

# Last class

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- Hill-climbing search
- Simulated annealing
- Local beam search
- Local search for continuous spaces
- Evolutionary algorithms



Local  
search

# Heuristic Search and Evolutionary Algorithms

## Lecture 5: Evolutionary Algorithms – Origins, Components and Applications

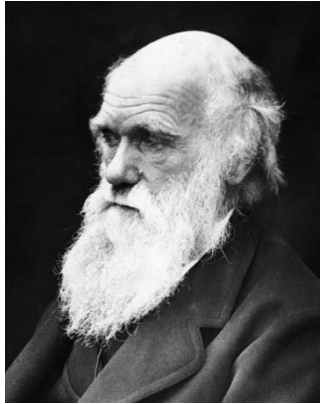
Chao Qian (钱超)

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Email: [qianc@nju.edu.cn](mailto:qianc@nju.edu.cn)

Homepage: <http://www.lamda.nju.edu.cn/qianc/>

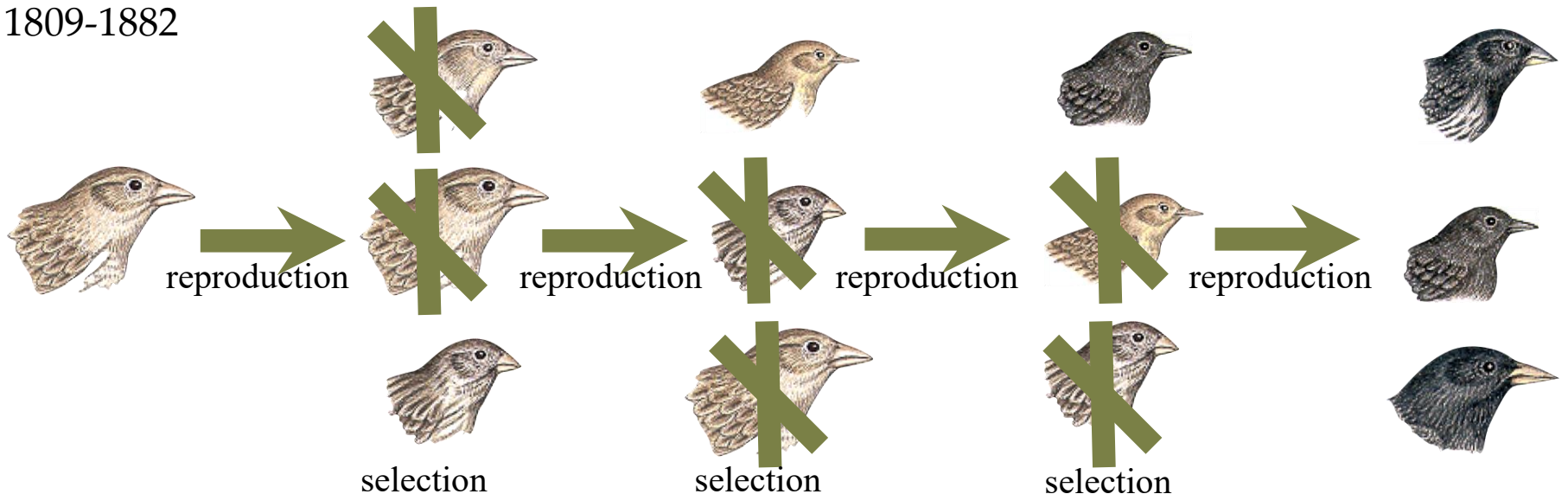
# Biological evolution



Charles Darwin  
1809-1882

C. Darwin, after collecting abundant evidence, developed a theory about how species evolve

**reproduction with variation + nature selection**



# Optimization

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With the development of computing technology

Curious researchers started to implement Darwin's theory of evolution in computer, and found connections to *optimization*

Optimization:

*how to put as much stuff as possible into a fixed size container?*



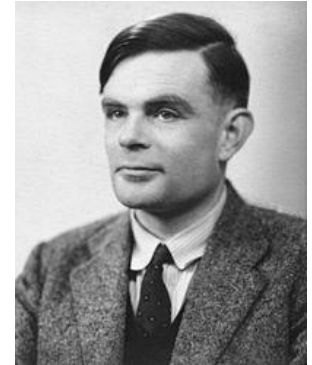
Formally:  $\arg \max_{x \in \mathcal{X}} f(x)$  every  $x$  is an arrangement of objects  
 $f$  counts the number of objects in the container

# Evolutionary optimization

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In 1950, Turing described how evolution might be used for his optimization:

*building intelligent machine*



Alan Turing  
1912-1954

“We have thus divided our problem into two parts. The child programme and the education process. These two remain very closely connected. We cannot expect to find a good child machine at the first attempt. One must experiment with teaching one such machine and see how well it learns. One can then try another and see if it is better or worse. There is an obvious connection between this process and evolution, by the identifications

Structure of the child machine = Hereditary material

Changes of the child machine = Mutations

Judgment of the experimenter = Natural selection” (The last equation swapped)

[A. M. Turing. Computing machinery and intelligence. Mind 49: 433-460, 1950.]

# The origins

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## Genetic Algorithms (GA) for optimization in discrete domains

[J. H. Holland. *Outline for a logical theory of adaptive systems*. JACM, 1962]

University of Michigan

J. H. Holland  
1929-2015



## Evolutionary Strategies (ES) for optimization in continuous domains

[I. Rechenberg. *Cybernetic solution path of an experimental problem*. 1965]

Technical University of Berlin

I. Rechenberg  
1934-2021



## Evolutionary Programming (EP) for optimizing finite state machines (agents)

[L. J. Fogel, A. J. Owens, M. J. Walsh. *Artificial Intelligence through Simulated Evolution*. 1966]

University of California, Los Angeles

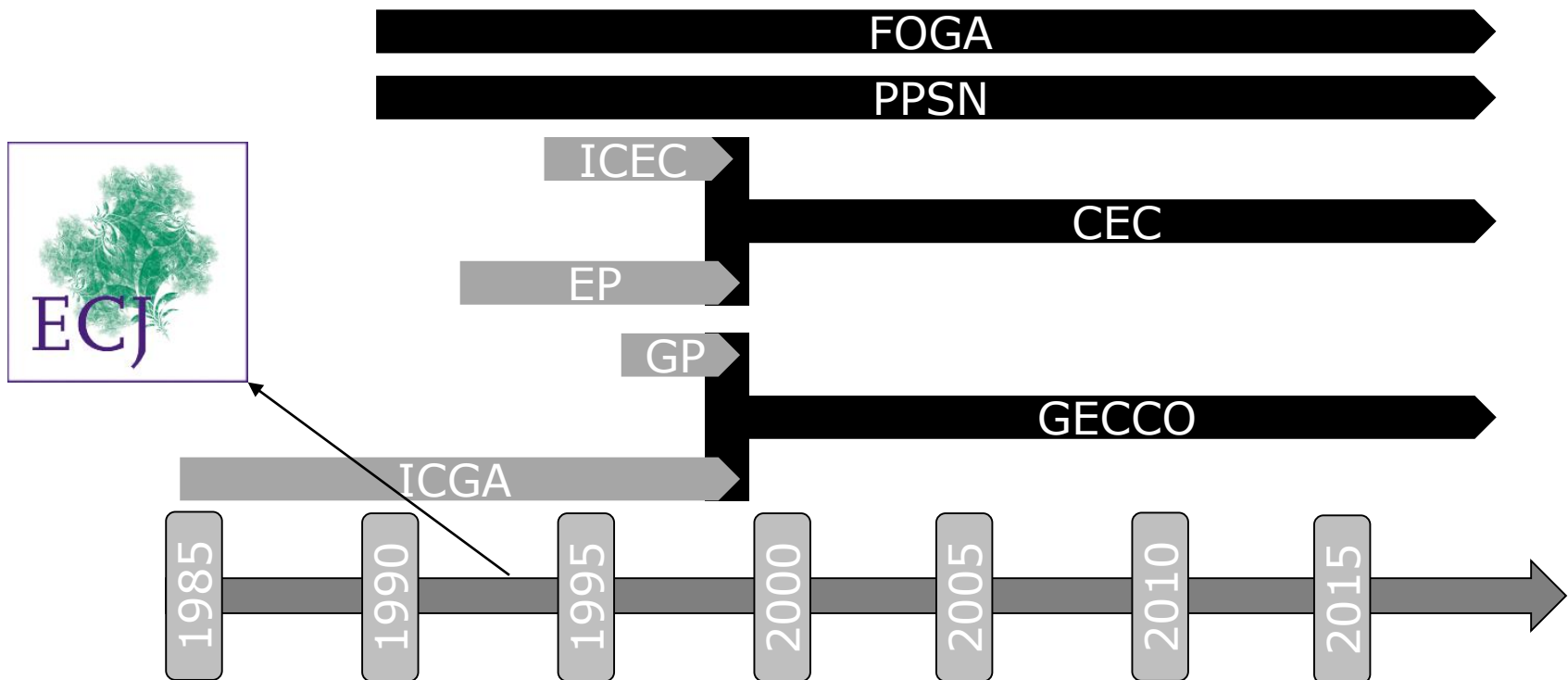
L. J. Fogel  
1928-2007

# The origins

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The research of GA, ES and EP was done independently from 1960s to 1980s, and unified to one field

“**Evolutionary Computation**” in 1990s



# Main conferences and journals

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## Four main conferences

- IEEE Congress on Evolutionary Computation (CEC)
- ACM Conference on Genetic and Evolutionary Computation (GECCO)
- International Conference on Parallel Problem Solving from Nature (PPSN)
- ACM Conference on Foundations of Genetic Algorithms (FOGA)

## Three main journals

- Evolutionary Computation Journal (ECJ, MIT Press, 1993)
- IEEE Trans. on Evolutionary Computation (TEvC)
- ACM Trans. on Evolutionary Learning and Optimization (TELO)



# Evolutionary algorithms

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Genetic Algorithms (GA)  
for optimization in discrete domains

[J. H. Holland. *Outline for a logical theory of adaptive systems*. JACM, 1962]



Evolutionary Strategies (ES)  
for optimization in continuous domains

[I. Rechenberg. *Cybernetic solution path of an experimental problem*. 1965]



Evolutionary Programming (EP)  
for optimizing finite state machines

[L. J. Fogel, A. J. Owens, M. J. Walsh. *Artificial Intelligence through Simulated Evolution*. 1966]

Other variants:

Genetic Programming  
Differential Evolution

...

Other heuristics inspired from nature:

Ant Colony Optimization  
Particle Swarm Optimization

...

**Evolutionary algorithms (EAs)**

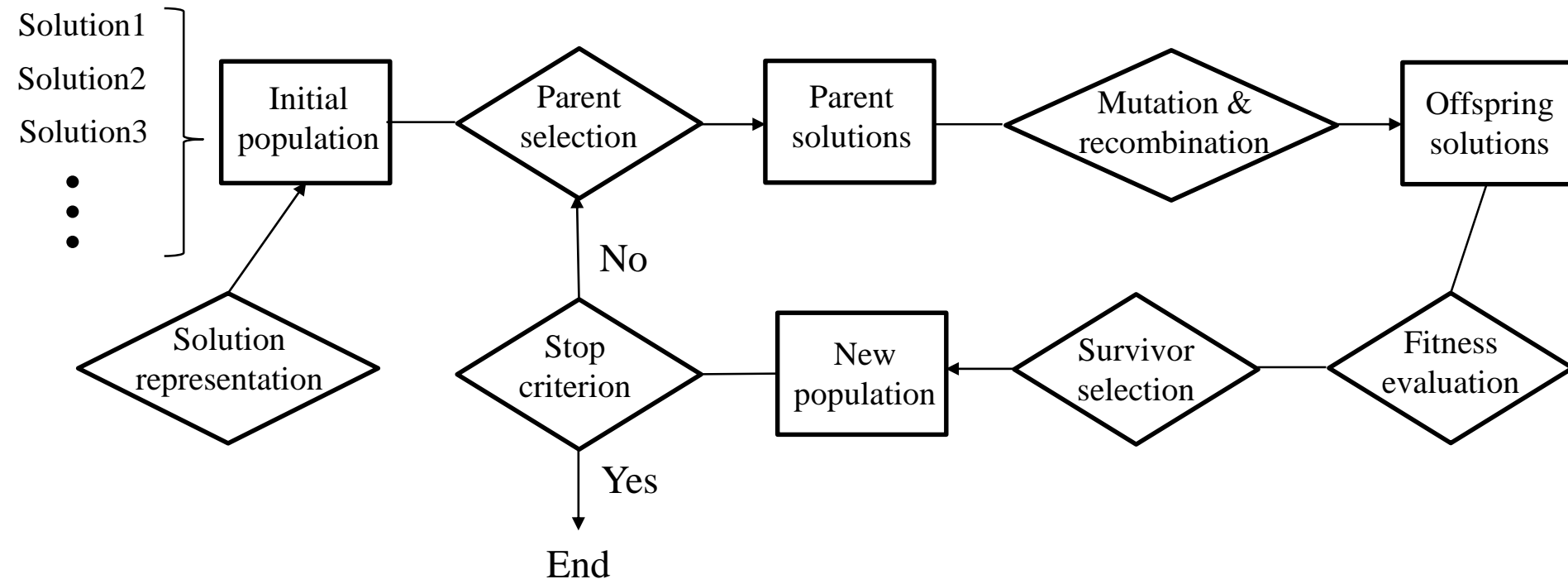


# Evolutionary algorithms

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EAs share a common routine

for  $\arg \max_x f(x)$



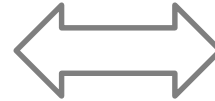
# Components - representation

**Representation:** provides code for candidate solutions that can be manipulated by a computer

phenotype:

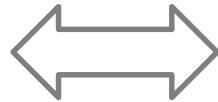
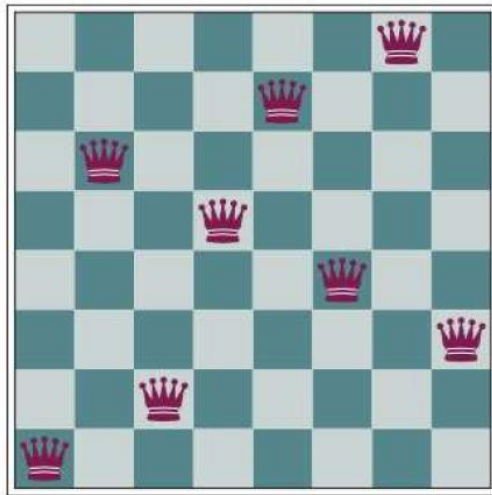
object in original problem context

encoding & decoding



genotype:

code to denote that object



Integer vector

1	6	2	5	7	4	8	3
---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---

Binary vector

000101001100110011111010 different

Permutation

1	6	2	5	7	4	8	3
---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---



# Components – fitness

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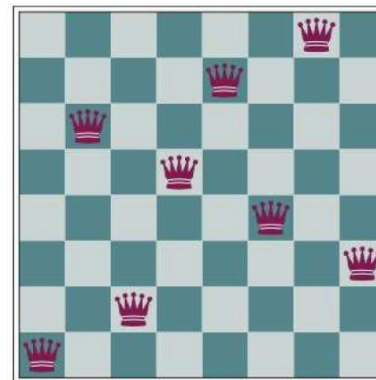
**Fitness:** represents the task to solve, or the requirements (can be seen as “the environment”) to adapt to

**Fitness evaluation** assigns a single real-value to each phenotype which forms the basis for selection

Example:

$$\arg \max_x x^2$$

**Fitness:**  $x^2$



**Fitness:**  
number of  
nonattacking  
pairs of  
queens

# Components - population

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**Population:** holds the candidate solutions of the problem, which is a multiset of genotypes

**Size of population:** the number of contained genotypes

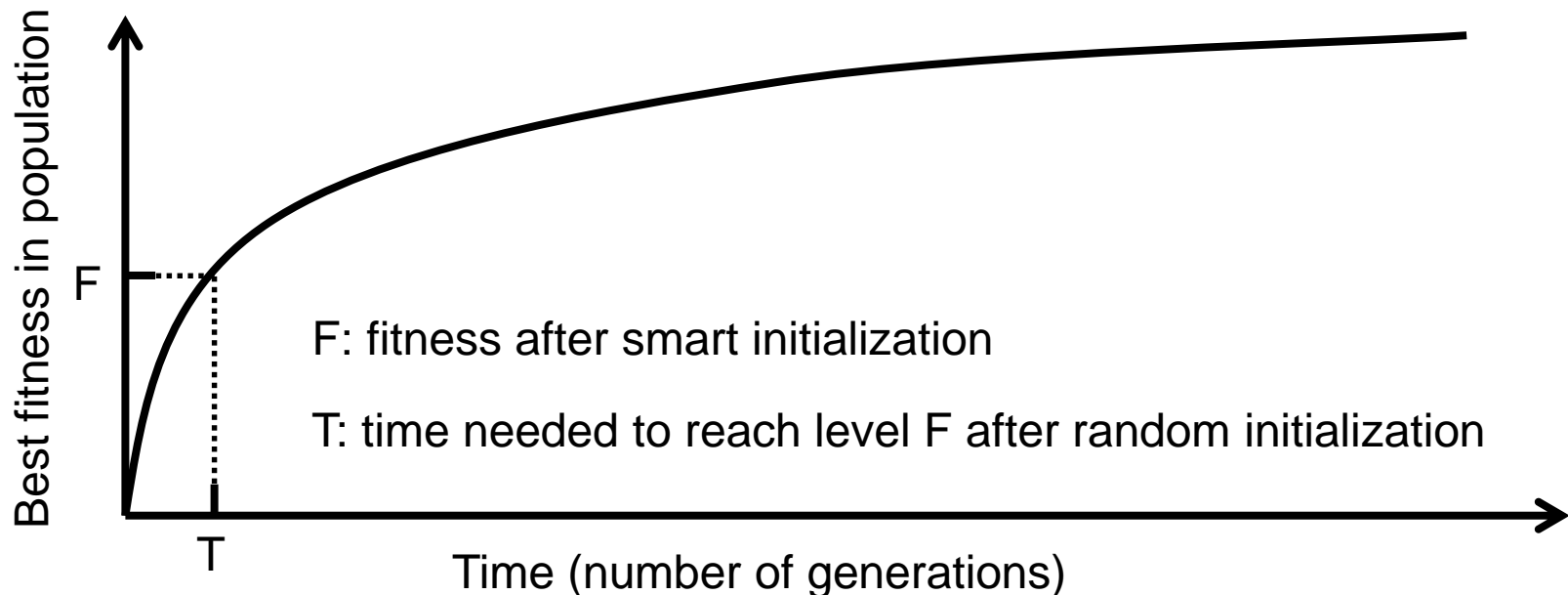
**Diversity of population:** the number of different fitnesses / phenotypes / genotypes present

# Components - initialization

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**Initialization:** generates the genotypes in the initial population

- generates the genotypes randomly
- includes existing solutions, or uses problem-specific heuristics, to seed the population



# Components – parent selection

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**Parent selection:** selects genotypes to undergo variation

Usually probabilistic

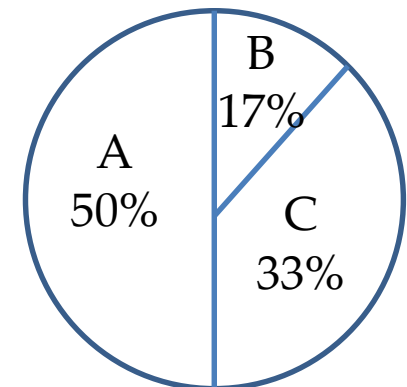
- high quality genotypes more likely to be selected than low quality
- even worst in current population usually has non-zero probability of being selected

Example: fitness proportional selection

$$\text{fitness}(A) = 3$$

$$\text{fitness}(B) = 1$$

$$\text{fitness}(C) = 2$$

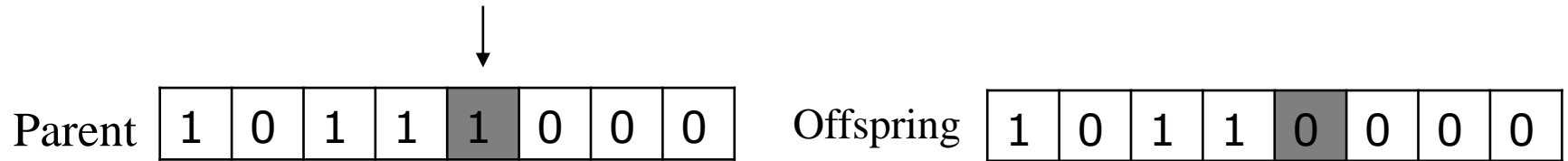


# Components – variation

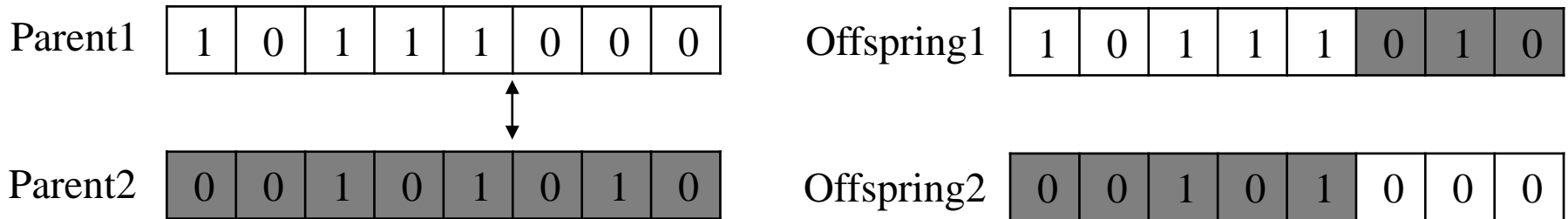
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**Variation:** generates new (offspring) genotypes

- **Mutation:** causes small, random variance of one parent



- **Recombination/crossover:** merges information from parents into offspring





# Components – survivor selection

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**Survivor selection:** selects genotypes from parents and offspring to form the next population

Often deterministic

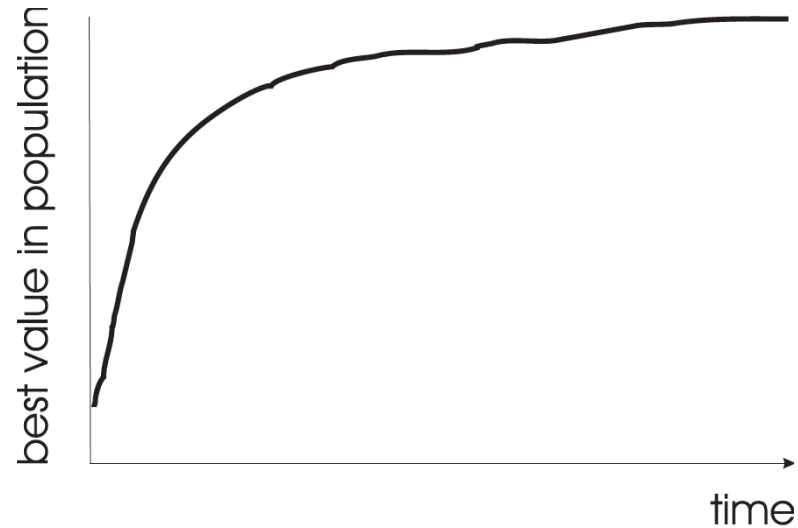
- Fitness based : e.g., rank parents and offspring, and select the top segment
- Age based: make as many offspring as parents and delete all parents

Example:	Parents	Offspring	
	fitness(A) = 3	fitness(D) = 4	Fitness based: A, C, D
	fitness(B) = 1	fitness(E) = 1.5	Age based: D, E, F
	fitness(C) = 2	fitness(F) = 1	

# Components – stop criterion

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Anytime behavior  
of EAs



## Stop criteria:

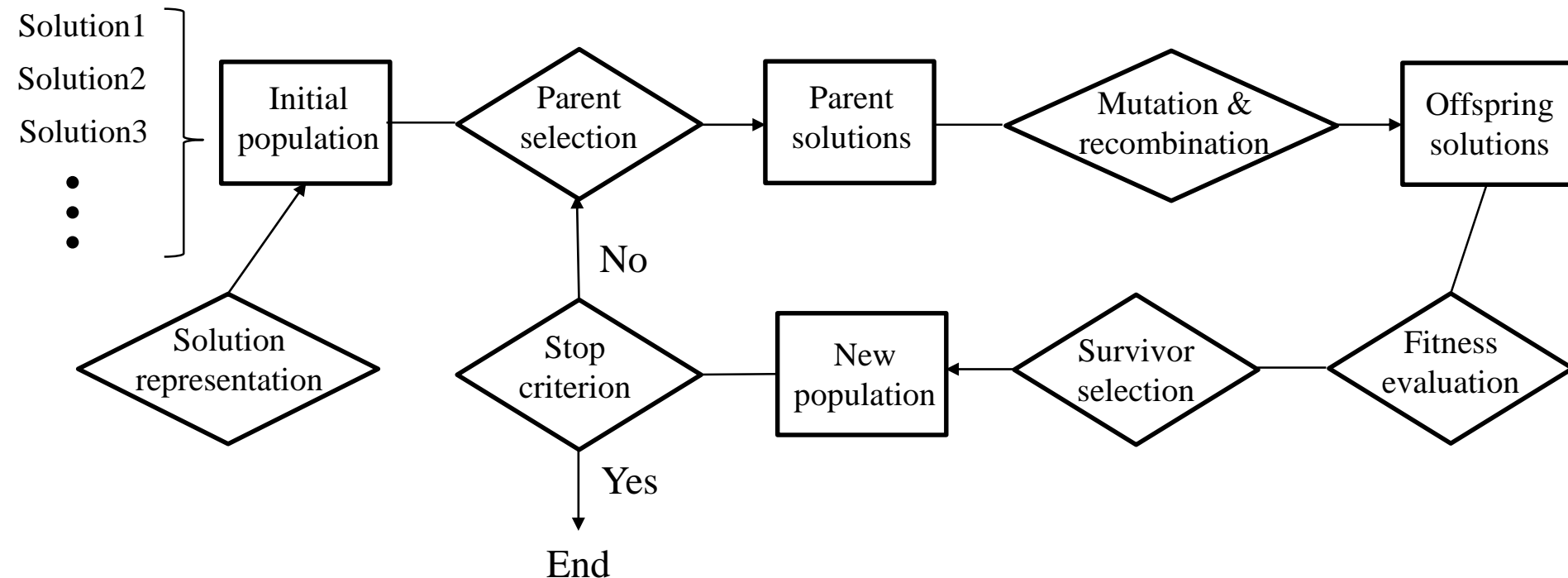
- Reaching some (known/hoped for) fitness
- Reaching some maximum allowed number of generations
- Reaching some specified number of generations without fitness improvement
- Reaching some minimum level of population diversity

# Evolutionary algorithms

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EAs share a common routine

for  $\arg \max_x f(x)$



Need to design each component of EAs

# Evolutionary algorithms

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Genetic Algorithms (GA)  
for optimization in discrete domains

[J. H. Holland. *Outline for a logical theory of adaptive systems*. JACM, 1962]

## Binary representation



Evolutionary Strategies (ES)  
for optimization in continuous domains

[I. Rechenberg. *Cybernetic solution path of an experimental problem*. 1965]



Evolutionary Programming (EP)  
for optimizing finite state machines

[L. J. Fogel, A. J. Owens, M. J. Walsh. *Artificial Intelligence through Simulated Evolution*. 1966]

## Real-valued representation



Genetic Programming (GP)  
for optimizing computer programs

[J. R. Koza. *Genetic Programming*. 1992]

## Tree representation

# Example illustration - $\max x^2$

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The problem:  $\arg \max_{x \in \{0,1,\dots,31\}} x^2$       Fitness function  $f: x^2$

**Solution representation:** binary vector of length 5

For example,  $x = 15$  can be represented by 01111

Genotype no.	Initial population	$x$ value	Fitness $f(x) = x^2$	Selection prob. $p_i$	Expected count	Actual count
1	0 1 1 0 1	13	169	0.14	0.58	1
2	1 1 0 0 0	24	576	0.49	1.97	2
3	0 1 0 0 0	8	64	0.06	0.22	0
4	1 0 0 1 1	19	361	0.31	1.23	1

Population size = 4,  
randomly generated

Parent selection:  
 $p_i = f(i) / \sum_{j \in P} f(j)$

Parent solutions

# Example illustration - $\max x^2$

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Genotype no.	Parent solutions	Crossover point	Offspring after xover	Flipped bits	Offspring after mutation
1	0 1 1 0 1	4	0 1 1 0 0	1	1 1 1 0 0
2	1 1 0 0 0	4	1 1 0 0 1	none	1 1 0 0 1
2	1 1 0 0 0	2	1 1 0 1 1	none	1 1 0 1 1
4	1 0 0 1 1	2	1 0 0 0 0	3	1 0 1 0 0

## One-point crossover:

Select one point randomly, and exchange the parts after the point

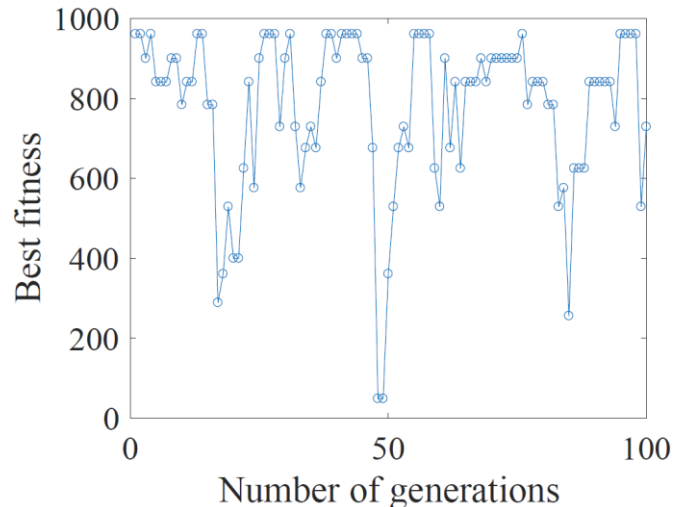
## Bit-wise mutation:

Flip each bit of a solution with prob.  $1/n$  where  $n = 5$

# Example illustration - $\max x^2$

Initial population	$x$ value	Fitness $f(x) = x^2$	Offspring after mutation	$x$ value	Fitness $f(x) = x^2$	Next population
0 1 1 0 1	13	169	1 1 1 0 0	26	676	1 1 1 0 0
1 1 0 0 0	24	576	1 1 0 0 1	25	625	1 1 0 0 1
0 1 0 0 0	8	64	1 1 0 1 1	27	729	1 1 0 1 1
1 0 0 1 1	19	361	1 0 1 0 0	18	324	1 0 1 0 0

Curve change of the best fitness



Fitness evaluation

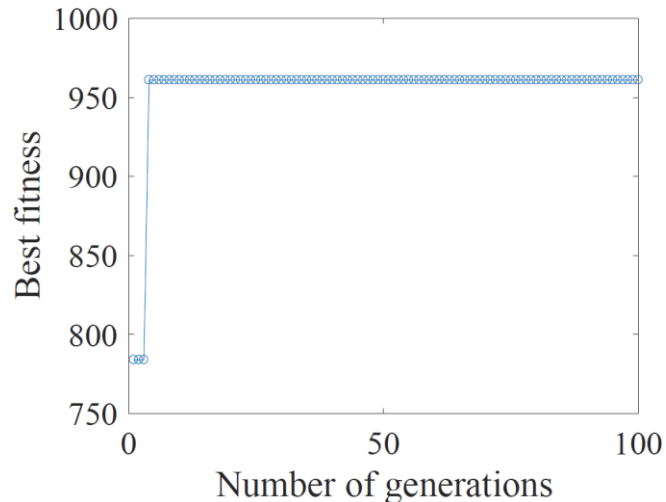
Age based survival selection:

Use the offspring directly to form the next population

# Example illustration - $\max x^2$

Initial population	$x$ value	Fitness $f(x) = x^2$	Offspring after mutation	$x$ value	Fitness $f(x) = x^2$	Next population
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0 1 0 0 0	8	64	1 1 0 1 1	27	729	1 1 0 1 1
1 0 0 1 1	19	361	1 0 1 0 0	18	324	1 1 0 0 0

Curve change of the best fitness



**Fitness based survival selection:**  
Select the best four genotypes from the current population and offspring



# Example illustration - knapsack

**Knapsack problem:** given  $n$  items, each with a weight  $w_i$  and a value  $v_i$ , to select a subset of items maximizing the sum of values while keeping the summed weights within some capacity  $W_{max}$



$$\arg \max_{x \in \{0,1\}^n} \sum_{i=1}^n v_i x_i \quad s. t. \quad \sum_{i=1}^n w_i x_i \leq W_{max}$$

$x_i = 1$ : the  $i$ -th item is included

## Solution representation

Genotype: binary vector of length  $n$

1	1	0	1	1	0	1	1
---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---

Phenotype: binary vector of length  $n$

1	1	0	1	1	0	1	1
---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---



**Decoding:** scan from left to right, and keep the value 1 if the summed weight does not exceed  $W_{max}$

# Example illustration - knapsack

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**Knapsack:**  $\arg \max_{x \in \{0,1\}^n} \sum_{i=1}^n v_i x_i \quad s. t. \quad \sum_{i=1}^n w_i x_i \leq W_{max}$

**Solution representation**  $x_i = 1$ : the  $i$ -th item is included

Genotype: binary vector of length  $n$

1	1	0	1	1	0	1	1
---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---

Phenotype: binary vector of length  $n$

1	1	0	1	1	0	1	1
---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---

**Decoding:** scan from left to right, and keep the value 1 if the summed weight does not exceed  $W_{max}$



**Example:**  $v_i: 4, 2, 6, 10, 4, 3, 7, 2; w_i: 2, 3, 3, 8, 6, 5, 7, 1; W_{max} = 25$

Genotype: 11011011  $\Rightarrow$  Phenotype: 11011001

**Fitness function  $f$ :** the sum of values, i.e.,  $\sum_{i=1}^n v_i x_i$

# Example illustration - knapsack

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Population size	500
Initialization	Random
Parent selection	Tournament selection with size 2
Recombination	One-point crossover
Recombination prob.	70%
Mutation	Bit-wise mutation
Mutation prob.	$1/n$
Number of offspring	500
Survival selection	Age based
Termination condition	No improvement in last 25 generations

Select two solutions from the population uniformly at random, and choose the better one as a parent solution

# Example illustration - knapsack

---

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Select one point randomly, and exchange the parts of the parents after that point

# Example illustration - knapsack

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Flip each bit of a solution with probability  $1/n$

# Example illustration - knapsack

---

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Termination condition	No improvement in last 25 generations

The 500 offspring form the next population directly

# Example illustration - knapsack

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Recombination	One-point crossover
Recombination prob.	70%
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# Example illustration - knapsack

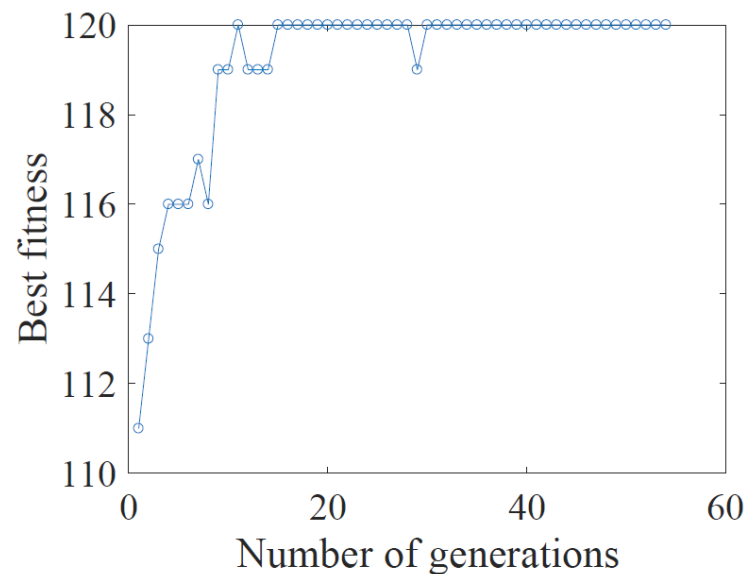
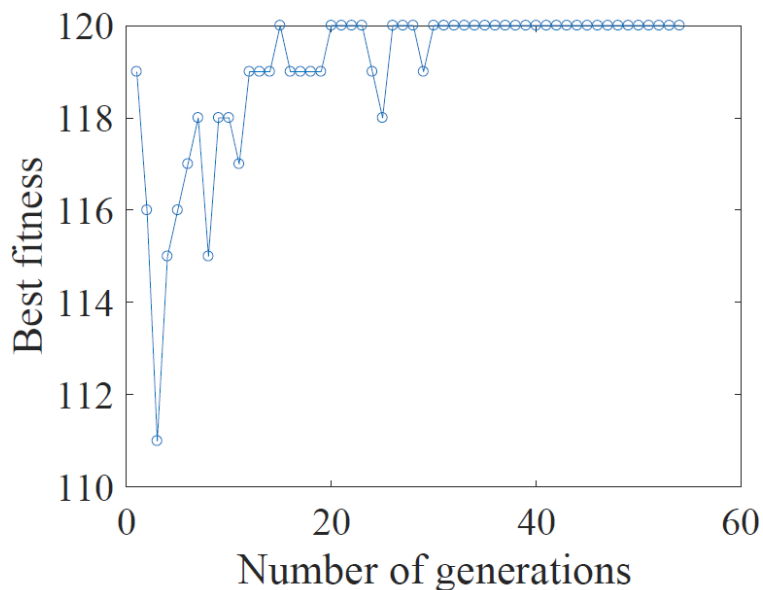
**Example:**  $n = 20, W_{max} = 100$

$v$	4	18	1	16	5	9	3	19	7	13	10	6	5	1	2	17	12	12	2	15
$w$	6	11	6	12	16	14	4	16	11	18	2	3	7	7	19	16	12	12	9	18

**Run 1:**

**Randomized**

**Run 2:**



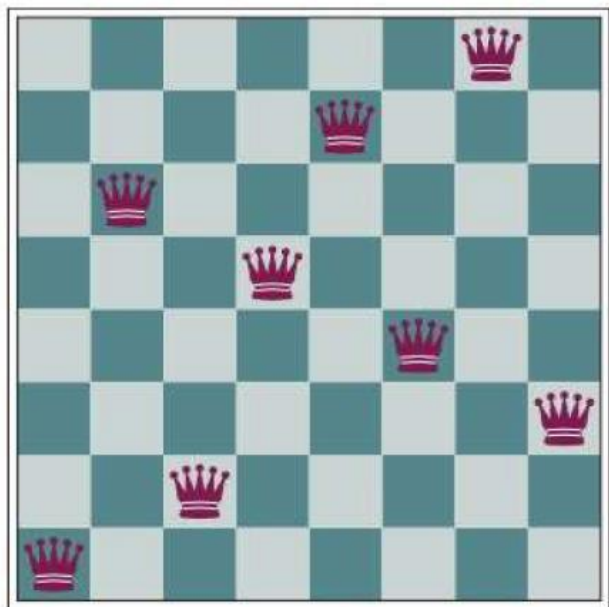


# Example illustration - 8-queens

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**8-queens problem:** to place eight queens on a chessboard such that no queen attacks any other

**Fitness function  $f$ :** number of nonattacking pairs of queens



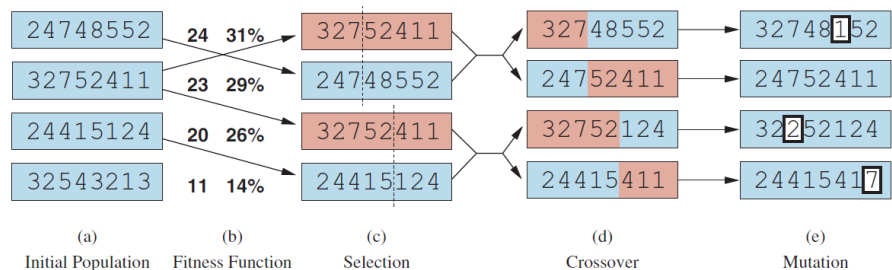
**Solution representation**

Integer vector

1	6	2	5	7	4	8	3
---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---

position of the queen on each column

# Example illustration - 8-queens



How about  
another setup?

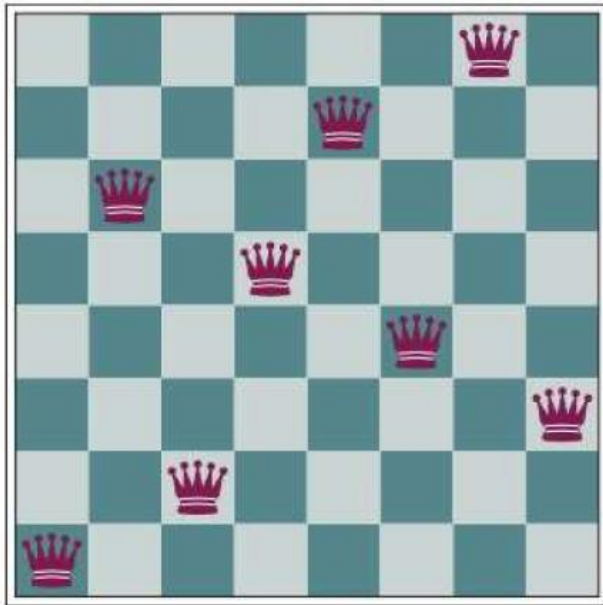
Representation	Integer vector
Population size	4
Initialization	Random
Parent selection	Fitness proportional
Recombination	One-point crossover
Mutation	Bit-wise mutation
Mutation prob.	$1/n$
Number of offspring	4
Survival selection	fitness based
Termination condition	Reach the best fitness

# Example illustration - 8-queens

---

**8-queens problem:** to place eight queens on a chessboard such that no queen attacks any other

**Fitness function  $f$ :** number of nonattacking pairs of queens



**Solution representation**

**Permutation**

1	6	2	5	7	4	8	3
---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---

position of the queen on each column

Genotype space is smaller than that of integer representation, but still contains the optimum

# Example illustration - 8-queens

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Representation	Permutation
Population size	100
Initialization	Random
Parent selection	Best 2 out of random 5
Recombination	Cut-and-crossfill crossover
Mutation	Swap
Mutation prob.	80%
Number of offspring	2
Survival selection	Fitness based
Termination condition	Reach the best fitness or 10,000 fitness evaluations

Select five solutions from the population uniformly at random, and choose the best two as the parent solutions

# Example illustration - 8-queens

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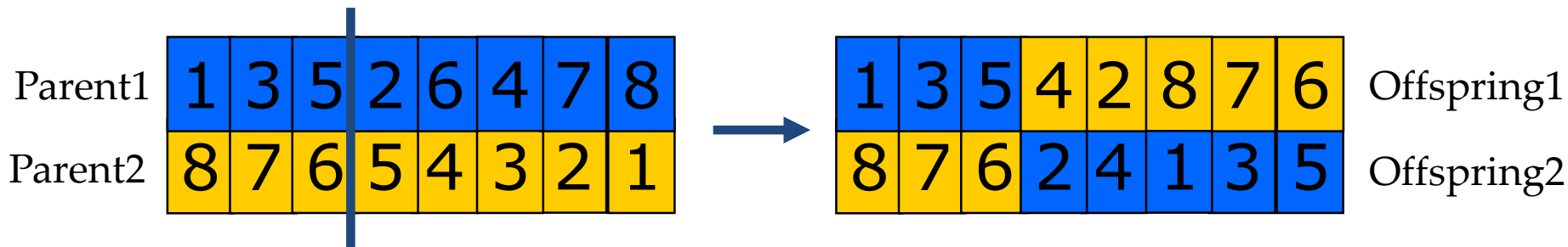
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Mutation prob.	80%
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Survival selection	Fitness based
Termination condition	Reach the best fitness or 10,000 fitness evaluations

# Example illustration - 8-queens

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## Cut-and-crossfill crossover:

1. Select a crossover point randomly;
2. Cut both parents into two segments at this point;
3. Copy the first segment of parent 1 into offspring 1 and the first segment of parent 2 into offspring 2;
4. Scan parent 2 after the crossover point and fill the second segment of offspring 1 with values from parent 2, skipping those that it already contains
5. Do the same for parent 1 and offspring 2



# Example illustration - 8-queens

---

Representation	Permutation
Population size	100
Initialization	Random
Parent selection	Best 2 out of random 5
Recombination	Cut-and-crossfill crossover
Mutation	Swap
Mutation prob.	80%
Number of offspring	2
Survival selection	Fitness based
Termination condition	Reach the best fitness or 10,000 fitness evaluations

Swap values of two randomly chosen positions



# Example illustration - 8-queens

---

Representation	Permutation
Population size	100
Initialization	Random
Parent selection	Best 2 out of random 5
Recombination	Cut-and-crossfill crossover
Mutation	Swap
Mutation prob.	80%
Number of offspring	2
Survival selection	Fitness based
Termination condition	Reach the best fitness or 10,000 fitness evaluations

Remove the worst two from the population and two offspring



# Example illustration - 8-queens

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Representation	Permutation
Population size	100
Initialization	Random
Parent selection	Best 2 out of random 5
Recombination	Cut-and-crossfill crossover
Mutation	Swap
Mutation prob.	80%
Number of offspring	2
Survival selection	Fitness based
Termination condition	Reach the best fitness or 10,000 fitness evaluations

# Example illustration - 8-queens

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Average of 100 independent runs

Setup 1:

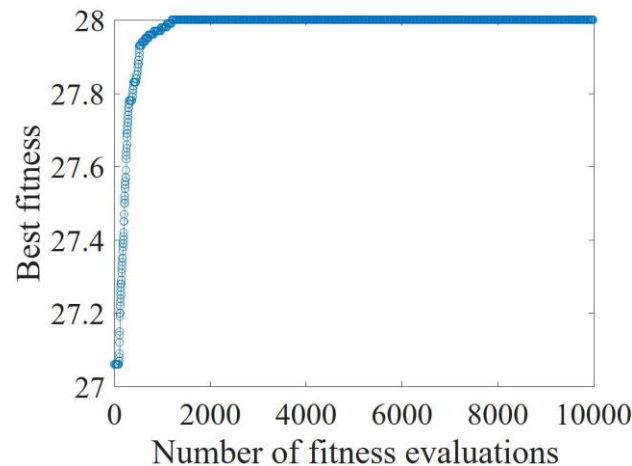
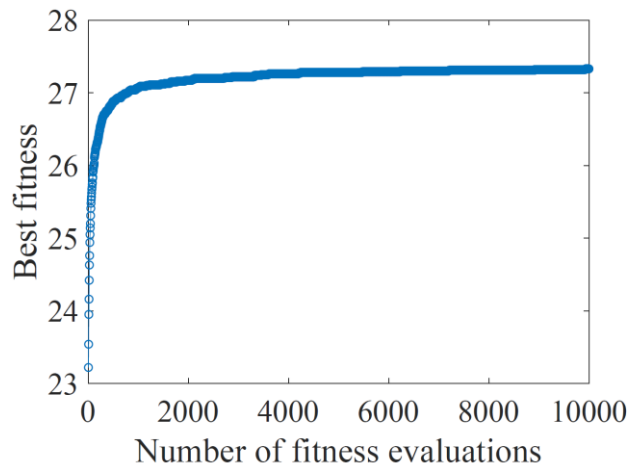
Setup 2:

The number of fitness evaluations

7094

270

Curve change of the best fitness



The setup of components has a large influence on the performance

# Application: High-speed train head design

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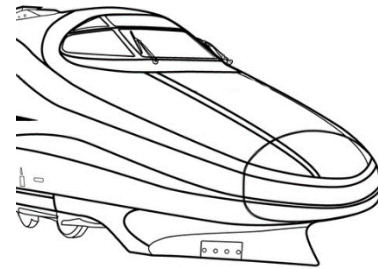
Problem: optimize the efficiency of the train head

extremely hard to apply traditional optimization methods

Representation:

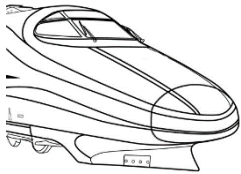


parameterize

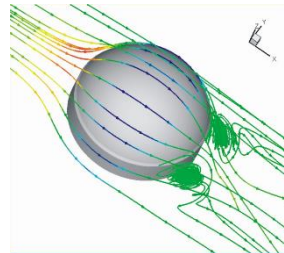
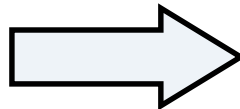


represented as a vector of parameters

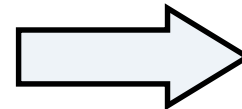
Fitness:



$X_i$



test by simulation

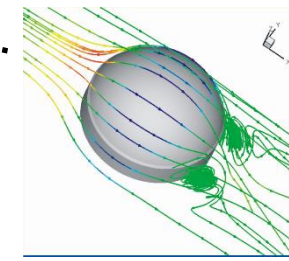
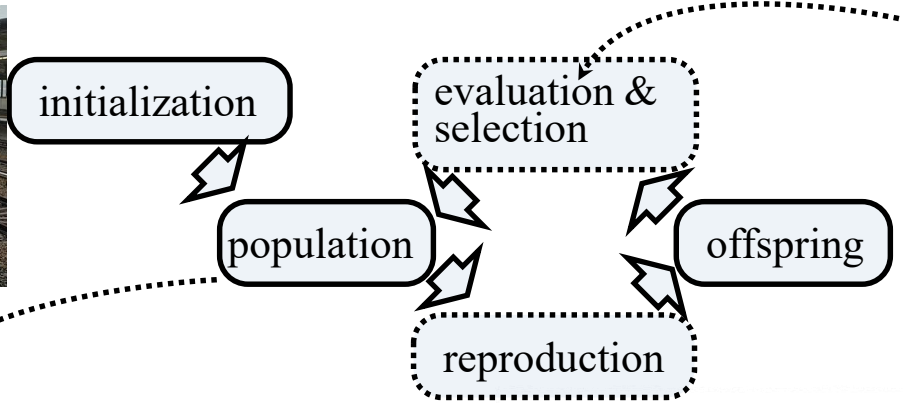


$f(X_i)$

# Application: High-speed train head design



Series 700



Series N700

**节省 19% 能耗**

日本中央  
铁路公司

Technological overview of the next generation Shinkansen high-speed train Series N700

M. Ueno<sup>1</sup>, S. Usui<sup>1</sup>, H. Tanaka<sup>1</sup>, A. Watanabe<sup>2</sup>

<sup>1</sup>Central Japan Railway Company, Tokyo, Japan, <sup>2</sup>West Japan Railway Company, Osaka, Japan

## Abstract

In March 2005, Central Japan Railway Company (JR Central) has completed prototype trainset of the Series N700, the next generation Shinkansen high-speed rolling stock, developed using the aerodynamic design system, they are subjected to the problem of aerodynamic pressure waves and other issues related to environmental compatibility such as external noise. To combat this, an aero double-wing-type has been adopted for nose shape (Fig. 3). This nose shape, which boasts the most appropriate aerodynamic performance, has been newly developed for railway rolling stock using the latest analytical technique (i.e. genetic algorithms) used to develop the main wings of airplanes. The shape resembles a bird in flight, suggesting a feeling of boldness and speed.

the Tokaido Shinkansen line, Series N700 cars save 19% energy than Series 700 cars, and achieve a 30% increase in the output of their traction equipment for higher-speed operation (Fig. 3).

this nose ... has been newly developed ... using the latest analytical technique (i.e. **genetic algorithms**)

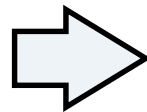
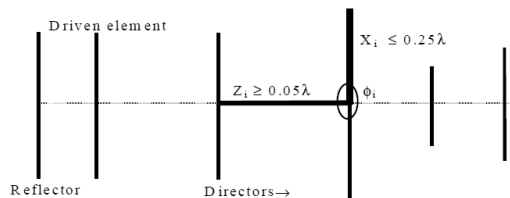
N700 cars save **19%** energy ... **30%** increase in the output... This is a result of adopting the ... nose shape

This is a result of adopting the aerodynamically excellent nose shape, reduced running resistance thanks to the drastically smoothed car body and under-floor equipment, effective

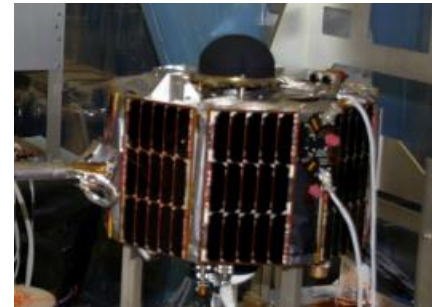
# Application: Antenna design

Problem: optimize the efficiency of the antenna  
extremely hard to apply traditional optimization methods

Representation:



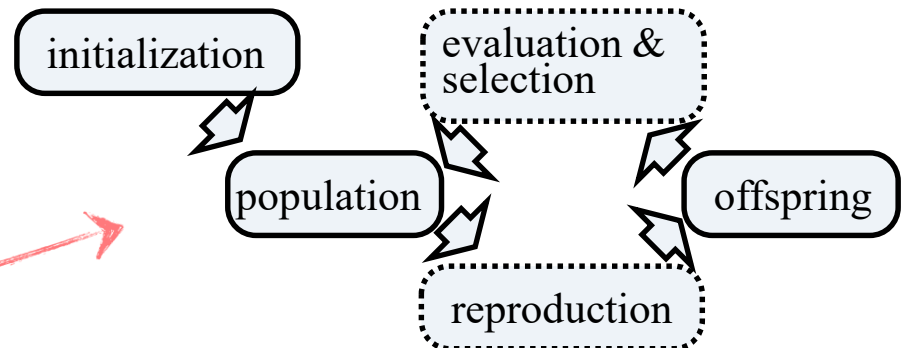
a sequence of operators  
forward, rotate-x  
rotate-y, rotate-z



Fitness by simulation test

easy to test a given solution

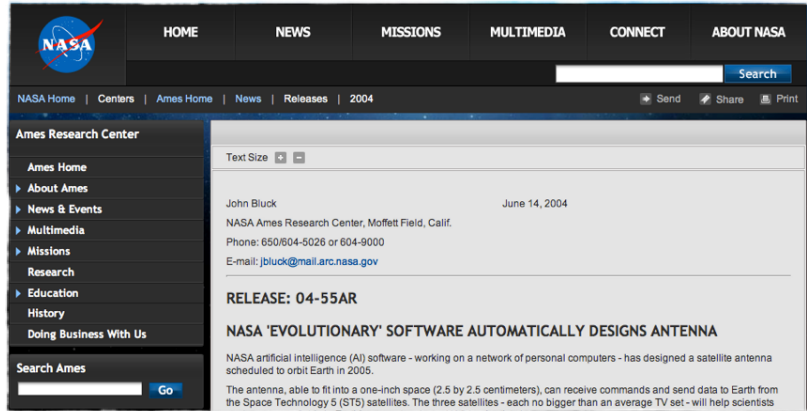
use EAs!





# Application: Antenna design

功效由 38% 提升至 93%



## Computer-Automated Evolution of an X-Band Antenna for NASA's Space Technology 5 Mission

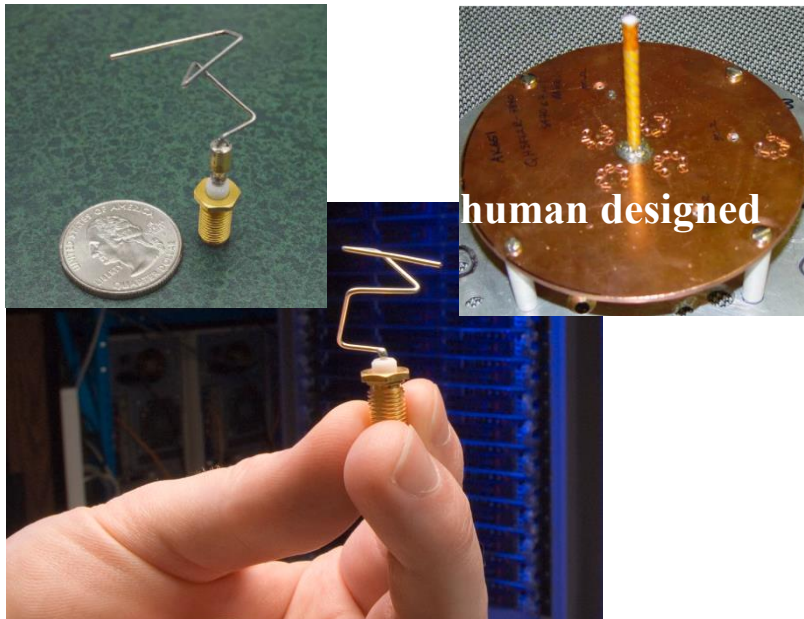
美国宇航局

**Gregory S. Hornby** Gregory.S.Hornby@nasa.gov  
Mail Stop 269-3, University Affiliated Research Center, UC Santa Cruz, Moffett Field, CA, 94035, USA

**Jason D. Lohn** Jason.Lohn@west.cmu.edu  
Carnegie Mellon University, Mail Stop 23-11, Moffett Field, CA 94035, USA

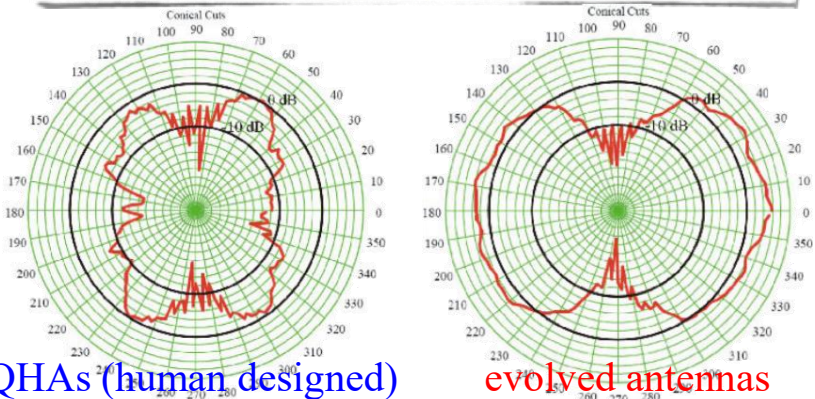
**Derek S. Linden** dlinden@jemengineering.com  
JEM Engineering, 8683 Cherry Lane, Laurel, MD 20707, USA Moffett Field, CA 94035, USA

Since there are two antennas on each spacecraft, and not just one, it is important to measure the overall gain pattern with two antennas mounted on the spacecraft. For this, different combinations of the two evolved antennas and the QHA were tried on the ST5 mock-up and measured in an anechoic chamber. With two QHAs 38% efficiency was achieved, using a QHA with an evolved antenna resulted in 80% efficiency, and using two evolved antennas resulted in 93% efficiency. Here "efficiency" means how much power is being radiated versus how much power is being eaten up in resistance, with greater efficiency resulting in a stronger signal and greater range. Figure 11



QHAs (human designed)  
38% efficiency

evolved antennas  
93% efficiency



# Application: Protein Sequence Optimization

---

## The Nobel Prize in Chemistry 2018



© Nobel Media AB. Photo: A. Mahmoud  
Frances H. Arnold  
Prize share: 1/2



© Nobel Media AB. Photo: A. Mahmoud  
George P. Smith  
Prize share: 1/4



© Nobel Media AB. Photo: A. Mahmoud  
Sir Gregory P. Winter  
Prize share: 1/4

The Nobel Prize in Chemistry 2018 was divided, one half awarded to Frances H. Arnold "for the directed evolution of enzymes", the other half jointly to George P. Smith and Sir Gregory P. Winter "for the phage display of peptides and antibodies."

“Evolution—the adaption of species to different environments—has created an enormous diversity of life. **Frances Arnold has used the same principles – genetic change and selection – to develop proteins that solve humankind’s chemical problems. In 1993, Arnold conducted the first directed evolution of enzymes, which are proteins that catalyze chemical reactions.** The uses of her results include more environmentally friendly manufacturing of chemical substances, such as pharmaceuticals, and the production of renewable fuels.”

# Application: Biological evolution



南京大學  
NANJING UNIVERSITY

新闻网

NJU NEWS 南京大学新闻中心主办

新闻关键字搜索



## 南大首创这条“高清曲线”列入中国十大科技进展

在1月20日由中国科学院和中国工程院院士评选出的“2020年中国十大科技进展”中，南京大学樊隽轩、沈树忠领衔研发的“全球第一条高精度的古生代3亿多年的海洋生物多样性变化曲线”，名列榜单，成功入选。

首页 综合新闻 专题新闻 理论园地 讲话与部署 南雍号 媒

首页 - 综合新闻

2020-01-17 作者: 地球科学与工程学院 来源: 地球科学与工程学院

## 《Science》刊登南京大学地球科学与工程学院研究成果：大数据和超算揭秘古生代海洋生物多样性演化

北京时间1月17日，国际权威期刊《Science》以研究长文的形式在线发表了南京大学、中国科学院南京地质古生物所樊隽轩教授、沈树忠院士等的论文“A high-resolution summary of Cambrian to Early Triassic marine invertebrate biodiversity”。该研究利用古生物大数据、超算和遗传算法等全新的方法和手段，基于化石记录重现了生命演化历史，改变了当前对古生代海洋生物多样性演化的认知。

### 最近更新

如何让专利“活”起来？全国百所高校聚...

2020.10.15

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2020.10.15

电子科学与工程学院启动“星火培优”学...

2020.10.15

我校举行“墨子杯”兵棋推演大赛校内选...



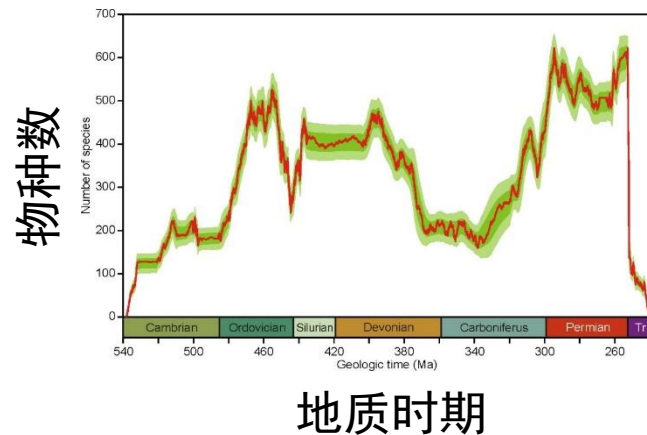
# Application: Biological evolution

## 自然科学四大基础科学问题之一：生命起源与演化

地层剖面中海量化石记录数据



生物多样性变化曲线



利用化石记录重现生命演化历史

**序列优化问题：**为不同物种的“首现”和“末现”事件排序，使其与地层剖面中观测到的化石数据尽可能一致

# Application: Biological evolution

## 简单例子

(西摩岛上采集的剖面 A)

两条剖面:  
**Seymour Is. Section A**  
**Seymour Is. Section F**

两个物种:



四个事件:

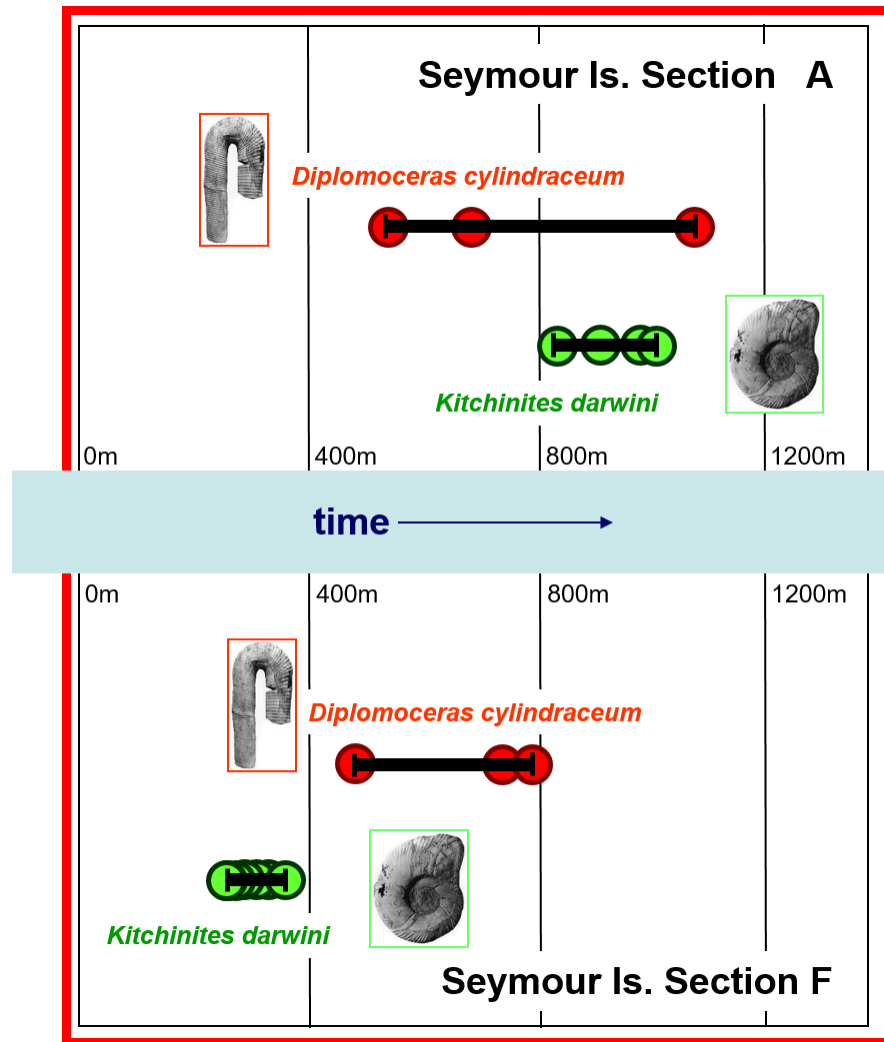


首现、未现



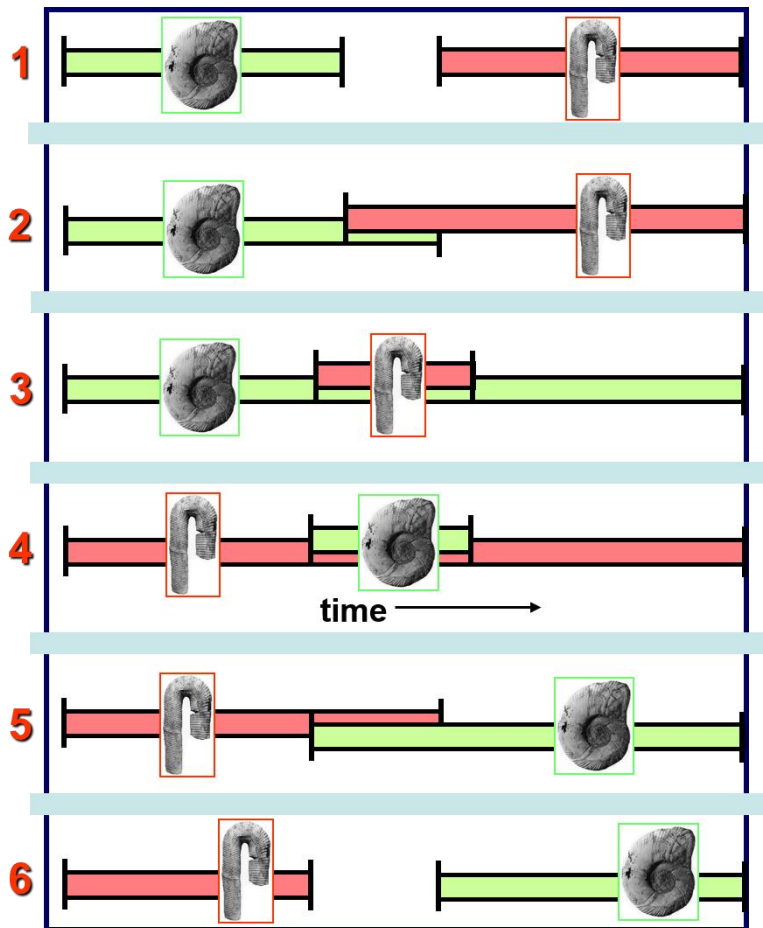
首现、未现

**问题:** 为这四个事件排序,  
使其与右图中观测到的数据尽可能一致



# Application: Biological evolution

四个事件的所有可能序列（即所有可能的解）



... green+ ... green- ... red+ ... red- ...

... green+ ... red+ ... green- ... red- ...

... green+ ... red+ ... red- ... green- ...

... red+ ... green+ ... green- ... red- ...

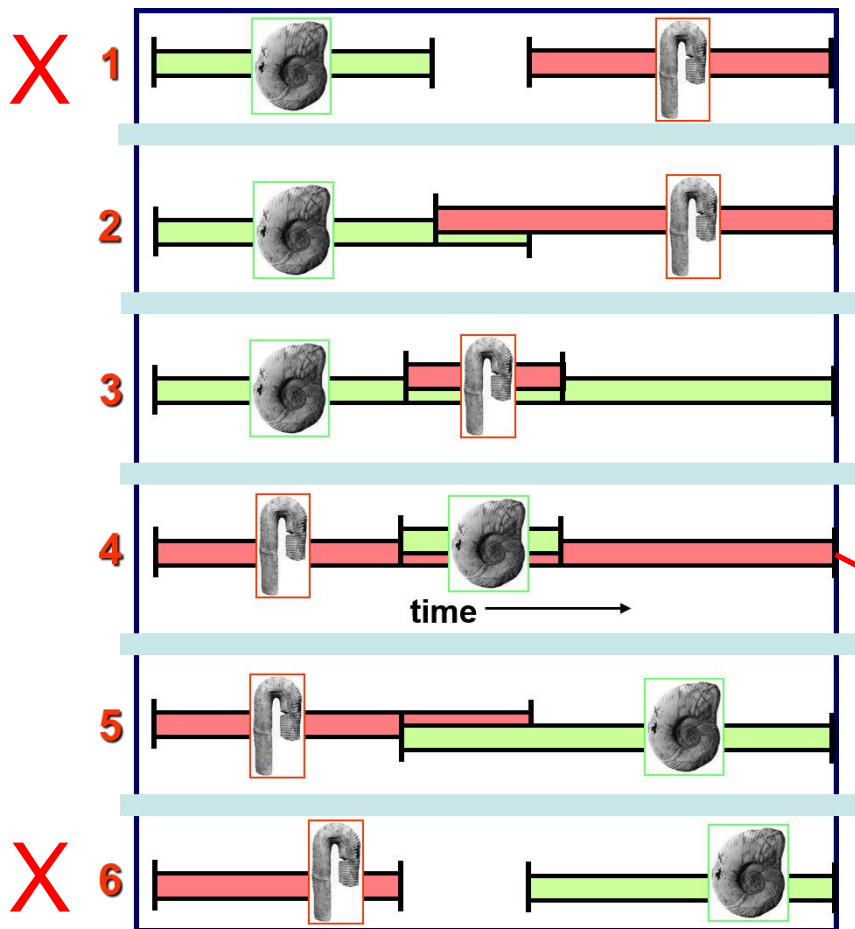
... red+ ... green+ ... red- ... green- ...

... red+ ... red- ... green+ ... green- ...

+ 首现  
- 末现

# Application: Biological evolution

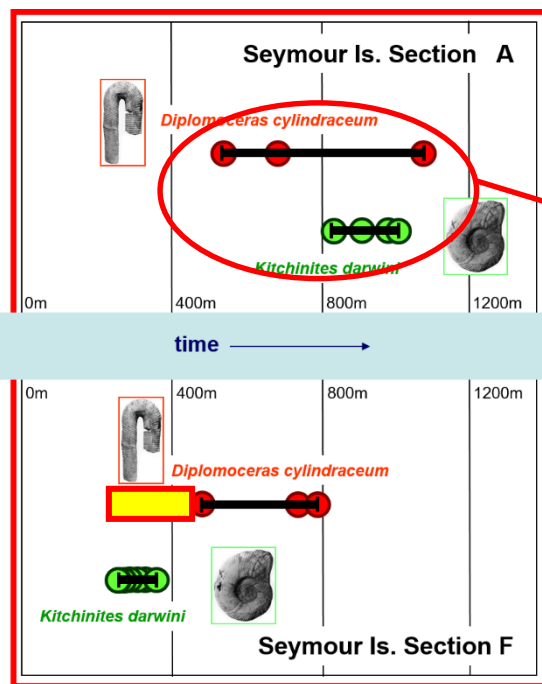
四个事件的所有可能序列（即所有可能的解）



目标：延限延展量

越小越好

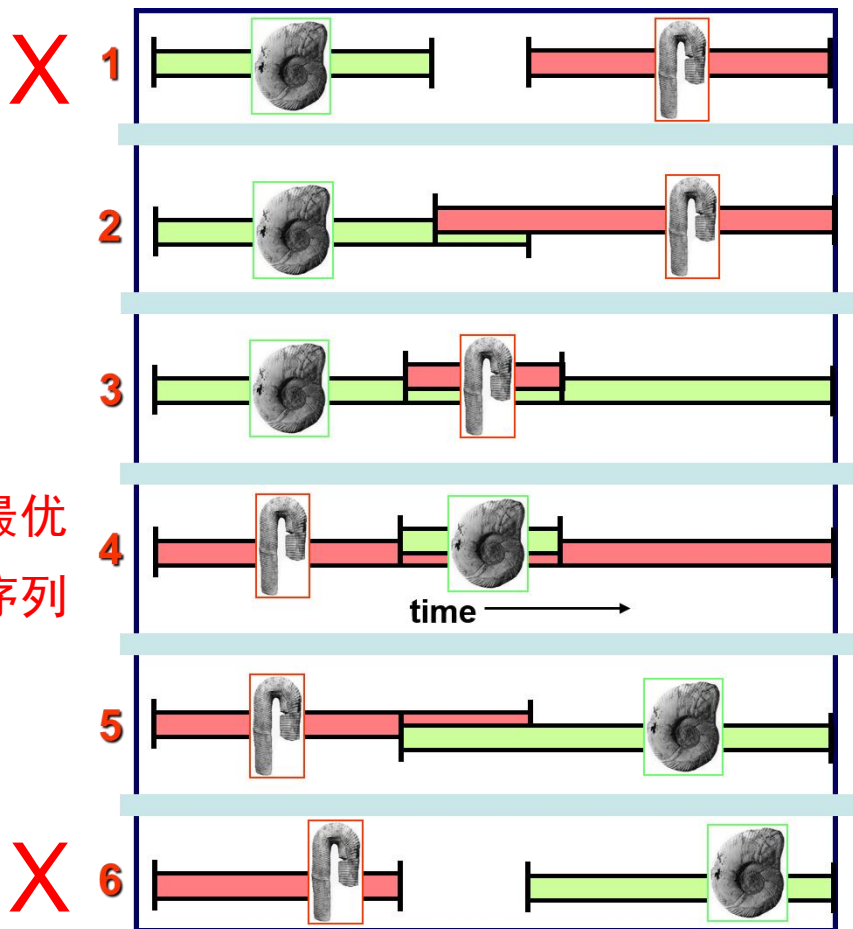
为使实际观测数据与序列保持一致，  
对数据所需做的延展量



共生约束

# Application: Biological evolution

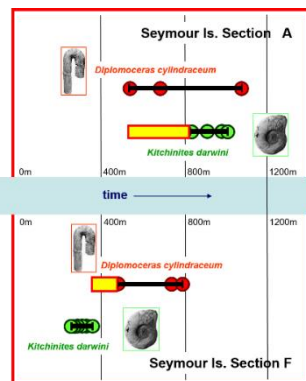
四个事件的所有可能序列



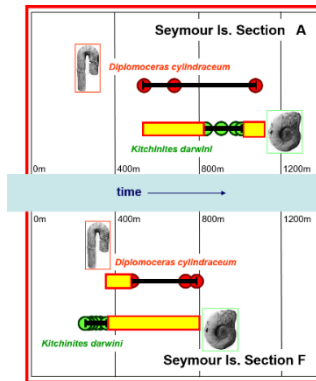
目标：延限延展量

越小越好

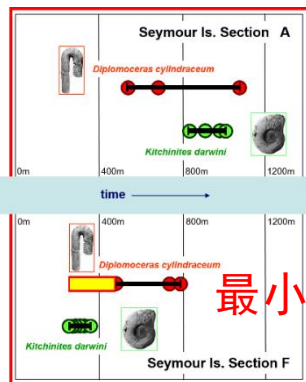
序列 2 的目标值



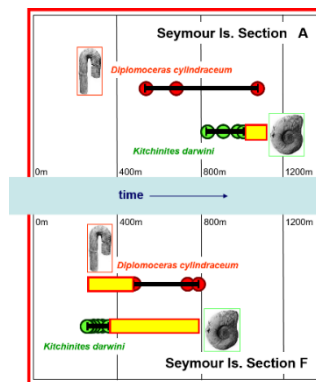
序列 3 的目标值



序列 4 的目标值



序列 5 的目标值

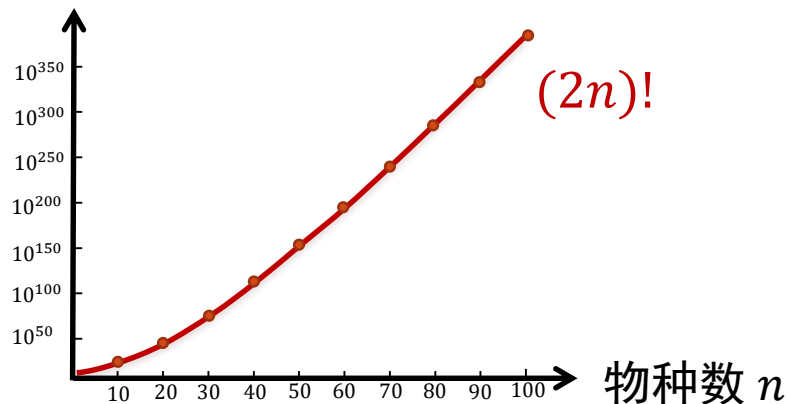


# Application: Biological evolution

实际问题非常复杂

搜索空间规模  
关于物种数呈指数级增长

搜索空间  
规模



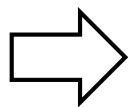
南大樊隽轩教授、沈树忠院士等人

中国的地层剖面数据

3122个剖面

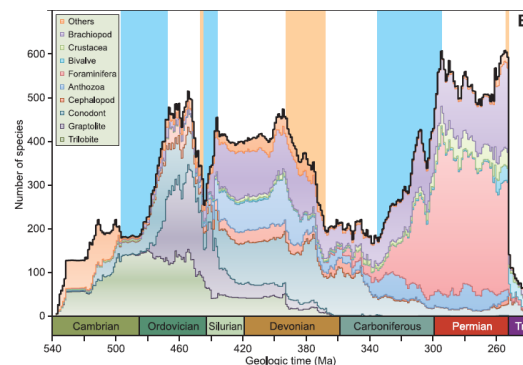
11268个物种

模拟退火



“天河2号”  
700万核时

全球第一条高精度  
海洋生物多样性变化曲线



# Application: Biological evolution

Science

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Journals ▾

SHARE RESEARCH ARTICLE



A high-resolution summary of Cambrian to Early Triassic marine invertebrate biodiversity

Jun-xuan Fan<sup>1,2</sup>, Shu-zhong Shen<sup>1,2,3,4</sup>, Douglas H. Erwin<sup>4,5</sup>, Peter M. Sadler<sup>6</sup>, Norman MacLeod<sup>1</sup>, Qiu-min...

+ See all authors and affiliations

Science: “新的数据集和方法, 推动整个演化生物学的变革”

Nature: “古生物学家以惊人的细节绘制地球3亿年历史”

2020 年中国十大科技进展

Thanks J. Fan and X. Hou for providing the figures

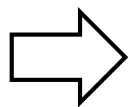
南大樊隽轩教授、沈树忠院士等人

中国的地层剖面数据

3122个剖面

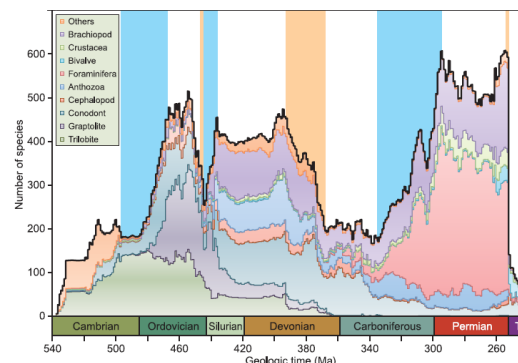
11268个物种

模拟退火



“天河2号”  
700万核时

全球第一条高精度  
海洋生物多样性变化曲线





# Application: Biological evolution

合作破解地球  
生命演化的奥秘!

已有算法

不适用于更大规模的数据

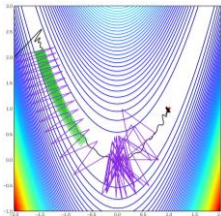
地层剖面数据	搜索空间规模	“天河2号”
中国：3122个剖面、11268个物种	22536!	700万核时
全世界：约8000个剖面、30000个物种	60000!	不可计算

合作提出针对该问题的演化算法

结合先验知识的初始化策略

自适应变异算子

交叉算子

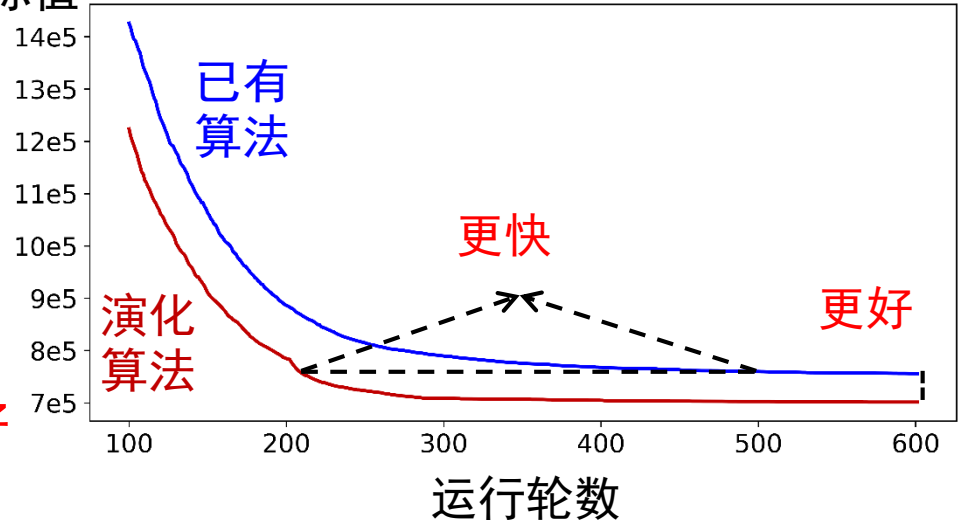


更快

更好

测试数据（131个剖面、4433个物种）

目标值





# And more


---

optimizing operating systems:

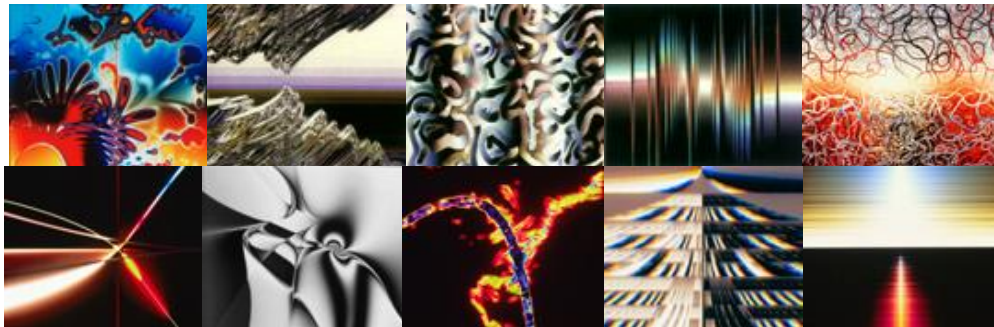
[Home](#)

## Linux: Tuning The Kernel With A Genetic Algorithm

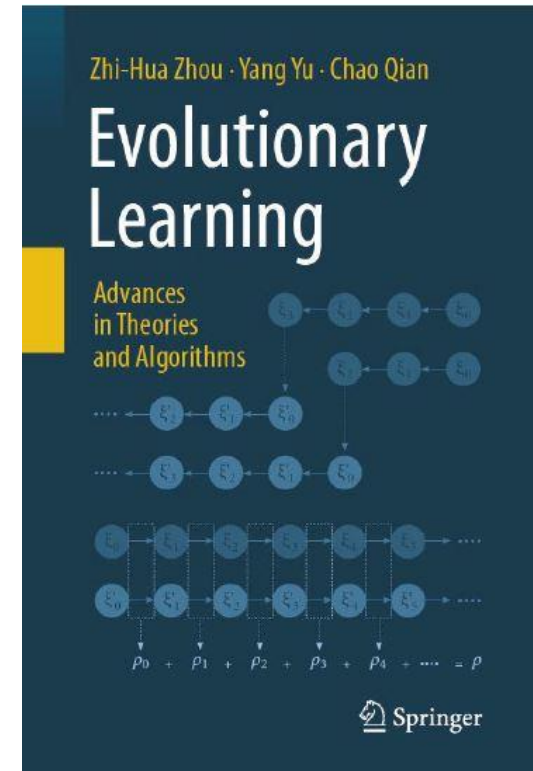
Posted by [Jeremy](#) on Friday, January 7, 2005 - 06:59

Jake Moilanen provided a series of four patches against the 2.6.9 Linux kernel [\[story\]](#) that introduce a simple [genetic algorithm](#) used for automatic tuning. The patches update the anticipatory IO scheduler [\[story\]](#) and the zaphod CPU scheduler [\[story\]](#) to both use the new in-kernel library, theoretically allowing them to automatically tune themselves for the best possible performance for any given workload. Jake says, "using these patches, there are small gains (1-3%) in Unixbench & SpecJBB. I am hoping a scheduler guru will able to rework them to give higher gains." 

interactive art design:



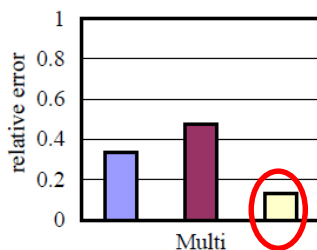
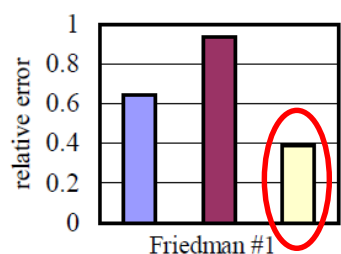
machine learning:



# And more

Evolutionary learning has yielded encouraging empirical outcomes

## Evolutionary selective ensemble



achieves smaller error by using fewer learners

[Zhou et al., AIJ'02]

## Evolutionary neural architecture search

STUDY	PARAMS.	C10+	C100+	REACHABLE?
MAXOUT (GOODFELLOW ET AL., 2013)	-	90.7%	61.4%	No
NETWORK IN NETWORK (LIN ET AL., 2013)	-	91.2%	-	No
ALL-CNN (SPRINGENBERG ET AL., 2014)	1.3 M	92.8%	66.3%	YES
DEEPLY SUPERVISED (LEE ET AL., 2015)	-	92.0%	65.4%	No
HIGHWAY (SRIVASTAVA ET AL., 2015)	2.3 M	92.3%	67.6%	No
RESNET (HE ET AL., 2016)	1.7 M	93.4%	72.8% <sup>1</sup>	YES
EVOLUTION (OURS)	5.4 M 40.4 M	94.6%	77.0%	N/A
WIDE RESNET 28-10 (ZAGORUYKO & KOMODAKIS, 2016)	36.5 M	96.0%	80.0%	YES
WIDE RESNET 40-10+d/o (ZAGORUYKO & KOMODAKIS, 2016)	50.7 M	96.2%	81.7%	No
DENSENET (HUANG ET AL., 2016A)	25.6 M	96.7%	82.8%	No

achieves competitive performance to the hand-designed models

[Real et al., ICML'17]

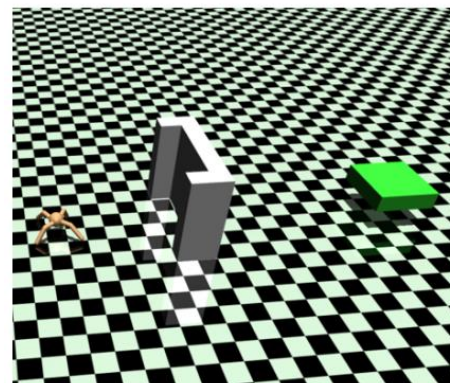
# And more

Evolutionary learning has yielded encouraging empirical outcomes

## Evolutionary reinforcement learning

Environment	EDO-CS	QD-RL	ME-ES	DvD-ES	CVT-ES	NSR-ES	Vanilla ES
<i>HalfCheetahFwd</i>	<b>4284</b>	2930	2700	-3419	3219	1346	-5543
<i>HalfCheetahBwd</i>	<b>6548</b>	6013	5953	6353	4672	5366	3911
<i>AntFwd</i>	<b>4617</b>	4291	4316	4507	3856	1737	1911
<i>AntBwd</i>	<b>4697</b>	4164	4123	3498	2958	3961	-851
Performance Ranking	<b>1</b>	3	3.5	3.75	4.75	5.25	6.75

achieves a set of policies with both  
high quality and diversity [Wang et al., ICLR'22]



(a) AntWall-v0 environment

## Evolutionary multitask learning

Model	imagenet2012	cifar100	cifar10
ViT L/16 fine-tuning (Dosovitskiy et al., 2021)	85.30	93.25	99.15
$\mu$ 2Net after 5 task iterations	86.38	94.75	99.35
$\mu$ 2Net after 10 task iterations	86.66	94.67	99.38
$\mu$ 2Net cont. after adding VTAB-full tasks	<b>86.74</b>	94.67	99.41
$\mu$ 2Net cont. after adding VDD tasks	<b>86.74</b>	94.74	99.43
$\mu$ 2Net cont. after adding all 69 tasks	<b>86.74</b>	<b>94.95</b>	<b>99.49</b>

achieves competitive  
results on 69 public  
image classification tasks

[Gesmundo & Dean, 2022]

better  $\rightarrow$  SOTA: 99.40%  
[Touvron et al., ICCV'21]

# And more

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optimizing operating systems:

[Home](#)

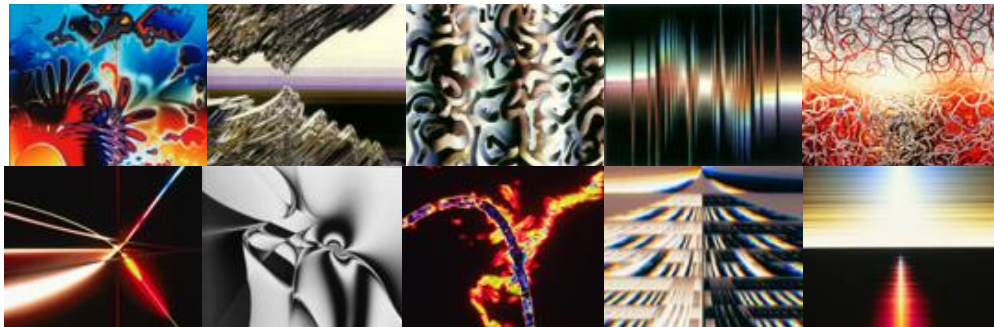
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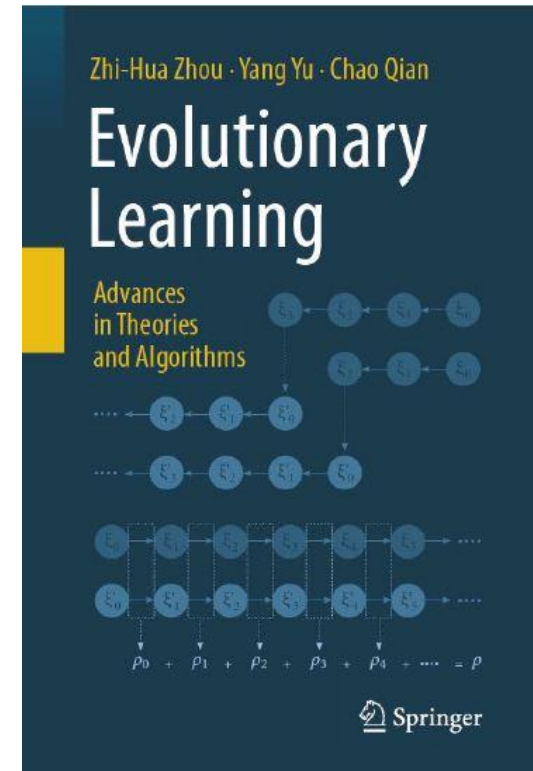
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interactive art design:



machine learning:



**As long as solutions can be evaluated, EAs can be applied**

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# Summary

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- Evolutionary algorithms: Origins
- Evolutionary algorithms: Components
- Evolutionary algorithms: Applications

# References

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- K. A. De Jong. Evolutionary Computation – A Unified Approach. Chapter 2.
- A. E. Eiben and J. E. Smith. Introduction to Evolutionary Computing. Chapters 2-3.
- J. Fan, et al. A high-resolution summary of Cambrian to Early Triassic marine invertebrate biodiversity. *Science*, 367: 272–277, 2020