Pareto Optimal Solutions for Smoothed Analysts

Ankur Moitra, IAS

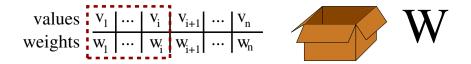
joint work with Ryan O'Donnell, CMU

September 26, 2011

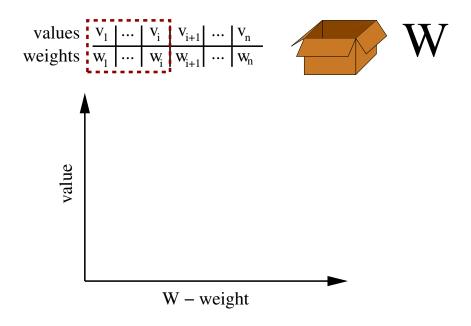
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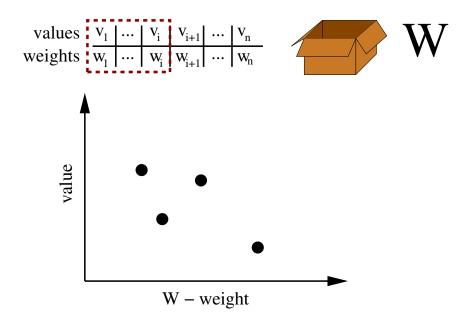
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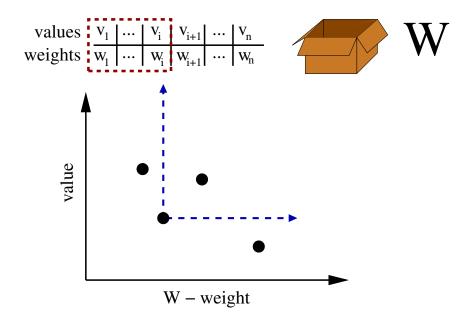


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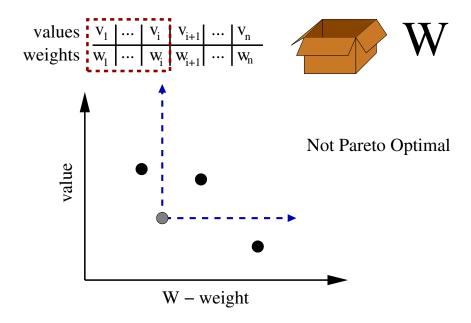


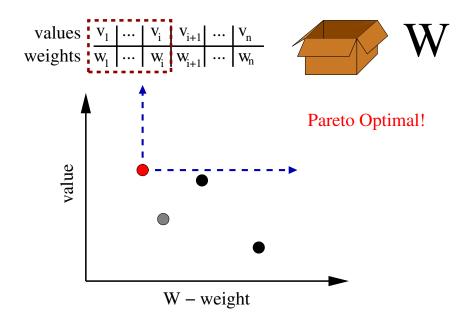
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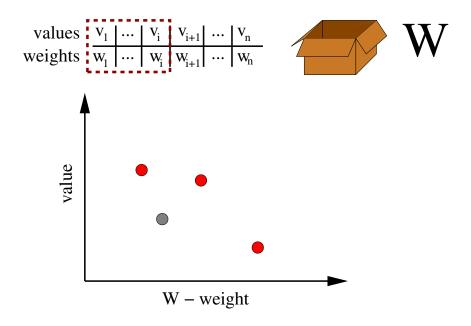


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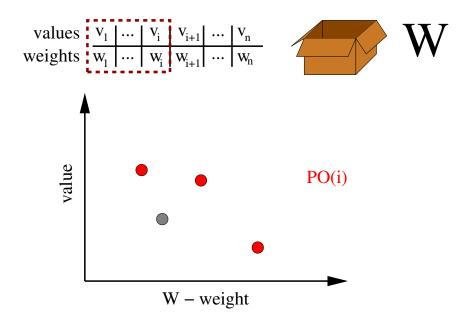




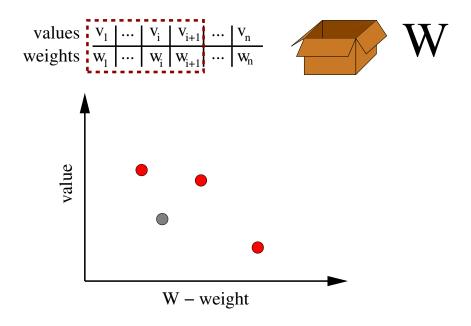
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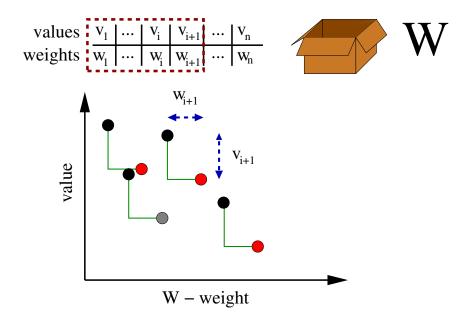
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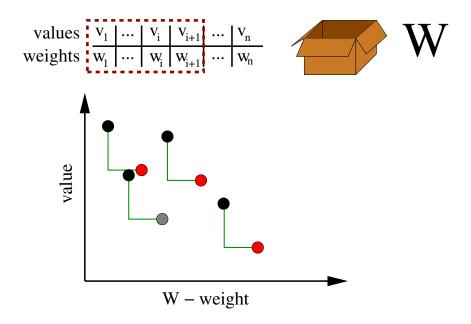
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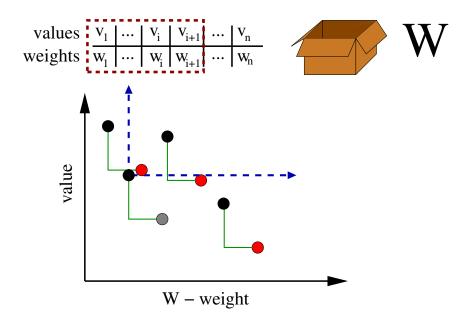
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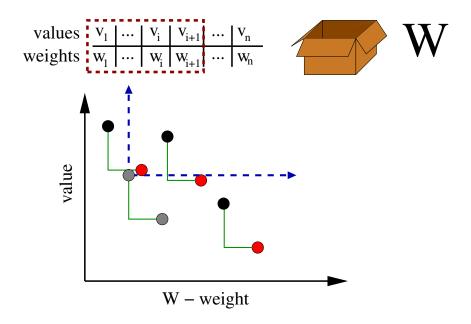
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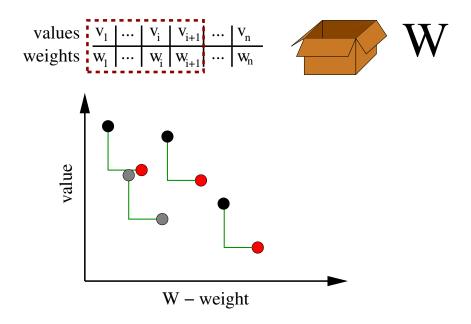
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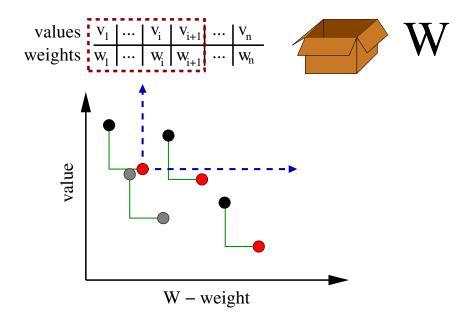
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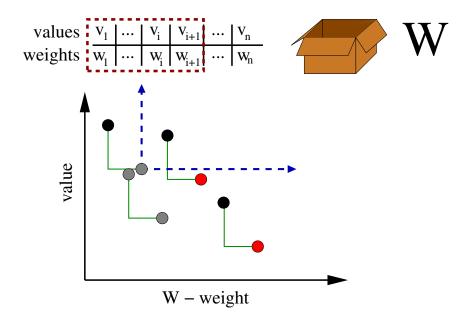
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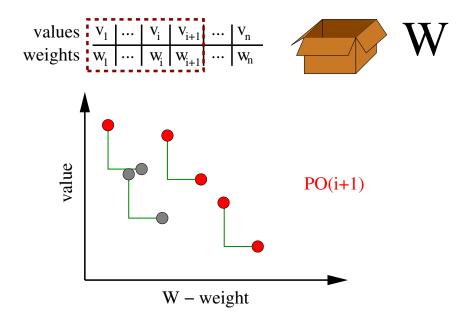
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- PO(i+1) can be computed from PO(i)...
 - ... in linear (in |PO(i)|) time
- an optimal solution can be computed from PO(n)

Bottleneck in many algorithms: enumerate the set of Pareto optimal solutions

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Results of Beier and Vöcking (STOC 2003, STOC 2004)

Smoothed Analysis of Pareto Curves:



 Polynomial bound on |PO(i)|s (in two dimensions) in the framework of Smoothed Analysis (Spielman, Teng)

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- Knapsack has polynomial smoothed complexity:
 - first NP-hard problem that is (smoothed) easy
 - generalizes long line of results on random instances

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Question

What if the precise objective function (of a decision maker) is unknown?

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e.g. travel planning: prefer lower fare, shorter trip, fewer transfers

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Can we algorithmically help a decision maker?

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Pareto curves capture tradeoffs among competing objectives

Proposition Only useful approach if Pareto curves are small



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Confirmed empirically e.g. Müller-Hannemann, Weihe: German train system

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Question Why should we expect Pareto curves to be small?

Proposition Only useful approach if Pareto curves are small

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Question Why should we expect Pareto curves to be small?

Caveat: Smoothed Analysis is not a complete explanation

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Adversary chooses:



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• $Z \subset \{0,1\}^n$ (e.g. spanning trees, Hamiltonian cycles)

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... each w^i_j is a random variable on [-1, +1] – density is bounded by ϕ

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• [Röglin, Teng, FOCS 2009] $E[|PO|] = O((n\sqrt{\phi})^{f(d)})$... where $f(d) = 2^{d-1}(d+1)!$

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- [Dughmi, Roughgarden, FOCS 2010] any FPTAS can be transformed to a truthful in expectation FPTAS

Our Results

Theorem $E[|PO|] \le 2 \cdot (4\phi d)^{d(d-1)/2} n^{2d-2}$



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[Bently et al, JACM 1978]: 2^n points sampled from a *d*-dimensional Gaussian,

$$E[|PO|] = \Theta(n^{d-1})$$

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square factor difference necessary for d = 2

On Smoothed Analysis

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On Smoothed Analysis

Bounds are notoriously pessimistic (e.g. Simplex)



Method of Analysis:



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• Define a "bad" event ...that you can blame if your algorithm runs slowly

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Method of Analysis:

• Define a "bad" event

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• Prove this event is rare

Proposition

Randomness is your friend!

Our Approach

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"Define" bad events using as little randomness as possible

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... "conserve" randomness, save for analysis



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... "conserve" randomness, save for analysis

Challenge

Events become convoluted (to say the least!)

"Define" bad events using as little randomness as possible

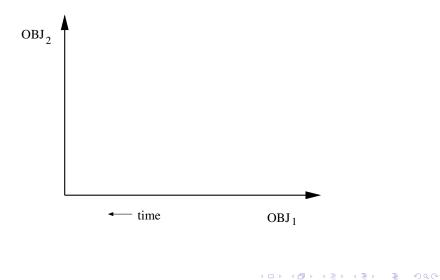
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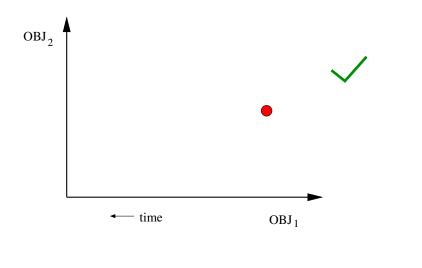
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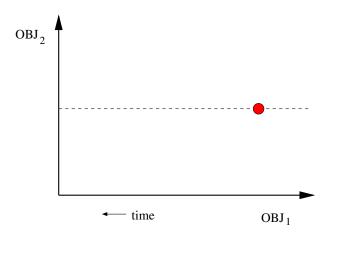
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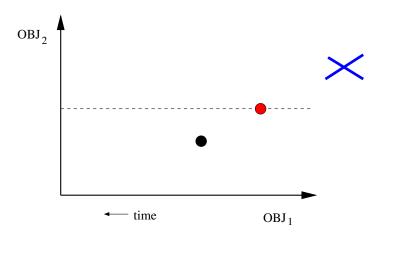
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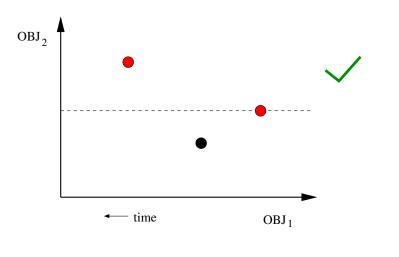
We give an algorithm to define these events

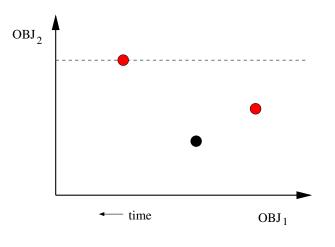


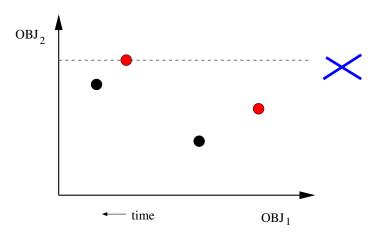












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Count the (expected) number of Pareto optimal solutions



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• Define a complete family of events ... for each Pareto optimal solution at least one (unique) event occurs

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Goal

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• Then bound the expected number of events

Goal

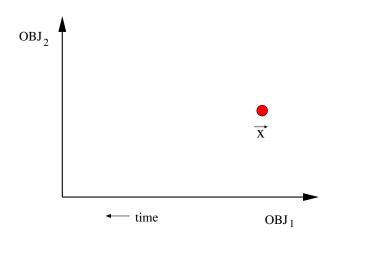
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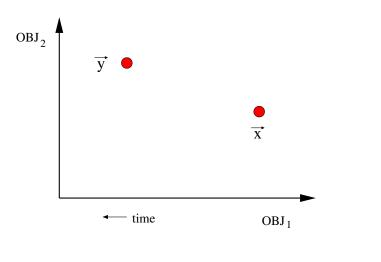
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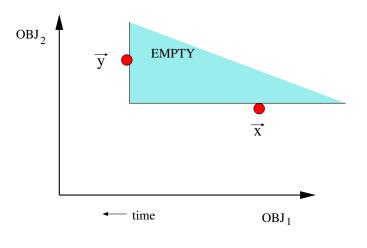
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The key is in the definition

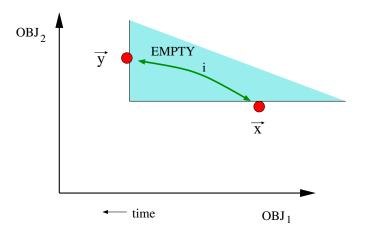




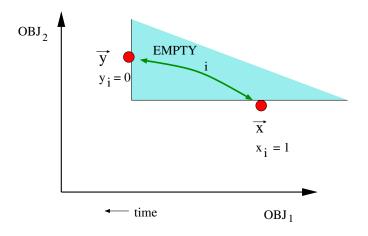
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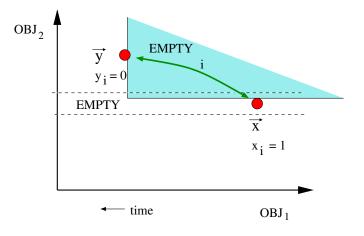
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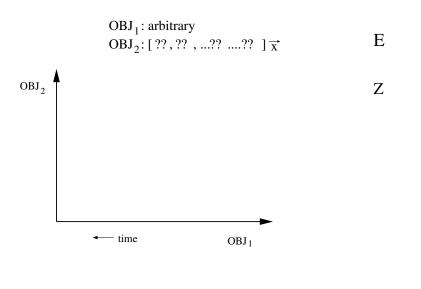
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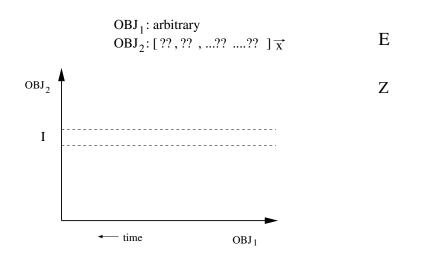
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Claim

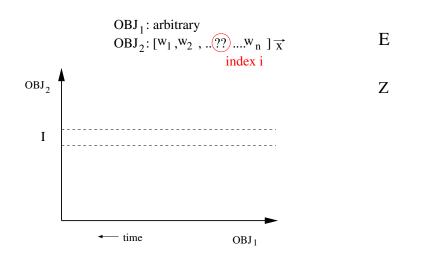
 $\Pr[E] \le \epsilon \phi$



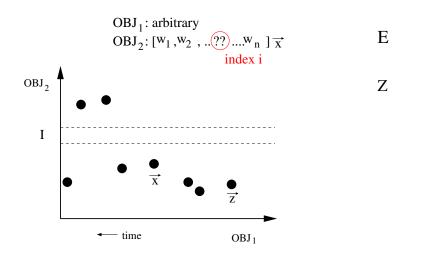
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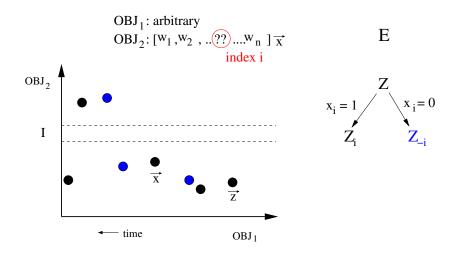
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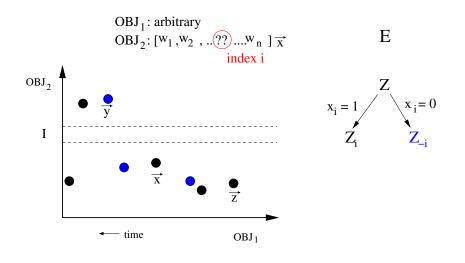
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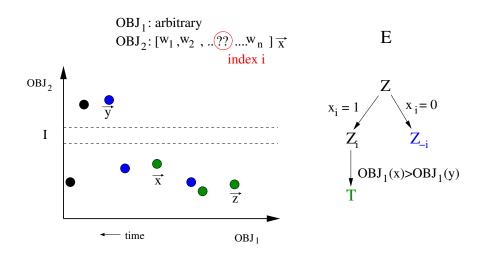
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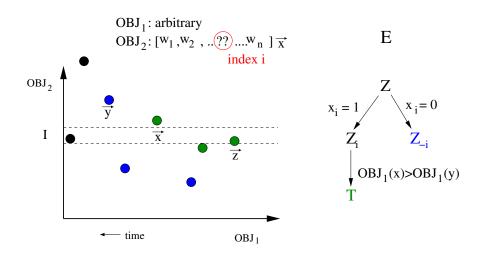
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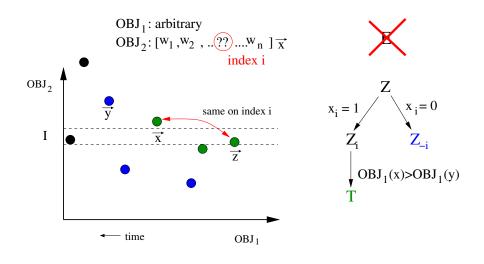
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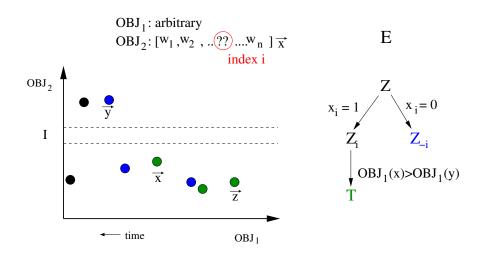
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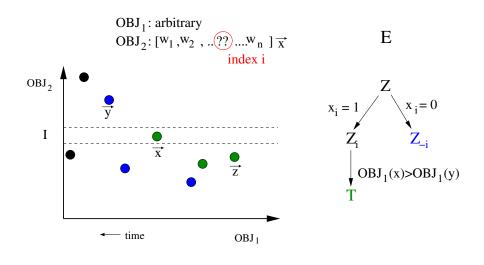
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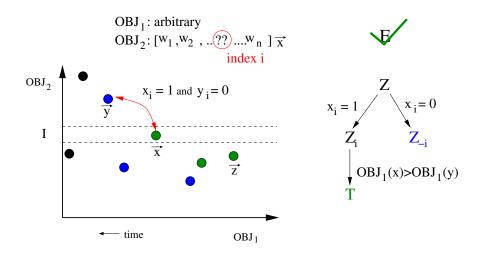
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A Re-interpretation

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A Re-interpretation

Implicitly defined a Transcription Algorithm:



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Given a Pareto optimal solution x, which event should we blame?



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Blame event E: interval I, index i, x_i and y_i

Implicitly defined a Transcription Algorithm:

Question

Given a Pareto optimal solution x, which event should we blame?

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Blame event E: interval I, index i, x_i and y_i

Transcription Algorithm

• Input: values of r.v.s (and Pareto optimal x)

• Output: interval I, index i, x_i and y_i

A Re-interpretation

Suppose output is event E: interval I, index i, x_i and y_i



Suppose output is event *E*: interval *I*, index *i*, x_i and y_i Question

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Which solution x caused this event to occur?

Suppose output is event E: interval I, index i, x_i and y_i Question Which solution x caused this event to occur?

We do not need to know w_i to determine the identity of x!

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Suppose output is event *E*: interval *I*, index *i*, x_i and y_i Question Which solution x caused this event to occur?

We do not need to know w_i to determine the identity of x! Reverse Algorithm

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• Find y

Suppose output is event E: interval I, index i, x_i and y_i Question Which solution x caused this event to occur?

We do not need to know w_i to determine the identity of x!

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Reverse Algorithm

- Find y
- Then find x

A Re-interpretation

Reverse Algorithm: Find x (without looking at w_i)

A Re-interpretation

Reverse Algorithm: Find x (without looking at w_i)

Question

Does x fall into the interval I?



Reverse Algorithm: Find x (without looking at w_i)

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Hidden random variable w_i must fall into some small range

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Reverse Algorithm: Find x (without looking at w_i)

Question Does x fall into the interval I?

Hidden random variable w_i must fall into some small range Proposition

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We can deduce a missing input to Transcription Algorithm, from just some of the inputs and outputs Reverse Algorithm: Find x (without looking at w_i)

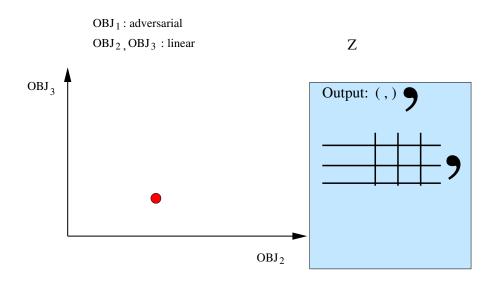
Question Does x fall into the interval I?

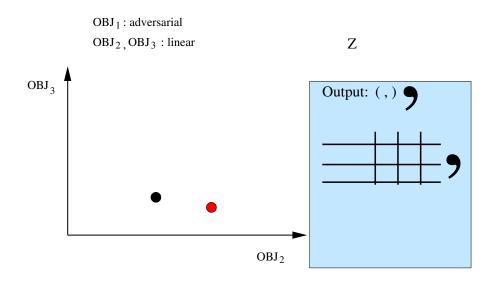
Hidden random variable w_i must fall into some small range Proposition

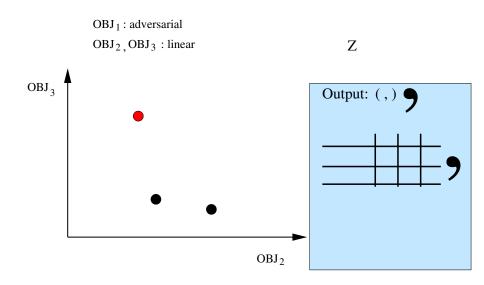
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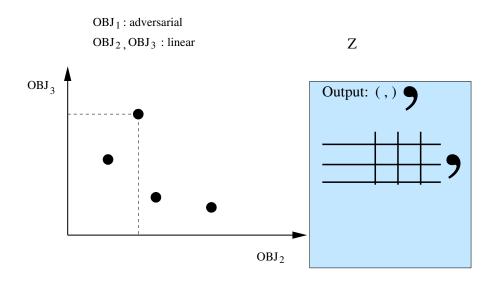
We can deduce a missing input to Transcription Algorithm, from just some of the inputs and outputs

Hence each output is unlikely

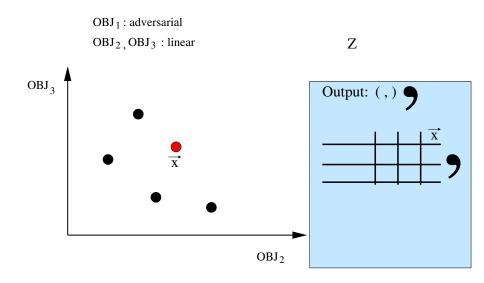


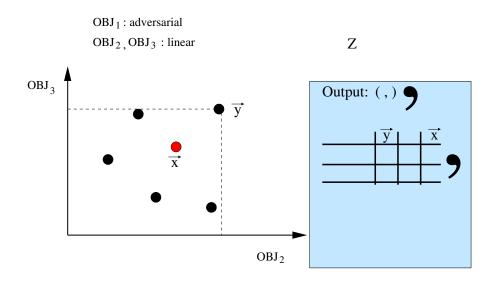




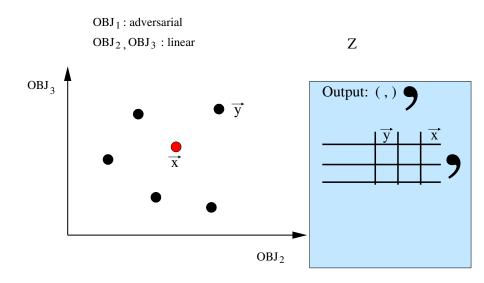


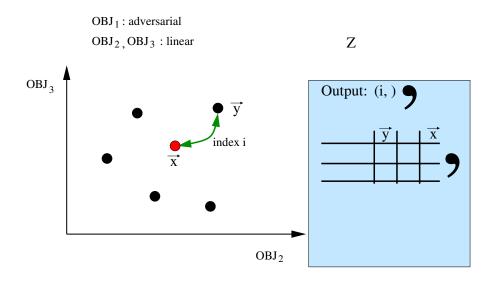
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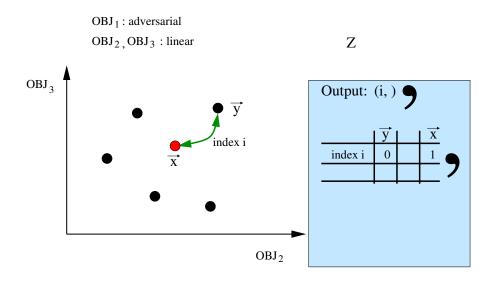




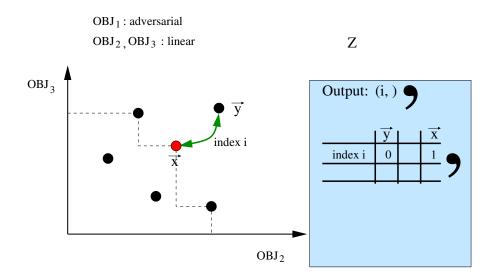
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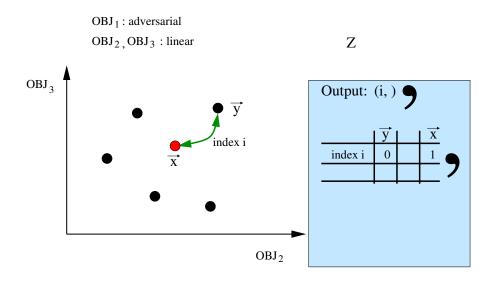




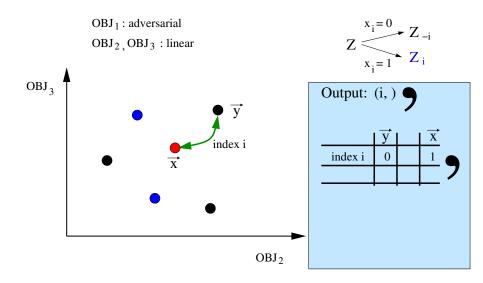
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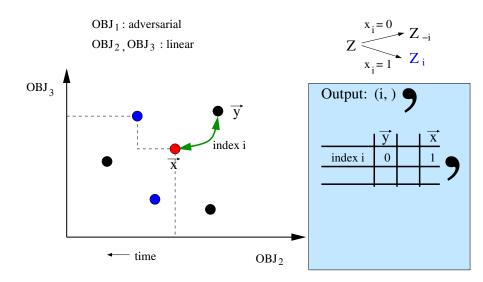
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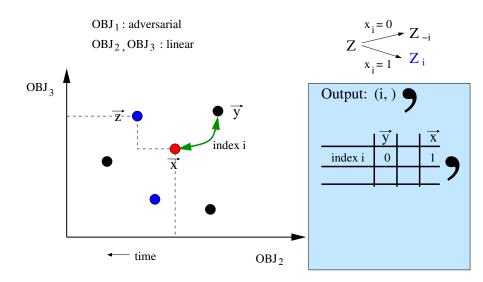
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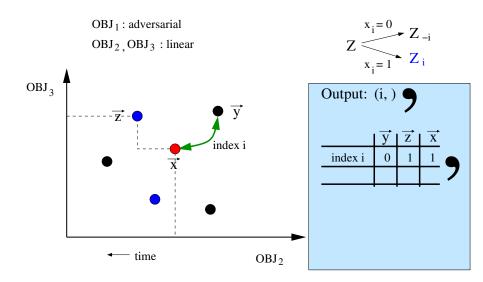
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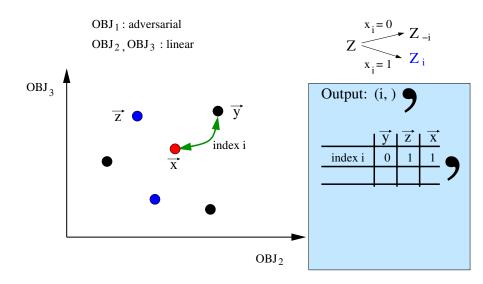
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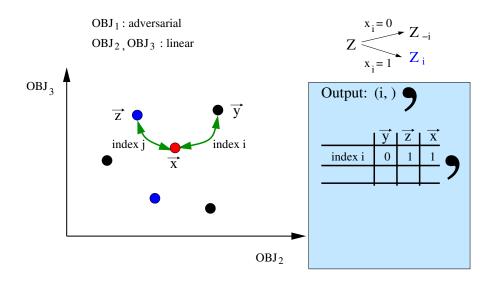


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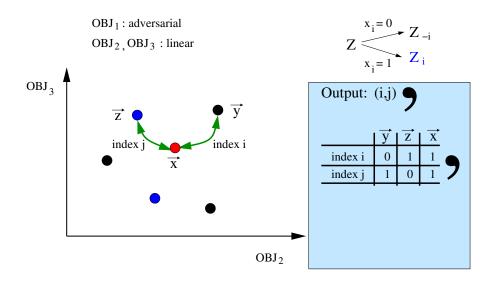


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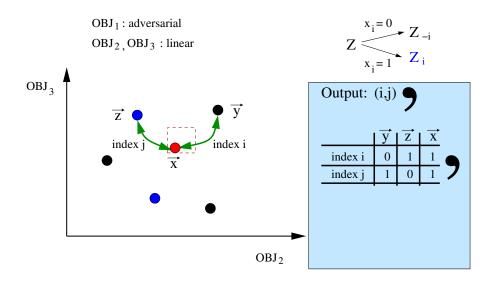




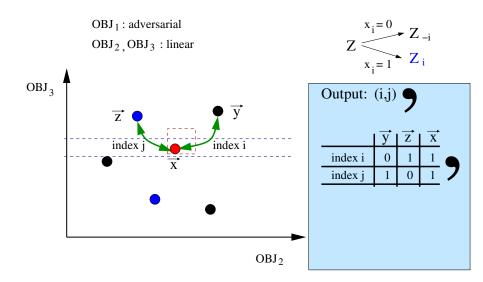
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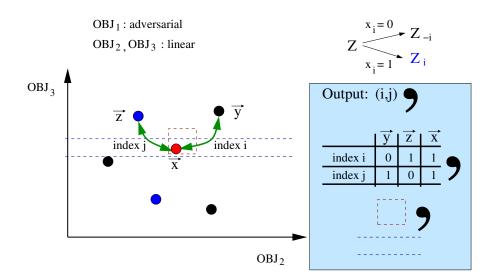
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Future Directions?

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Are there additional applications of randomness "conservation" in Smoothed Analysis?

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e.g. simplex algorithm



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Open Question

Are there perturbation models that make sense for non-linear objectives?

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Are there additional applications of randomness "conservation" in Smoothed Analysis?

e.g. simplex algorithm

Open Question

Are there perturbation models that make sense for non-linear objectives?

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e.g. submodular functions

Questions?

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Thanks!

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