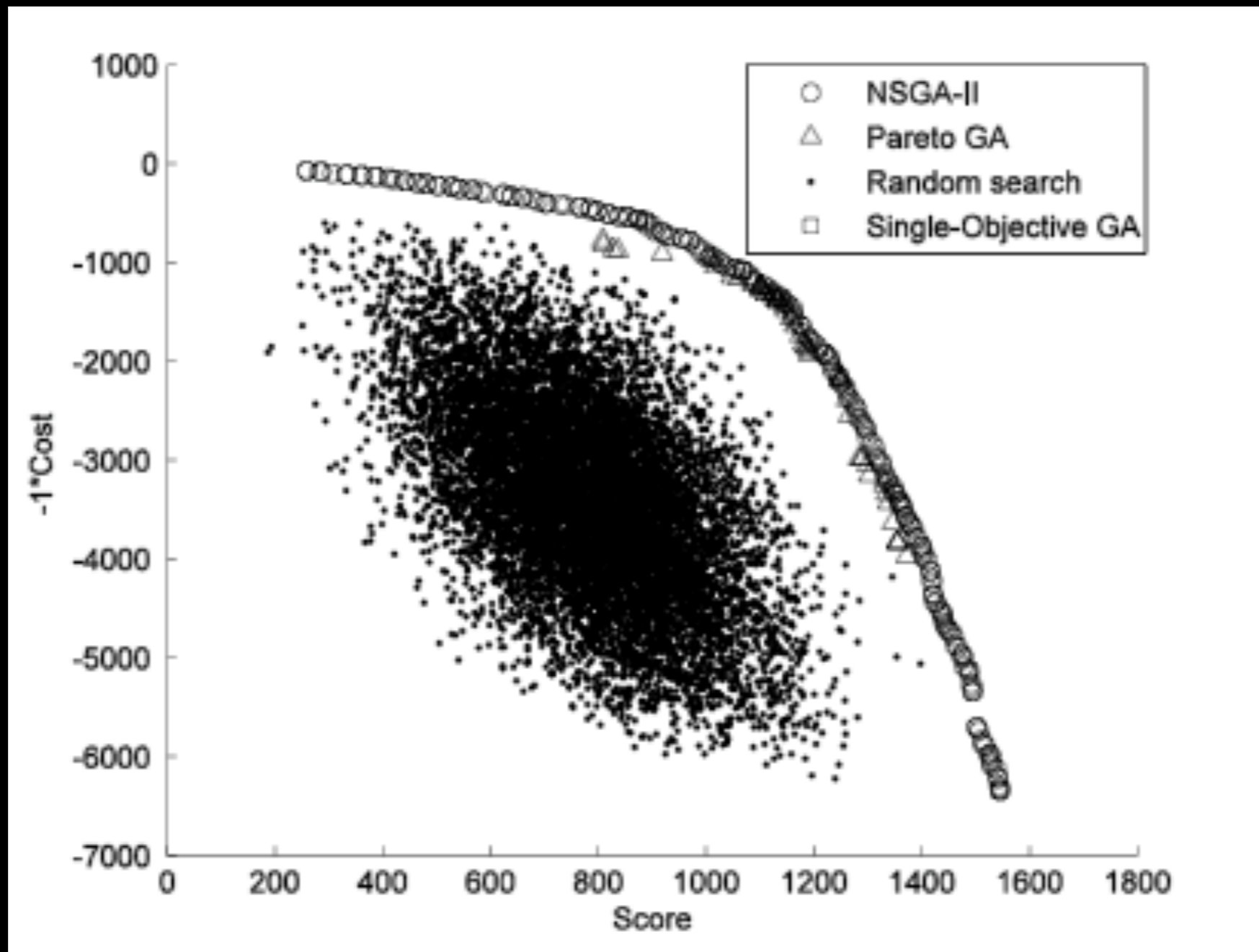
Motorola Cell Phone Requirements



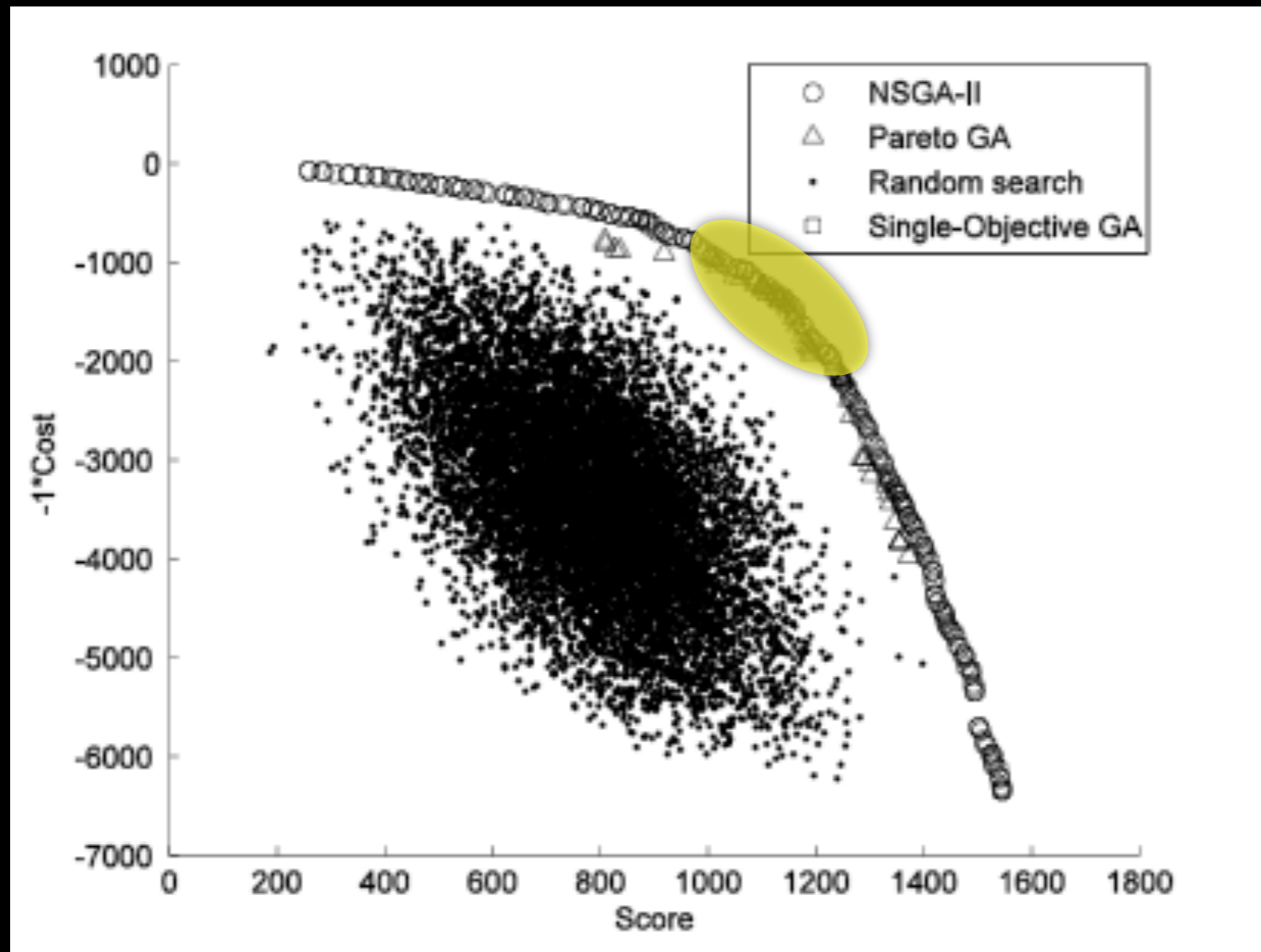
Motorola Cell Phone Requirements



Motorola Cell Phone Requirements



Motorola Cell Phone Requirements



SBSE for Regression Testing

Growth Trends

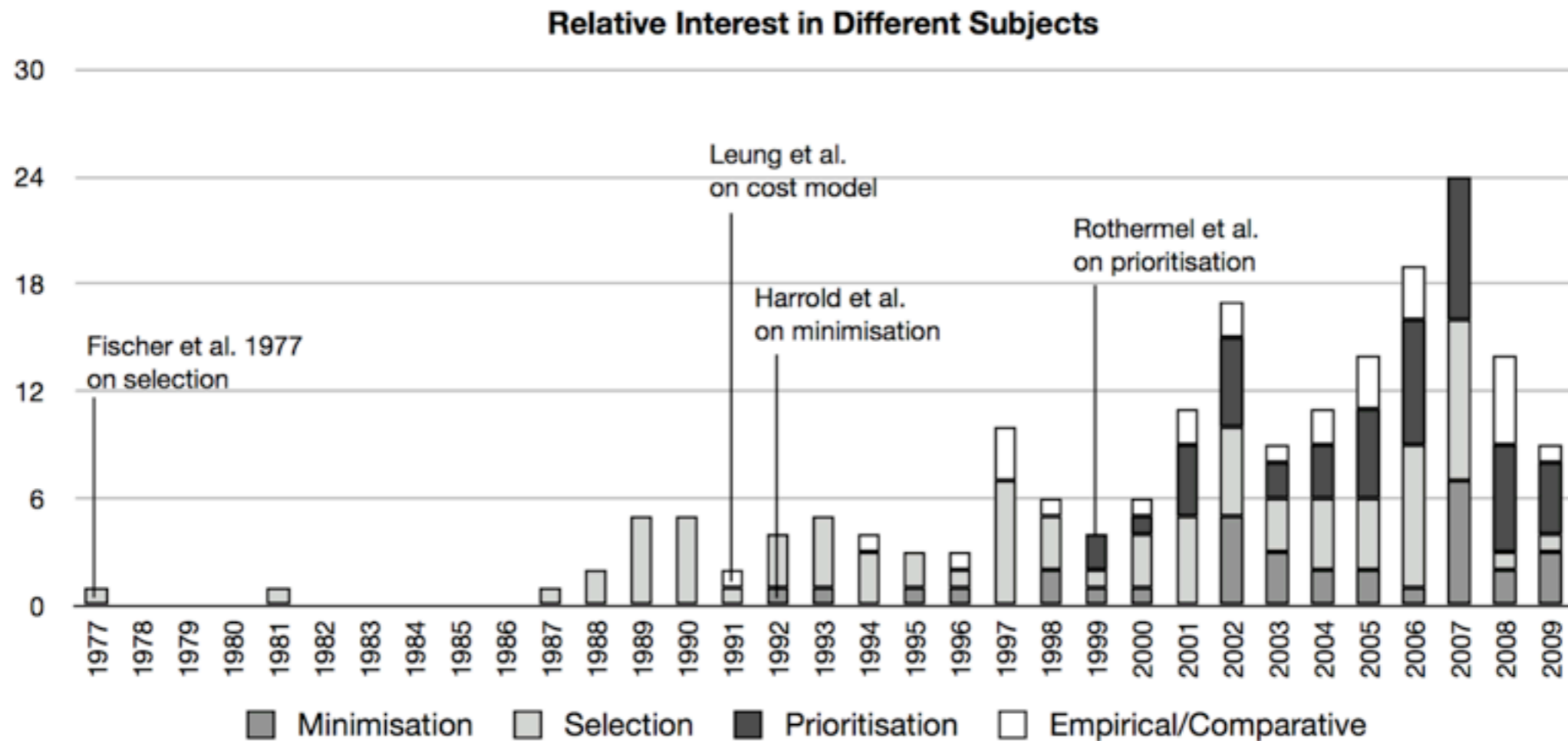


Figure 3. Relative research interest in each subject. Papers that consider more than one subject were counted multiple times.

Taken from forthcoming STVR survey
by Shin Yoo and Mark Harman

Recently at FSE ...

industry track

Wednesday 7th September

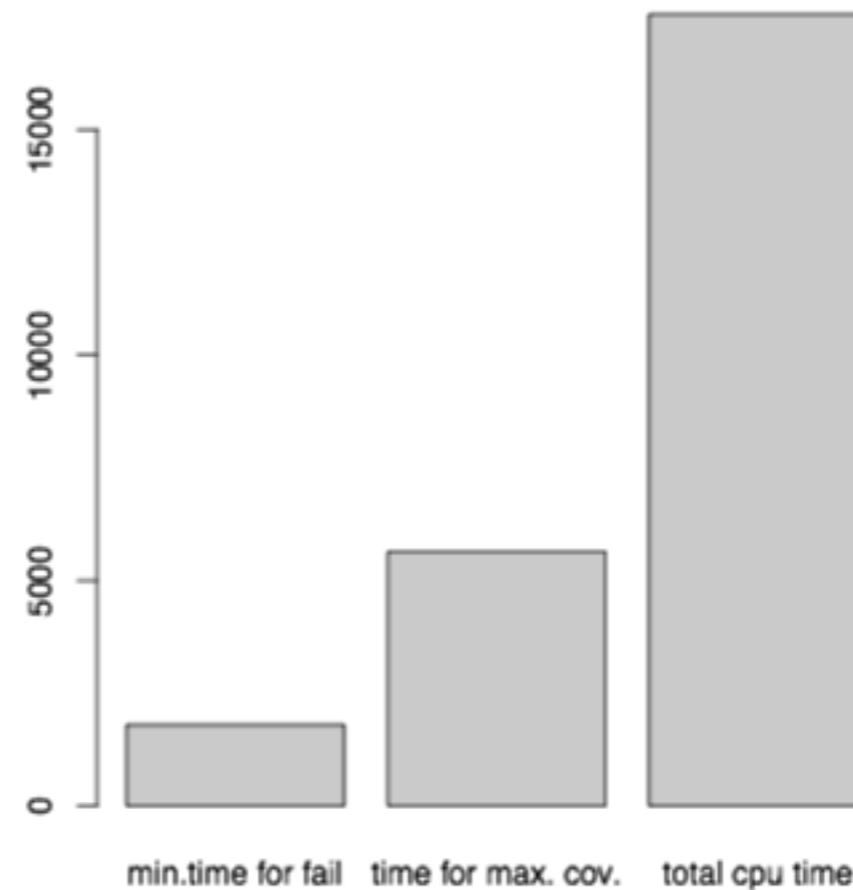
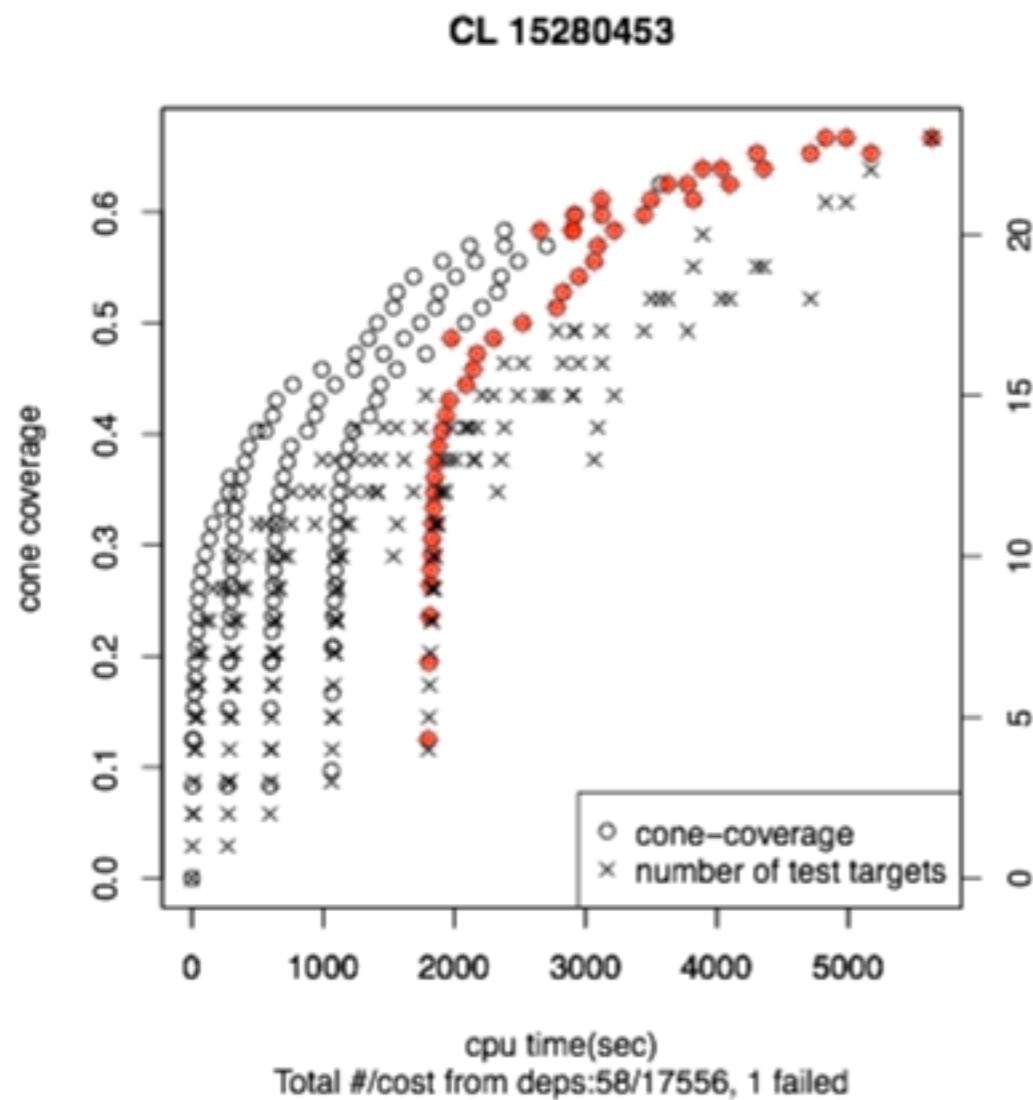
FSE Lecture room 1, 4pm slot: Industrial track 3 - Software Testing

Shin Yoo, Robert Nilsson and Mark Harman

***Faster Fault Finding at Google using
Multi Objective Regression Test Optimisation***



Google CLs (FSE 2011)



Realism

Multi Objective SBSE:

Mark Harman

The Current State and Future of Search Based Software Engineering.

ICSE Future of Software Engineering: 342-357, 2007

MORTO agenda

Cost

Value

Constraints

MORTO agenda

Mark Harman

Making the Case for MORTO: Multi Objective Regression Test
Optimization (invited paper)

The 1st International Workshop on Regression Testing (Regression 2011)
Berlin, Germany, March 2011.

MORTO agenda

Cost : pick at least one

Value : pick at least one

Constraints



MORTO agenda

Cost

Value

Constraints

Cost Objectives



Cost Objectives

Execution Time



Cost Objectives

Execution Time

Data Access Costs



Cost Objectives

Execution Time

Data Access Costs

Third Party Costs



Cost Objectives

Execution Time

Data Access Costs

Third Party Costs

Technical resource Costs



Cost Objectives

Execution Time

Data Access Costs

Third Party Costs

Technical resource Costs

Set up Costs



Cost Objectives

Execution Time

Data Access Costs

Third Party Costs

Technical resource Costs

Set up Costs

Simulation Costs



MORTO agenda

Cost

Value

Constraints

Value Objectives

```
/* Configure PORTA (B<4-0> as input
movlw 0x1f
tris PORTA
; Configure Port B<7-0> as output
movlw 0
tris PORTB
movlw 0x20
movwf PORTB
endasm

delay_sec(1); /* wait a second before processing data */
idle = 0;
digits = 0;
data_read = 0;
while (1) {
    data = RdPortA();
    if (data & UALID) { /* if valid line set */
        idle = 0;
        if (data_read == 0) { /* if digit not processed yet */
            data &= 0xf;
            if (data == 12) { /* if # key */
                if (digits == 4 && /* check code */
                    digit1 == CODE1 &&
                    digit2 == CODE2 &&
                    digit3 == CODE3 &&
                    digit4 == CODE4) {
                    WrPortB(0x10); /* set B<4> if correct code
                    delay_sec(2);
                }
                WrPortB(0x0); /* reset */
                digits = 0;
                data_read = 0;
            } else {
                digits++; /* save the digit */
                data_read = 1;
                if (digits == 1) {
```

Value Objectives

Code Coverage

```
/* Configure Port A (<4-0> as input
noulw 0x1f
tris   PORTA
; Configure Port B (<7-0> as output
noulw 0
tris   PORTB
noulw 0x20
noulw 0x20
noulw 0x20
noulw 0x20
noulw 0x20
noulw 0x20
noulw 0x20
noulw 0x20
endasm

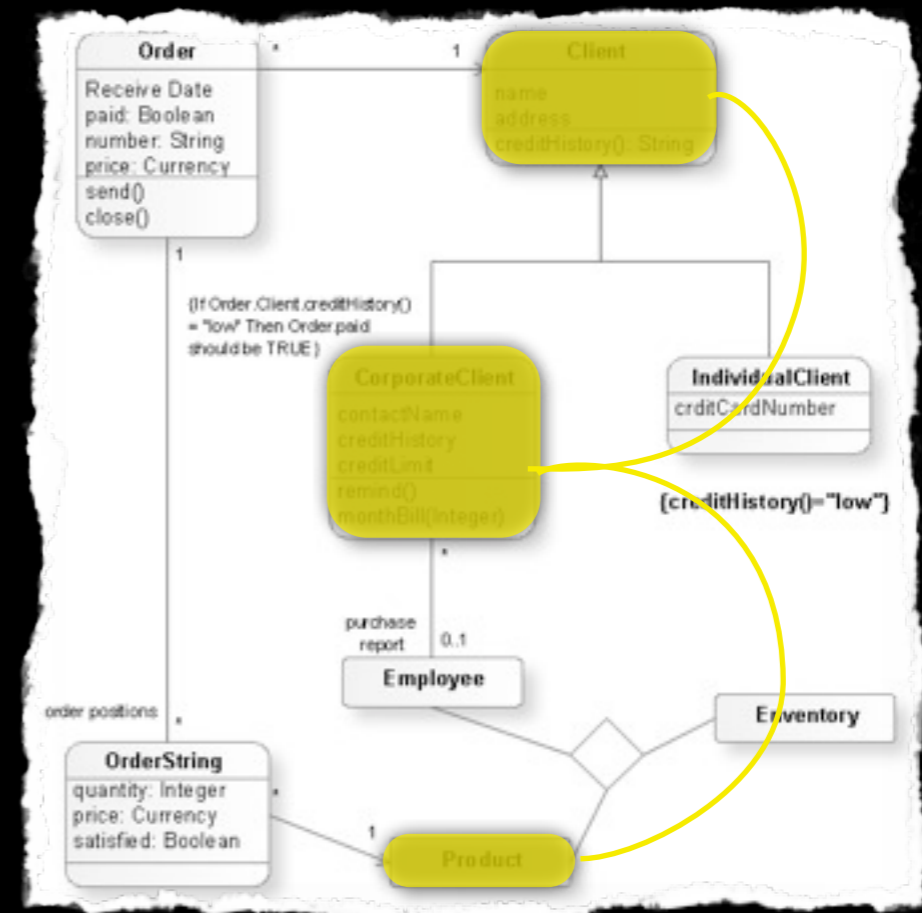
delay_sec(1); /* wait a second before processing data */
while (1) {
  data = RdPortA();
  if (data & 0x01) { /* if valid line set */
    if (data_read == 0) { /* if digit not processed yet */
      data_read = data;
      if (data == 12) { /* if # key */
        if (digits == 4) { /* check code */
          digit1 == CODE1 &&
          digit2 == CODE2 &&
          digit3 == CODE3 &&
          digit4 == CODE4 &&
          WrPortB(0x10); /* set B<4> if correct code */
          delay_sec(2);
        }
        WrPortB(0x00); /* reset */
        digits = 0;
        data_read = 0;
      } else {
        digits++; /* save the digit */
        data_read = 0;
        if (digits == 1) {

```

Value Objectives

Code Coverage

Non Code Coverage



Value Objectives

Code Coverage

Non Code Coverage

Fault Model Sensitive



Value Objectives

Code Coverage

Non Code Coverage

Fault Model Sensitive

Fault history Sensitive



Value Objectives

Code Coverage

Non Code Coverage

Fault Model Sensitive

Fault history Sensitive

Human Sensitive



Value Objectives

Code Coverage

Non Code Coverage

Fault Model Sensitive

Fault history Sensitive

Human Sensitive

Business Sensitive



MORTO agenda

Cost

Value

Constraints

Constraints

Precedence

Conjunction

Exclusion

Dependence



... add constraints to your taste

Constraints

Precedence

Conjunction

Exclusion

Dependence



... some tests come before others

Constraints

Precedence

Conjunction

Exclusion

Dependence



... some tests just go together

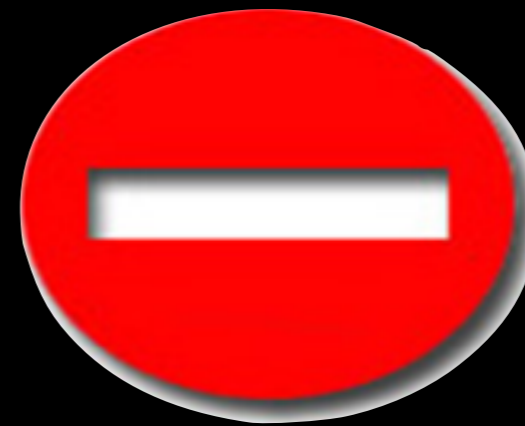
Constraints

Precedence

Conjunction

Exclusion

Dependence



BLOCKED

... some tests can't go together

Constraints

Precedence

Conjunction

Exclusion

Dependence



... some tests depend on others

SBSE Unites ...

SBSE is so generic

SBSE is so generic

Test generation

Fitness function: time ...

Representation: input vector

SBSE is so generic

Test generation

Fitness function: time ...

Representation: input vector

Requirements

Fitness function: cost, value ...

Representation: bitset of requirements

SBSE is so generic

Test generation

Fitness function: time ...

Representation: input vector

Requirements

Fitness function: cost, value ...

Representation: bitset of requirements

Regression

Fitness function: coverage, time, faults

Representation: bitset of test cases

SBSE is so generic

Test generation

Fitness function: time ...

Representation: input vector

Requirements

Fitness function: cost, value ...

Representation: bitset of requirements

Regression

Fitness function: coverage, time, faults

Representation: bitset of test cases

SBSE is so generic

Survey:

Mark Harman, Afshin Mansouri and Yuanyuan Zhang,

Search Based Software Engineering: A Comprehensive Analysis and Review of Trends Techniques and Applications

Technical Report TR-09-03, King's College London, 2009

SBSE is so generic

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Survey:

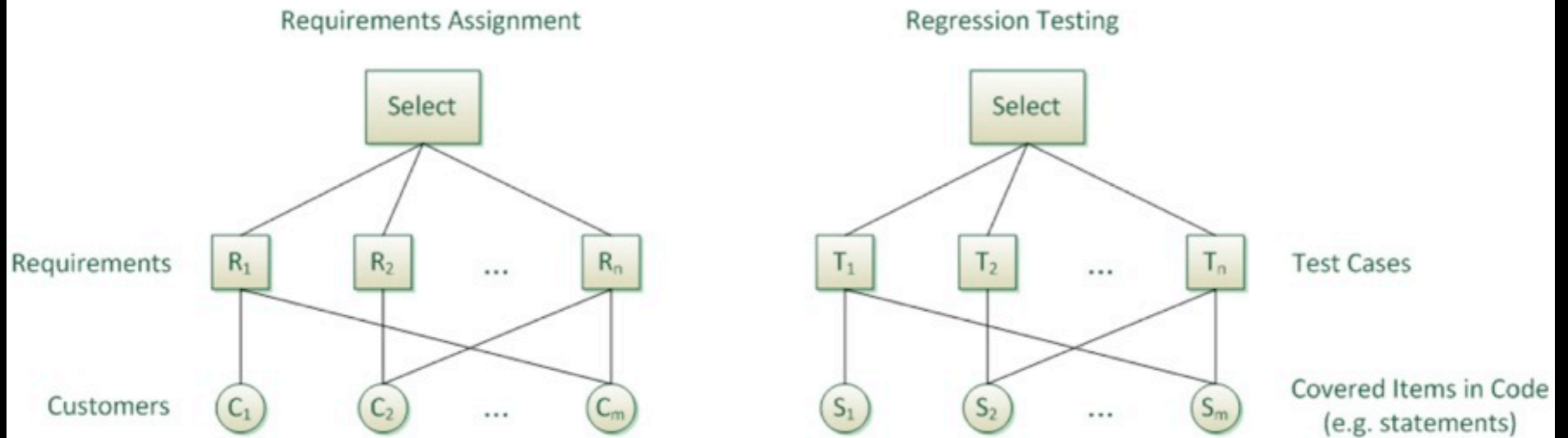
Mark Harman, Afshin Mansouri and Yuanyuan Zhang,

Search Based Software Engineering: A Comprehensive Analysis and Review of Trends Techniques and Applications

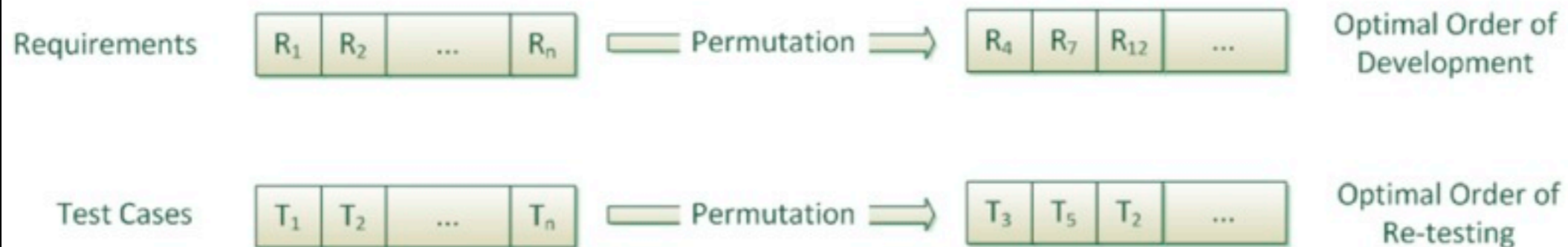
Technical Report TR-09-03, King's College London, 2009

Now to appear in ACM Surveys.

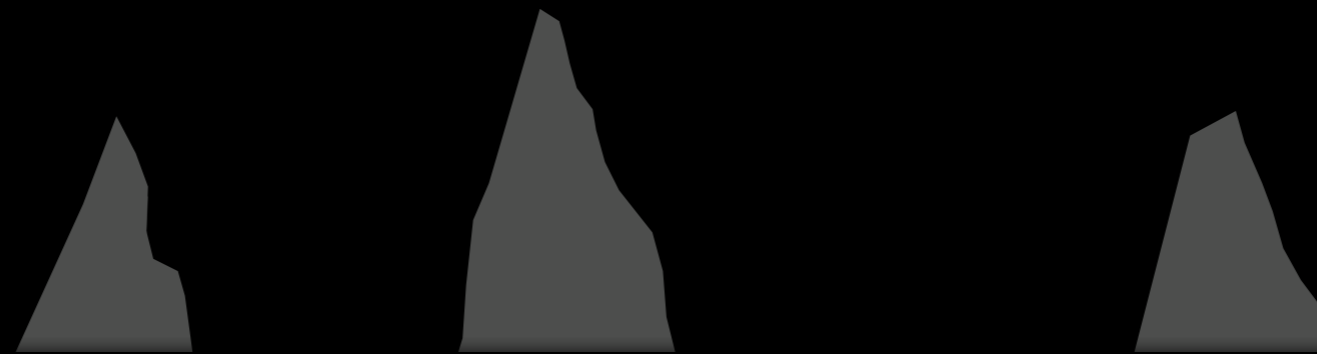
Selection Problems



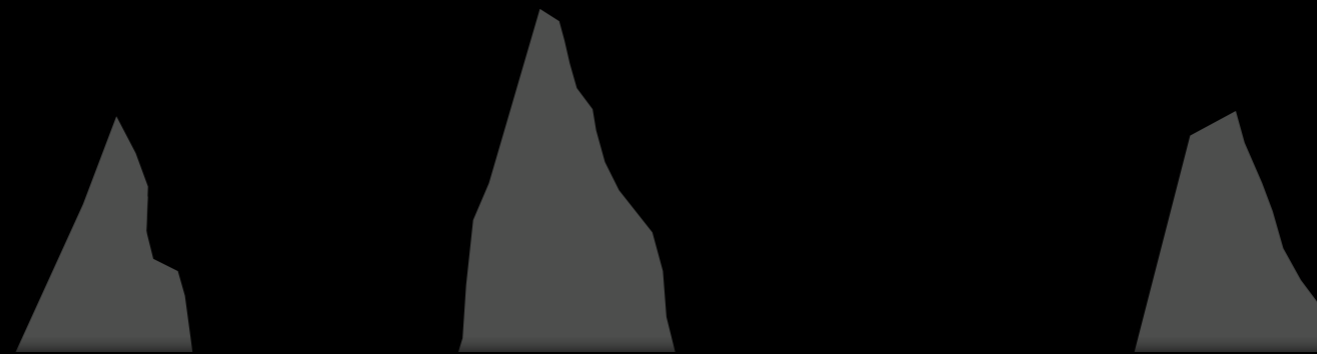
Prioritization Problems



Requirements and regression testing:



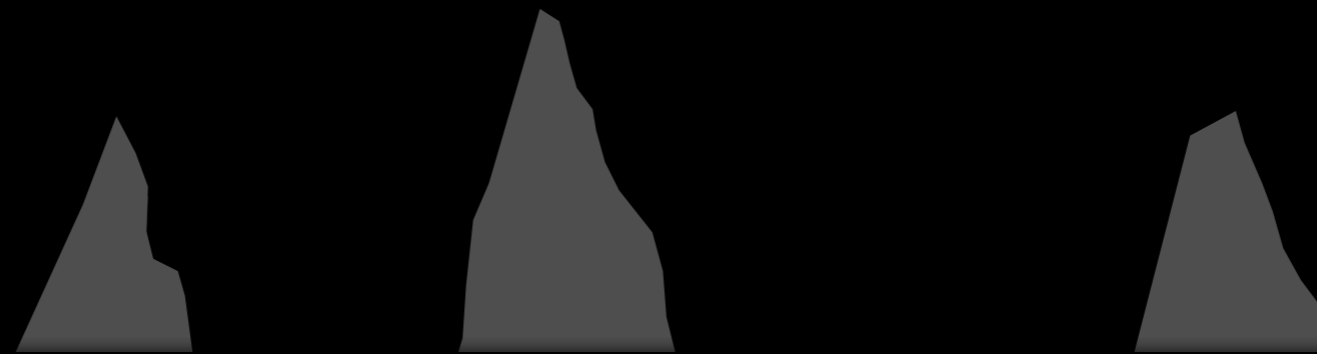
Requirements and regression testing:



A l o n e

Requirements and regression testing:

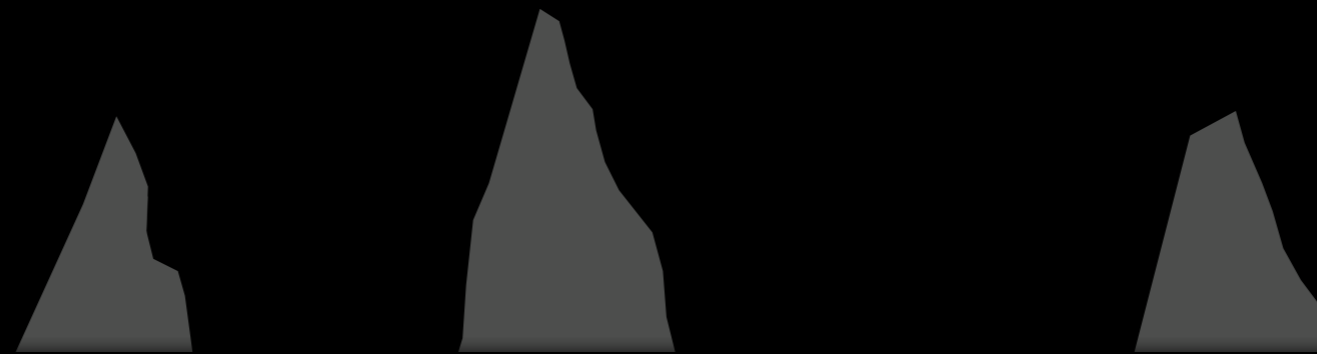
Requirements



A l o n e

Requirements and regression testing:

Requirements
early phase



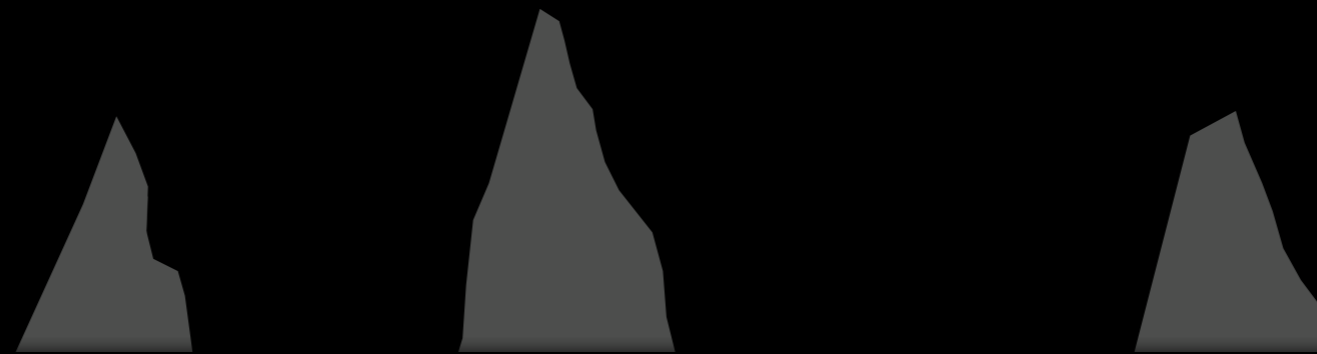
A l o n e

Requirements and regression testing:

Requirements

early phase

RE



A l o n e

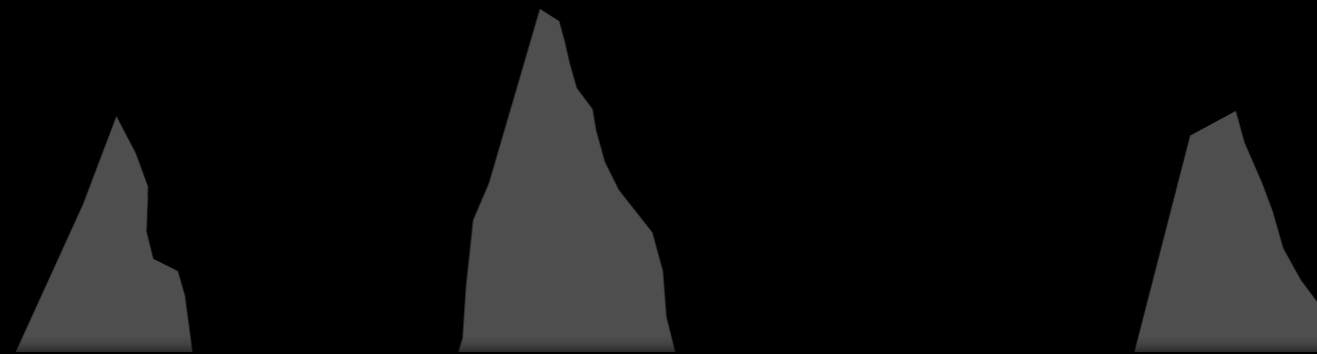
Requirements and regression testing:

Requirements

early phase

RE

REFSQ



A l o n e

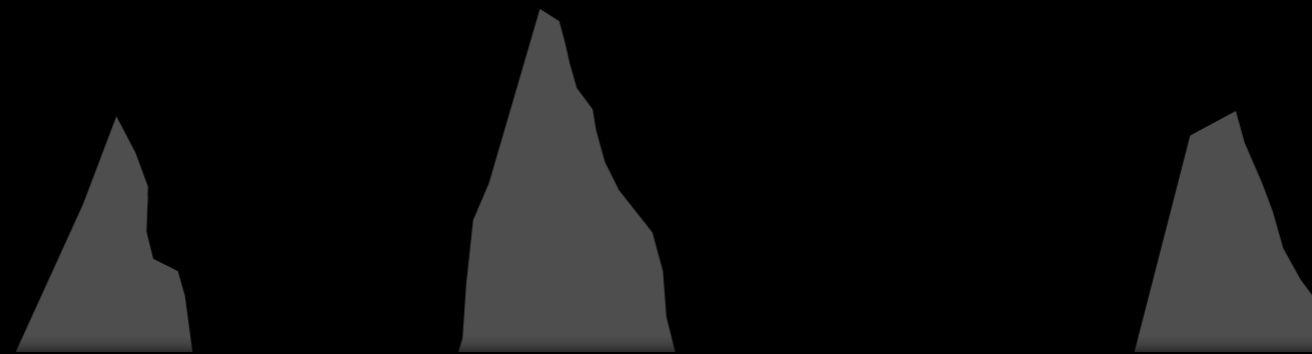
Requirements and regression testing:

Requirements

early phase

RE

REFSQ



Regression

A l o n e

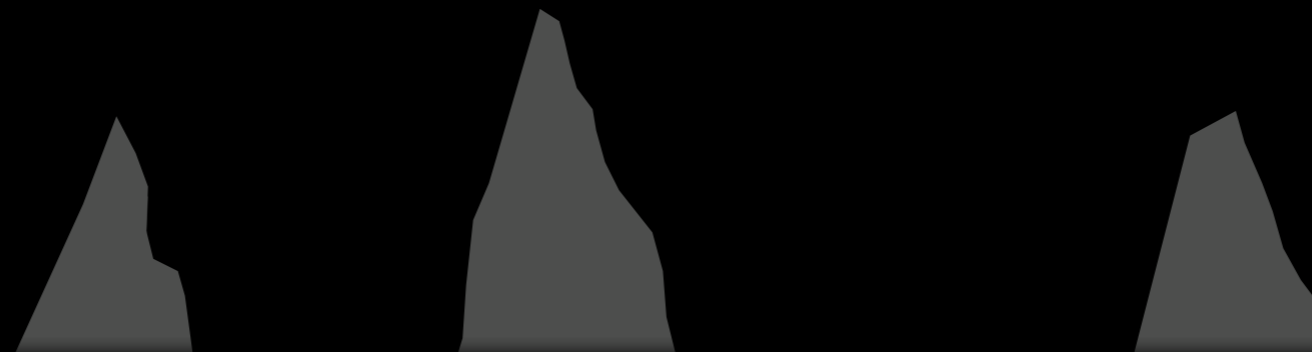
Requirements and regression testing:

Requirements

early phase

RE

REFSQ



Regression

late phase

A l o n e

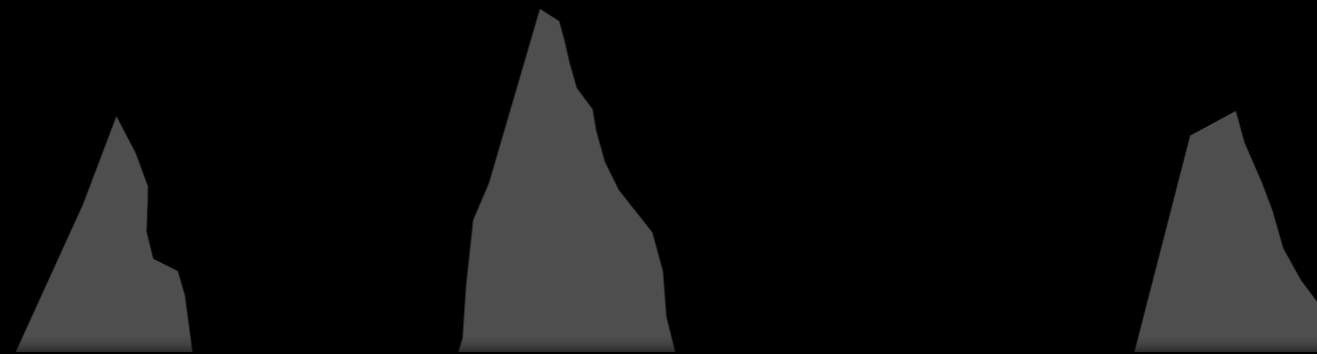
Requirements and regression testing:

Requirements

early phase

RE

REFSQ



Regression

late phase

ICST

A l o n e

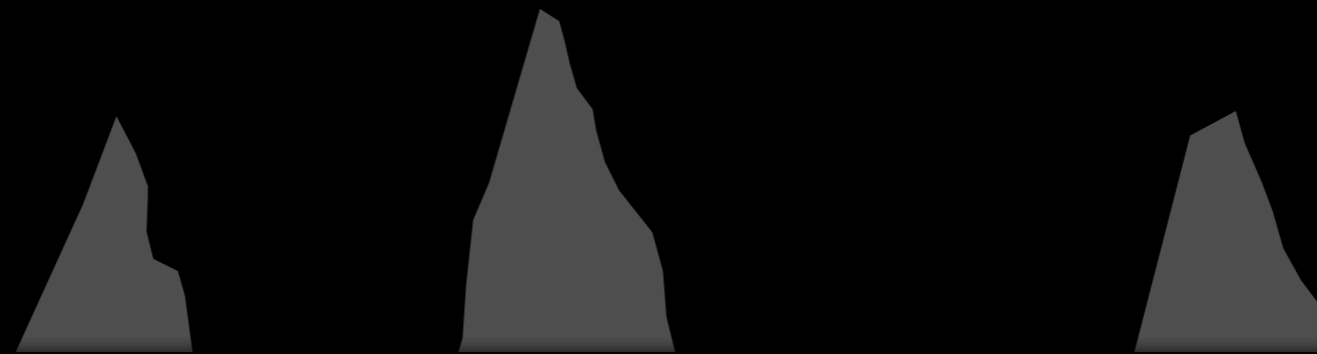
Requirements and regression testing:

Requirements

early phase

RE

REFSQ



Regression

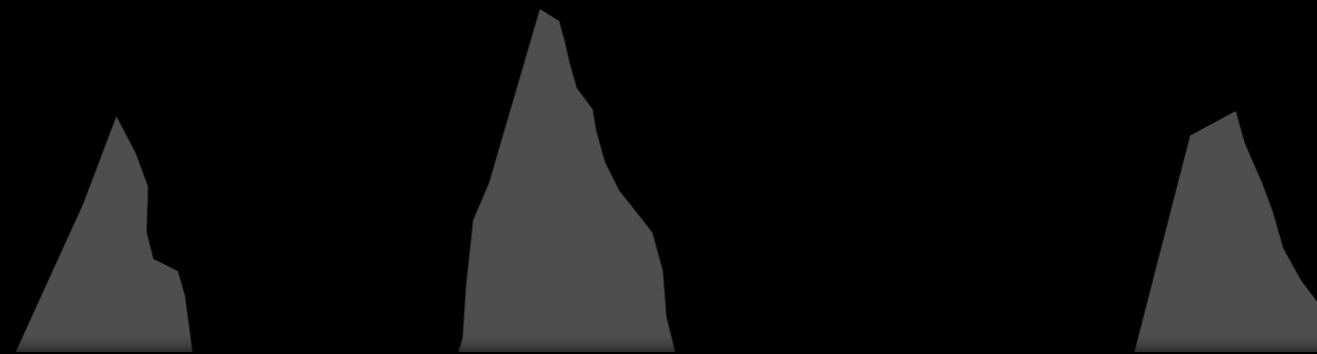
late phase

ICST

ISSTA

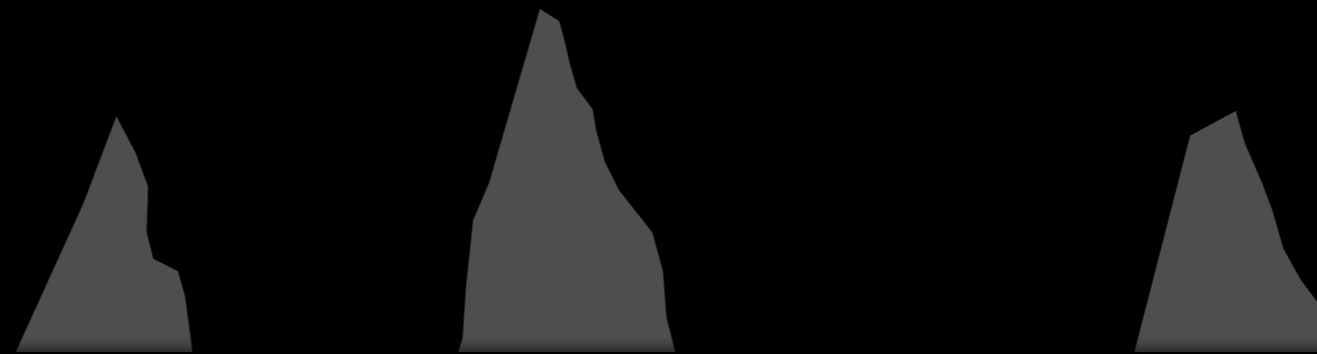
A l o n e

Requirements and regression testing: really different ?



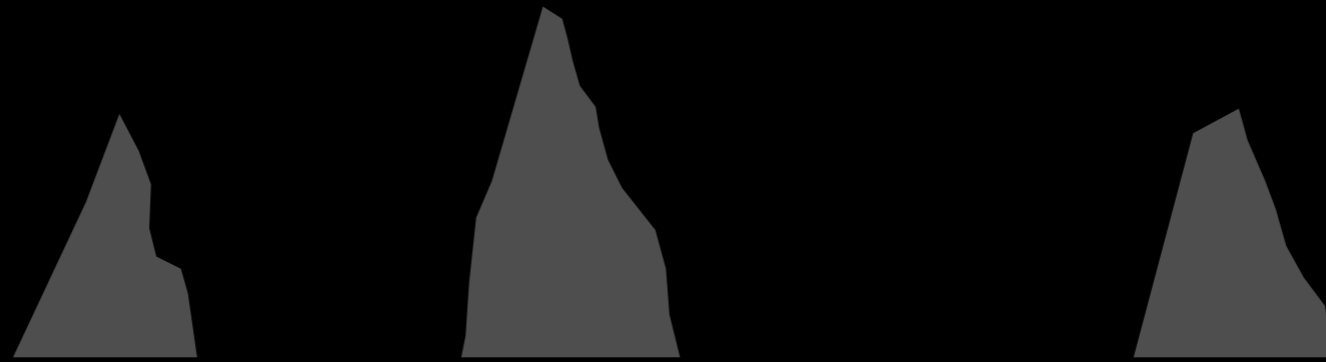
A l o n e

Requirements and regression testing: really different ?



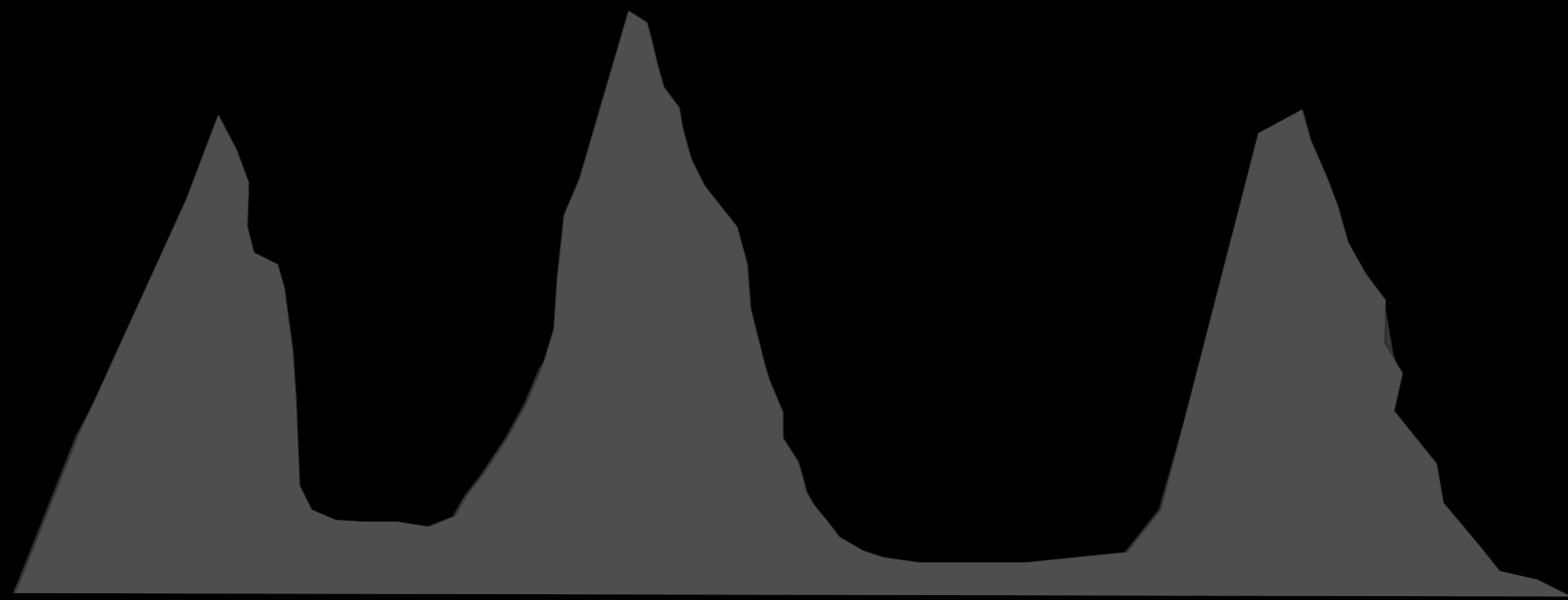
A l o n e

Requirements and regression testing: really different ?



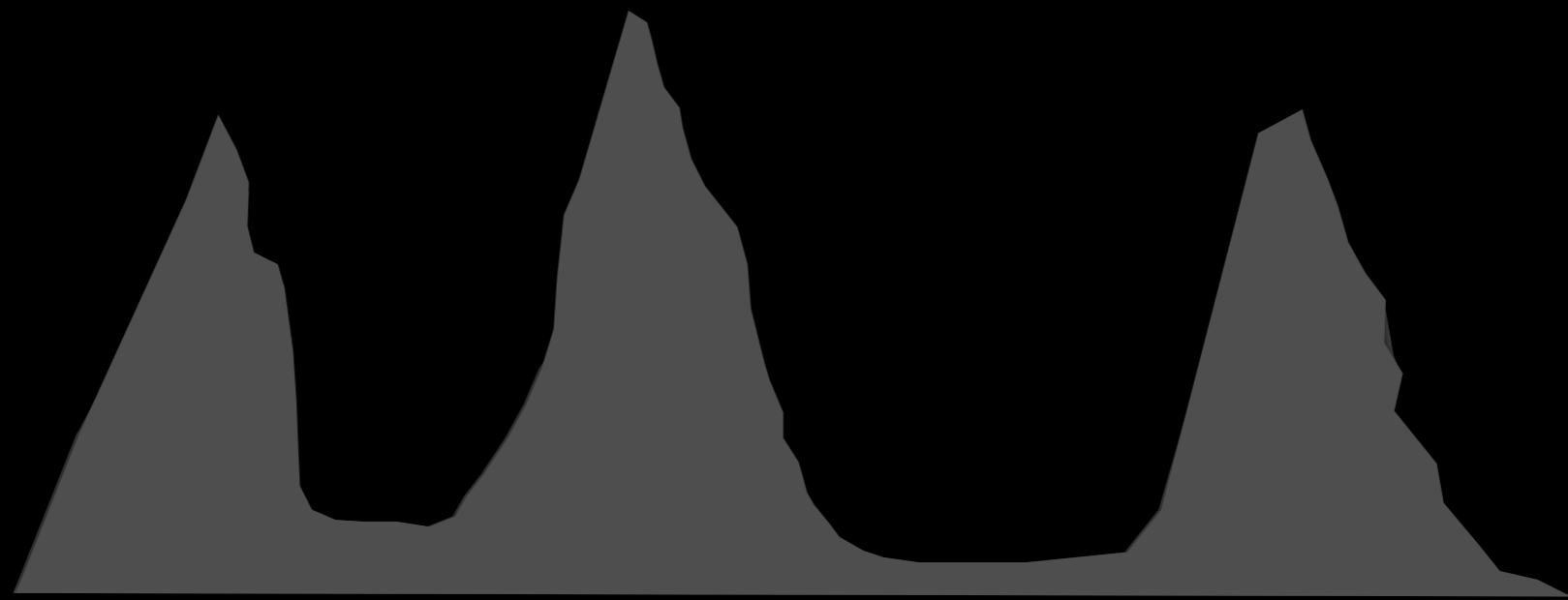
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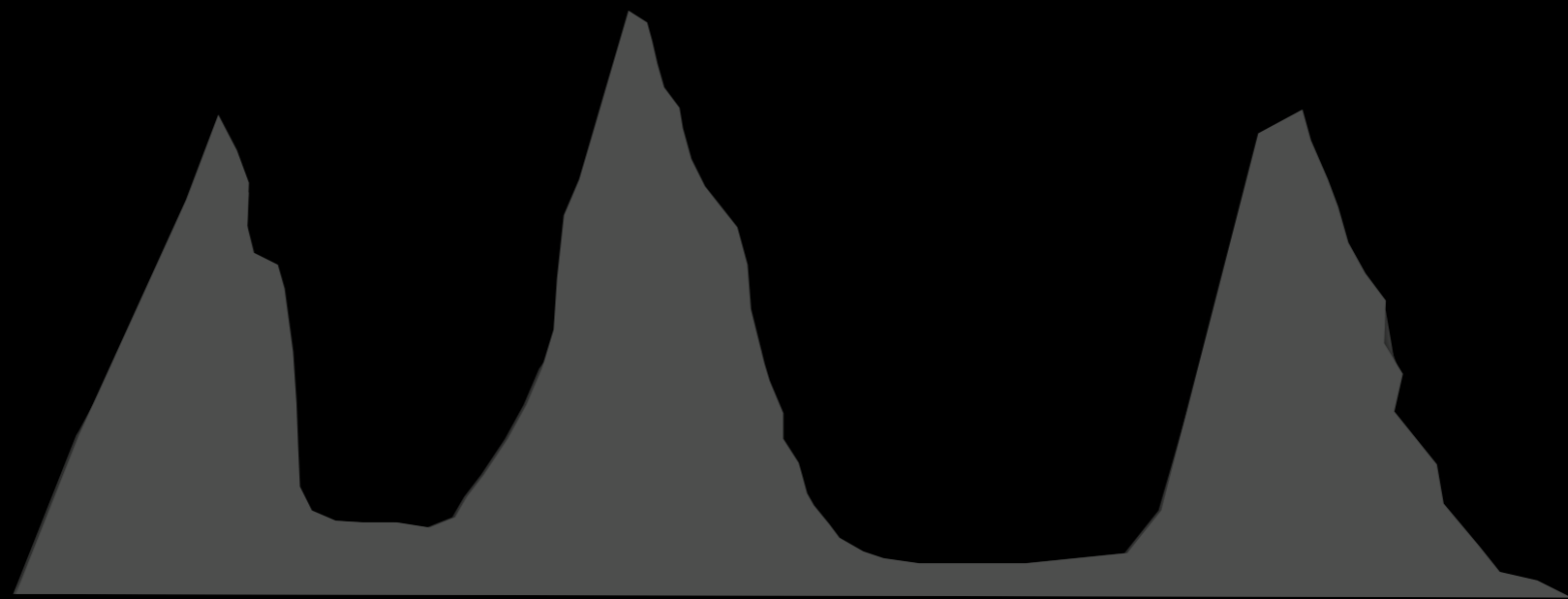
A l o n e

Requirements and regression testing: really different ?



A l o n e

Requirements and regression testing: really different ?



A l o n e



Requirements and regression testing:

re ?



Requirements and regression testing:

re

?

SBSE

SBSE



... but ...
why is
Software Engineering different?

Search Based Optimization

Search Based Optimization

Mechanical Engineering

Electronic Engineering

Civil Engineering

Aerospace Engineering

What makes Software Engineering so special ?

Search Based Optimization

Mechanical Engineering

Electronic Engineering

Civil Engineering

Aerospace Engineering

What makes Software Engineering so special ?

FASE 2010 Keynote

Mark Harman

Why the Virtual Nature of Software Makes it Ideal for Search Based Optimization
FASE 2010.



FASE 2010 Keynote

Mark Harman

Why the Virtual Nature of Software Makes it Ideal for Search Based Optimization
FASE 2010.

in situ fitness test

in situ fitness test

Physical Engineering

in situ fitness test

Physical Engineering



in situ fitness test

Physical Engineering



cost: \$20,000.00

in situ fitness test

Physical Engineering



cost: \$20,000.00

Virtual Engineering

in situ fitness test

Physical Engineering



cost: \$20,000.00

Virtual Engineering



in situ fitness test

Physical Engineering



cost: \$20,000.00

Virtual Engineering



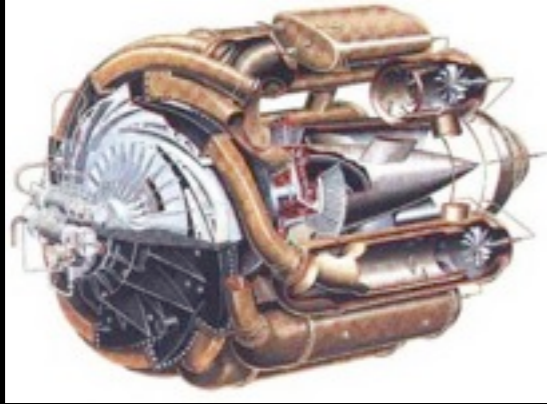
cost: \$0.00.000000000002

Traditional Engineering Artifact

Traditional Engineering Artifact

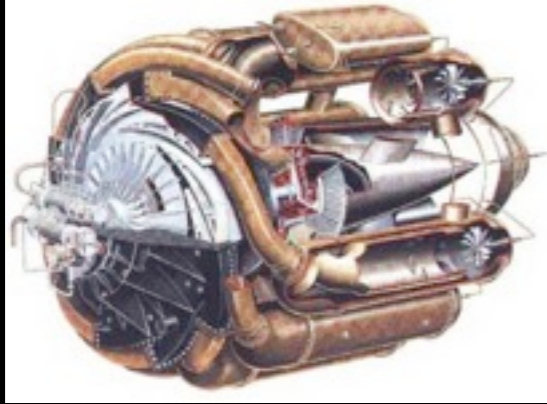


Traditional Engineering Artifact



Optimization goal

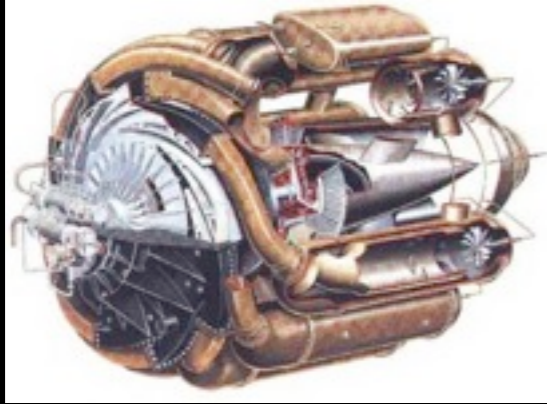
Traditional Engineering Artifact



Optimization goal

Maximize compression

Traditional Engineering Artifact

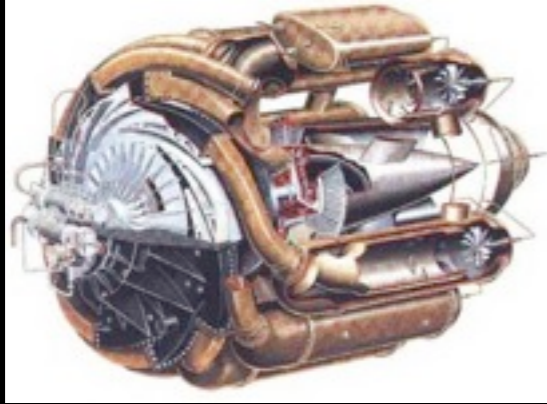


Optimization goal

Maximize compression

Minimize fuel consumption

Traditional
Engineering Artifact

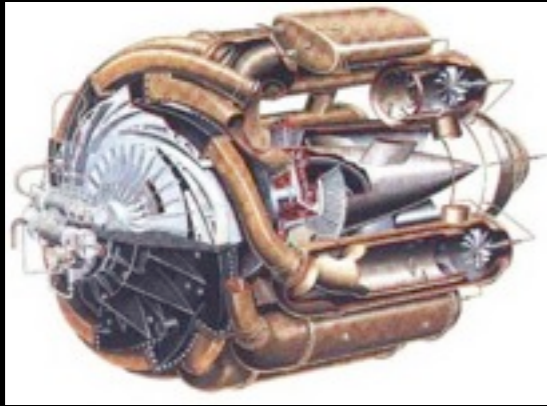


Optimization
goal

Maximize compression
Minimize fuel consumption

Fitness computed
on a representation

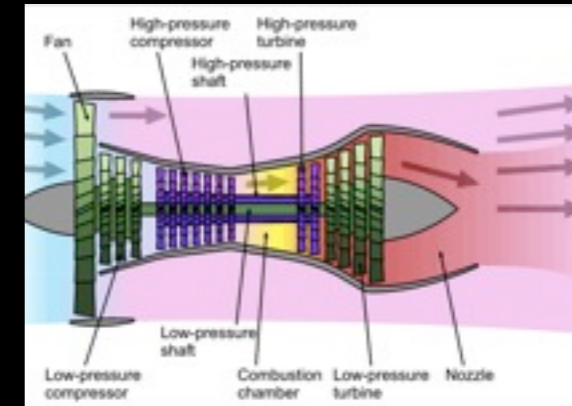
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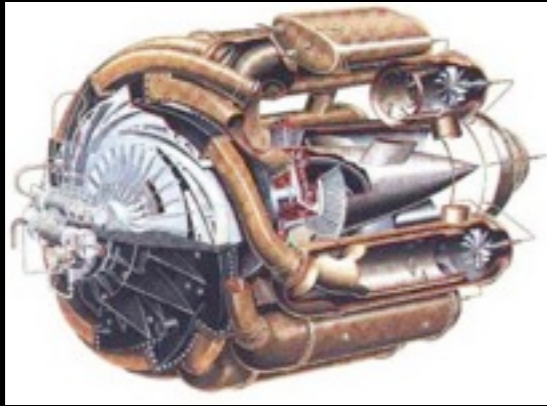
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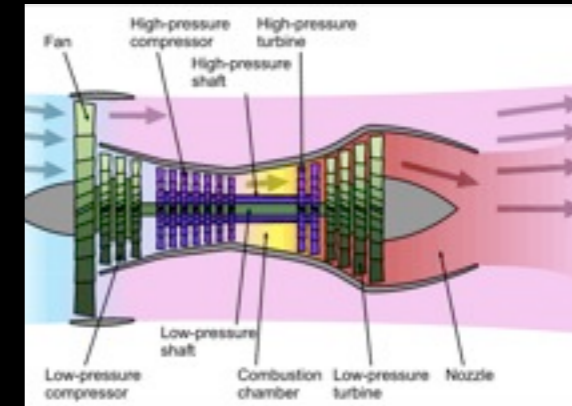
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Optimization goal

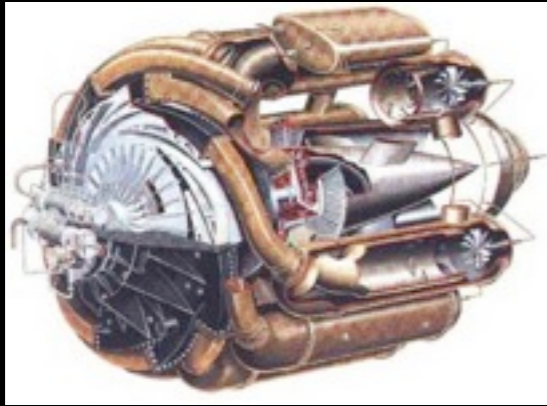
Maximize compression
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Fitness computed on a representation



Software Engineering Artifact

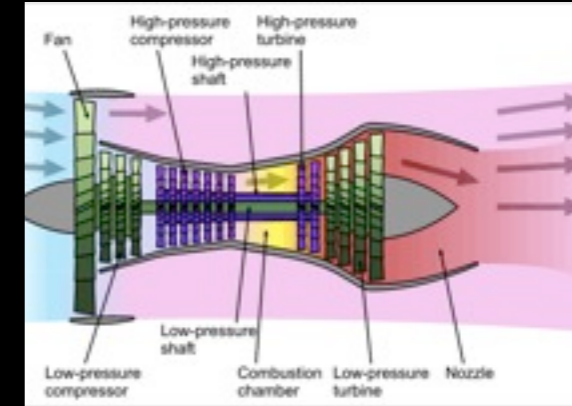
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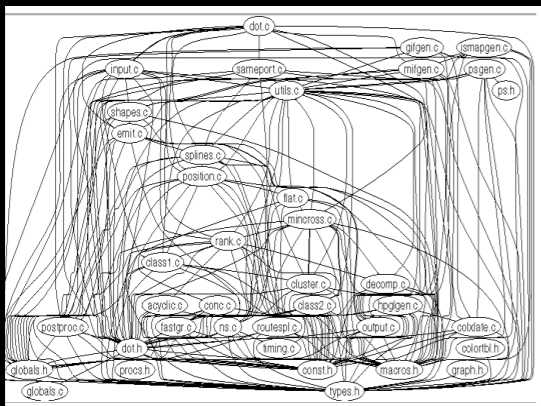
Optimization goal

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Minimize fuel consumption

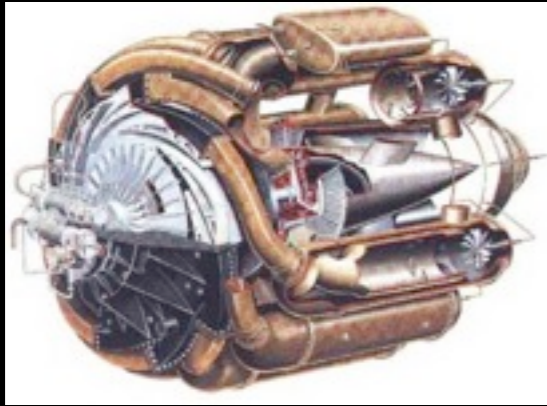
Fitness computed on a representation



Software Engineering Artifact



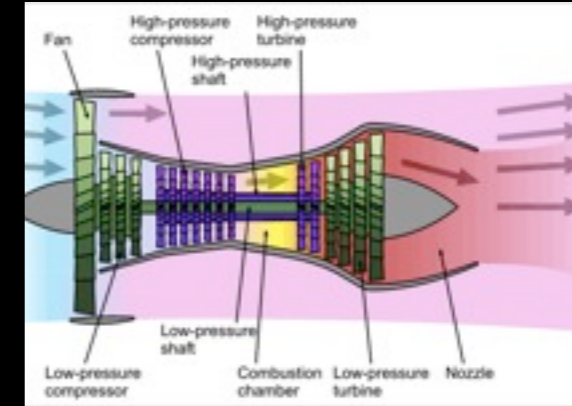
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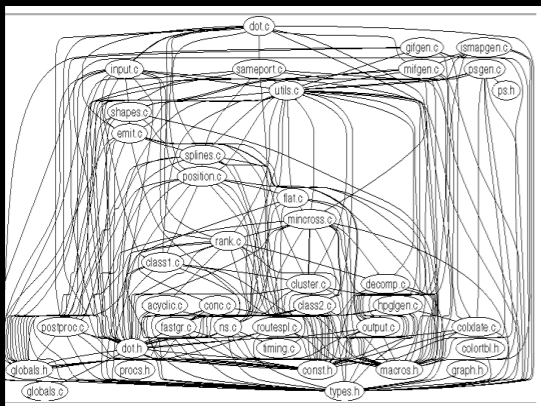
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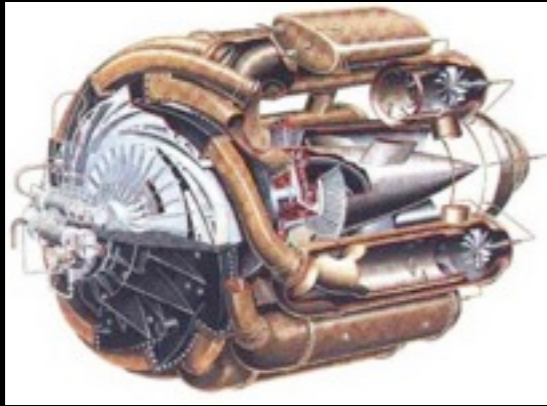


Software Engineering Artifact



Optimization goal

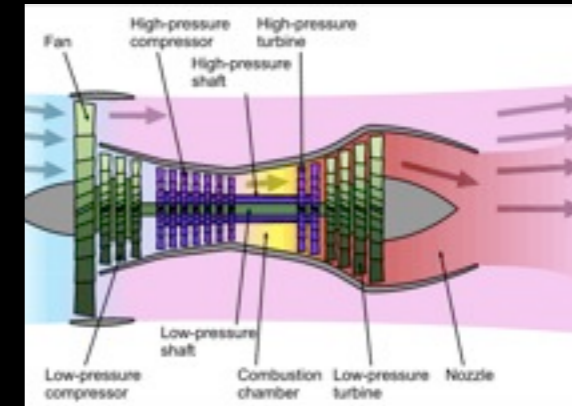
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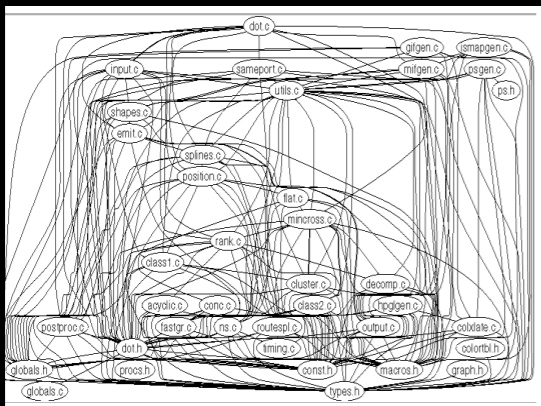
Optimization goal

Maximize compression
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Fitness computed on a representation



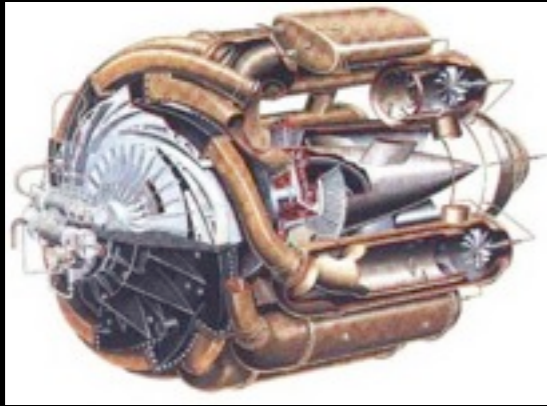
Software Engineering Artifact



Optimization goal

Maximize cohesion

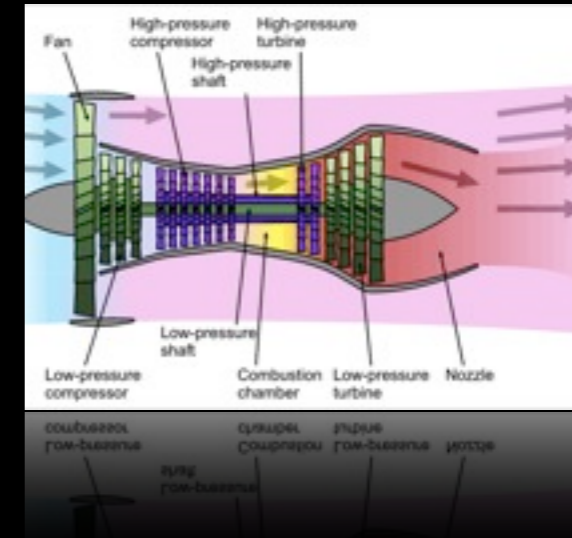
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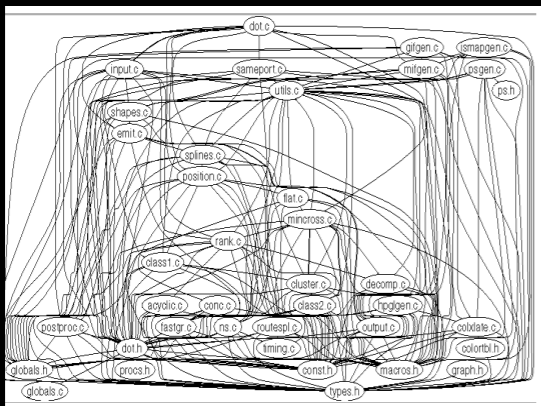
Optimization goal

Maximize compression
Minimize fuel consumption

Fitness computed on a representation



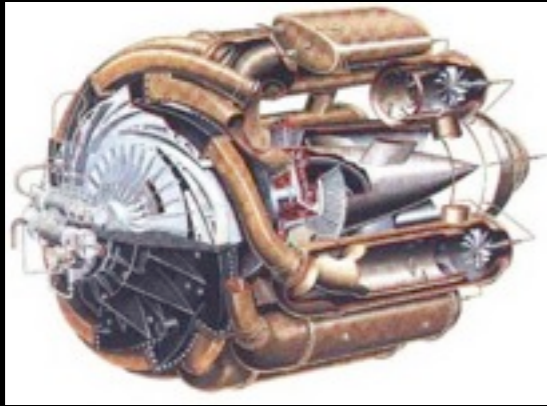
Software Engineering Artifact



Optimization goal

Maximize cohesion
Minimize coupling

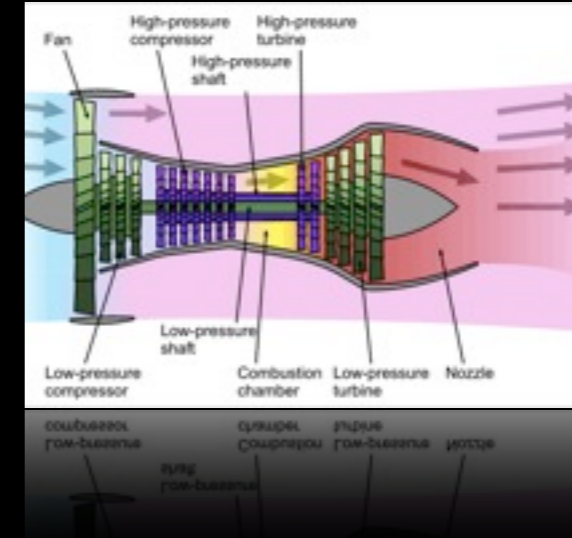
Traditional Engineering Artifact



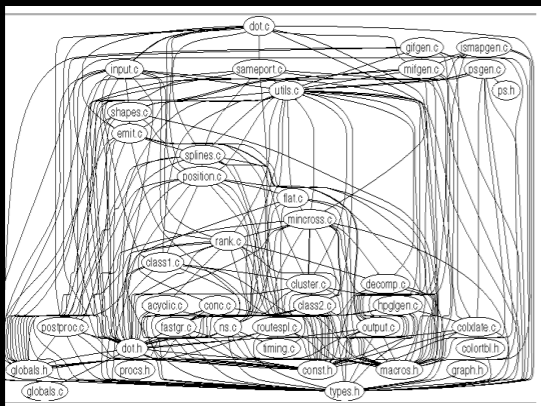
Optimization goal

Maximize compression
Minimize fuel consumption

Fitness computed on a representation



Software Engineering Artifact

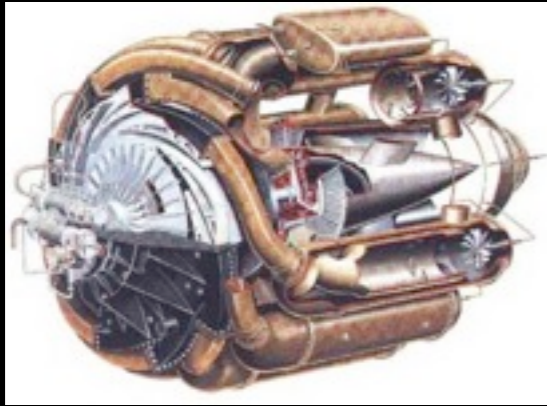


Optimization goal

Maximize cohesion
Minimize coupling

Fitness computed Directly

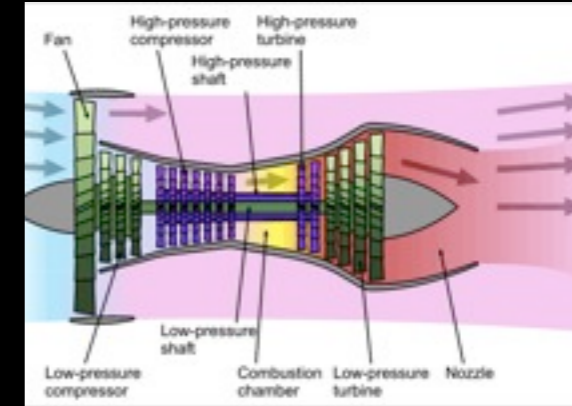
Traditional Engineering Artifact



Optimization goal

Maximize compression
Minimize fuel consumption

Fitness computed on a representation

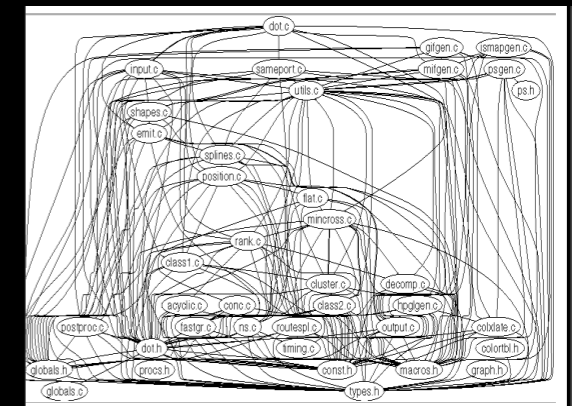


Software Engineering Artifact

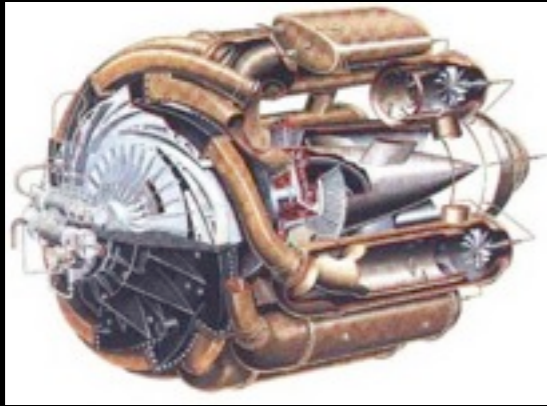
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Maximize cohesion
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Fitness computed Directly



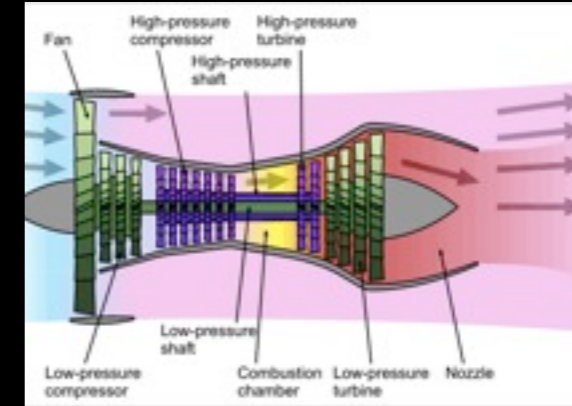
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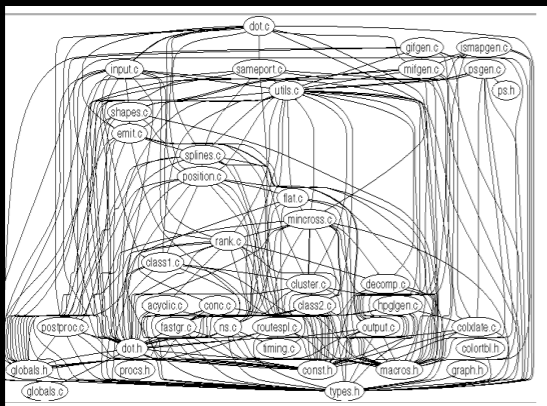
Optimization goal

Maximize compression
Minimize fuel consumption

Fitness computed on a representation



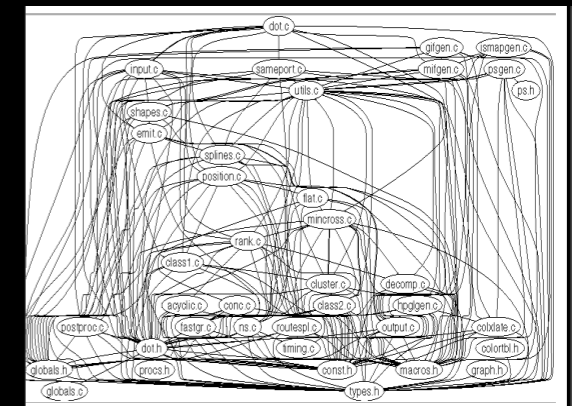
Software Engineering Artifact



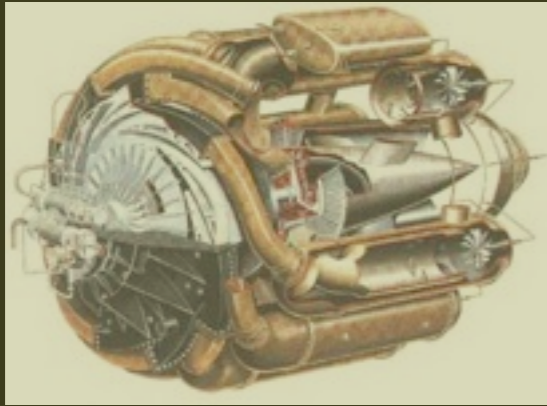
Optimization goal

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Minimize coupling

Fitness computed Directly



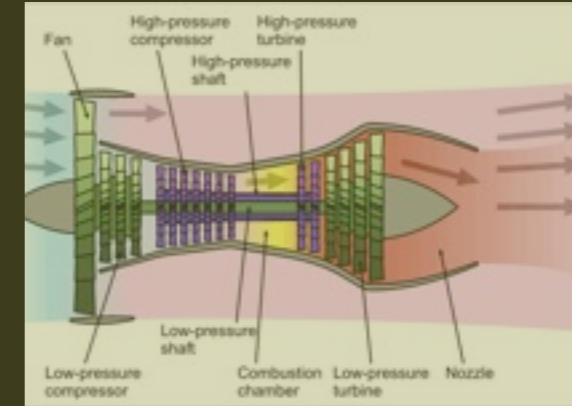
Traditional Engineering Artifact



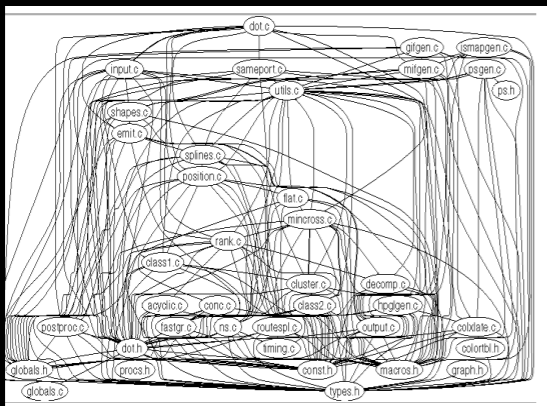
Optimization goal

Maximize compression
Minimize fuel consumption

Fitness computed on a representation



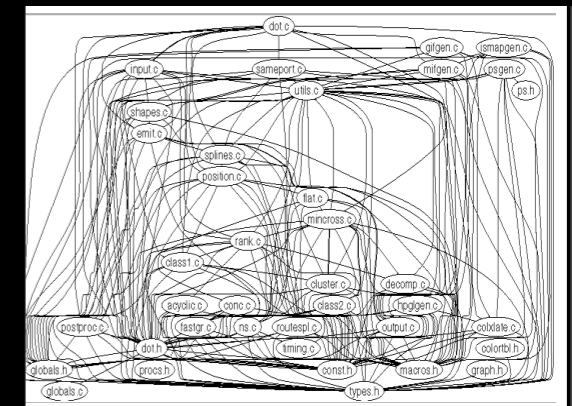
Software Engineering Artifact



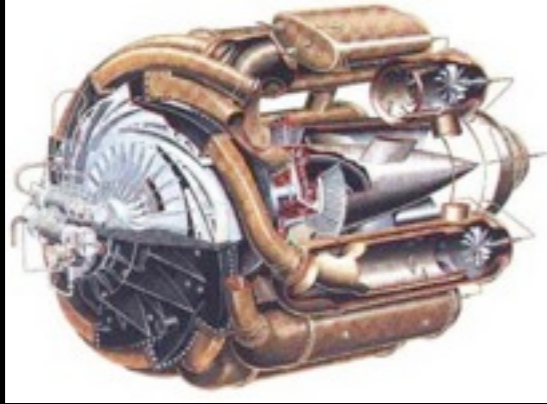
Optimization goal

Maximize cohesion
Minimize coupling

Fitness computed Directly



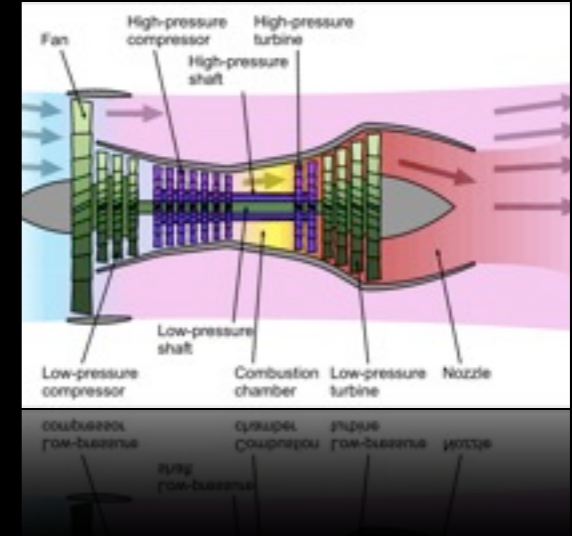
Traditional Engineering Artifact



Optimization goal

Maximize compression
Minimize fuel consumption

Fitness computed on a representation



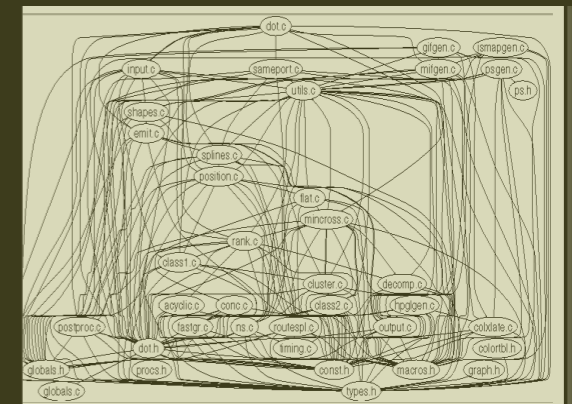
Software Engineering Artifact



Optimization goal

Maximize cohesion
Minimize coupling

Fitness computed Directly





SSBSE: build and support the growing SBSE community:

1. share ideas about problems and solutions
2. develop research agenda
3. critical mass of interaction



SSBSE has a democratic charter

Governed by a Steering Committee

9 members of the Committee

Listed on the website and in the proceedings

SC decides on strategy and policies

Elected by the community

SSBSE has a democratic charter

3 drop off the SC each year

2 terms maximum without a break

Procedure:

LOOP

Nominate; second; accept/decline.

UNTIL Close of nominations;

Election Addresses

Votes: up to 3 votes per attendee. You can vote for a candidate at most once.

SSBSE has a democratic charter

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Steering Committee

Chair: Mark Harman	University College London, UK
Giuliano Antoniol	École Polytechnique de Montréal, Canada
Lionel Briand	Simula Research Labs, Norway
Myra Cohen	University Of Nebraska-Lincoln, USA
Massimiliano Di Penta	University of Sannio, Italy
Spiros Mancoridis	Drexel University, USA
Phil McMinn	University of Sheffield, UK
Simon Poulding	University of York, UK
Joachim Wegener	Berner & Mattner, Germany

SSBSE has a democratic charter

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Steering Committee

Chair: Mark Harman	University College London, UK	2013
Giuliano Antoniol	École Polytechnique de Montréal, Canada	2012
Lionel Briand	Simula Research Labs, Norway	2012
Myra Cohen	University Of Nebraska-Lincoln, USA	2013
Massimiliano Di Penta	University of Sannio, Italy	2012
Spiros Mancoridis	Drexel University, USA	2011
Phil McMinn	University of Sheffield, UK	2013
Simon Poulding	University of York, UK	2011
Joachim Wegener	Berner & Mattner, Germany	2011

Extra slides

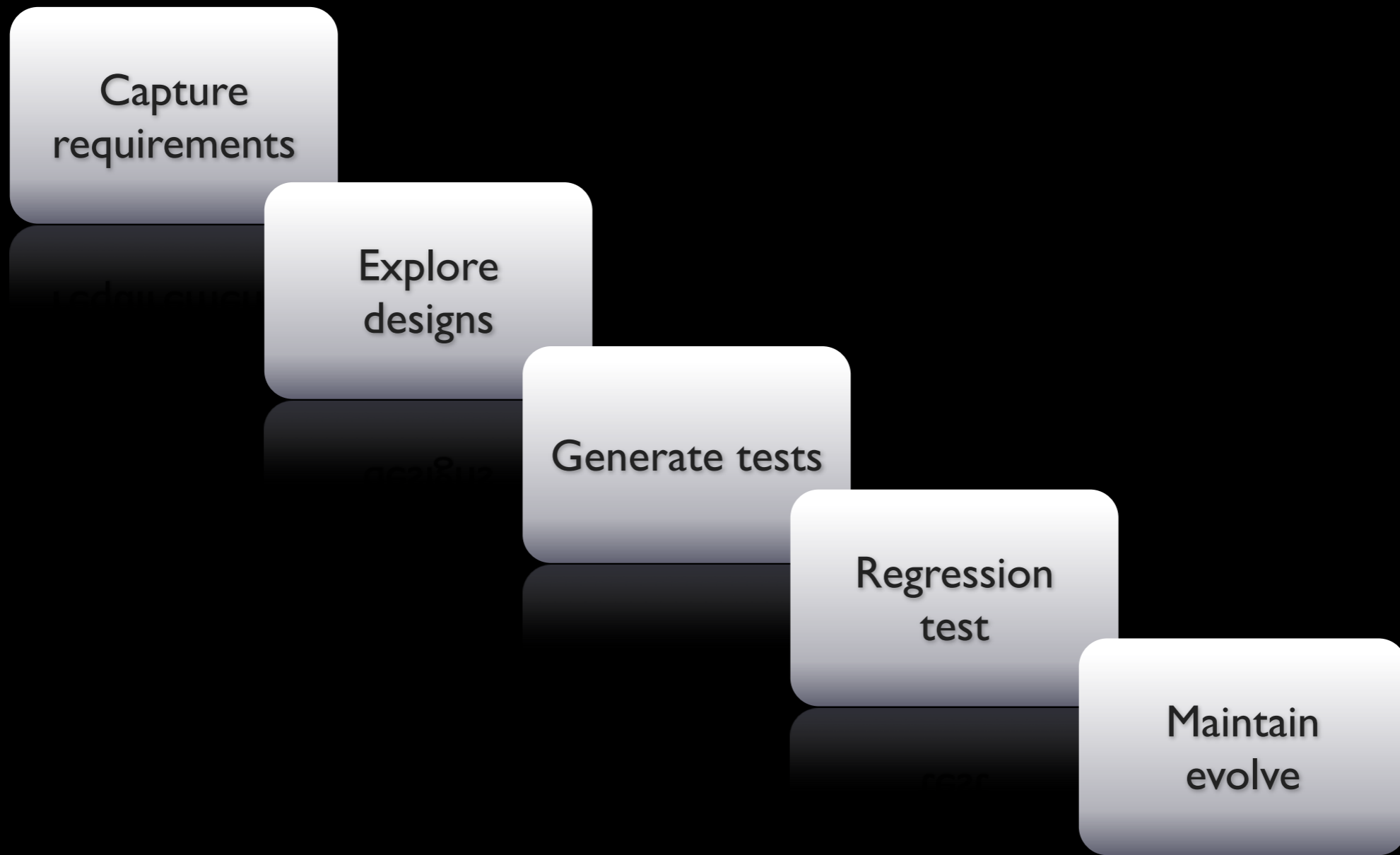
Extra slides

Extra slides

Extra slides

Software Engineering Problems

Software Engineering Problems



Capture
requirements

Generate tests

Explore
designs

Maintain
evolve

Regression
test

Capture
requirements

Generate tests

Explore
designs

Maintain
evolve

Regression
test

Minimize

Maximize

Capture
requirements

Generate tests

Explore
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Regression
test

Minimize

Maximize

Capture requirements

Generate tests

Explore designs

Maintain evolve

Regression test

Minimize

Cost
Development time

Maximize

Satisfaction
Fairness

Capture requirements

Generate tests

Explore designs

Maintain evolve

Regression test

Minimize

Cost
Development time

Maximize

Satisfaction
Fairness

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Maintain evolve

Regression test

Minimize

Cost
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Maximize

Satisfaction
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Capture requirements

Generate tests

Explore designs

Maintain evolve

Regression test

Minimize

Number of test

Development time

Maximize

Satisfaction
Fairness

Capture requirements

Generate tests

Explore designs

Maintain evolve

Regression test

Minimize
Number of test
Execution time

Maximize
Satisfaction
Fairness

Capture requirements

Generate tests

Explore designs

Maintain evolve

Regression test

Minimize

Number of test
Execution time

Maximize

Fairness

Code coverage

Capture requirements

Generate tests

Explore designs

Maintain evolve

Regression test

Minimize

Number of test
Execution time

Maximize

Code coverage
Fault coverage

Capture requirements

Generate tests

Explore designs

Maintain evolve

Regression test

Minimize

Coupling

Maximize

Cohesion

Capture requirements

Generate tests

Explore designs

Maintain
evolve

Regression test

Minimize

Coupling

Maximize

Cohesion

Capture requirements

Generate tests

Explore designs

Maintain
evolve

Regression test

Minimize

Coupling

Maximize

Cohesion

Capture requirements

Generate tests

Explore designs

Maintain evolve

Regression test

Minimize

Number of test
Execution time

Maximize

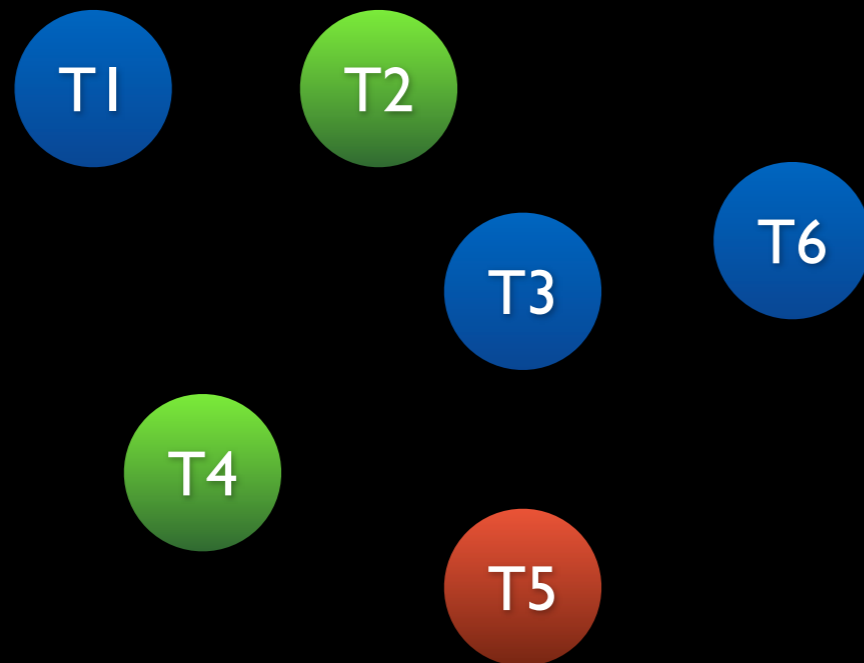
Code coverage
Fault coverage

Human in the Loop Regression Testing

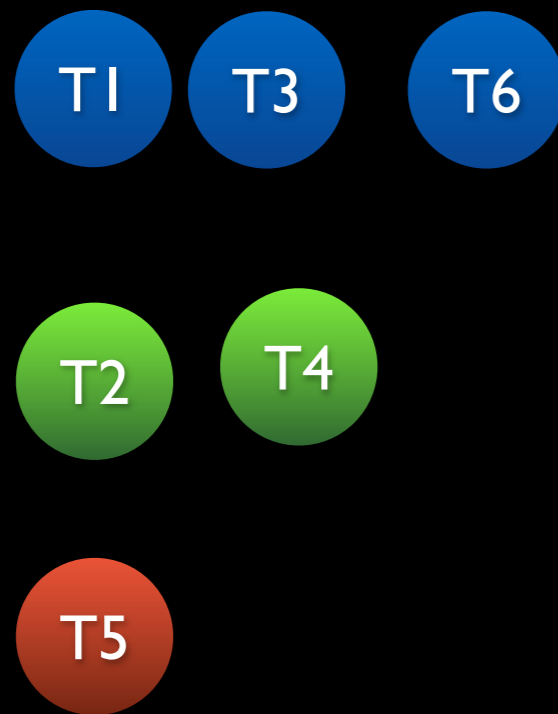
“I don’t agree. This is the way it should be!”

“We need to prioritise business concerns”

Interleaved Clusters Prioritisation

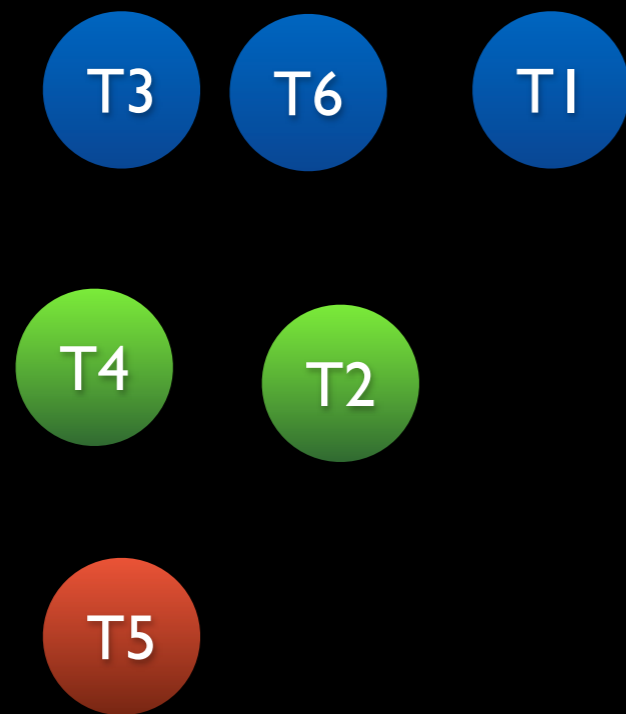


Interleaved Clusters Prioritisation



Cluster

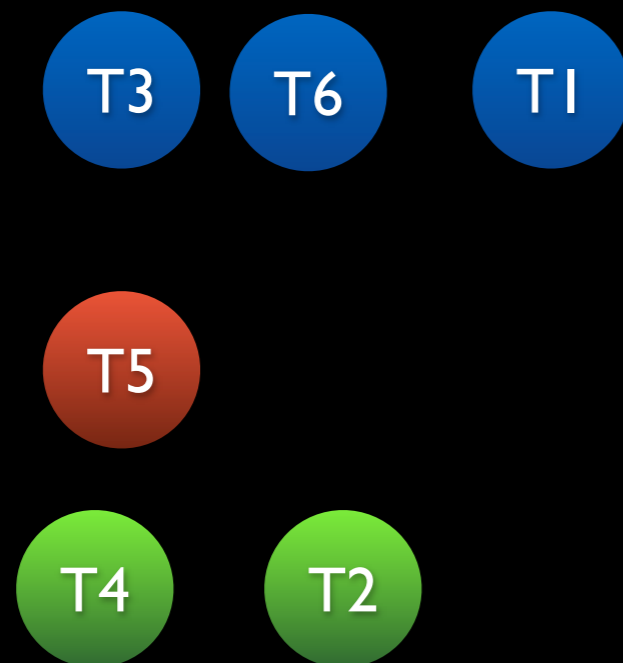
Interleaved Clusters Prioritisation



Cluster

Intra-cluster Prioritisation

Interleaved Clusters Prioritisation

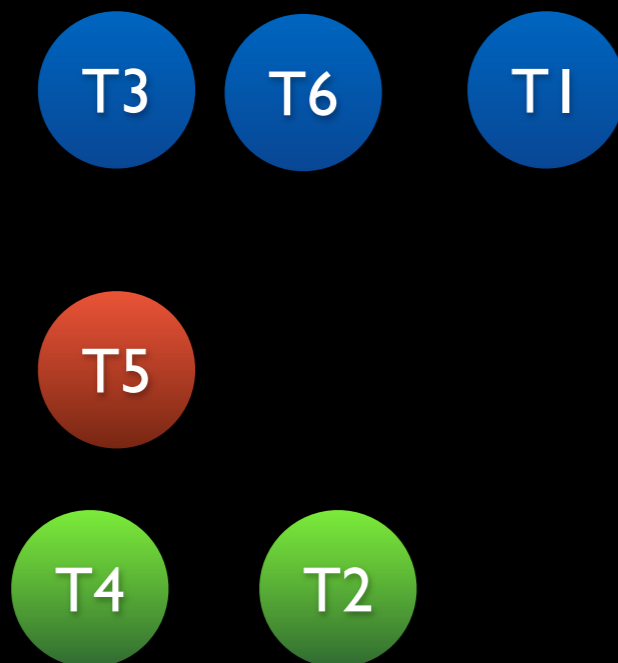


Cluster

Intra-cluster Prioritisation

Inter-cluster Prioritisation

Interleaved Clusters Prioritisation



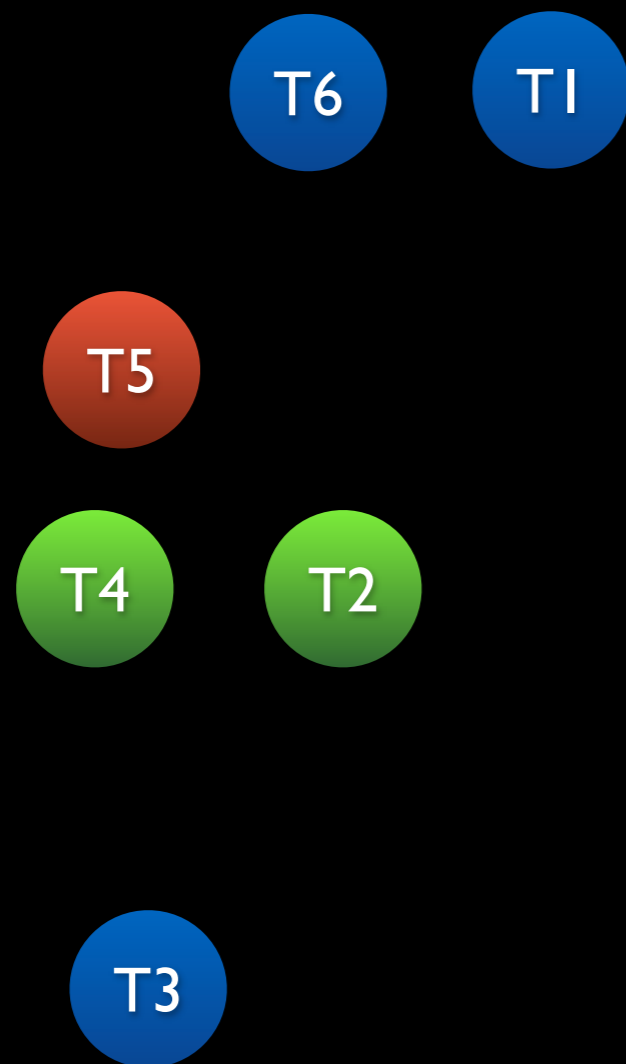
Cluster

Intra-cluster Prioritisation

Inter-cluster Prioritisation

Interleaving Clusters

Interleaved Clusters Prioritisation



Cluster

Intra-cluster Prioritisation

Inter-cluster Prioritisation

Interleaving Clusters

Interleaved Clusters Prioritisation



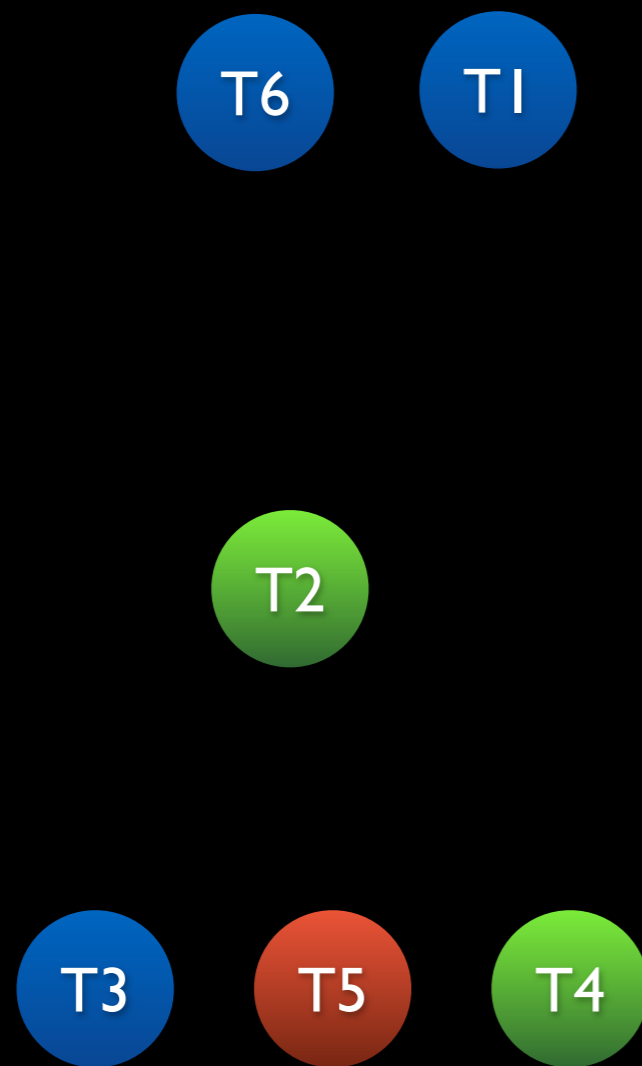
Cluster

Intra-cluster Prioritisation

Inter-cluster Prioritisation

Interleaving Clusters

Interleaved Clusters Prioritisation



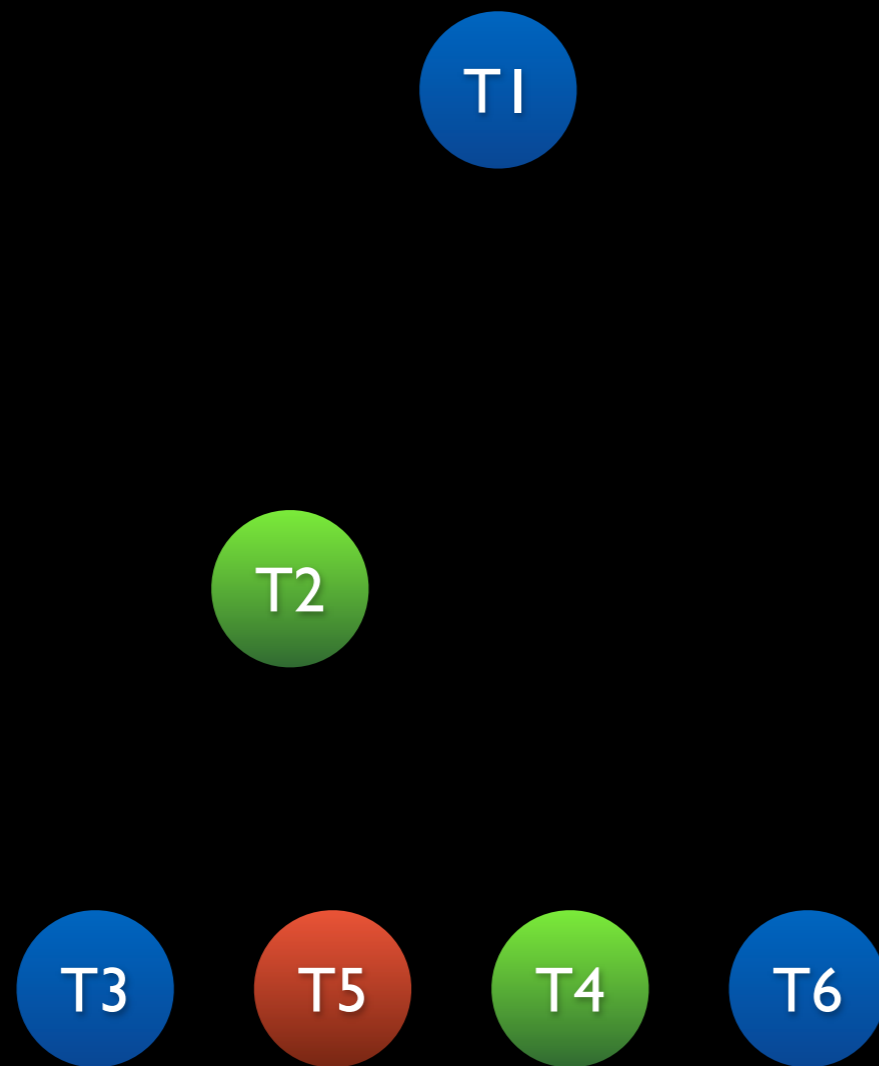
Cluster

Intra-cluster Prioritisation

Inter-cluster Prioritisation

Interleaving Clusters

Interleaved Clusters Prioritisation



Cluster

Intra-cluster Prioritisation

Inter-cluster Prioritisation

Interleaving Clusters

Interleaved Clusters Prioritisation



Cluster

Intra-cluster Prioritisation

Inter-cluster Prioritisation

Interleaving Clusters



Interleaved Clusters Prioritisation

Cluster

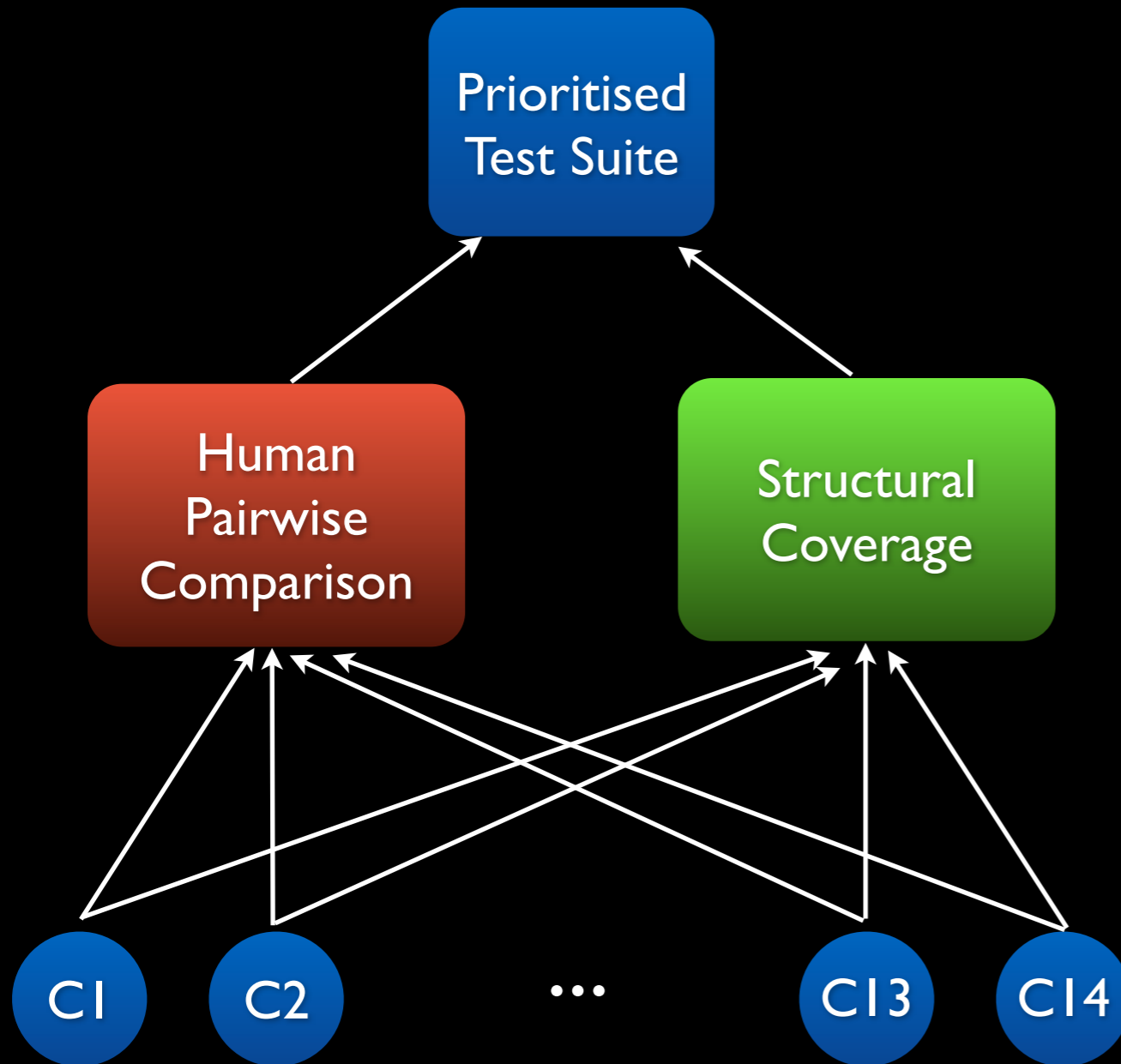
Intra-cluster Prioritisation

Inter-cluster Prioritisation

Interleaving Clusters



Experimental Setup

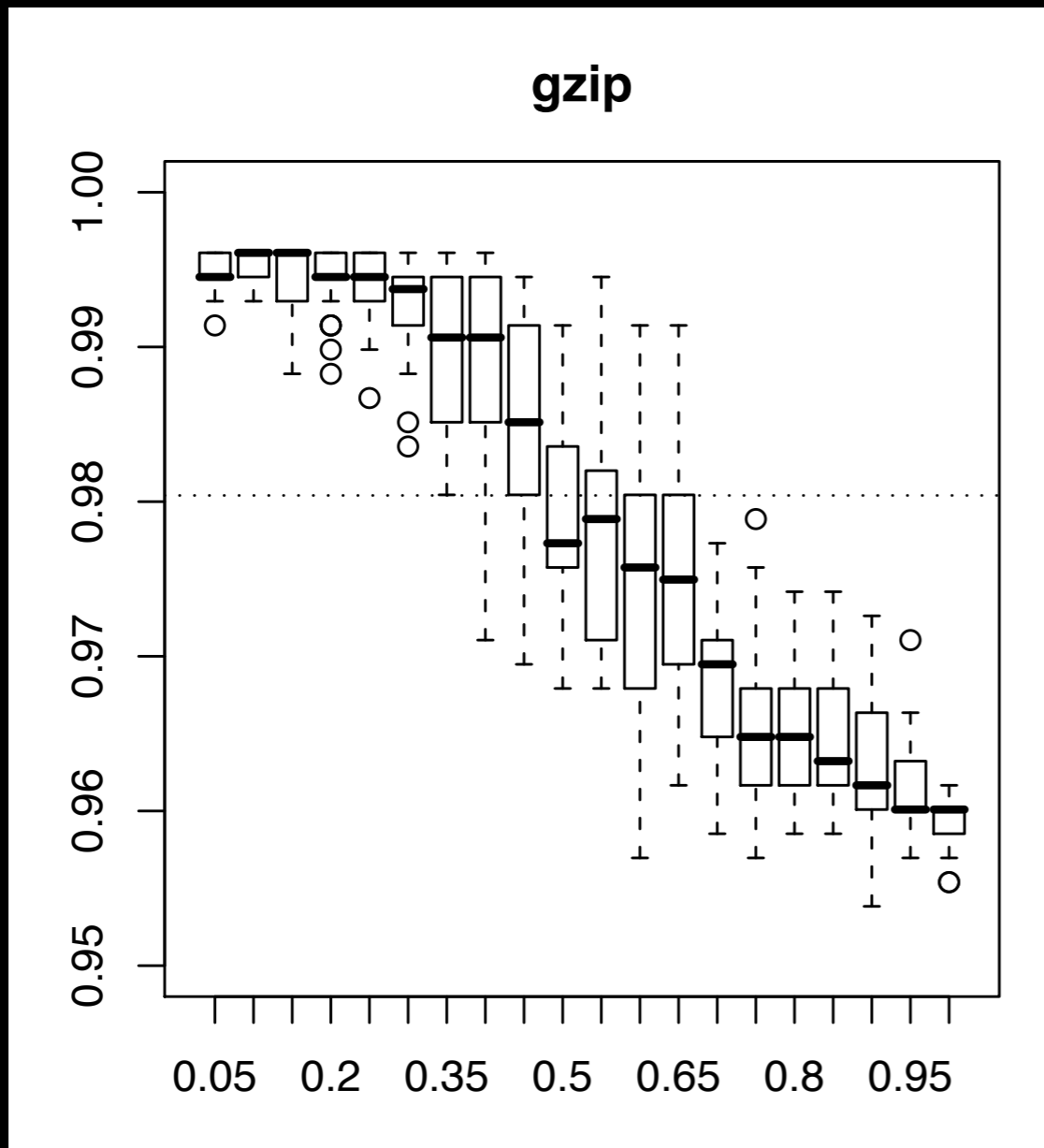


Simple Agglomerative Hierarchical Clustering ($k=14$)

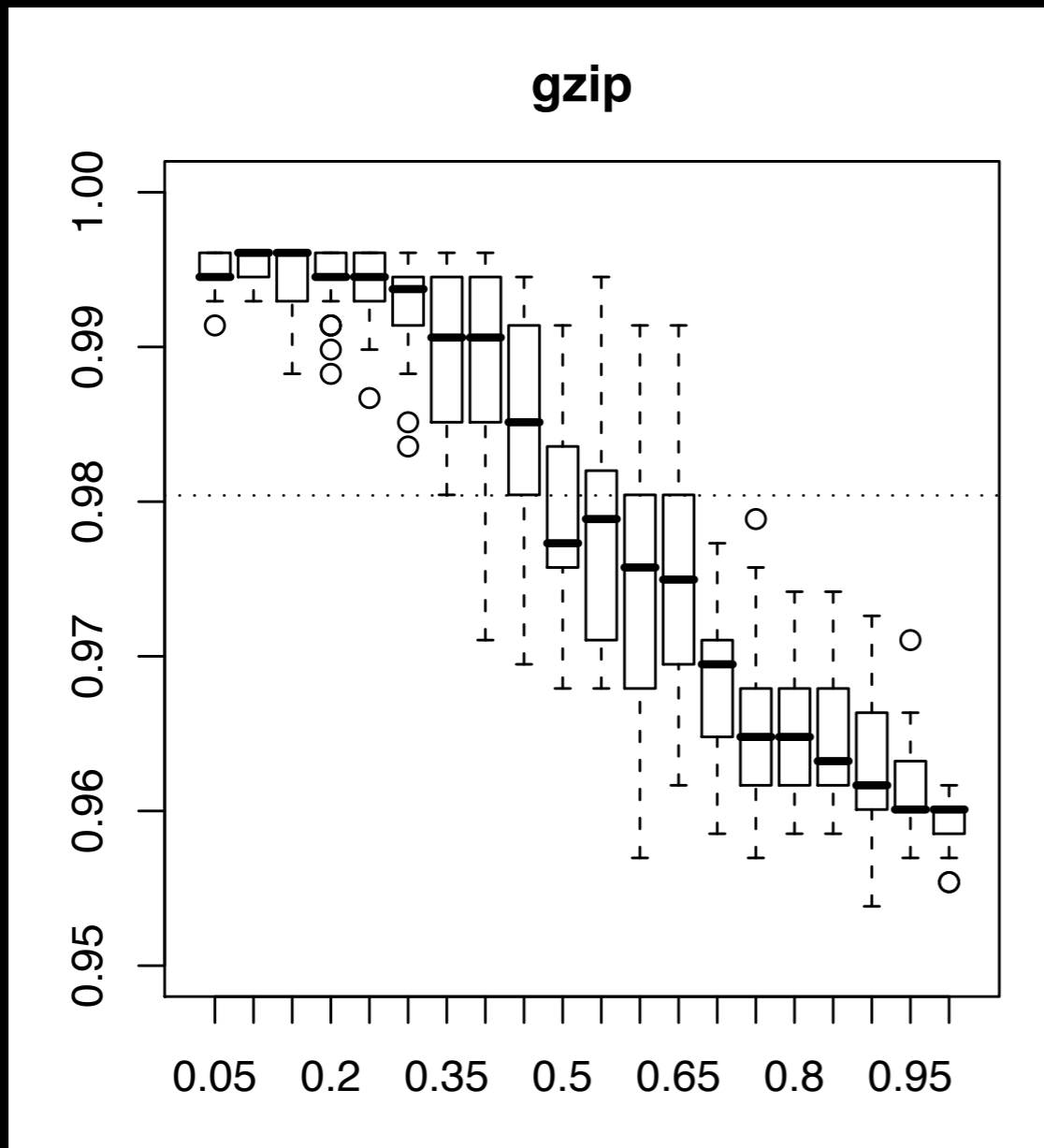
Hamming distance between stmt. coverage as dissimilarity metric

A human user model with controlled error rate

Tolerance

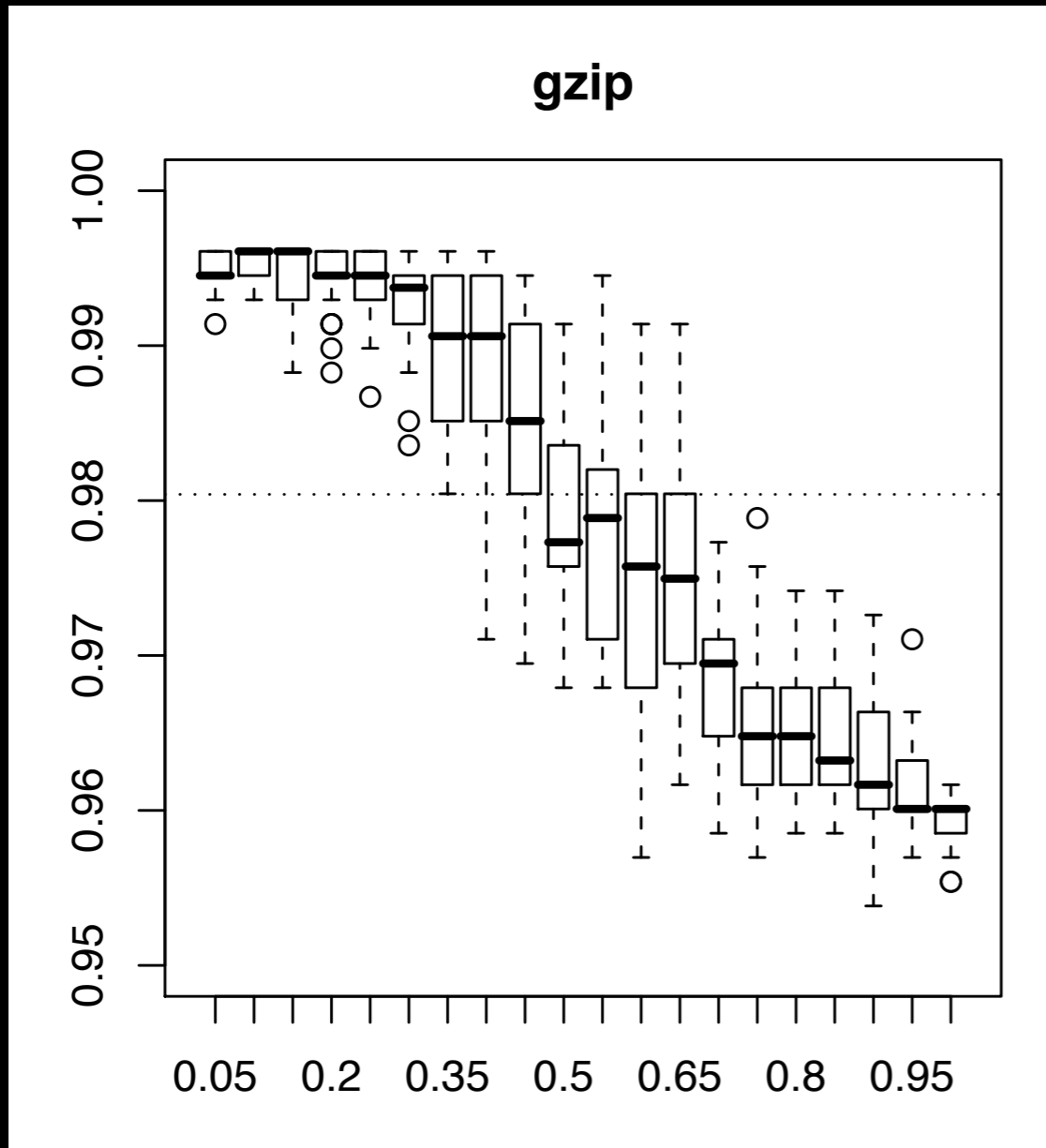


Tolerance



This is what we initially expected to see.

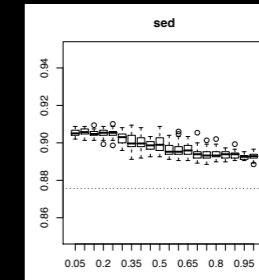
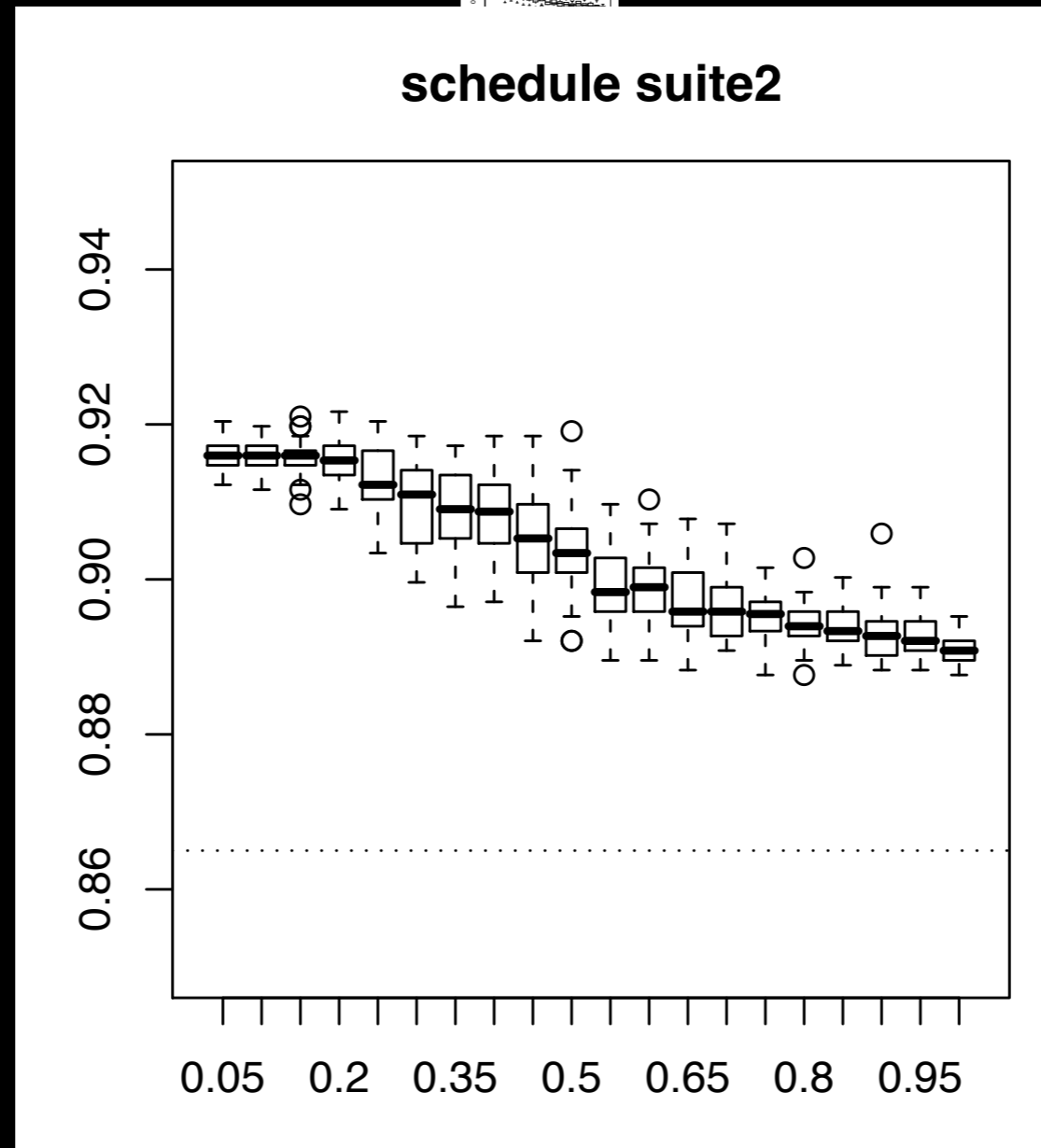
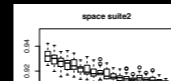
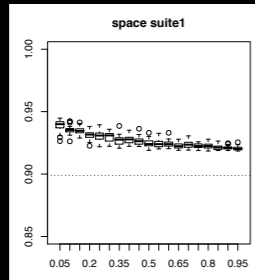
Tolerance



This is what we initially expected to see.

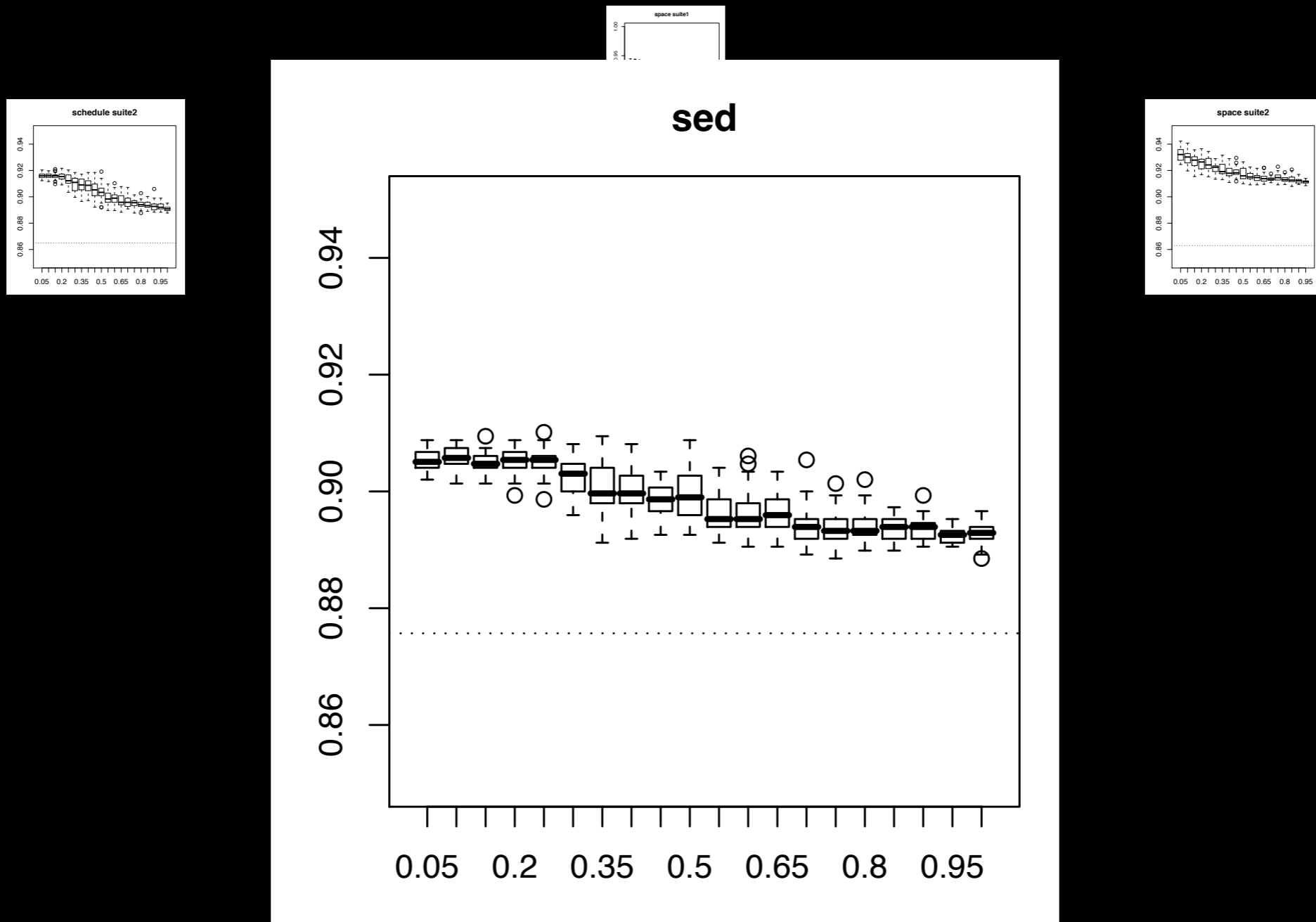
But...

Tolerance



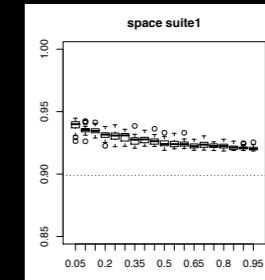
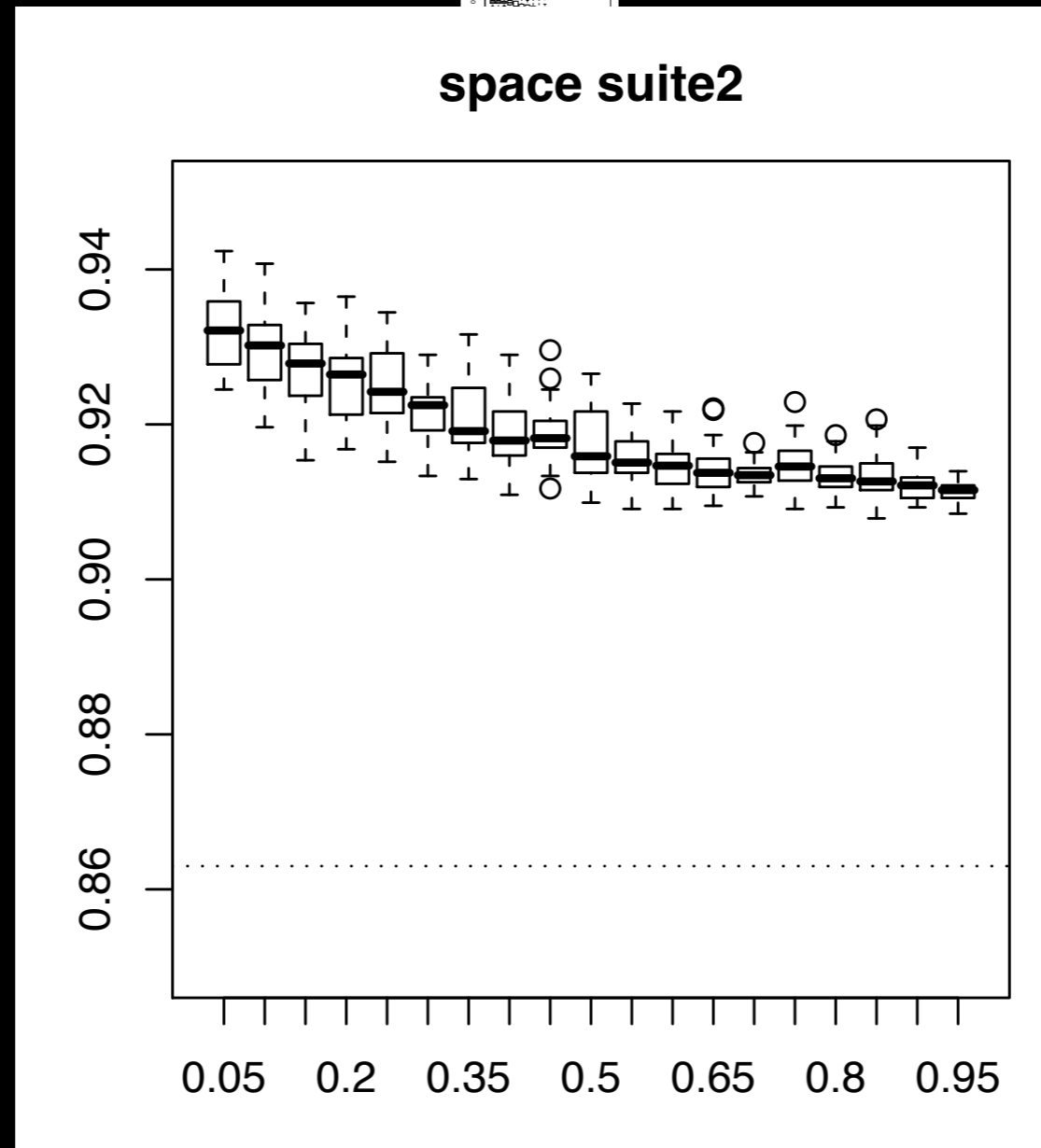
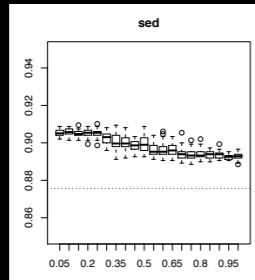
Some test suites are very resilient to errors

Tolerance



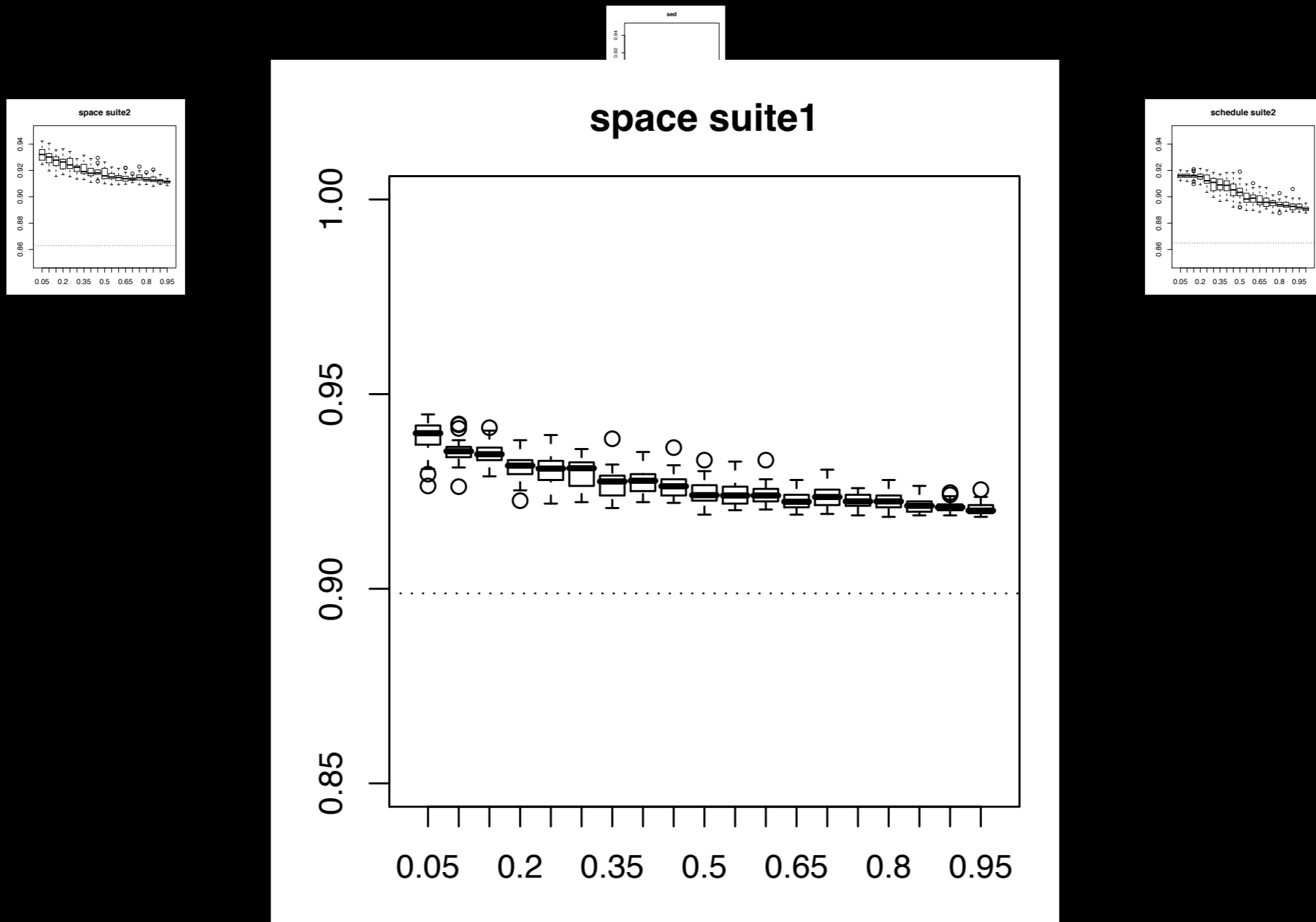
Some test suites are very resilient to errors

Tolerance



Some test suites are very resilient to errors

Tolerance



Some test suites are very resilient to errors

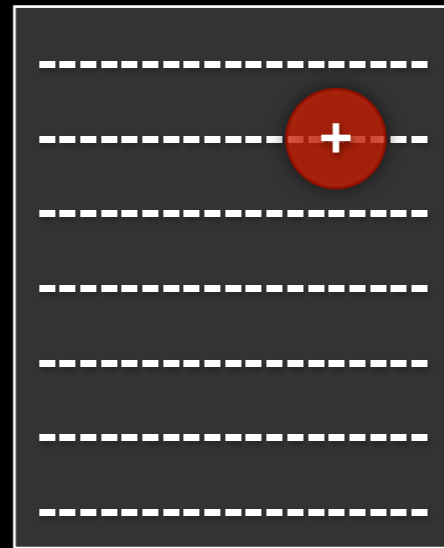
Optimising Mutation Testing

FOMs and HOMs



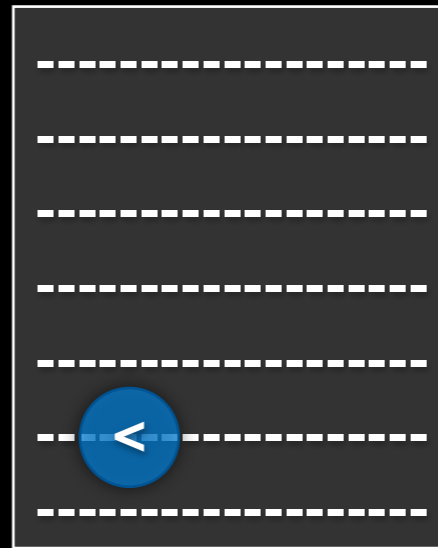
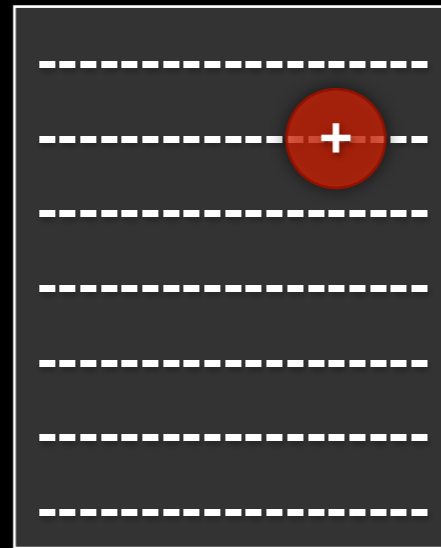
Original Program

FOMs and HOMs



Original Program

FOMs and HOMs

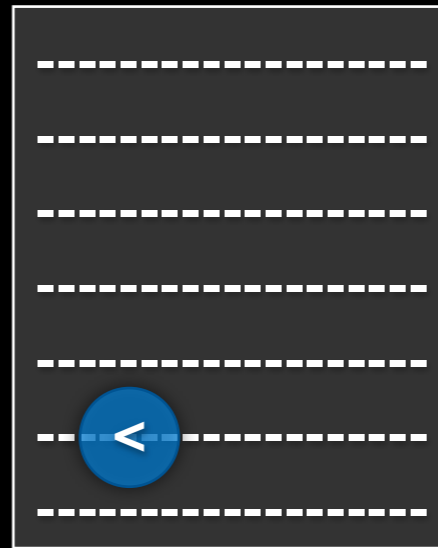
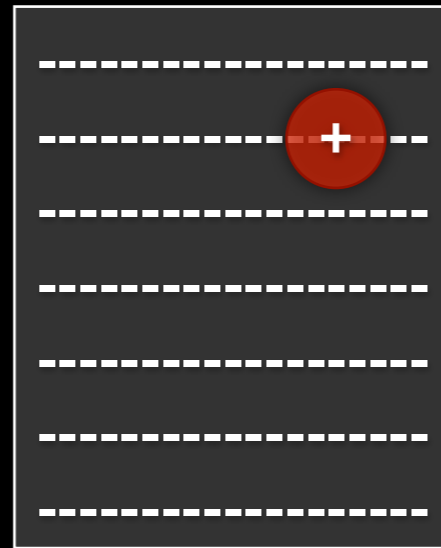


Original Program

FOMs and HOMs



Original Program

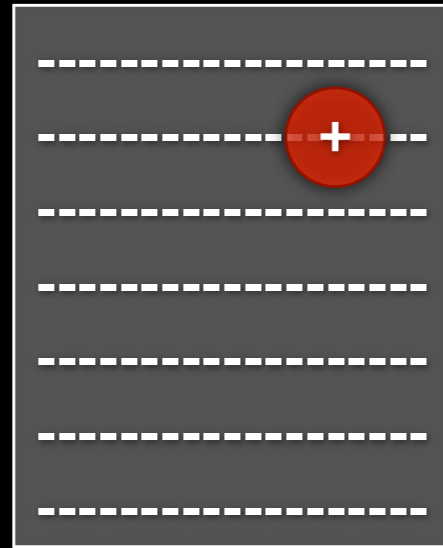


First Order Mutants

FOMs and HOMs



Original Program

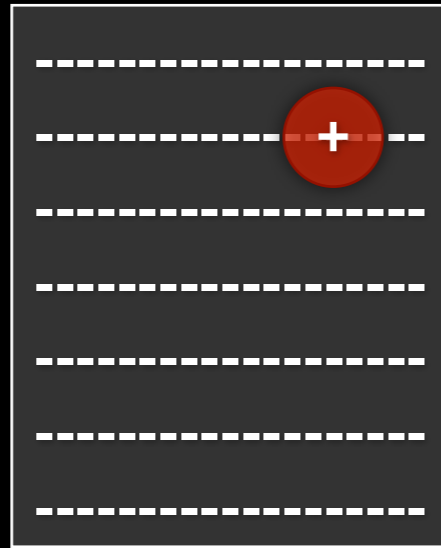


First Order Mutants

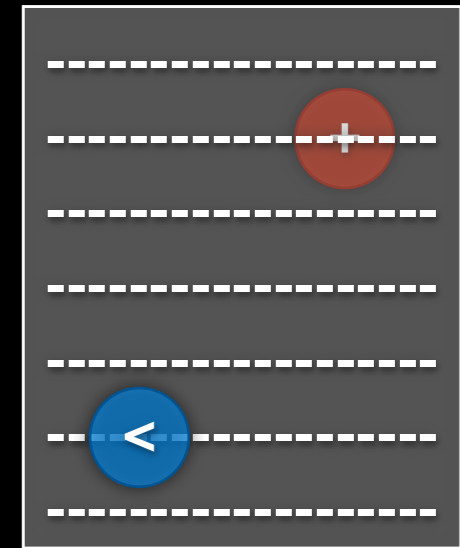
FOMs and HOMs



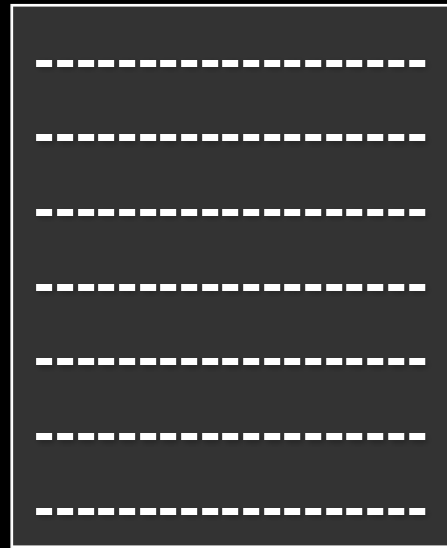
Original Program



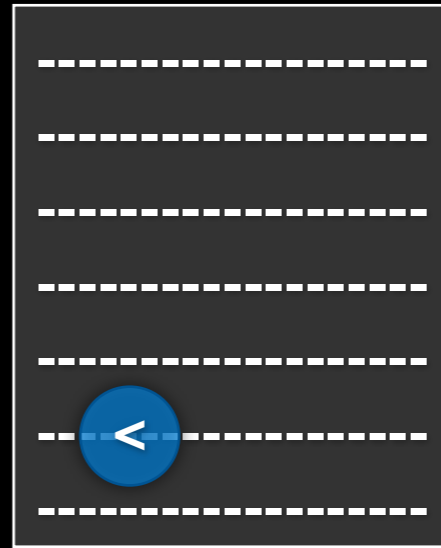
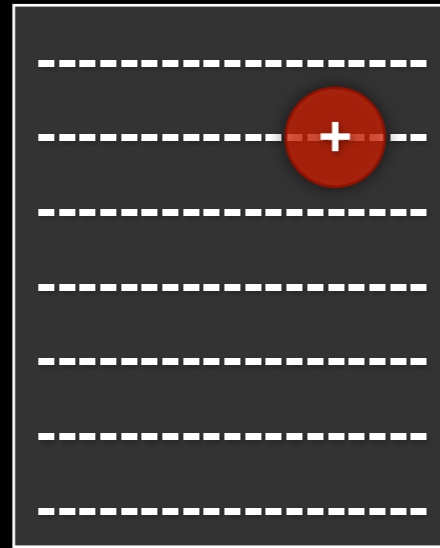
First Order Mutants



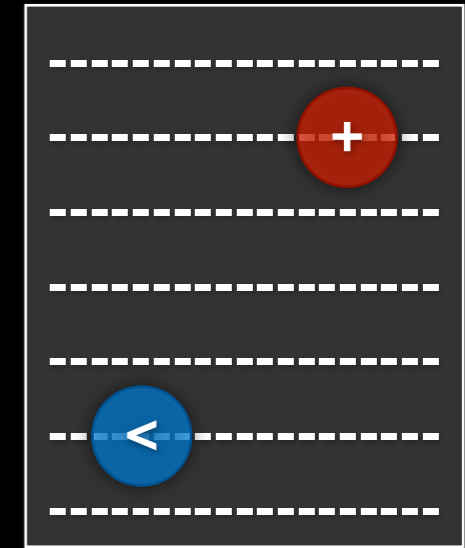
FOMs and HOMs



Original Program



First Order Mutants



Higher Order Mutants

Mutation Testing Repository

HOME REPOSITORY THEORY TECHNIQUES ANALYSIS Search Publications

PUBLICATION EMPIRICAL STUDY TOOL

Mutation Testing Repository

Publications on Mutation Testing

Mutation Testing remains an active research area with growing interest... [READ MORE](#)

Repository News

Welcome to Mutation Testing repository

Mutation Testing is a fault-based software testing technique that has been widely studied for over three decades. The literature on mutation testing has contributed a set of **approaches**, tools and empirical studies. This repository aims to provide a full coverage of the publications in the literature on Mutation Testing.

Mutation Testing Survey

Using this repository, a comprehensive analysis and survey of Mutation Testing work has been conducted. The paper presents the results of several **development trend analyses**. These analyses provide evidence that mutation testing techniques and tools are reaching a state of maturity and applicability, while the topic of mutation testing itself is the subject of increasing interest. This paper is currently published as a technical report, available from [here](#). If you want to cite results from the survey, here is the BibTeX entry:

```
@TECHREPORT{JiaM09b,  
  author = {Yue Jia and Mark Harman},  
  title = {{A)n (A)nalysis and (S)urvey of the (D)evelopment of (M)utation (T)esting},  
  institution = {CREST Centre, King's College London},  
  year = {2009},  
  type = {Technical Report},  
  number = {TR-09-01},  
  address = {London, UK},  
  month = {September}}
```

Quick Search

Search for paper author

[View all papers](#) | [authors](#)

Repository Status

Last update:	14/10/09
Number of Papers:	368
Number of Authors:	295

[Detailed status ...](#)

Links

- [Mutation Testing Online](#)
- [Mutation Testing Wiki](#)

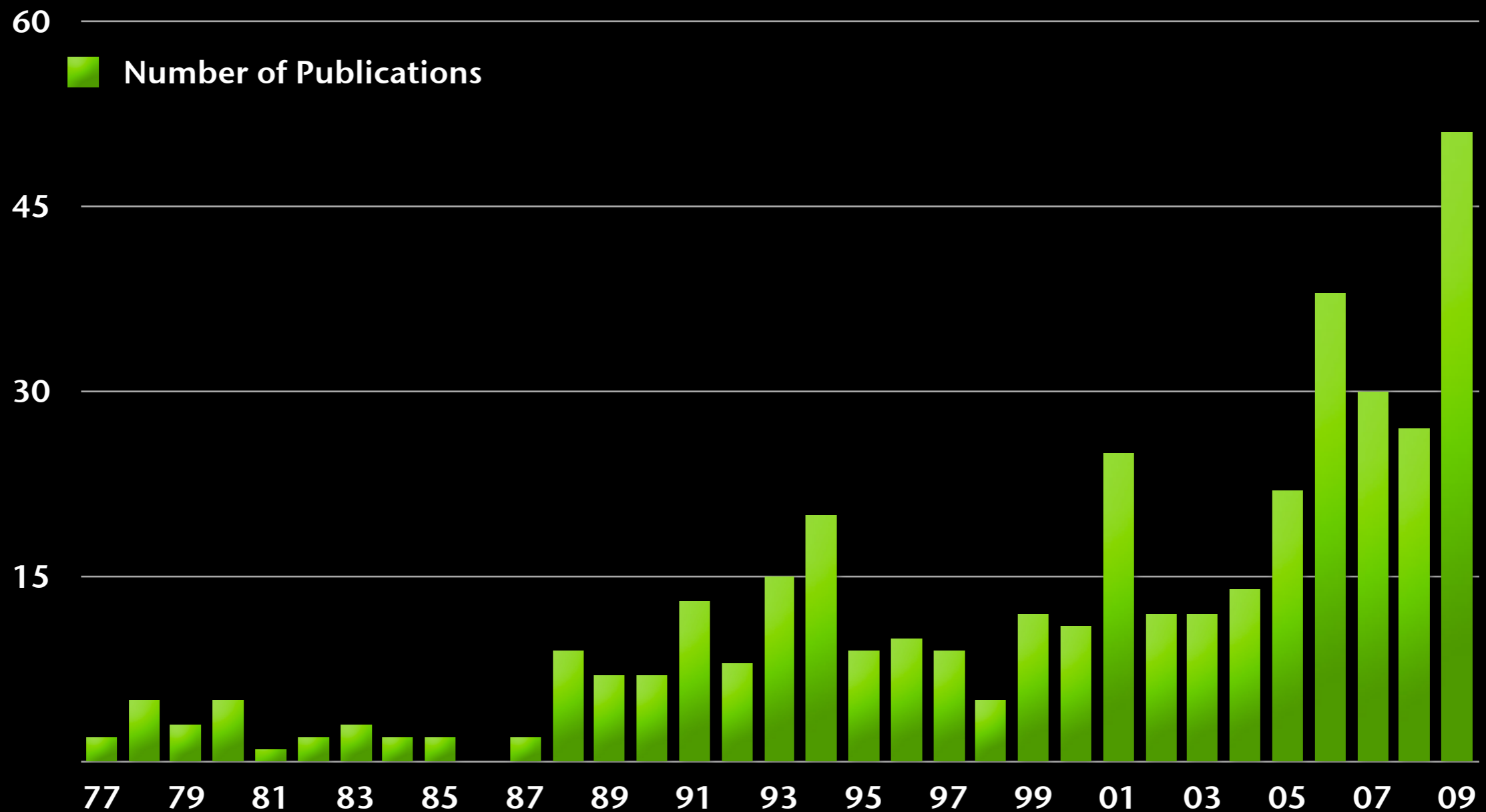
Mutation Testing Repository



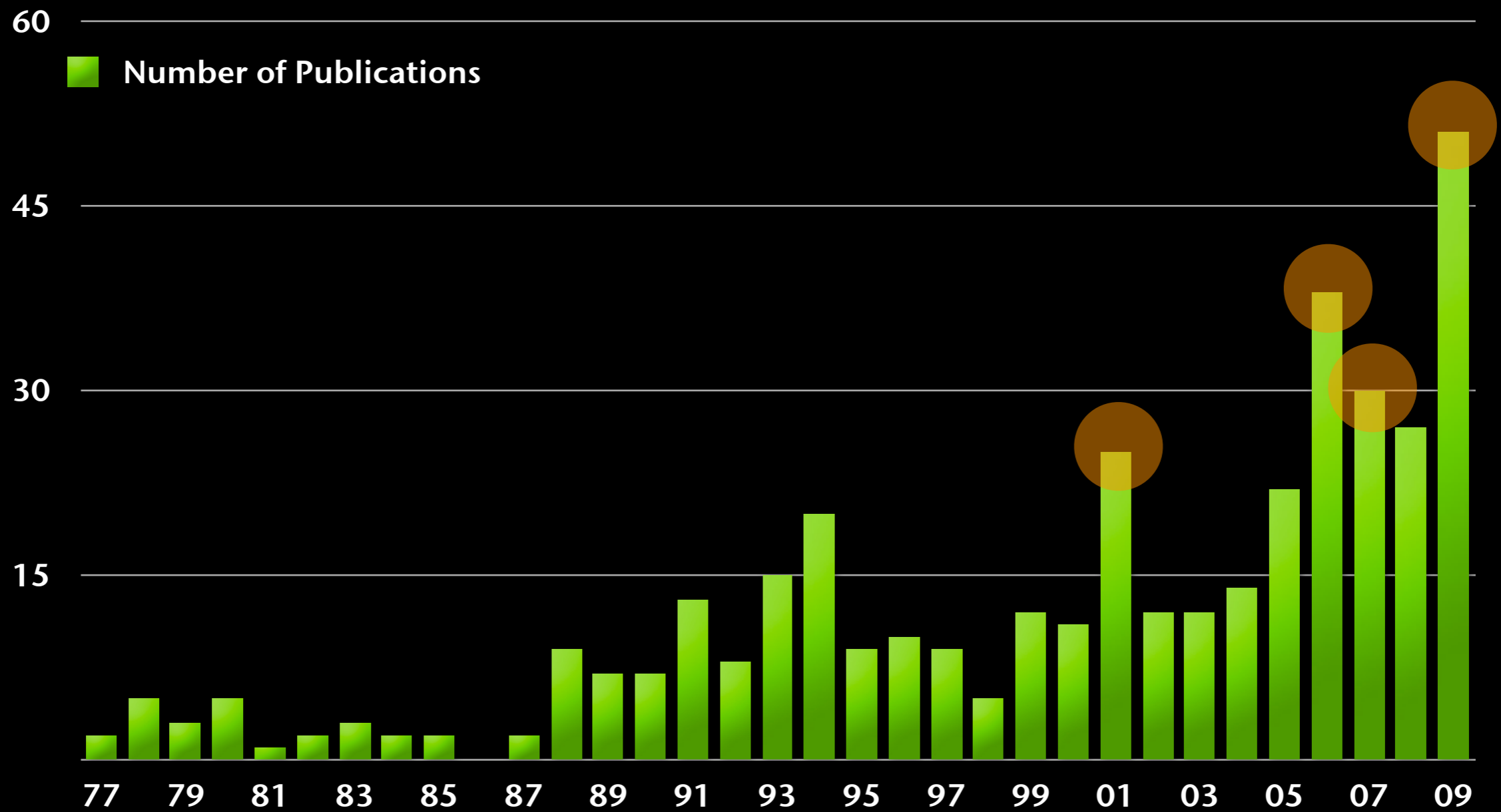
Yue Jia and Mark Harman

An Analysis and Survey of the Development of Mutation Testing (*TSE to appear*)

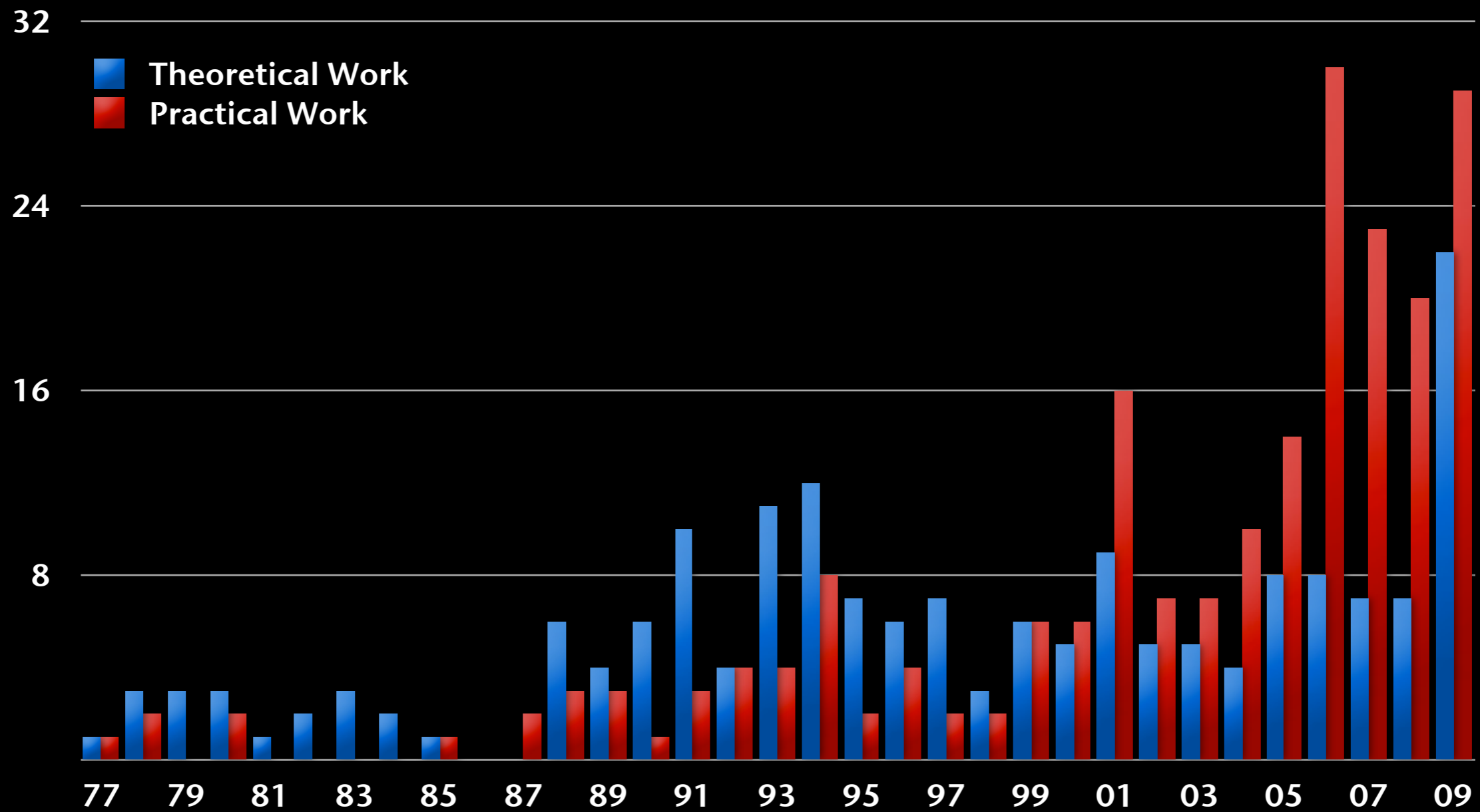
Research Publications



Research Publications



Research Publications



Applications

Applications

Ada Algebraic Specification C#
Network Protocol Petri Nets Security Policy
Statecharts C/C++ Spreadsheets Fortran
Java Aspect Oriented Programming
Lustre SQL Finite State Machine Web Service
Real Time System Calculus Specification PHP

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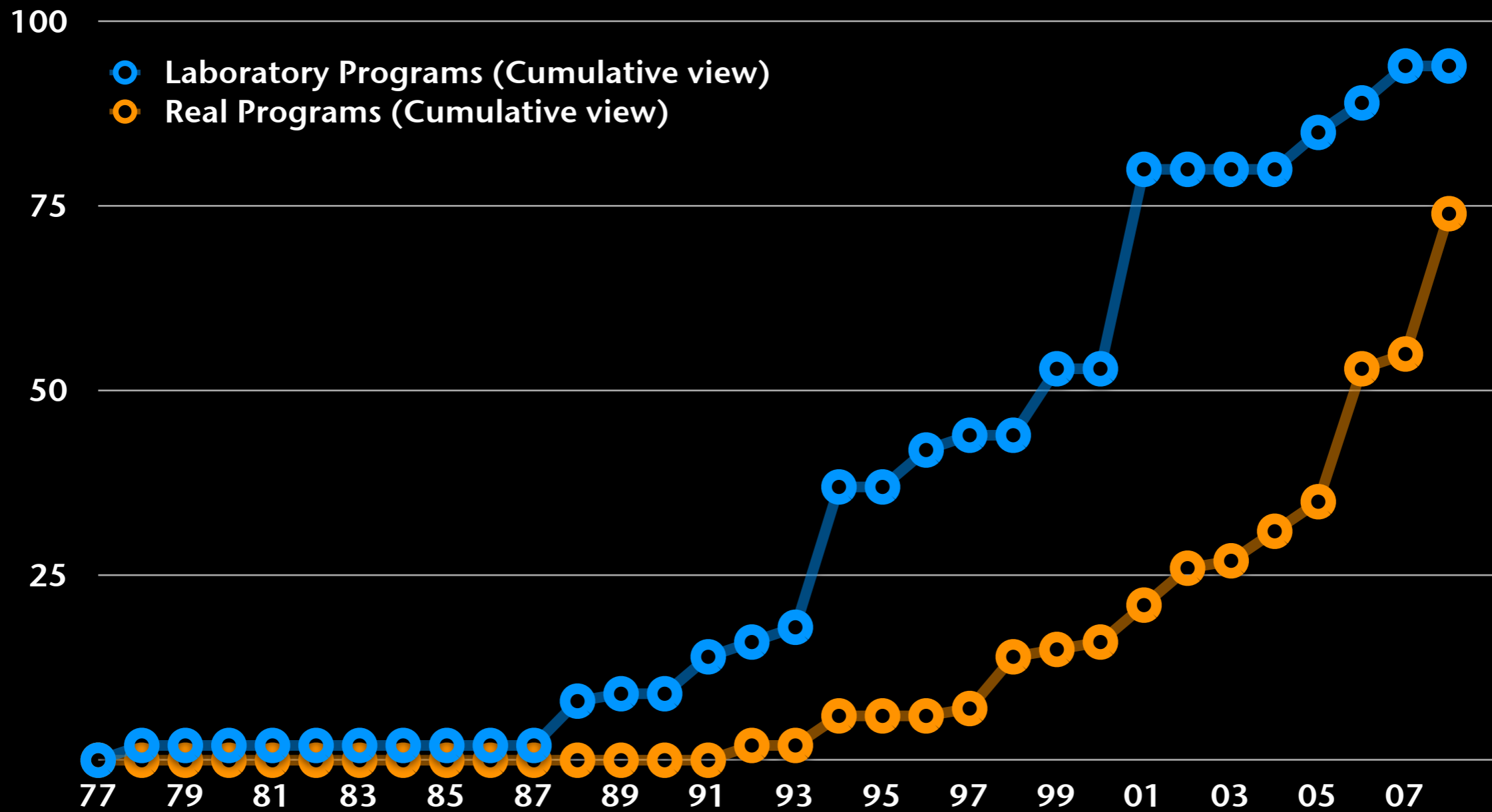
Empirical Studies

Newly applied subject programs

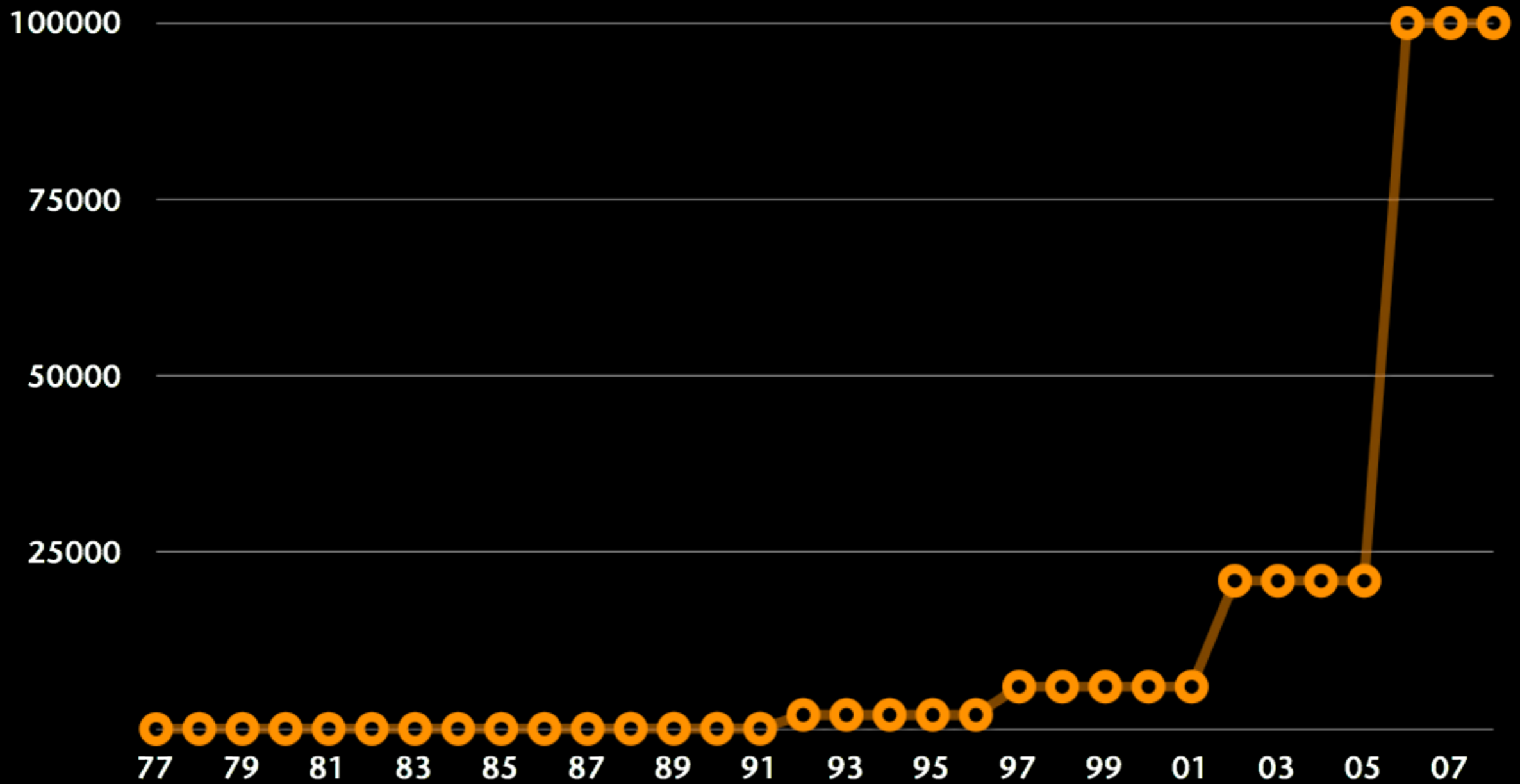
Laboratory programs vs real programs

Size of the largest program

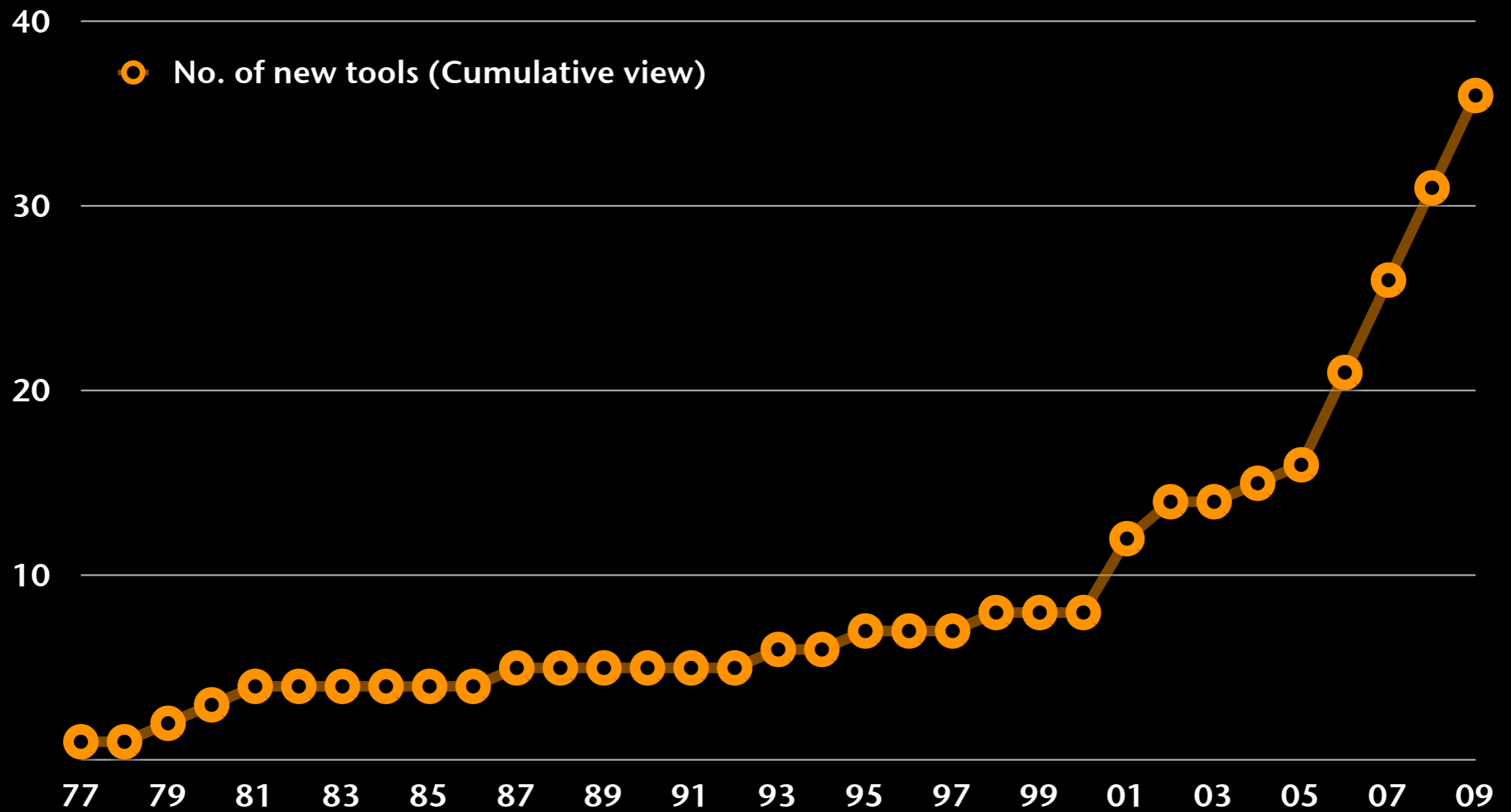
Laboratory vs Real



Largest Program



Tool development



Summary

mutation testing techniques and tools
are reaching a state of
maturity and applicability

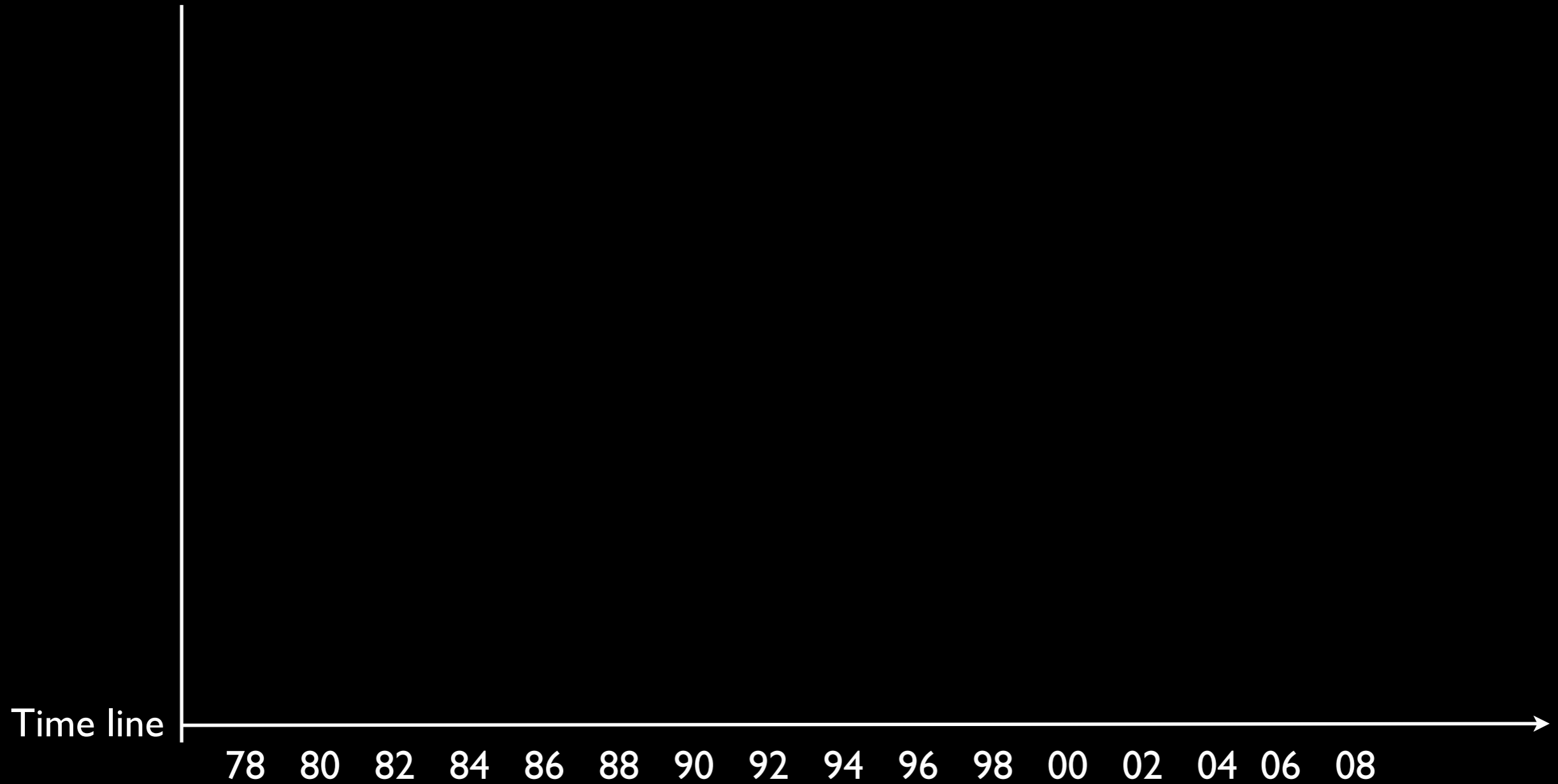
Yue Jia and Mark Harman

An Analysis and Survey of the Development of
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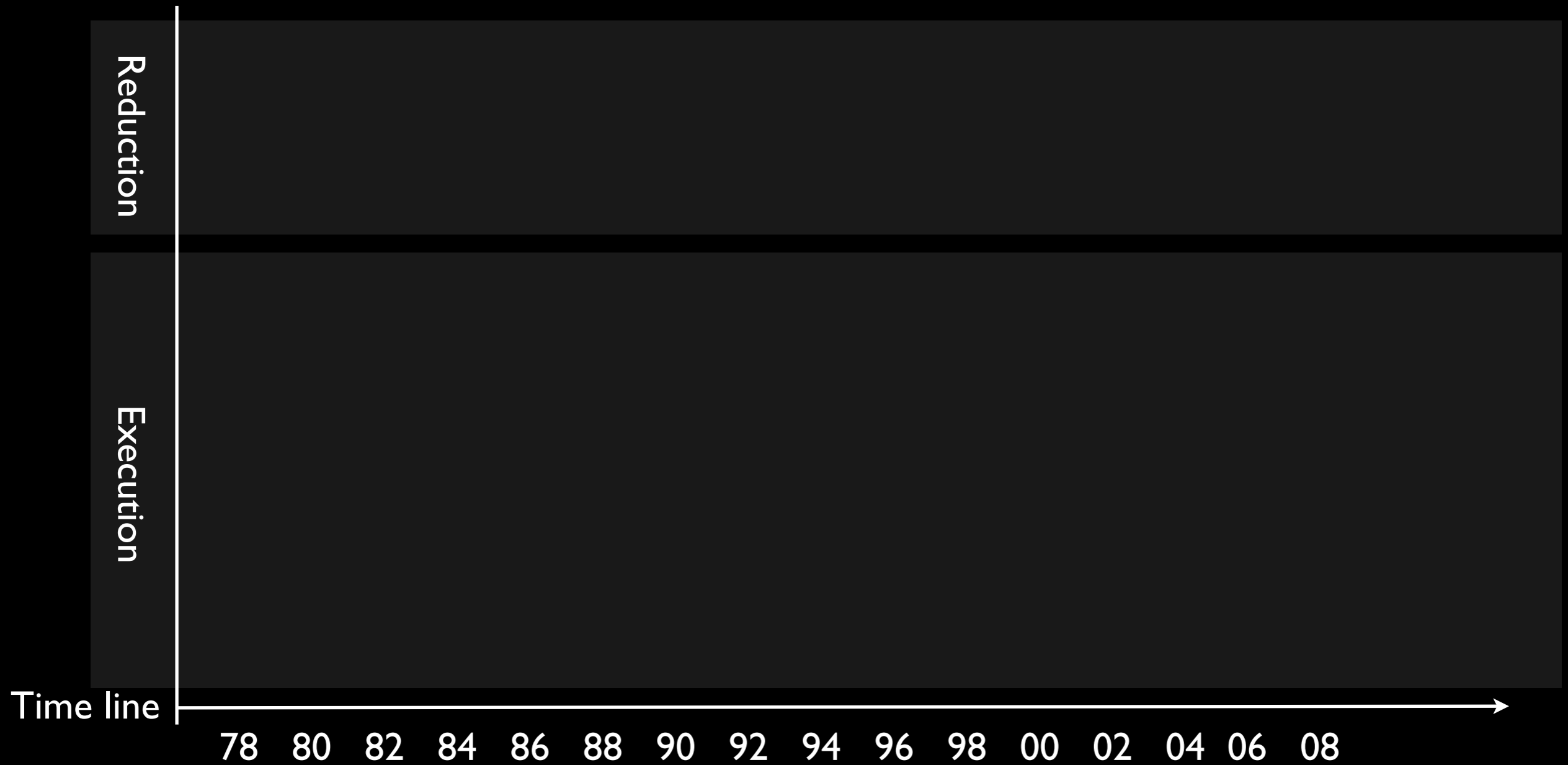
<http://www.dcs.kcl.ac.uk/pg/jiayue/repository/>

Mutant Reduction Techniques

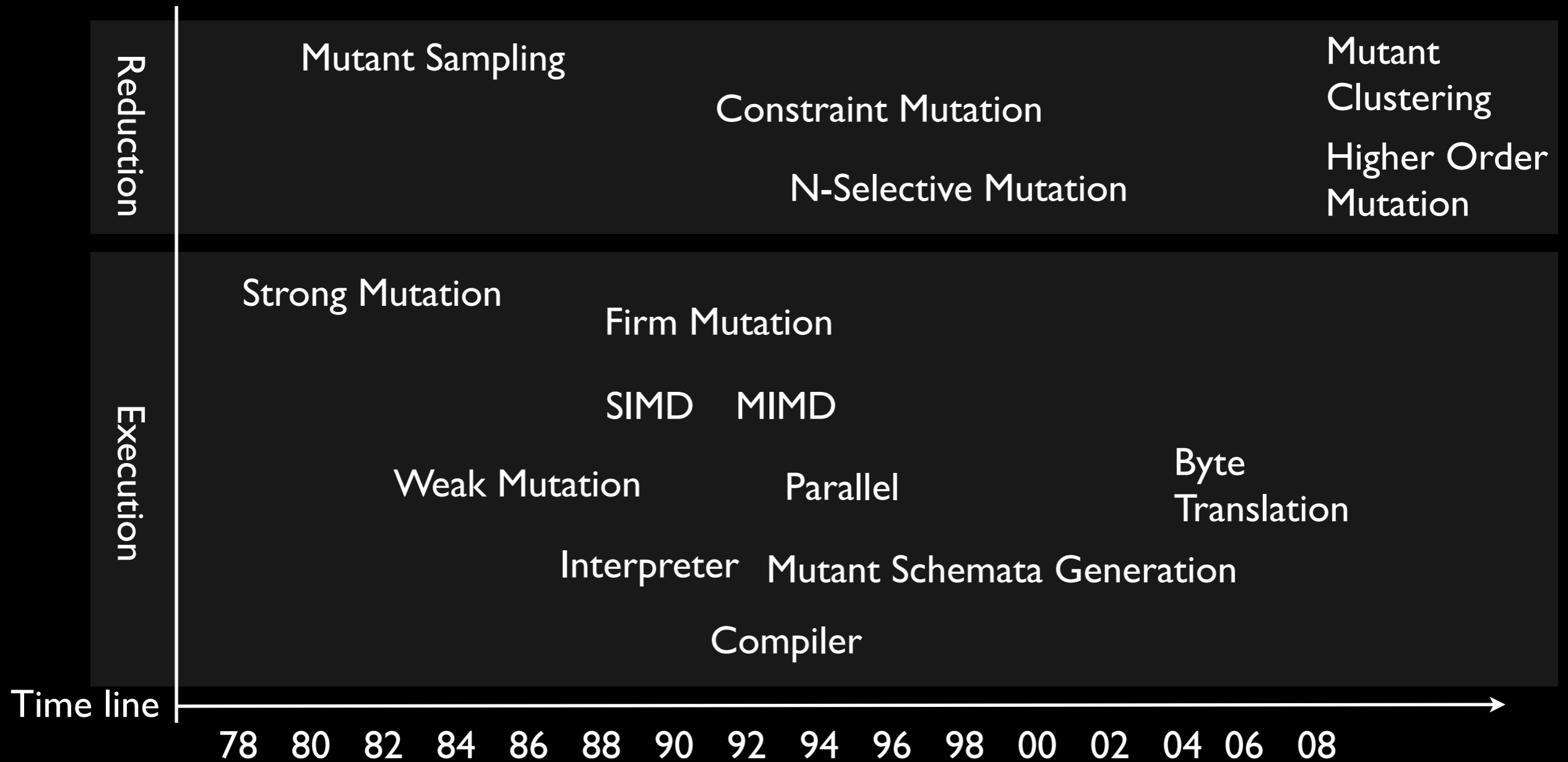
Mutant Reduction Techniques



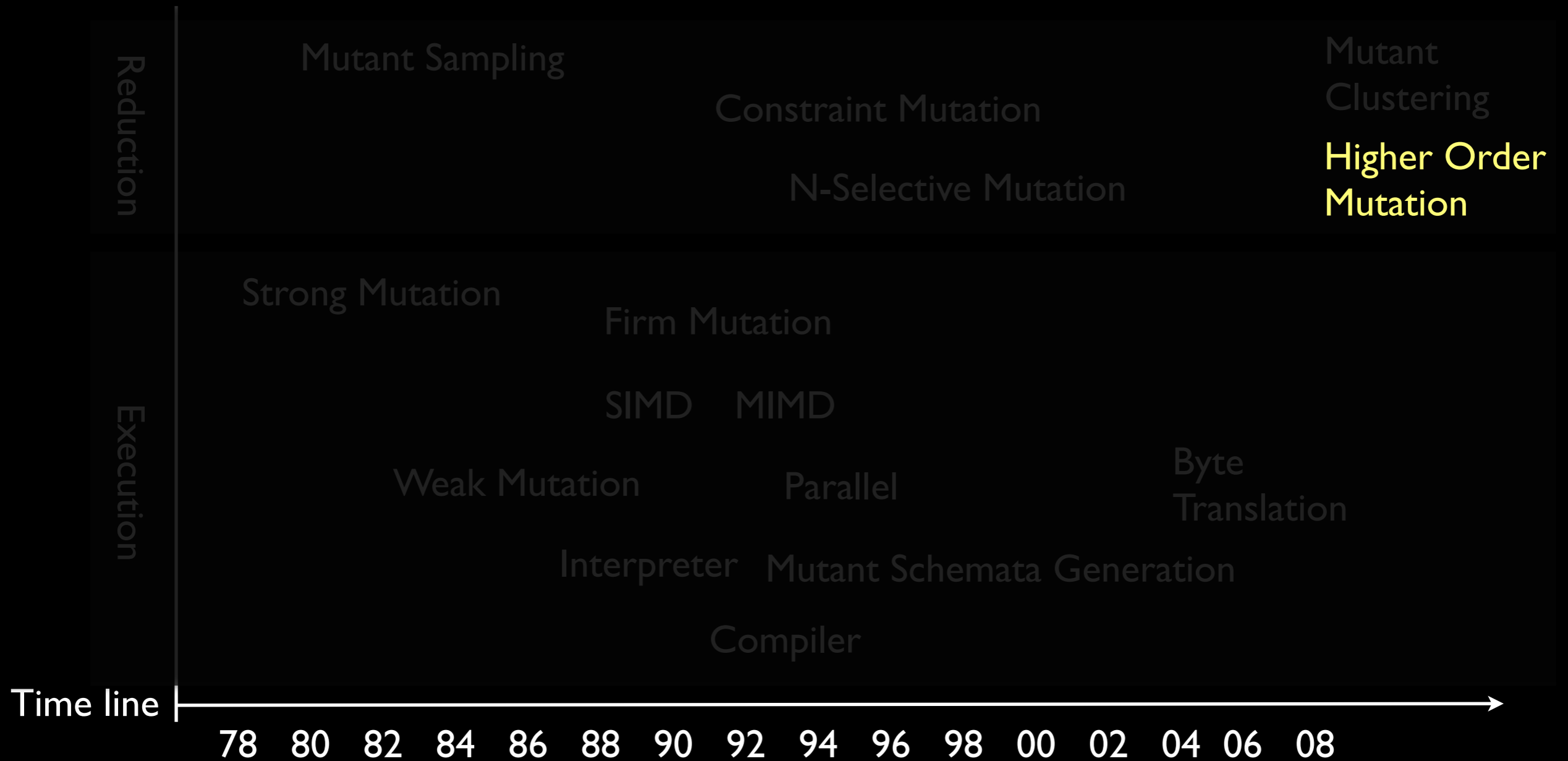
Mutant Reduction Techniques



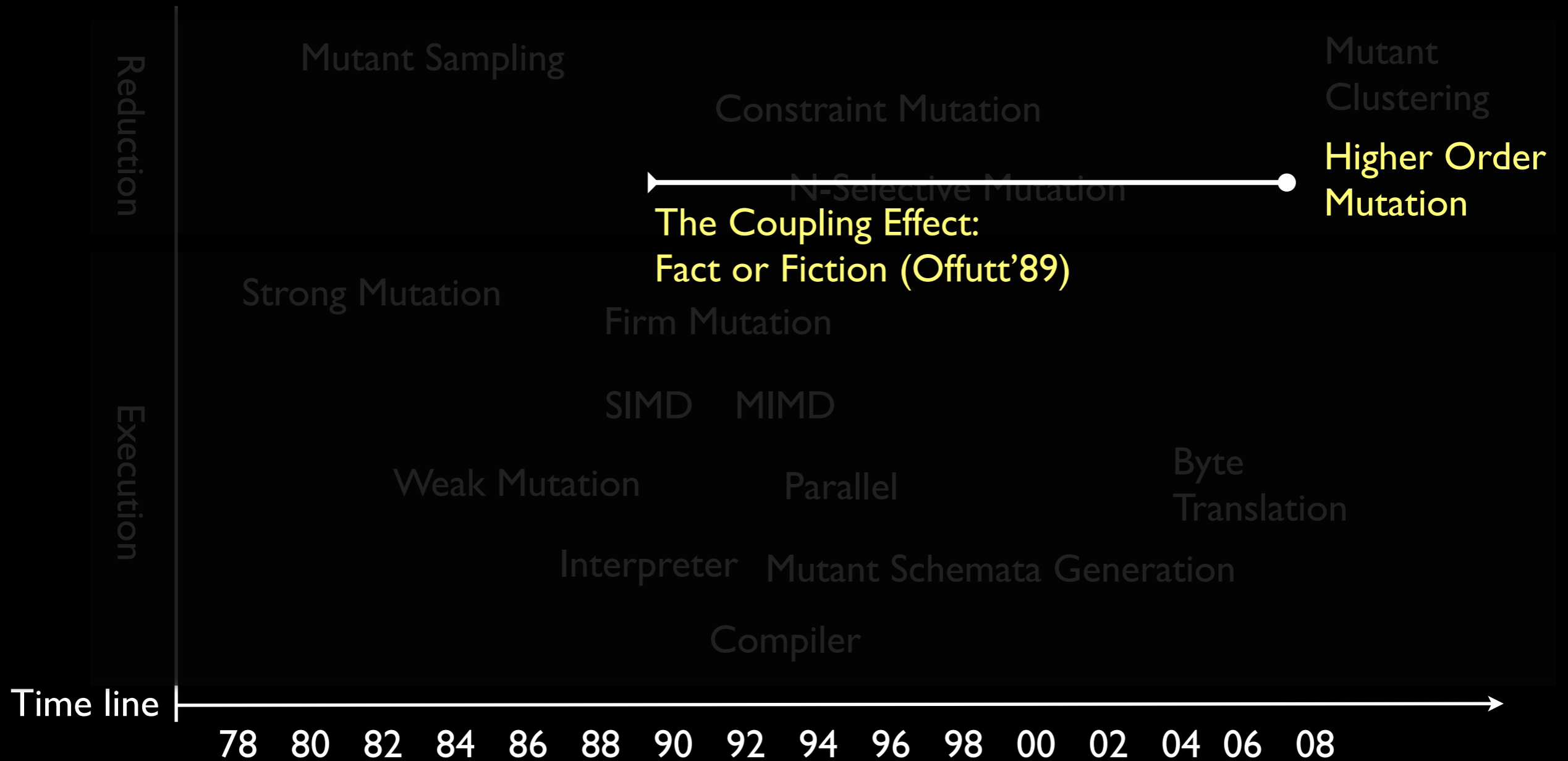
Mutant Reduction Techniques



Mutant Reduction Techniques



Mutant Reduction Techniques

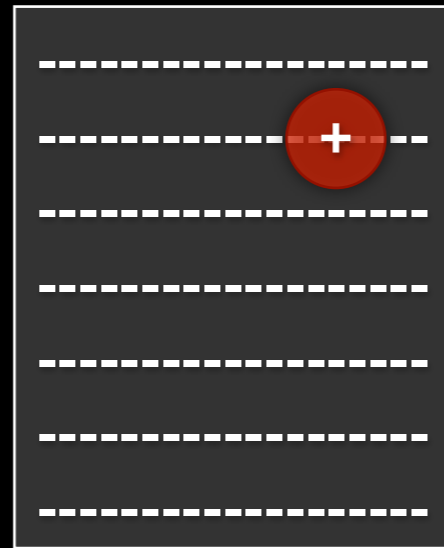


FOMs and HOMs



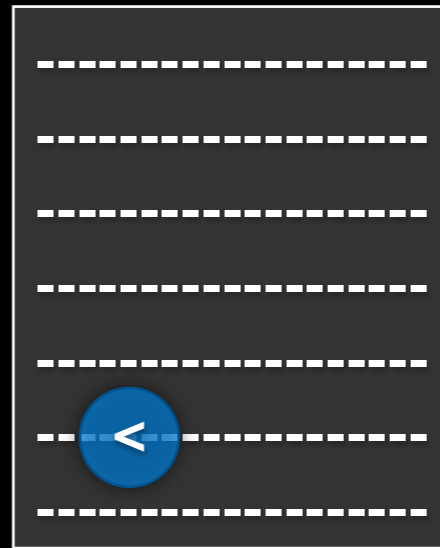
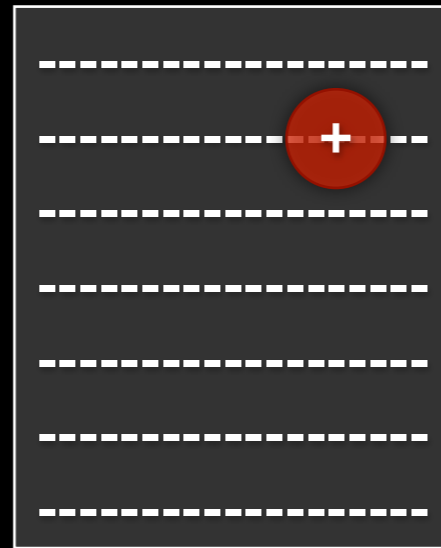
Original Program

FOMs and HOMs



Original Program

FOMs and HOMs

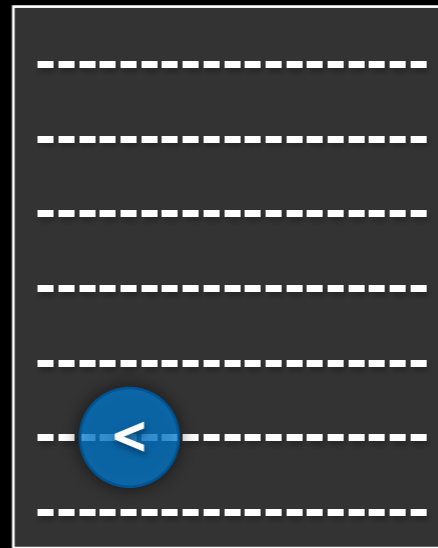
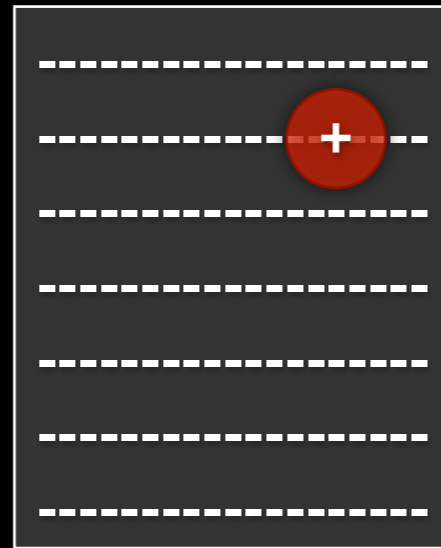


Original Program

FOMs and HOMs



Original Program

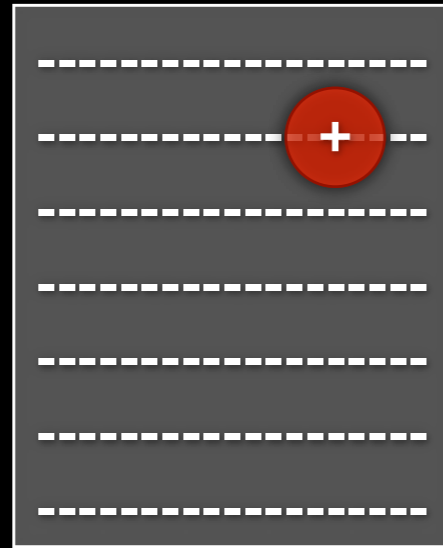


First Order Mutants

FOMs and HOMs



Original Program

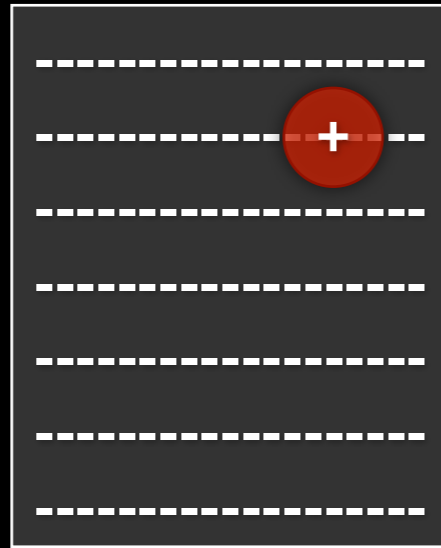


First Order Mutants

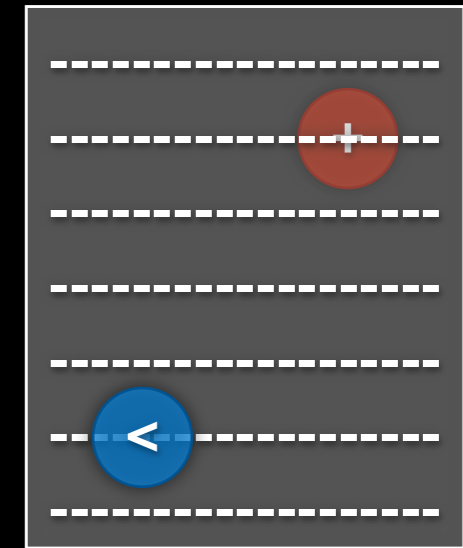
FOMs and HOMs



Original Program



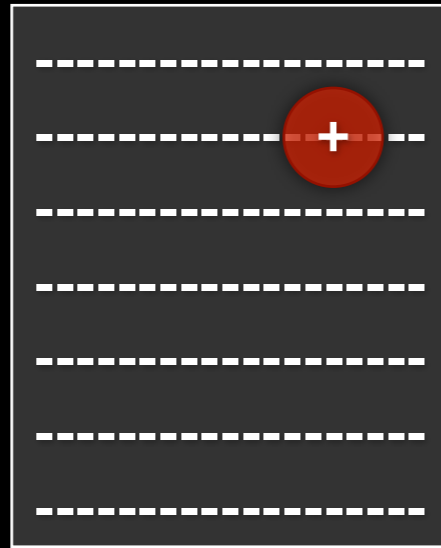
First Order Mutants



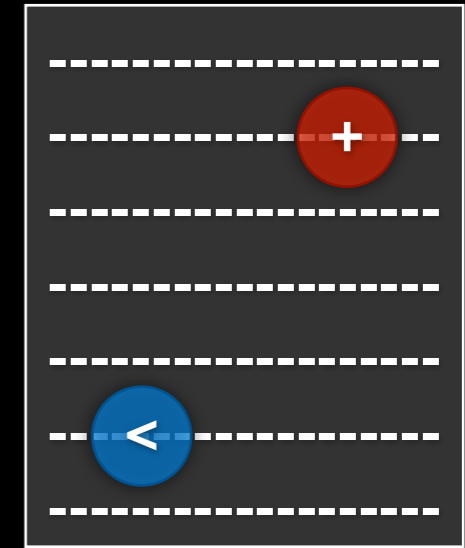
FOMs and HOMs



Original Program



First Order Mutants

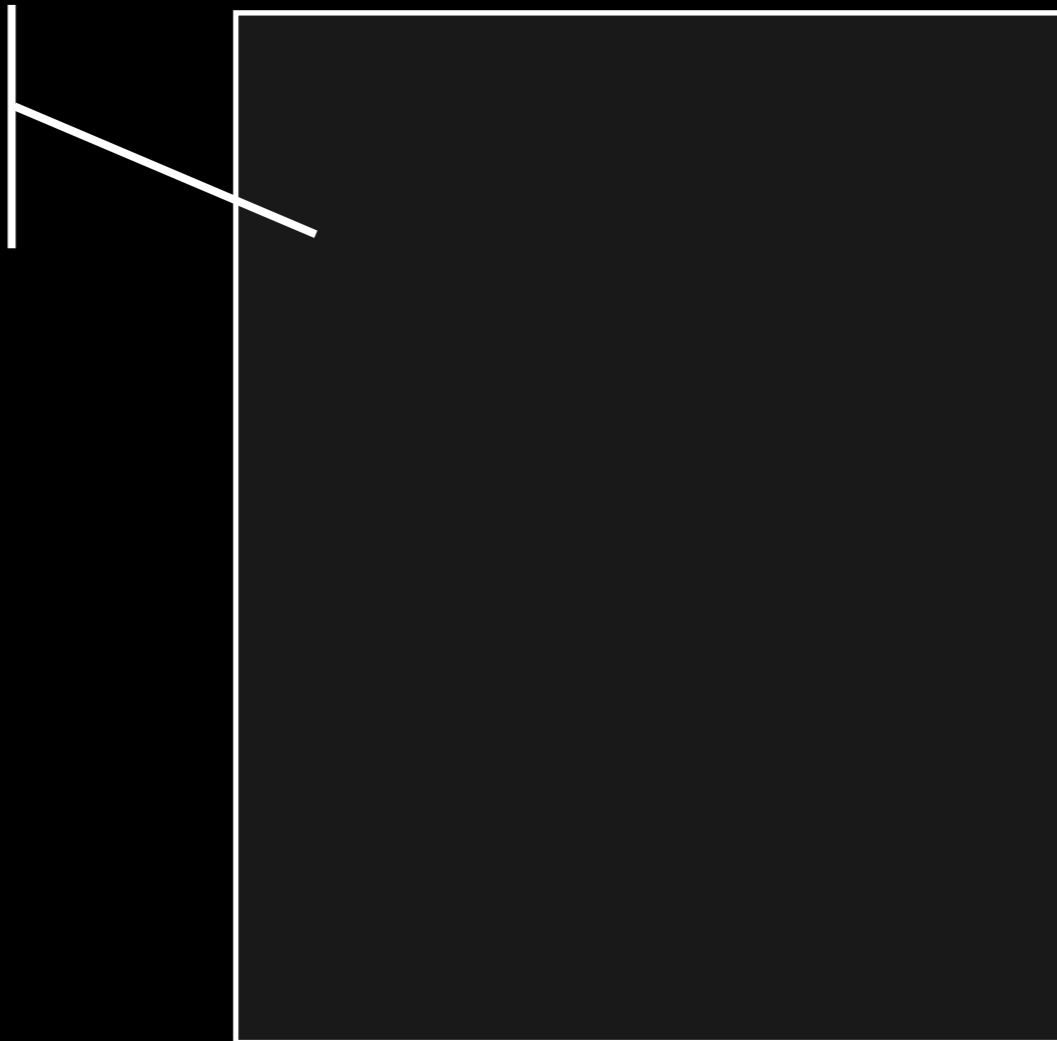


Higher Order Mutants

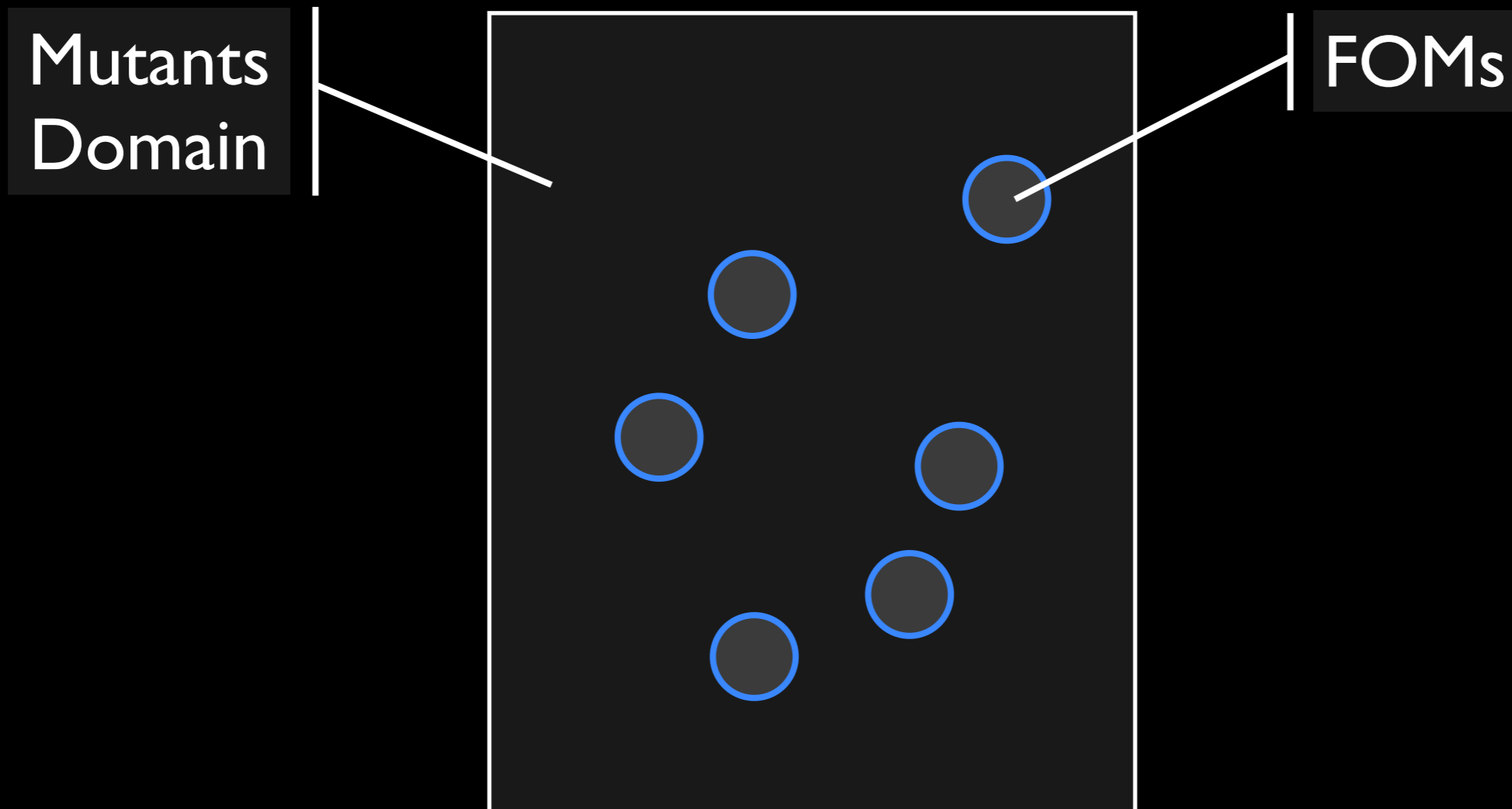
FOMs and HOMs

FOMs and HOMs

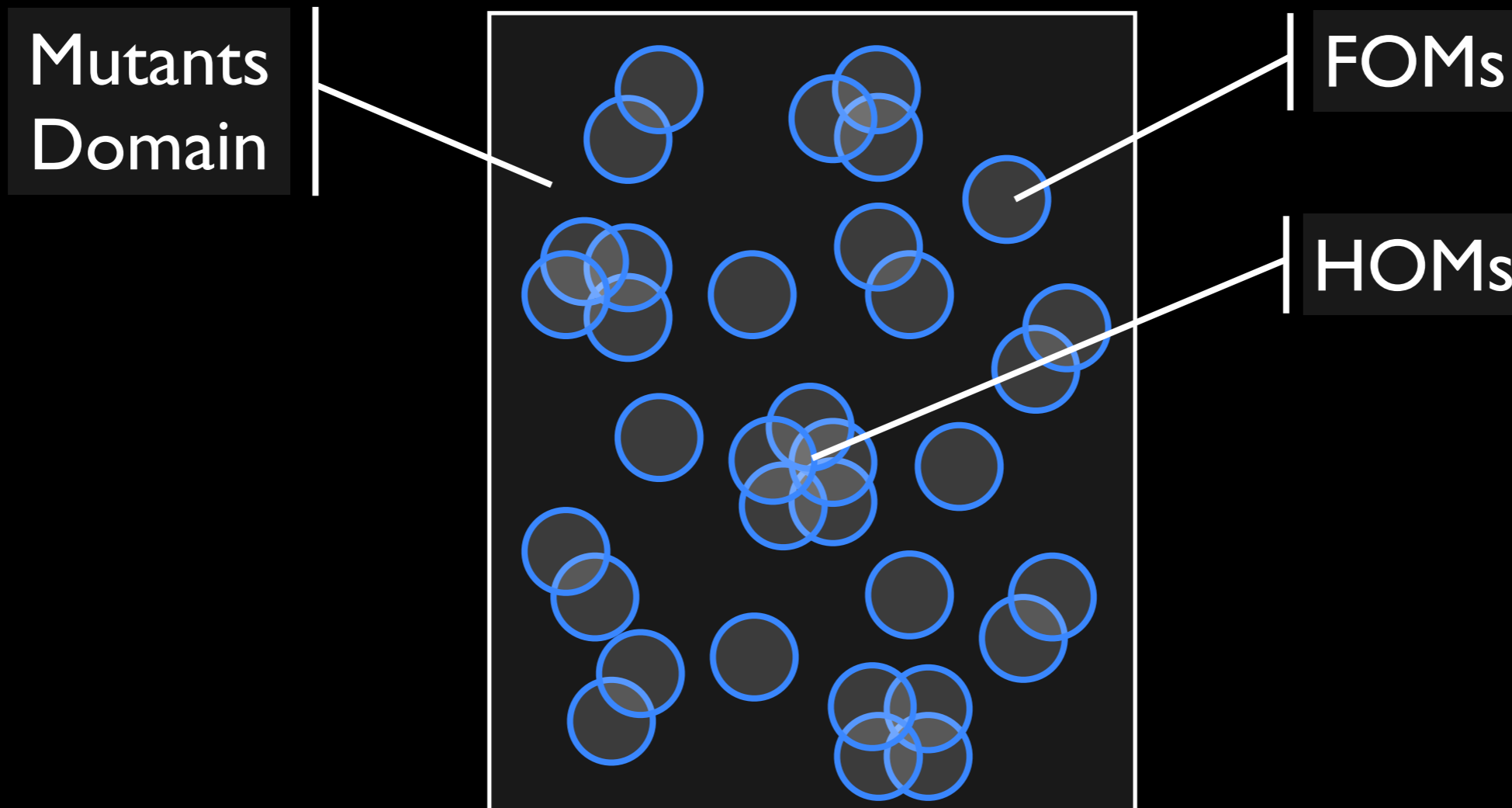
Mutants
Domain



FOMs and HOMs



FOMs and HOMs



Traditional FOM Testing

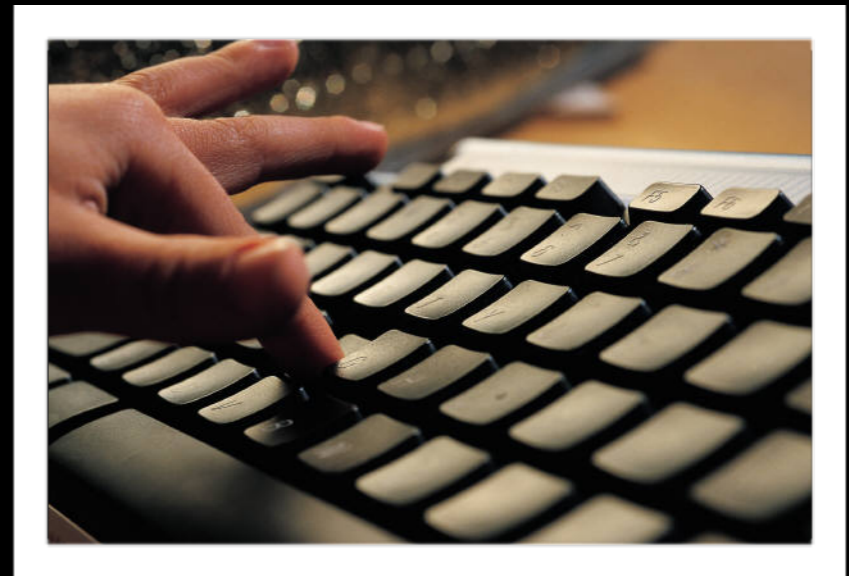
Traditional FOM Testing

Higher Order Mutants are far too numerous

Traditional FOM Testing

Higher Order Mutants are far too numerous

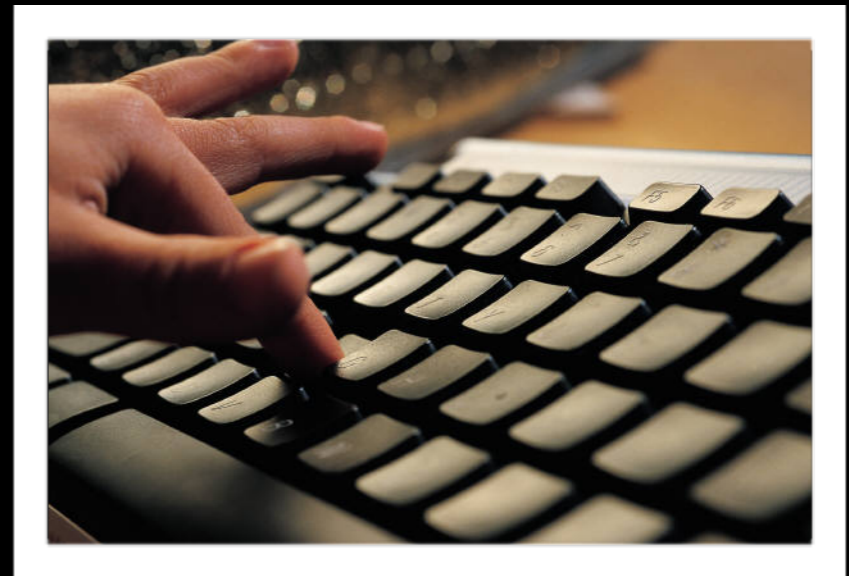
Competent Programmer



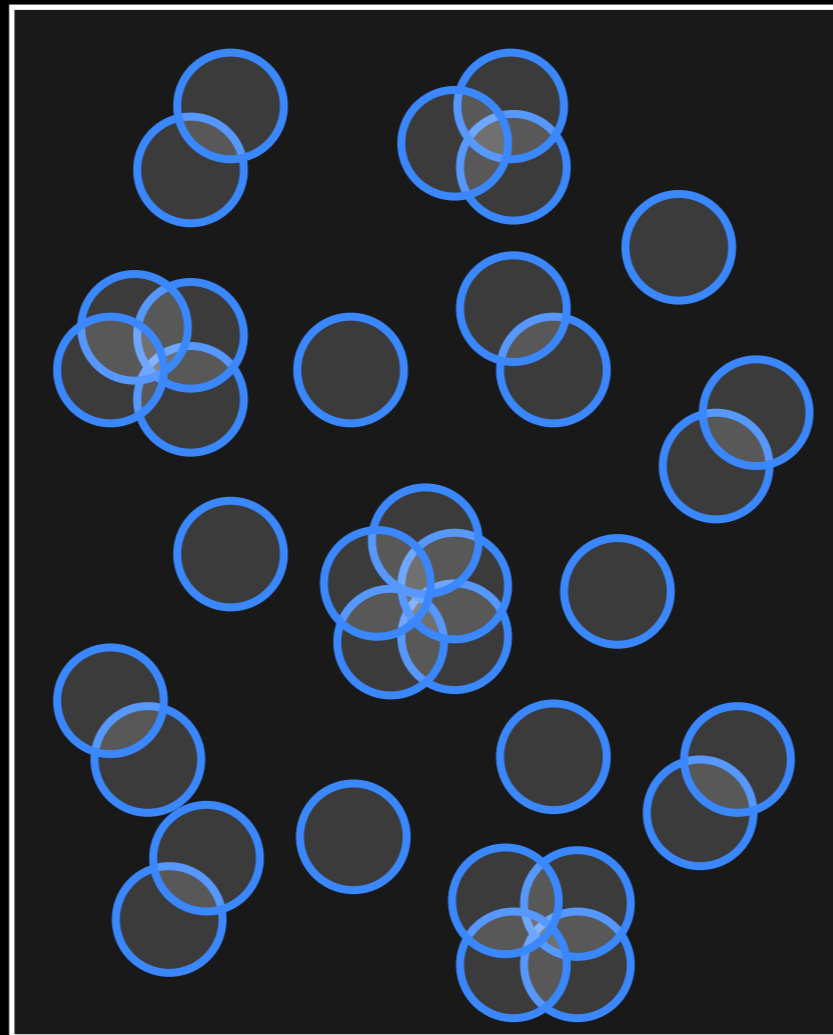
Traditional FOM Testing

Higher Order Mutants are far too numerous

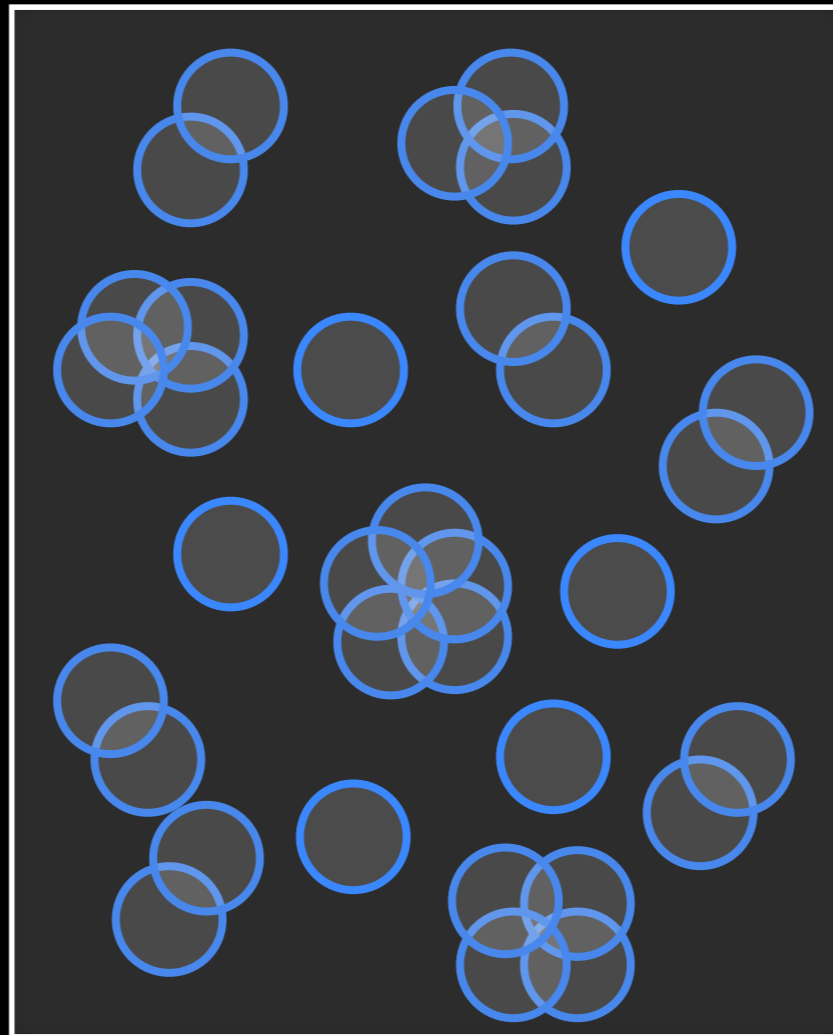
Competent Programmer
Mutation Coupling Effect



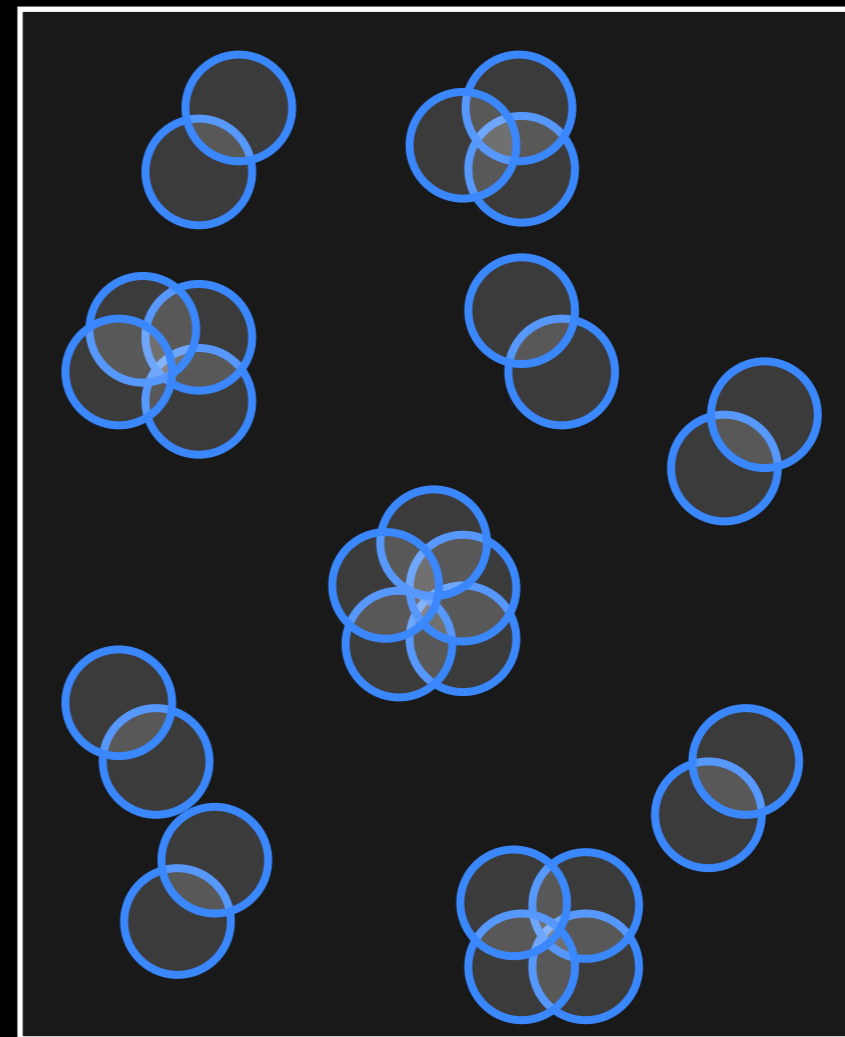
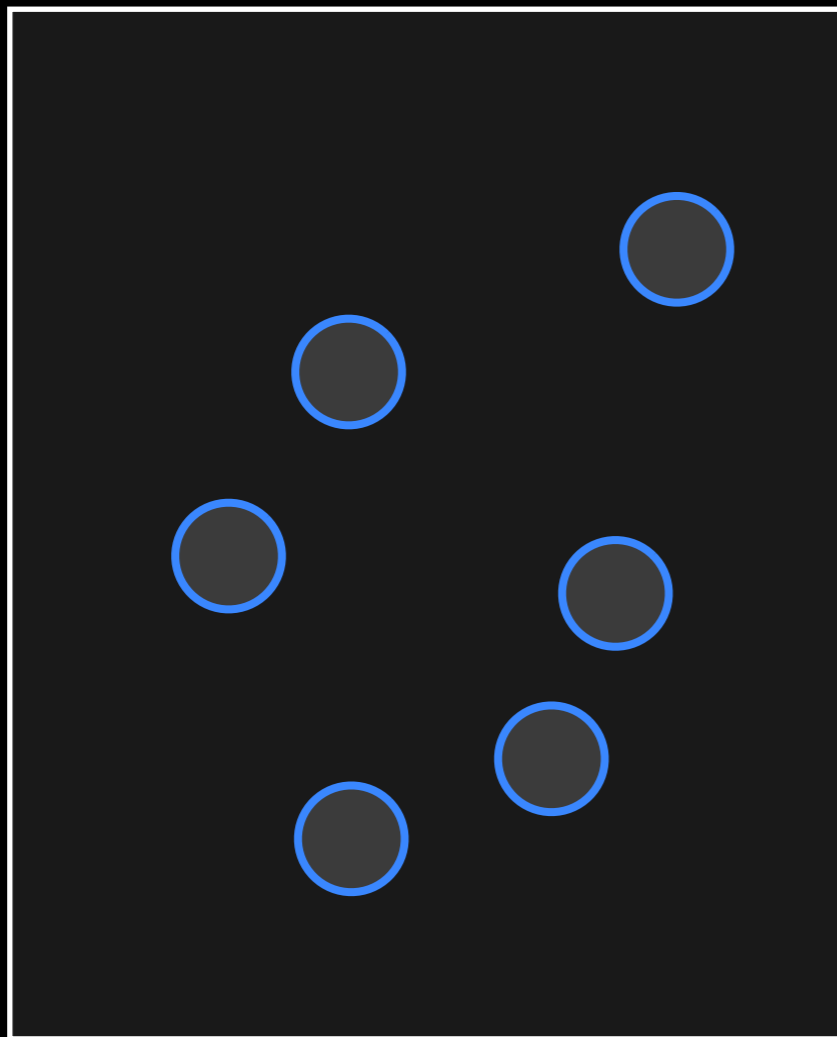
Mutation Coupling Effect



Mutation Coupling Effect

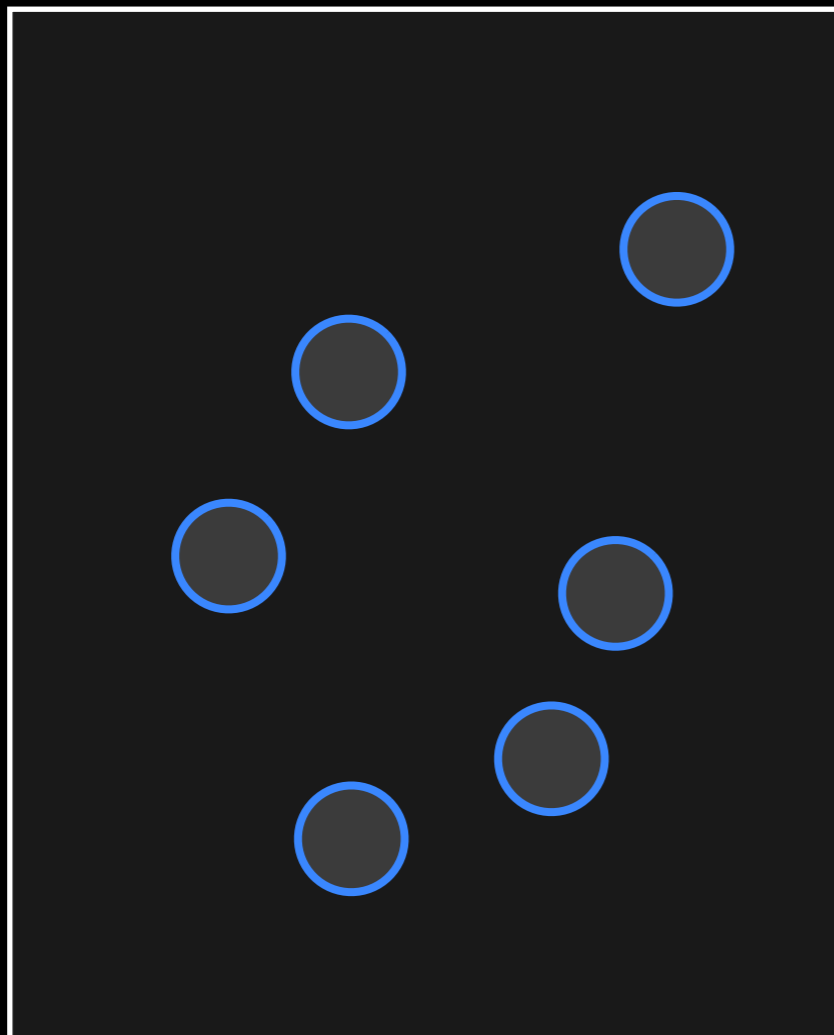


Mutation Coupling Effect

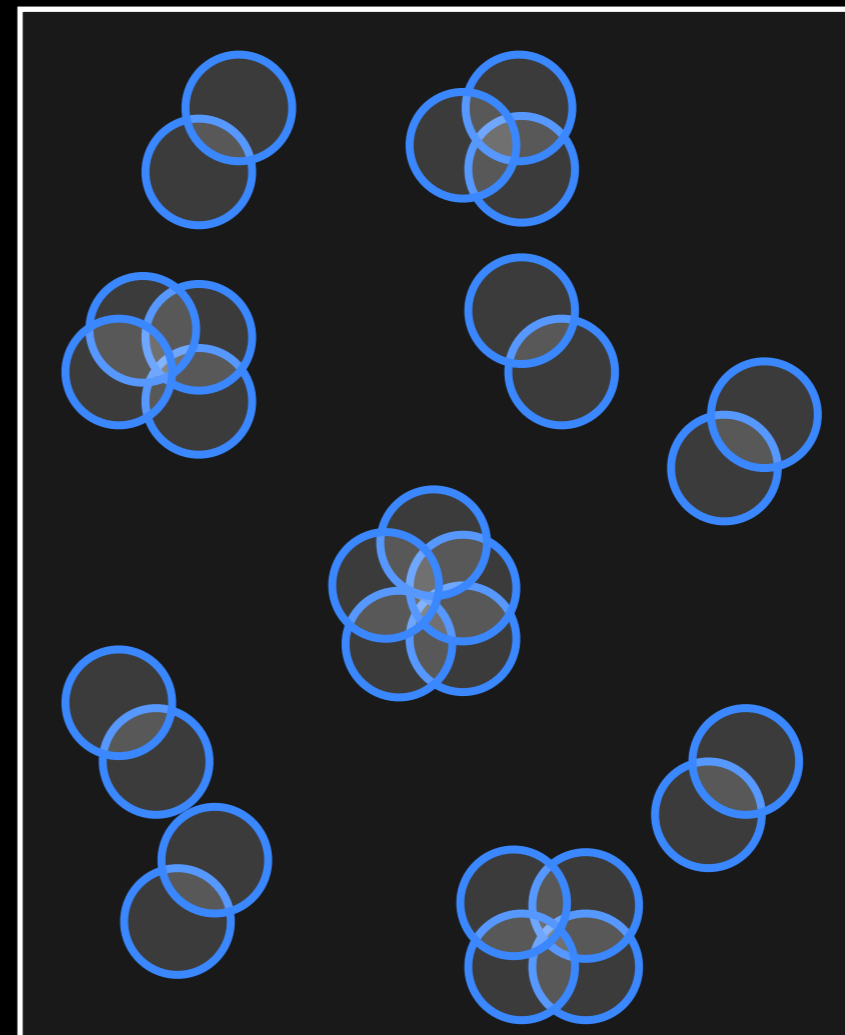


Mutation Coupling Effect

Simple / FOMs

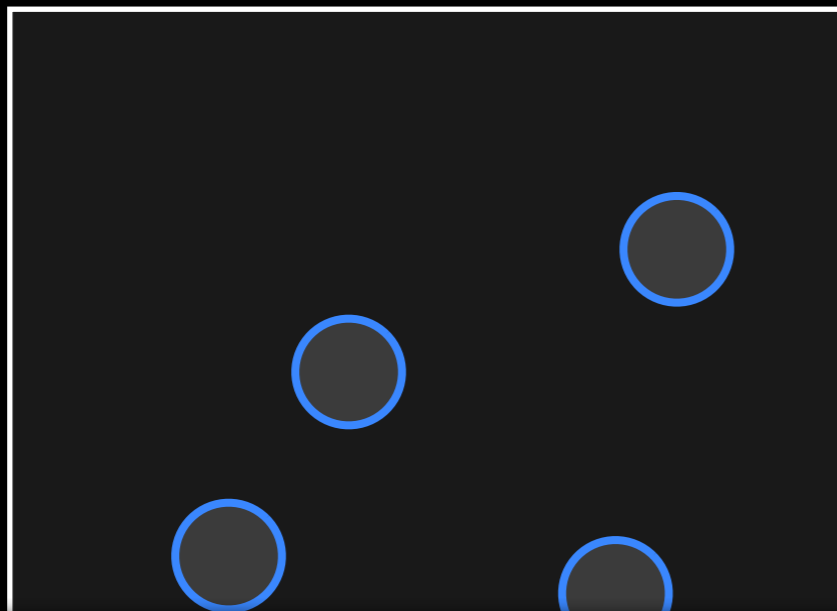


Complex / HOMs

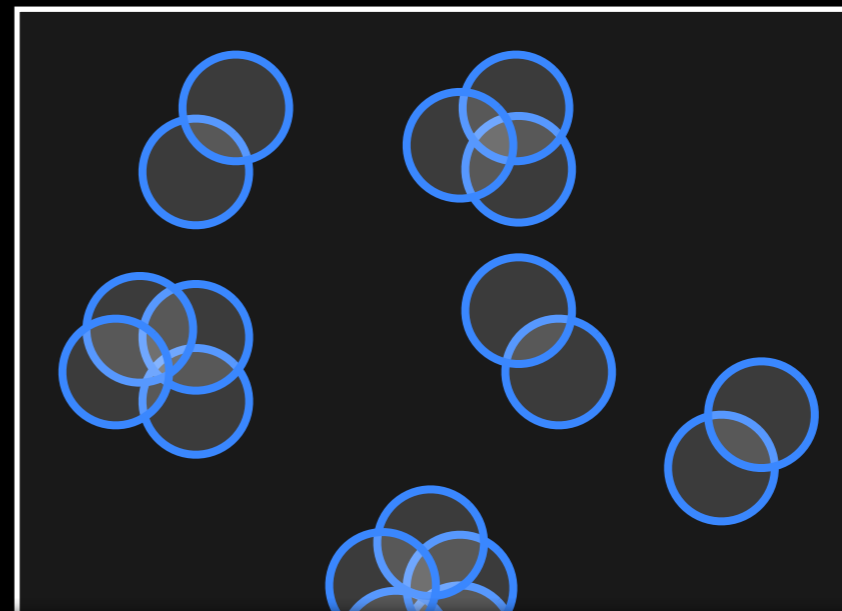


Mutation Coupling Effect

Simple / FOMs



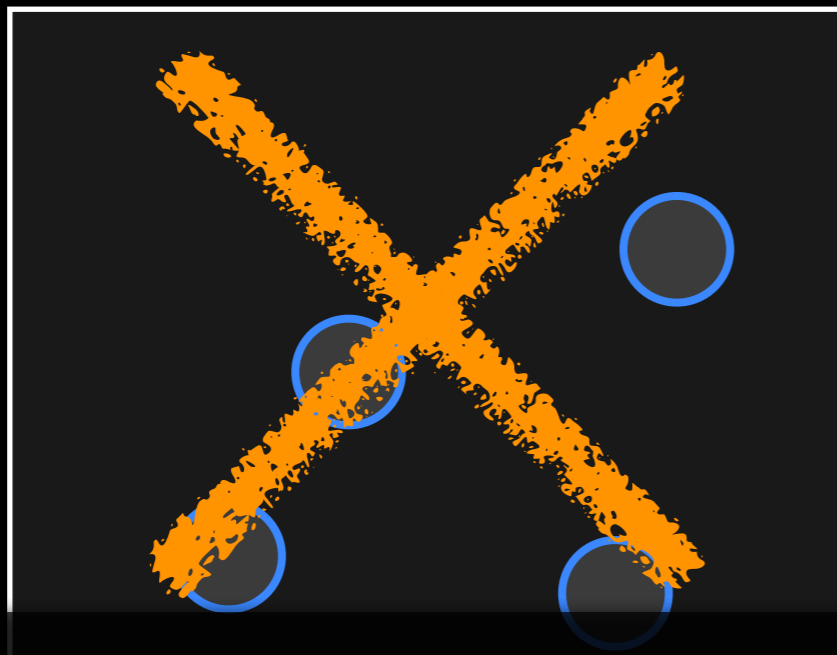
Complex / HOMs



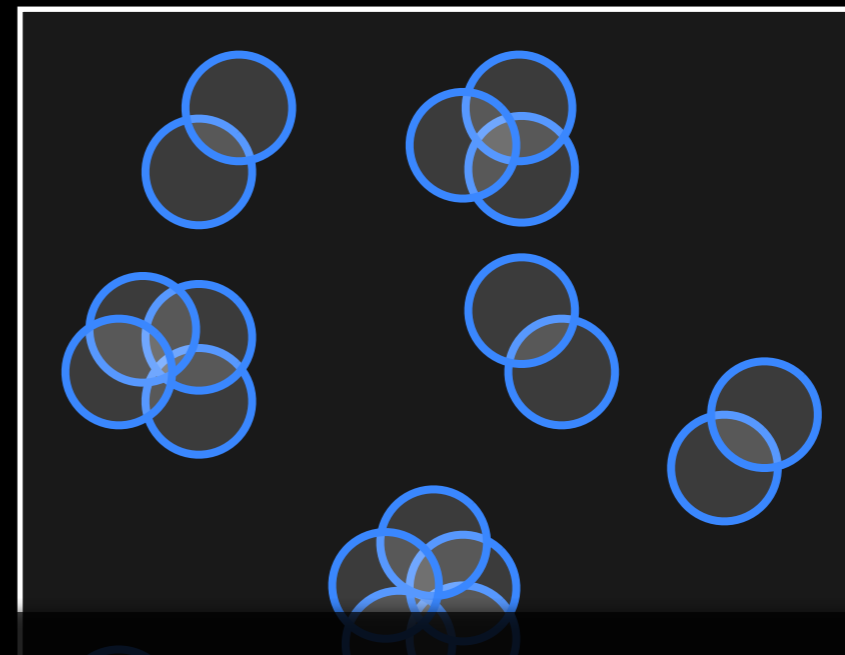
If a test set kills all FOMs, it will kill a large percentage of the HOMs (Offutt 1992)

Mutation Coupling Effect

Simple / FOMs



Complex / HOMs

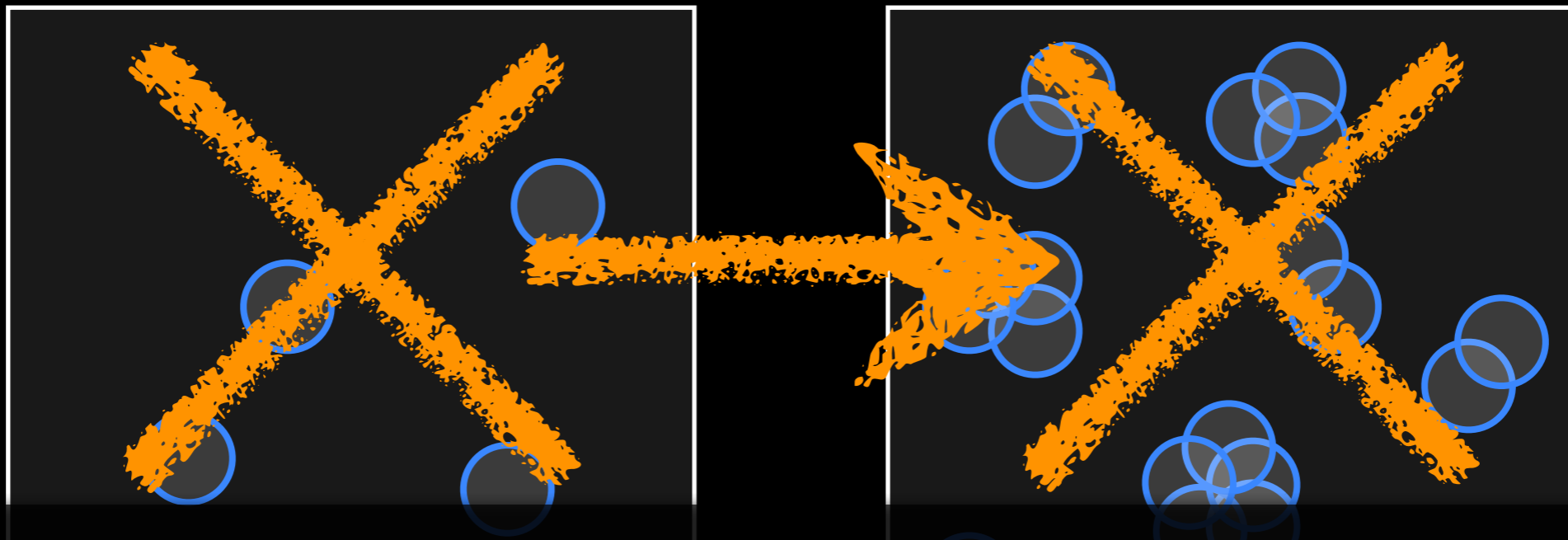


If a test set kills all FOMs, it will kill a large percentage of the HOMs (Offutt 1992)

Mutation Coupling Effect

Simple / FOMs

Complex / HOMs

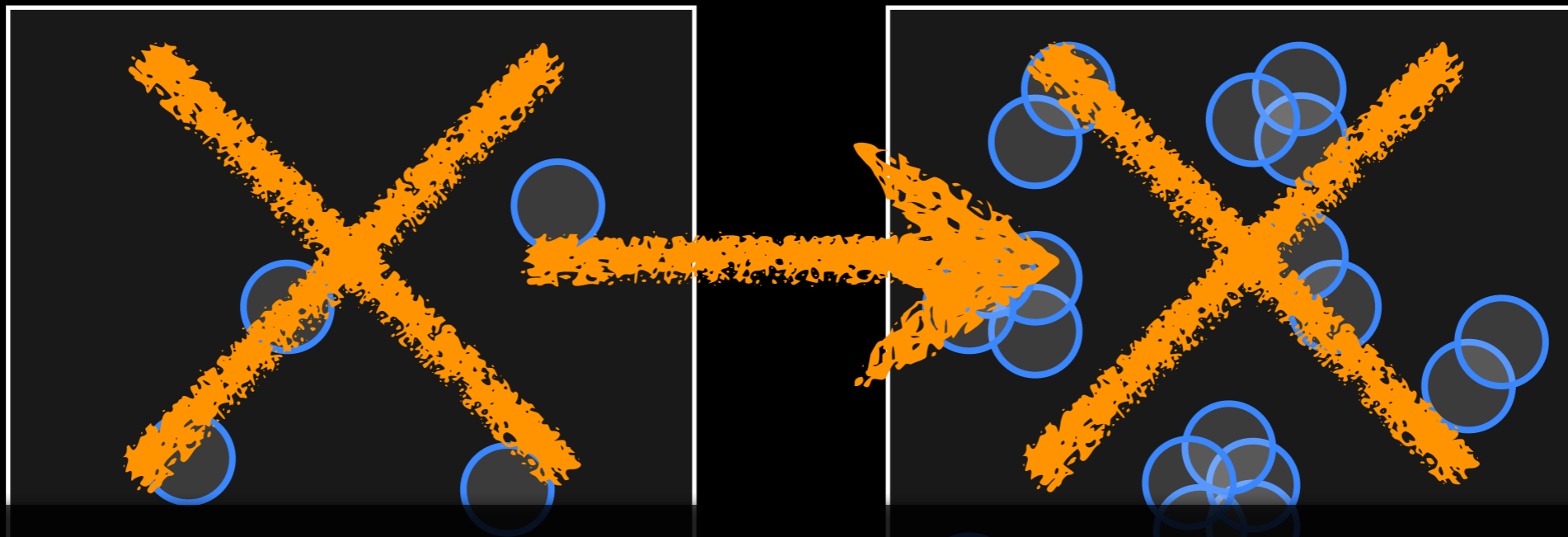


If a test set kills all FOMs, it will kill a large percentage of the HOMs (Offutt 1992)

Mutation Coupling Effect

Simple / FOMs

Complex / HOMs



If a test set kills all FOMs, it will kill **a large percentage** of the HOMs (Offutt 1992)

First Order Restriction

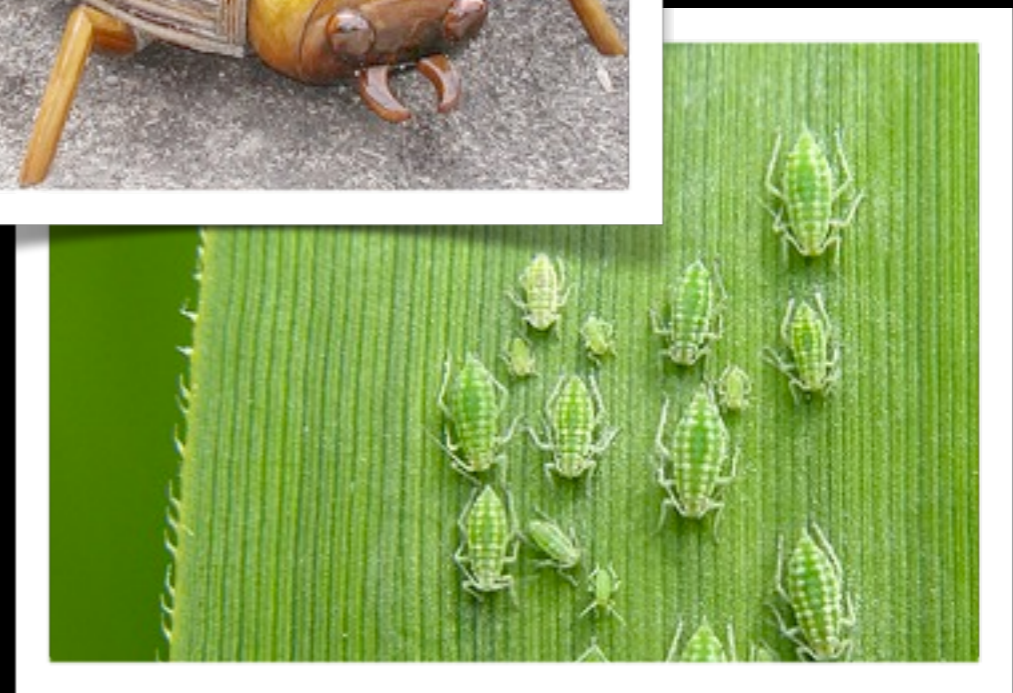
FOMs are easily killed

e.g. + \rightarrow -



First Order Restriction

Are FOMs
really
like
real faults?



First Order Restriction

real faults require several edits to fix them

AT&T 5ESS Telephone Switch (90%)

(Purushothaman and Perry, TSE 2005)

Ericsson Telecom Middleware (50%)

(Eldh et al., FATE 2007)

Search for HOMs

search space of mutants

search for good mutants



Search based MT

Why not search for mutants that are hard to kill?

Search based MT

Why not search for mutants that are hard to kill?

Tabu Search Ant Colonies Particle Swarm Optimization
Hill Climbing Genetic Algorithms
Simulated Annealing Genetic Programming
Greedy LP Random
Estimation of Distribution Algorithms

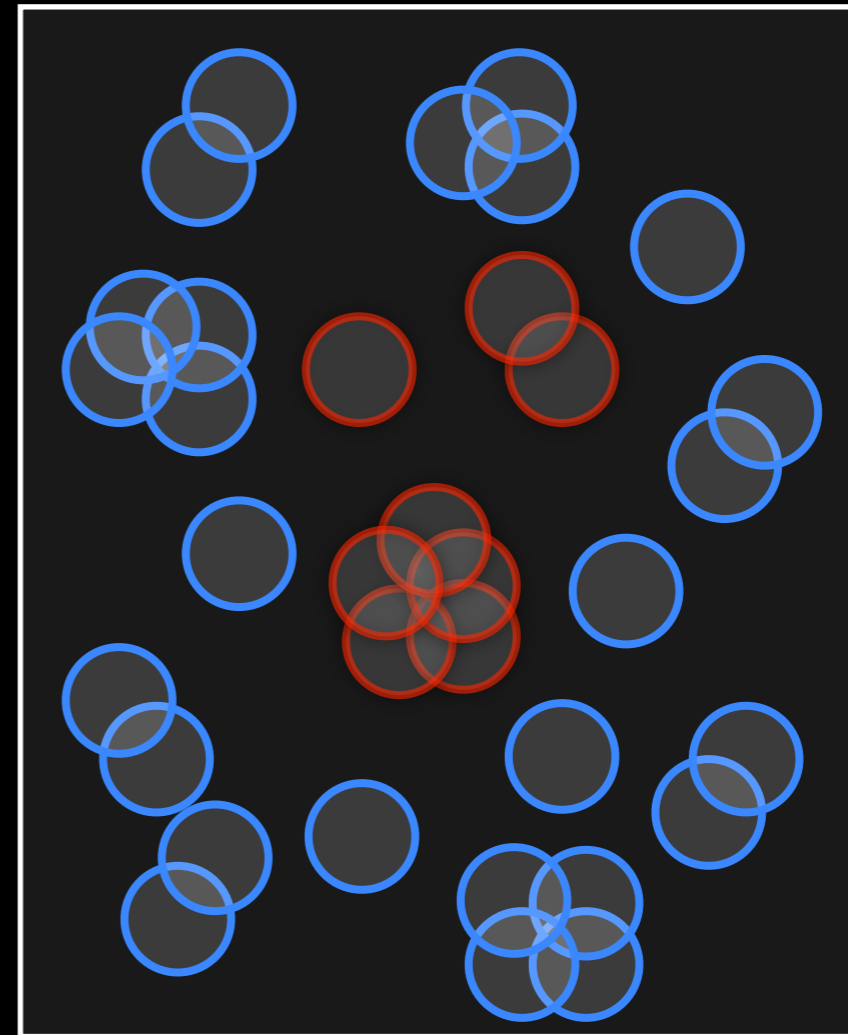
Search based MT

Why not search for mutants that are hard to kill?

Tabu Search Ant Colonies Particle Swarm Optimization
Hill Climbing Genetic Algorithms
Genetic Programming
Simulated Annealing Greedy LP Random
Estimation of Distribution Algorithms

Aim

Searching
avoids
enumerating all mutants



Approaches

Single Objective

Genetic Algorithm

Hill Climbing

Greedy

Multi Objective

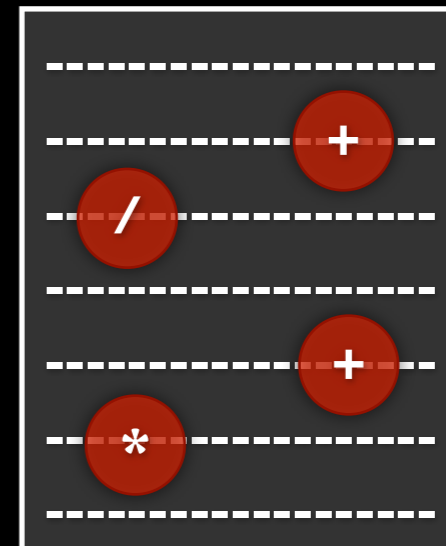
Genetic Programming

Single Objective

Data Representation

Index

Position



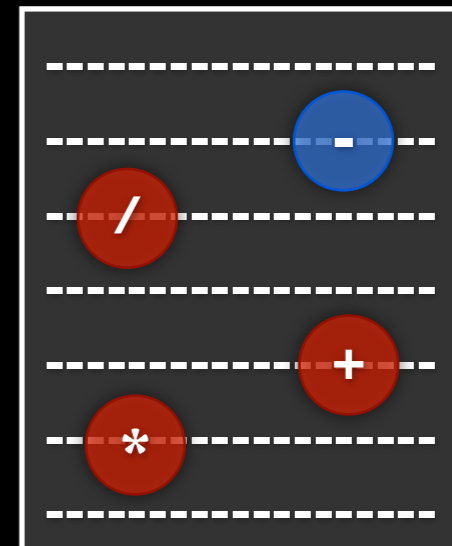
Single Objective

Data Representation

Index

Position

1 0 0 0

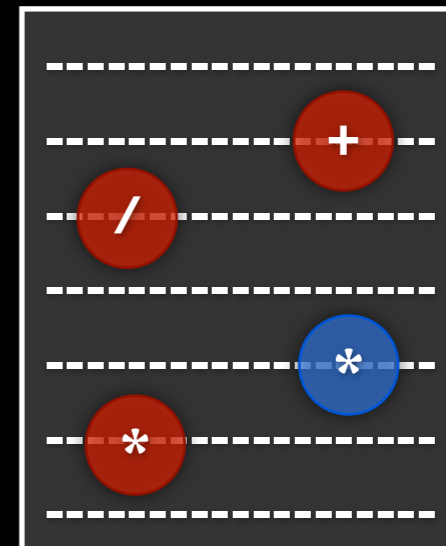
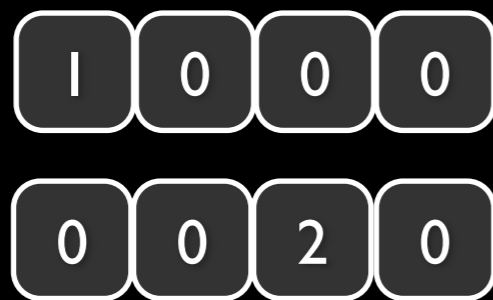


Single Objective

Data Representation

Index

Position

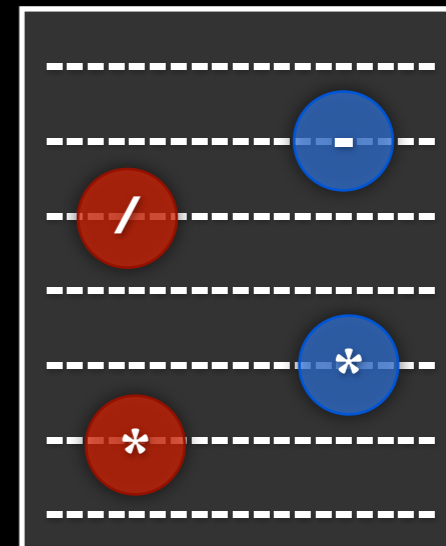
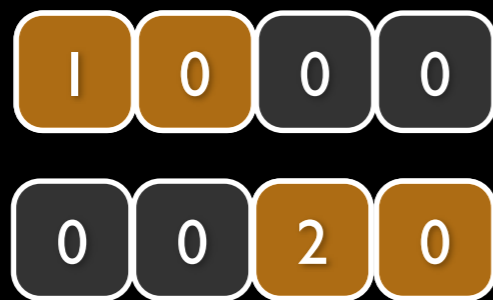


Single Objective

Data Representation

Index

Position



Single Objective

Data Representation

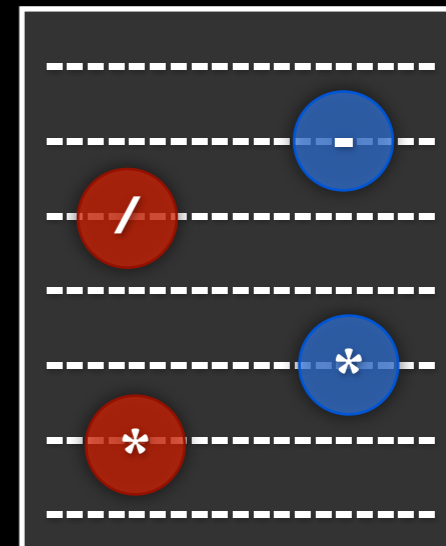
Index

Position

1 0 0 0

0 0 2 0

1 0 2 0



Single Objective

$$\text{fitness} = \frac{\text{Test cases that kill the FOMs}}{\text{Test cases that kill the HOM}}$$

fitness ≥ 1 , easier to be killed

fitness < 1 , harder to be killed

fitness = 0, cannot to be killed

Algorithms

GA

Crossover + Mutation

Greedy

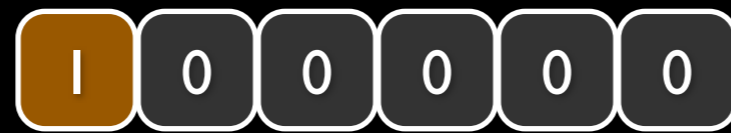
HC

Algorithms

GA

Crossover + Mutation

Greedy



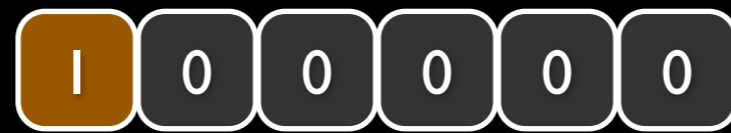
HC

Algorithms

GA

Crossover + Mutation

Greedy



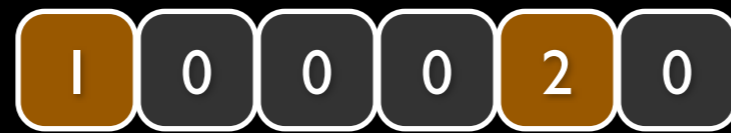
HC

Algorithms

GA

Crossover + Mutation

Greedy



HC

Algorithms

GA

Crossover + Mutation

Greedy



HC

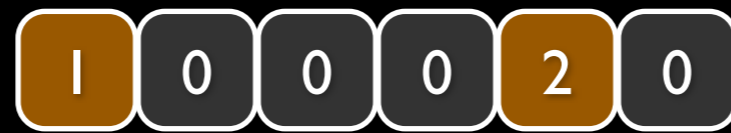


Algorithms

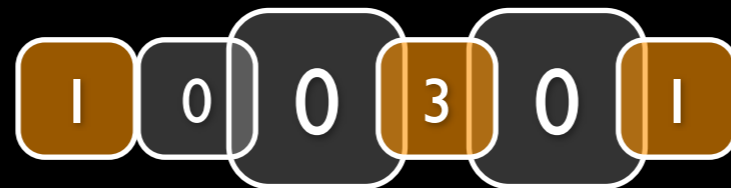
GA

Crossover + Mutation

Greedy



HC



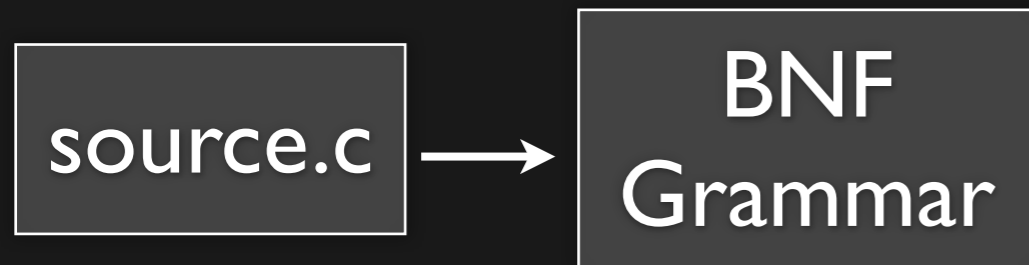
Multi Objective

Multi Objective

source.c

Pareto Evolution

Multi Objective



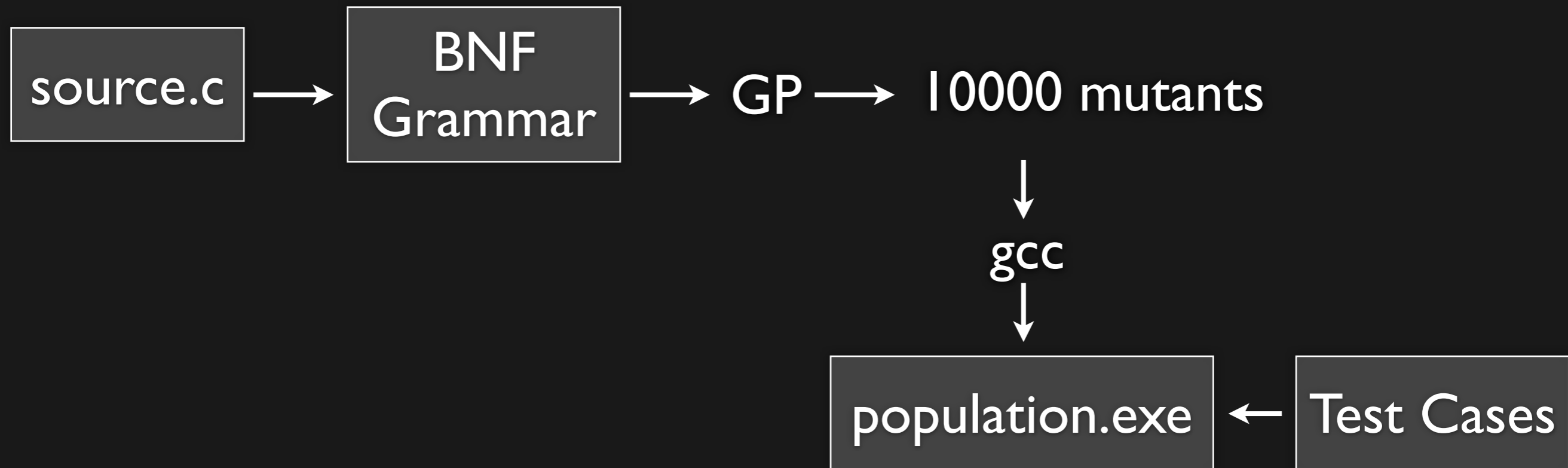
Pareto Evolution

Multi Objective



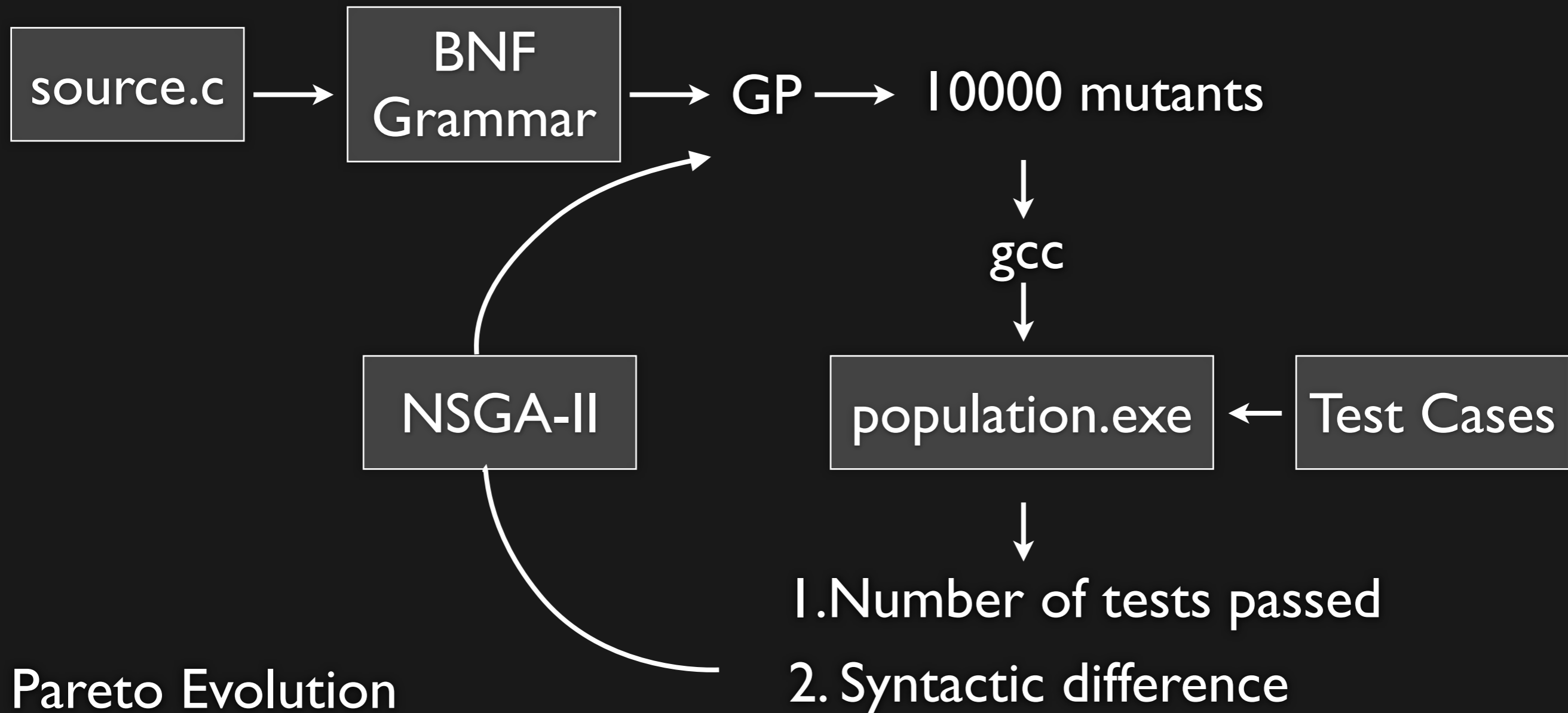
Pareto Evolution

Multi Objective

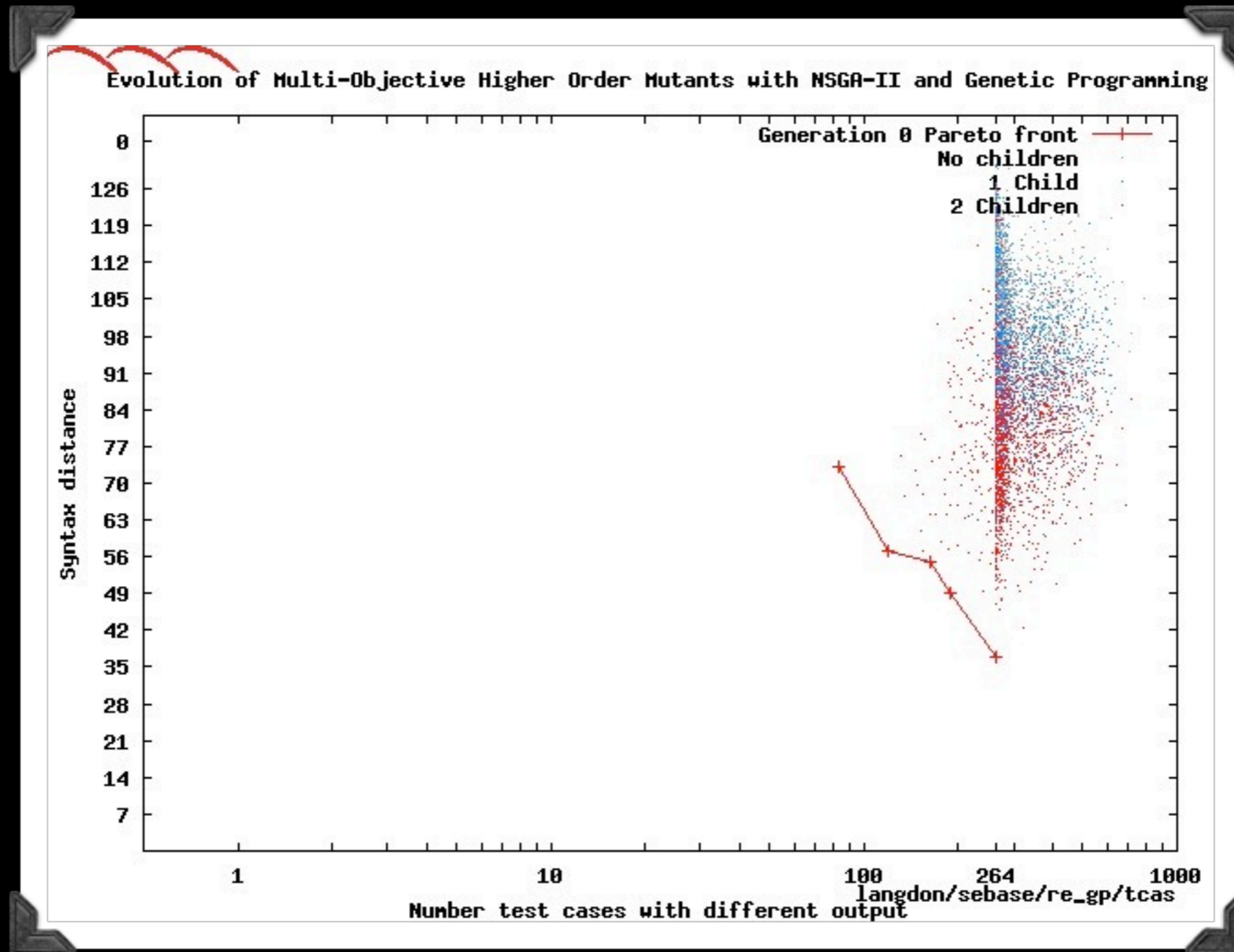


Pareto Evolution

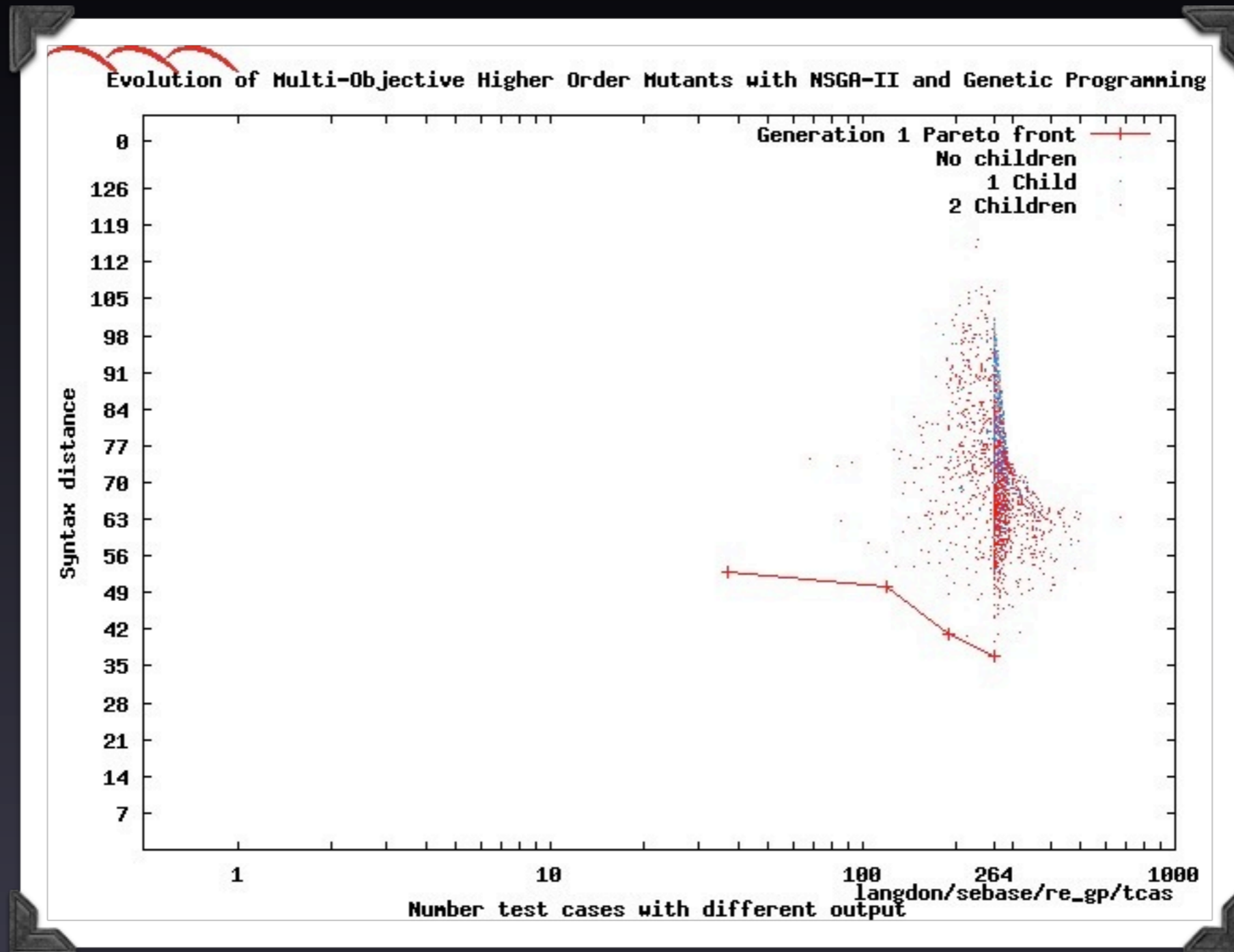
Multi Objective



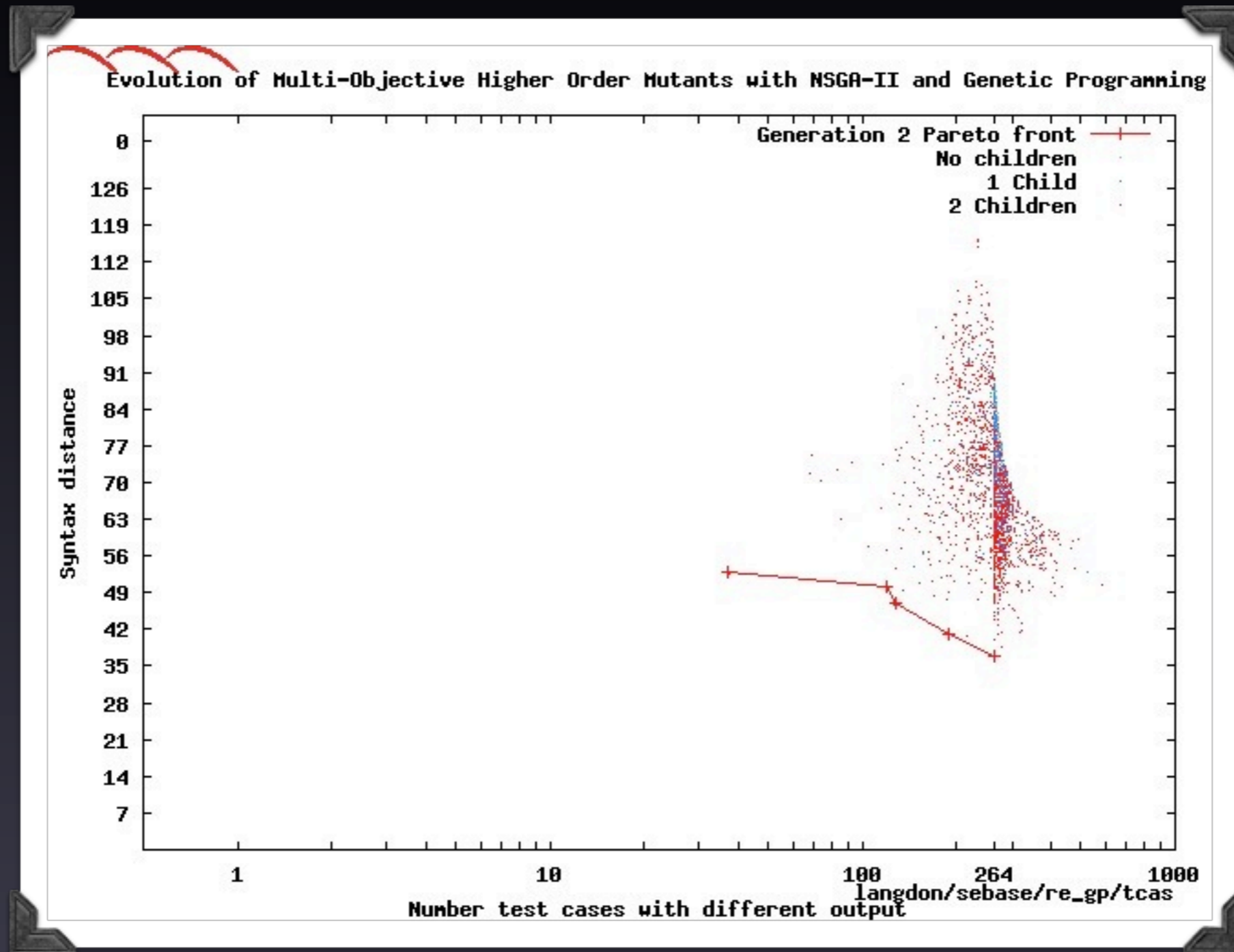
Multi Objective



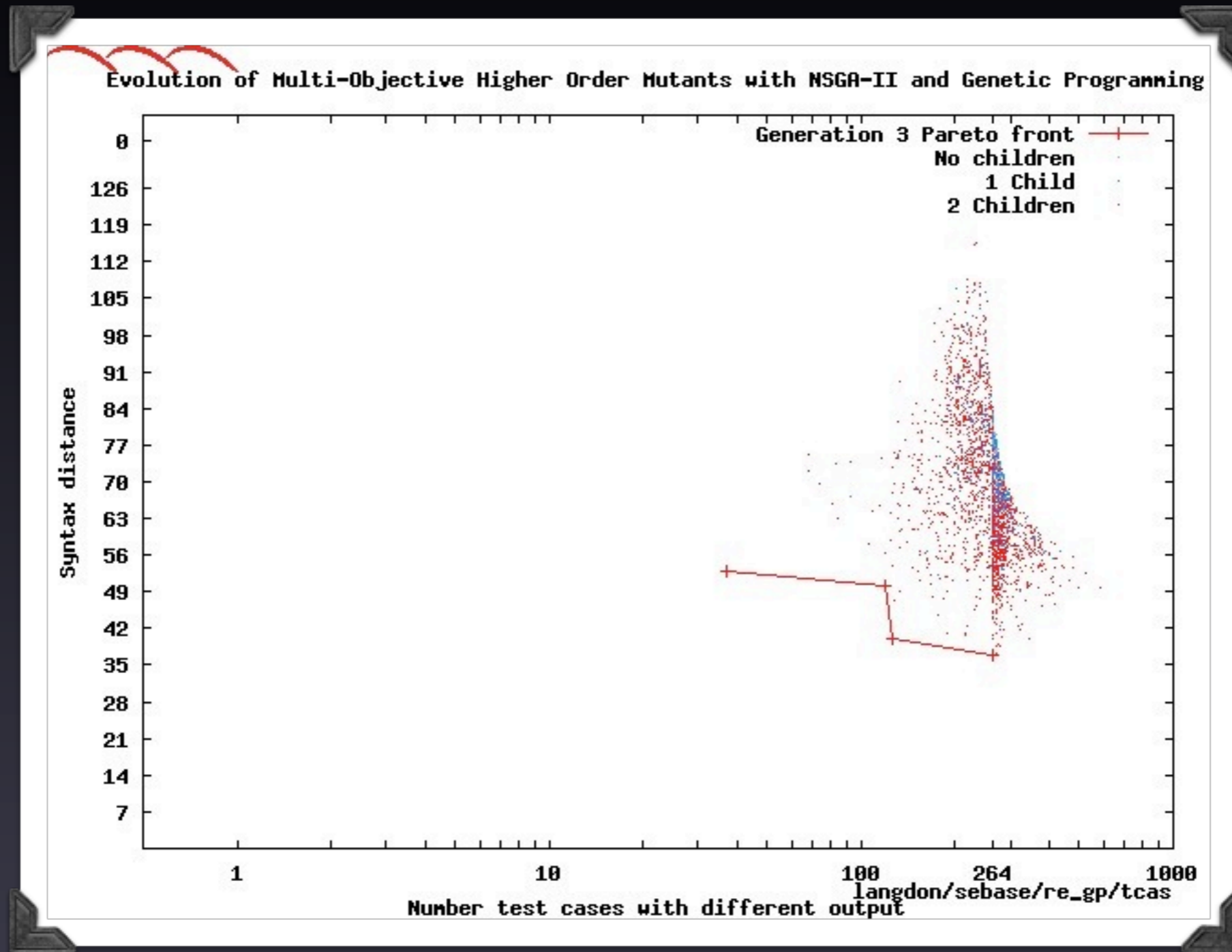
Multi Objective



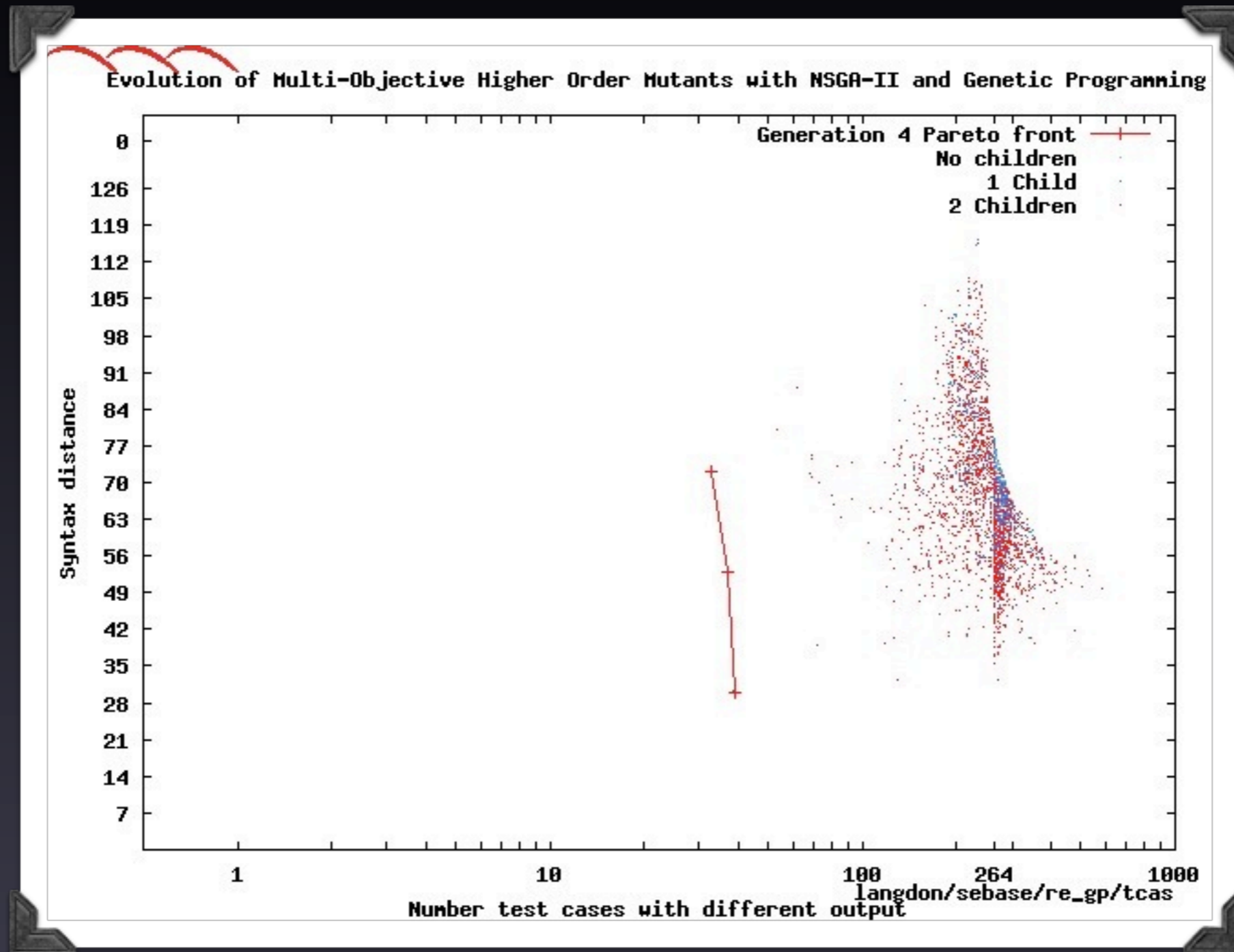
Multi Objective



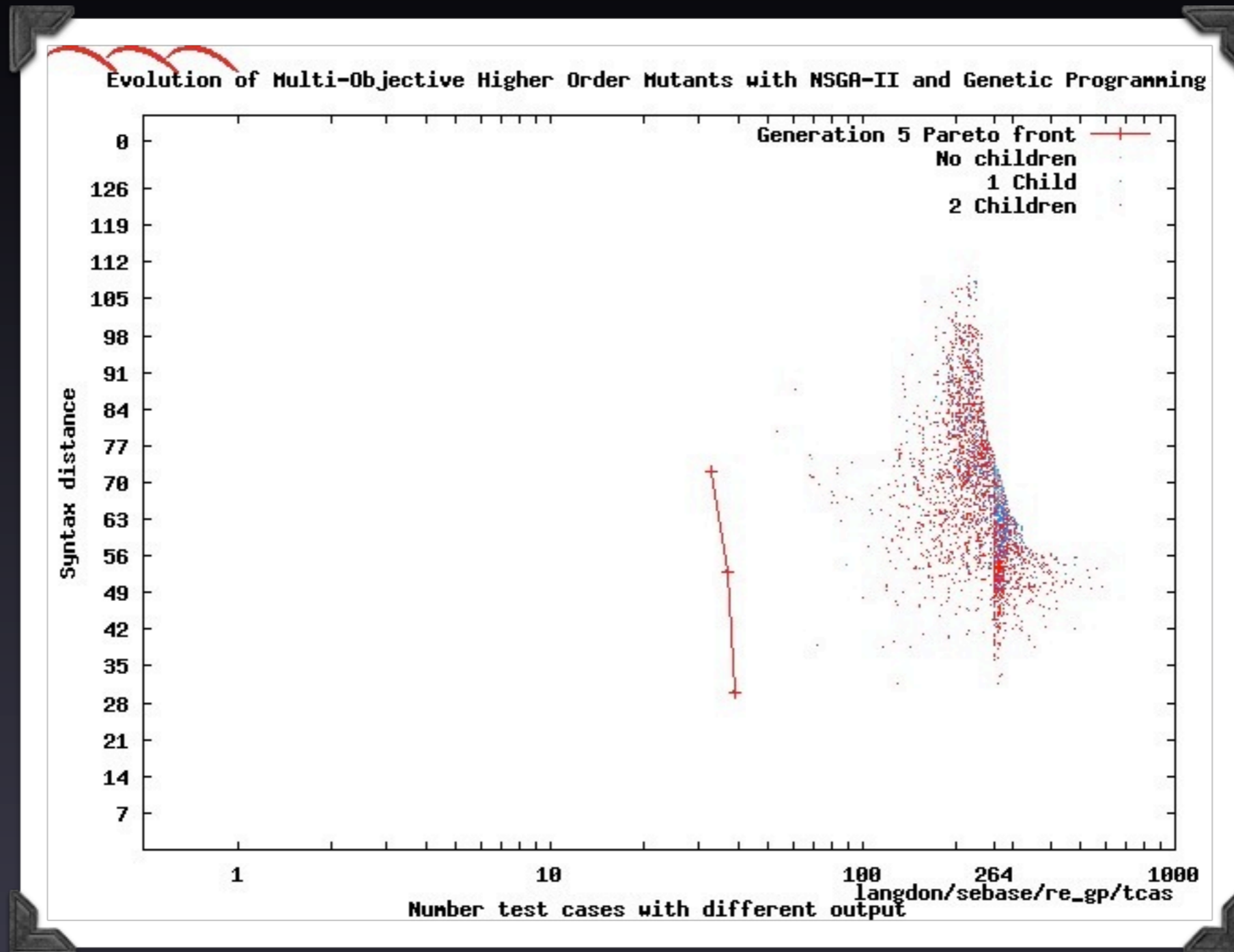
Multi Objective



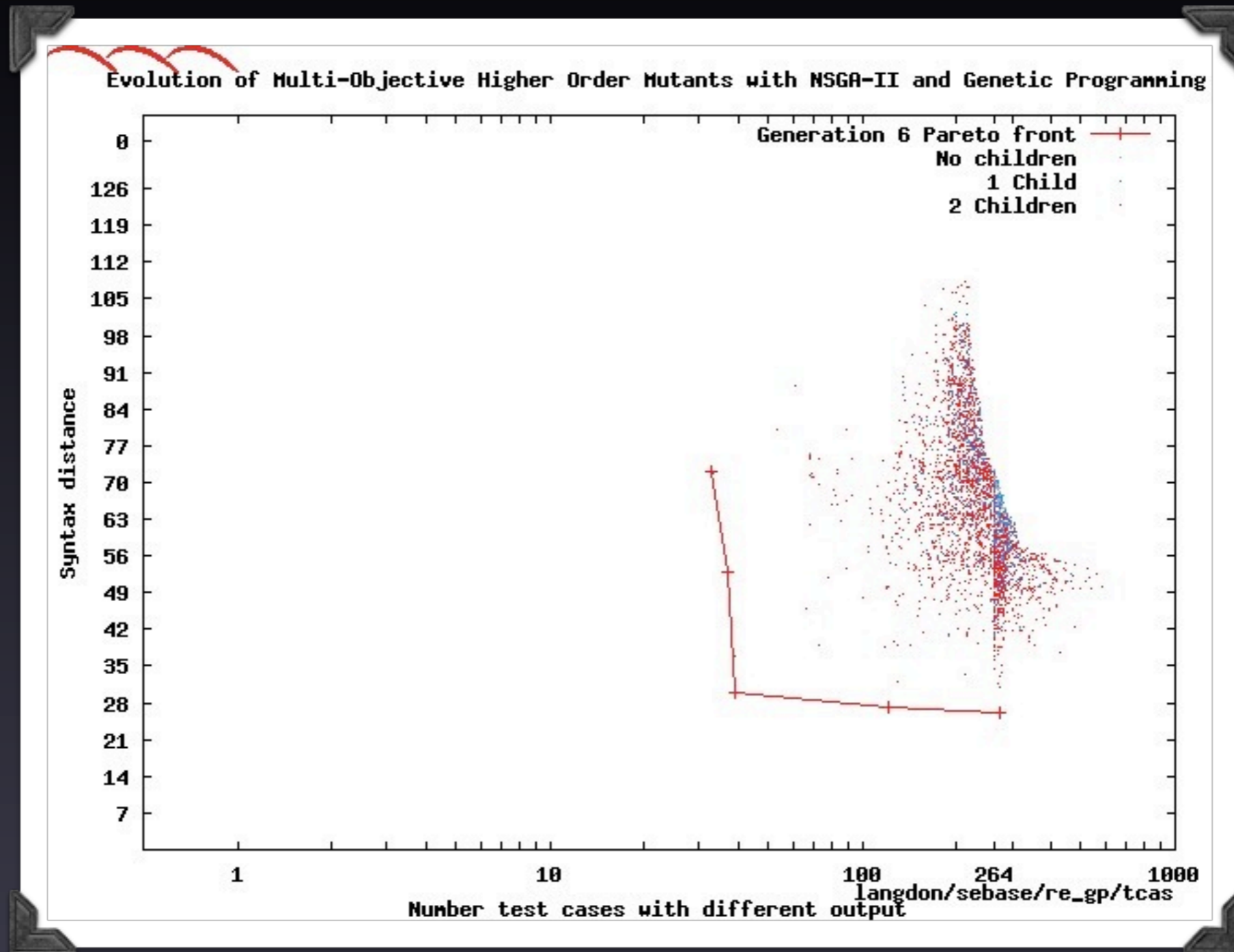
Multi Objective



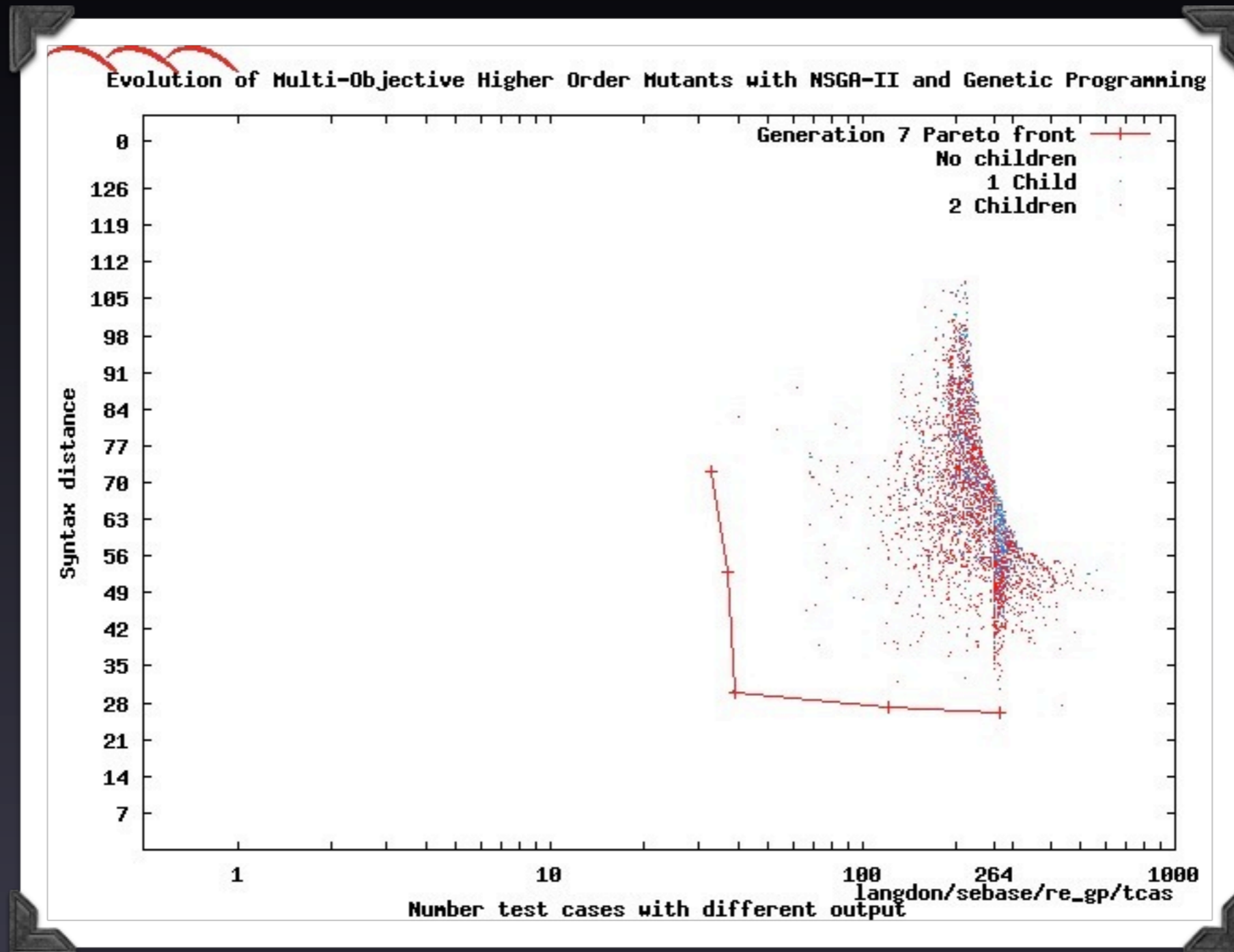
Multi Objective



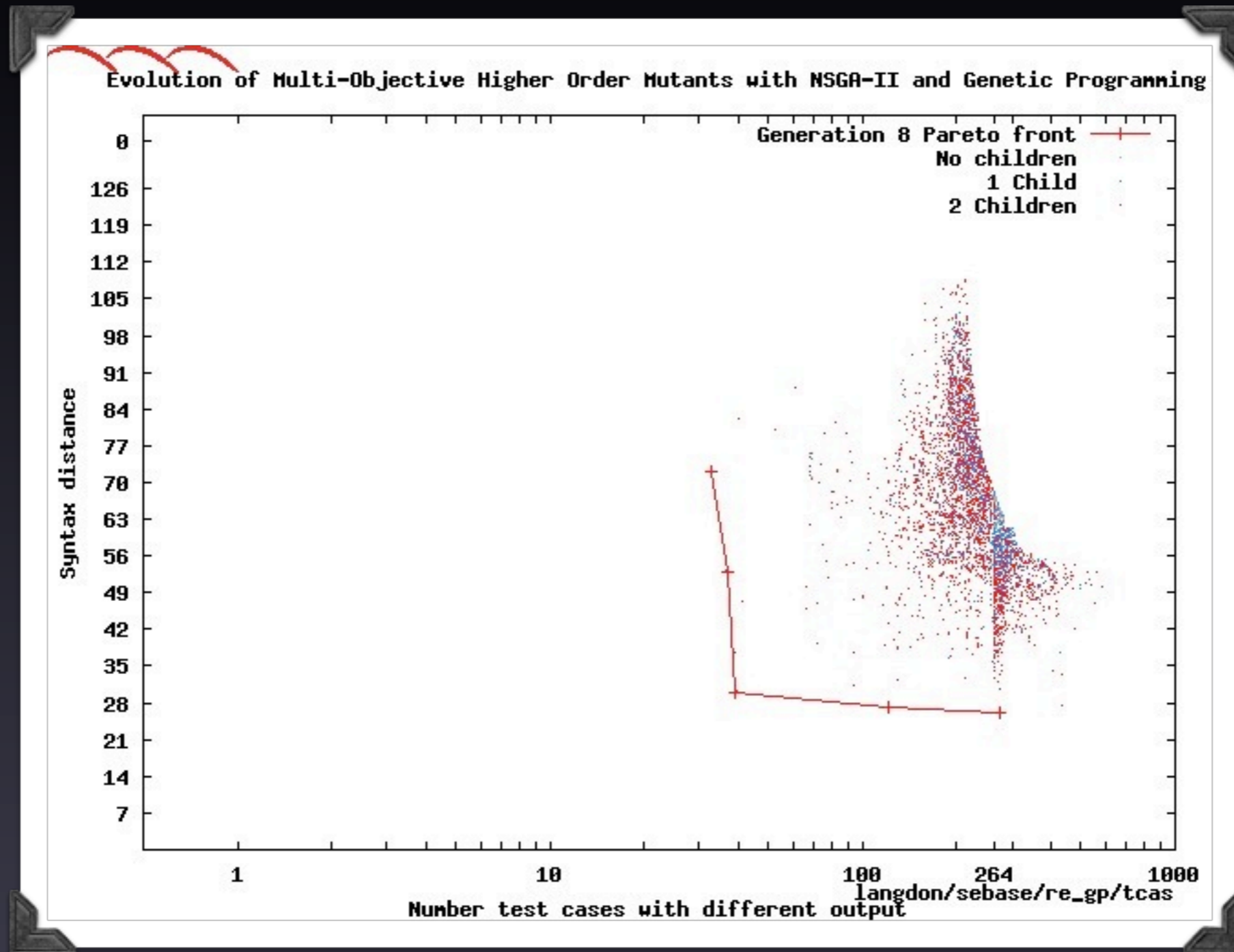
Multi Objective



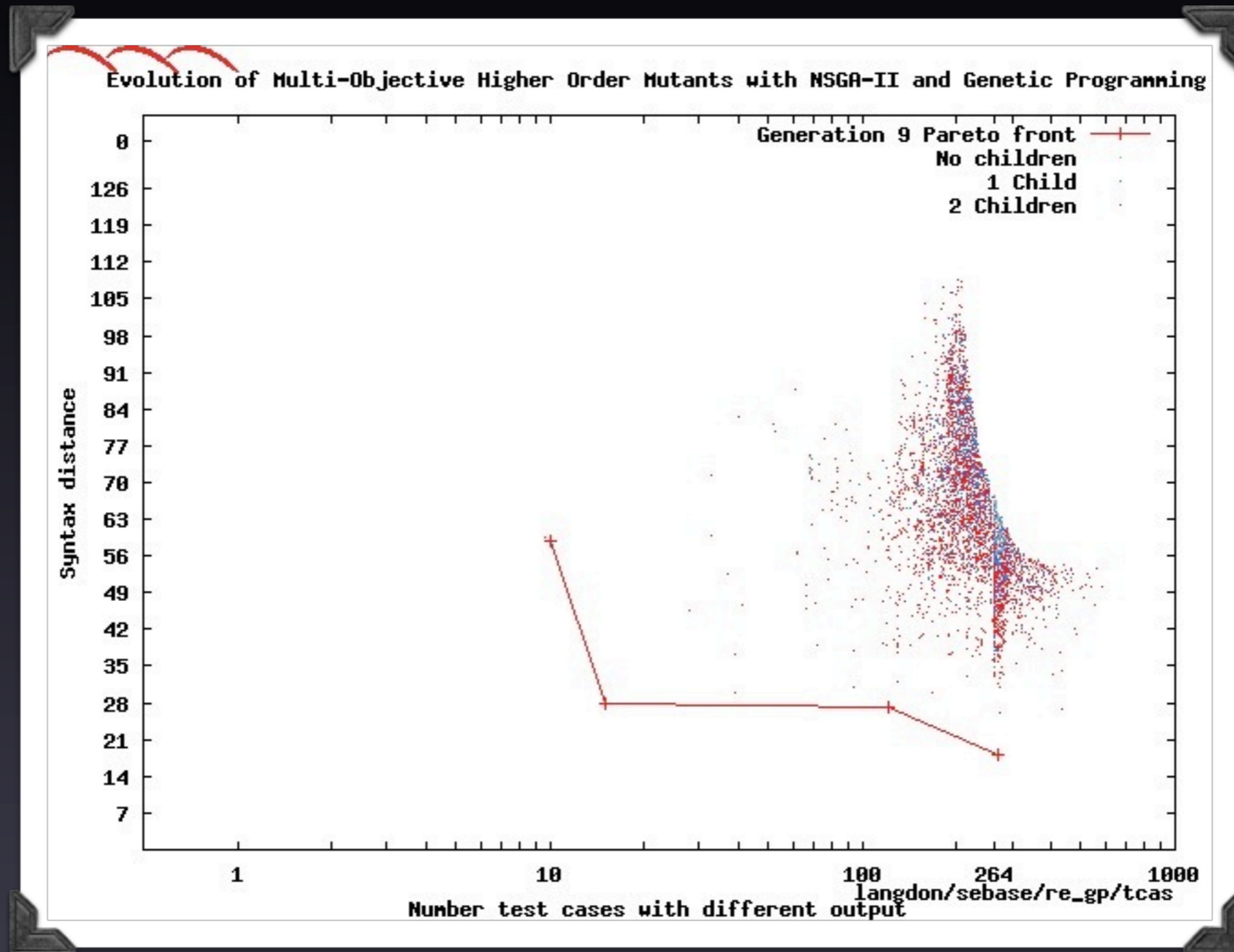
Multi Objective



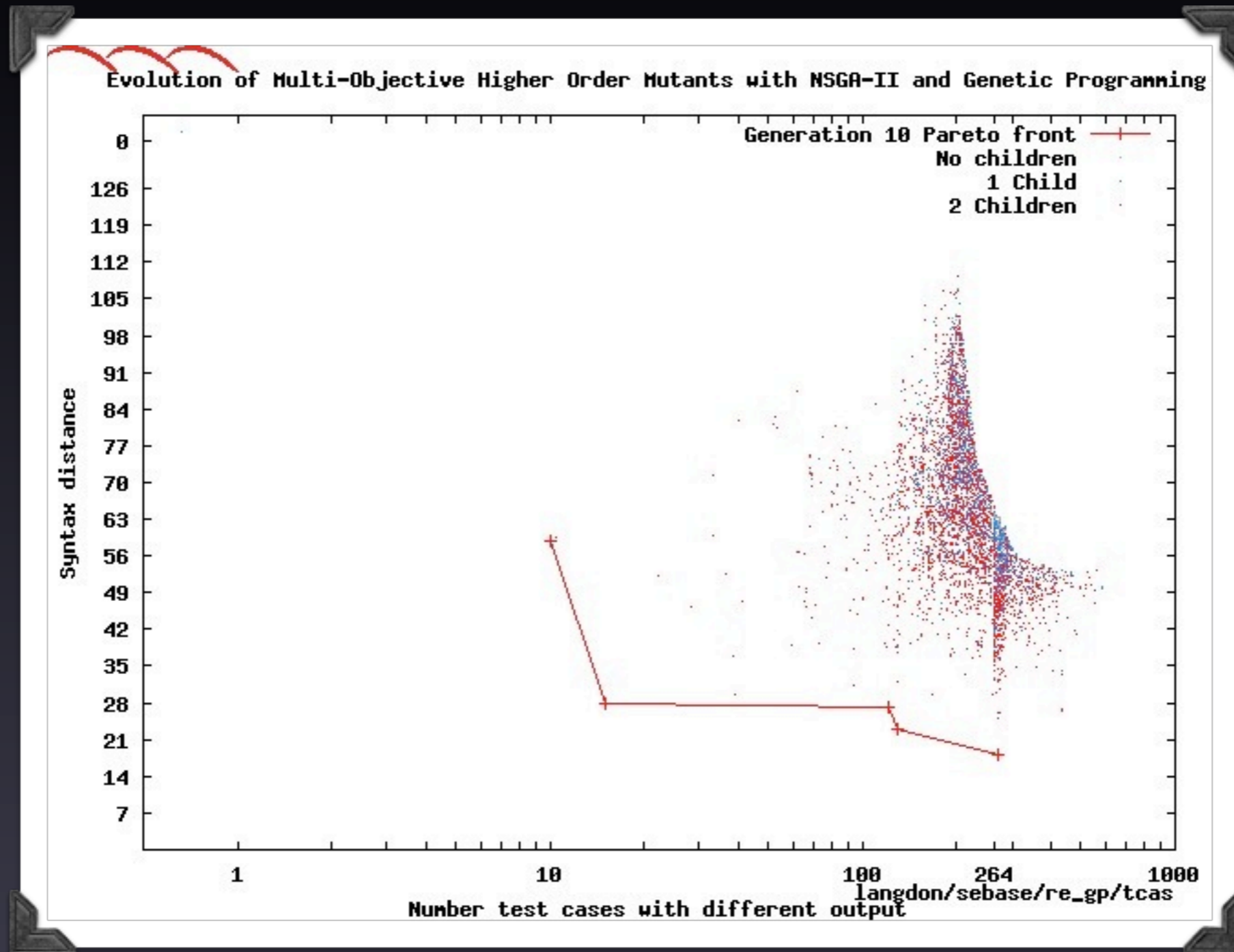
Multi Objective



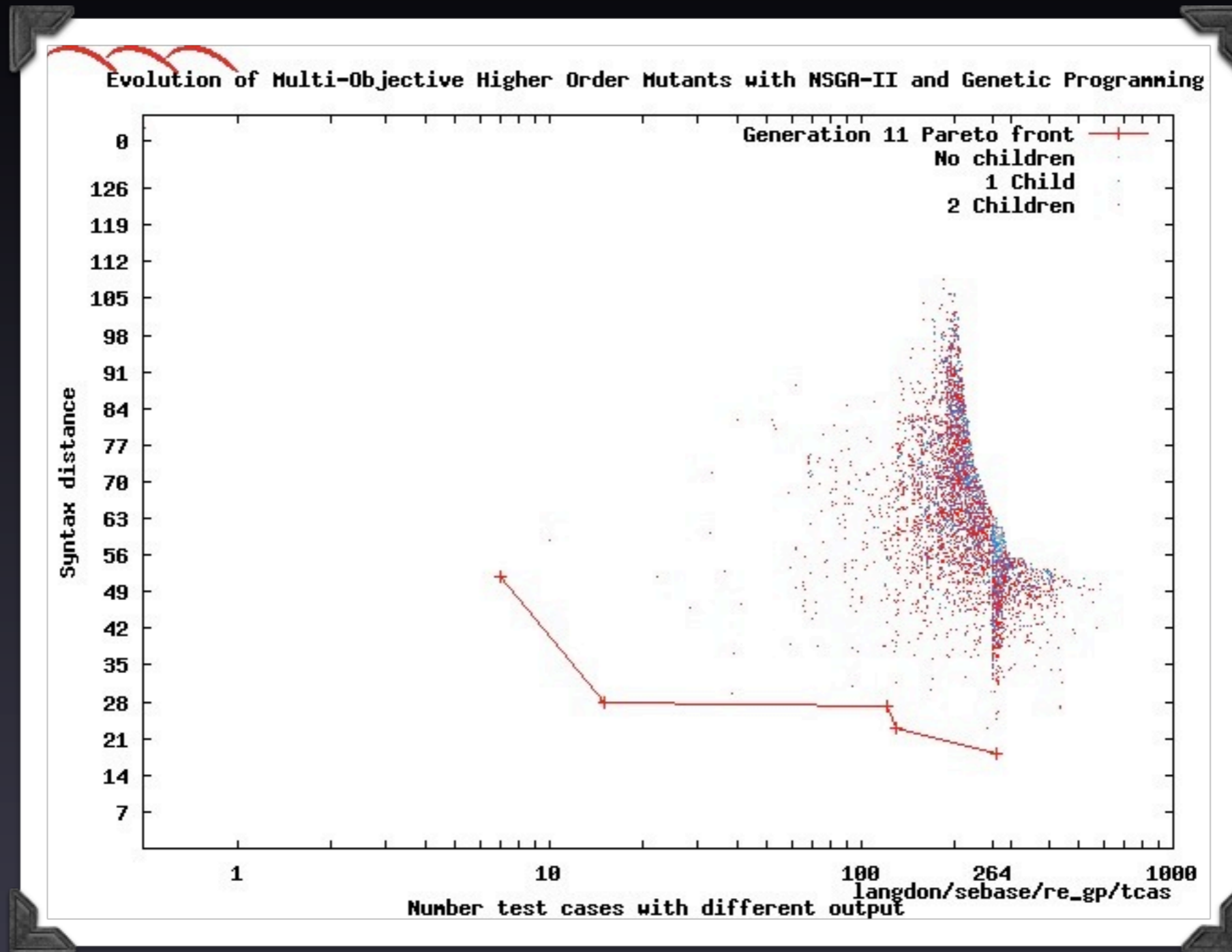
Multi Objective



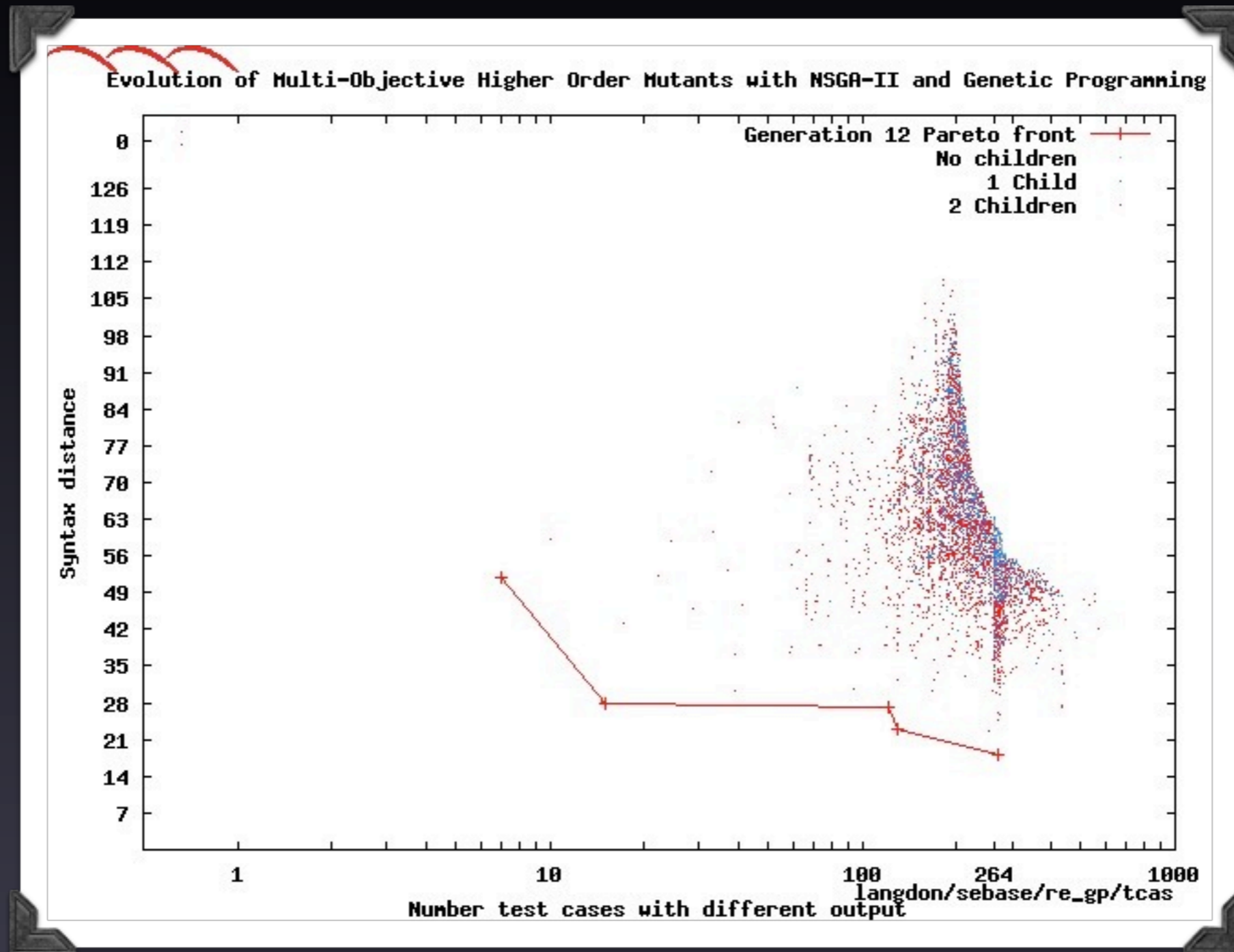
Multi Objective



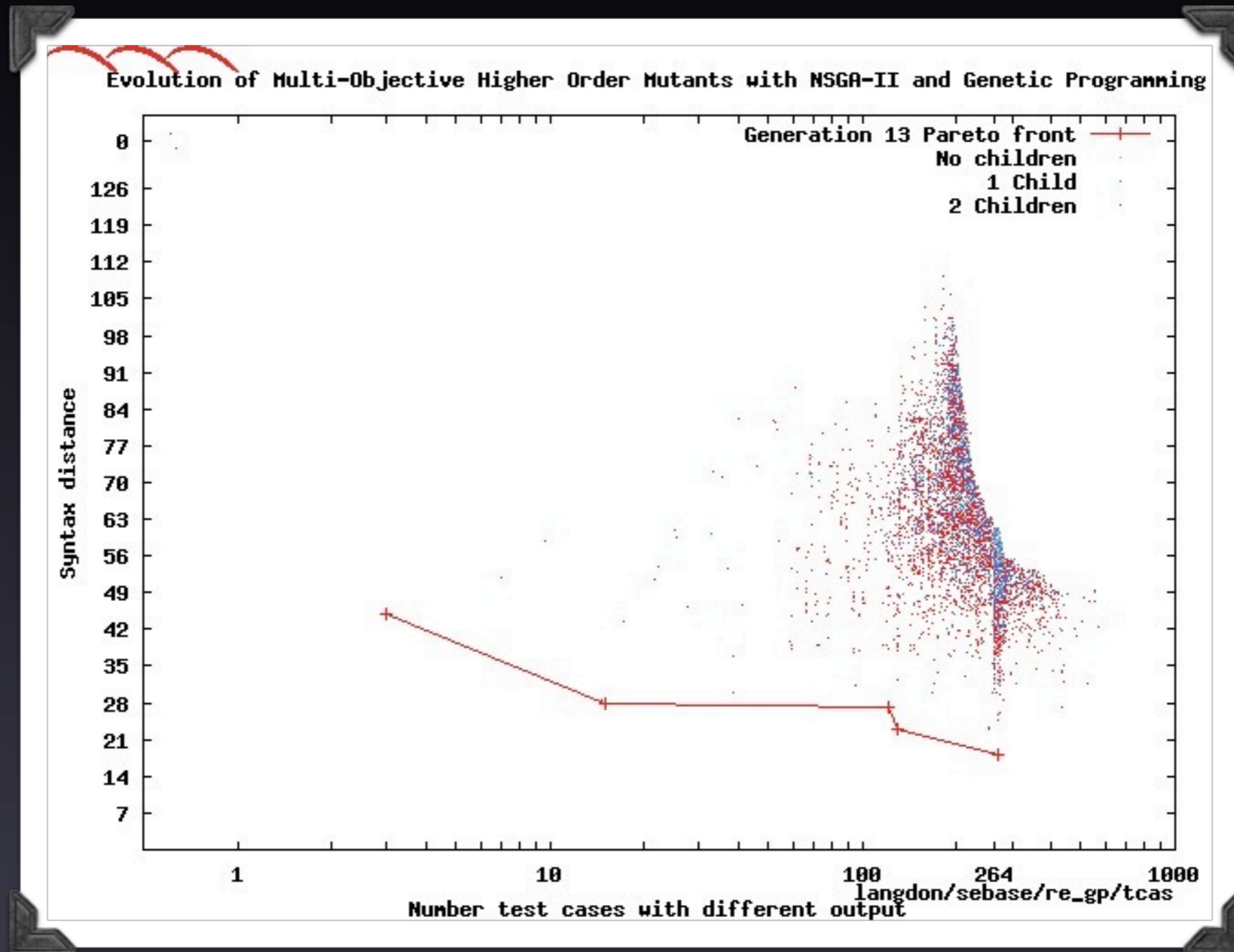
Multi Objective



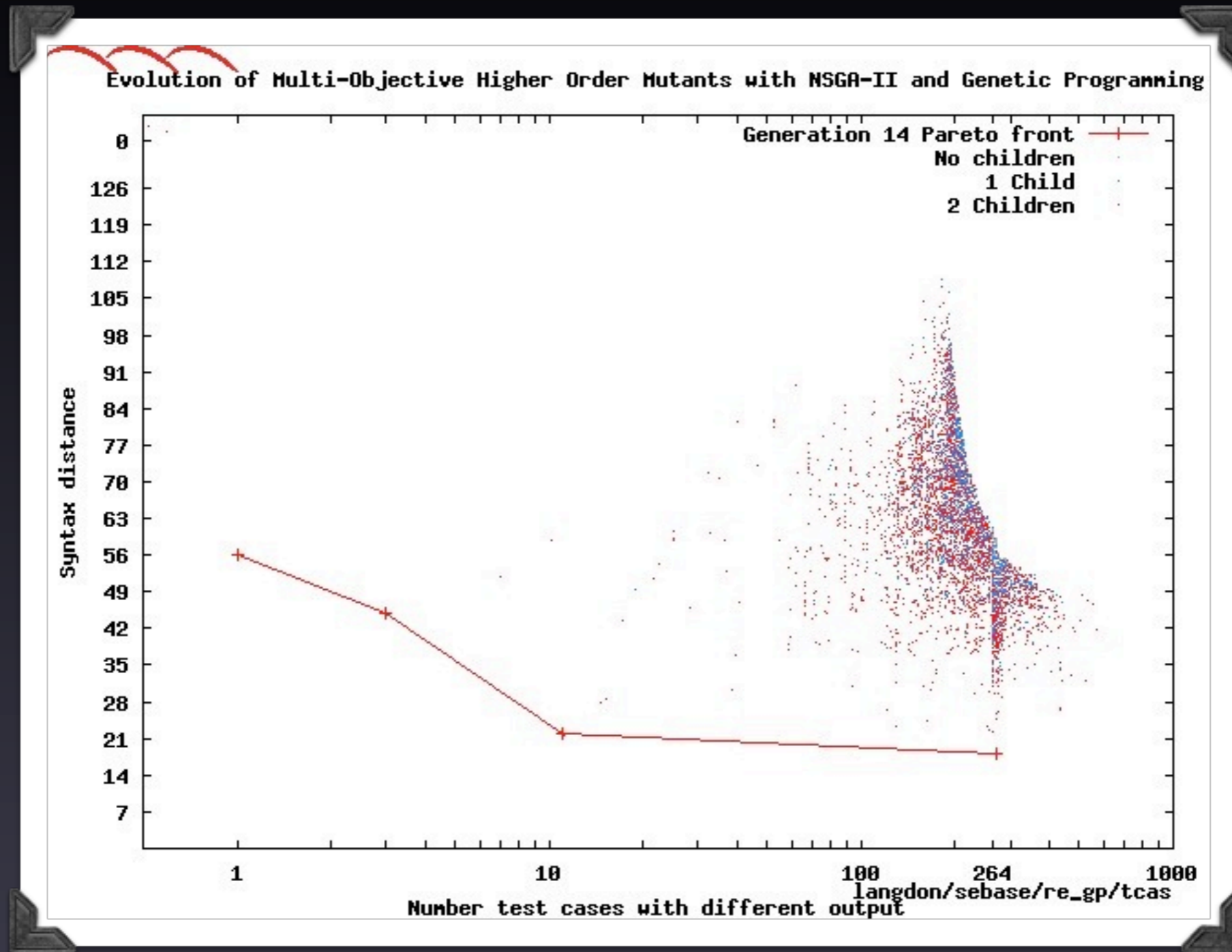
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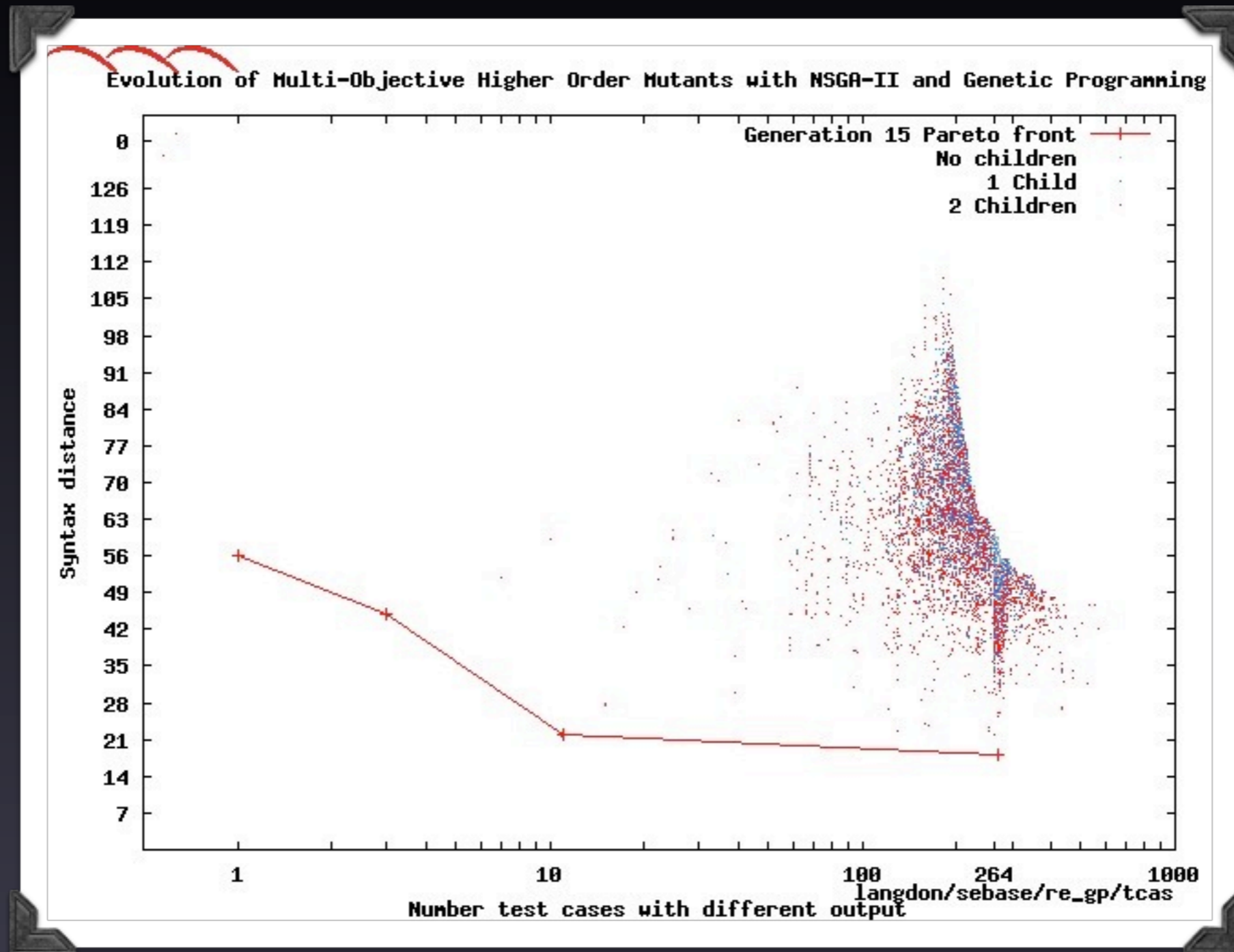
Multi Objective



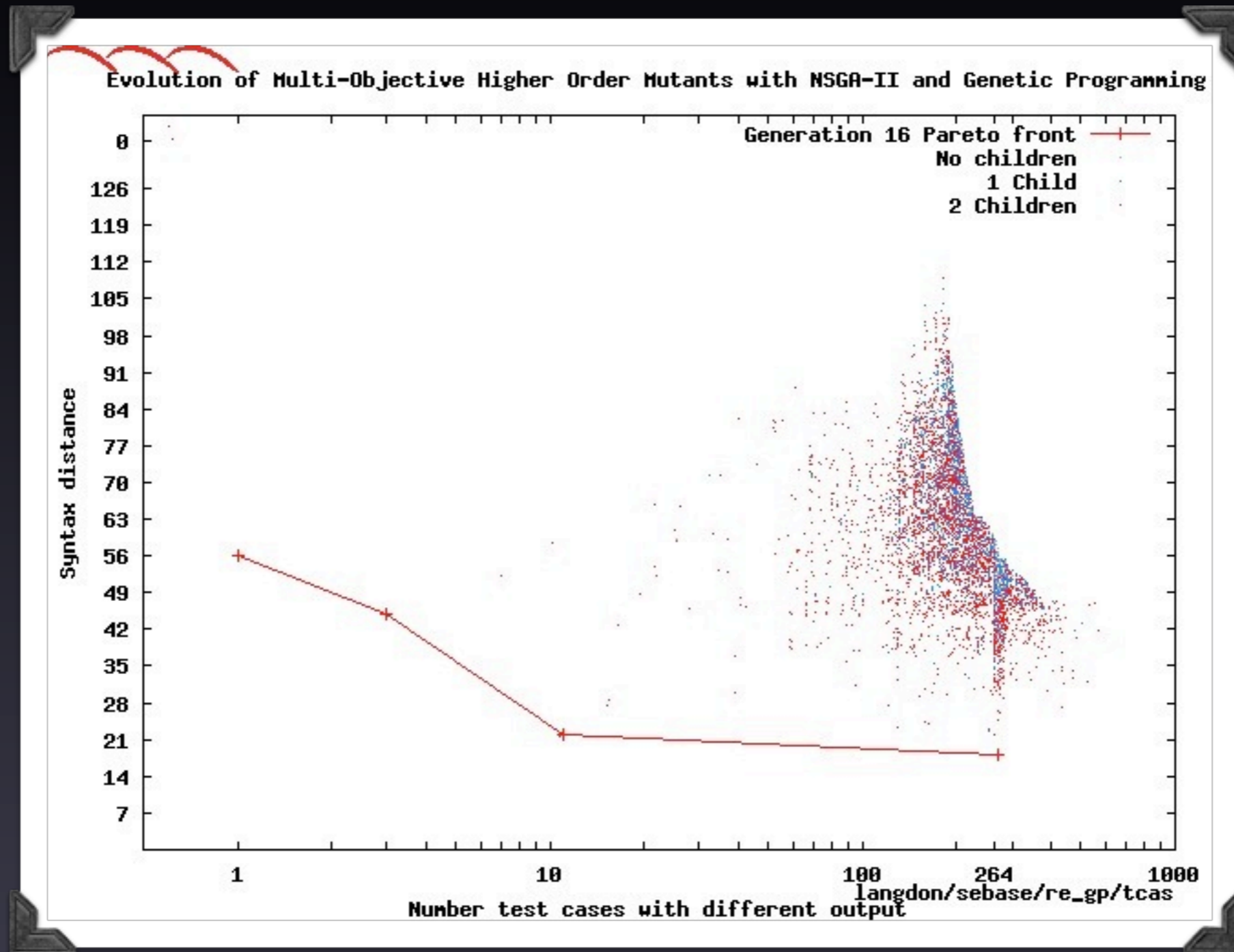
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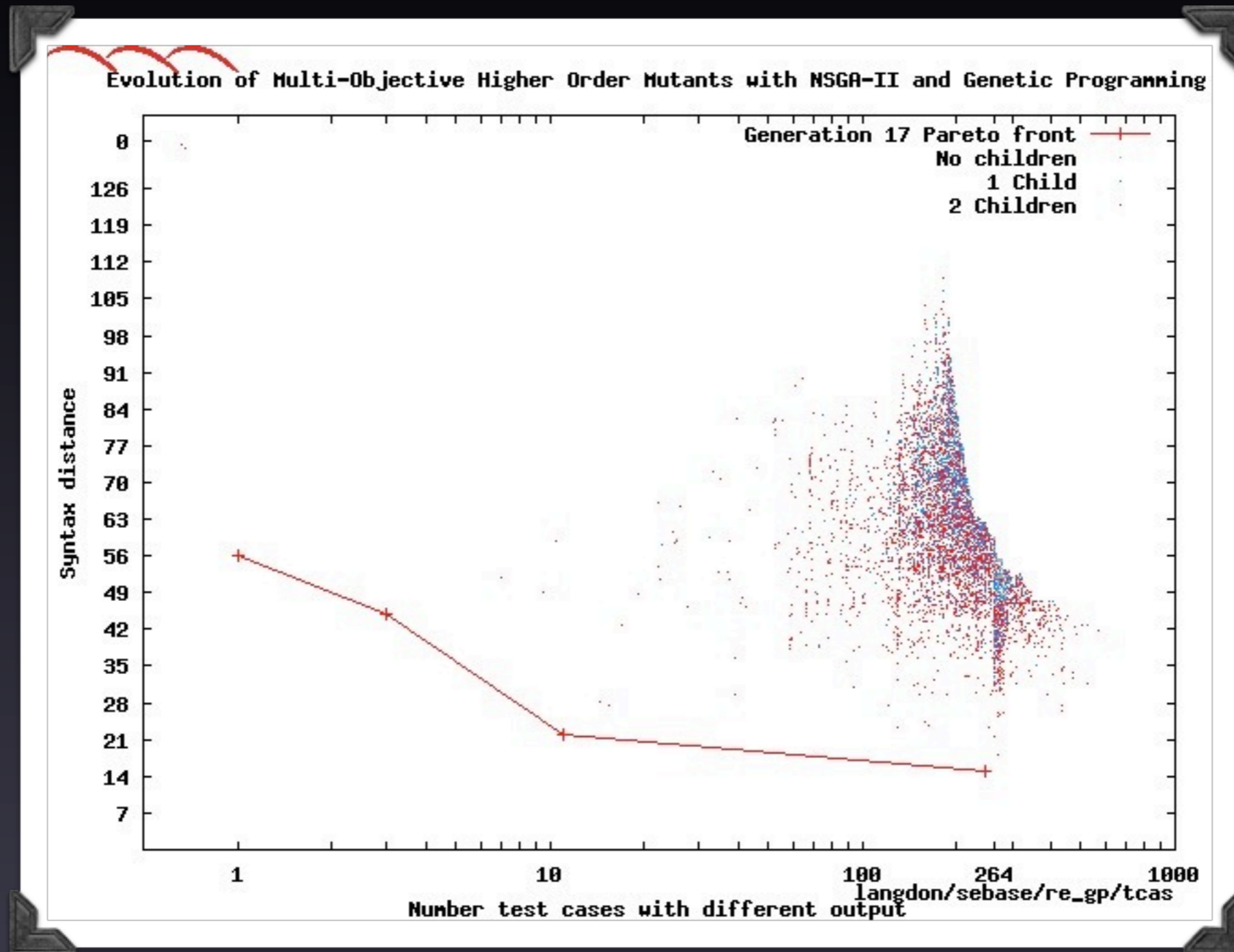
Multi Objective



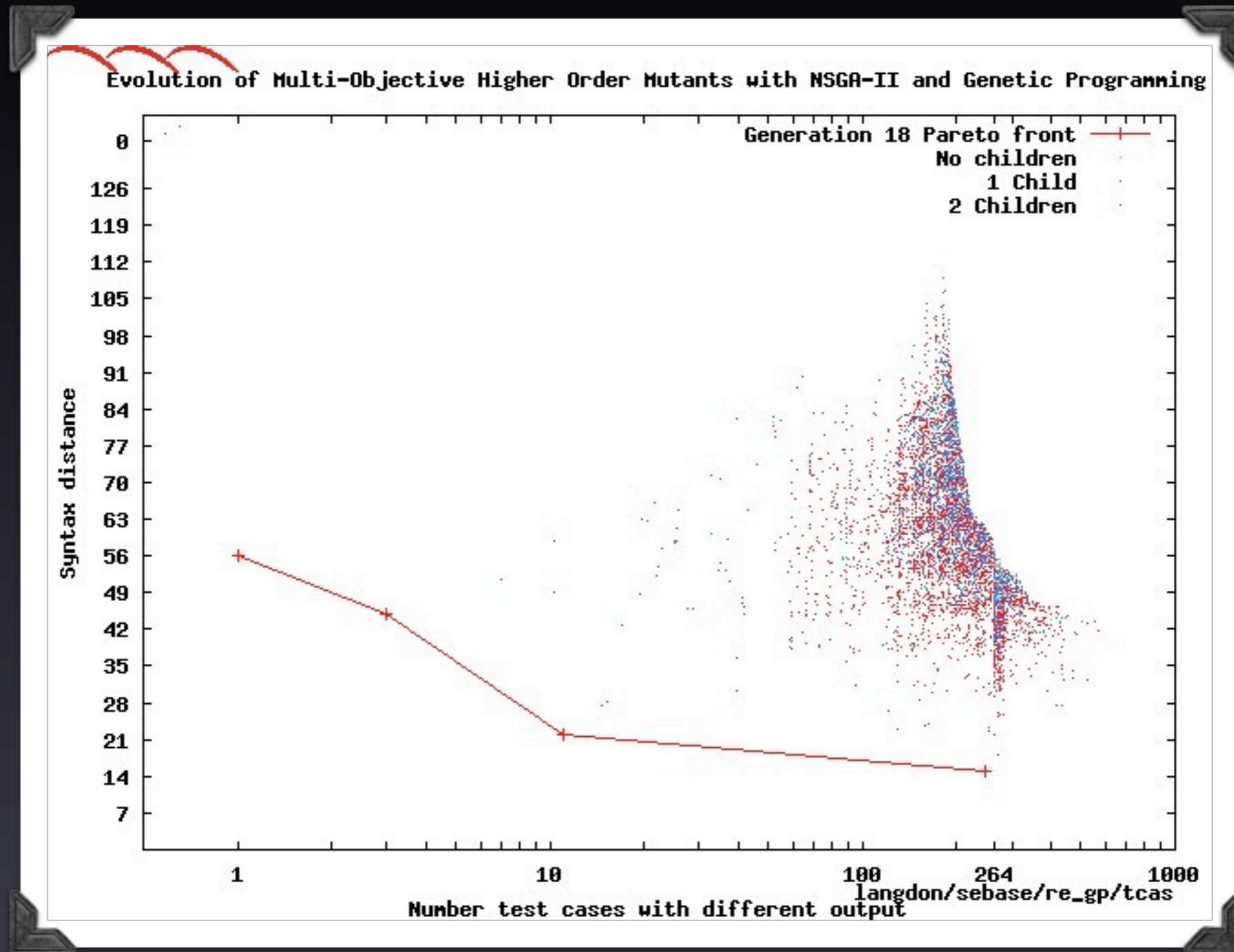
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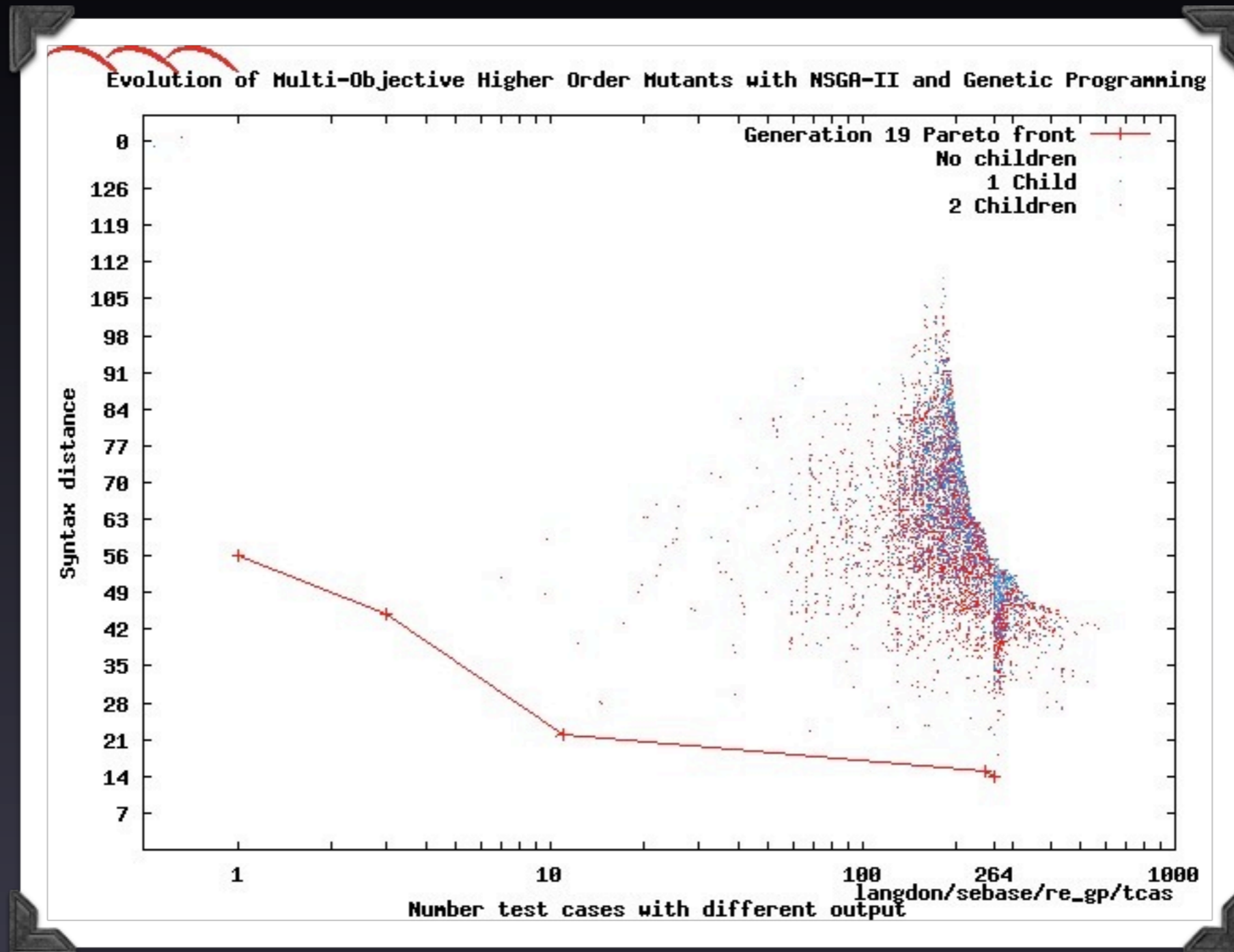
Multi Objective



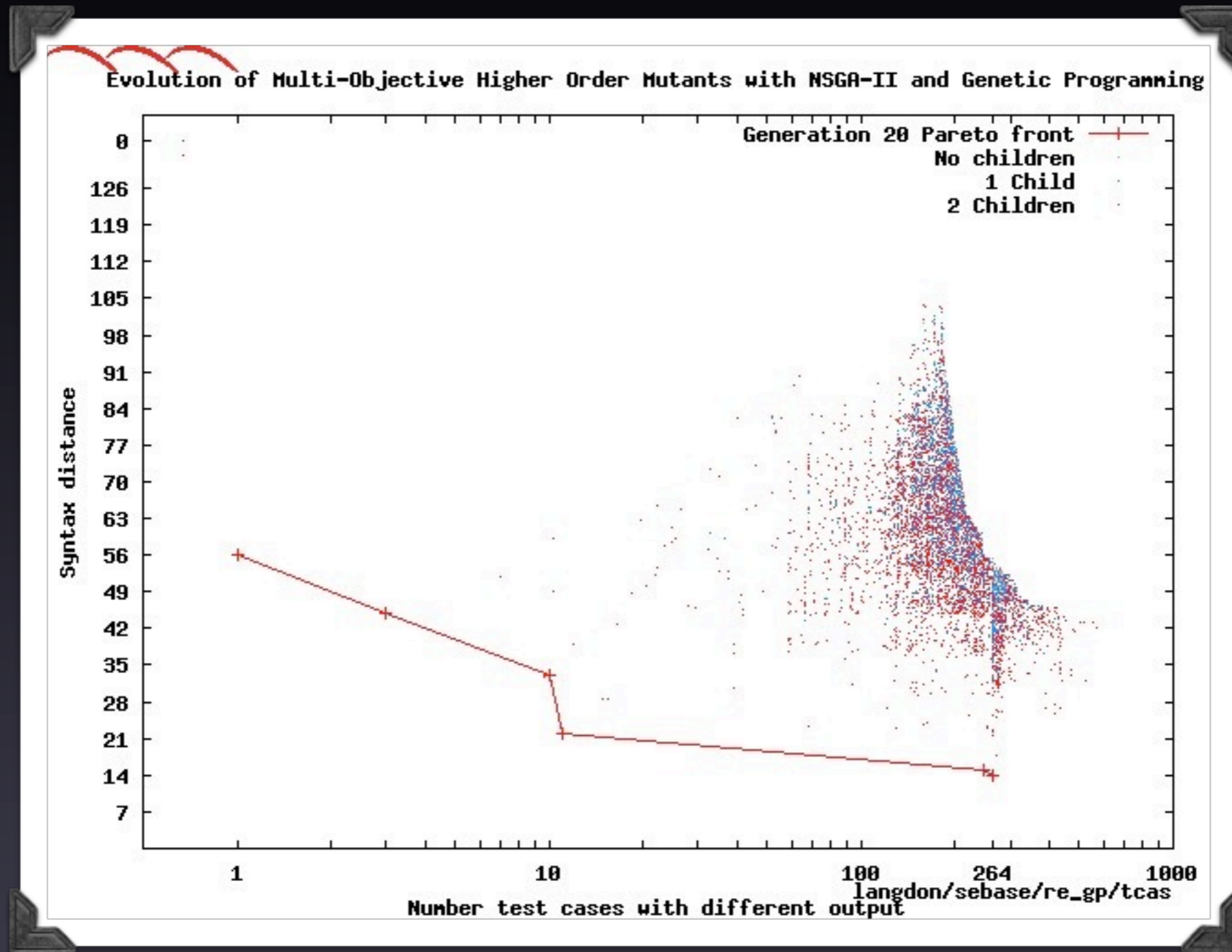
Multi Objective



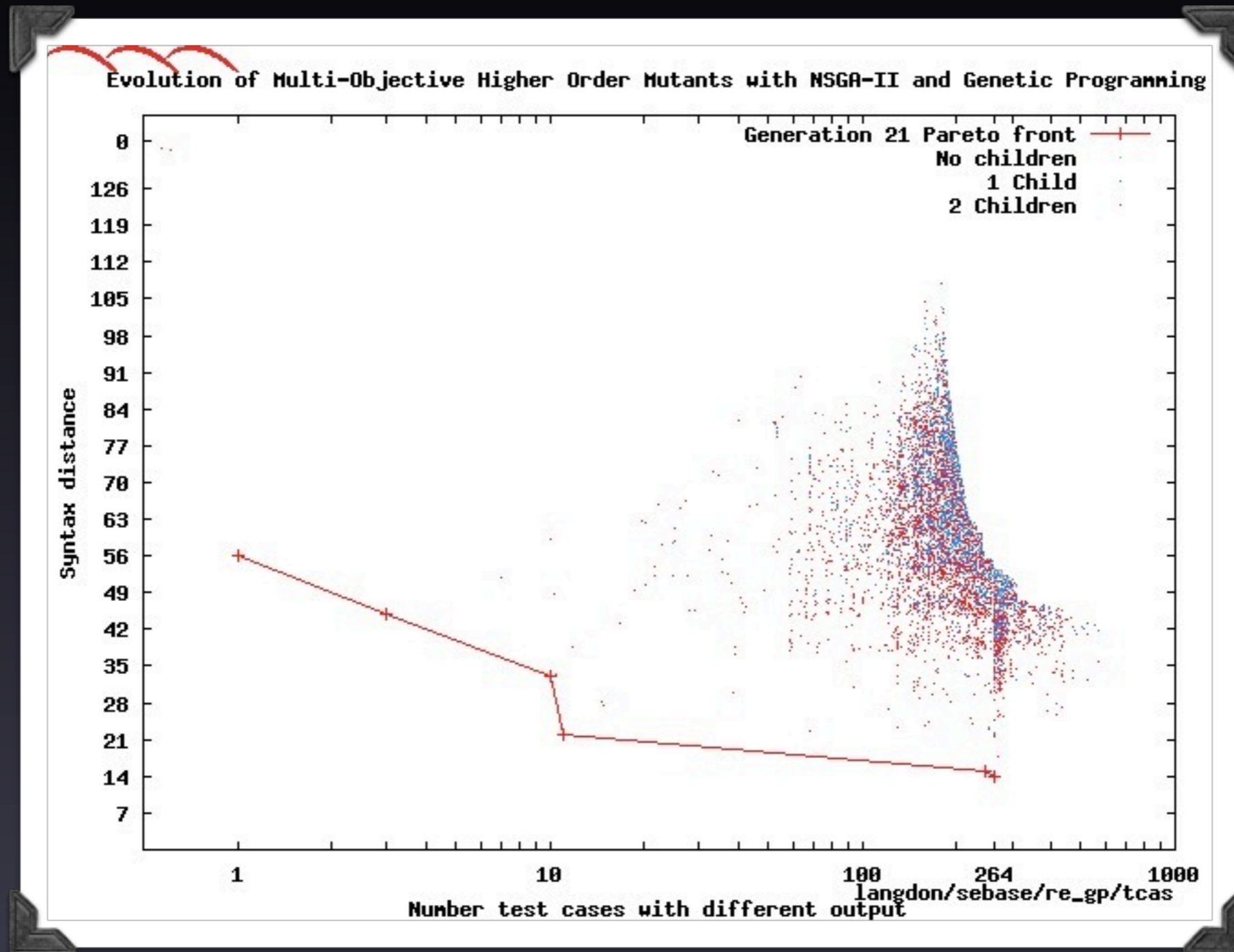
Multi Objective



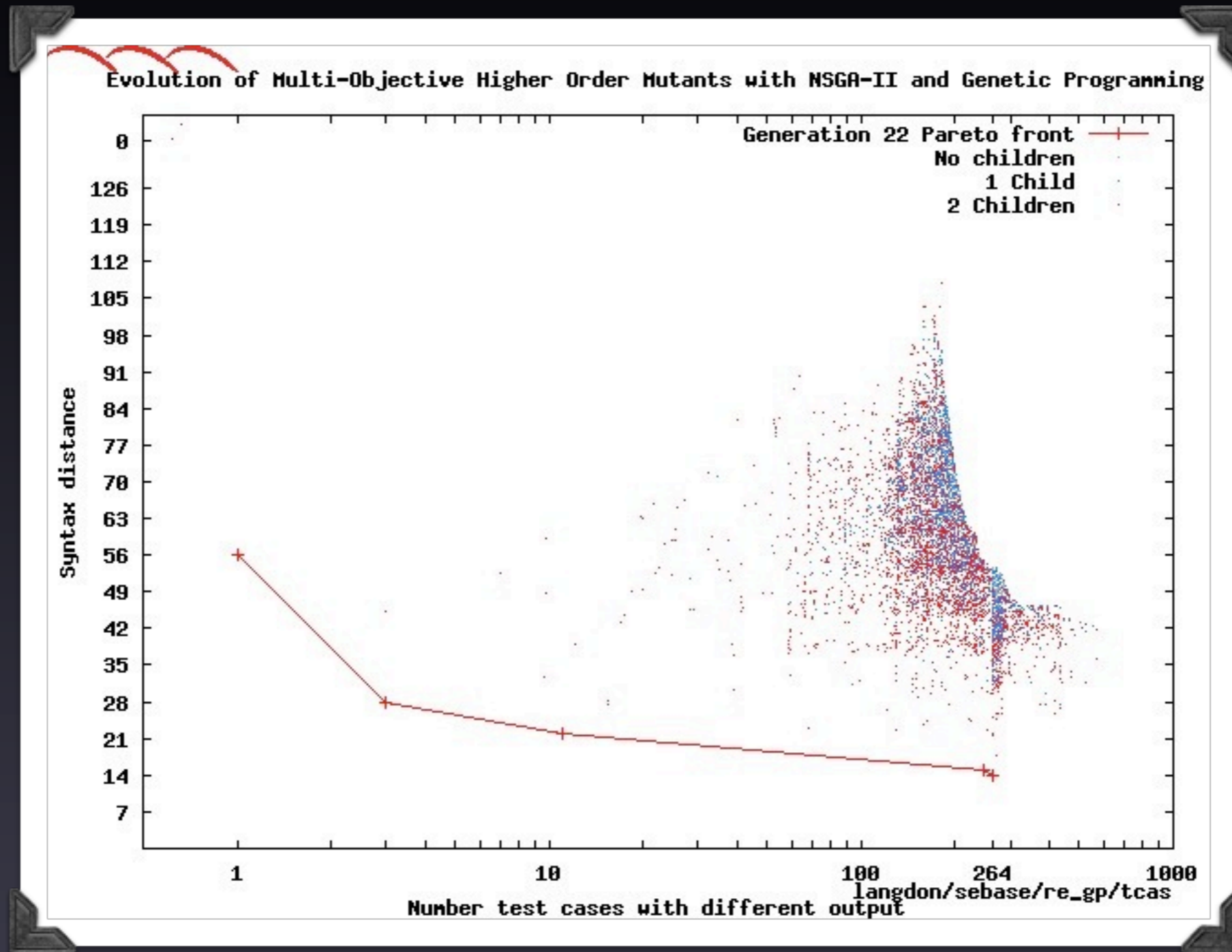
Multi Objective



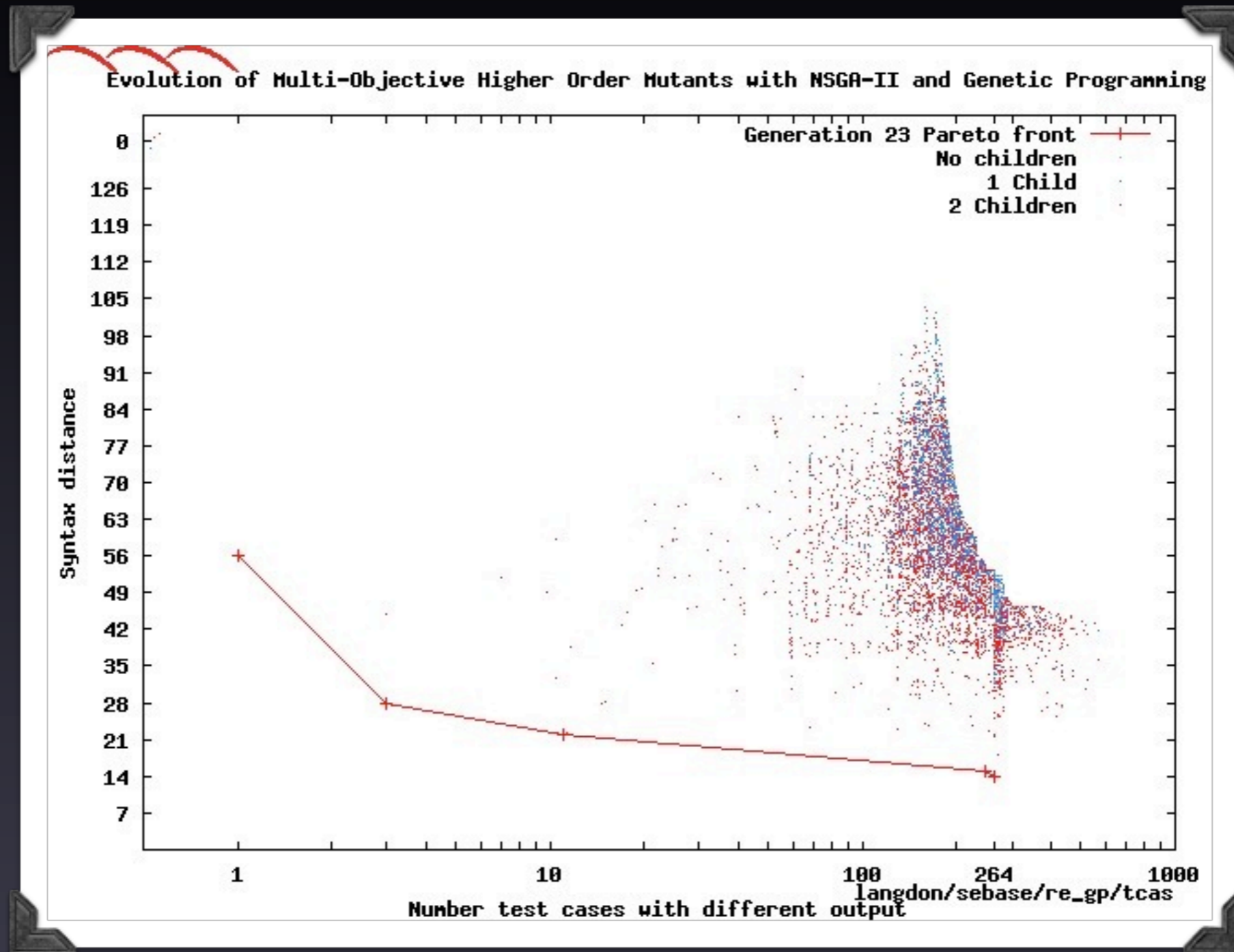
Multi Objective



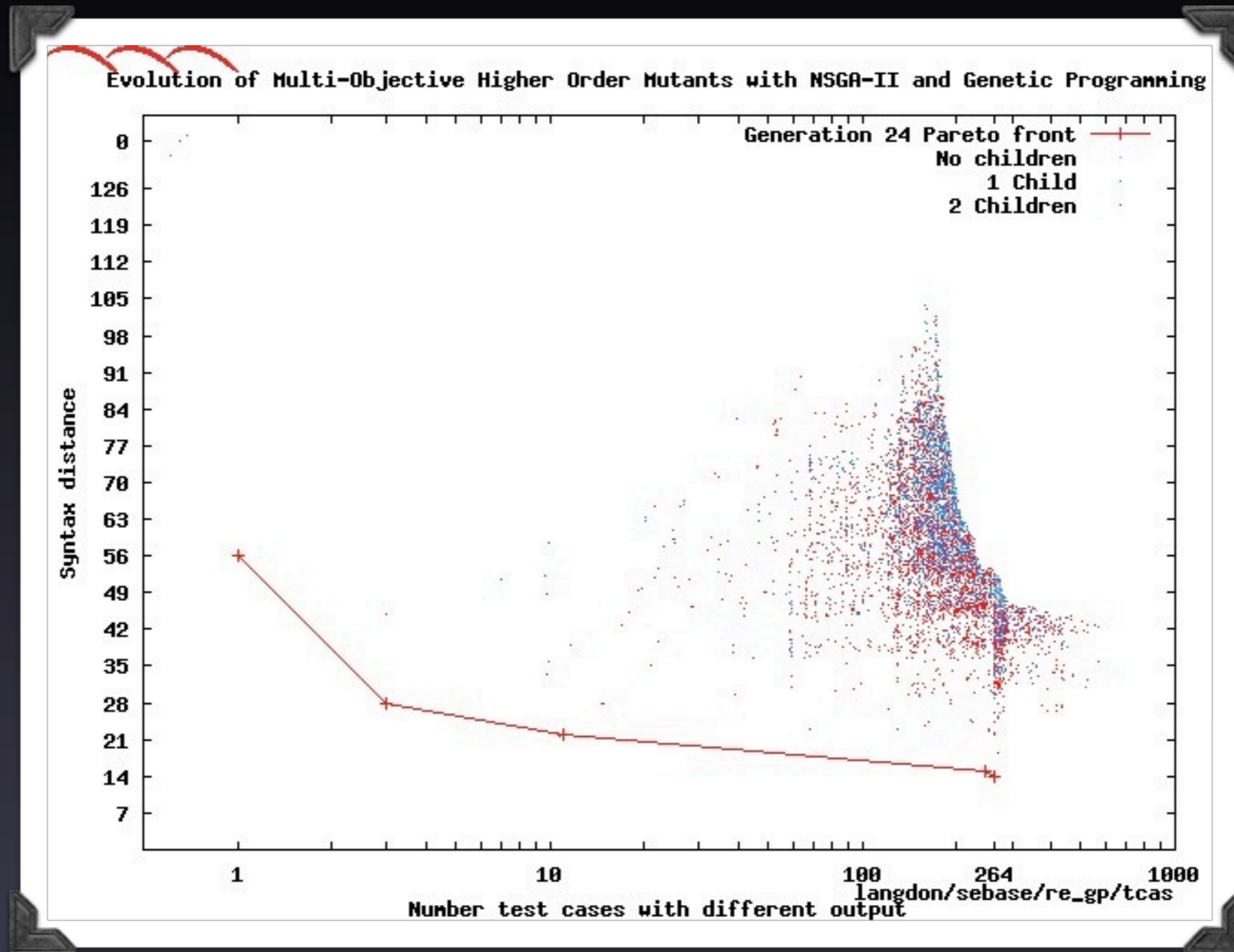
Multi Objective



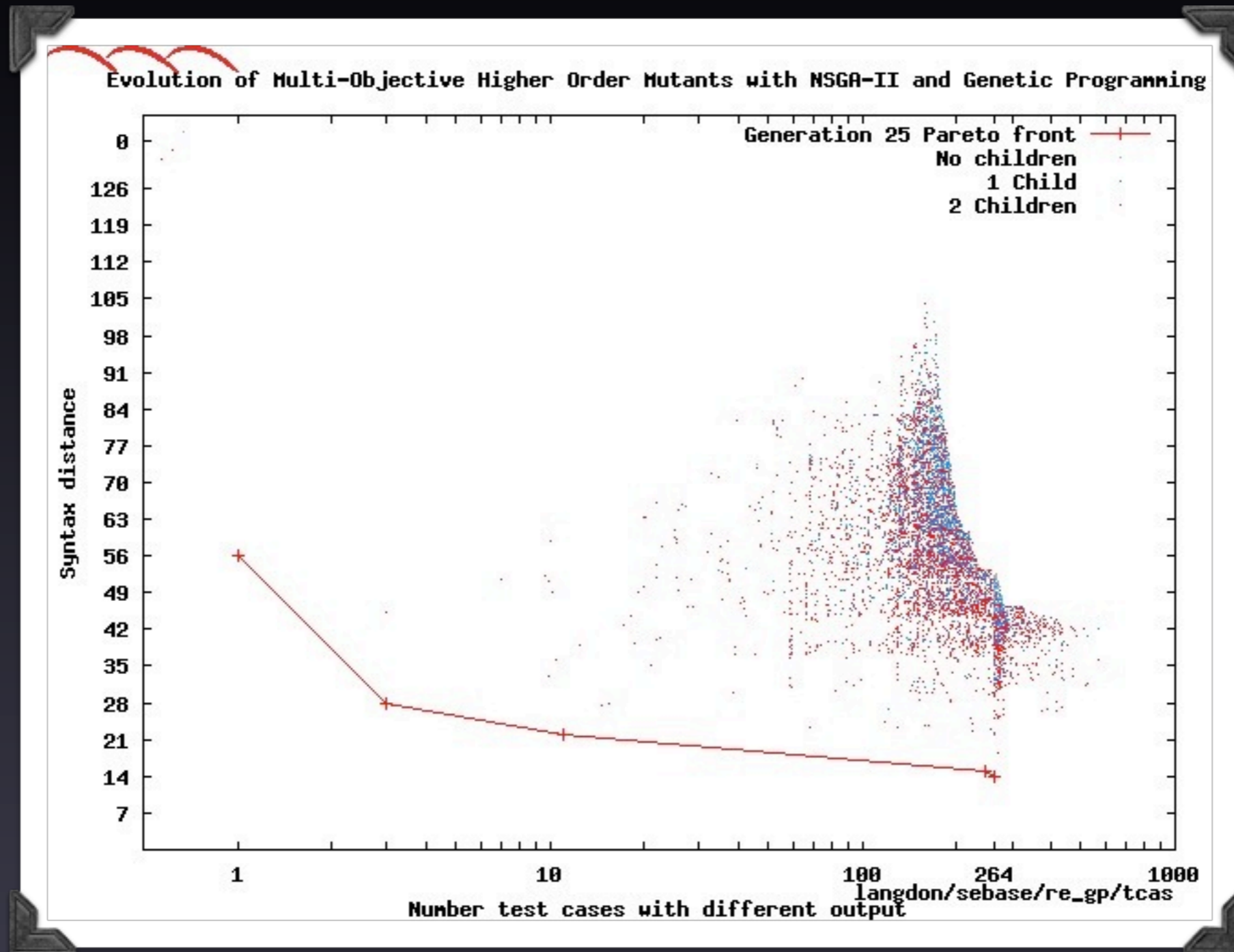
Multi Objective



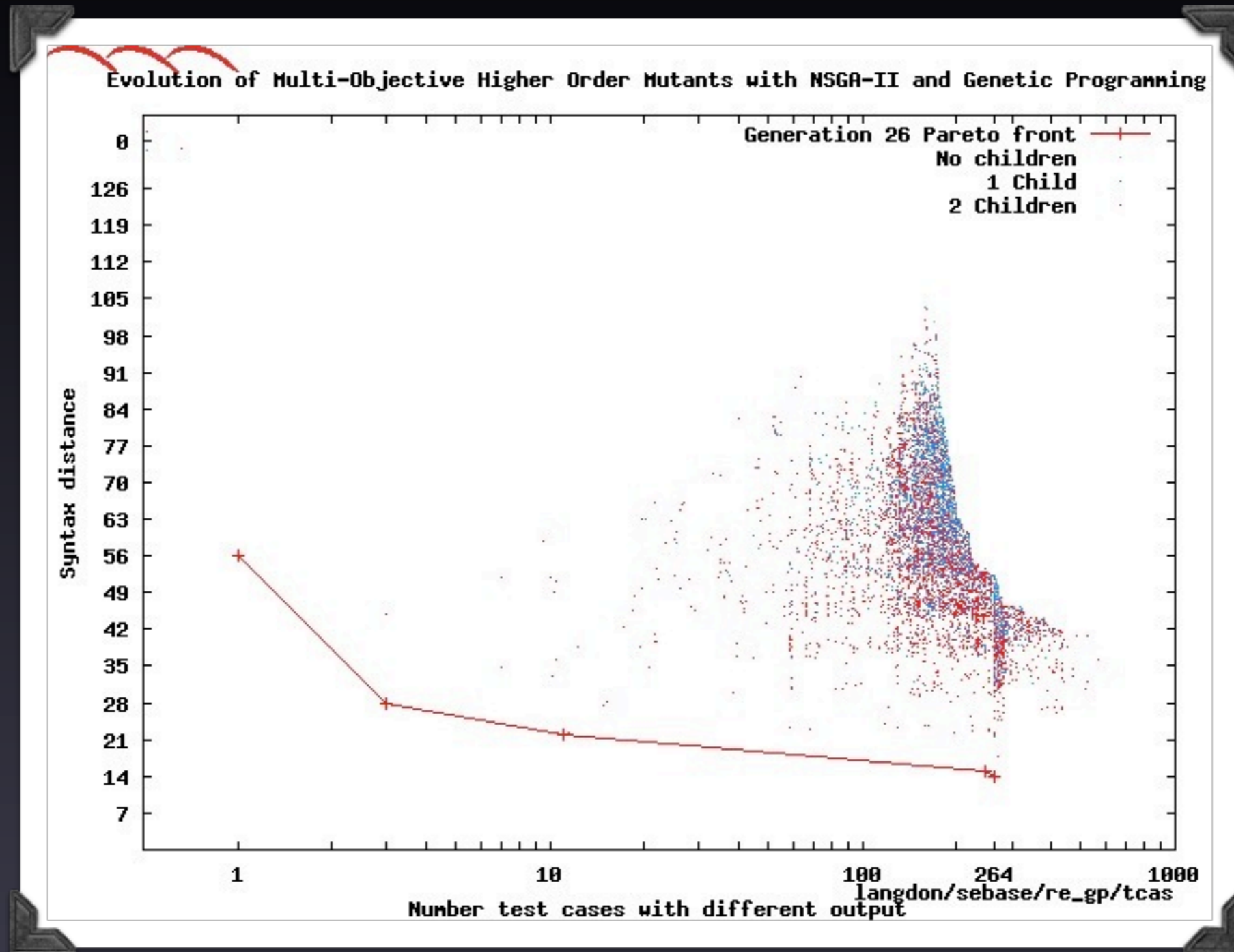
Multi Objective



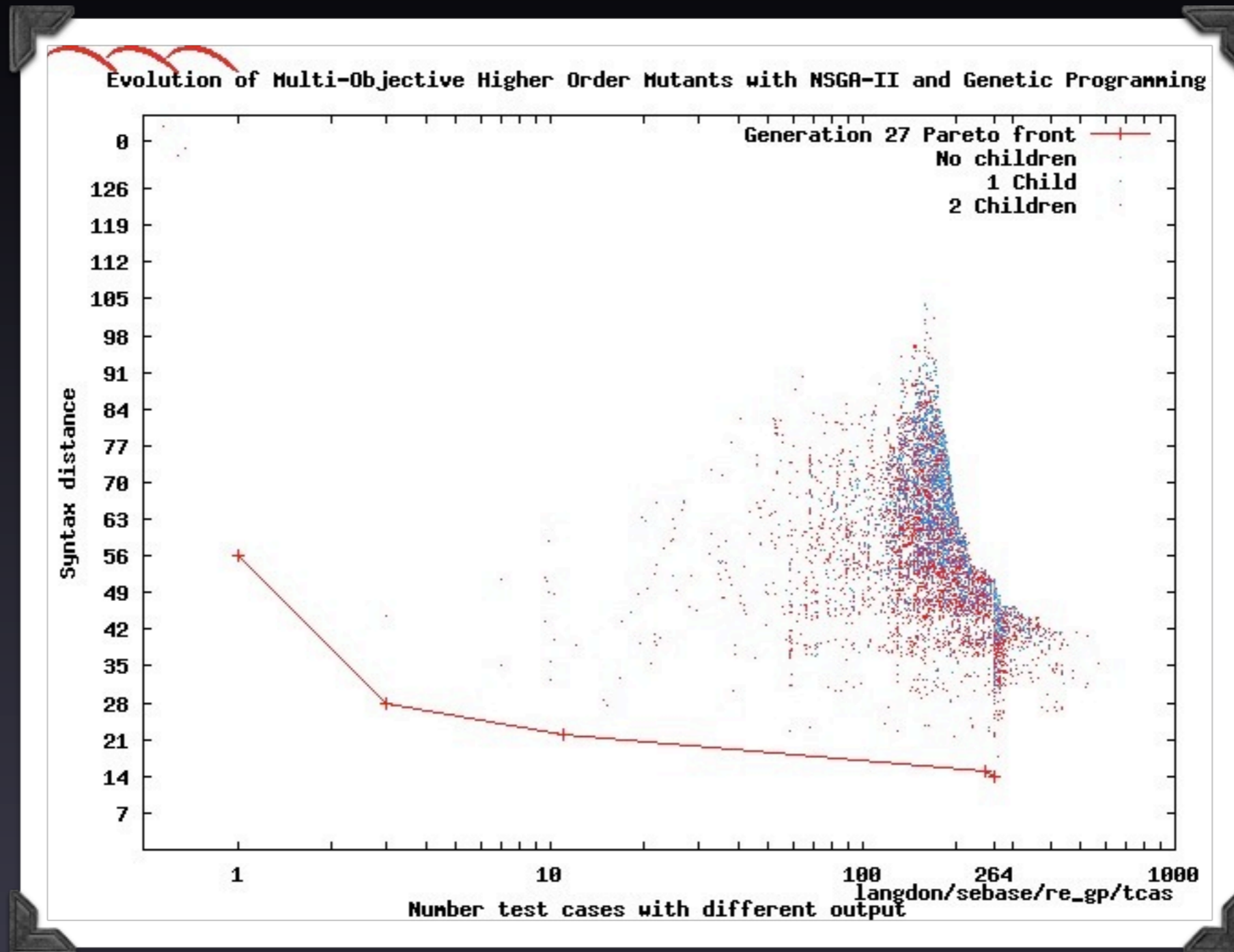
Multi Objective



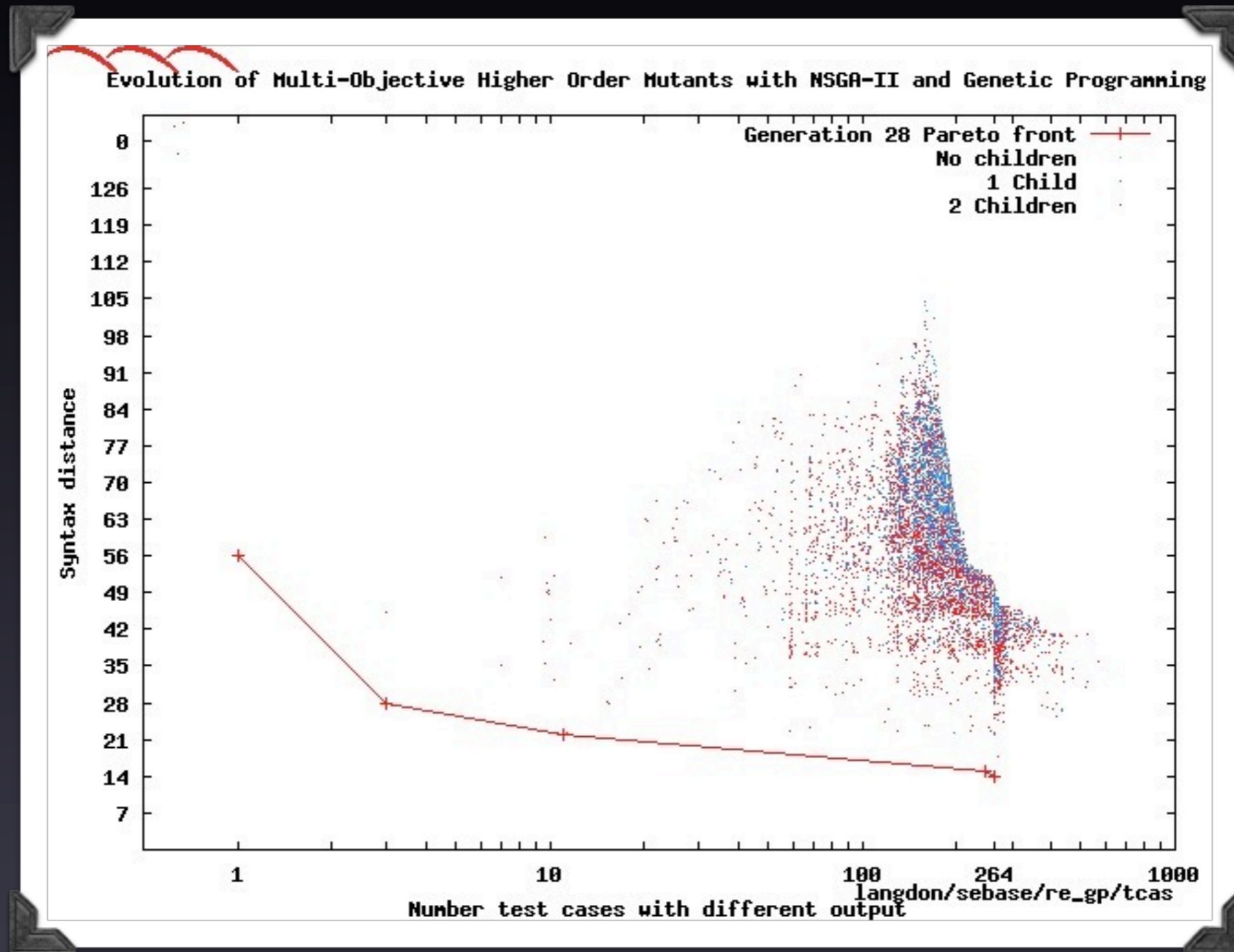
Multi Objective



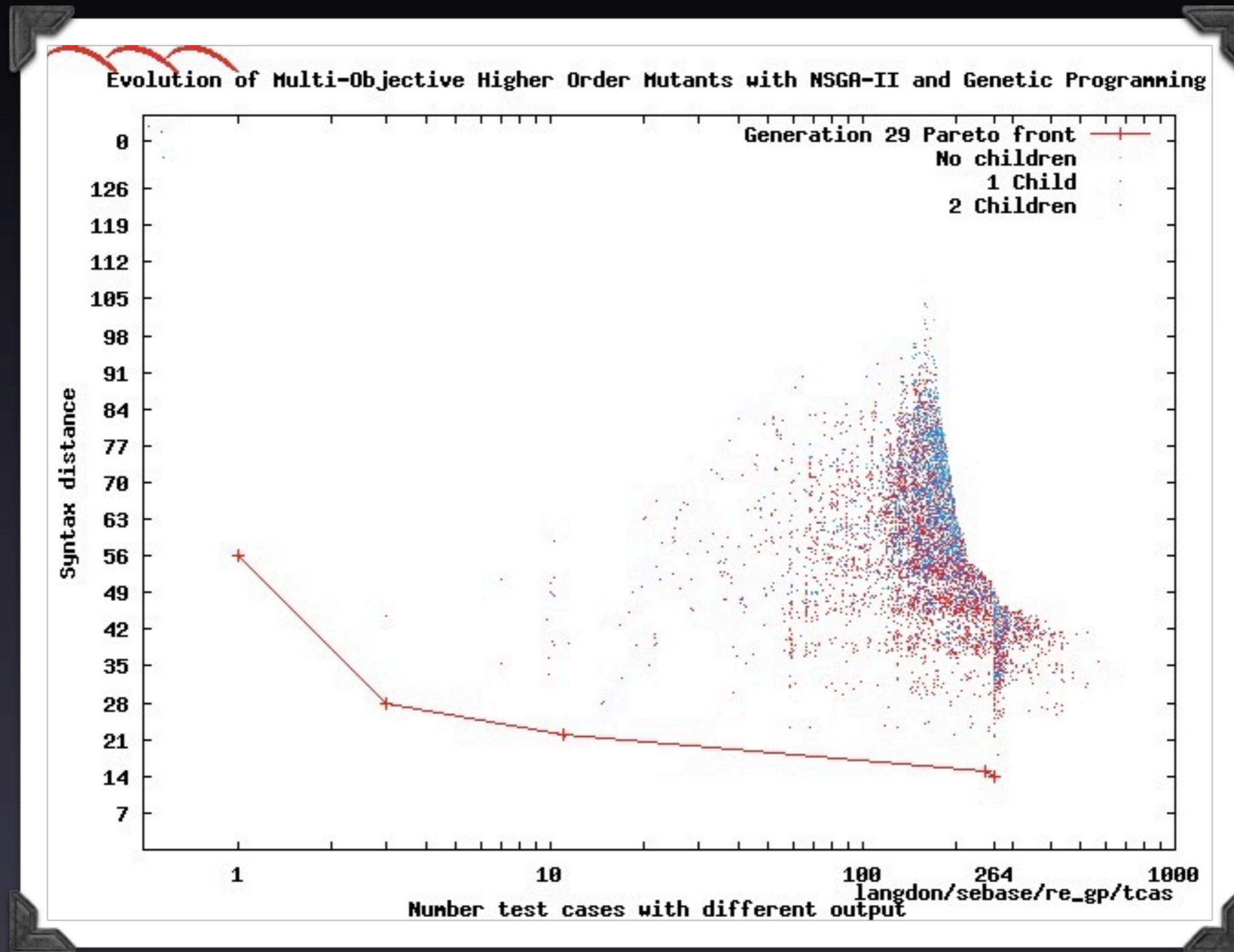
Multi Objective



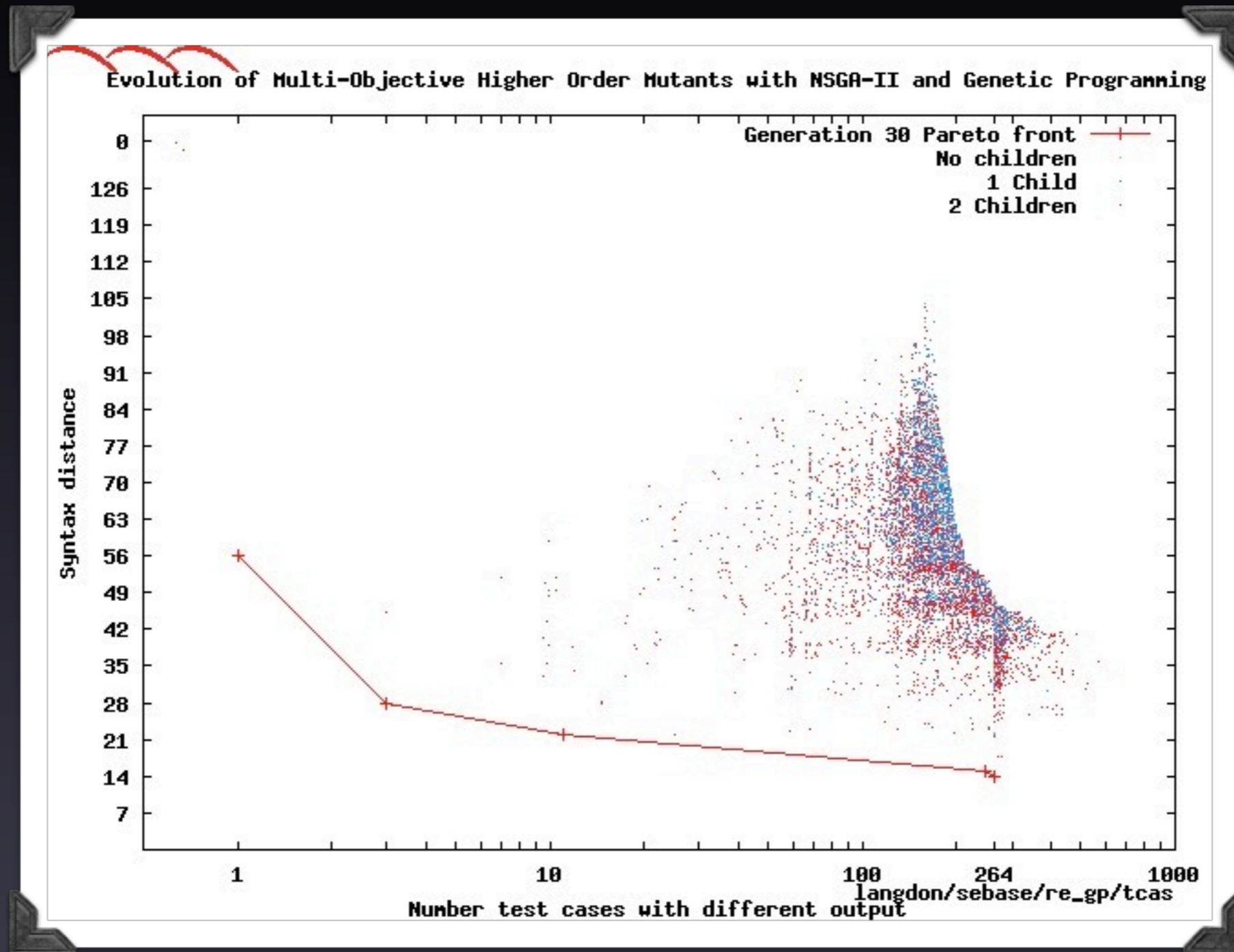
Multi Objective



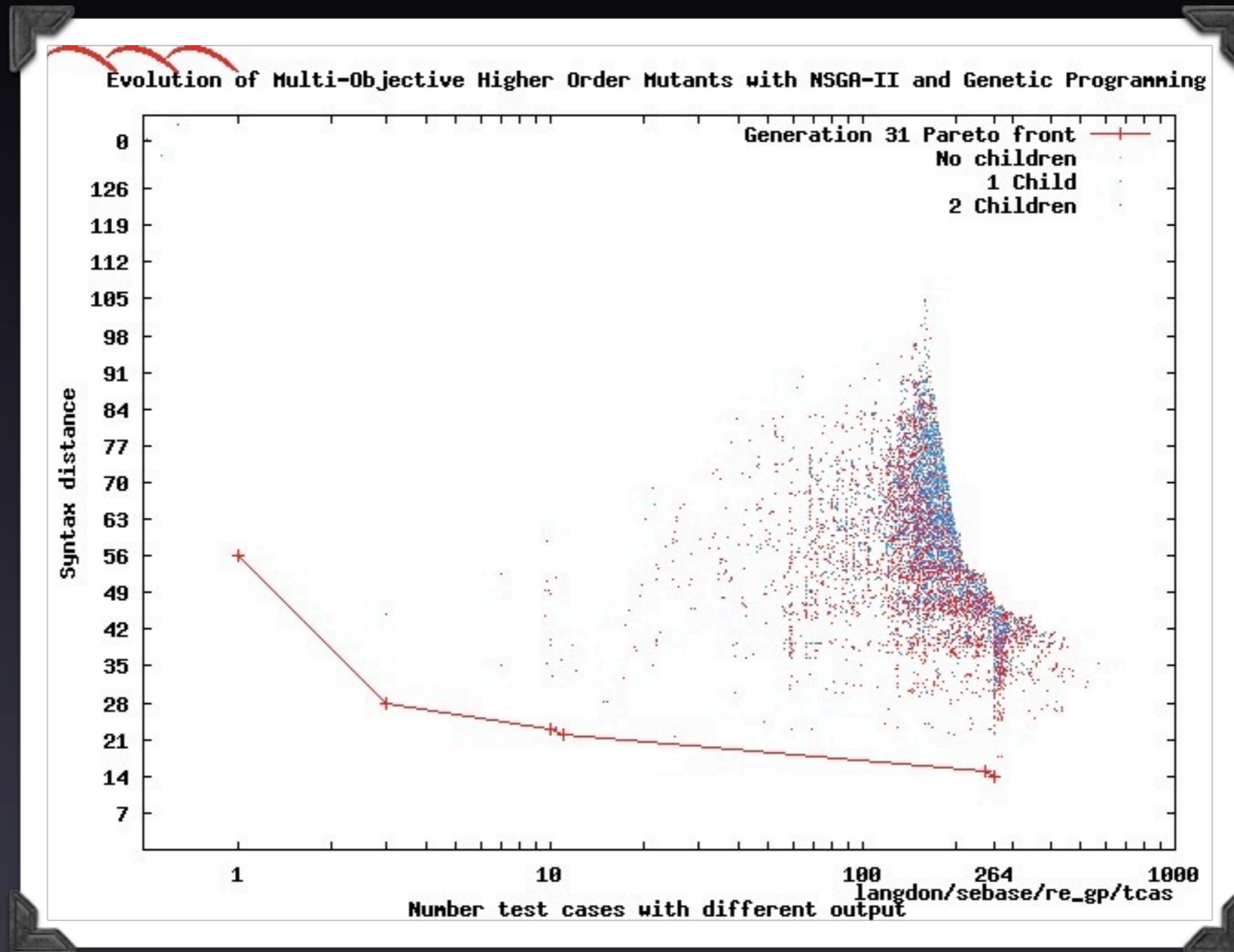
Multi Objective



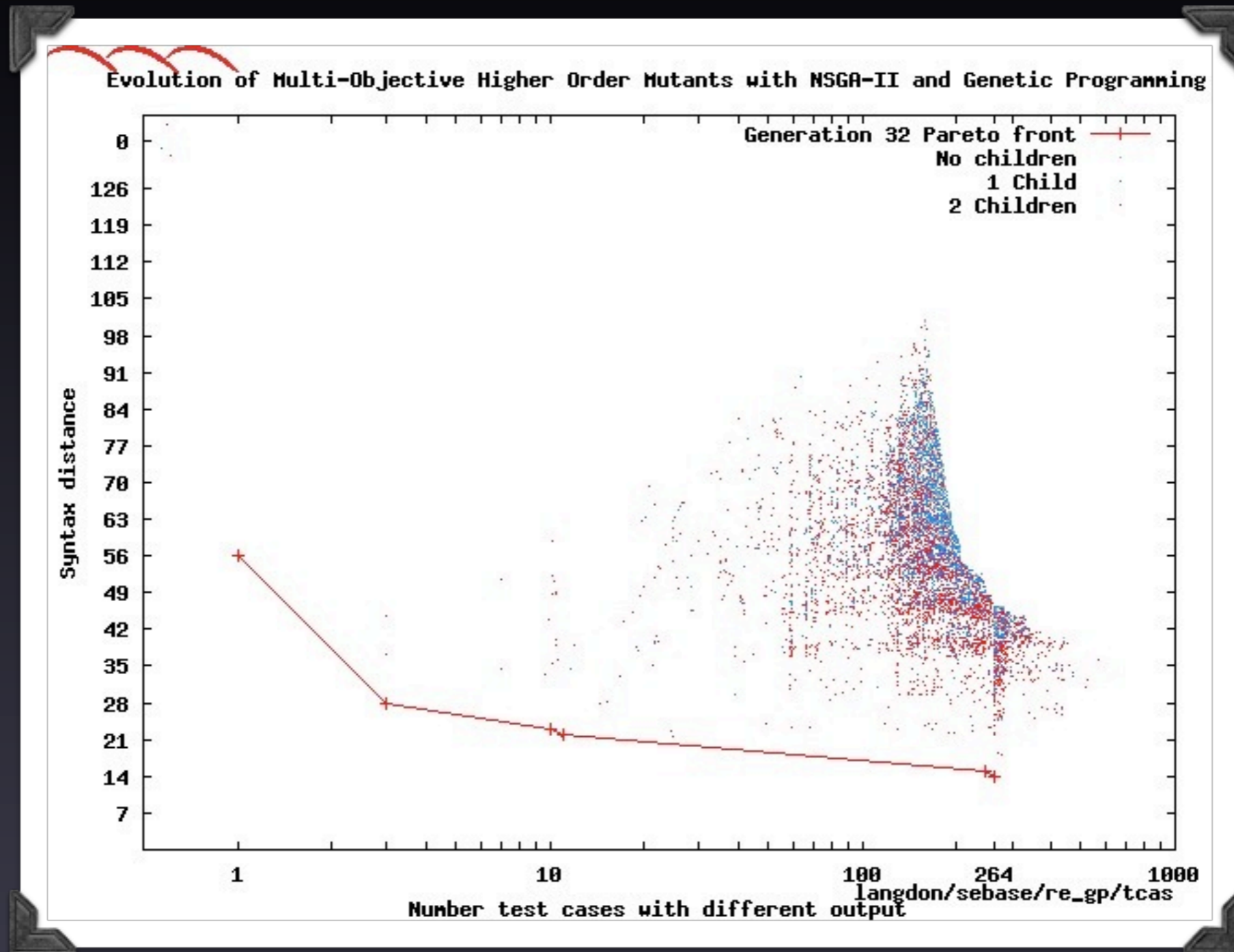
Multi Objective



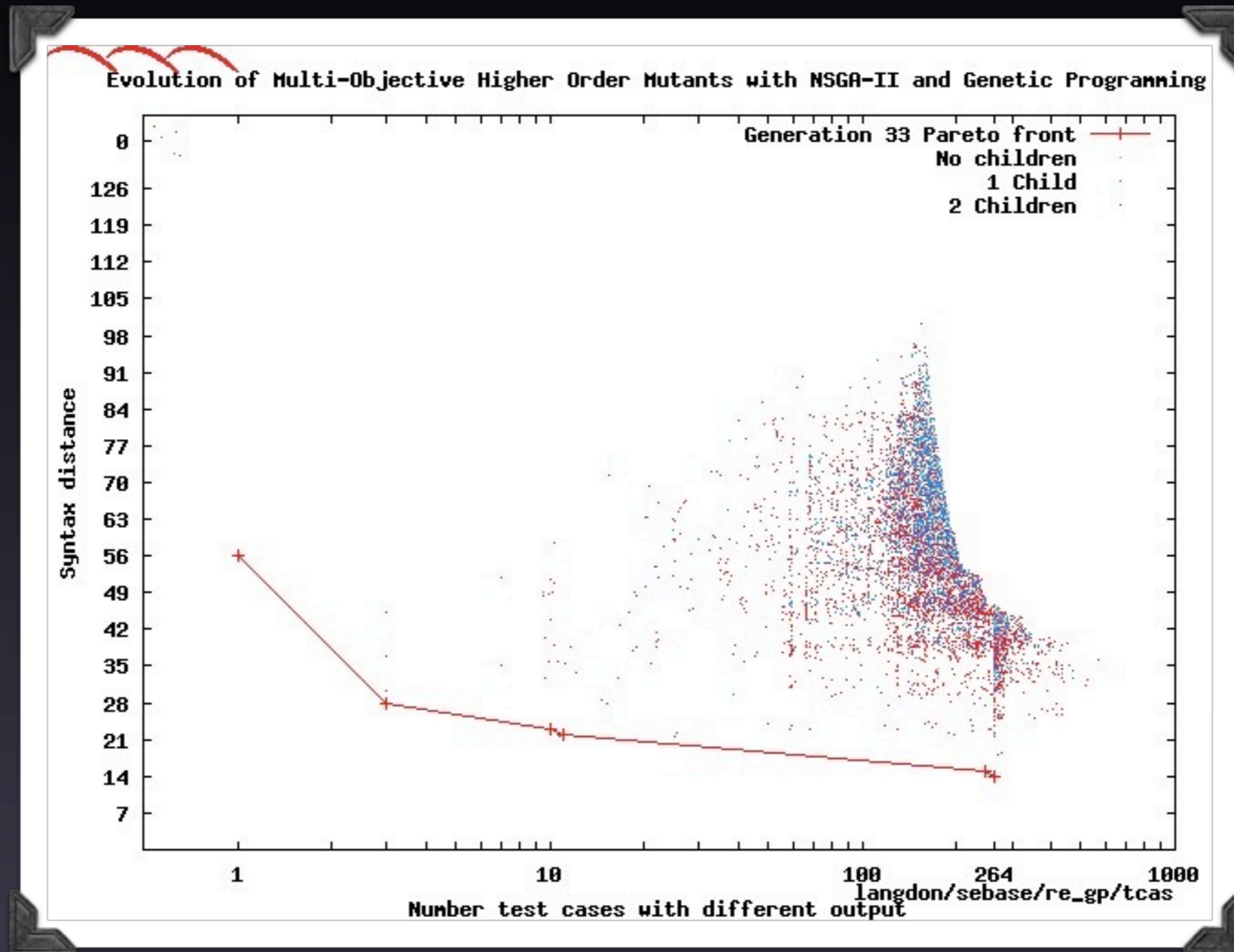
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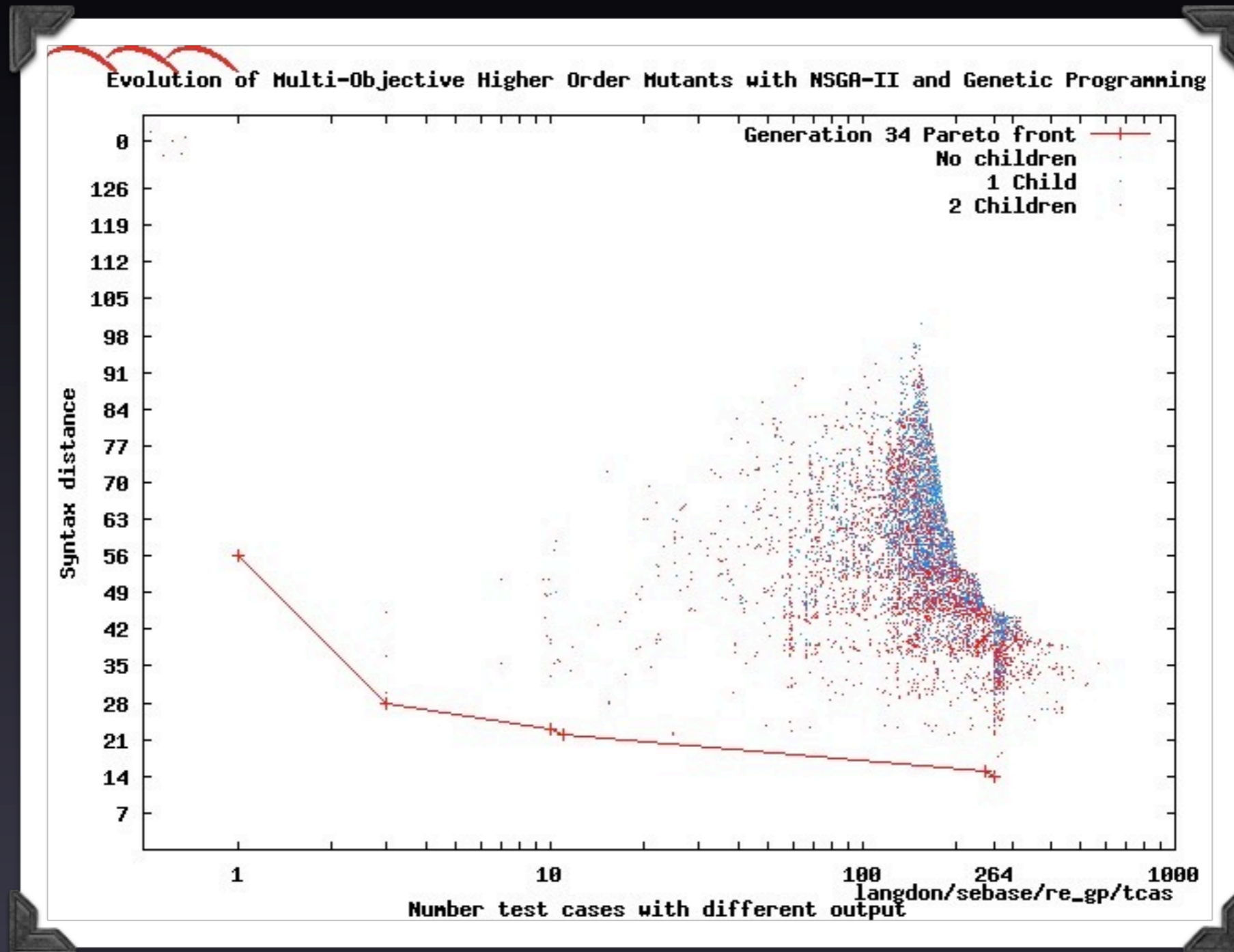
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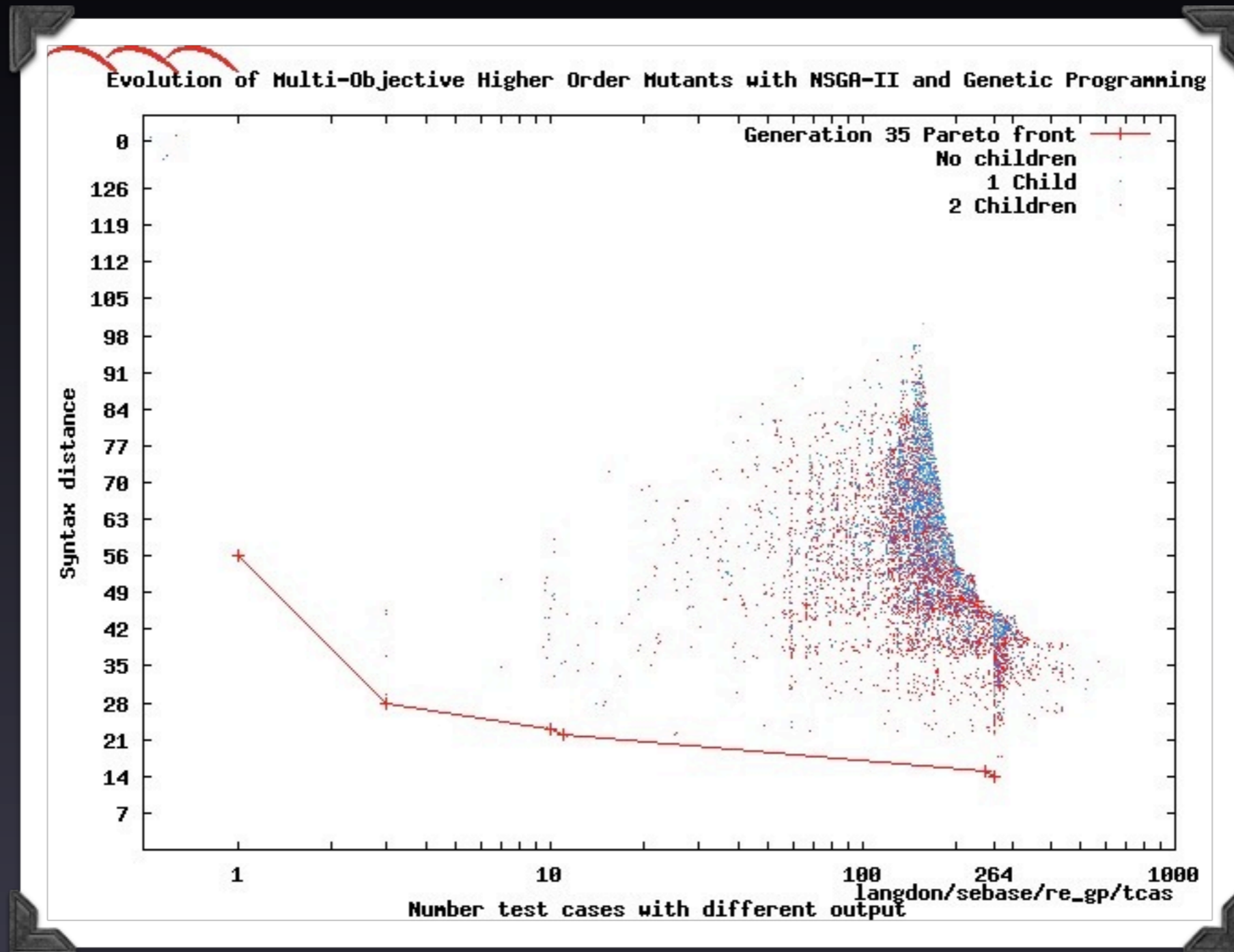
Multi Objective



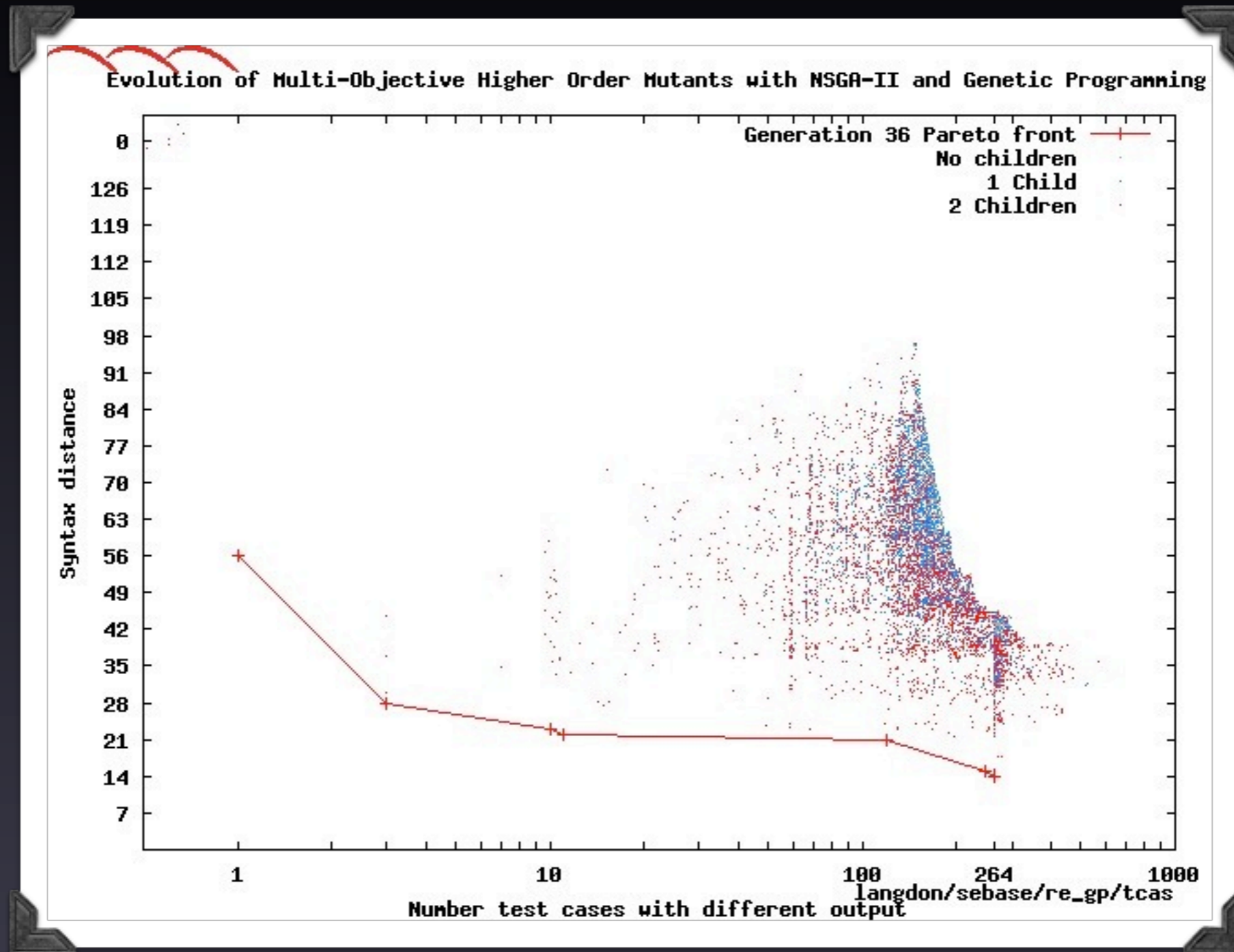
Multi Objective



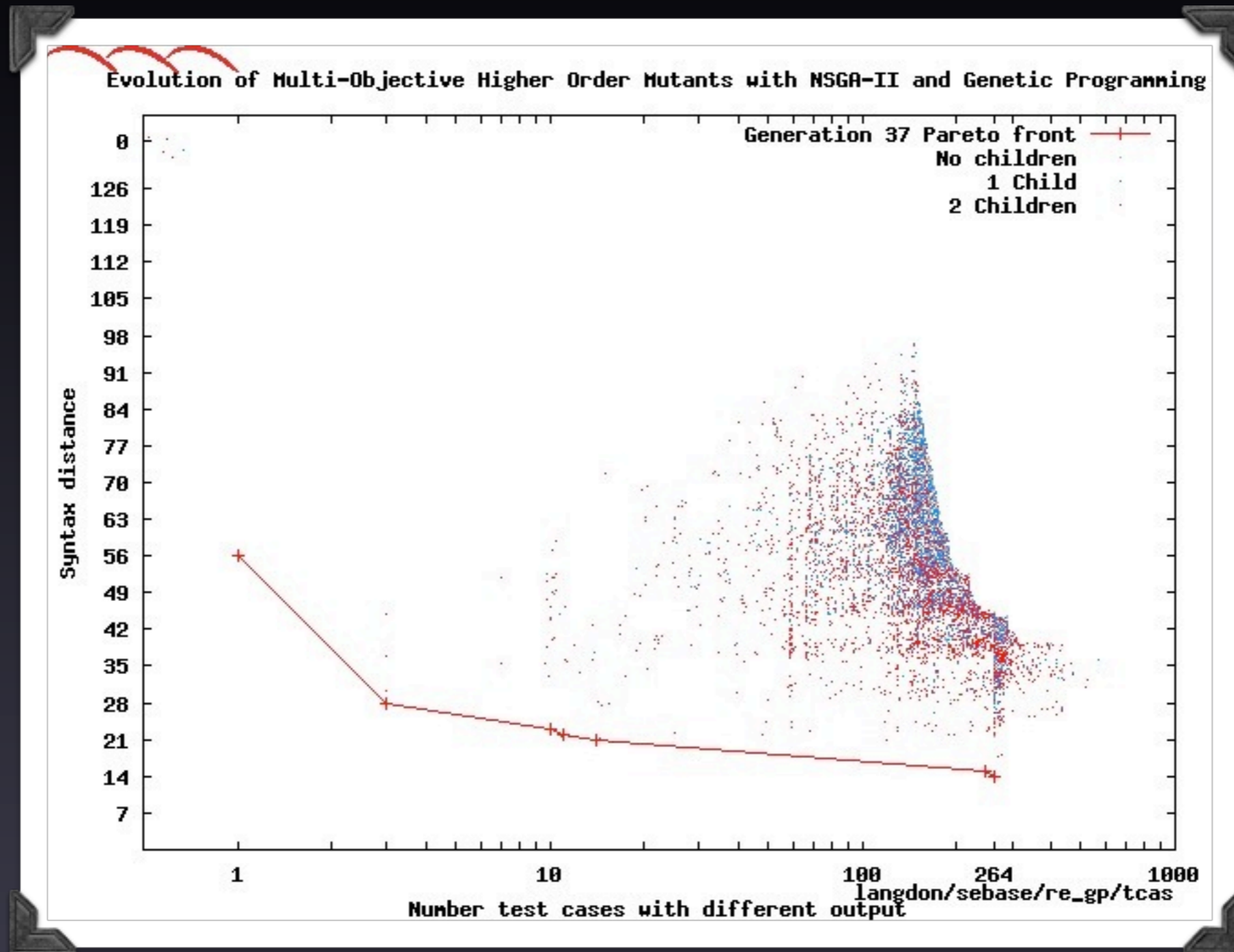
Multi Objective



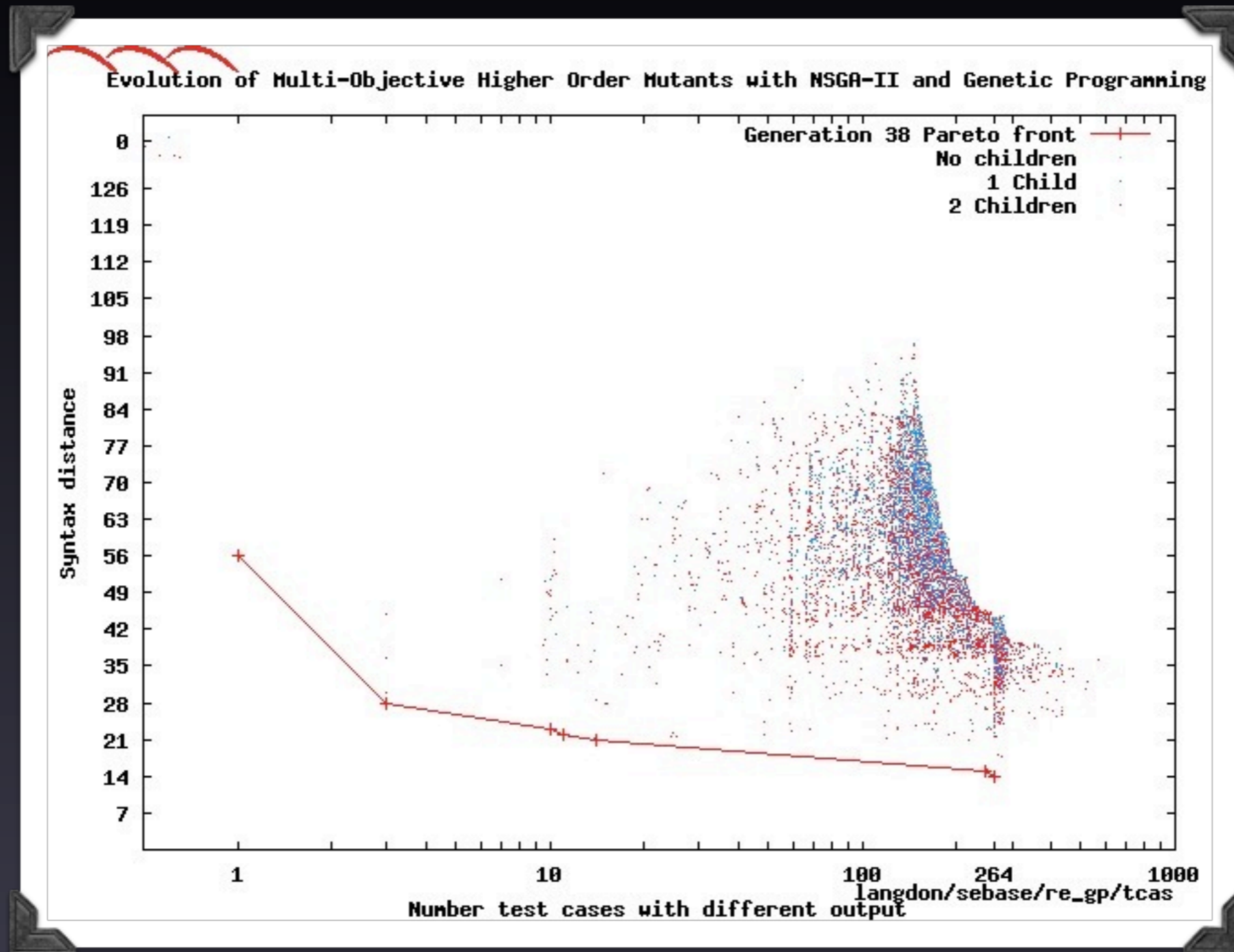
Multi Objective



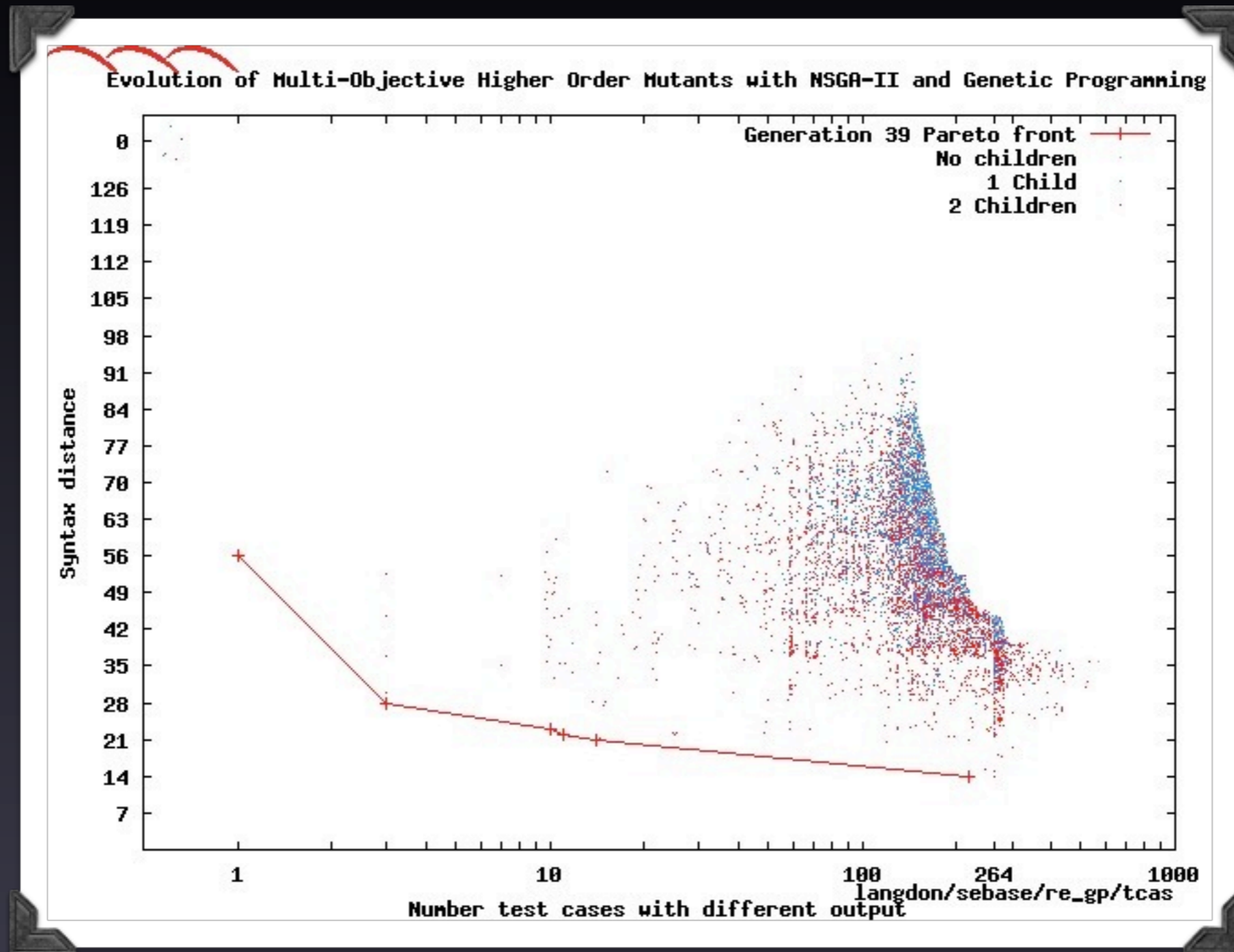
Multi Objective



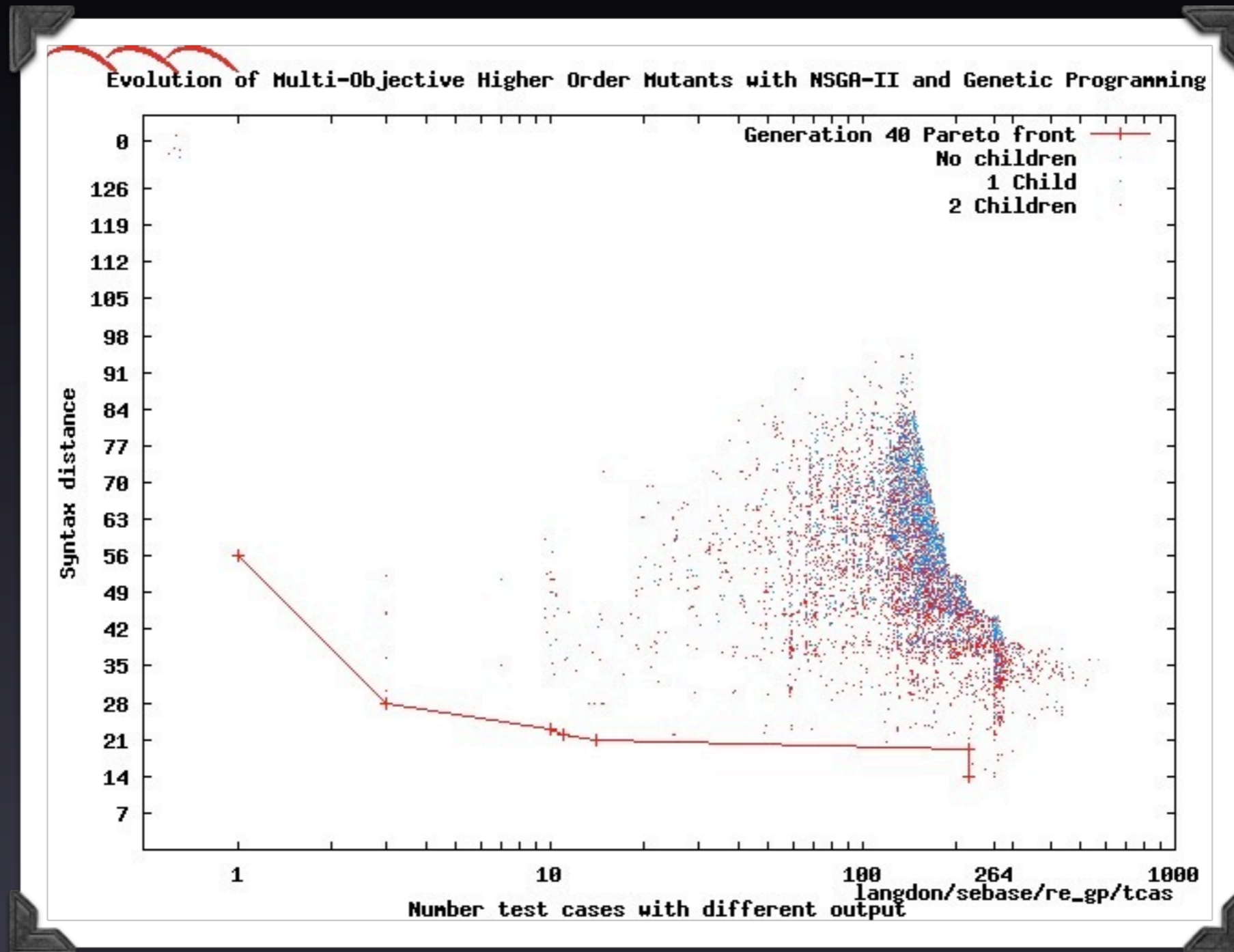
Multi Objective



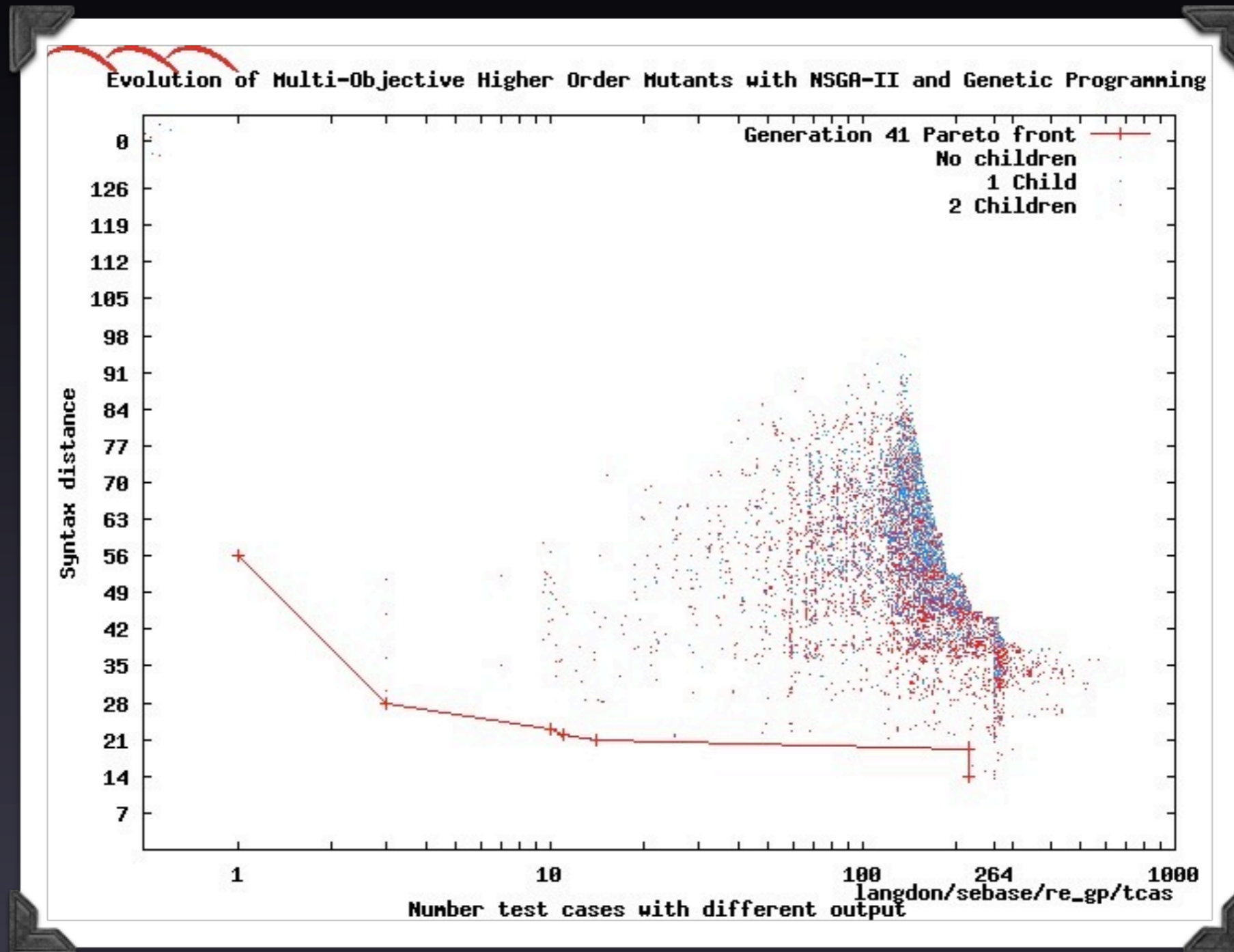
Multi Objective



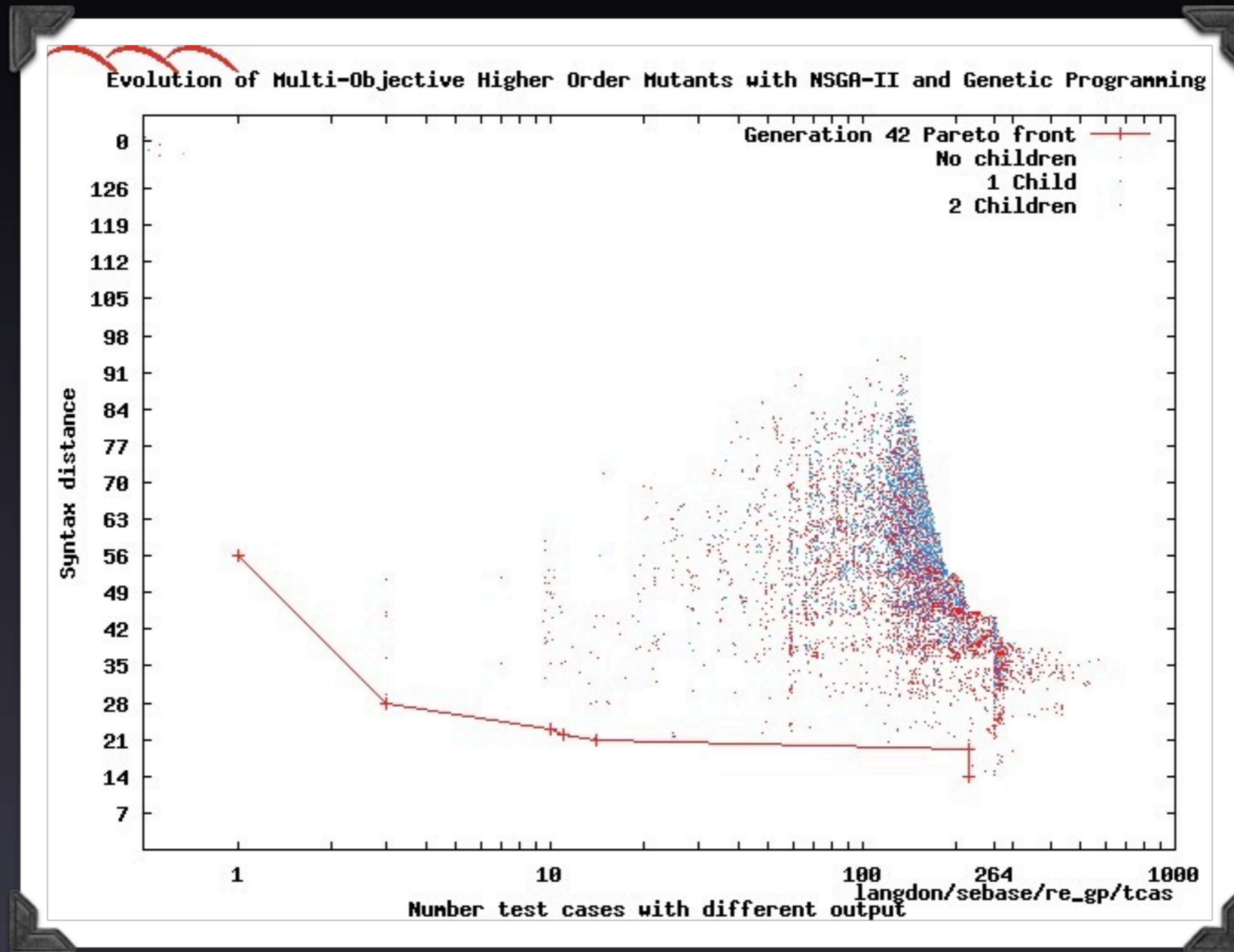
Multi Objective



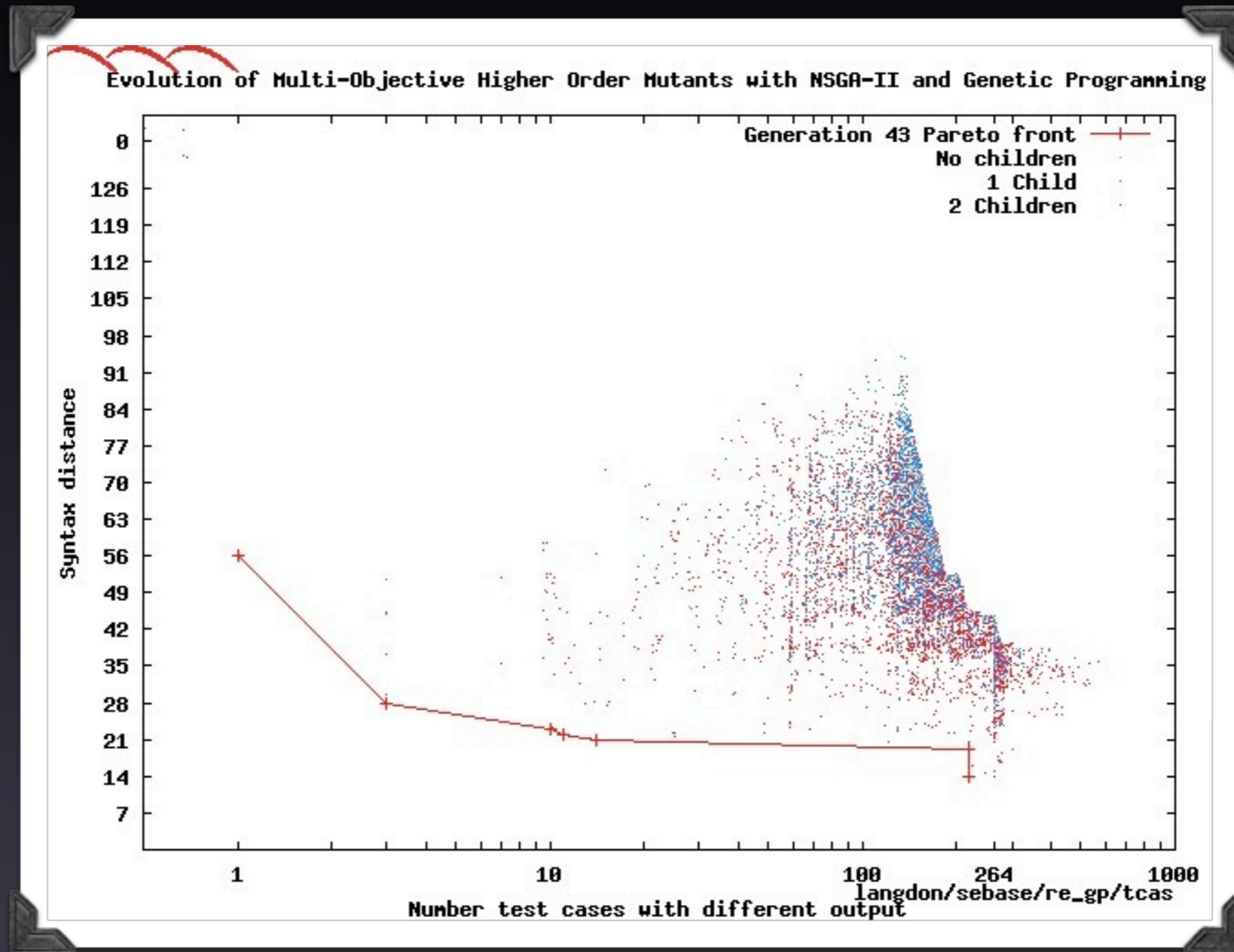
Multi Objective



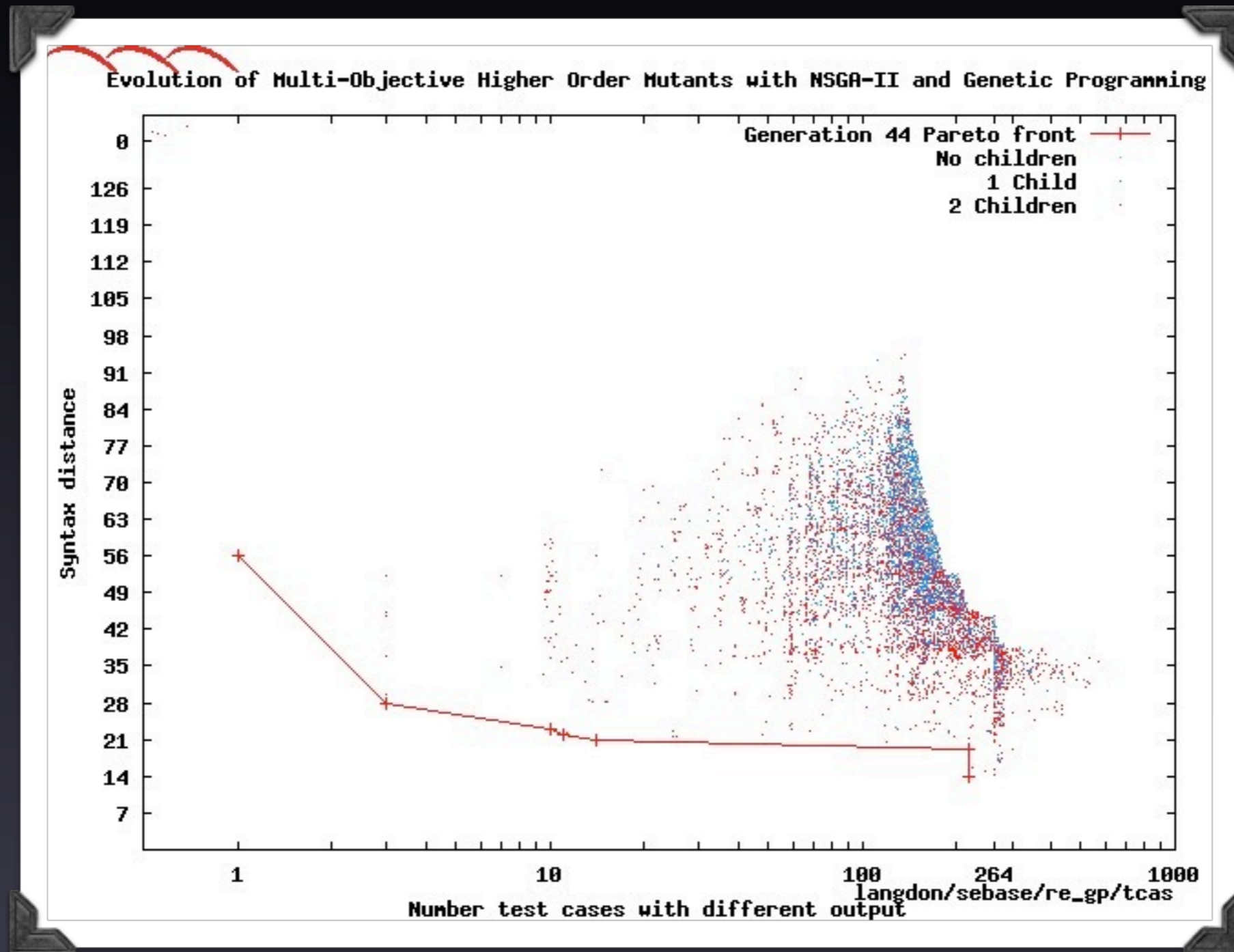
Multi Objective



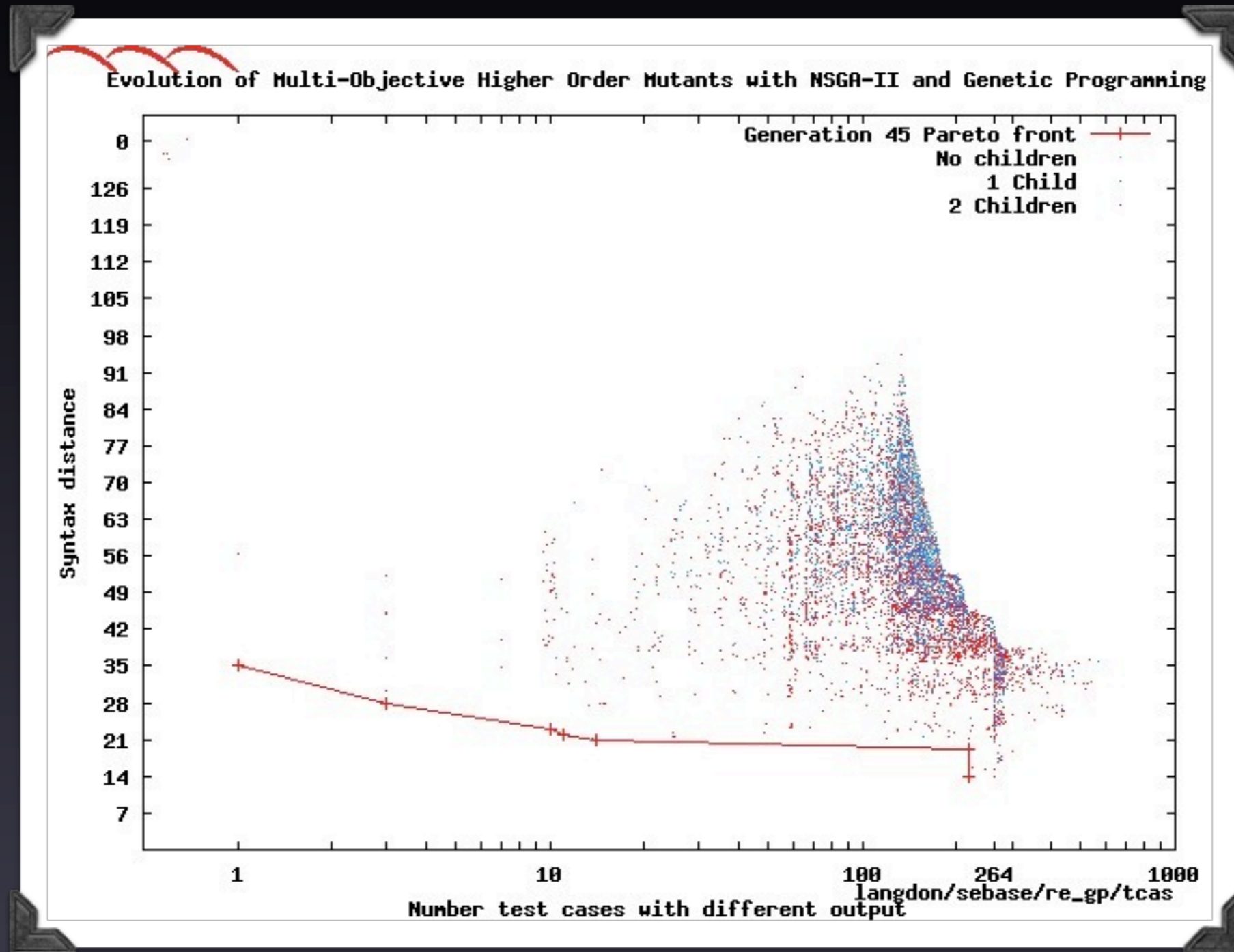
Multi Objective



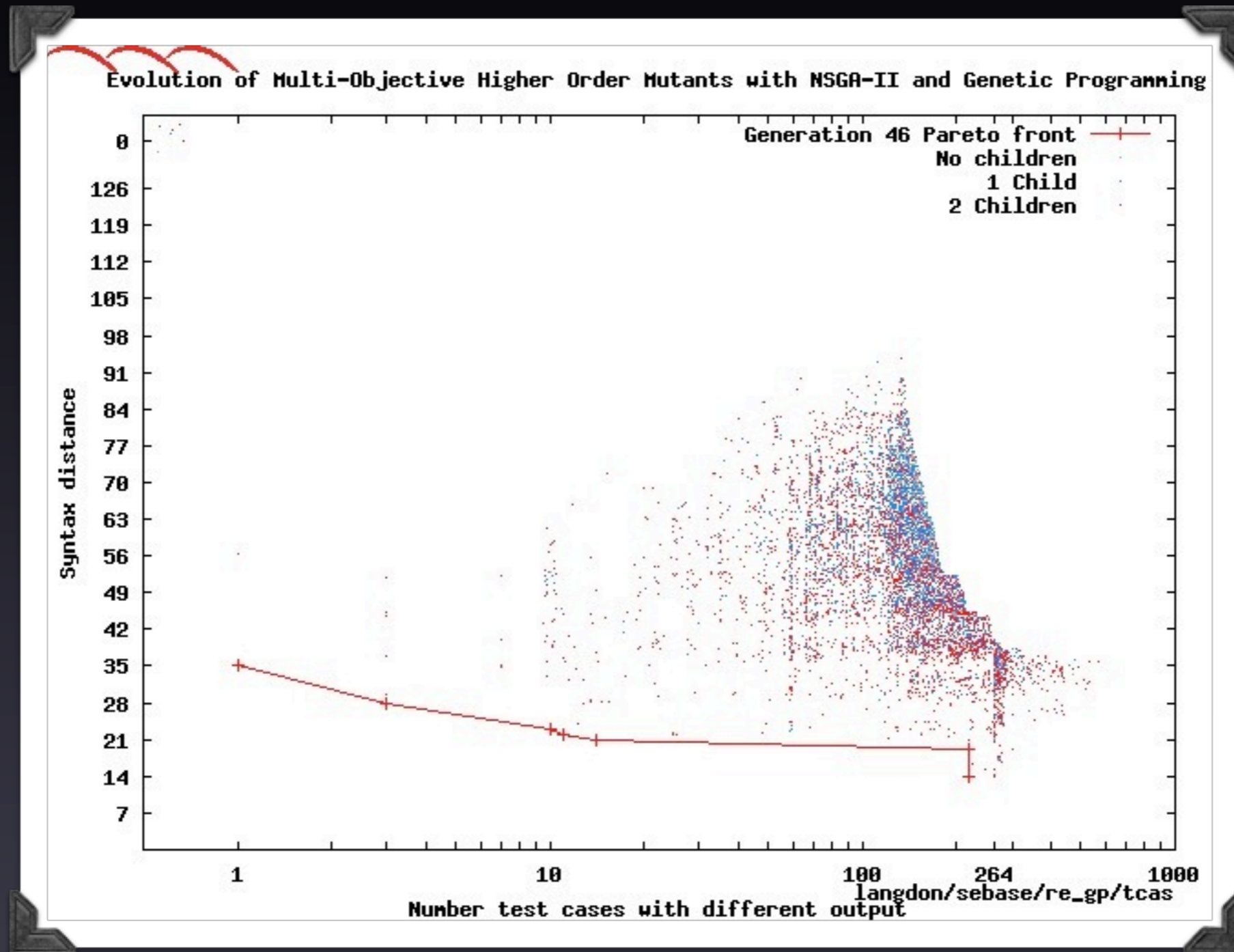
Multi Objective



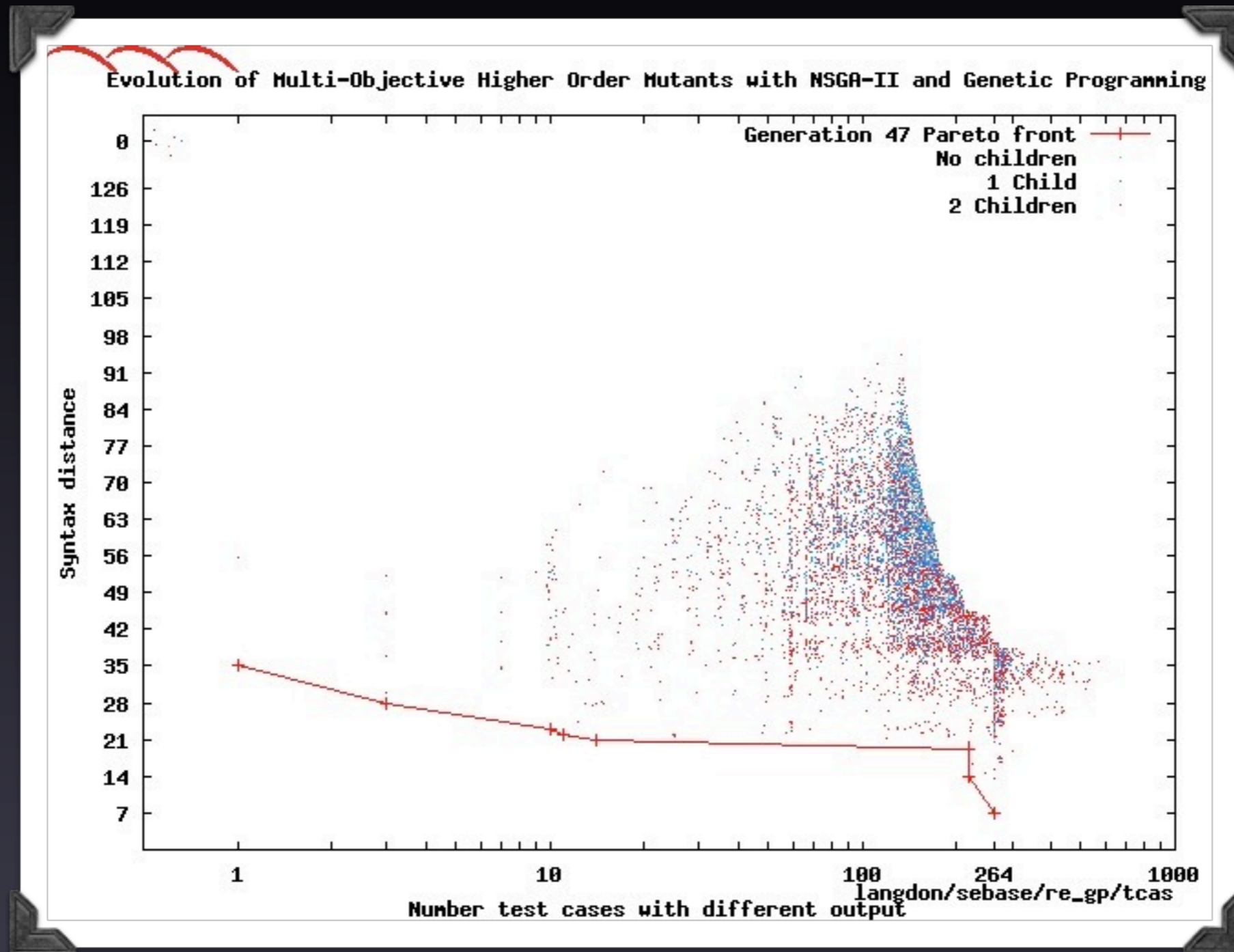
Multi Objective



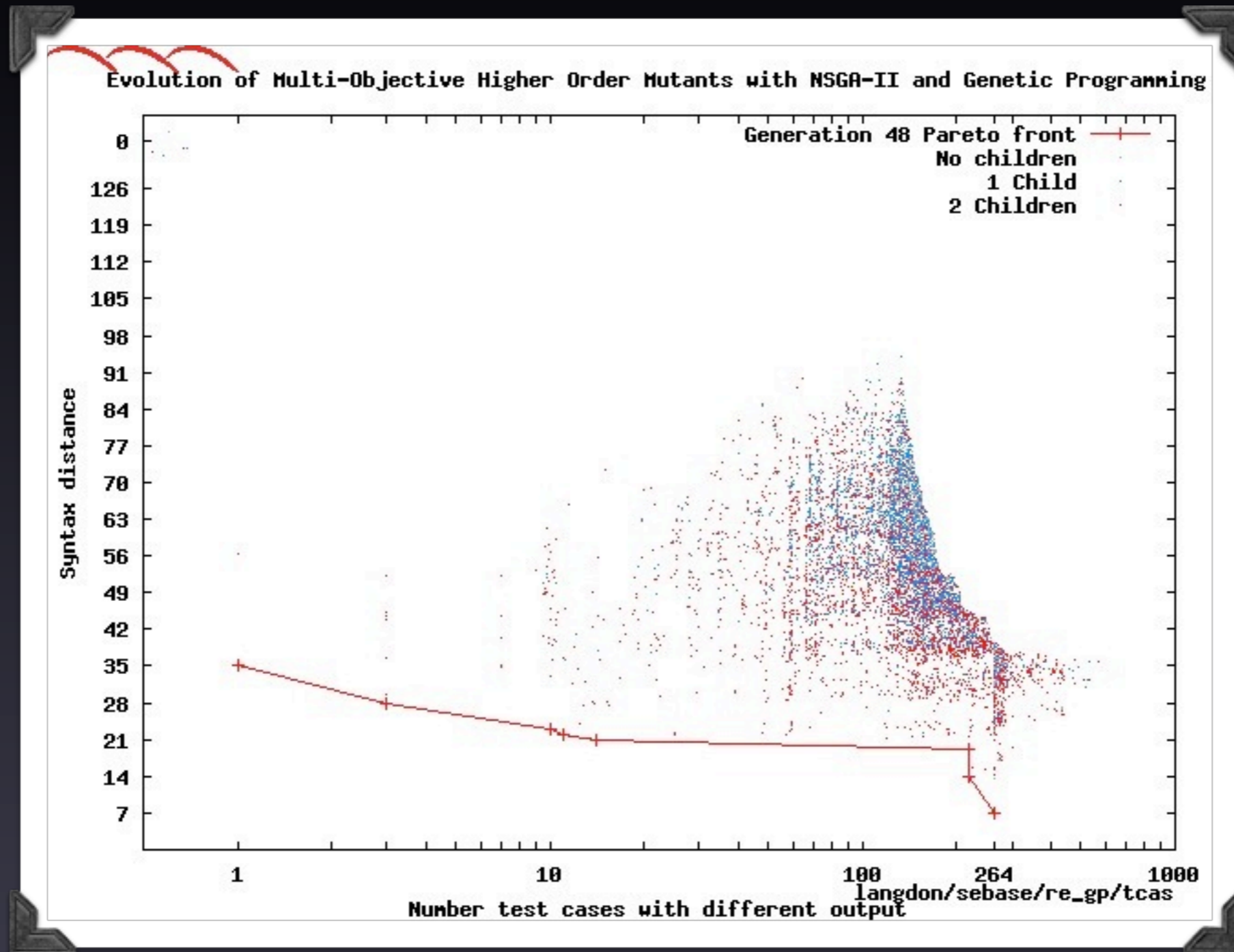
Multi Objective



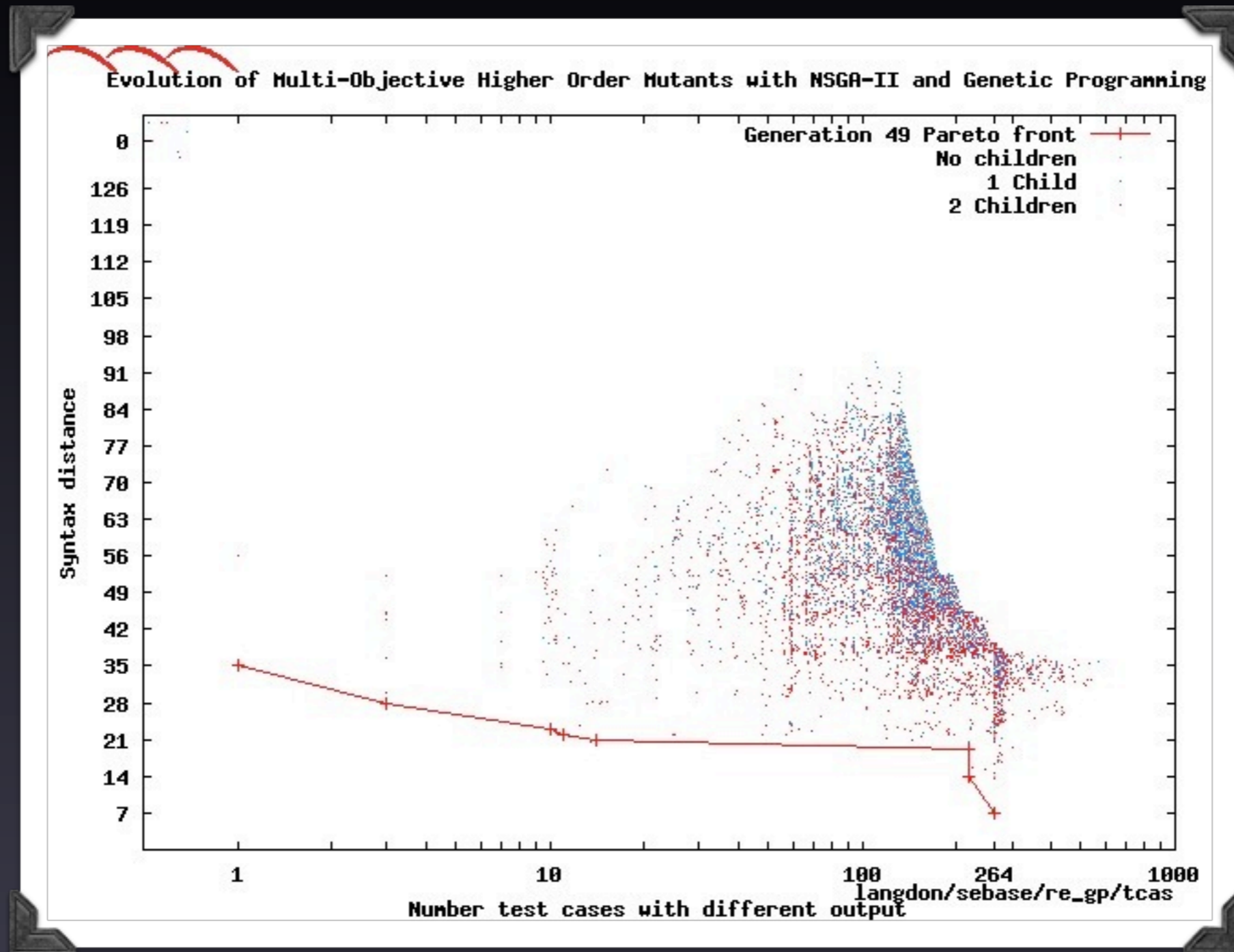
Multi Objective



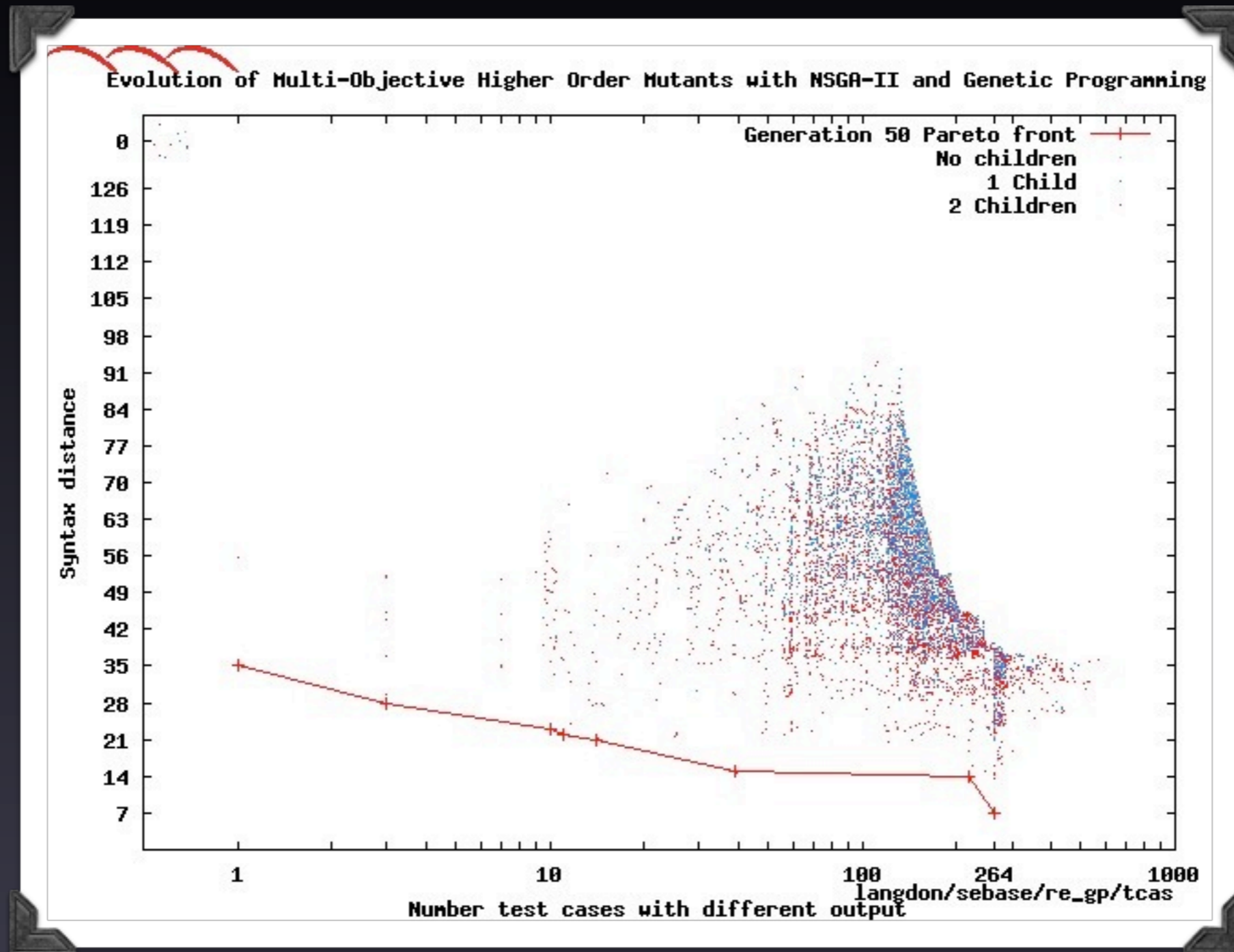
Multi Objective



Multi Objective



Multi Objective



HOM Classification

HOM classification

Most common case

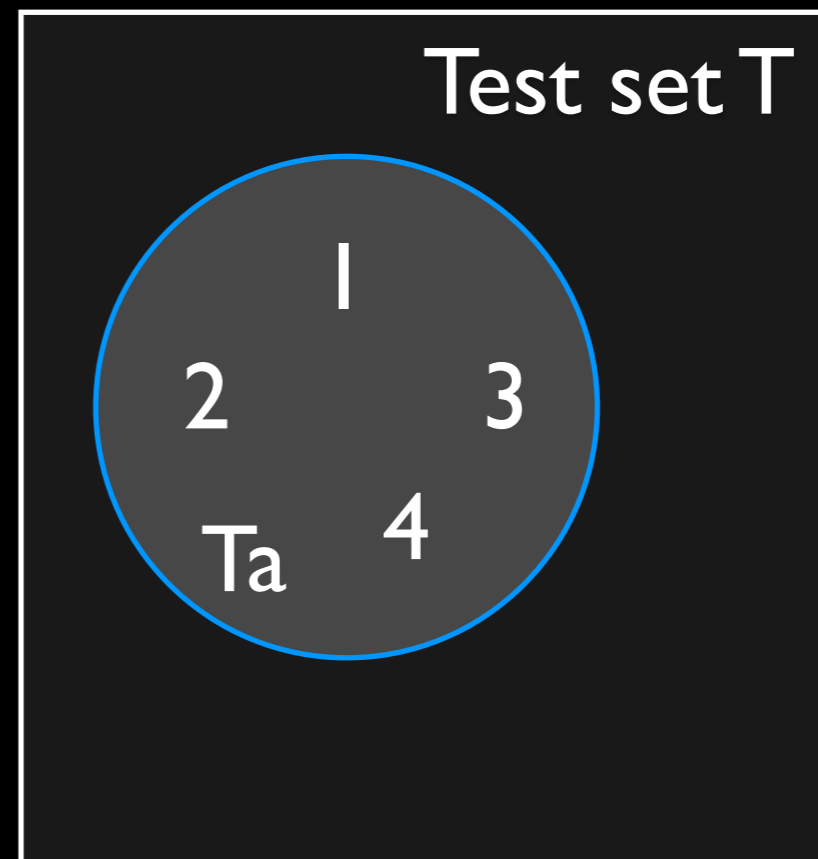
FOM a is killed by
 $\{ 1, 2, 3, 4 \}$

Test set T

HOM classification

Most common case

FOM a is killed by
 $\{ 1, 2, 3, 4 \}$

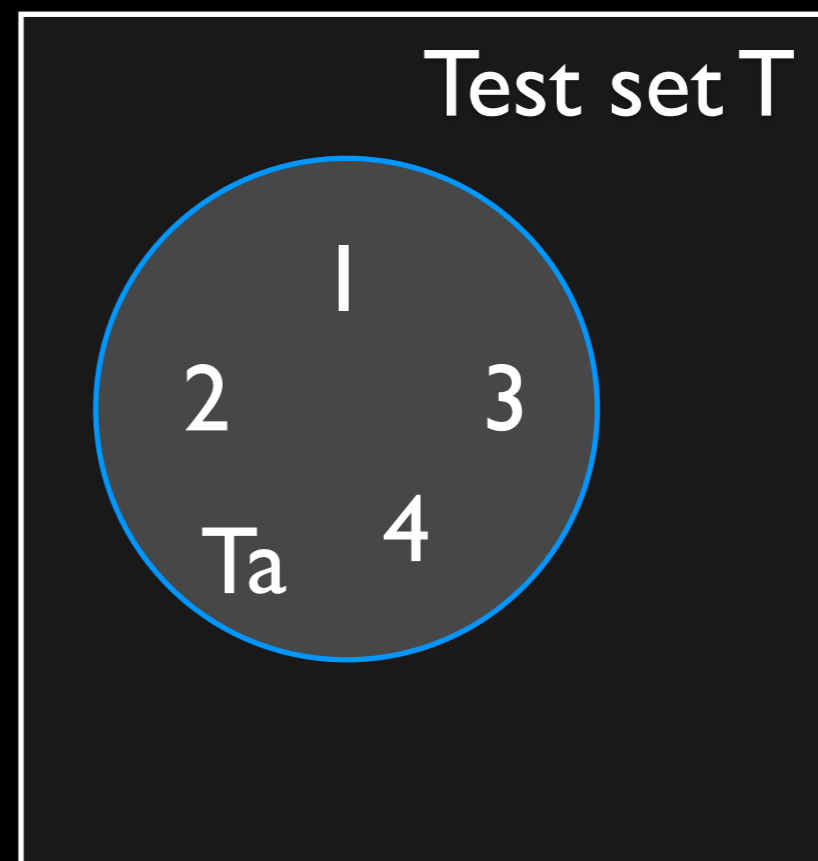


HOM classification

Most common case

FOM a is killed by
 $\{ 1, 2, 3, 4 \}$

FOM b is killed by
 $\{ 3, 4, 5, 6 \}$

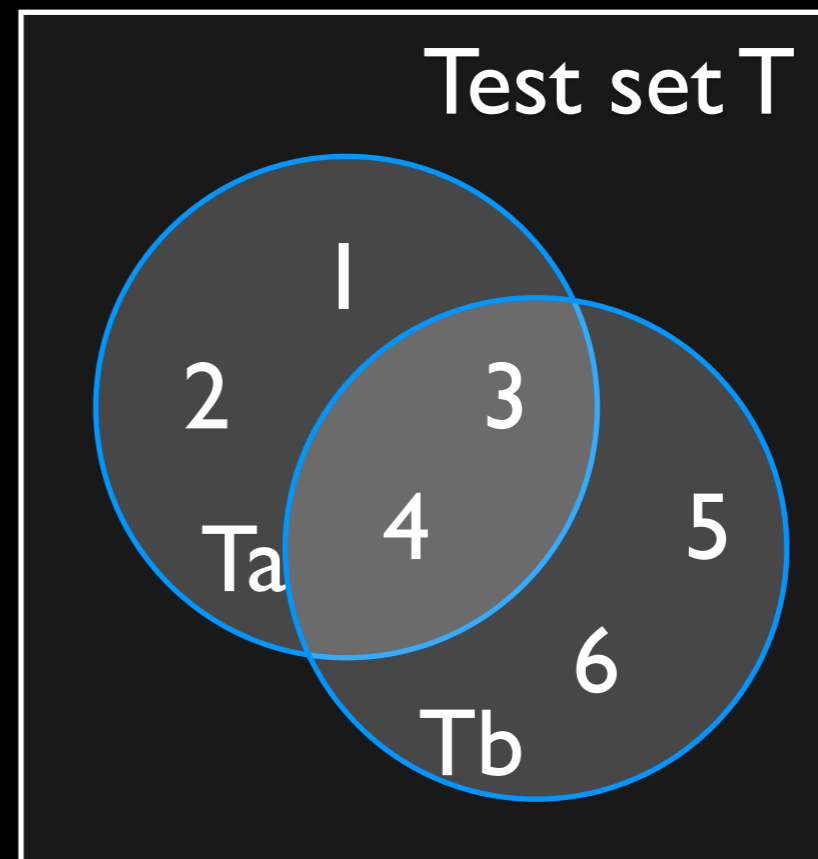


HOM classification

Most common case

FOM a is killed by
 $\{ 1, 2, 3, 4 \}$

FOM b is killed by
 $\{ 3, 4, 5, 6 \}$



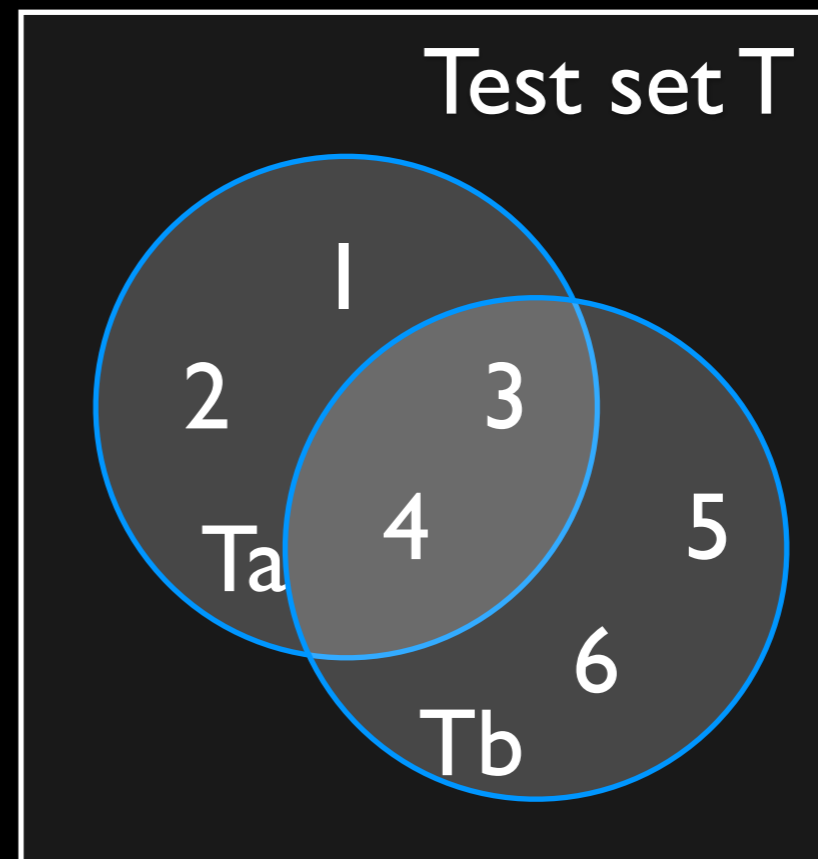
HOM classification

Most common case

FOM a is killed by
 $\{ 1, 2, 3, 4 \}$

FOM b is killed by
 $\{ 3, 4, 5, 6 \}$

HOM ab is killed by
 $\{ 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 \}$



HOM classification

Most common case

FOM a is killed by
 $\{ 1, 2, 3, 4 \}$

FOM b is killed by
 $\{ 3, 4, 5, 6 \}$

HOM ab is killed by
 $\{ 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 \}$



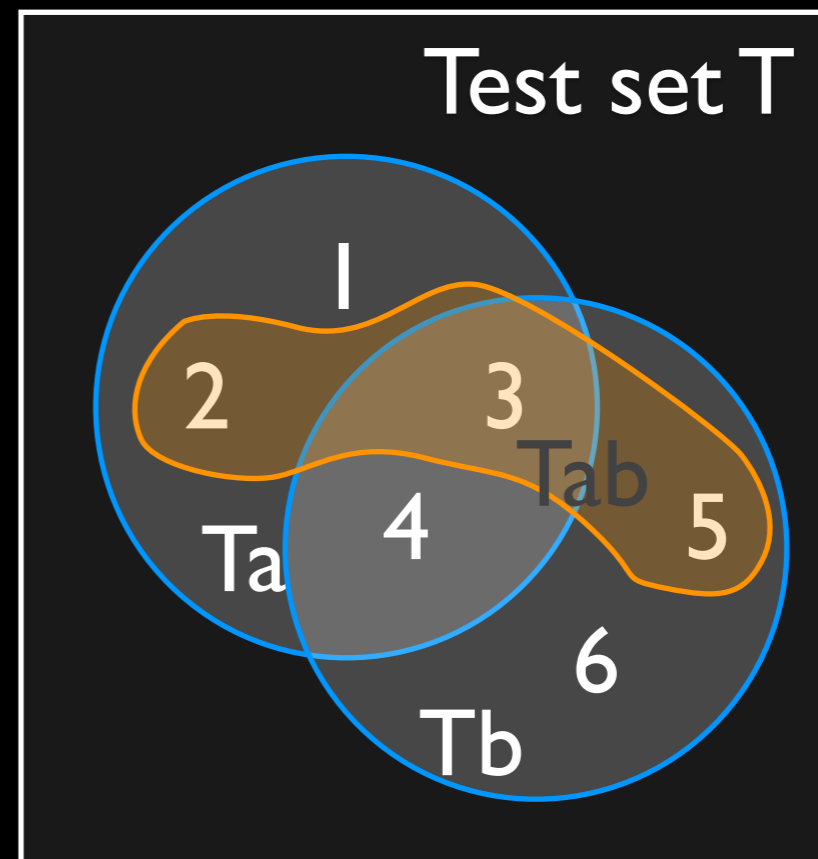
HOM classification

Most common case

FOM a is killed by
 $\{ 1, 2, 3, 4 \}$

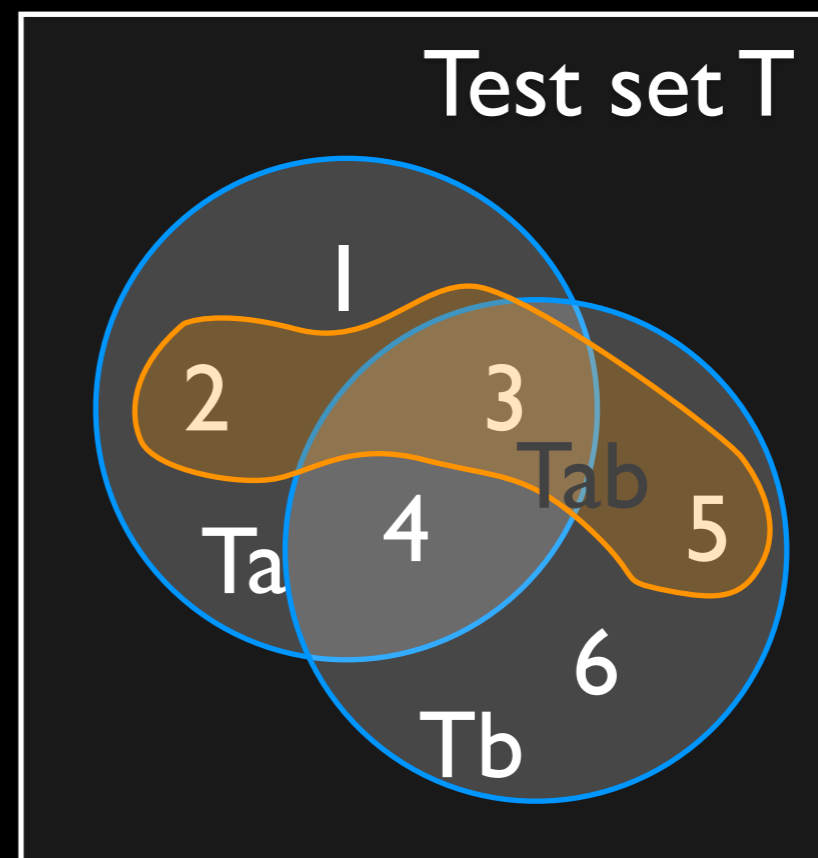
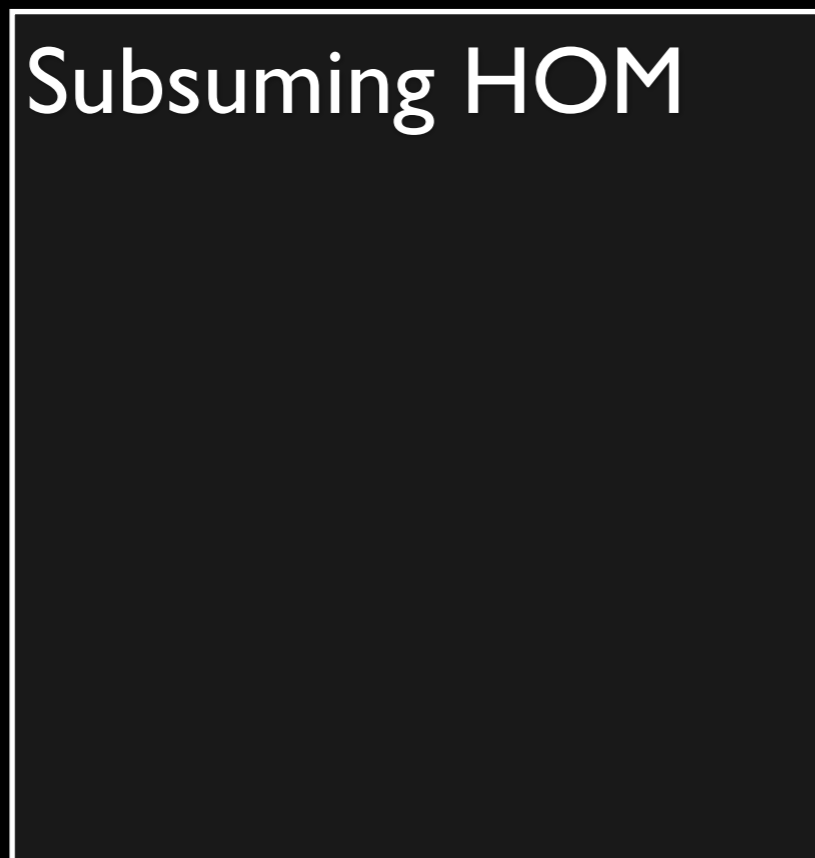
FOM b is killed by
 $\{ 3, 4, 5, 6 \}$

HOM ab is killed by
 $\{ 2, 3, 5 \}$



HOM classification

Many types of HOM



HOM classification

Many types of HOM

Subsuming HOM

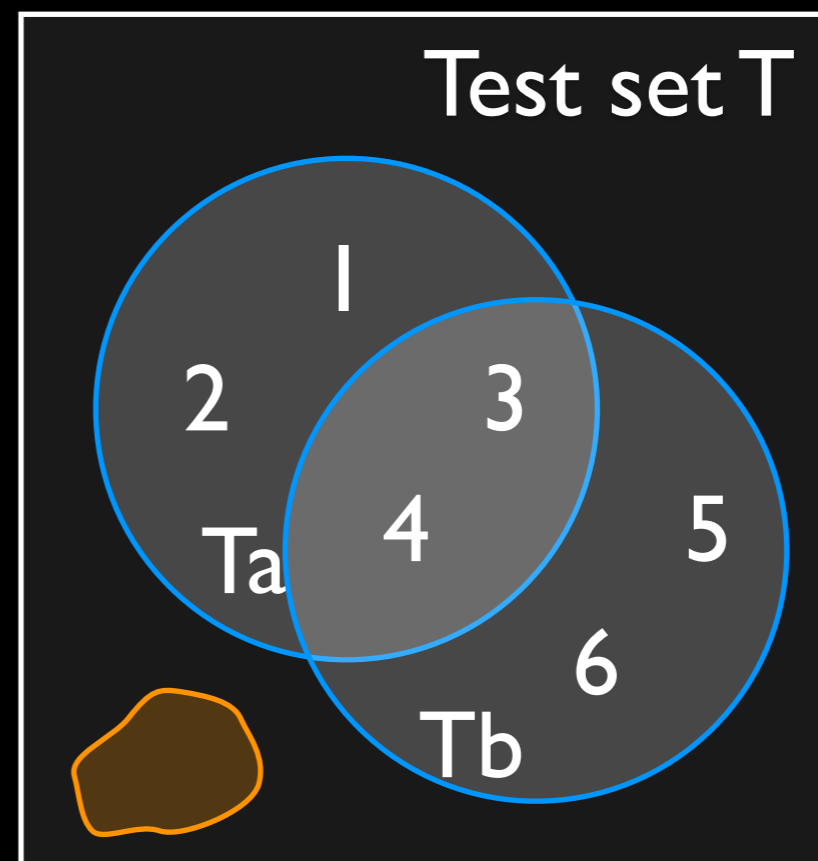
Strongly Subsuming



HOM classification

Many types of HOM

Subsuming HOM
Strongly Subsuming
Anti-Coupling Effect



HOM classification

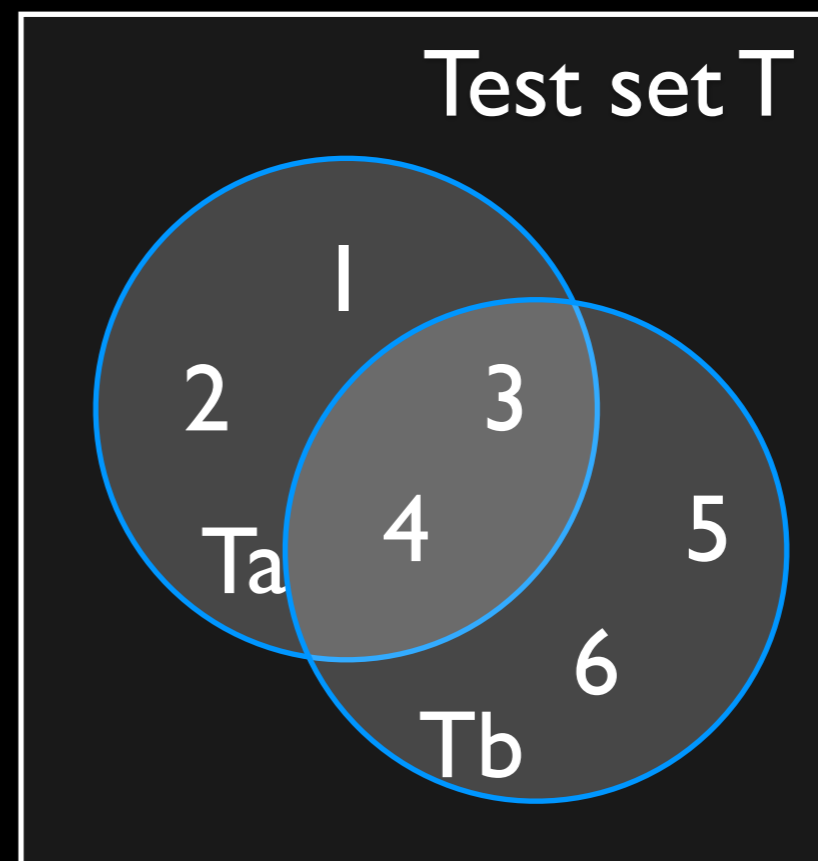
Many types of HOM

Subsuming HOM

Strongly Subsuming

Anti-Coupling Effect

Equivalent

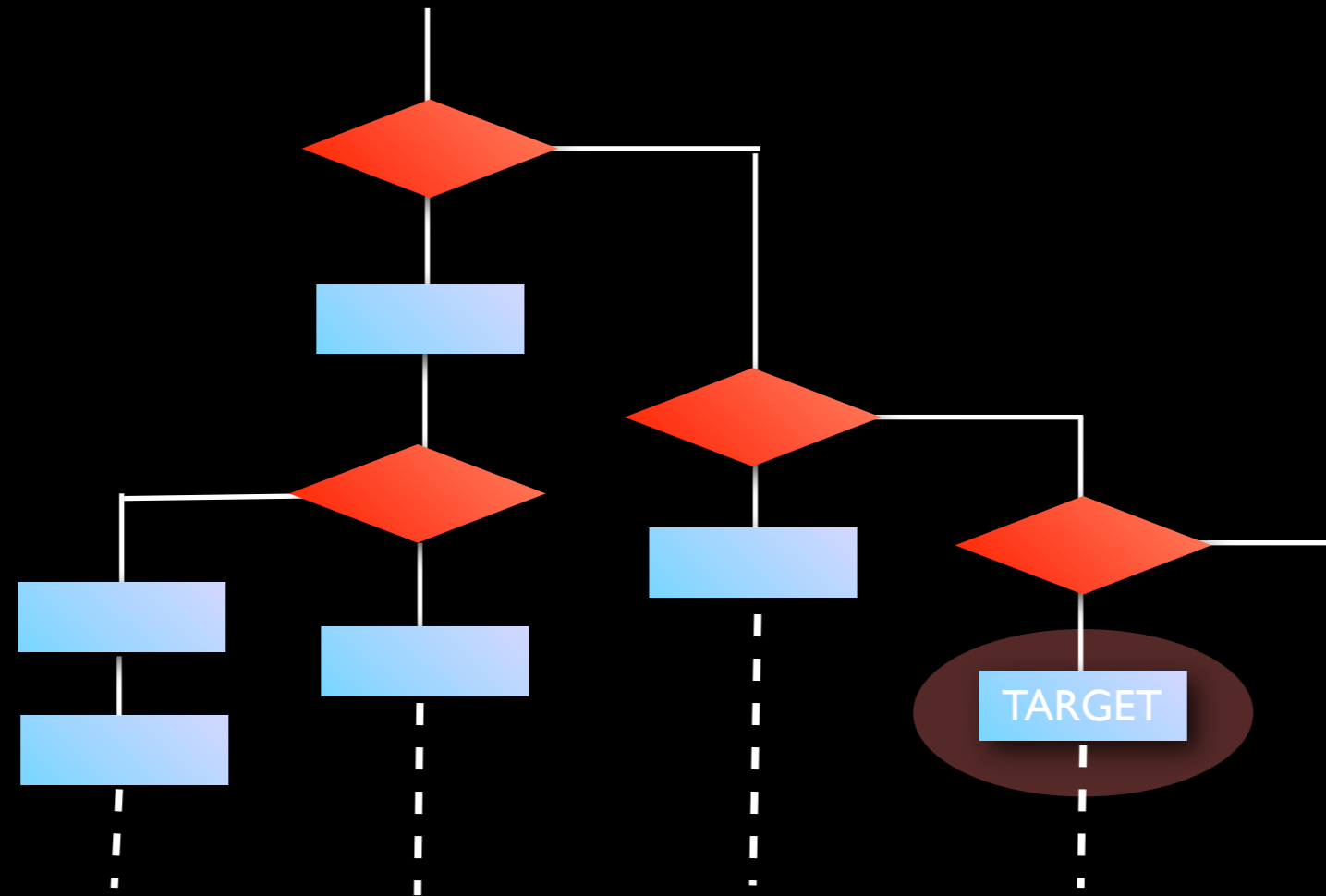


Single Objective Results

Program	LoC	FOM	SHOM	SSHOMs
Triangle	50	601	14.79%	0.24%
Tcas	150	744	10.21%	0.11%
Schedule2	350	1,603	32.81%	0.27%
Schedule	400	1,213	15.96%	0.39%
Totinfo	500	2,316	20.61%	0.24%
Replace	550	4,195	20.22%	0.31%
Printtokens2	600	1,714	16.54%	0.10%
Printtokens	750	1,237	24.33%	0.01%
Gzip	5,500	12,027	12.38%	0.08%
Space	6,000	68,843	7.29%	0.21%

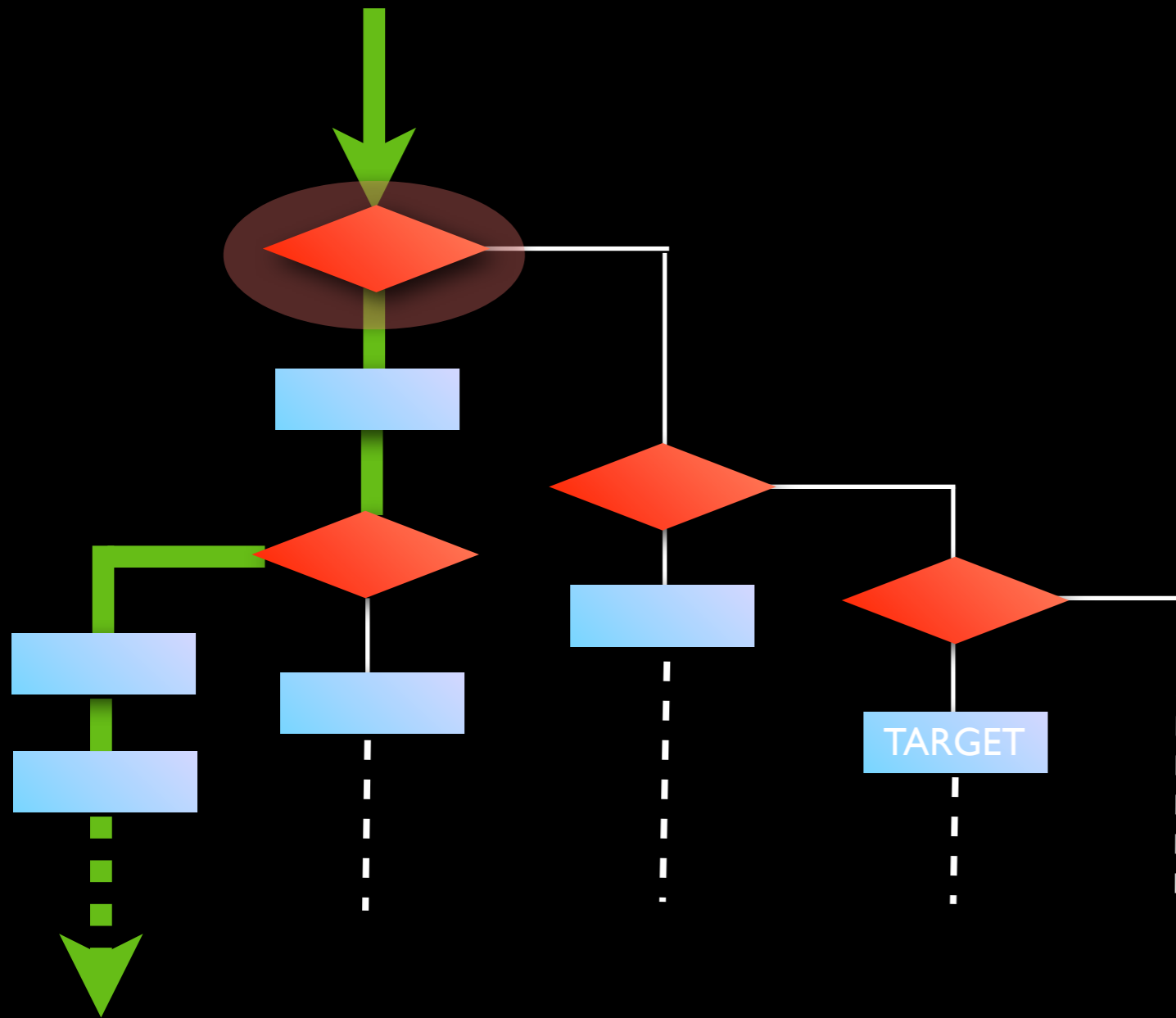
Optimising Structural Testing

Program Coverage

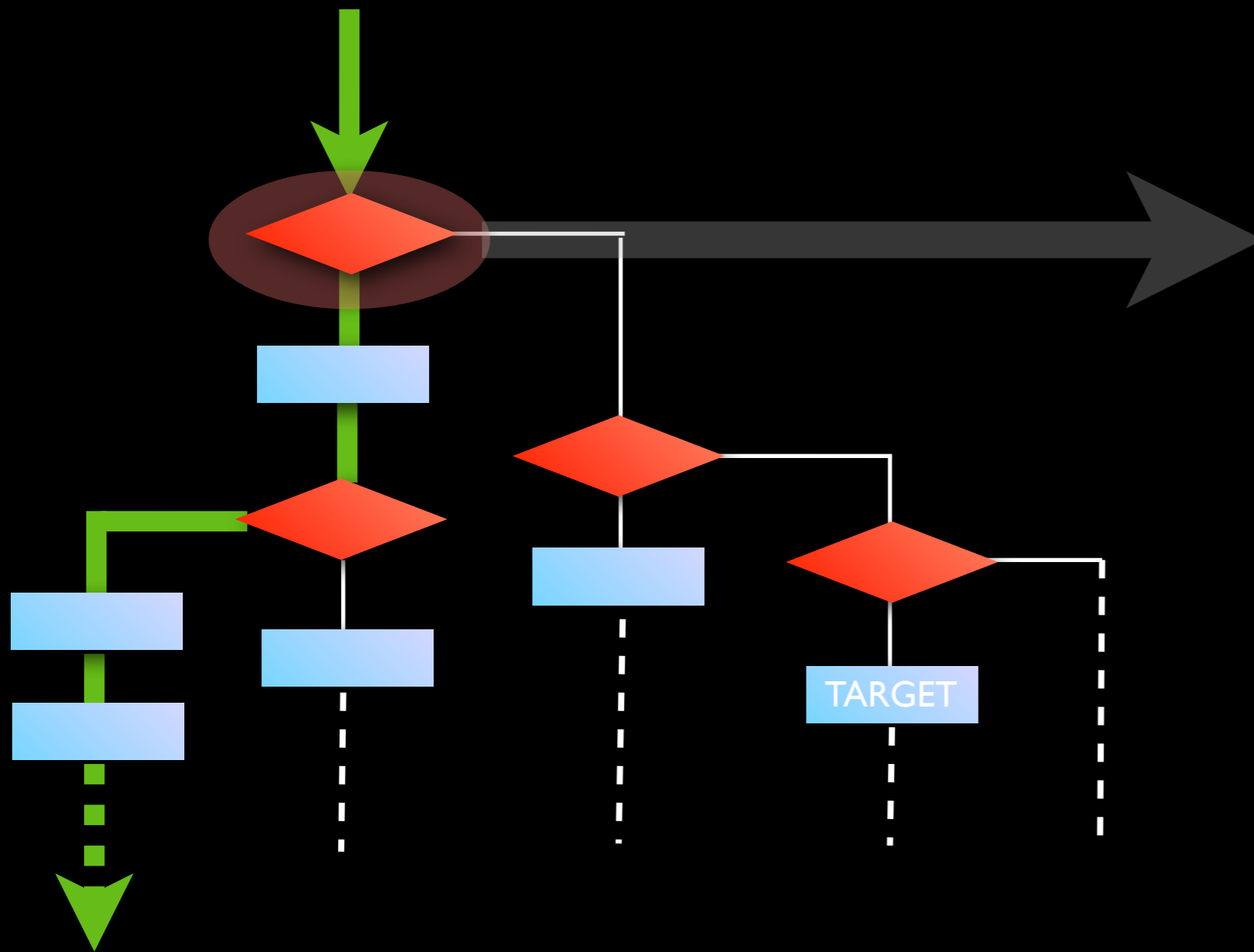


control flow graph of a program
containing a structure we want to cover

Fitness evaluation

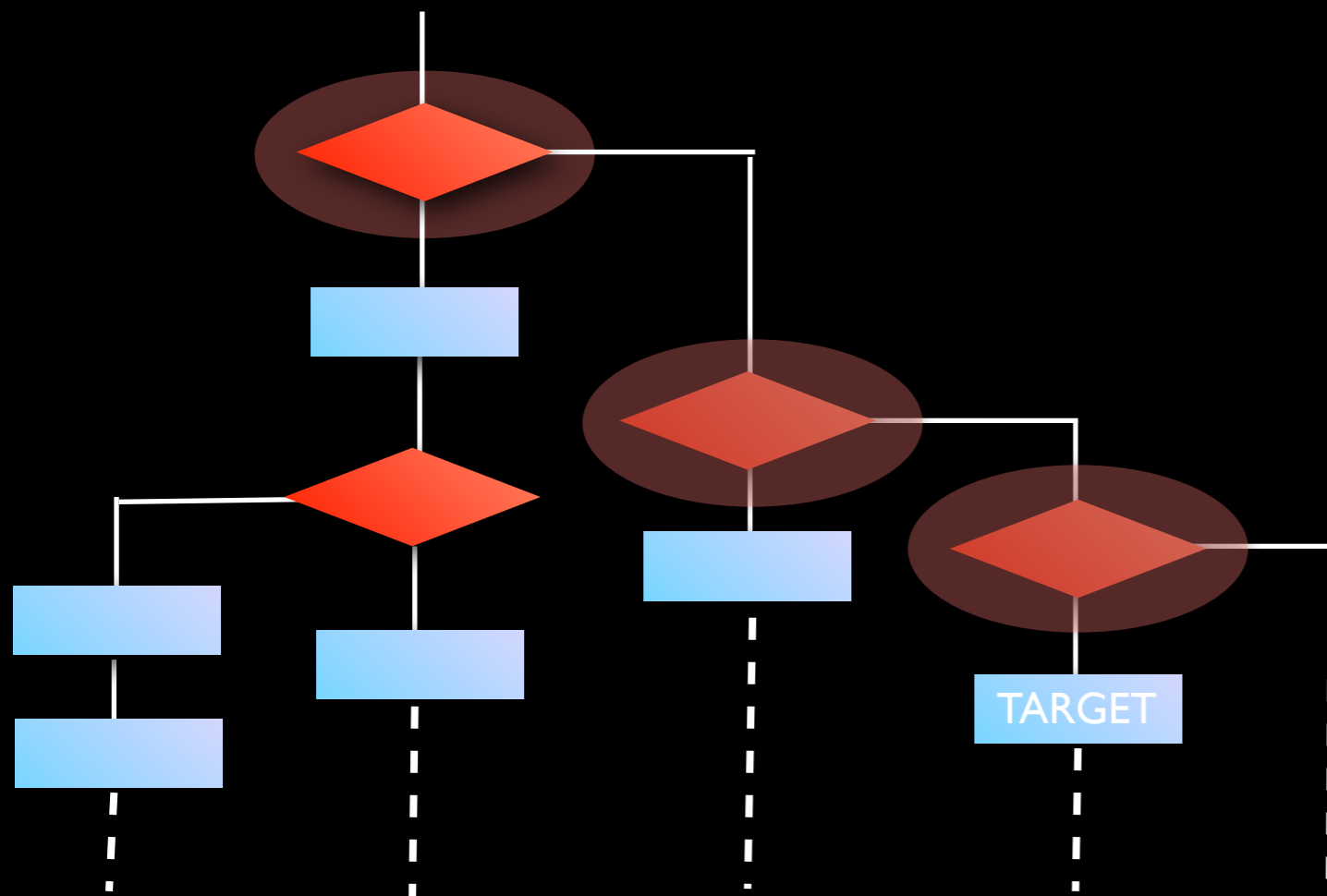


Fitness evaluation

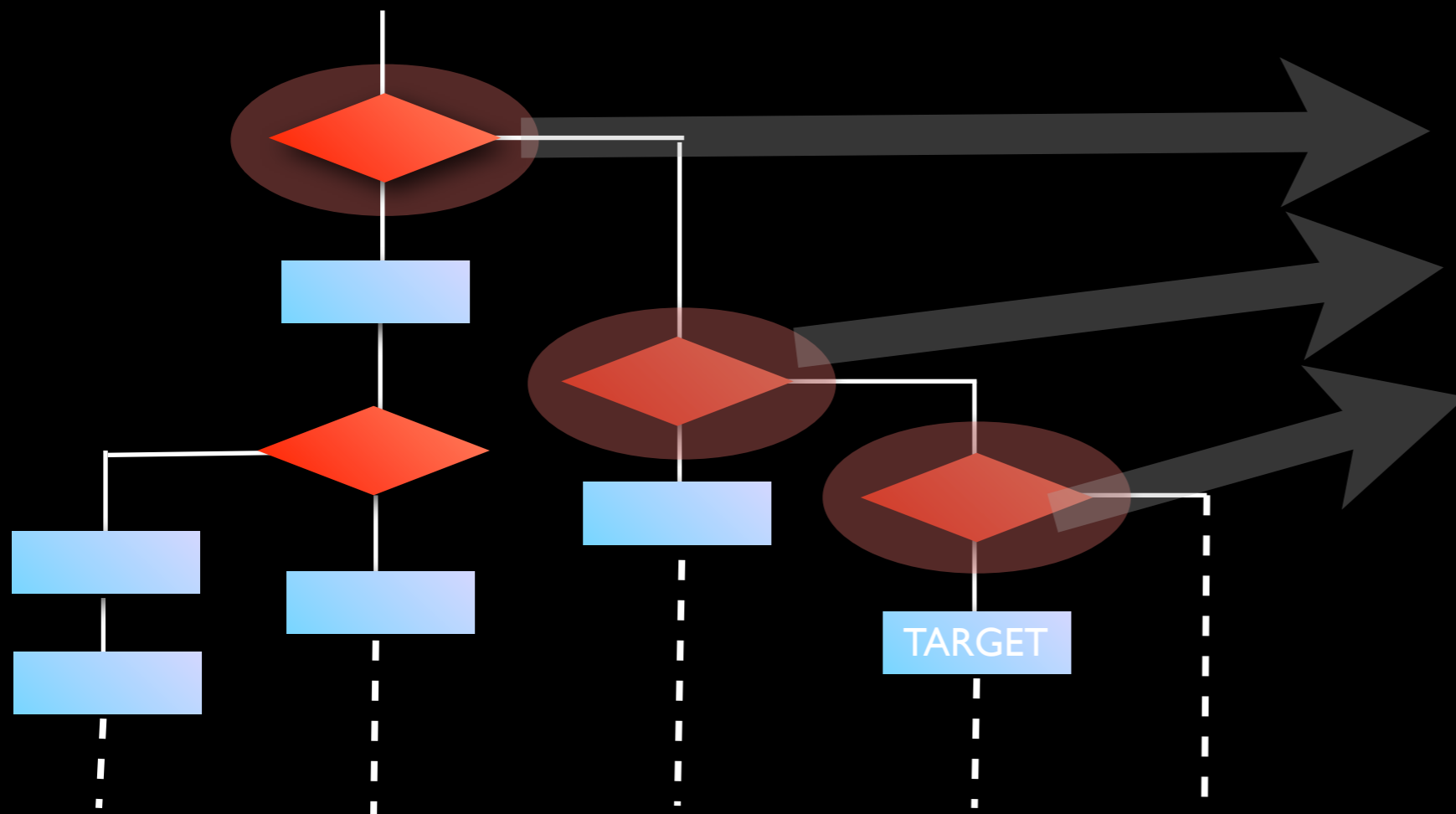


The test data
executes the
'wrong' path

Analysing control flow



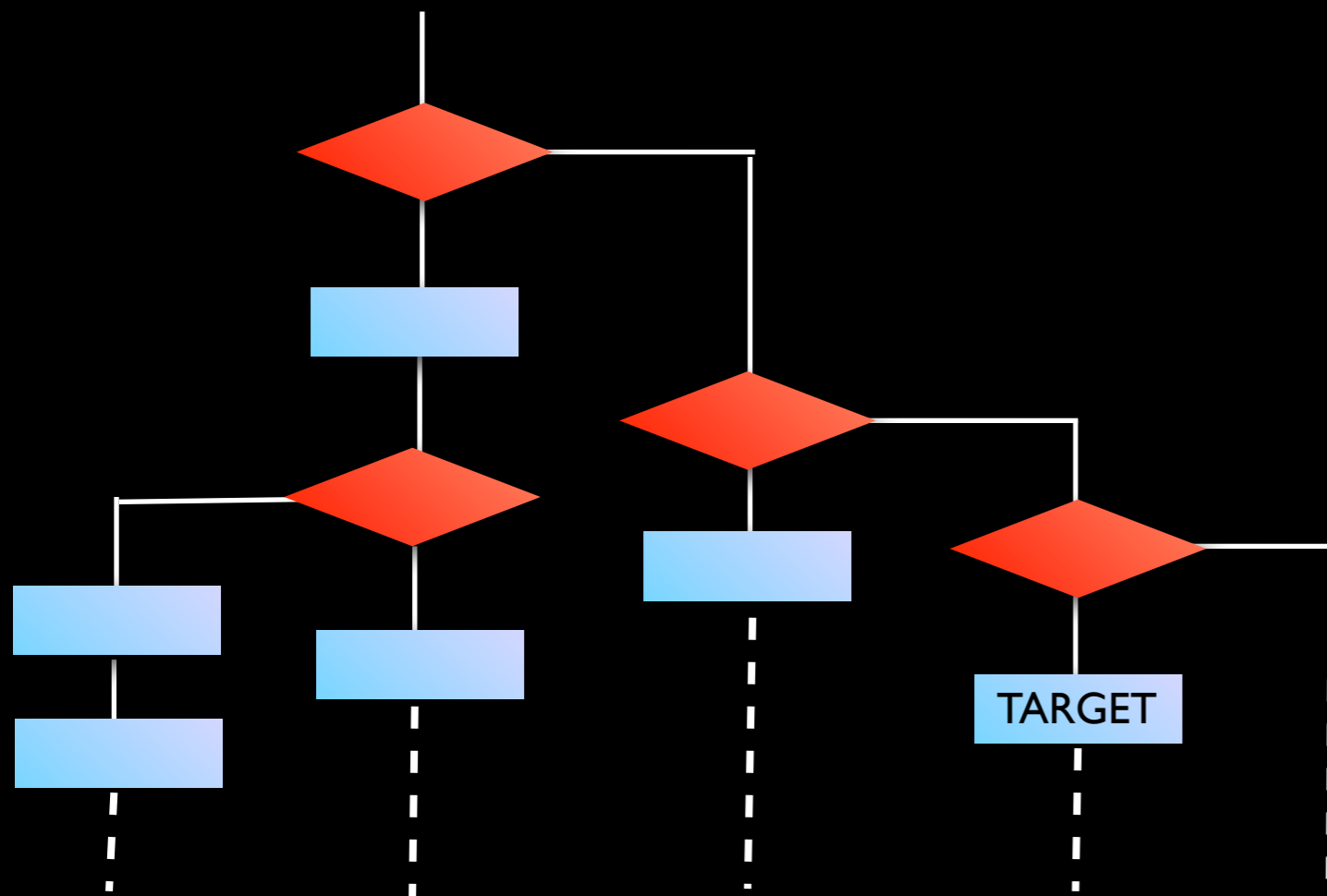
Analysing control flow



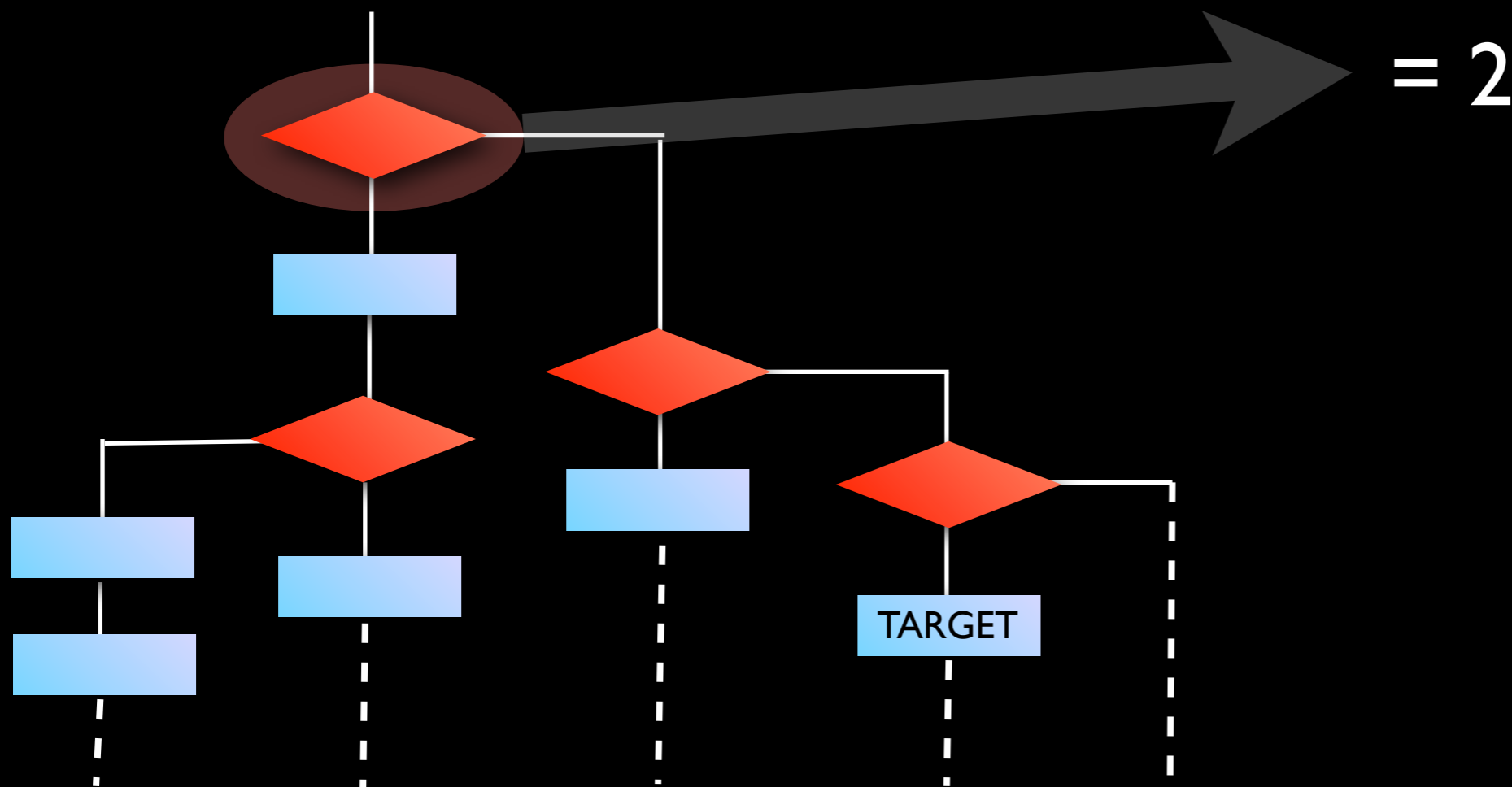
The outcomes at key decision statements matter.

These are the decisions on which the target is **control dependent**

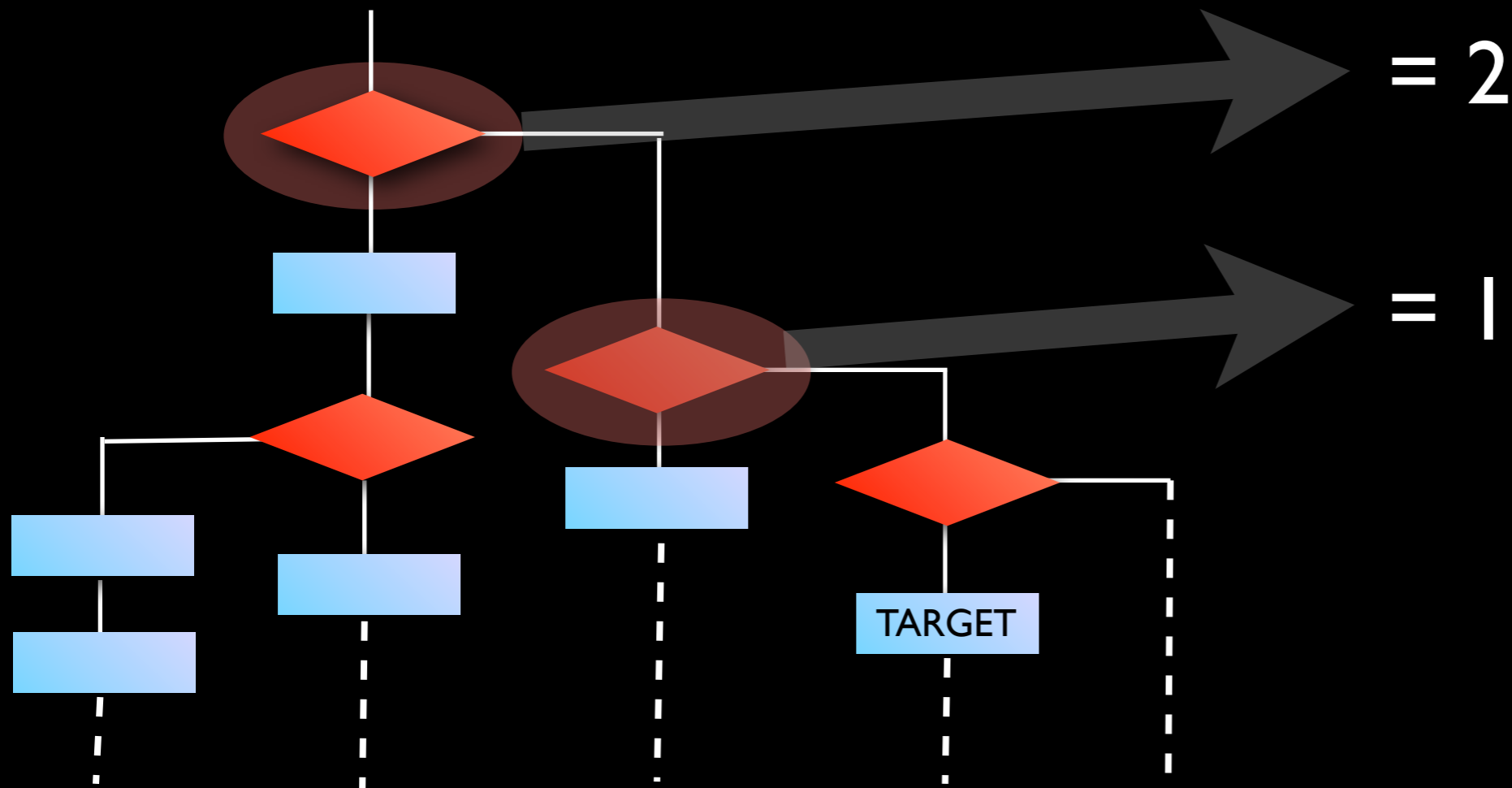
Approach Level



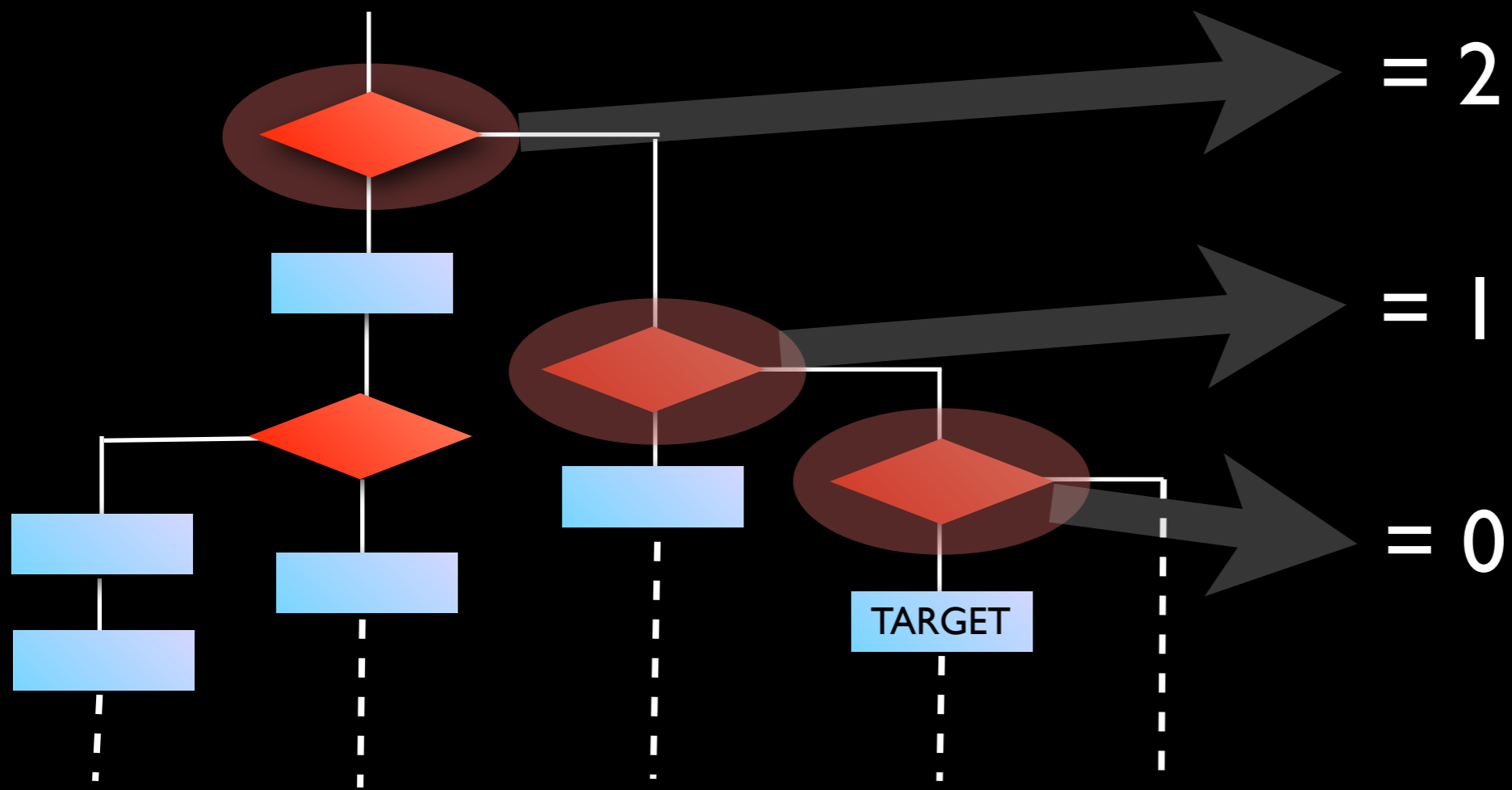
Approach Level



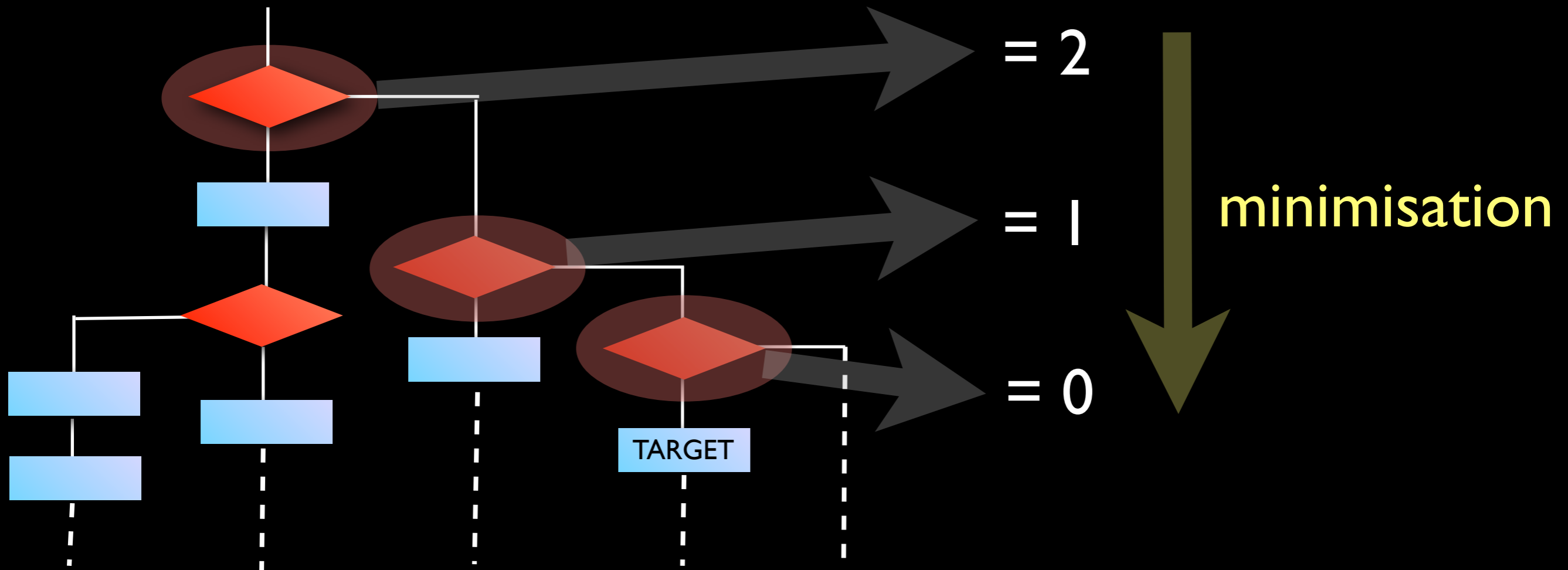
Approach Level



Approach Level



Approach Level



Analysing predicates

Approach level alone gives us coarse values

```
if (a == b) {  
    // ...  
}
```

a = 50, b = 0

a = 45, b = 5

a = 40, b = 10

a = 35, b = 15

a = 30, b = 20

a = 25, b = 25

Analysing predicates

Approach level alone gives us coarse values

```
if (a == b) {  
    // ...  
}
```

a = 50, b = 0
a = 45, b = 5
a = 40, b = 10
a = 35, b = 15
a = 30, b = 20
a = 25, b = 25

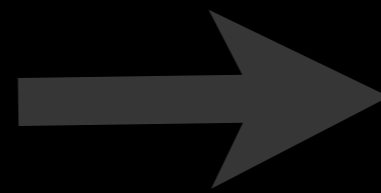


getting 'closer'
to being true

Branch distance

Associate a distance formula with different relational predicates

```
if (a == b) {  
    // ...  
}
```



$\text{abs}(a-b)$

a = 50, b = 0	branch distance = 50
a = 45, b = 5	branch distance = 40
a = 40, b = 10	branch distance = 30
a = 35, b = 15	branch distance = 20
a = 30, b = 20	branch distance = 10
a = 25, b = 25	branch distance = 0

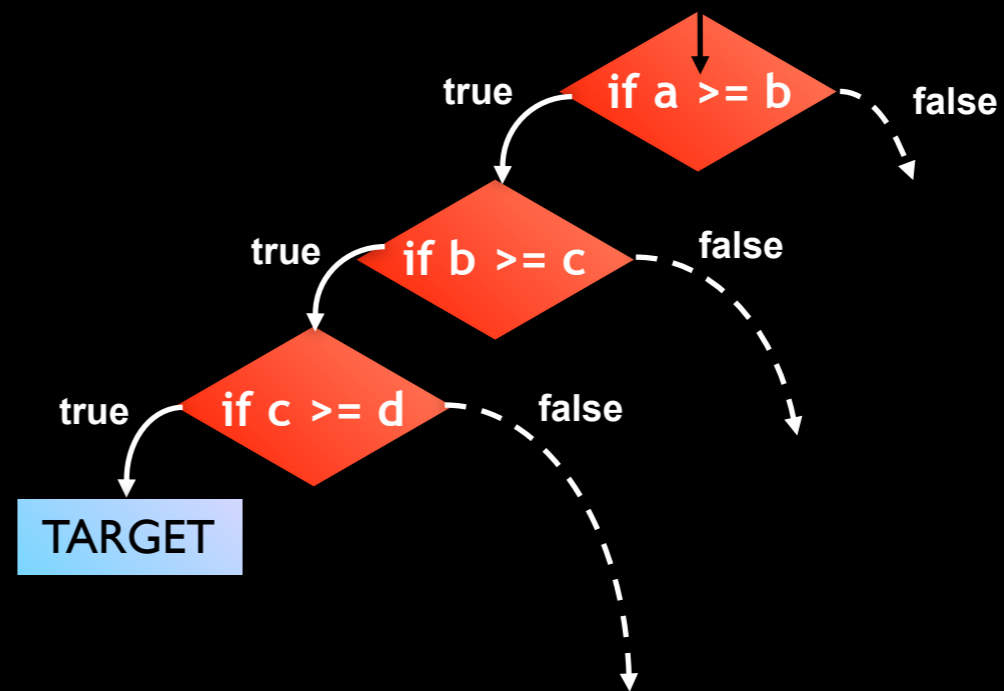


getting 'closer'
to being true

Putting it all together

Fitness = approach Level + *normalised* branch distance

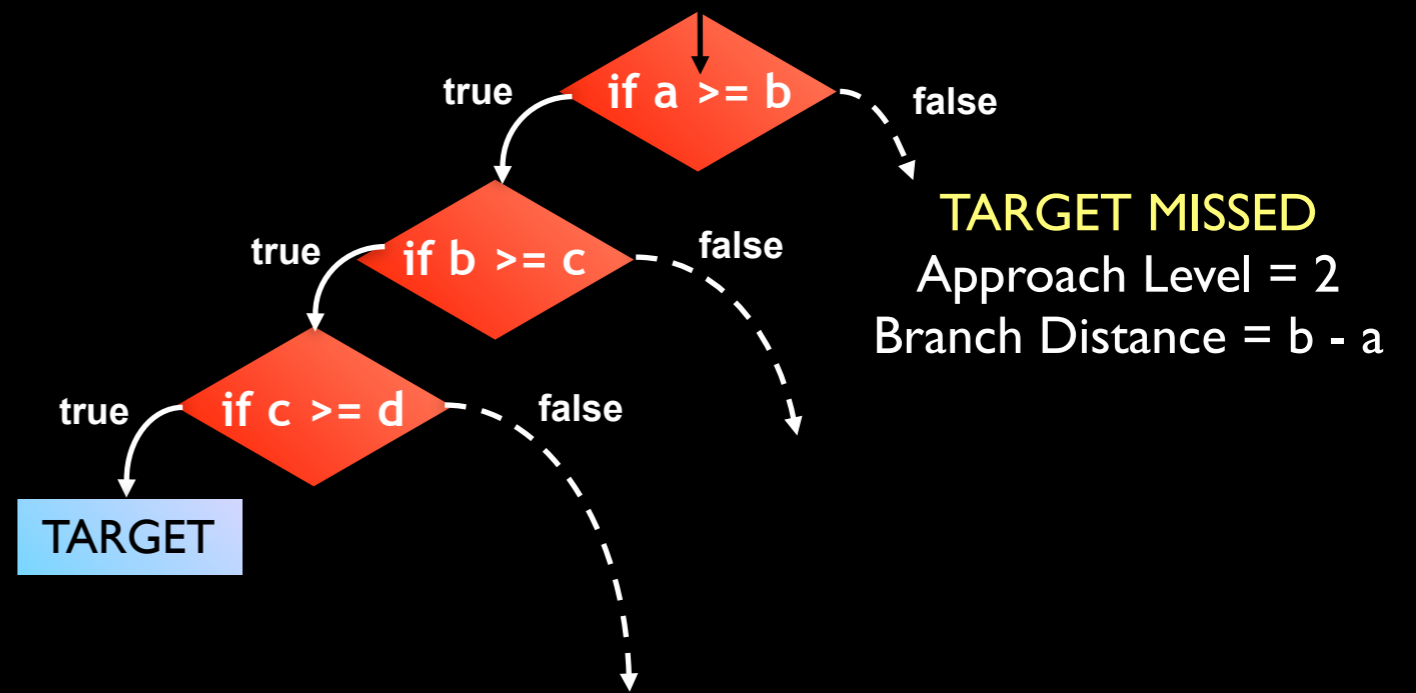
```
void f1(int a, int b, int c, int d)
{
    if (a > b)
    {
        if (b > c)
        {
            if (c > d)
            {
                // target
            }
        }
    }
    . . .
}
```



Putting it all together

Fitness = approach Level + *normalised* branch distance

```
void f1(int a, int b, int c, int d)
{
  if (a > b)
  {
    if (b > c)
    {
      if (c > d)
      {
        // target
      }
    }
  }
  . . .
}
```

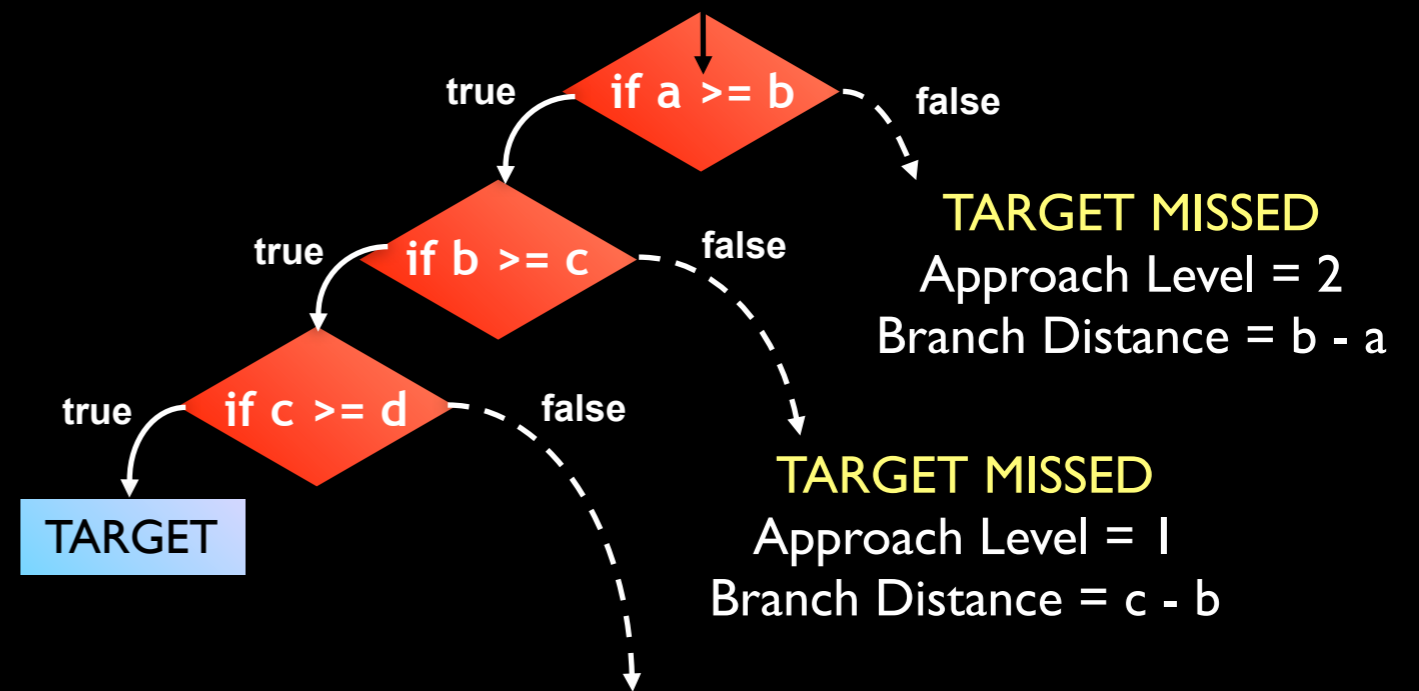


normalised branch distance between 0 and 1
indicates how close approach level is to being penetrated

Putting it all together

Fitness = approach Level + *normalised* branch distance

```
void f1(int a, int b, int c, int d)
{
  if (a > b)
  {
    if (b > c)
    {
      if (c > d)
      {
        // target
      }
    }
  }
  . . .
}
```

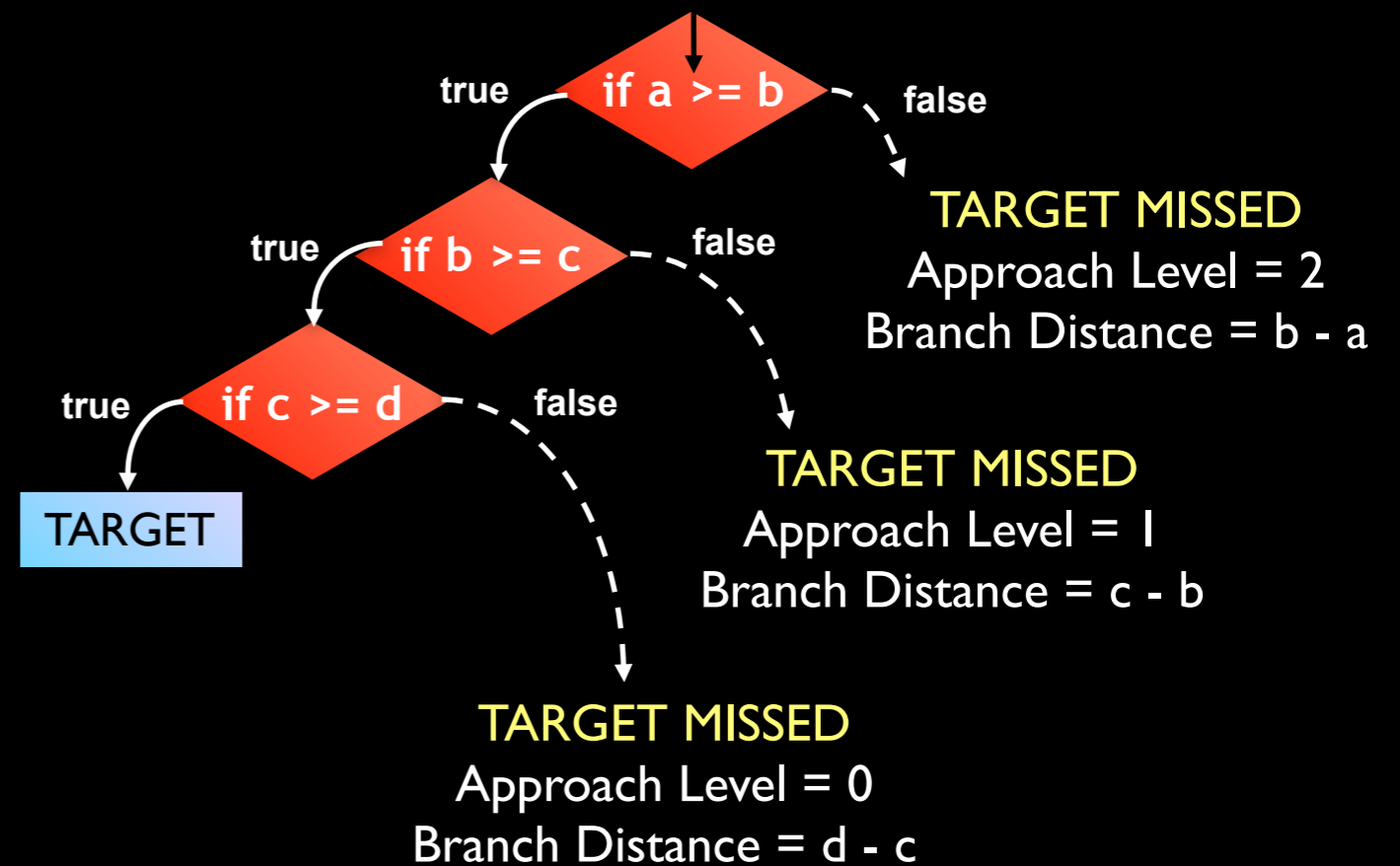


normalised branch distance between 0 and 1
indicates how close approach level is to being penetrated

Putting it all together

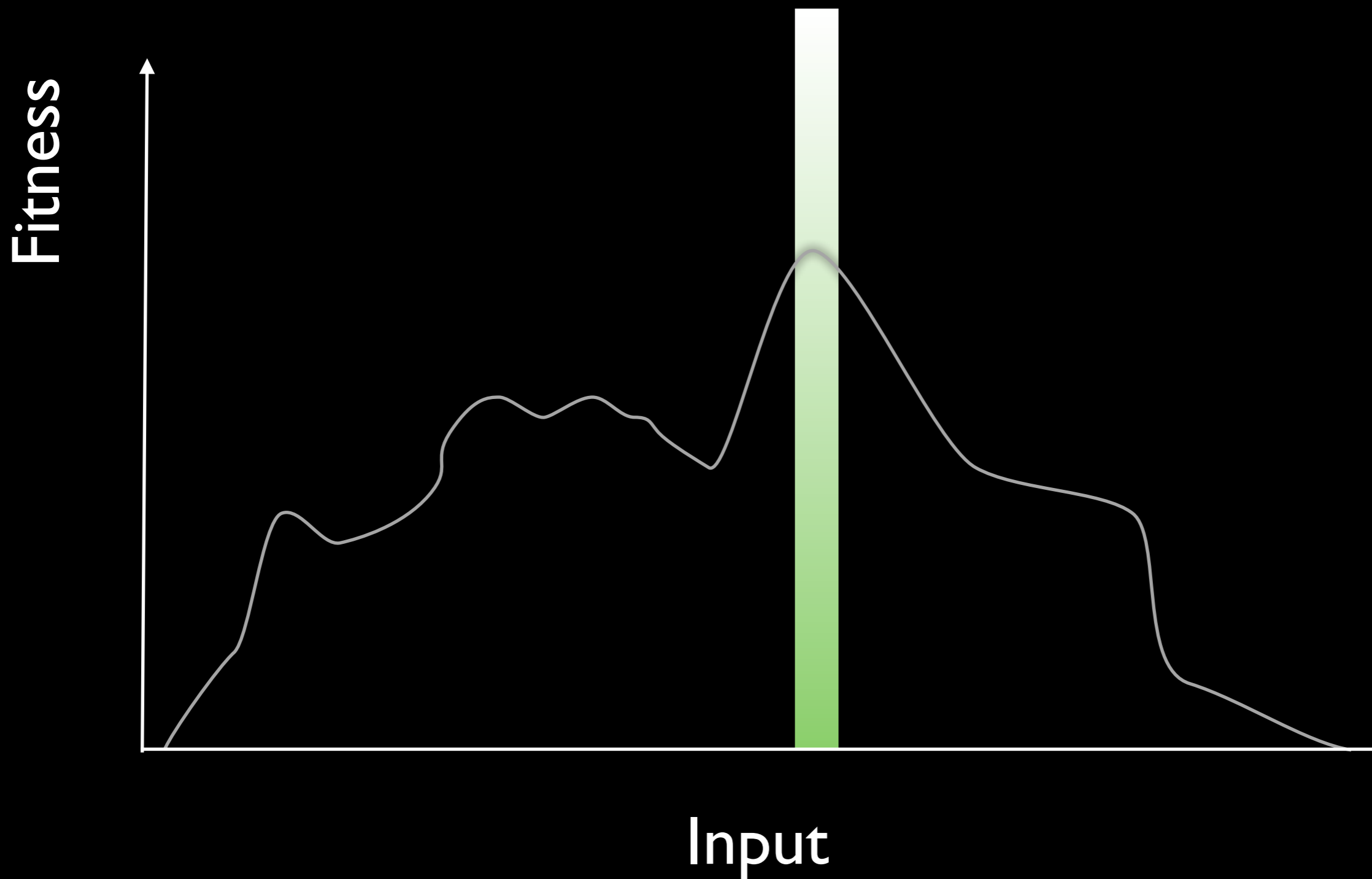
Fitness = approach Level + *normalised* branch distance

```
void f1(int a, int b, int c, int d)
{
  if (a > b)
  {
    if (b > c)
    {
      if (c > d)
      {
        // target
      }
    }
  }
  . . .
}
```

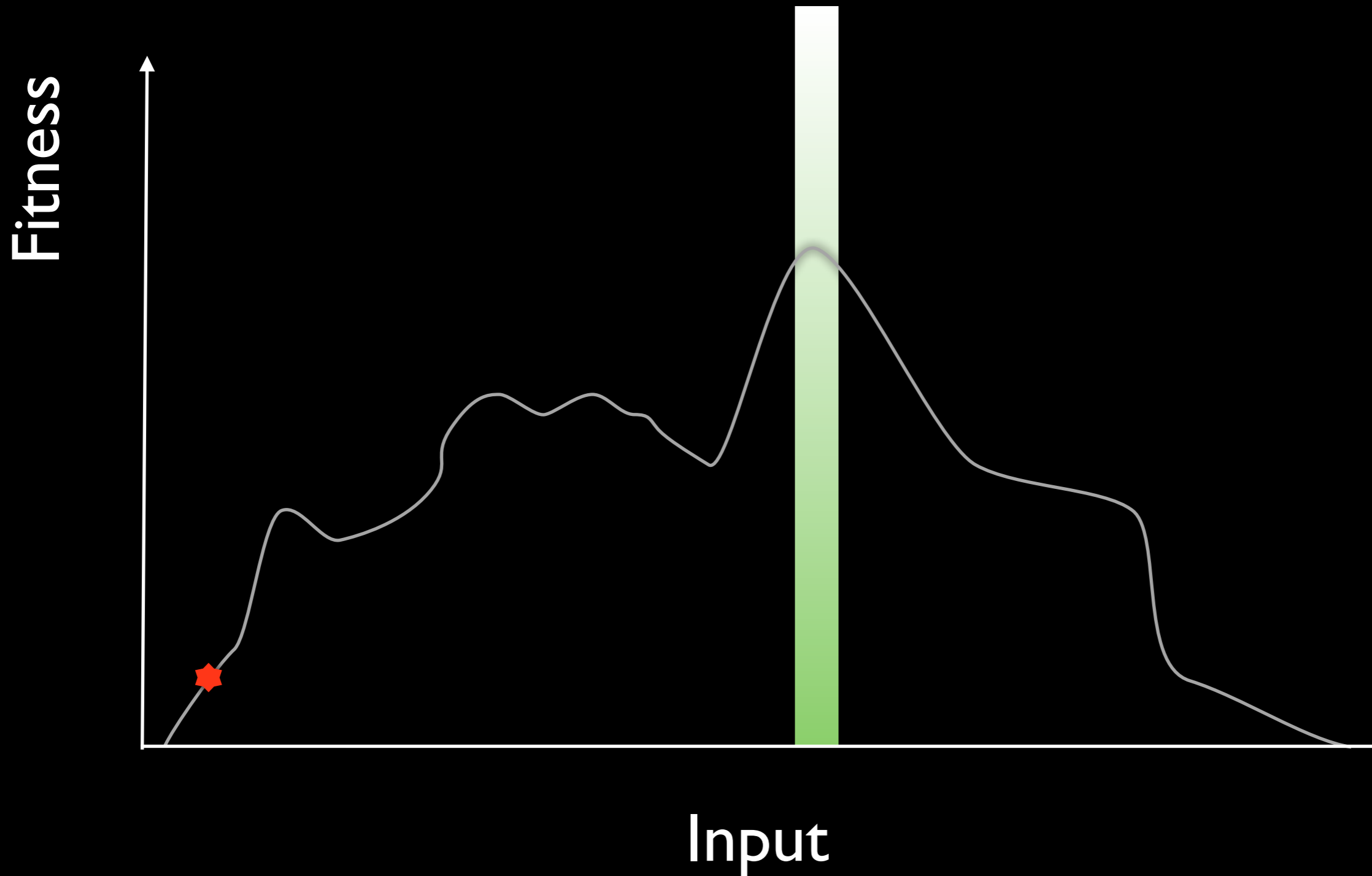


normalised branch distance between 0 and 1
indicates how close approach level is to being penetrated

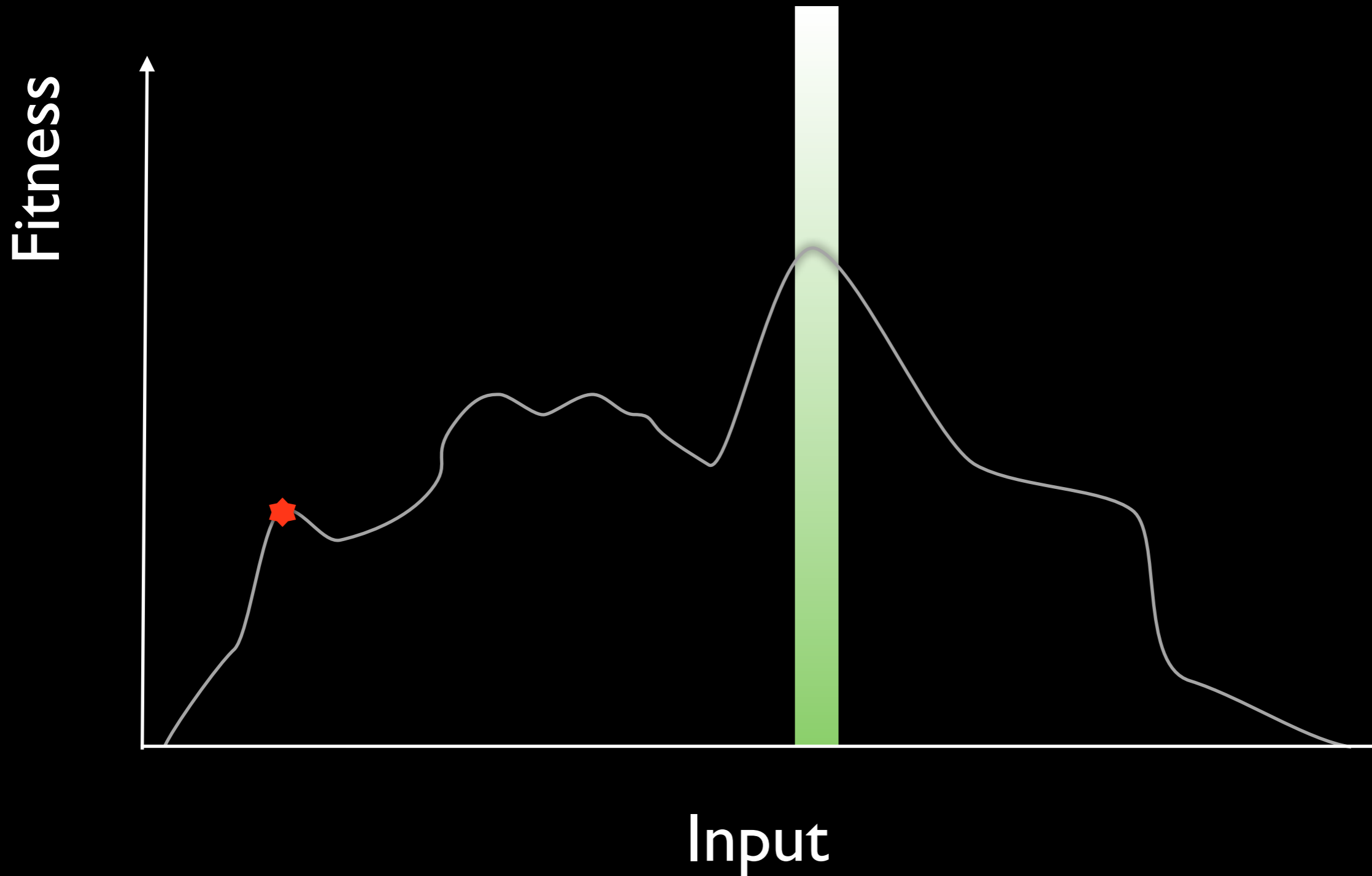
Hill Climbing



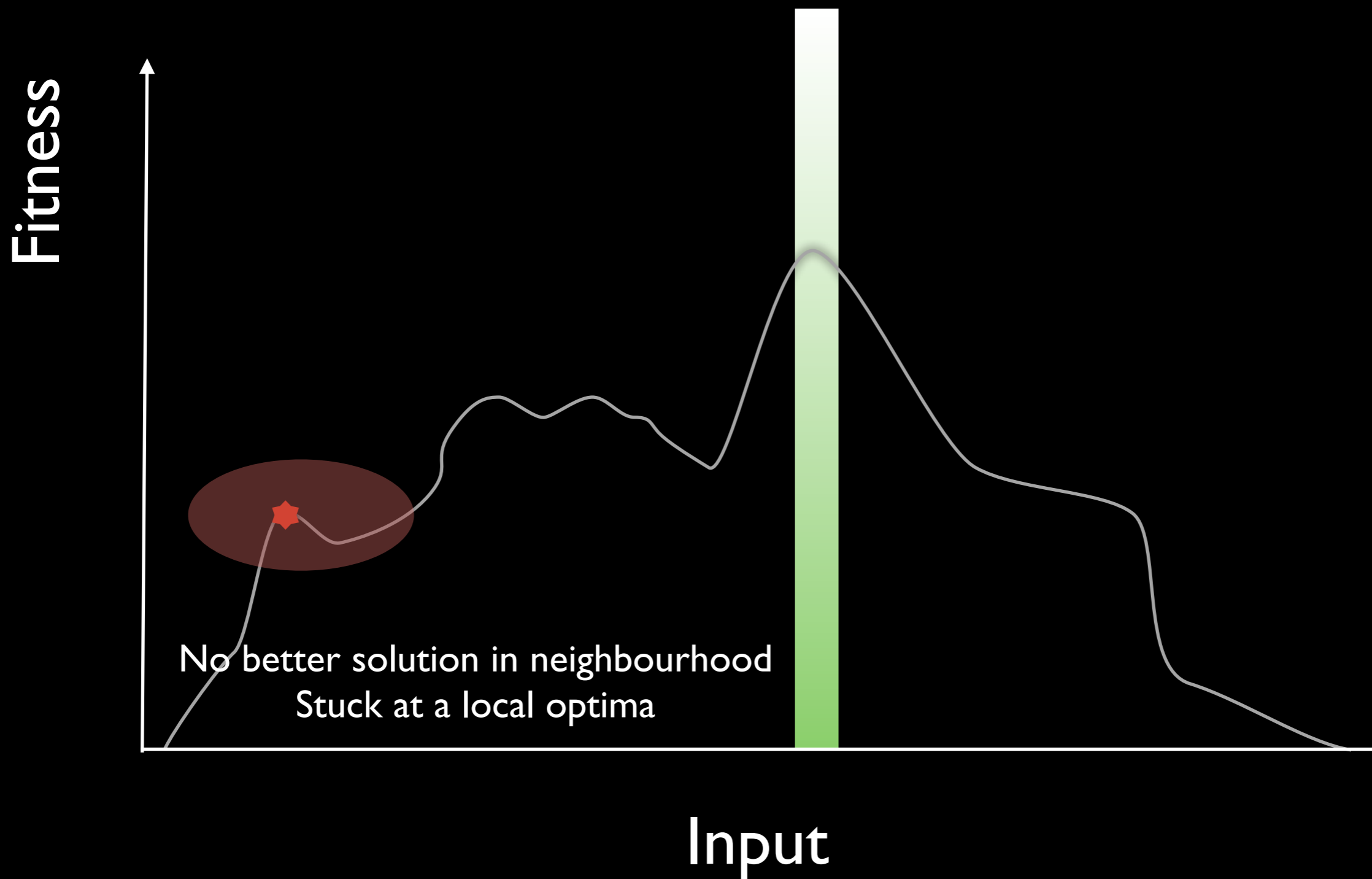
Hill Climbing



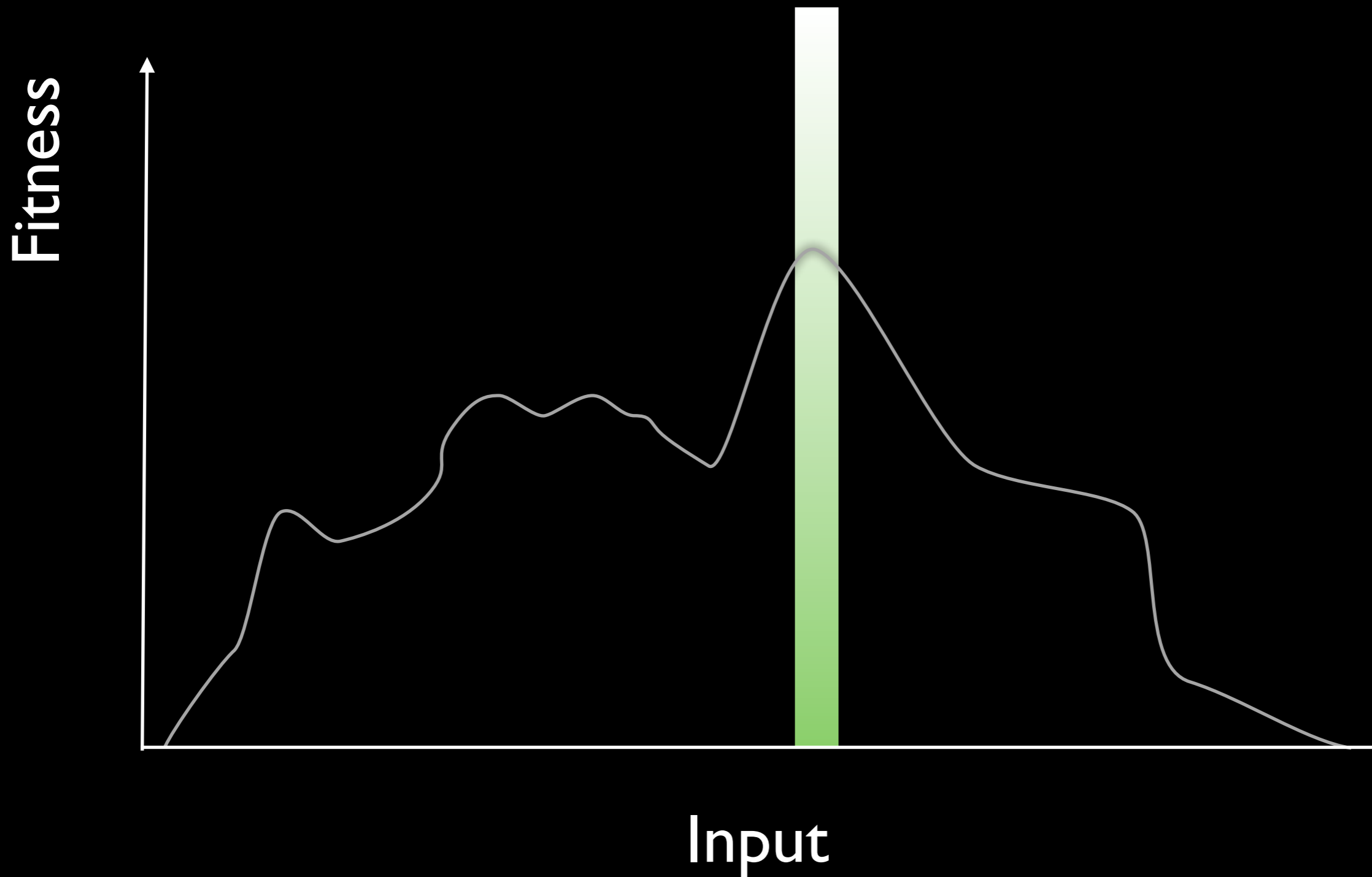
Hill Climbing



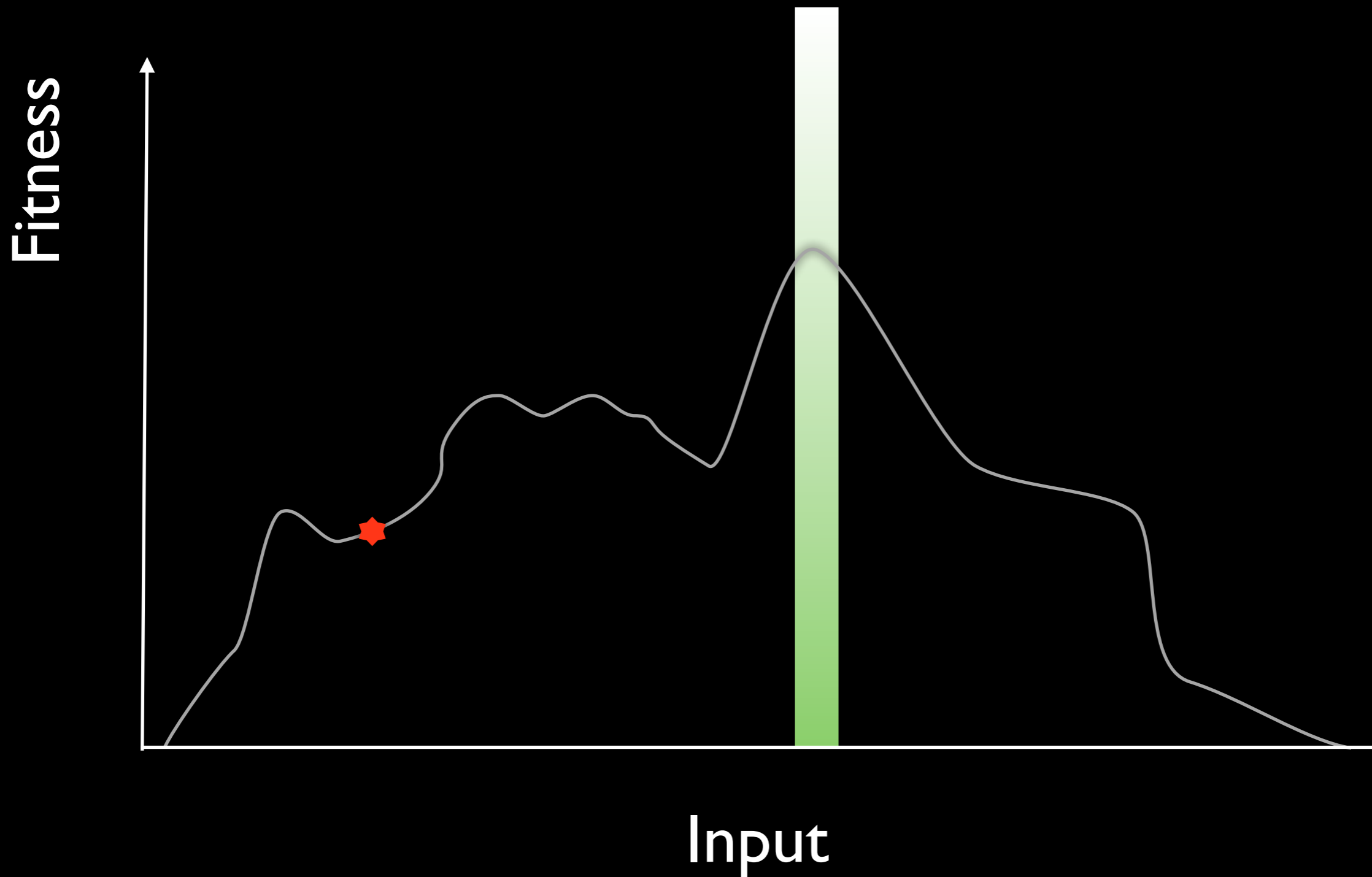
Hill Climbing



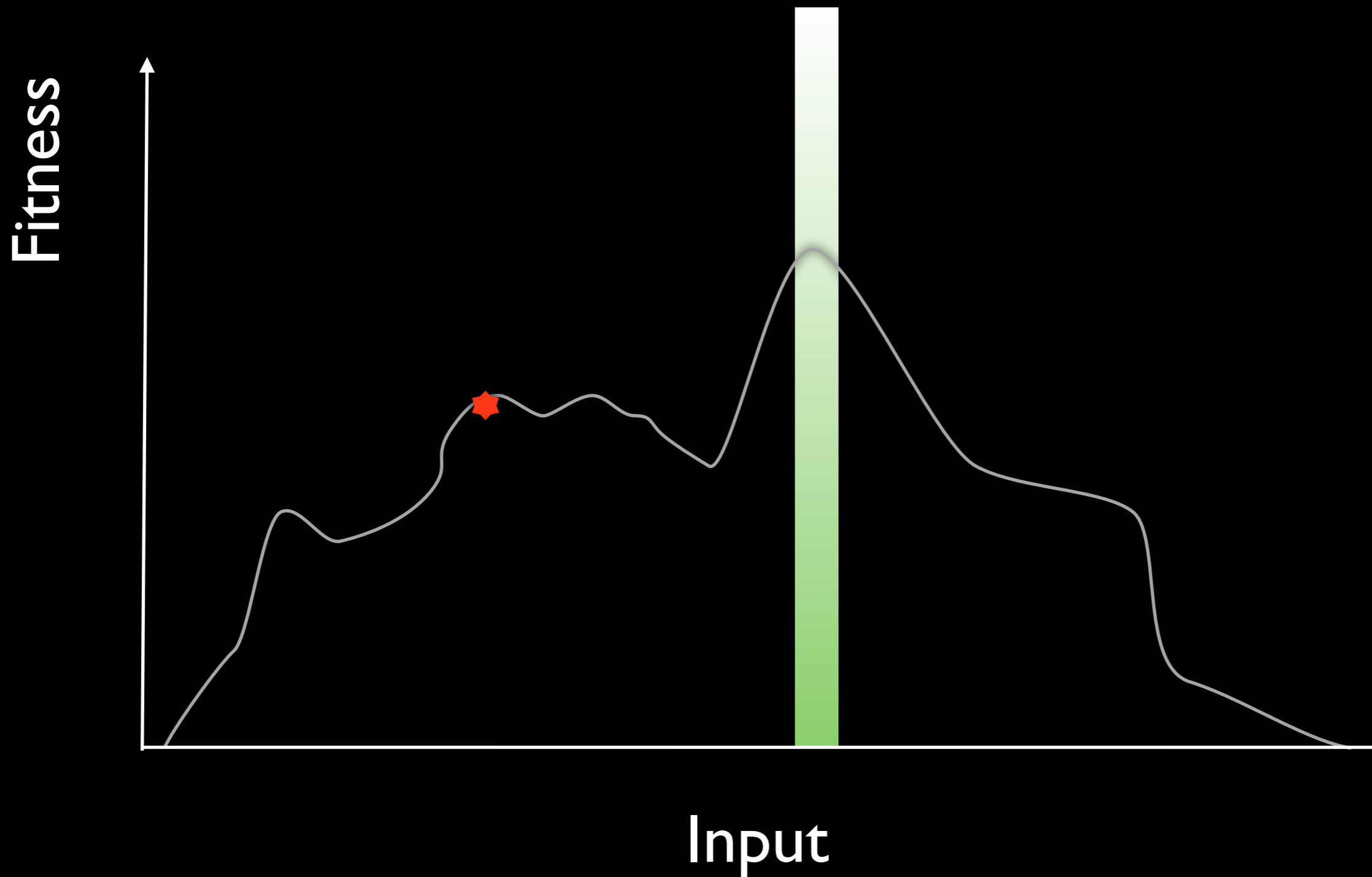
Hill Climbing - Restarts



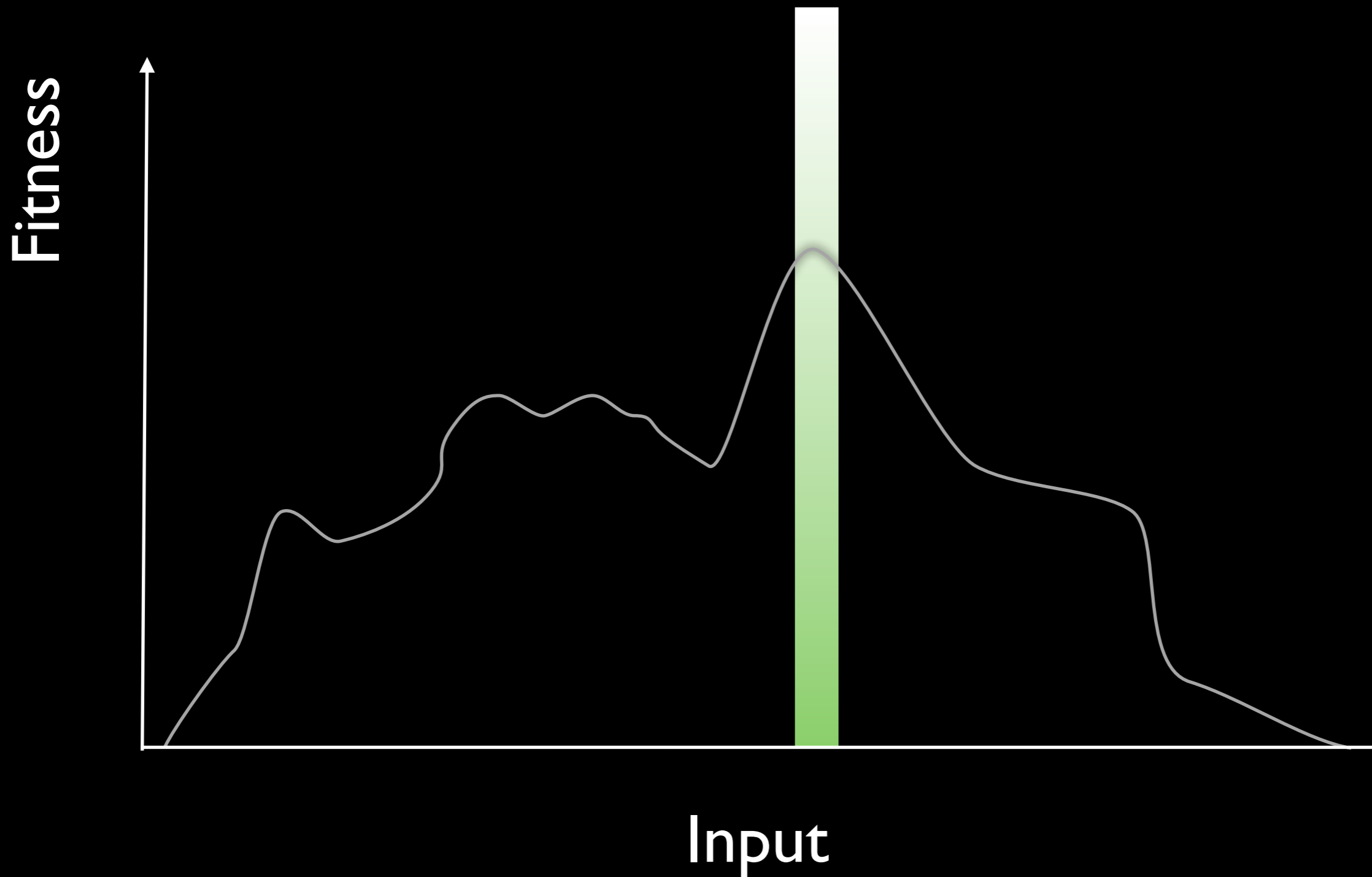
Hill Climbing - Restarts



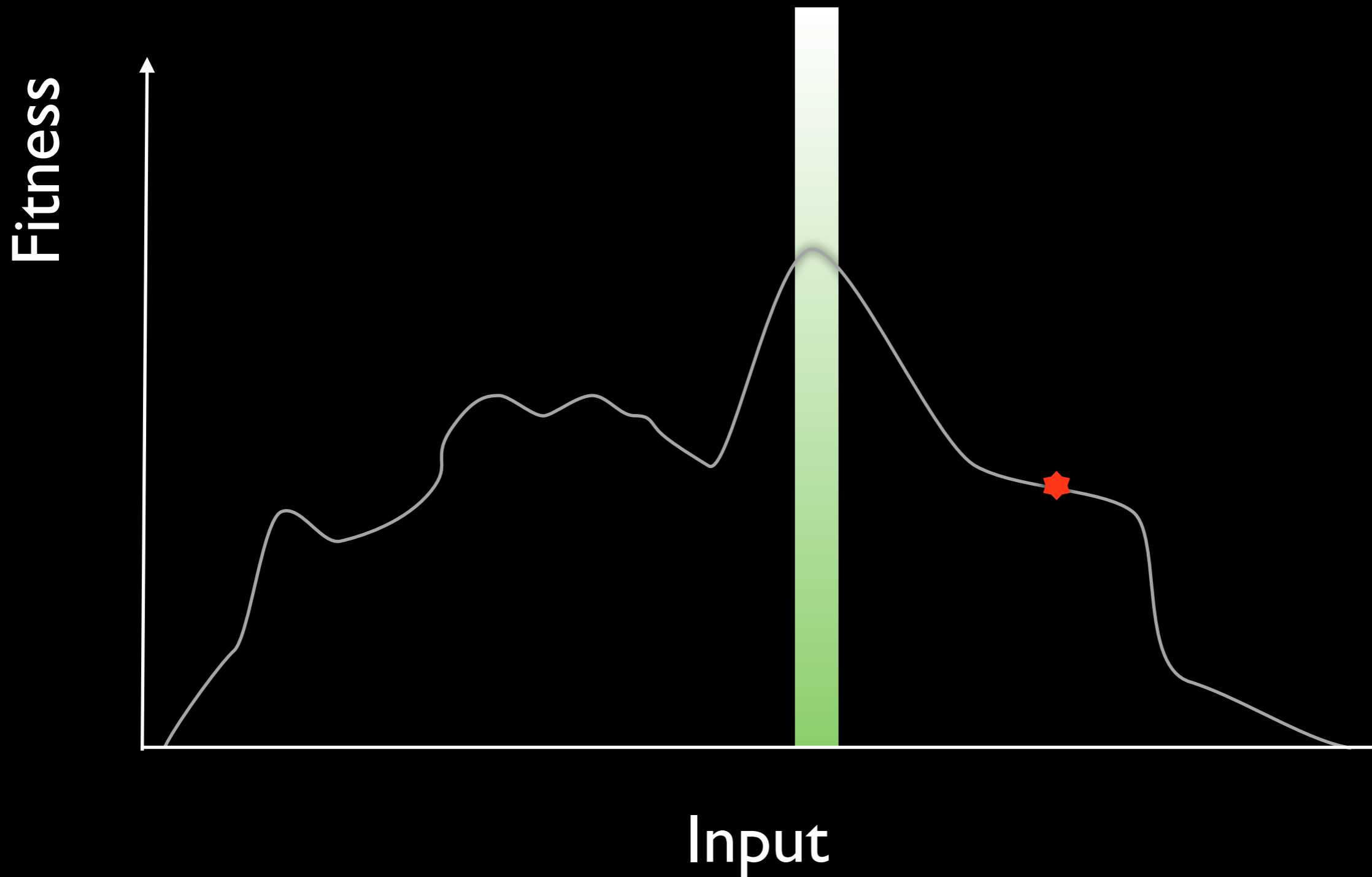
Hill Climbing - Restarts



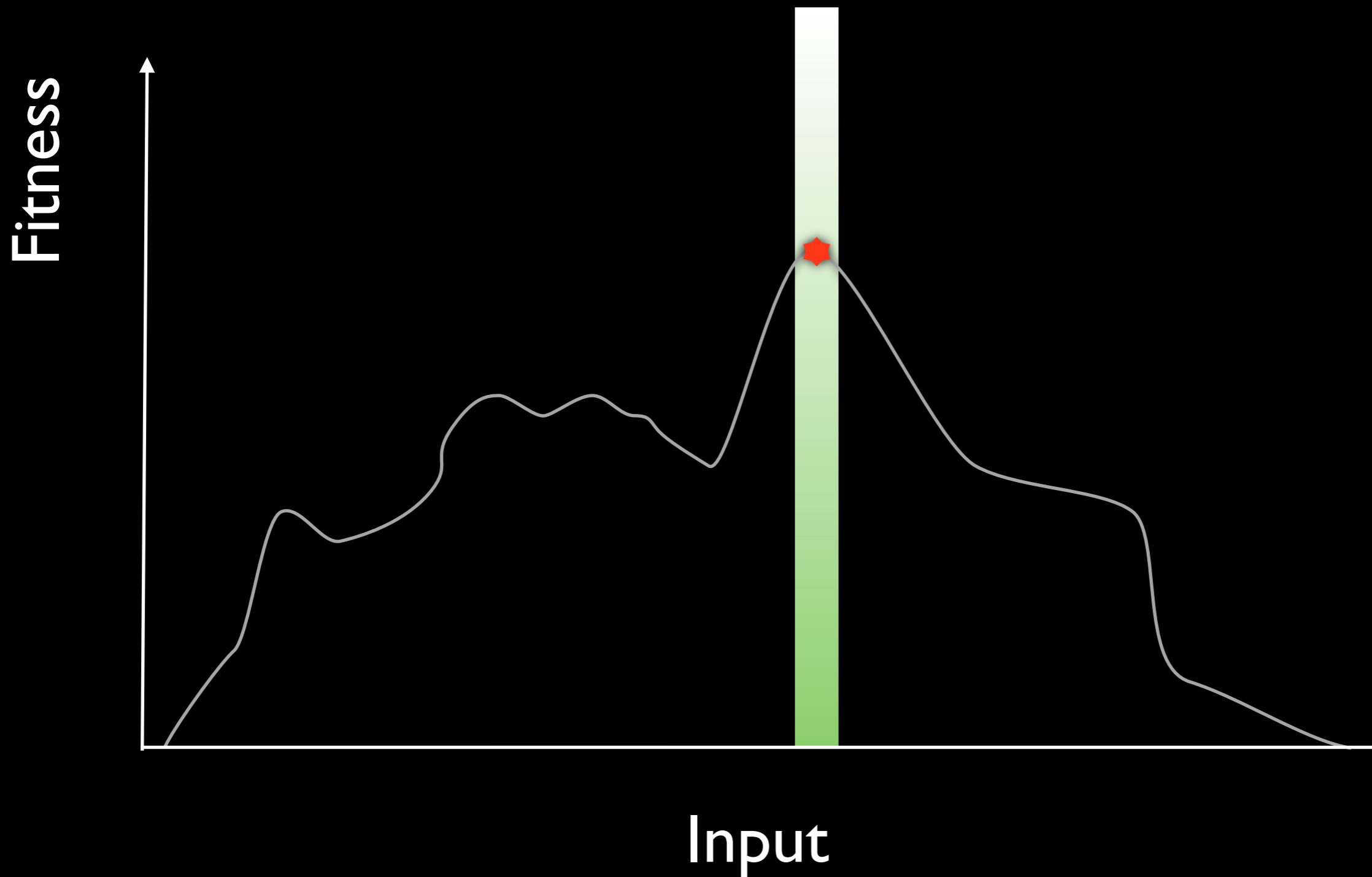
Hill Climbing - Restarts



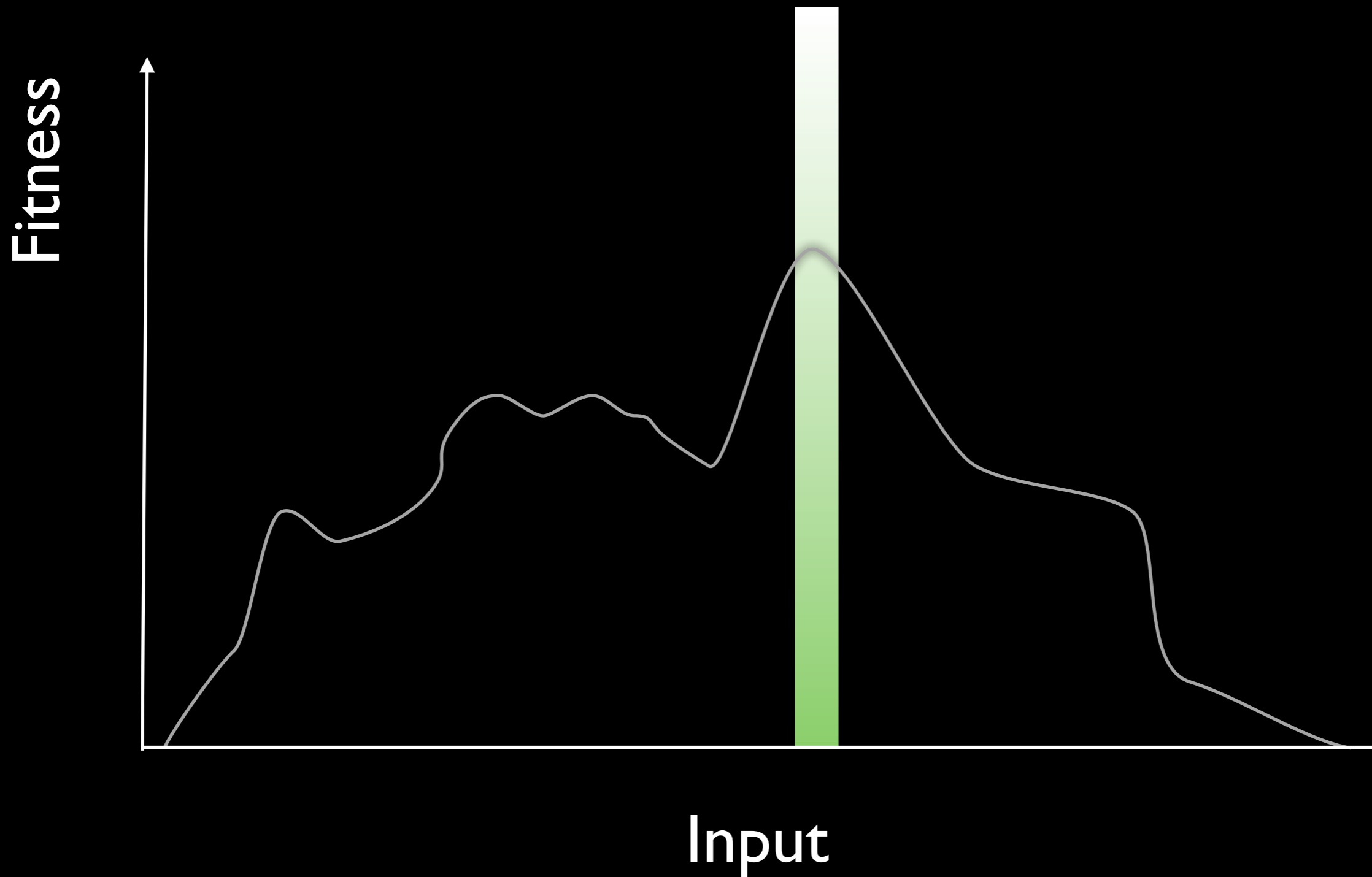
Hill Climbing - Restarts



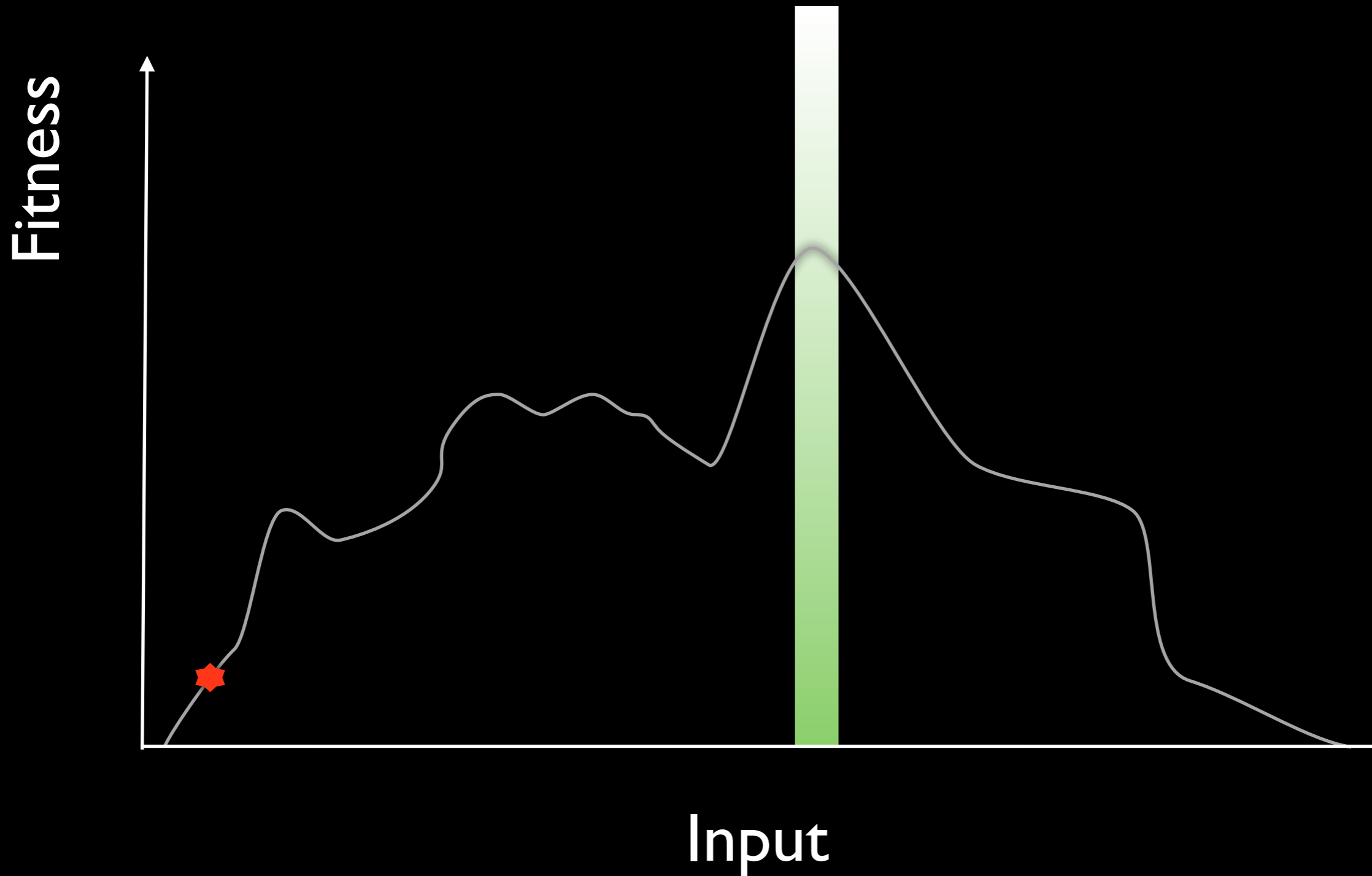
Hill Climbing - Restarts



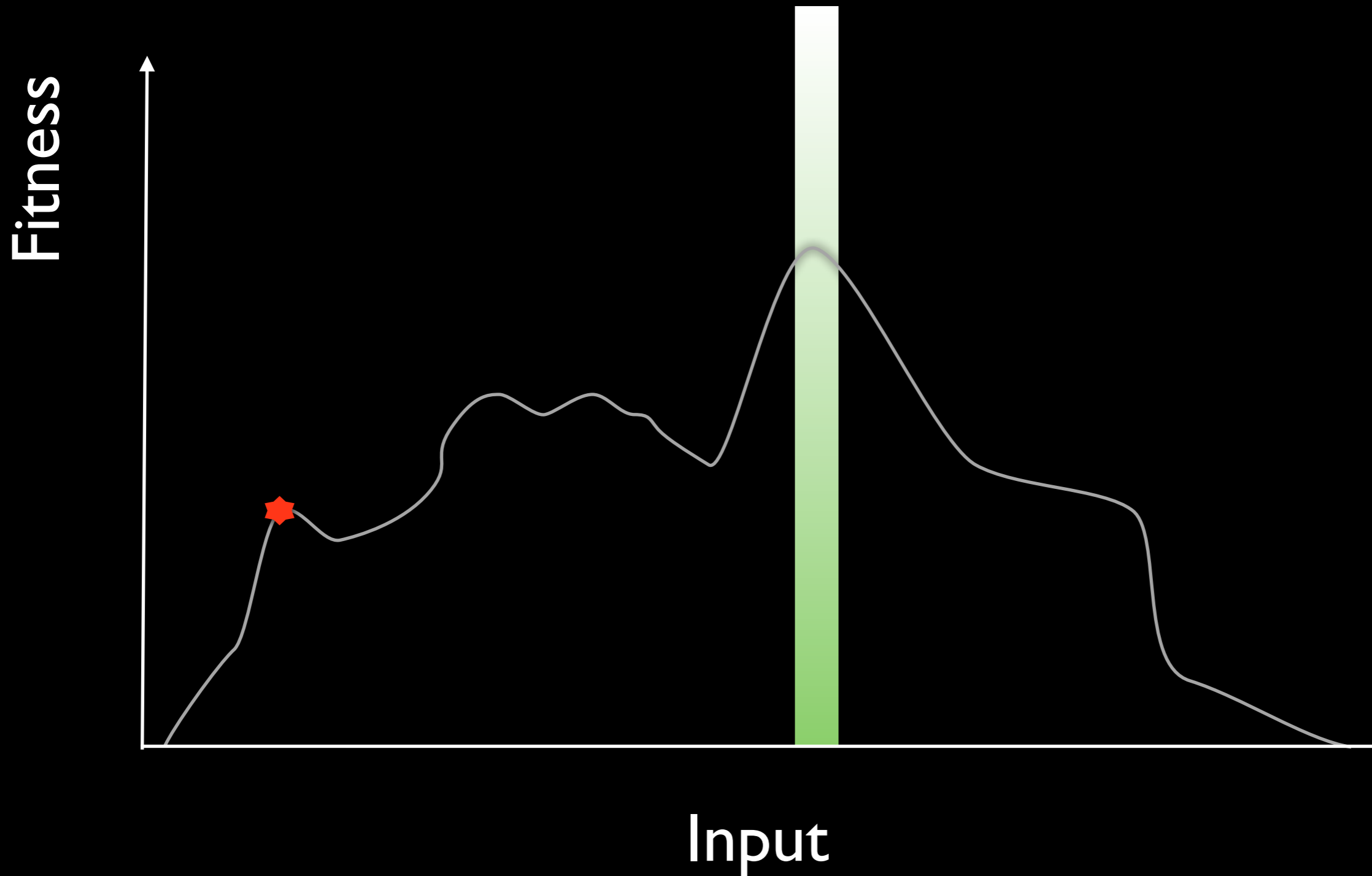
Simulated Annealing



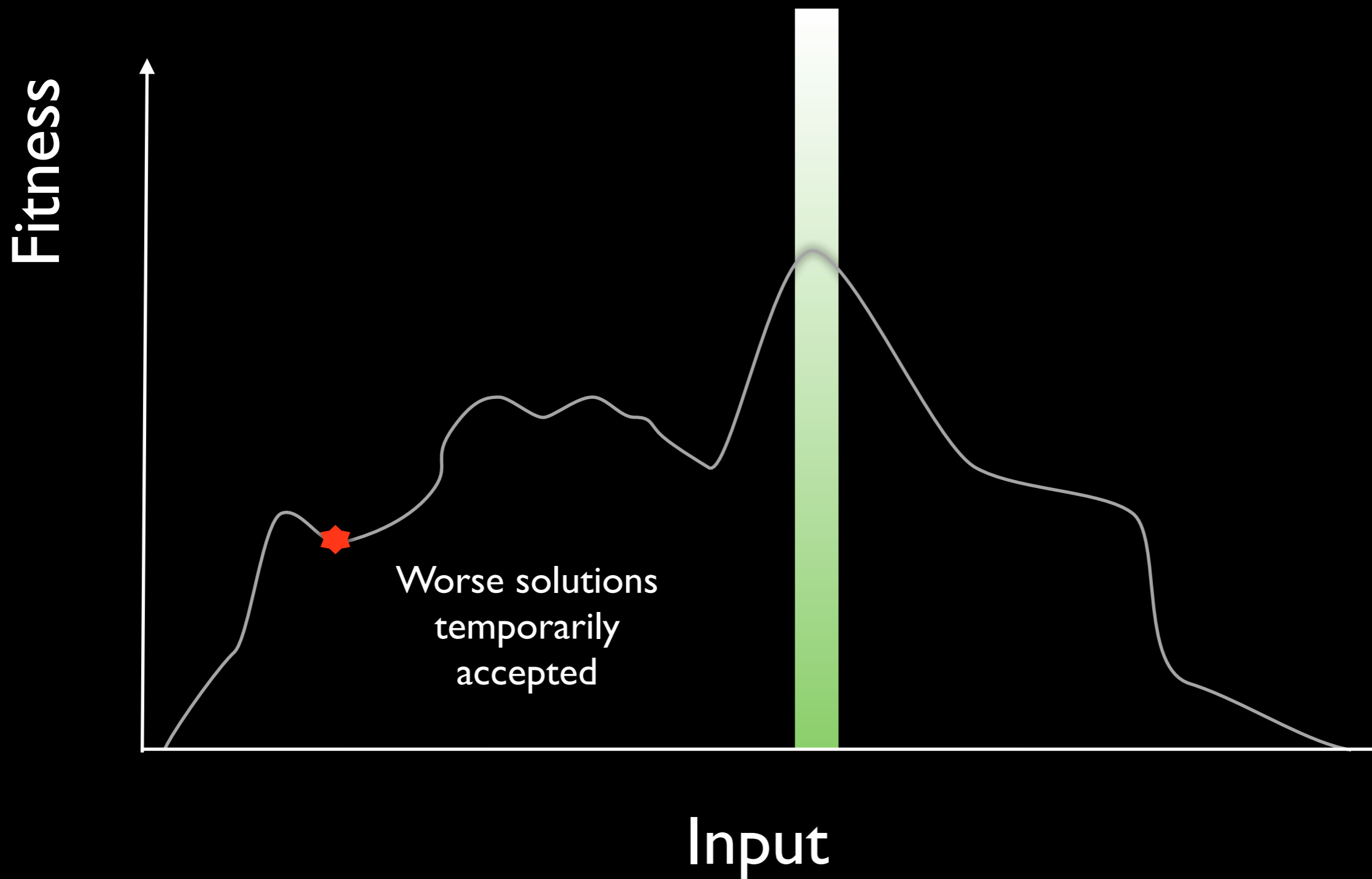
Simulated Annealing



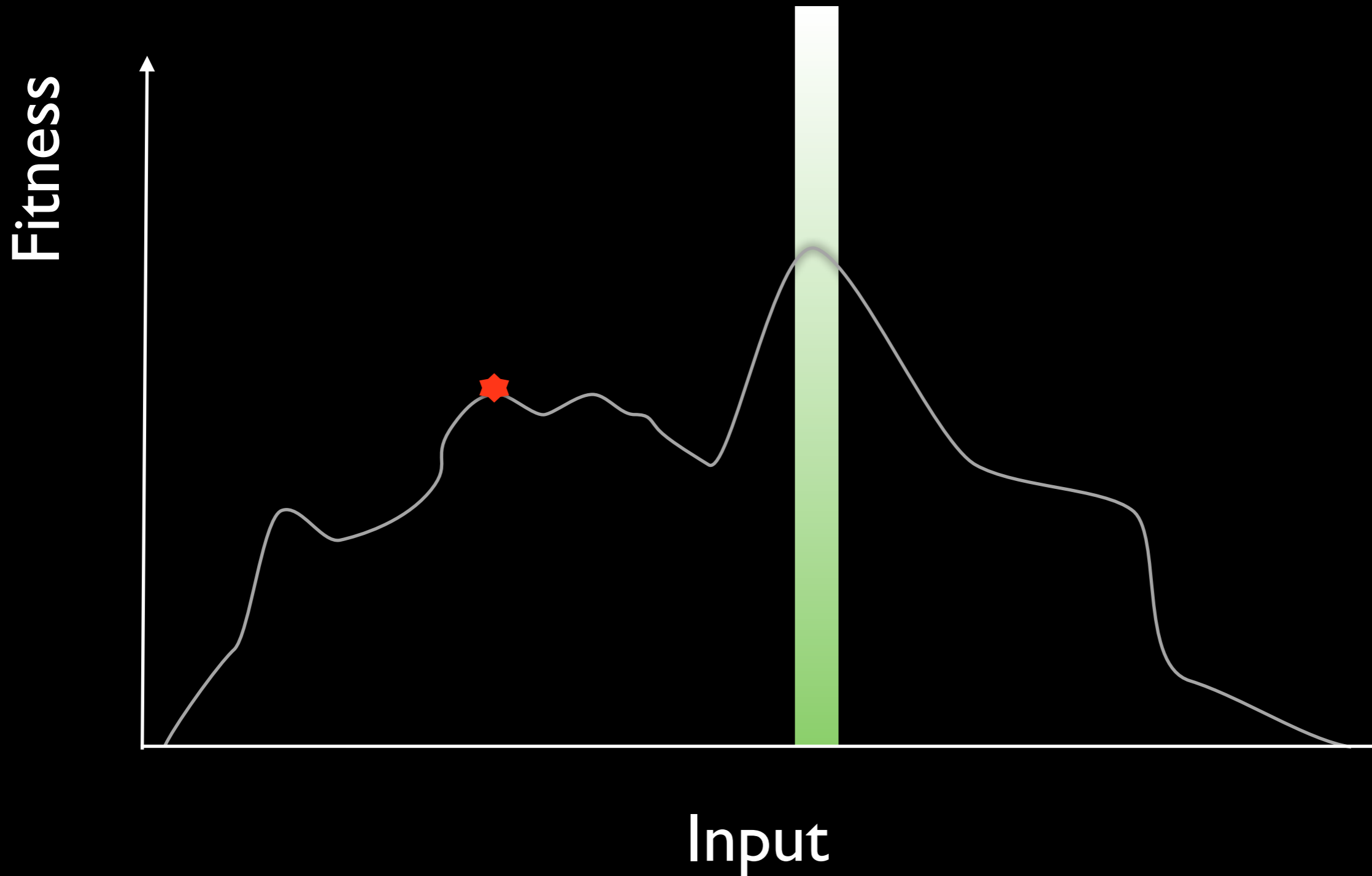
Simulated Annealing



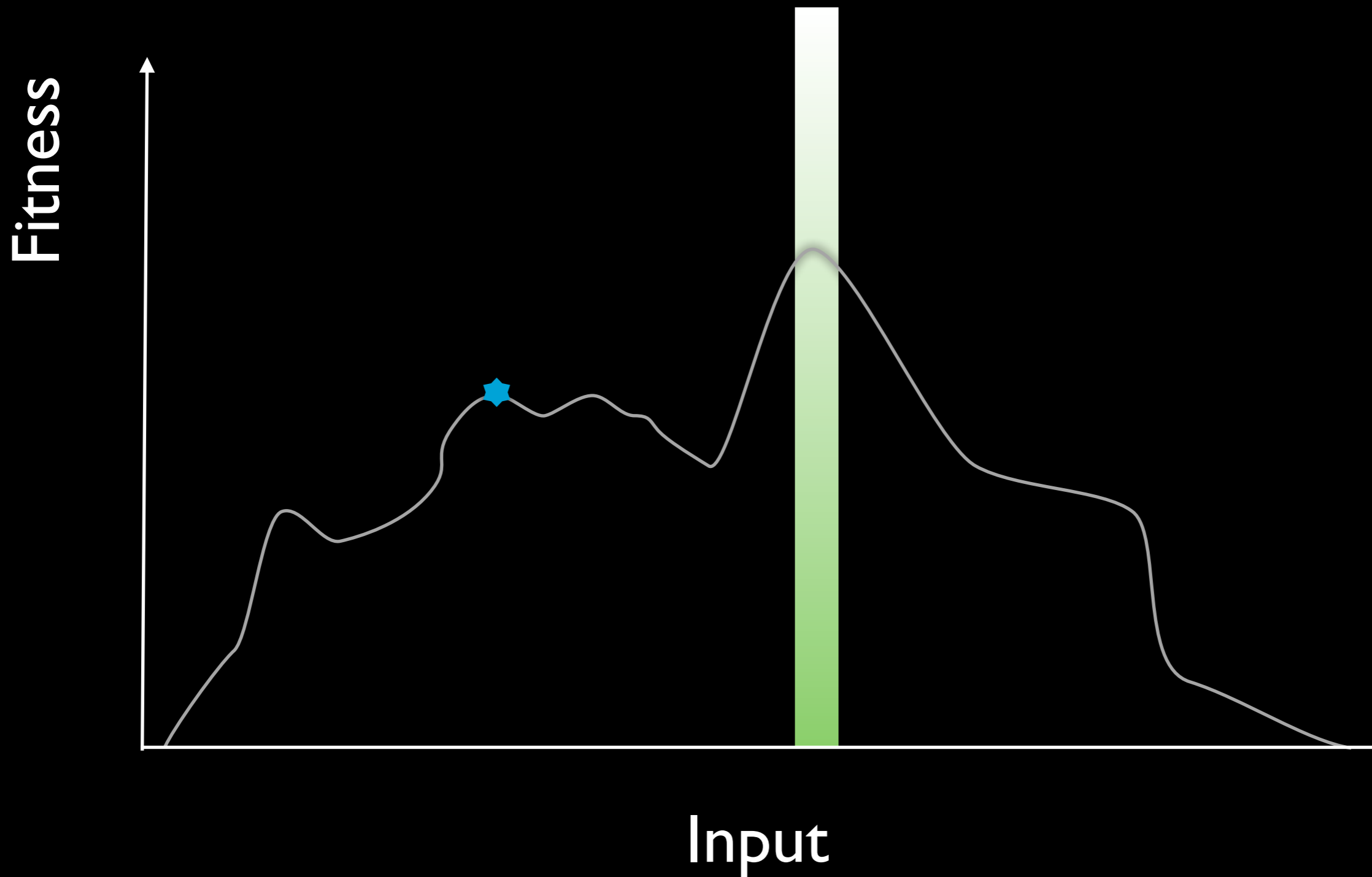
Simulated Annealing



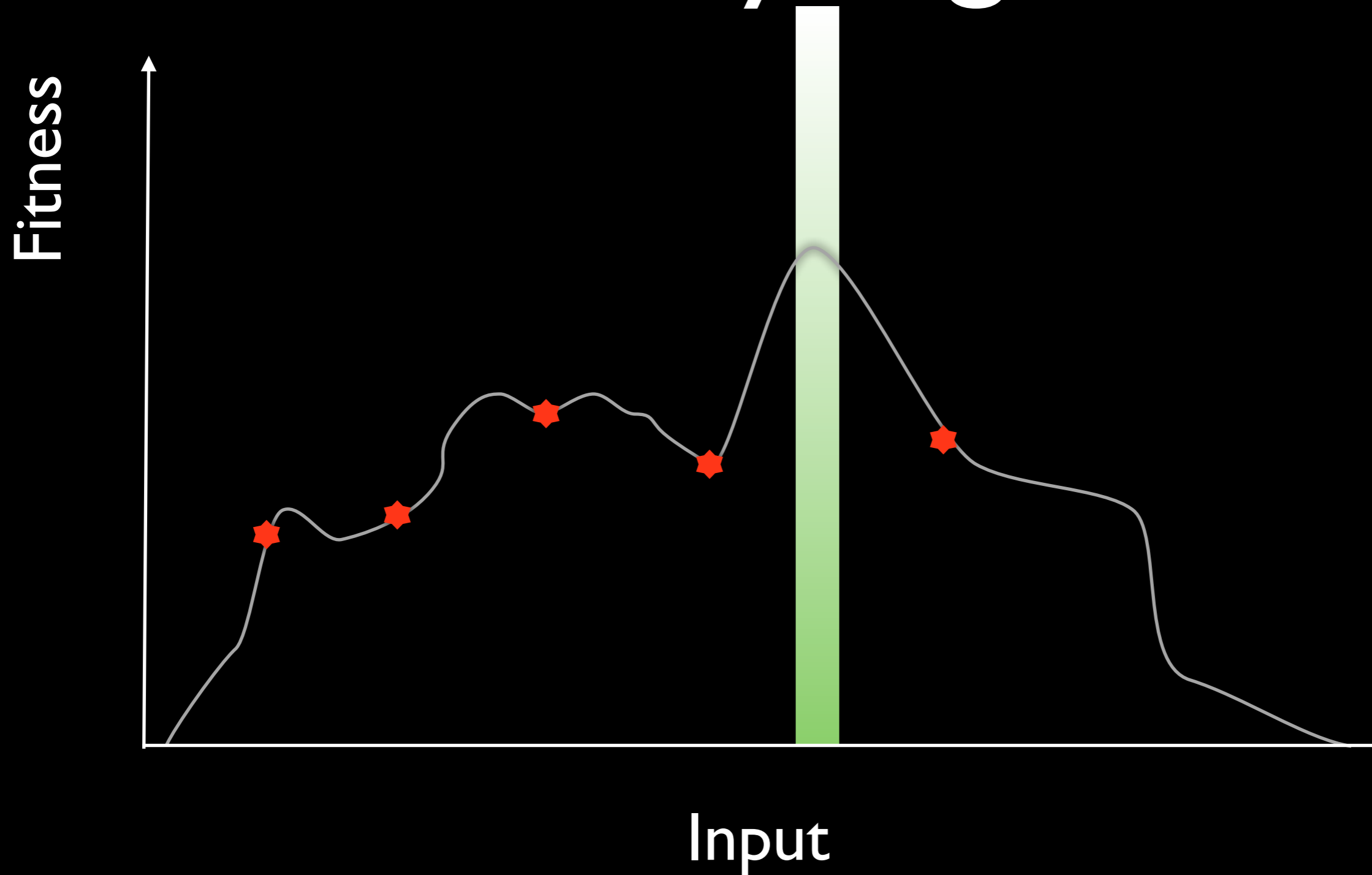
Simulated Annealing



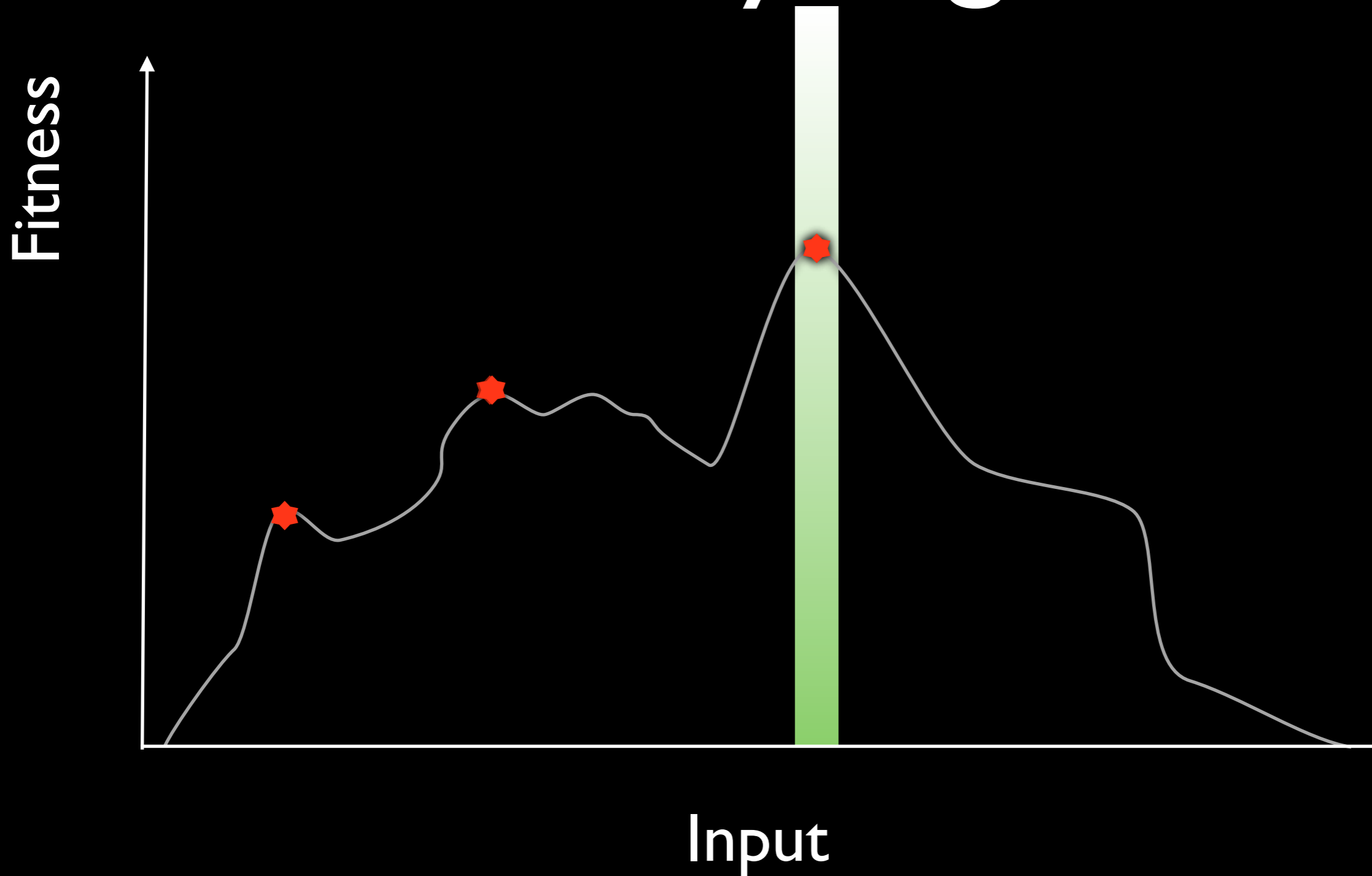
Simulated Annealing



Evolutionary Algorithm



Evolutionary Algorithm



Crossover

```
void test_me(int a, int b, int c, int d) {  
    if (a == b) {  
        if (c == d) {  
            // branch we want to execute  
        }  
    }  
    ...  
}
```

a	b	c	d
10	10	20	40

a	b	c	d
20	-5	80	80

Crossover

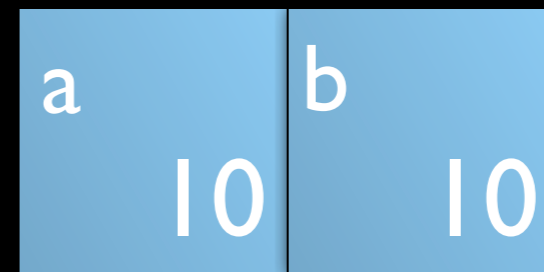
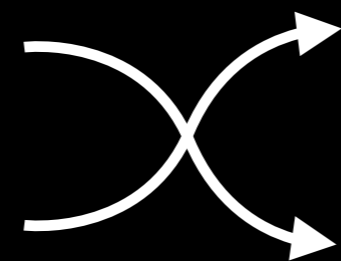
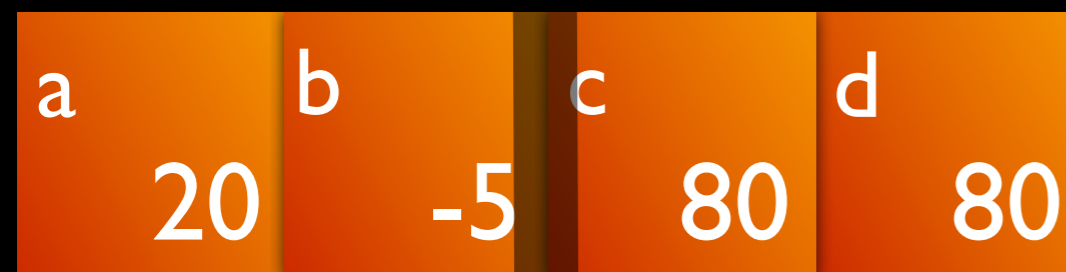
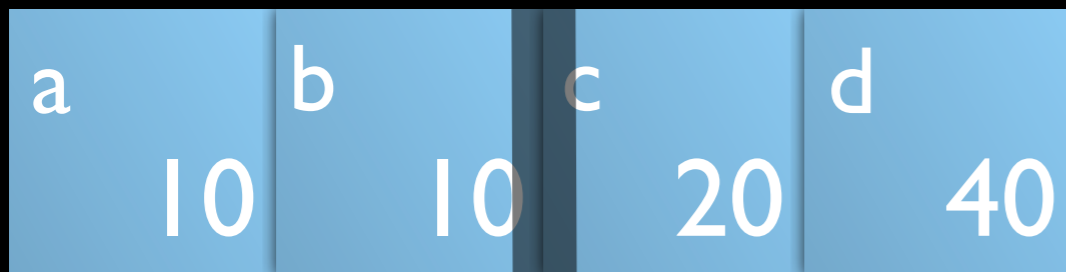
```
void test_me(int a, int b, int c, int d) {  
    if (a == b) {  
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            // branch we want to execute  
        }  
    }  
    ...  
}
```

a	b	c	d
10	10	20	40

a	b	c	d
20	-5	80	80

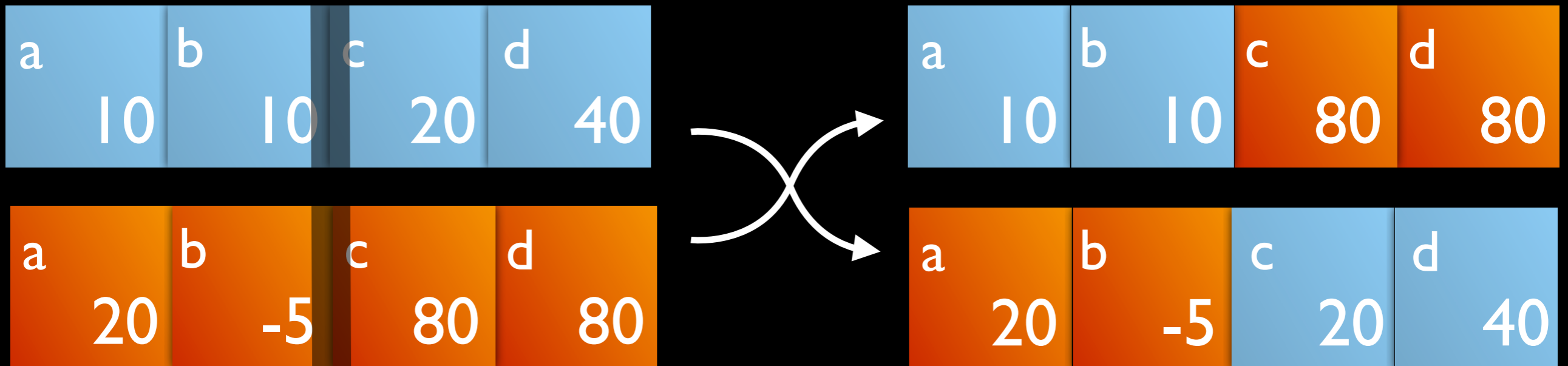
Crossover

```
void test_me(int a, int b, int c, int d) {  
    if (a == b) {  
        if (c == d) {  
            // branch we want to execute  
        }  
    }  
    ...  
}
```



Crossover

```
void test_me(int a, int b, int c, int d) {  
    if (a == b) {  
        if (c == d) {  
            // branch we want to execute  
        }  
    }  
    ...  
}
```



Mutation

```
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    if (a == b) {  
        if (c == d) {  
            // branch we want to execute  
        }  
    }  
}  
...
```

a	b	c	d
10	10	20	40

Mutation

```
void test_me(int a, int b, int c, int d) {  
    if (a == b) {  
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            // branch we want to execute  
        }  
    }  
}  
...
```

a	b	c	d
10	10	20	20

Mutation

```
void test_me(int a, int b, int c, int d) {  
    if (a == b) {  
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    }  
}  
...
```

a	b	c	d
10	10	20	40

Mutation

```
void test_me(int a, int b, int c, int d) {  
    if (a == b) {  
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```

a	b	c	d
20	10	20	40