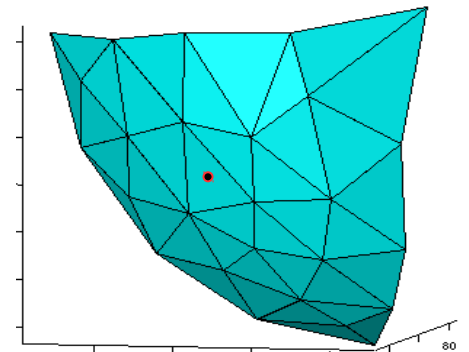


# Automatic treatment planning – an MCO perspective

David Craft

Massachusetts General Hospital

AAPM Annual Meeting 2012  
Charlotte, NC

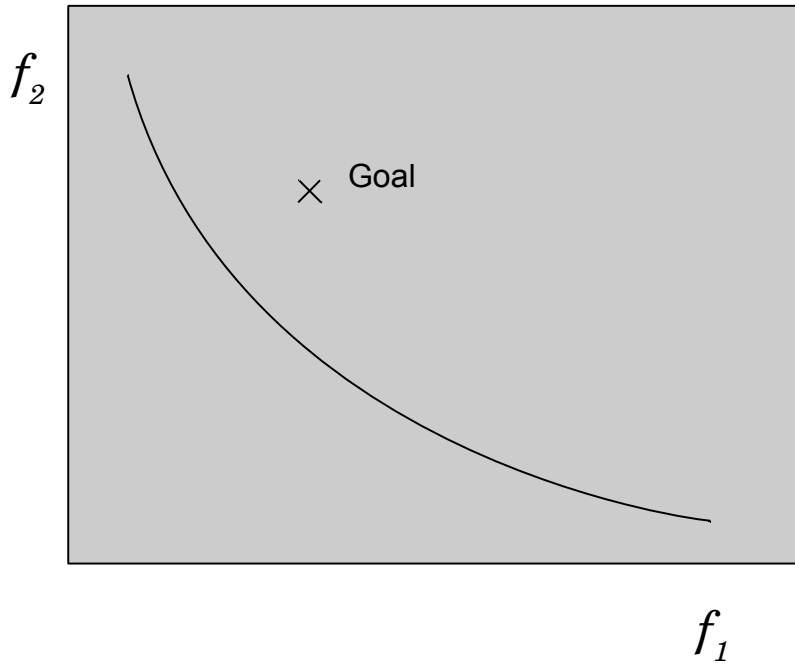


# Outline

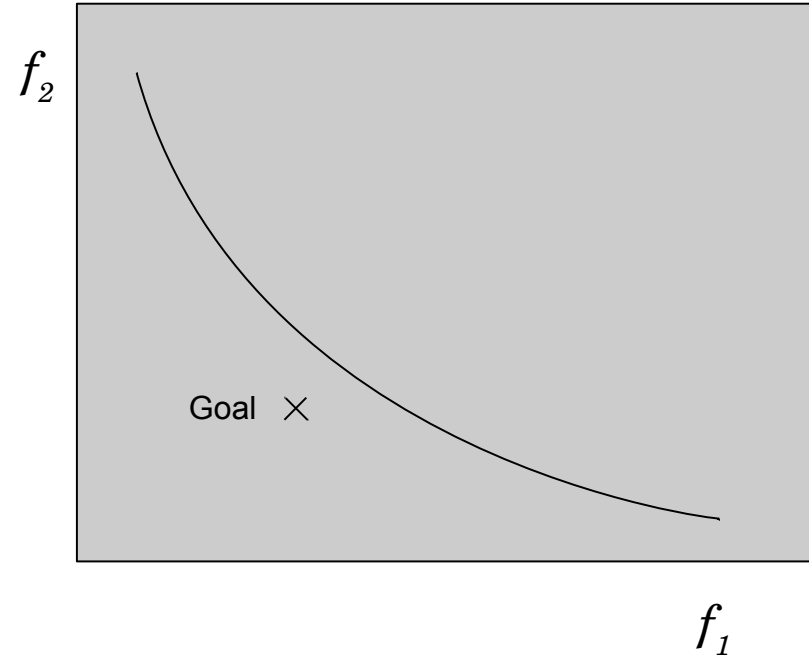
- Overview of types of multi-criteria optimization:
  - Goal programming (GP)
  - Prioritized or lexicographic optimization (LO)
  - Pareto surface based navigation (PS)
- PS-MCO as a refinement tool
- Directly deliverable PS-MCO
- Summary and Conclusions

# Goal Programming (GP)

$$\text{Min } \{f_1, f_2\}$$



Case 1: goal attainable but could do better

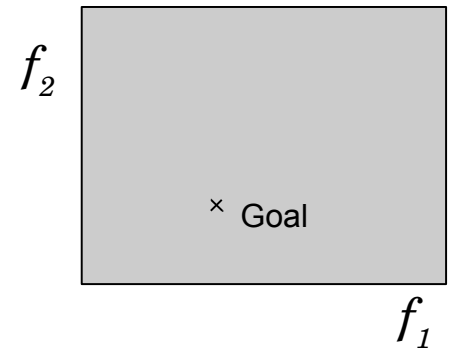


Case 2: goal unattainable

# Goal Programming (GP)

Formulation: min sum of (positive) deviations from goals:

$$\begin{aligned} \min \quad & \sum s_i \\ & s_i \geq 0 \\ & s_i \geq f_i(x) - g_i \end{aligned}$$



Difficulties:

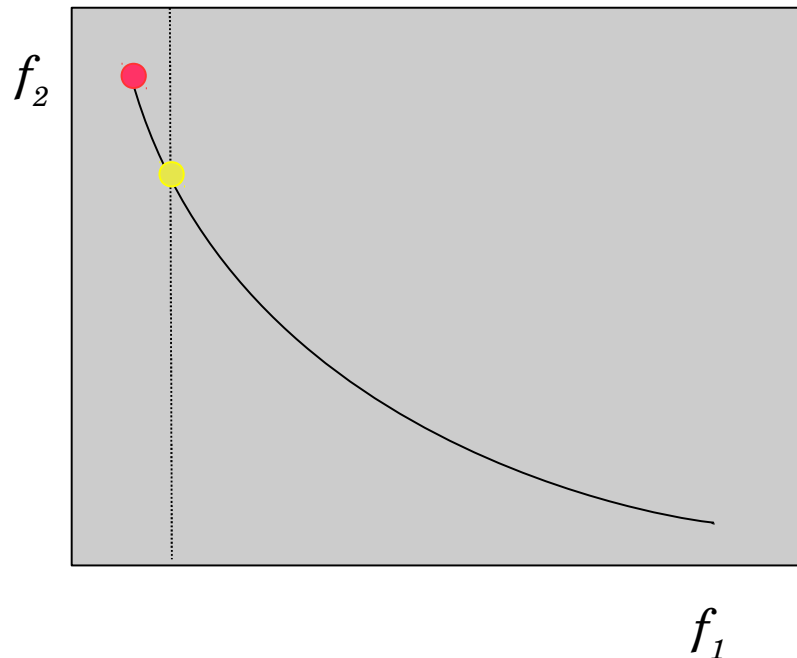
- 1) Non-convex objectives (DVH based) and non-convex step and shoot optimization
- 2) In either case 1 or case 2, some freedom to select where to be. How to decide?

Fix for 1: use EUDs and use sliding window with exact fluence map sequencing.

Fix for 2: ?

# Lexicographic, or prioritized, optimization (LO)

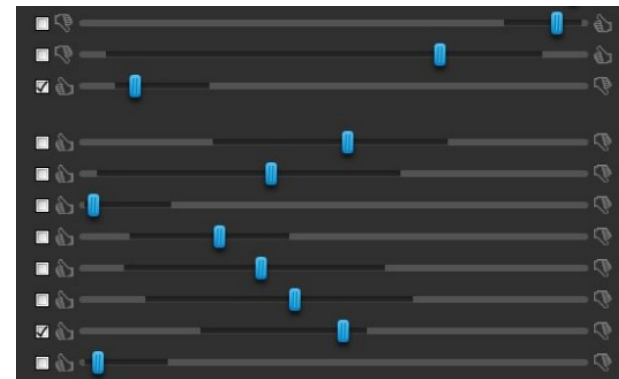
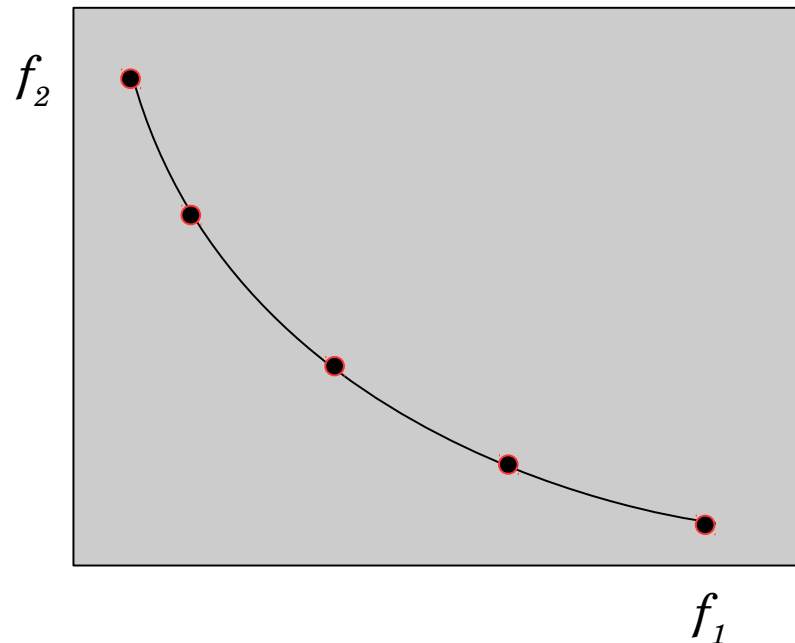
$f_1$  is highest priority, then  $f_2$  etc. So, optimize in that natural order.



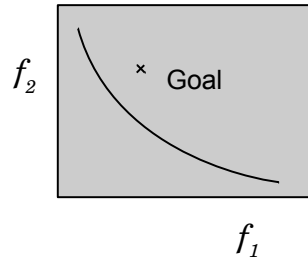
- Result of  $\min f_1$
- Result of  $\min f_2$ , subject to  $f_1$  close to its optimal

# Pareto surface based (PS)

Compute an approximation of the entire tradeoff surface and allow interactive navigation on the surface.

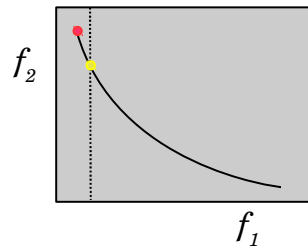


# Which of these are “automated treatment planning”?



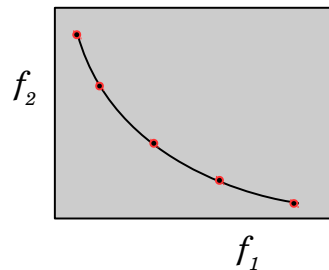
Goal programming : **YES**

---



Lexicographic : **YES**

---



Pareto surface : **NO**

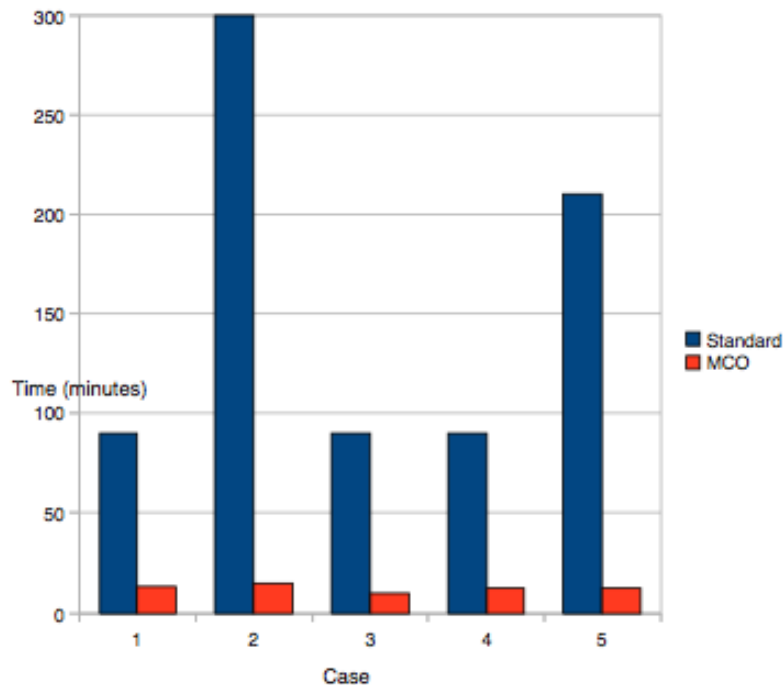
# What does PS MCO have to do with automated treatment planning?

—————→ One similar goal: make treatment planning a lot faster



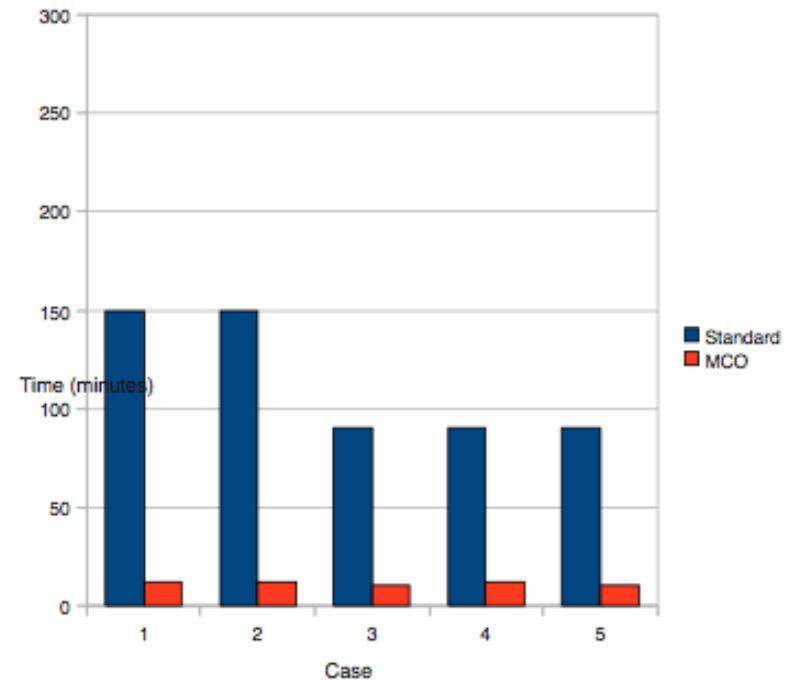
# MCO reduces treatment planning time

## Brain cases



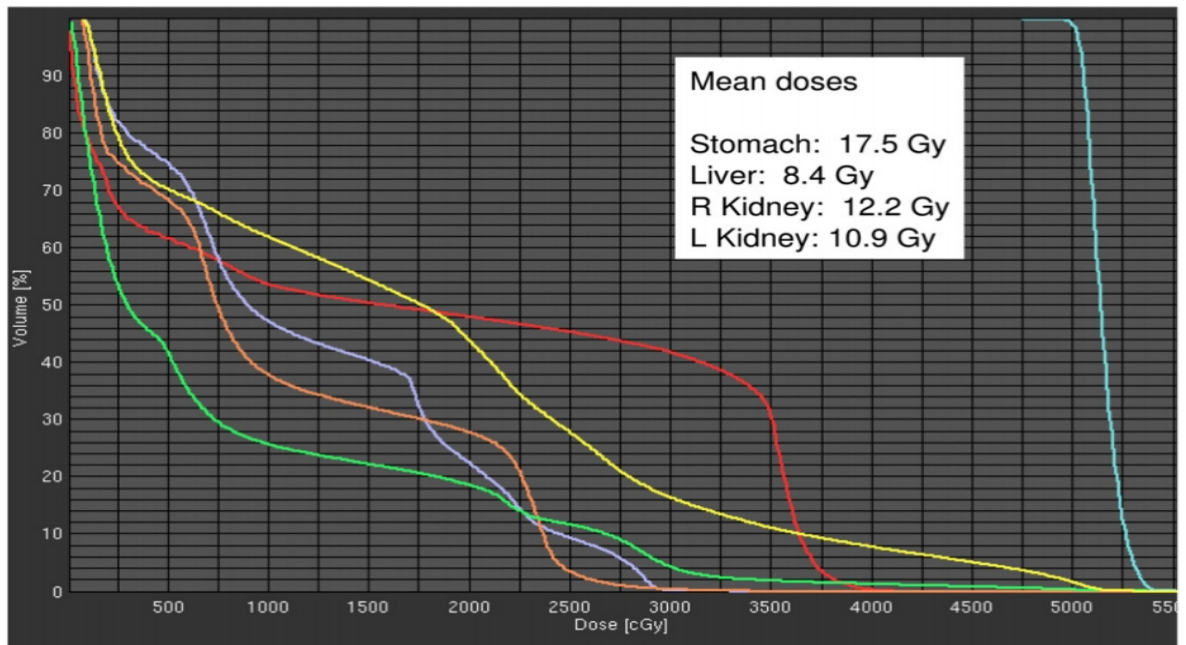
Standard:  $159 \pm 96$  minutes  
MCO:  $12 \pm 2$  minutes

## Pancreas cases

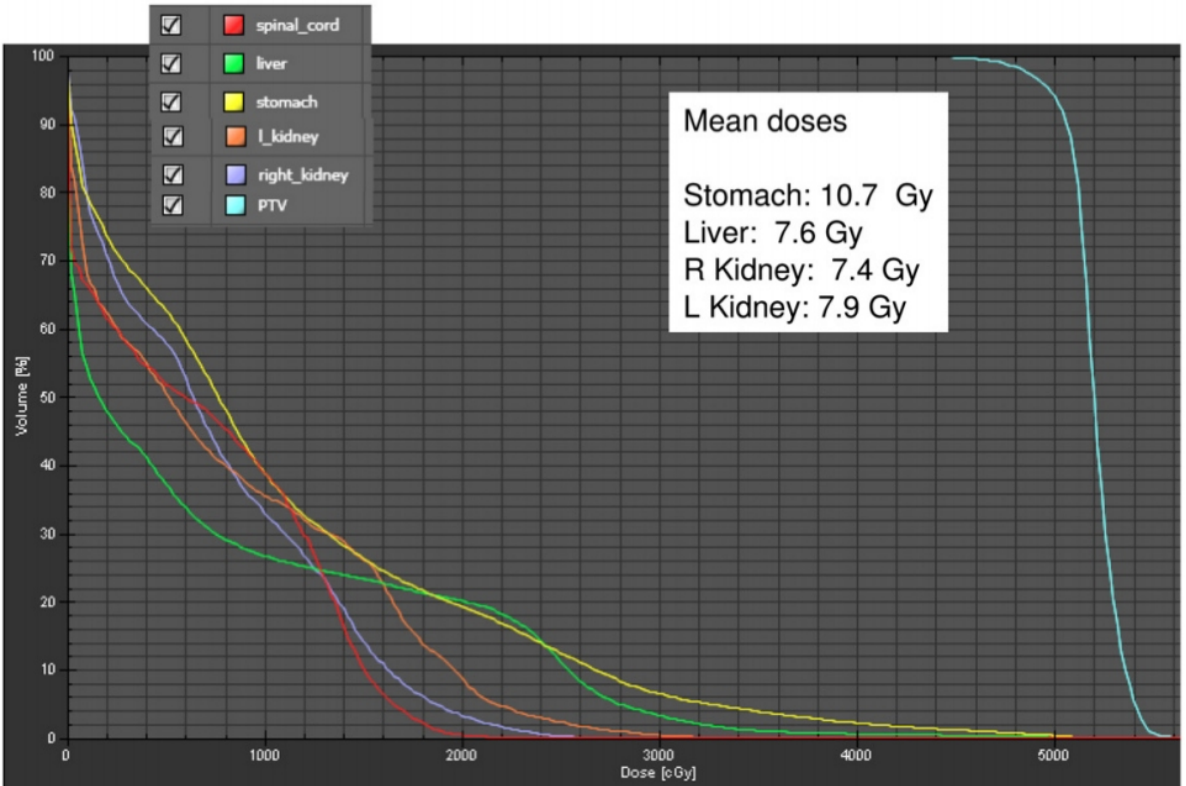


Standard:  $114 \pm 13$  minutes  
MCO:  $12 \pm 1$  minutes

Physician involvement time increased from 5 to 10 minutes, but was deemed well worth it



Standard plan (used for treatment)



Physician navigated plan

Quantitative conclusion:  
For all cases,  
physicians later blindly  
preferred MCO plans  
in all cases.

Qualitative conclusion → A little PTV DVH rounding goes a long way

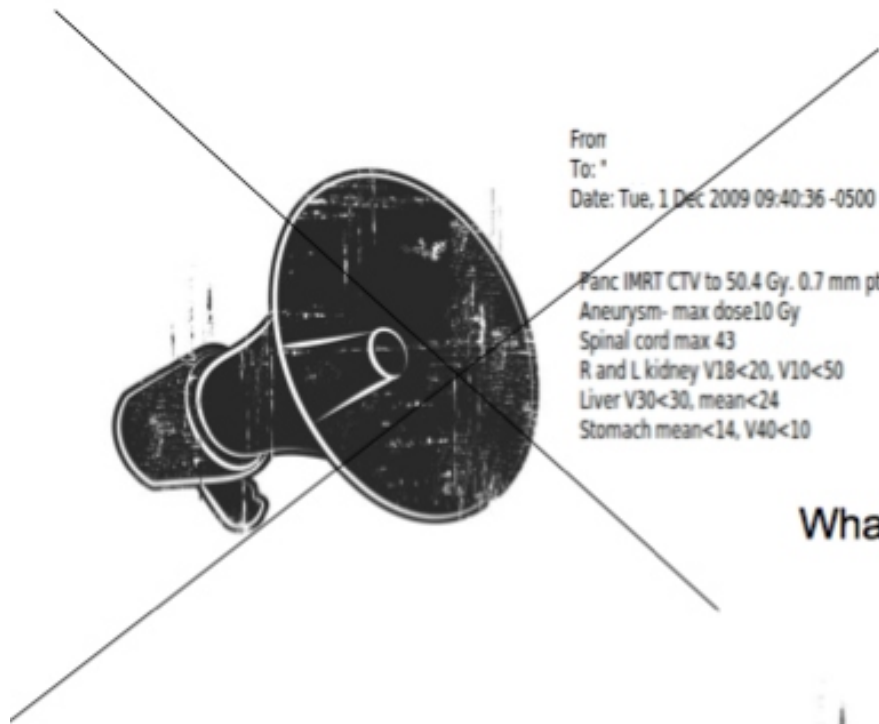
MGH MCO planning studies have spotlighted that:  
*with standard planning, the issue is the impossibility  
of succinctly conveying physician wishes to planners*



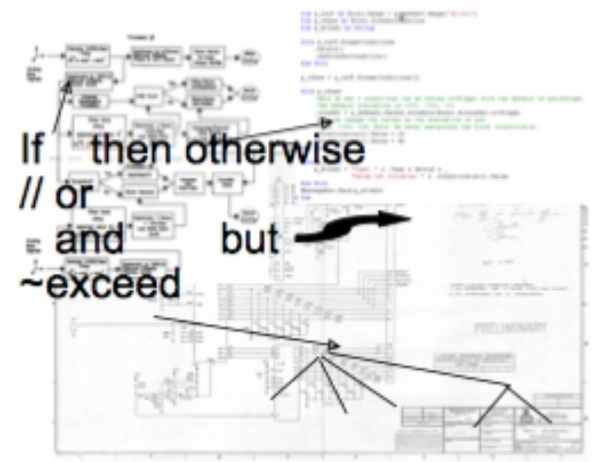
From  
To: "  
Date: Tue, 1 Dec 2009 09:40:36 -0500

Panc IMRT CTV to 50.4 Gy. 0.7 mm ptv exp  
Aneurysm- max dose 10 Gy  
Spinal cord max 43  
R and L kidney V18<20, V10<50  
Liver V30<30, mean<24  
Stomach mean<14, V40<10

*...the impossibility of succinctly conveying physician wishes to planners*



What they really want to



# Point / counterpoint

Maybe we want more *objectivity*, more *standards* in treatment planning, and we don't want a system for planners (physicians) to play around with and exercise their “gut feel”.

For the proposal

- .
- .
- .
- .
- .

Against the proposal

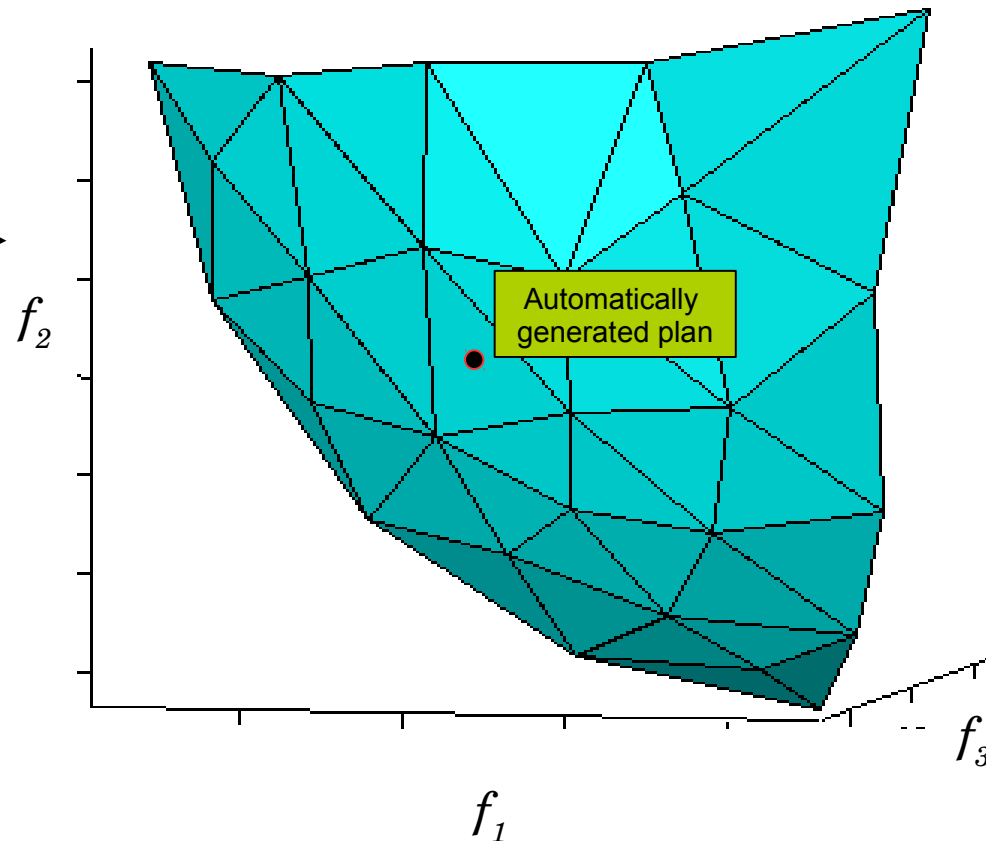
- .
- .
- .
- .
- .



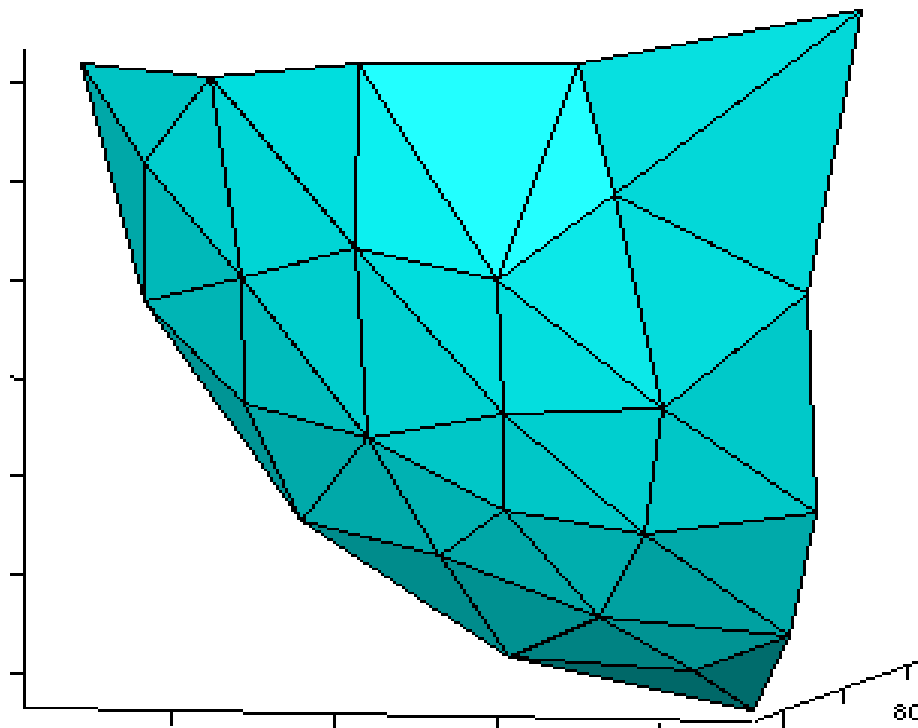
# PS navigation as a refinement tool

After automatically generated plan, planner or physician gets the chance to refine the plan.

Build a Pareto surface around the automatically generated plan.



# Directly deliverable navigation



To avoid the

*“plan breaks down after MLC  
segmentation”*

loop.

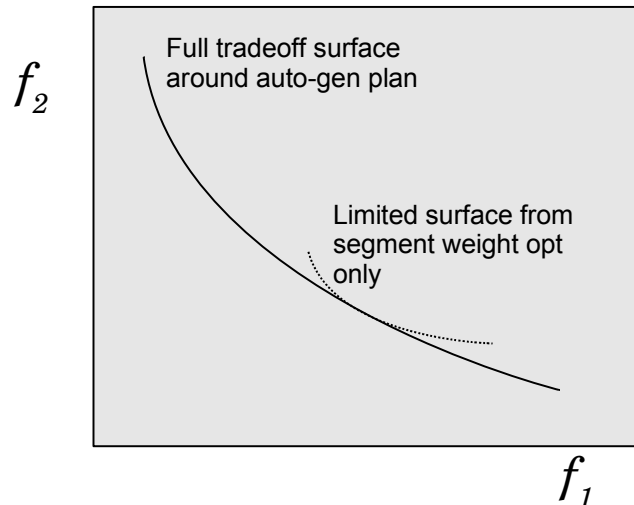
# 3 approaches for directly deliverable navigation

## Step and shoot

1

easy

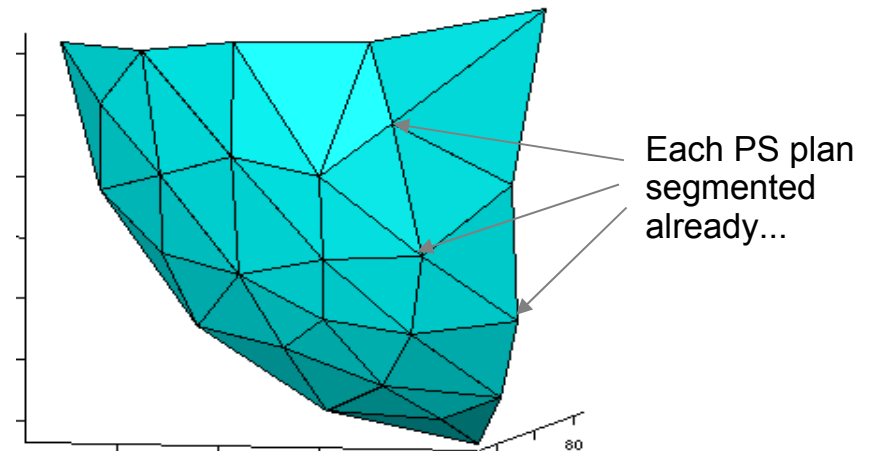
\* Fix the segments and just vary their weights (easy, but limited surface for exploring)



2

hard

\* Have segments changing as you traverse the entire surface.



3

hard

Dynamic sliding window exact delivery of fluence maps

\* Dose computation specialized for this setting.

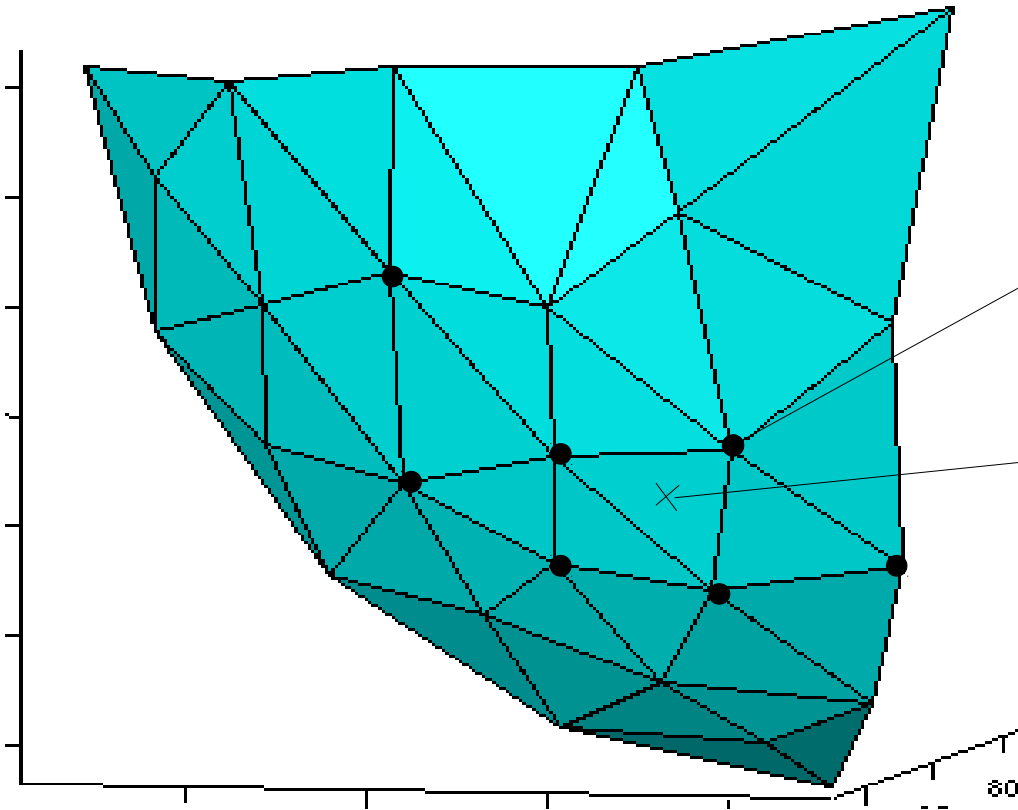
\* Applicable to sliding window VMAT (see VMERGE, Craft et al 2012, *med phys*)



# Directly deliverable navigation

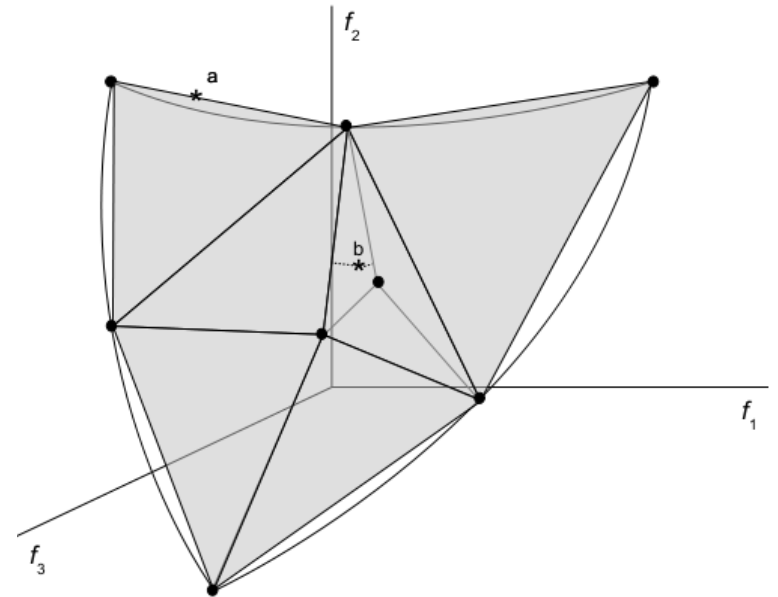
2

1) Segment the base plans with limited number of segments.



Each pre-computed Pareto optimal plan is fully segmented with final dose calculation.

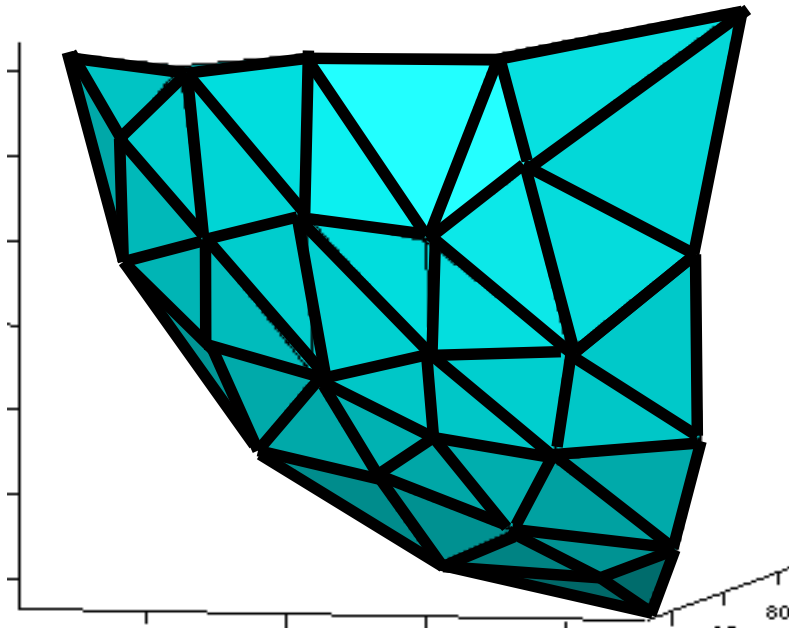
But what about smooth navigation to an averaged plan?



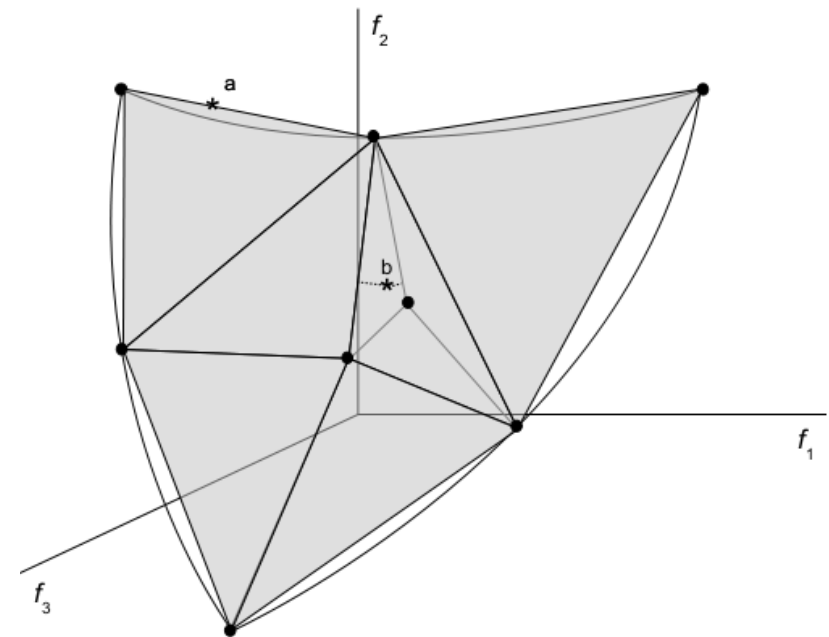
# Directly deliverable navigation

2

2) During navigation, limit the number of plans needed to form the current averaged plan.



For example, here with  $N=3$ , only allow combinations of two plans. That is, stay on the thick black lines.



# Directly deliverable navigation

2

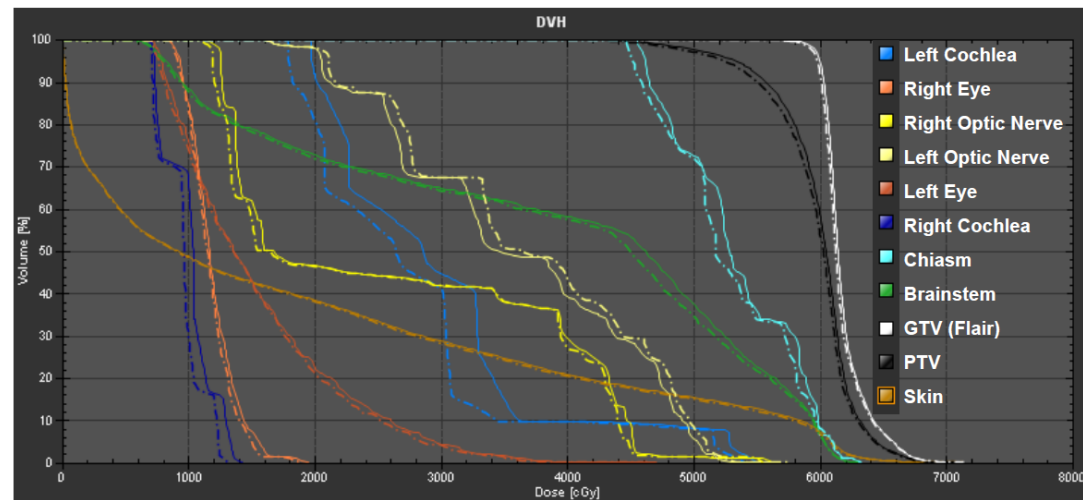
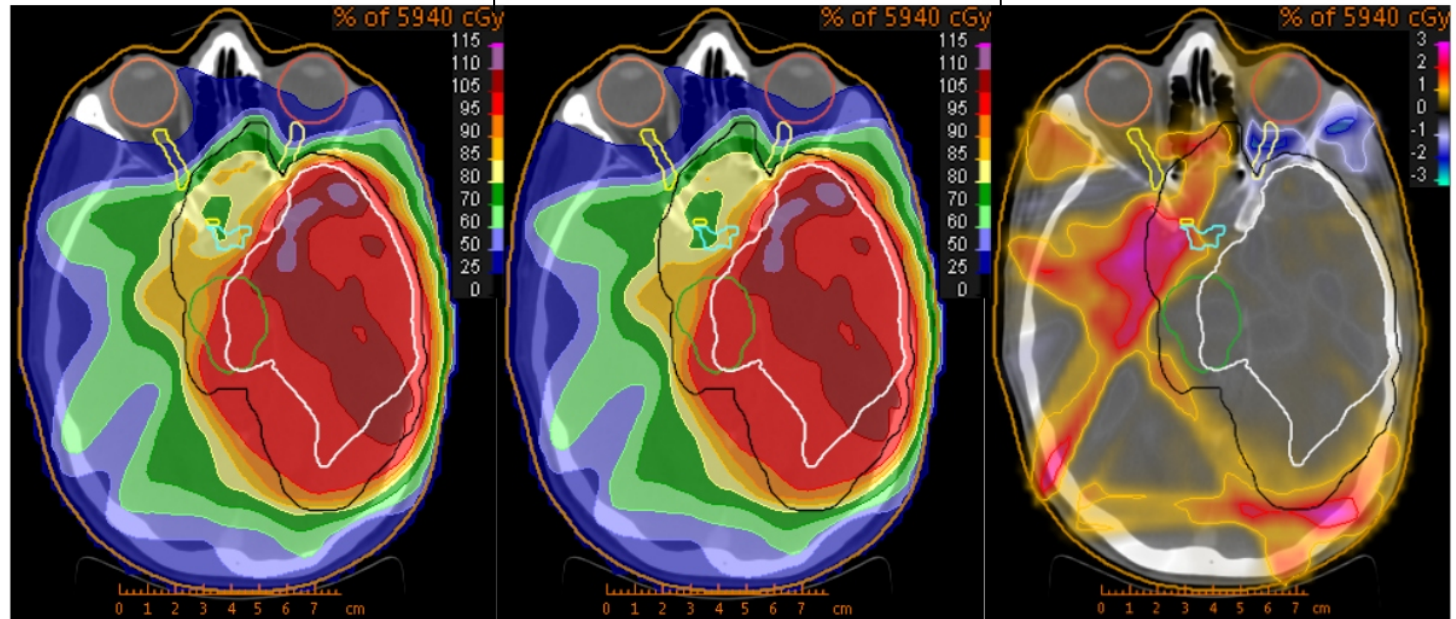
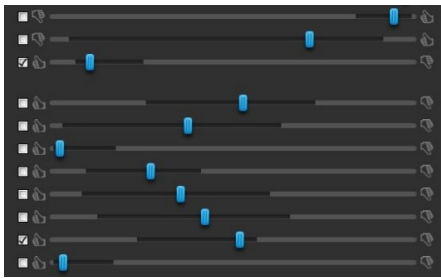
2) During navigation, limit the number of plans needed to form the current averaged plan.

6 plans used for averaging,  
unrestricted navigation

3 plans,  
restricted navigation

Dose difference

11 dimensional tradeoff surface



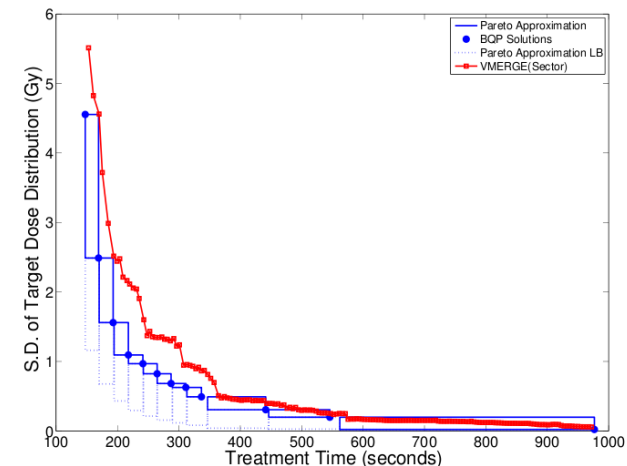
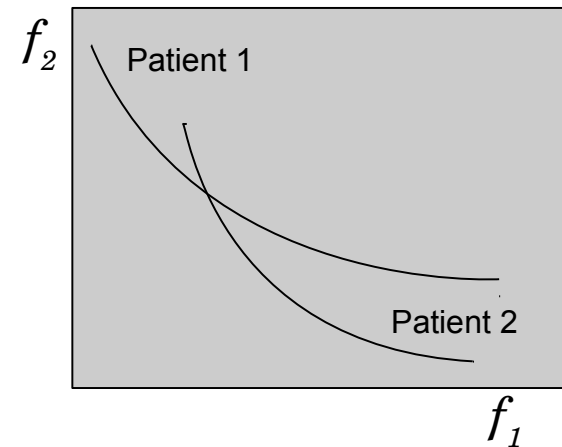
(in progress, D. Craft and C. Richter)

# Concluding thoughts

## Key difficulties of solving the IMRT problem in one shot:

\* dosimetric tradeoffs are patient specific (for some patient, if you give a little in one organ, might gain a lot somewhere else)

\* plan quality vs plan delivery time is another clinically relevant tradeoff to consider



Salari et al, Network VMAT, 2012

Recommended strategy for 'automated treatment planning': use GP or LO to automatically generate a high quality plan, and then use directly deliverable PS-MCO as an intuitive way to explore the local tradeoff region around that plan.

# Thanks!



Thomas Bortfeld, Ehsan Salari, Judy Adams, Wei Chen, Jan Unkelbach, Jeremiah Wala, Christian Richter, Tarek Halabi, Dualta McQuaid, Ted Hong, Helen Shih, Hanne Kooy, Tom Madden, the ITWM team, the RaySearch team.

		Probability [%]	Number of plans allowed								
			1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	
Number of plans used	1	0.3	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	2	10.2	0.92±0.06	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	3	35.4	0.87±0.06	0.97±0.03	1	-	-	-	-	-	-
	4	31.5	0.84±0.06	0.95±0.03	0.98±0.01	1	-	-	-	-	-
	5	16.9	0.83±0.06	0.93±0.03	0.97±0.02	0.99±0.01	1	-	-	-	-
	6	5.1	0.81±0.06	0.92±0.03	0.96±0.02	0.98±0.01	0.99±0.01	1	-	-	-
	7	0.6	0.79±0.07	0.9±0.04	0.95±0.02	0.97±0.02	0.99±0.01	0.99±0.01	1	-	-
	8	0.1	0.78±0.08	0.89±0.06	0.94±0.04	0.96±0.02	0.98±0.01	0.99±0.01	1.00±0.00	1	1

Figure 8: Plan quality matrix: Plan quality in dependence of both, the initial number of plans and the number of plans after application of the restriction. Different colors indicate different plan quality levels. Given uncertainties represent the standard deviation. Additionally also the probability for the number of plans in the initial plan is given based on the 12000 generated random points on the Pareto surface.