Research Article

A Production-Inventory Model for a Deteriorating Item Incorporating Learning Effect Using Genetic Algorithm

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Demand for a seasonal product persists for a fixed period of time. Normally the "finite time horizon inventory control problems" are formulated for this type of demands. In reality, it is difficult to predict the end of a season precisely. It is thus represented as an uncertain variable and known as random planning horizon. In this paper, we present a production-inventory model for deteriorating items in an imprecise environment characterised by inflation and timed value of money and considering a constant demand. It is assumed that the time horizon of the business period is random in nature and follows exponential distribution with a known mean. Here, we considered the resultant effect of inflation and time value of money as both crisp and fuzzy. For crisp inflation effect, the total expected profit from the planning horizon is maximized using genetic algorithm (GA) to derive optimal decisions. This GA is developed using Roulette wheel selection, arithmetic crossover, and random mutation. On the other hand when the inflation effect is fuzzy, we can expect the profit to be fuzzy, too! As for the fuzzy objective, the optimistic or pessimistic return of the expected total profit is obtained using, respectively, a necessity or possibility measure of the fuzzy event. The GA we have developed uses fuzzy simulation to maximize the optimistic/pessimistic return in getting an optimal decision. We have provided some numerical examples and some sensitivity analyses to illustrate the model.

1. Introduction

Existing theories of inventory control implicitly assumed that lifetime of the product is infinite and models are developed under finite or infinite planning horizon such as that of Bartmann and Beckmann [1], Hadley and Whitin [2], Roy et al. [3], and Roy et al. [4]. In reality, however, products rarely have an infinite lifetime, and there are several reasons for this. Change in product specifications and design may lead to a newer version of the product.

Sometimes, due to rapid development of technology (cf. Gurnani [5]), a product may be abandoned, or even be substituted by another product. On the other hand, assuming a finite planning horizon is not appropriate, for example, for a seasonal product, though planning horizon is normally assumed as finite and crisp, it fluctuates in every year depending upon the rate of production, environmental effects, and so forth. Hence, it is better to estimate this horizon as having a fuzzy or stochastic nature. Moon and Yun [6] developed an Economic Ordered Quantity (EOQ) model in a random planning horizon. Moon and Lee [7] further developed an EOQ model taking account of inflation and time discounting, with random product life cycles. Recently, Roy et al. [8] and Roy et al. [9], developed inventory models with stock-dependent demand over a random planning horizon under imprecise inflation and finite discounting. Yet, till now, none has developed an Economic Production Quantity (EPQ) model, which incorporates the lifetime of a product as a random variable.

Production cost of a manufacturing system depends upon the combination of different production factors. These factors are (a) raw materials, (b) technical knowledge, (c) production procedure, (d) firm size, (e) quality of product and so forth, Normally, the cost of raw materials is imprecise in nature. So far, cost of technical knowledge, that is, labor cost, has been usually assumed to be constant. However, because the firms and employees perform the same task repeatedly, they learn how to repeatedly provide a standard level of performance. Therefore, processing cost per unit product decreases in every cycle. Similarly part of the ordering cost may also decrease in every cycle. In the inventory control literature, this phenomenon is known as the learning effect. Although different types of learning effects in various areas have been studied (cf. Chiu and Chen [10], Kuo and Yang [11], Alamri and Balkhi [12], etc.), it has rarely been studied in the context of inventory control problems.

Several studies have examined the effect of inflation on inventory policy. Buzacott [13] first developed an approach on modelling inflation-assuming constant inflation rate subject to different types of pricing policies. Misra [14] proposed an inflation model for the EOQ, in which the time value of money and different inflation rates were considered. Brahmbhatt [15] also developed an EOQ model under a variable inflation rate and marked-up prices. Later, Gupta and Vrat [16] developed a multi-item inventory model for a variable inflation rate. Though a considerable number of researches (cf. Padmanabhan and Vrat [17], Hariga and Ben-Daya [18], Chen [19], Dey et al. [20], etc.) have been done in this area, none has considered the imprecise inflationary effect on EPQ model, especially when the lifetime of the product is random.

In dealing with these shortcomings above, this paper shows an EPQ model of a deteriorating item with a random planning horizon, that is, the lifetime of the product is assumed as random in nature and it follows an exponential distribution with a known mean. Unit production cost decreases in each production cycle due to learning effects of the workers on production. Similarly, setup cost in each cycle is partly constant and partly decreasing in each cycle due to learning effects of the employees. The model is formulated to maximize the expected profit from the whole planning horizon and is solved using genetic algorithm (GA). It is illustrated with some numerical data, and some sensitivity analyses on expected profit function are so presented.

2. Assumptions and Notations

In this paper, the mathematical model is developed on the basis of the following assumptions and notations.

Assumptions

- (1) Demand rate is known and constant.
- (2) Time horizon (a random variable) is finite.
- (3) Time horizon accommodates first N cycles and ends during (N + 1) cycles.
- (4) Setup time is negligible.
- (5) Production rate is known and constant.
- (6) Shortages are not allowed.
- (7) A constant fraction of on-hand inventory gets deteriorated per unit time.
- (8) Lead time is zero.
- (9) Production cost and setup cost decrease due to the learning in setups and improvement in quality.

Notations

The notations used in this paper are listed below.

q(t): on hand inventory of a cycle at time t, $(j-1)T \le t \le jT$ (j = 1, 2, ..., N).

 t_1 : production period in each cycle.

P: Production rate in each cycle.

D: demand rate in each cycle.

 C_1 : holding cost per unit item per unit time.

 $C_3^{\prime} = C_3 + C_3^{\prime} e^{-\beta j}$: is setup cost in jth(j = 1, 2, ..., N) cycle, $\beta > 0$ (β is the learning coefficient associated with setup cost).

 $p_0 e^{-\gamma j}$: production cost in the jth(j = 1, 2, ..., N) cycle, $p_0, \gamma > 0$ (γ is the learning coefficient associated with production cost).

 $m_0 p_0 e^{-\gamma j}$: selling price in the *j*th(*j* = 1, 2, ..., *N*) cycle, $p_0, \gamma > 0, m_0 > 1$.

N: number of fully accommodated cycles to be made during the prescribed time horizon.

T: duration of a complete cycle.

i: inflation rate.

r: discount rate.

R: *r*-*i*, may be crisp or fuzzy.

P(N,T): total profit after completing N fully accommodated cycles.

H: total time horizon (a random variable) and *h* is the real time horizon.

 $m_1p_0e^{-\gamma(N+1)}$: reduced selling price for the inventory items in the last cycle at the end of time horizon, $p_0, \gamma > 0$, $m_1 < 1$.

 θ : deterioration rate of the produced item.

 $E\{P(N,T)\}$: expected total profit from *N* complete cycles.

 $E\{TP_L(T)\}$: expected total profit from the last cycle.

 $E\{TP(T)\}$: expected total profit from the planning horizon.



Figure 1: (a). Inventory level when $NT < h < NT + t_1$. (b) Inventory level when $NT + t_1 < h < (N + 1)T$.

3. Mathematical Formulation

In this section, we formulate a production-inventory model for deteriorating items under inflation over a random planning horizon incorporating learning effect. Here we assume that there are N full cycles during the real time horizon h and the planning horizon ends within the (N+1)th cycle, that is, within the time t = NT and t = (N+1)T. At the beginning of every jth (j = 1, 2, ..., N+1) cycle production starts at t = (j-1)T and continues up to $t = (j-1)T+t_1$, inventory gradually increases after meeting the demand due to production (cf. Figures 1(a) and 1(b)). Production thus stops at $t = (j-1)T + t_1$, and the inventory falls to zero level at the end of the cycle time t = jT, due to deterioration and consumption. This cycle repeats again and again. For the last cycle some amount may be left after the end of planning horizon. This amount is sold at a reduced price in a lot.

Here, it is assumed that the planning horizon H is a random variable and follows exponential distribution with probability density function (p.d.f) as

$$f(h) = \begin{cases} \lambda e^{-\lambda h}, & h \ge 0, \\ 0, & \text{otherwise.} \end{cases}$$
(3.1)

3.1. Formulation for N Full Cycles

The differential equations describing the inventory level q(t) in the interval $(j - 1)T \le t \le jT(1 \le j \le N), j = 1, 2, ..., N$ are given by

$$\frac{dq(t)}{dt} = \begin{cases} P - D - \theta q(t), & (j-1)T \le t \le (j-1)T + t_1, \\ -D - \theta q(t), & (j-1)T + t_1 \le t \le jT, \end{cases}$$
(3.2)

where P > 0, D > 0, $\theta > 0$, and $0 < t_1 < T$, subject to the conditions that q(t) = 0 at t = (j - 1)T and q(t) = 0 at t = jT.

The solutions of the differential equations (3.2) are given by

$$q(t) = \begin{cases} \frac{P-D}{\theta} \left[1 - e^{\theta \{ (j-1)T-t \}} \right], & (j-1)T \le t \le (j-1)T + t_1, \\ \frac{D}{\theta} \left[e^{\theta (jT-t)} - 1 \right], & (j-1)T + t_1 \le t \le jT. \end{cases}$$
(3.3)

Now at $t = (j-1)T + t_1$, from (3.3), we get

$$\frac{P-D}{\theta} \left[1 - e^{-\theta t_1} \right] = \frac{D}{\theta} \left[e^{\theta (T-t_1)} - 1 \right]$$

$$\Rightarrow t_1 = \frac{1}{\theta} \ln \left[1 + \frac{D}{P} \left(e^{\theta T} - 1 \right) \right].$$
(3.4)

3.2. Total Expected Profit from N Full Cycles

From the symmetry of every full cycle, present value of total expected profit from *N* full cycles, $E\{P(N,T)\}$, is given by

$$E\{P(N,T)\} = \text{ESRN} - \text{EPCN} - \text{EHCN} - \text{ETOCN}.$$
(3.5)

where ESRN, EPCN, EHCN, and ETOCN are present value of expected total sales revenue, present value of expected total production cost, present value of expected holding cost, and present value of expected total ordering cost, respectively, from N full cycles, and their expressions are derived in Appendix A.1 (see (A.13), (A.7), (A.4), (A.10), resp.).

3.3. Formulation for Last Cycle

Duration of the last cycle is [NT, h], where *h* is the real time horizon corresponding to the random time horizon *H*.

Here two different cases may arise depending upon the cycle length.

Case 1. $NT < h \le NT + t_1$.

Case 2. $NT + t_1 < h \le (N + 1)T$.

The differential equation describing the inventory level q(t) in the interval $NT < t \le h$ are given by

$$\frac{dq(t)}{dt} = \begin{cases} P - D - \theta q(t), & NT \le t \le NT + t_1, \\ -D - \theta q(t), & NT + t_1 \le t \le (N+1)T. \end{cases}$$
(3.6)

subject to the conditions that

$$q(NT) = 0, \qquad q\{(N+1)T\} = 0.$$
 (3.7)

The solutions of the differential equations in (3.6) are given by

$$q(t) = \begin{cases} \frac{P-D}{\theta} [1 - e^{\theta(NT-t)}], & NT \le t \le NT + t_1, \\ \frac{D}{\theta} [e^{\theta\{(N+1)T-t\}} - 1], & NT + t_1 \le t \le (N+1)T. \end{cases}$$
(3.8)

3.4. Expected Total Profit from Last Cycle

Present value of expected total profit from last cycle is given by

$$E\{TP_L(T)\} = ESR_L + ERSP_L - EHC_L - EPC_L - EOC_L.$$
(3.9)

where ESR_L , ERSP_L , EHC_L , EPC_L , and EOC_L are present value of expected sales revenue, present value of expected reduced selling price, present value of expected holding cost, present value of expected production cost, present value of expected ordering cost, respectively, from the last cycle, and their expressions are derived in Appendix A.2 (see (A.24), (A.26), (A.20), (A.23), and (A.25), resp.).

3.5. Total Expected Profit from the System

Now, total expected profit from the complete time horizon is given by

$$E\{TP(T)\} = E\{P(N,T)\} + E\{TP_L(T)\}.$$
(3.10)

4. Problem Formulation

4.1. Stochastic Model (Model-1)

When the resultant effect of inflation and discounting (R) is crisp in nature, then our problem is to determine T to

$$\begin{array}{l} \text{Max } E(TP),\\ \text{subject to } T \ge 0. \end{array} \tag{4.1}$$

4.2. Fuzzy Stochastic Model (Model-2)

In the real world, resultant effect of inflation and time value of money (R) is imprecise, that is, vaguely defined in some situations. So we take R as fuzzy number, denoted by \tilde{R} . Then, due to this assumption, our objective function E(TP) becomes $E(\widetilde{TP})$. Since optimization of a fuzzy

objective is not well defined, so instead of $E(\overline{TP})$ one can optimize its equivalent optimistic or pessimistic return of the objective as proposed by M. K. Maiti and M. Maiti [21]. Using this method the problem can be reduced to an equivalent crisp problem as discussed below.

If \tilde{A} and \tilde{B} are two fuzzy subsets of real numbers \mathfrak{R} with membership functions $\mu_{\tilde{A}}$ and $\mu_{\tilde{B}}$, respectively, then taking degree of uncertainty as the semantics of fuzzy number, according to Liu and Iwamura [22], Dubois and Prade [23, 24], and Zimmermann [25],

$$\operatorname{Pos}\left(\widetilde{A}\star\widetilde{B}\right) = \sup\{\min(\mu_{\widetilde{A}}(x),\mu_{\widetilde{B}}(y)), x, y\in\mathfrak{R}, x\star y\},\tag{4.2}$$

where the abbreviation Pos represent possibility and \star is any one of the relations >, <, =, \leq , \geq .

On the other hand necessity measure of an event $\hat{A} \star \hat{B}$ is a dual of possibility measure. The grade of necessity of an event is the grade of impossibility of the opposite event and is defined as

$$\operatorname{Nes}\left(\widetilde{A}\star\widetilde{B}\right) = 1 - \operatorname{Pos}\left(\overline{\widetilde{A}\star\widetilde{B}}\right),\tag{4.3}$$

where the abbreviation Nes represents necessity measure and $\overline{\widetilde{A} \star \widetilde{B}}$ represents complement of the event $\widetilde{A} \star \widetilde{B}$.

So for the fuzzy stochastic model one can maximize the crisp variable *z* such that necessity/possibility measure of the event $\{E(\widetilde{TP}) > z\}$ exceeds some predefined level according to decision maker in pessimistic/optimistic sense. Accordingly the problem reduces to the following two models.

Model-2a

When the decision maker prefers to optimize the optimistic equivalent of E(TP), the problem reduces to determine *T* to

Maximize
$$z$$

subject to $pos\left\{E\left(\widetilde{TP}\right) \ge z\right\} \ge \alpha_1,$ (4.4)

where α_1 is confidence level.

Model-2b

On the other hand when the decision maker desires to optimize the pessimistic equivalent of $E(\widetilde{TP})$, the problem is reduced to determine *T* to

Maximize z
subjectto, nes
$$\left\{E\left(\widetilde{TP}\right) \ge z\right\} \ge \alpha_2$$
 (4.5)
that is, pos $\left\{E\left(\widetilde{TP}\right) \le z\right\} < 1 - \alpha_2$,

where α_2 is confidence level.

5. Solution Methodology

To solve the stochastic model (model-1), genetic algorithm (GA) and simulated annealing (SA) are used. The basic technique to deal with problem (4.4) or (4.5) is to convert the possibility/necessity constraint to its deterministic equivalent. However, the procedure is usually very hard and successful in some particular cases (cf. M. K. Maiti and M. Maiti [21]). Following Liu and Iwamura [22] and M. K. Maiti and M. Maiti [21], here two simulation algorithms are proposed to determine z in (4.4) and (4.5), respectively, for a feasible T.

Algorithm 1. Algorithm to determine a feasible *T* to evaluate *z* for the problem (4.4)

To determine *z* for a feasible *T*, roughly find a point R_0 from fuzzy number *R*, which approximately minimizes *z*. Let this value be z_0 and set $z = z_0$ (For simplicity one can take $z_0 = 0$). Then R_0 is randomly generated in α_1 -cut set of \tilde{R} and let z_0 = value of E(TP) for $R = R_0$ and if $z < z_0$ replace *z* with z_0 . This step is repeated a finite number of times and final value is taken as the value of *z*. This phenomenon is used to develop the algorithm.

- (1) Set $z = z_0$.
- (2) Generate R_0 uniformly from the α_1 cut set of fuzzy number \hat{R} .
- (3) Set z_0 = value of E(TP) for $R = R_0$.
- (4) If $z < z_0$ then set $z = z_0$.
- (5) Repeat steps 2, 3 and 4, N_1 times, where N_1 is a sufficiently large positive integer.
- (6) Return *z*.
- (7) End algorithm.

Algorithm 2. Algorithm to determine a feasible T to evaluate z for the problem (4.5):

We know that $\operatorname{nes}\{E(\widetilde{TP}) \ge z\} \ge \alpha_2 \Rightarrow \operatorname{pos}\{E(\widetilde{TP}) < z\} \le 1 - \alpha_2$. Now roughly find a point R_0 from fuzzy number \widetilde{R} , which approximately minimizes E(TP). Let this value be z_0 (For simplicity one can take $z_0 = 0$ also) and ε be a positive number. Set $z = z_0 - \varepsilon$ and if $\operatorname{pos}\{E(\widetilde{TP}) < z\} \le 1 - \alpha_2$ then increase z with ε . Again check $\operatorname{pos}\{E(\widetilde{TP}) < z\} \le 1 - \alpha_2$ and it continues until $\operatorname{pos}\{E(\widetilde{TP}) < z\} > 1 - \alpha_2$. At this stage decrease value of ε and again try to improve z. When ε becomes sufficiently small then we stop and final value of z is taken as the value of z. Using this criterion, required algorithm is developed as below. In the algorithm the variable F_0 is used to store initial assumed value of z and F is used to store value of z in each iteration.

- (1) Set $z = z_0 \varepsilon$, $F = z_0 \varepsilon$, $F_0 = z_0 \varepsilon$, tol = 0.0001.
- (2) Generate R_0 uniformly from the $1 \alpha_2$ cut set of fuzzy number R.
- (3) Set z_0 = value of E(TP) for $R = R_0$.
- (4) If $z_0 < z$.
- (5) Then go to step 11.
- (6) End If
- (7) Repeat step-2 to step-6 N_2 times.
- (8) Set F = z.
- (9) Set $z = z + \varepsilon$.

- (10) Go to step-2.
- (11) If $(z = F_0) / /$ In this case optimum value of $z < z_0 \varepsilon$
- (12) Set $z = F_0 \varepsilon$, $F = F \varepsilon$, $F_0 = F_0 \varepsilon$.
- (13) Go to step-2
- (14) End If
- (15) If ($\varepsilon < \text{tol}$)
- (16) Go to step-21
- (17) End If
- (18) $\varepsilon = \varepsilon/10$
- (19) $z = F + \varepsilon$
- (20) Go to step-2.
- (21) Output *F*.
- (22) End algorithm.

So for a feasible value of T, we determine z using the above algorithms, and to optimize z we use GA. GA used to solve model-1 is presented below. When fuzzy simulation algorithm is used to determine z in the algorithm, this GA is named fuzzy simulation-based genetic algorithm (FSGA). This is used to determine fuzzy objective function values.

5.1. Genetic Algorithm (GA)/Fuzzy Simulation-Based Genetic Algorithm (FSGA)

Genetic Algorithm is a class of adaptive search technique based on the principle of population genetics. In natural genesis. we know that chromosomes are the main carriers of the hereditary information from parents to offsprings and that genes, which carry hereditary factors, are lined up in chromosomes. At the time of reproduction, crossover and mutation take place among the chromosomes of parents. In this way, hereditary factors of parents are mixed up and carried over to their offsprings. Darwinian principle states that only the fittest animals can survive in nature. So a pair of the fittest parents normally reproduce better offspring.

The above- mentioned phenomenon is followed to create a genetic algorithm for an optimization problem. Here potential solutions of the problem are analogous with the chromosomes and chromosome of better offspring with the better solution of the problem. Crossover and mutation are performed among a set of potential solutions, and a new set of solutions are obtained. It continues until terminating conditions are encountered. Michalewicz [26] proposed a genetic algorithm named the Contractive Mapping Genetic Algorithm (CMGA) and proved the asymptotic convergence of the algorithm by the Banach fixed-point theorem. In CMGA, movement from an old population to a new population takes place only when the average fitness of a new population is better than the old one. This algorithm is modified with the help of a fuzzy simulation process to solve the fuzzy stochastic models of this paper. The algorithm is named FSGA, and this is presented below. In the algorithm, p_c , p_m are probabilities of the crossover and the probability of mutation, respectively, I is the iteration counter, and P(I) is the population of potential solutions for iteration I. The (P(I)) function initializes the population P(I) at the time of initialization. The (P(I)) function evaluates the fitness of each member of P(I), and at this stage an objective function value due to each solution is evaluated via the fuzzy simulation process (using algorithm 1 or algorithm 2). In case of stochastic model (model-1) objective function is evaluated directly without using simulation algorithms. So in that case this GA is named ordinary GA. *M* is iteration counter in each generation to improve P(I), and M_0 is upper limit of *M*.

5.2. GA/FSGA Algorithm

- (1) Set I = 0, M = 0, $M_0 = 50$.
- (2) Initialize p_c, p_m .
- (3) Initialize (P(I)) and let N' be its size.
- (4) Evaluate (P(I)).
- (5) While $(M < M_0)$
- (6) Select N' solutions from P(I) for mating pool using roulette-wheel selection process [Michalewicz [26]]. Let this set be $P_1(I)$.
- (7) Select solutions from $P_1(I)$ for crossover depending on p_c .
- (8) Perform crossover on selected solutions to obtain population $P_1(I)$.
- (9) Select solutions from $P_1(I)$ for mutation depending on p_m .
- (10) Perform mutation on selected solutions to obtain new population P(I + 1).
- (11) Evaluate (P(I + 1)).
- (12) Set M = M + 1.
- (13) If average fitness of P(I + 1) > average fitness of P(I) then
- (14) Set I = I + 1.
- (15) Set M = 0.
- (16) End If.
- (17) End While.
- (18) Output: Best solution of P(I).
- (19) End algorithm.

5.3. GA/FSGA Procedures

(a) Representation

An "*n* dimensional real vector" $X = (x_1, x_2, ..., x_n)$ is used to represent a solution, where x_1 , x_2 ,..., x_n represent *n* decision variables of the problem.

(b) Initialization

N' such solutions $X_1, X_2, X_3, ..., X_{N'}$ are randomly generated by random number generator. This solution set is taken as initial population P(I). Here we take N' = 50, $p_c = 0.3$, $p_m = 0.2$, and I = 1. These parametric values are assumed as these giving better convergence of the algorithm for the model.

(c) Fitness value

Value of the objective function due to the solution X is taken as fitness of X. Let it be f(X). Objective function is evaluated via fuzzy simulation process (using Algorithm 1 or Algorithm 2) for model-2.

(d) Selection Process for Mating Pool

The following steps are followed for this purpose.

- (i) Find total fitness of the population $F = \sum_{i=1}^{N'} f(X_i)$.
- (ii) Calculate the probability of selection p_i of each solution X_i by the formula $p_i = f(X_i)/F$.
- (iii) Calculate the cumulative probability q_i for each solution X_i by the formula $q_i = \sum_{j=1}^{i} p_j$.
- (iv) Generate a random number "r" from the range [0,1].
- (v) If $r < q_1$, then select X_1 : otherwise select $X_i (2 \le i \le N)$, where $q_{i-1} \le r \le q_i$.
- (vi) Repeat step (iv) and (v) *N*' times to select *N*' solutions from old population. Clearly one solution may be selected more than once.
- (vii) Selected solution set is denoted by $P_1(I)$ in the proposed GA/FSGA algorithm.

(c) Crossover

- (i) *Selection for Crossover*. For each solution of P(I) generate a random number r from the range [0,1]. If $r < p_c$, then the solution is taken for crossover, where p_c is the probability of crossover.
- (ii) *Crossover Process.* Crossover takes place on the selected solutions. For each pair of coupled solutions *Y*₁, *Y*₂, a random number *c* is generated from the range [0, 1] and their offsprings *Y*₁₁ and *Y*₂₁ are obtained by the formula

$$Y_{11} = cY_1 + (1-c)Y_2, \qquad Y_{21} = cY_2 + (1-c)Y_1.$$
(5.1)

(d) Mutation

- (i) *Selection for Mutation.* For each solution of P(I) generate a random number r from the range [0,1]. If $r < p_m$, then the solution is taken for mutation, where p_m is the probability of mutation.
- (ii) *Mutation Process.* To mutate a solution $X = (x_1, x_2, ..., x_n)$ select a random integer r in the range [1, n]. Then replace x_r by randomly generated value within the boundary of the rth component of X.

(a) Results for previous inventory model using GA				
Р	D	Т	$E\{TP(T)\}$	
	18	6.1209	271.3825	
	19	6.8253	350.9308	
25	20	7.8419	438.9884	
	21	9.4299	537.9198	
	22	12.4726	651.8439	
	18	4.6108	147.5000	
	19	4.8058	206.5387	
30	20	5.1075	269.6533	
	21	5.4725	337.2549	
	22	5,9059	409.9417	

Table 1

(b) Results for previous inventory model using SA

Р	D	Т	$E\{TP(T)\}$
	18	6.1208	270.0019
	19	6.8251	348.9923
25	20	7.8418	436.1137
	21	9.4297	534.8168
	22	12.4723	648.1267
	18	4.6106	146.4927
	19	4.8055	205.4829
30	20	5.1072	268.2007
	21	5.4723	335.3612
	22	5.9057	407.4016

6. Numerical Illustration

6.1. Stochastic Model

The following numerical data are used to illustrate the model:

 $C_3 = \$50, C'_3 = \$100, C_1 = \$0.75, \gamma = 0.05, \beta = 0.5, \lambda = 0.01, m_0 = 1.8, m_1 = 0.8, r = 0.1, i = 0.05$, that is $R = 0.05, \theta = 0.1, p_0 = 4$ in appropriate units.

The fuzzy simulation-based GA designed in Section 5.3 is used to solve the model. Here, the initial population size is 50, the probability of crossover is 0.3, and the probability of mutation is 0.2. After 50 iterations the results obtain are shown in Table 1(a). The optimal values of T along with maximum expected total profit have been calculated for different values of P and D, and results in GA are displayed in Table 1(a). In order to verify the feasibility of our proposed algorithm we combine a Simulated Annealing (Appendix B) to solve the same numerical example. The result using SA is displayed in Table 1(b).



Comparison of Results Using GA and SA

It is observed that in all cases genetic algorithm (GA) gives the better results than simulated annealing (SA). Also it is observed that in GA after fifty iterations we get the above results but in SA we get the results by taking more than fifty iterations. Accordingly, the performance of GA is acceptable.

Sensitivity Analysis

Sensitivity analysis is performed for stochastic model with respect to different λ , β , γ , and R values for crisp inflation, and results are presented in Tables 2, 3, 4, and 5, and Figures 2, 3, 4, and 5, respectively, when other input values are the same. It is observed that profit decreases and λ increases; when β increases, setup cost decreases and as such profit increases; also when γ increases, unit production $cost(p_0)$ decreases, as well as selling price also decreases, then profit decreases and profit decreases with R increases, which agrees with reality.

6.2. Fuzzy Stochastic Model

Here the resultant inflationary effect is considered as a triangular fuzzy number, that is, $\vec{R} = \tilde{r} - \tilde{i} = (0.095, 0.1, 0.105) - (0.045, 0.05, 0.055) = (0.04, 0.05, 0.06)$, and all other data remain the same as in stochastic model. The maximum optimistic/pessimistic return from expression (4.4), (4.5) has been calculated for different values of possibility and necessity, and results are displayed in Table 6.



Figure 3

Table 2: Results due to diffe	rent λ .
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Р	D	λ	Т	$E\{TP(T)\}$
		0.007	7.8644	461.9643
		0.008	7.8534	454.0805
		0.009	7.8419	446.4247
25	20	0.010	7.8326	438.9884
		0.011	7.8283	431.7615
		0.012	7.8177	424.7356
		0.013	7.8093	417.9023
30		0.007	5.1075	282.9747
		0.008	5.0977	278.4325
		0.009	5.0816	273.9930
	20	0.010	5.0799	269.6533
		0.011	5.0786	265.4108
		0.012	5.0769	261.2627
		0.013	5.0758	257.2064



Figure 4

Table 3: Results due to different β .

Р	D	β	Т	$E\{TP(T)\}$
		0.2	9.3221	373.6849
		0.3	8.5978	400.0143
		0.4	8.1599	421.5221
25	20	0.5	7.8419	438.9884
		0.6	7.5965	453.2203
		0.7	7.4991	464.9283
		0.8	7.4190	474.6389
		0.2	5.8613	177.7192
30	20	0.3	5.4725	217.3894
		0.4	5.2552	247.0687
		0.5	5.1075	269.6533
		0.6	4.9777	287.1854
		0.7	4.9487	301.1210
		0.8	4.9266	312.3360



Figure 5

Table 4: Results due to different	ntγ.
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Р	D	γ	Т	$E\{TP(T)\}$
		0.02	6.5440	507.8503
		0.03	7.0265	482.7838
		0.04	7.4443	459.9807
25	20	0.05	7.8419	438.9884
		0.06	8.2027	419.4875
		0.07	8.5465	401.2431
		0.08	8.8531	384.0748
30		0.02	4.4246	356.9377
	20	0.03	4.6891	324.7691
		0.04	4.8916	295.9021
		0.05	5.1075	269.6533
		0.06	5.2846	245.5345
		0.07	5.4725	223.2001
		0.08	5.6490	202.3769

Р	D	R	Т	$E\{TP(T)\}$
		0.02	9.3424	880.0032
		0.03	8.6392	671.2861
		0.04	8.1599	534.9554
25	20	0.05	7.8419	438.9884
		0.06	7.5965	367.8136
		0.07	7.4190	312.9520
		0.08	7.2623	269.3924
30		0.02	5.9199	525.9553
		0.03	5.5683	412.8959
		0.04	5.2846	330.8860
	20	0.05	5.1075	269.6533
		0.06	4.9877	222.4699
		0.07	4.8058	185.1550
		0.08	4.6982	154.9609

Table 5: Results due to different *R*.

Table 6: Results due to possibility and necessity.

Possibility	$E\{TP(T)\}$	necessity	$E\{TP(T)\}$
0.0	534.9553	0.0	438.9884
0.1	523.8795	0.1	430.9332
0.2	513.1811	0.2	423.1113
0.3	502.8303	0.3	415.5111
0.4	492.8215	0.4	408.1239
0.5	483.1319	0.5	400.9410
0.6	473.7467	0.6	393.9531
0.7	464.6526	0.7	387.1509
0.8	455.8359	0.8	380.5319
0.9	447.2855	0.9	374.0905
1.0	438.9884	1.0	367.8136

7. Conclusion

In this paper, for the first time an economic production quantity model for deteriorating items has been considered under inflation and time discounting over a stochastic time horizon. Also for the first time learning effect on production and setup cost is incorporated in an economic production quantity model. The methodology presented here is quite general and provides

a valuable reference for decision makers in the production inventory system. To solve the proposed highly nonlinear models, we have designed a fuzzy simulation based GA. The algorithm has been tested using a numerical example. The results show that the algorithms designed in the paper perform well. Finally, a future study will incorporate more realistic assumptions in the proposed model, such as variable demand and production, allowing shortages and so forth.

Appendices

A.

A.1. Calculation for Expected Sales Revenue for N Full Cycles

Present value of holding cost of the inventory for the *j*th $(1 \le j \le N)$ cycle, (HC_j) , is given by

$$\begin{split} HC_{j} = & C_{1} \int_{(j-1)T}^{(j-1)T+t_{1}} q(t) e^{-Rt} dt + C_{1} \int_{(j-1)T+t_{1}}^{jT} q(t) e^{-Rt} dt \\ = & \frac{C_{1}(P-D)}{\theta R} \Big[e^{-R(j-1)T} - e^{-R\{(j-1)T+t_{1}\}} \Big] \\ & - \frac{C_{1}(P-D)}{\theta(\theta+R)} \Big[e^{-R(j-1)T} - e^{-R\{(j-1)T+t_{1}\}-\theta t_{1}} \Big] \\ & + \frac{C_{1}D}{\theta(\theta+R)} \Big[e^{\theta jT - (\theta+R)\{(j-1)T+t_{1}\}} - e^{-RjT} \Big] \\ & + \frac{C_{1}D}{\theta R} \Big[e^{-RjT} - e^{-R\{(j-1)T+t_{1}\}} \Big]. \end{split}$$
(A.1)
Also, $\sum_{j=1}^{N} e^{-R(j-1)T} = \left(\frac{1-e^{-NRT}}{1-e^{-RT}} \right).$ (A.2)

Total holding cost from N full cycles, (HCN), is given by

$$\begin{aligned} HCN &= \sum_{j=1}^{N} HC_{j} \\ &= \left[\frac{C_{1}(P-D)}{\theta R} \left(1 - e^{-Rt_{1}} \right) - \frac{C_{1}(P-D)}{\theta(\theta+R)} \left(1 - e^{-(R+\theta)t_{1}} \right) \right. \\ &- \frac{C_{1}D}{\theta(\theta+R)} \left(1 - e^{(\theta+R)(T-t_{1})} \right) e^{-RT} \\ &+ \frac{C_{1}D}{\theta R} \left(1 - e^{R(T-t_{1})} \right) e^{-RT} \right] \left(\frac{1 - e^{-NRT}}{1 - e^{-RT}} \right). \end{aligned}$$
(A.3)

So, the present value of expected holding cost from N complete cycles, (EHCN), is given by

$$\begin{aligned} \text{EHCN} &= \sum_{N=0}^{\infty} \int_{NT}^{(N+1)T} \text{HCN. } f(h) \ dh \\ &= \left[\frac{C_1(P-D)}{\theta R} \left(\frac{1-e^{-Rt_1}}{1-e^{-RT}} \right) - \frac{C_1(P-D)}{\theta(\theta+R)} \left(\frac{1-e^{-(R+\theta)t_1}}{1-e^{-RT}} \right) \right. \\ &- \frac{C_1D}{\theta(\theta+R)} \left(\frac{1-e^{(\theta+R)(T-t_1)}}{1-e^{-RT}} \right) e^{-RT} \\ &+ \frac{C_1D}{\theta R} \left(\frac{1-e^{R(T-t_1)}}{1-e^{-RT}} \right) e^{-RT} \right] \left(1 - \frac{1-e^{-\lambda T}}{1-e^{-(R+\lambda)T}} \right). \end{aligned}$$
(A.4)

Present value of production cost for the *j*th $(1 \le j \le N)$ cycle, (PC_j) , is given by

$$PC_{j} = p_{0}e^{-\gamma j} \cdot P \int_{(j-1)T}^{(j-1)T+t_{1}} e^{-Rt} dt = \frac{p_{0}e^{-\gamma j} \cdot P}{R} \left(1 - e^{-Rt_{1}}\right)e^{-R(j-1)T}.$$
(A.5)

Present value of total production cost from N full cycles, (PCN), is given by

$$PCN = \sum_{j=1}^{N} PC_j = \frac{p_0}{R} \cdot P \cdot e^{RT} \cdot \left(1 - e^{-Rt_1}\right) \cdot e^{-(\gamma + RT)} \cdot \left(\frac{1 - e^{-N(\gamma + RT)}}{1 - e^{-(\gamma + RT)}}\right).$$
(A.6)

Present value of expected total production cost from N full cycles, (EPCN), is given by

$$EPCN = \sum_{N=0}^{\infty} \int_{NT}^{(N+1)T} PCN \cdot f(h) \ dh$$

$$= \frac{p_0}{R} \cdot P \cdot e^{RT} \cdot \left(1 - e^{-Rt_1}\right) \cdot e^{-(\gamma + RT)} \cdot \left\{\frac{e^{-\lambda T}}{\left(1 - e^{-(\gamma + RT + \lambda T)}\right)}\right\}.$$
(A.7)

Present value of ordering cost for the *j*th $(1 \le j \le N)$ cycle, C_3^j , is given by

$$C_{3}^{j} = \left\{ C_{3} + C_{3}' \cdot e^{-\beta j} \right\} \cdot e^{-R(j-1)T}, \quad C_{3}, C_{3}', \ \beta > 0.$$
(A.8)

Present value of total ordering cost from N full cycles, (TOCN), is given by

$$\text{TOCN} = \sum_{j=1}^{N} C_3^j = C_3 \left(\frac{1 - e^{-NRT}}{1 - e^{-RT}} \right) + C_3' \cdot e^{-\beta} \cdot \left(\frac{1 - e^{-N(\beta + RT)}}{1 - e^{-(\beta + RT)}} \right). \tag{A.9}$$

Present value of expected total ordering cost from N full cycles, (ETOCN), is given by

$$\begin{aligned} \text{ETOCN} &= \sum_{N=0}^{\infty} \int_{NT}^{(N+1)T} \text{TOCN} \cdot f(h) \ dh \\ &= \frac{C_3 e^{-\lambda T}}{\left(1 - e^{-(\lambda + R)T}\right)} + C'_3 \cdot e^{-\beta} \cdot \frac{e^{-\lambda T}}{\left(1 - e^{-(\beta + RT + \lambda T)}\right)}. \end{aligned} \tag{A.10}$$

Present value of sales revenue for the *j*th $(1 \le j \le N)$ cycle, (SR_j) , is given by

$$SR_{j} = m_{0} \cdot p_{0} \cdot e^{-\gamma j} \int_{(j-1)T}^{jT} D \cdot e^{-Rt} dt$$

$$= \frac{m_{0} \cdot p_{0} \cdot e^{-\gamma j} \cdot D}{R} \Big\{ e^{-R(j-1)T} - e^{-RjT} \Big\}.$$
(A.11)

Present value of total sales revenue from N full cycles, (SRN), is given by

$$SRN = \sum_{j=1}^{N} SR_j = m_0 \cdot \frac{p_0}{R} \cdot D \cdot \left(e^{RT} - 1\right) \cdot e^{-(\gamma + RT)} \cdot \left(\frac{1 - e^{-N(\gamma + RT)}}{1 - e^{-(\gamma + RT)}}\right).$$
(A.12)

Present value of expected total sales revenue from N full cycles, (ESRN), is given by

$$\begin{aligned} \text{ESRN} &= \sum_{N=0}^{\infty} \int_{NT}^{(N+1)T} \text{SRN} \cdot f(h) \ dh \\ &= m_0 \cdot \frac{p_0}{R} \cdot D \cdot \left(e^{RT} - 1 \right) \cdot e^{-(\gamma + RT)} \cdot \left\{ \frac{e^{-\lambda T}}{\left(1 - e^{-(\gamma + RT + \lambda T)} \right)} \right\}. \end{aligned}$$
(A.13)

A.2. Calculation for Expected Sales Revenue for Last Cycle

Case 1 ($NT < h \le NT + t_1$). Present value of holding cost of the inventory for the last cycle is given by

$$HC_{L1} = C_1 \int_{NT}^{h} q(t)e^{-Rt}dt$$

$$= \frac{C_1(P-D)}{\theta} \left[\frac{1}{R} \left(e^{-NRT} - e^{-Rh} \right) + \frac{1}{\theta + R} \left\{ e^{(\theta NT - \theta h - Rh)} - e^{-NRT} \right\} \right].$$
(A.14)

Present value of production cost is given by

$$PC_{L1} = p_0 \cdot e^{-\gamma(N+1)} \cdot P \int_{NT}^{h} e^{-Rt} dt$$

$$= \frac{p_0 \cdot e^{-\gamma(N+1)} \cdot P}{R} \Big[e^{-RNT} - e^{-Rh} \Big].$$
(A.15)

Present value of ordering cost is given by $\{C_3+C'_3 \cdot e^{-\beta(N+1)}\}e^{-NRT}$. Present value of sales revenue is given by

$$SR_{L1} = m_0 \cdot p_0 \cdot e^{-\gamma(N+1)} \cdot D \int_{NT}^{h} e^{-Rt} dt$$

$$= \frac{m_0 \cdot p_0 \cdot e^{-\gamma(N+1)} \cdot D}{R} \Big[e^{-RNT} - e^{-Rh} \Big].$$
(A.16)

Case 2 ($NT + t_1 < h \le (N + 1)T$). Present value of holding cost of the inventory for the last cycle is given by

$$\begin{aligned} HC_{L2} &= C_1 \int_{NT}^{NT+t_1} q(t) e^{-Rt} dt + C_1 \int_{NT+t_1}^{h} q(t) e^{-Rt} dt \\ &= \frac{C_1(P-D)}{\theta} \left[\frac{1}{R} \Big\{ e^{-NRT} - e^{-R(NT+t_1)} \Big\} + \frac{e^{\theta NT}}{\theta + R} \Big\{ e^{-(\theta + R)(NT+t_1)} - e^{-(\theta + R)NT} \Big\} \right] + \frac{C_1 D}{\theta} \\ &\times \left[\frac{1}{\theta + R} e^{\theta (N+1)T} \Big\{ e^{-(\theta + R)(NT+t_1)} - e^{-(\theta + R)h} \Big\} + \frac{1}{R} \Big\{ e^{-Rh} - e^{-R(NT+t_1)} \Big\} \right]. \end{aligned}$$
(A.17)

Present value of production cost is given by

$$PC_{L2} = p_0 \cdot e^{-\gamma(N+1)} \cdot P \int_{NT}^{NT+t_1} e^{-Rt} dt$$

$$= \frac{p_0 \cdot e^{-\gamma(N+1)} \cdot P}{R} \left[e^{-RNT} - e^{-R(NT+t_1)} \right].$$
(A.18)

Present value of ordering cost is given by $\{C_3+C'_3 \cdot e^{-\beta(N+1)}\} \cdot e^{-NRT}$. Present value of sales revenue is given by

$$SR_{L2} = m_0 \cdot p_0 \cdot e^{-\gamma(N+1)} \cdot D \int_{NT}^{NT+t_1} e^{-Rt} dt + m_0 \cdot p_0 \cdot e^{-\gamma(N+1)} \cdot D \int_{NT+t_1}^{h} e^{-Rt} dt$$

$$= \frac{m_0 \cdot p_0 \cdot e^{-\gamma(N+1)} \cdot D}{R} \Big[e^{-RNT} - e^{-Rh} \Big].$$
(A.19)

Present value of expected holding cost for the last cycle is given by

$$EHC_{L} = \sum_{N=0}^{\infty} \int_{NT}^{(N+1)T} HC_{L} \cdot f(h) dh$$
$$= \sum_{N=0}^{\infty} \int_{NT}^{NT+t_{1}} HC_{L1} \cdot f(h) dh + \sum_{N=0}^{\infty} \int_{NT+t_{1}}^{(N+1)T} HC_{L2} \cdot f(h) dh$$
$$= EHC_{L1} + EHC_{L2},$$
(A.20)

where

$$\begin{split} \operatorname{EHC}_{L1} &= \frac{C_{1}(P-D)}{\theta} \left[\frac{1}{R} \left(1 - e^{-\lambda t_{1}} \right) - \frac{\lambda}{R(R+\lambda)} \left\{ 1 - e^{-(\lambda+R)t_{1}} \right\} \\ &+ \frac{\lambda}{(\theta+R)(\theta+R+\lambda)} \left\{ 1 - e^{-(\theta+R+\lambda)t_{1}} \right\} \end{split}$$
(A.21)
$$&- \frac{1}{\theta+R} \left(1 - e^{-\lambda t_{1}} \right) \right] \frac{1}{1 - e^{-(\lambda+R)T}}, \\ \operatorname{EHC}_{L2} &= \frac{C_{1}(P-D)}{\theta} \left[\frac{1}{R} \left(e^{-Rt_{1}} - 1 \right) \left(e^{-\lambda T} - e^{-\lambda t_{1}} \right) \right] \\ &+ \frac{1}{\theta+R} \left\{ 1 - e^{-(\theta+R)t_{1}} \right\} \left(e^{-\lambda T} - e^{-\lambda t_{1}} \right) \right] \frac{1}{1 - e^{-(\lambda+R)T}} \\ &+ \frac{\lambda e^{\theta T}}{(\theta+R)(\theta+R+\lambda)} \left\{ e^{-(\theta+R+\lambda)T} - e^{-(\theta+R+\lambda)t_{1}} \right\} \\ &- \frac{\lambda}{R(R+\lambda)} \left\{ e^{-(R+\lambda)T} - e^{-(R+\lambda)t_{1}} \right\} \\ &+ \frac{1}{R} \left(e^{-\lambda T} - e^{-\lambda t_{1}} \right) e^{-Rt_{1}} \right] \frac{1}{1 - e^{-(\lambda+R)T}}. \end{split}$$

Present value of expected production cost for the last cycle is given by

$$\begin{aligned} \text{EPC}_{L} &= \sum_{N=0}^{\infty} \int_{NT}^{(N+1)T} PC_{L} \cdot f(h) dh \\ &= \sum_{N=0}^{\infty} \int_{NT}^{NT+t_{1}} PC_{L1} \cdot f(h) dh + \sum_{N=0}^{\infty} \int_{NT+t_{1}}^{(N+1)T} PC_{L2} \cdot f(h) dh \\ &= \frac{p_{0} \cdot e^{-\gamma} \cdot P}{R} \bigg[\left(1 - e^{-\lambda t_{1}} \right) \cdot \frac{1}{\left(1 - e^{-(RT + \lambda T + \gamma)} \right)} + \frac{\lambda}{(R + \lambda)} \bigg\{ \frac{e^{-(R + \lambda)t_{1}} - 1}{\left(1 - e^{-(RT + \lambda T + \gamma)} \right)} \bigg\} \bigg] \\ &+ \frac{p_{0} \cdot e^{-\gamma} \cdot P}{R} \bigg[\left(1 - e^{-Rt_{1}} \right) \cdot \left(e^{-\lambda t_{1}} - e^{-\lambda T} \right) \cdot \frac{1}{\left(1 - e^{-(RT + \lambda T + \gamma)} \right)} \bigg]. \end{aligned}$$
(A.23)

Present value of expected sales revenue from the last cycle is given by

$$\begin{split} \mathrm{ESR}_{L} &= \sum_{N=0}^{\infty} \int_{NT}^{(N+1)T} SR_{L} \cdot f(h) dh \\ &= \sum_{N=0}^{\infty} \int_{NT}^{NT+t_{1}} SR_{L1} \cdot f(h) dh + \sum_{N=0}^{\infty} \int_{NT+t_{1}}^{(N+1)T} SR_{L2} \cdot f(h) dh \\ &= \frac{m_{0} \cdot p_{0} \cdot D}{R} \cdot e^{-\gamma} \cdot \left[\left(1 - e^{-\lambda T} \right) \cdot \frac{1}{\left(1 - e^{-(RT + \lambda T + \gamma)} \right)} \right] \\ &+ \frac{\lambda}{(R+\lambda)} \left(e^{-(R+\lambda)T} - 1 \right) \cdot \frac{1}{\left(1 - e^{-(RT + \lambda T + \gamma)} \right)} \right]. \end{split}$$
(A.24)

Present value of expected ordering cost for the last cycle is given by

$$EOC_{L} = \sum_{N=0}^{\infty} \int_{NT}^{(N+1)T} \left\{ C_{3} + C_{3}' \cdot e^{-\beta(N+1)} \right\} \cdot e^{-NRT} f(h) dh$$

$$= C_{3} \frac{(1 - e^{-\lambda T})}{(1 - e^{-(\lambda + R)T})} + C_{3}' \cdot e^{-\beta} \cdot \frac{(1 - e^{-\lambda T})}{(1 - e^{-(\beta + \lambda T + RT)})}.$$
(A.25)

Present value of expected reduced selling price from the last cycle is given by

$$\begin{aligned} \text{ERSP}_{L} &= m_{1} p_{0} \sum_{N=0}^{\infty} e^{-\gamma (N+1)} \int_{NT}^{(N+1)T} e^{-Rh} q(h) \cdot f(h) dh \\ &= m_{1} p_{0} e^{-\gamma} \sum_{N=0}^{\infty} e^{-\gamma N} \int_{NT}^{NT+t_{1}} e^{-Rh} q(h) \cdot f(h) dh \\ &+ m_{1} p_{0} e^{-\gamma} \sum_{N=0}^{\infty} e^{-\gamma N} \int_{NT+t_{1}}^{(N+1)T} e^{-Rh} q(h) \cdot f(h) dh \\ &= \text{ERSP}_{L1} + \text{ERSP}_{L2}, \end{aligned}$$
(A.26)

where

$$\operatorname{ERSP}_{L1} = \frac{m_1 p_0 e^{-\gamma} \lambda (P - D)}{\theta} \left[\frac{1}{R + \lambda} \left\{ 1 - e^{-(R + \lambda)t_1} \right\} - \frac{1}{R + \theta + \lambda} \left\{ 1 - e^{-(R + \lambda + \theta)t_1} \right\} \right] \frac{1}{1 - e^{-(\gamma + RT + \lambda T)}},$$

$$\operatorname{ERSP}_{L2} = \frac{m_1 p_0 e^{-\gamma} \lambda D}{\theta} \left[\frac{1}{R + \lambda + \theta} \left\{ e^{-(R + \lambda + \theta)t_1} - e^{-(R + \lambda + \theta)T} \right\} e^{\theta T} + \frac{1}{R + \lambda} \left\{ e^{-(R + \lambda)T} - e^{-(R + \lambda)t_1} \right\} \right] \frac{1}{1 - e^{-(\gamma + RT + \lambda T)}}.$$

$$(A.27)$$

B. Simulated Annealing

SA is a stochastic search algorithm developed by mimicking the physical process of evolution of a solid in a heat bath to thermal equilibrium. In the early 1980s Kirkpatrick et al. [27, 28] and independently Cerny [29] introduced the concept of annealing in optimization.

Consider an ensemble of molecules at a high temperature, which are moving around freely. Since physical systems tend towards lower energy states, the molecules are likely to move to the positions that lower the energy of the ensemble as a whole, as the system cools down. However molecules actually move to positions which increase the energy of the system with a probability $e^{-\Delta E/T'}$, where ΔE is the increase in the energy of the system and T' is the current temperature. If the ensemble is allowed to cool down slowly, it will eventually promote a regular crystal, which is the optimal state rather than flawed solid, the poor local minima.

In function optimization, a similar process can be defined. This process can be formulated as the problem of finding a solution, among a potentially very large number of solutions, with minimum cost. By considering the cost function of the proposed system as the free energy and the possible solutions as the physical states, a solution method was introduced by Kirkpatrick in the field of optimization based on a simulation of the physical annealing process. This method is called Simulated Annealing. The Simulated Annealing algorithm to solve such problems is given below.

- (1) Start with some state, S.
- (2) $T'=T'_0$
- (3) Repeat {
- (4) While (not at equilibrium) {
- (5) Perturb S to get a new state S_n
- (6) $\Delta E = E(S_n) E(S)$
- (7) If $\Delta E < 0$
- (8) Replace S with S_n
- (9) Else with probability $e^{-\Delta E/T'}$
- (10) Replace S with S_n
- (11) }
- (12) T'=C * T' / * 0 < C < 1 * /
- (13) } Until (frozen)

In this algorithm, the state, *S*, becomes the state (approximate solution) of the problem in question rather than the ensemble of molecules. Energy, *E*, corresponds to the quality of *S* and is determined by a cost function used to assign a value to the state and temperature, *T'* is a control parameter used to guide the process of finding a low cost state where T'_0 is the initial value of *T'* and *C* (0 < C < 1) is a constant used to decrease the value of *T'*. Procedures of SA Functions

- (a) *Representation*. A "*K*-dimensional real vector" $S=(s_1, s_2, ..., s_K)$ is used to represent a solution, where $s_1, s_2, ..., s_K$ represent different decision variables of the problem under optimization.
- (b) *Initialization*. In this step an initial solution from the search space is generated. Different components $s_1, s_2, ..., s_K$ are randomly generated from their bounds such that constraints of the problem are satisfied. This solution is taken as initial state S in the above algorithm.
- (c) *Perturbation Function*. To find a neighbour solution of $S = (s_1, s_2, ..., s_K)$, a random integer *r* is selected in the range [1...K]. Then s_r is replaced by randomly generated value within the boundary of the *r*th component of S or a random number r_1 is generated between -0.25 and +0.25 using random number generator, and s_r is replaced by $s_r + r_1$, so that S satisfies constraints of the problem. Final solution is taken as neighbour solution of S.
- (d) *Energy Function*. Value of the objective function (f) due to solution S, f(S), is taken as energy of S if the problem is of minimization type otherwise -f(S) is taken as the energy function of the solution S.
- (e) *Cooling Schedule*. Initial temperature T'_0 is taken according to different parameter values of the energy function, and reducing factor for T' (temperature), *C* is taken as 0.999.

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