Lecture 4: Search 3

http://cs.nju.edu.cn/yuy/course_ai15.ashx

Previously...

Path-based search

Uninformed search

Depth-first, breadth first, uniform-cost search

Informed search

Best-first, **A* search**

Iterative-improvement search

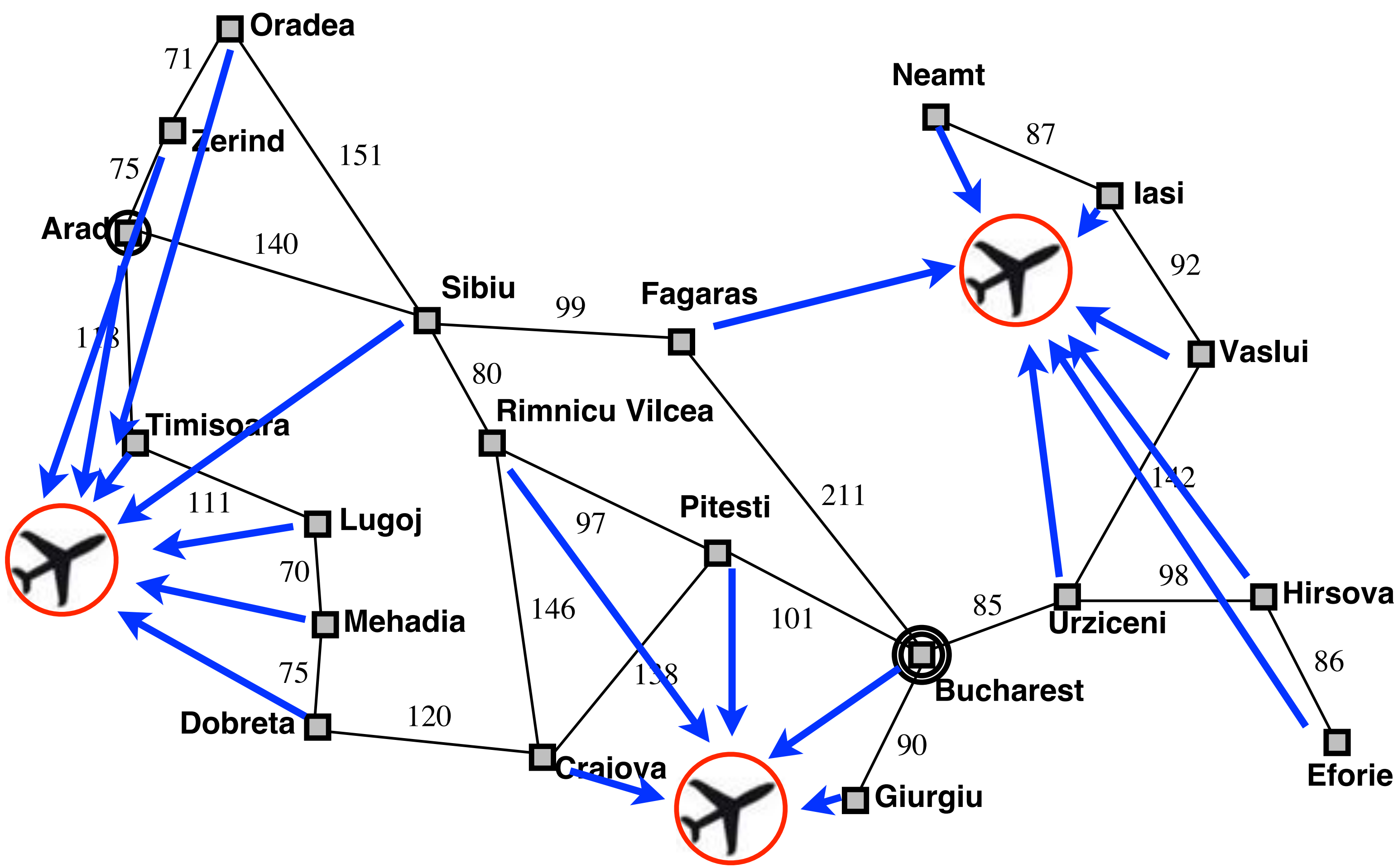
Hill climbing: greedy method

Greedy idea in continuous space

Suppose we want to site three airports in Romania:

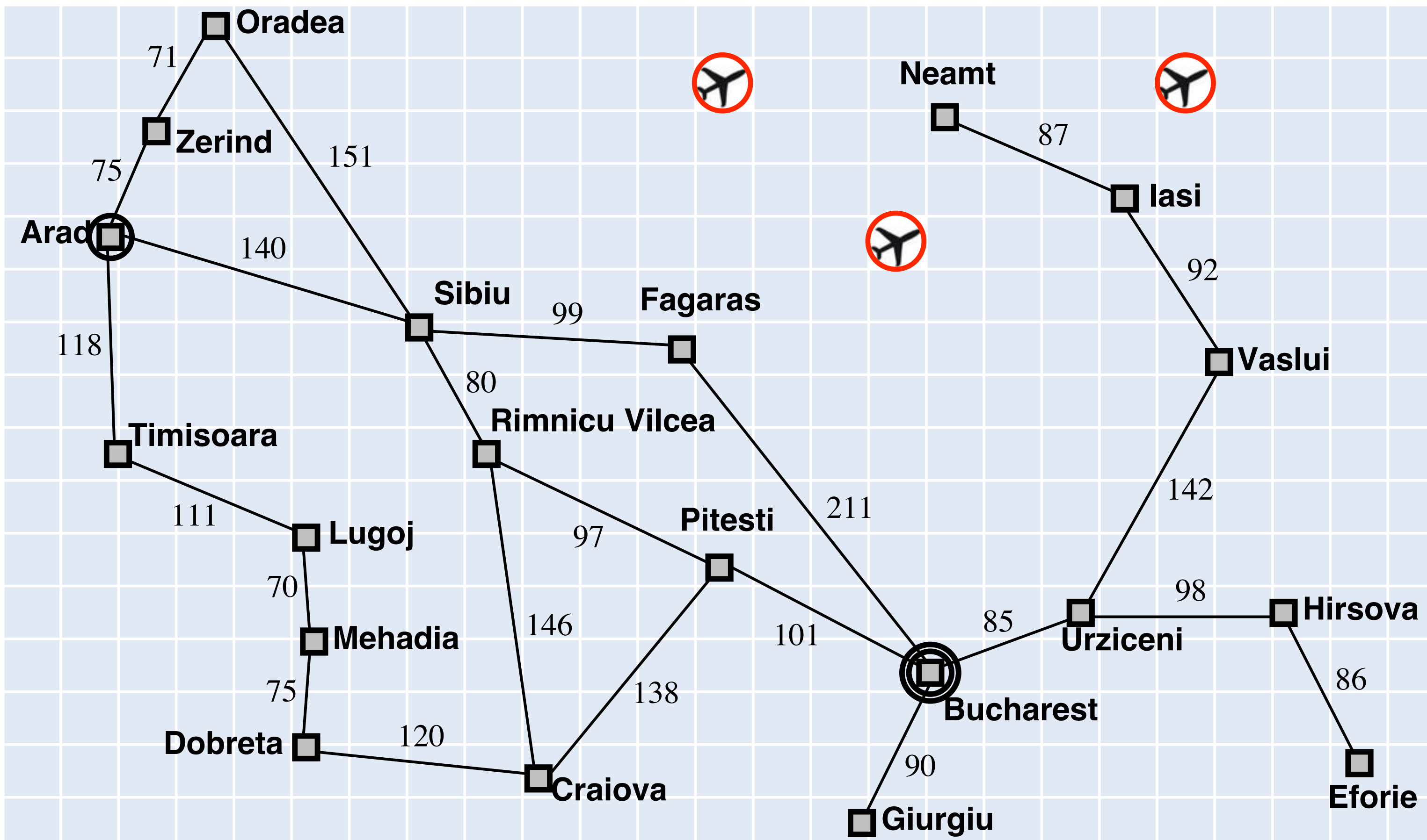
– 6-D state space defined by (x_1, y_2), (x_2, y_2), (x_3, y_3)

– objective function $f(x_1, y_2, x_2, y_2, x_3, y_3) =$
sum of squared distances from each city to nearest airport



Greedy idea in continuous space

discretize and use hill climbing



Greedy idea in continuous space

gradient decent

– 6-D state space defined by (x_1, y_2), (x_2, y_2), (x_3, y_3)
– objective function $f(x_1, y_2, x_2, y_2, x_3, y_3) =$
  sum of squared distances from each city to nearest airport

Gradient methods compute

$$\nabla f = \left(\frac{\partial f}{\partial x_1}, \frac{\partial f}{\partial y_1}, \frac{\partial f}{\partial x_2}, \frac{\partial f}{\partial y_2}, \frac{\partial f}{\partial x_3}, \frac{\partial f}{\partial y_3}\right)$$

to increase/reduce f, e.g., by $\mathbf{x} \leftarrow \mathbf{x} + \alpha \nabla f(\mathbf{x})$

1-order method

Greedy idea in continuous space

gradient decent

– 6-D state space defined by (x_1, y_2), (x_2, y_2), (x_3, y_3)
– objective function $f(x_1, y_2, x_2, y_2, x_3, y_3) =$
sum of squared distances from each city to nearest airport

Sometimes can solve for $\nabla f(\mathbf{x}) = 0$ exactly (e.g., with one city).
Newton–Raphson (1664, 1690) iterates $\mathbf{x} \leftarrow \mathbf{x} - \mathbf{H}_f^{-1}(\mathbf{x}) \nabla f(\mathbf{x})$
to solve $\nabla f(\mathbf{x}) = 0$, where $\mathbf{H}_{ij} = \partial^2 f / \partial x_i \partial x_j$

2-order method

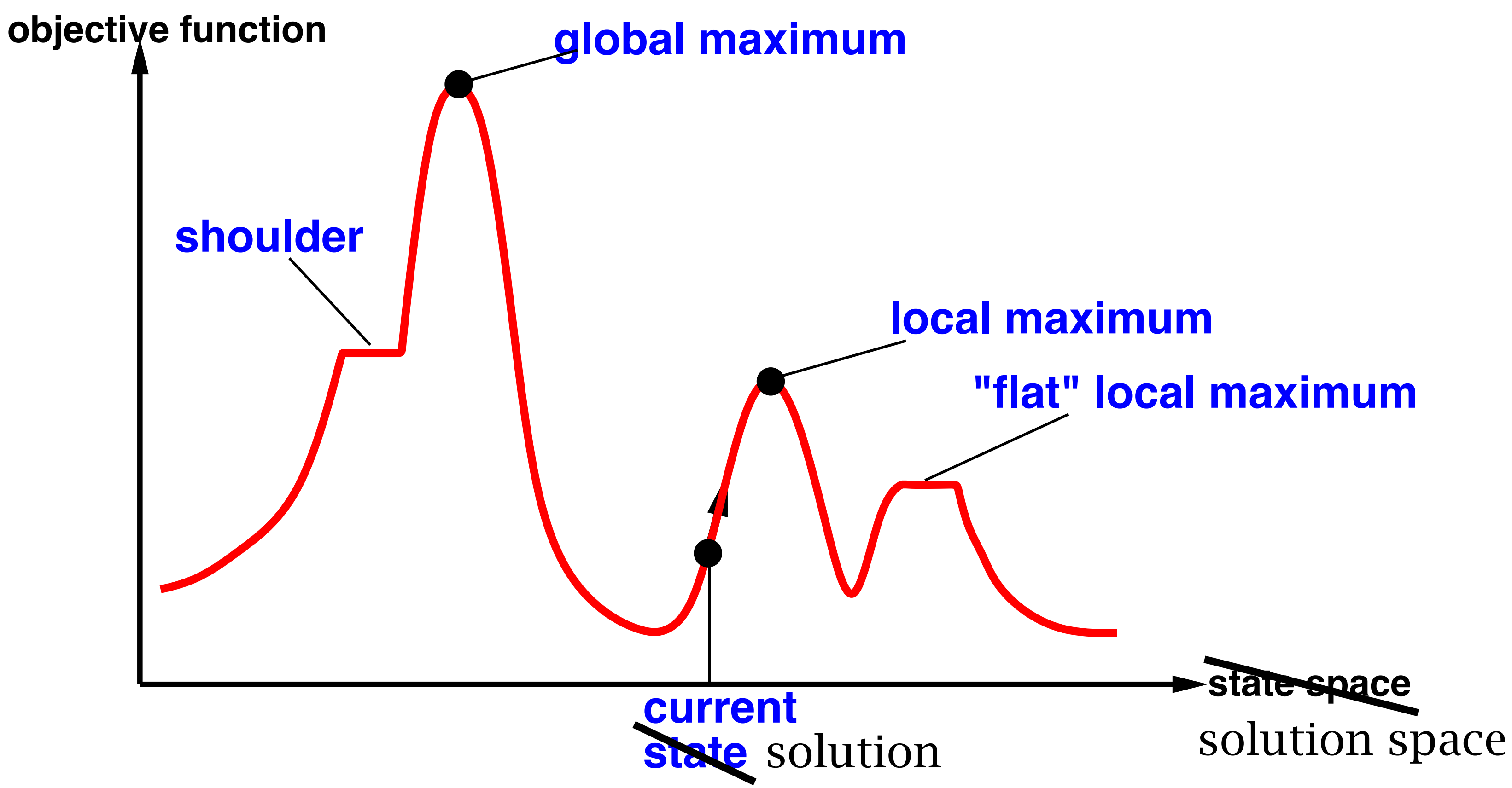
Taylor's series:

$$f(x) = f(a) + (x-a)f'(a) + \frac{(x-a)^2}{2} f''(a) + \cdots = \sum_{i=0}^{\infty} \frac{(x-a)^i}{i!} f^{(i)}(a).$$

Greedy idea

1st and 2nd order methods may not find global optimal solutions

they work for convex functions



Meta-heuristics

“problem independent
“black-box
“zeroth-order method
...

and usually inspired from nature phenomenon

Simulated annealing

temperature from high to low

when high temperature, form the shape
when low temperature, polish the detail

Simulated annealing

Idea: escape local maxima by allowing some "bad" moves
but gradually decrease their size and frequency

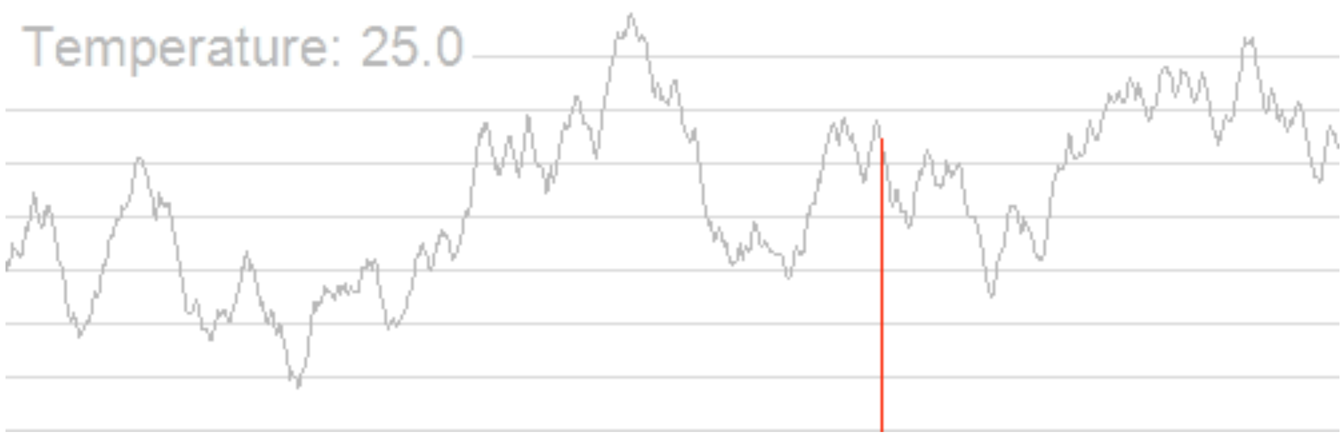
```
function SIMULATED-ANNEALING(problem, schedule) returns a solution state
    inputs: problem, a problem
            schedule, a mapping from time to "temperature"
    local variables: current, a node
                     next, a node
                     T, a "temperature" controlling prob. of downward steps

    current ← MAKE-NODE(INITIAL-STATE[problem])
    for t ← 1 to ∞ do
        T ← schedule[t]
        if T = 0 then return current
        next ← a randomly selected successor of current
        ΔE ← VALUE[next] – VALUE[current]
        if ΔE > 0 then current ← next
        else current ← next only with probability e^(Δ E/T)
```

the neighborhood range shrinks with T

the probability of accepting a bad solution decreases with T

Simulated annealing

a demo



graphic from http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Simulated_annealing

Local beam search

Idea: keep k states instead of 1; choose top k of all their successors

Not the same as k searches run in parallel!
Searches that find good states recruit other searches to join them

Problem: quite often, all k states end up on same local hill

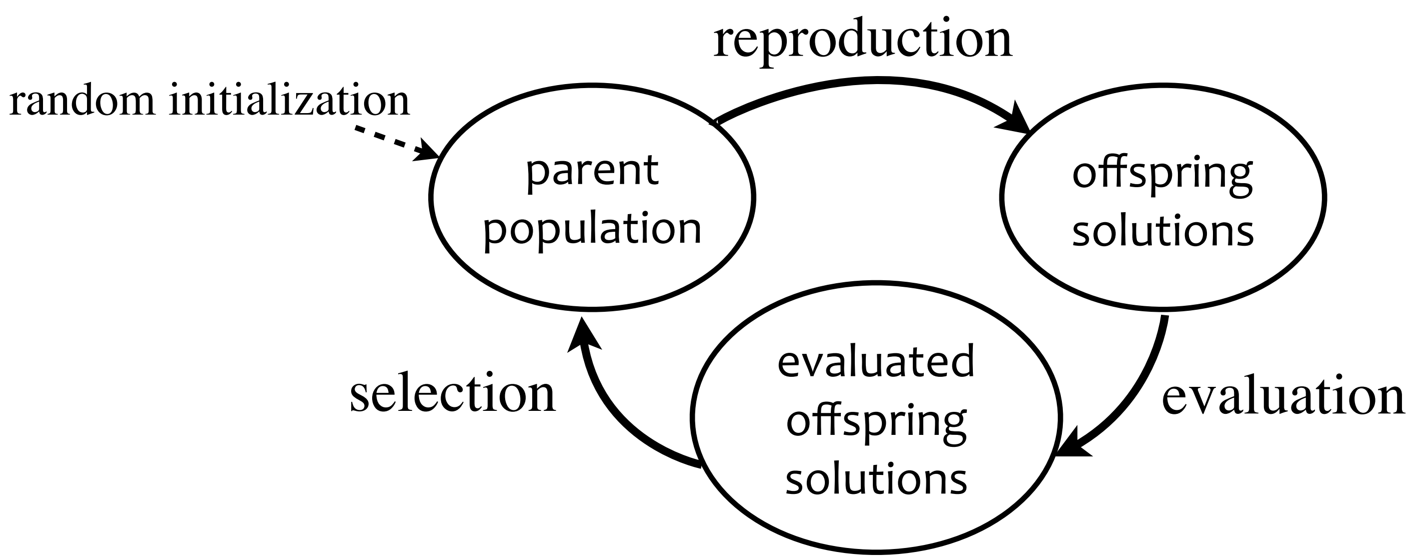
Idea: choose k successors randomly, biased towards good ones

Observe the close analogy to natural selection!

Genetic algorithm

a simulation of Darwin's evolutionary theory

over-reproduction with diversity
nature selection

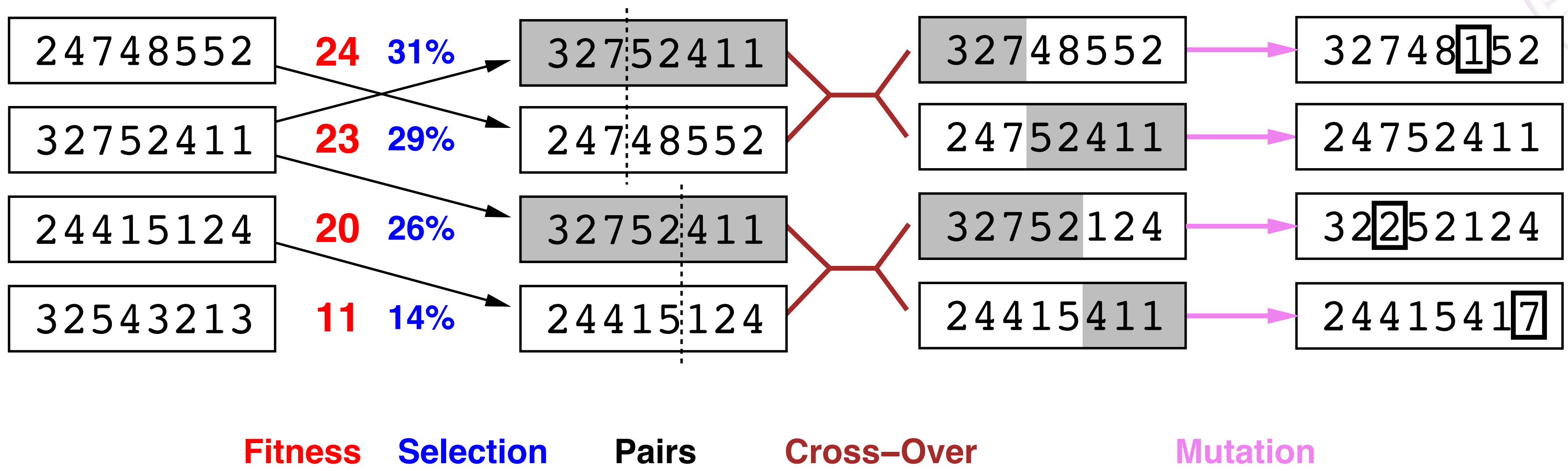


Genetic algorithm

Encode a solution as a vector,

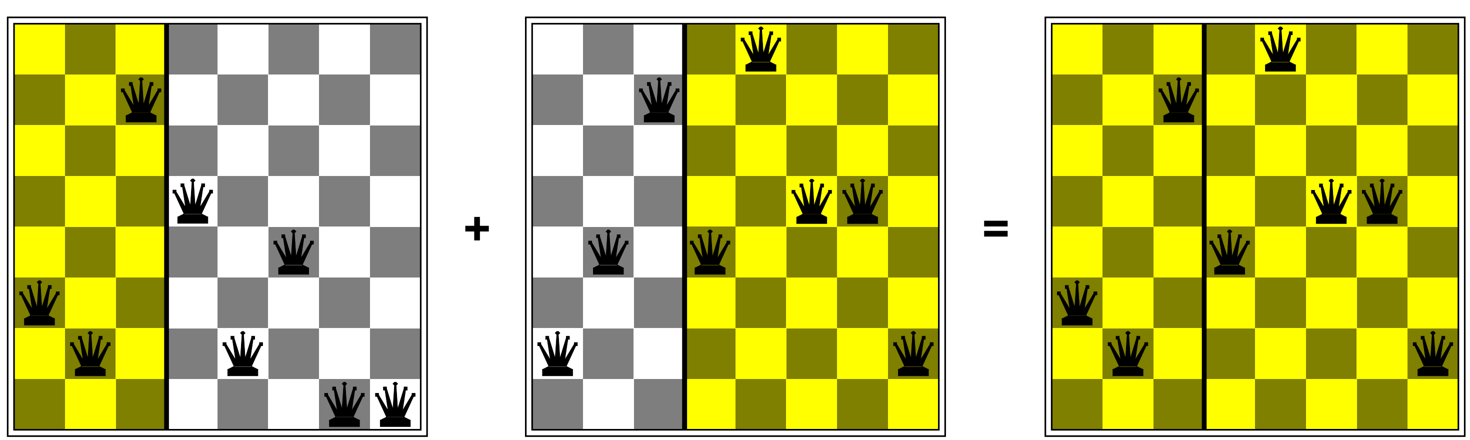
$Pop \leftarrow n$ randomly drawn solutions from $\mathcal{X}$
for t=1,2,... **do**
    $Pop^m \leftarrow \{mutate(s) \mid \forall s \in Pop\}$, the mutated solutions
    $Pop^c \leftarrow \{crossover(s_1, s_2) \mid \exists s_1, s_2 \in Pop^m\}$, the recombined solutions
    evaluate every solution in Pop^c by $f(s)(\forall s \in Pop^c)$
    $Pop^s \leftarrow$ selected solutions from Pop and Pop^c
    $Pop \leftarrow Pop^s$
    terminate if meets a stopping criterion
end for

Genetic algorithm



GAs require states encoded as strings (GPs use programs)

Crossover helps **iff substrings are meaningful components**



Example

Encode a solution as a vector with length n

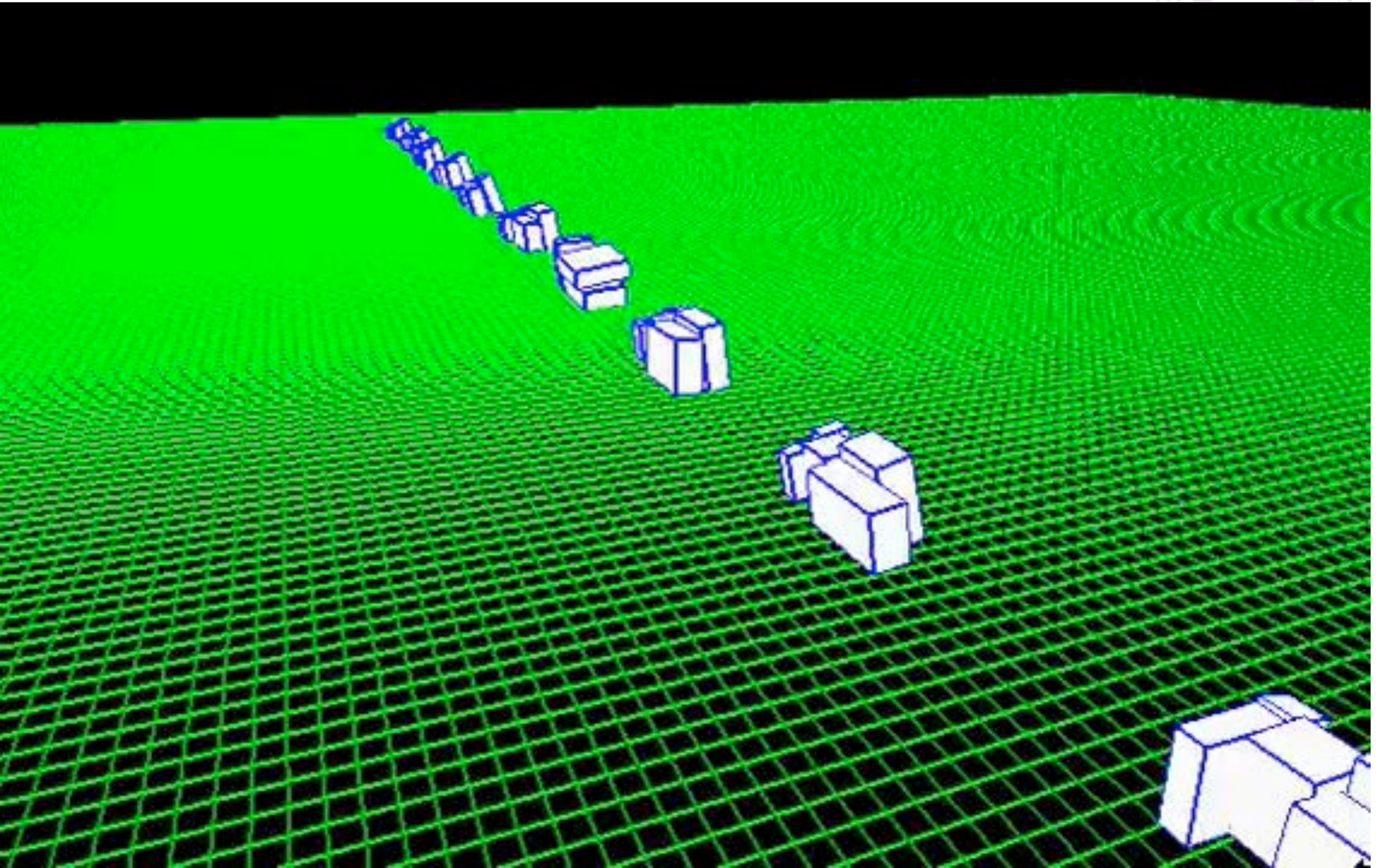
each element of the vector can be chosen from $\{1,\ldots,V\}$

parameters: mutation probability p_m, crossover probability p_c

```
Pop = randomly generate n solutions from {1,...,V}^n
for t=1,2, ... do
    Pop^m=emptyset, Pop^c=emptyset
    for i = 1 to n
        let x be the i-th solution in Pop
        for j = 1 to n: with probability p_m, change x_j by a random value from {1,...,V}
        add x into Pop^m
    end for
    for i = 1 to n
        let x be the i-th solution in Pop^m
        let x' be a randomly selected solution from Pop^m
        with probability p_c, exchange a random part of x with x'
        add x into Pop^c
    end for
    evaluate solutions in Pop^c, select the best n solutions from Pop and Pop^c to Pop
    terminal if a good solution is found
end for
```

An evolutionary of virtual life

An evolutionary of virtual life



Properties of meta-heuristics

zeroth order

do not need differentiable functions

convergence

will find an optimal solution if $P(x^* \mid x) > 0$
or $P(x \to x_1 \to \ldots \to x_k \to x^*) > 0$

a missing link

observation → simulation

Properties of meta-heuristics

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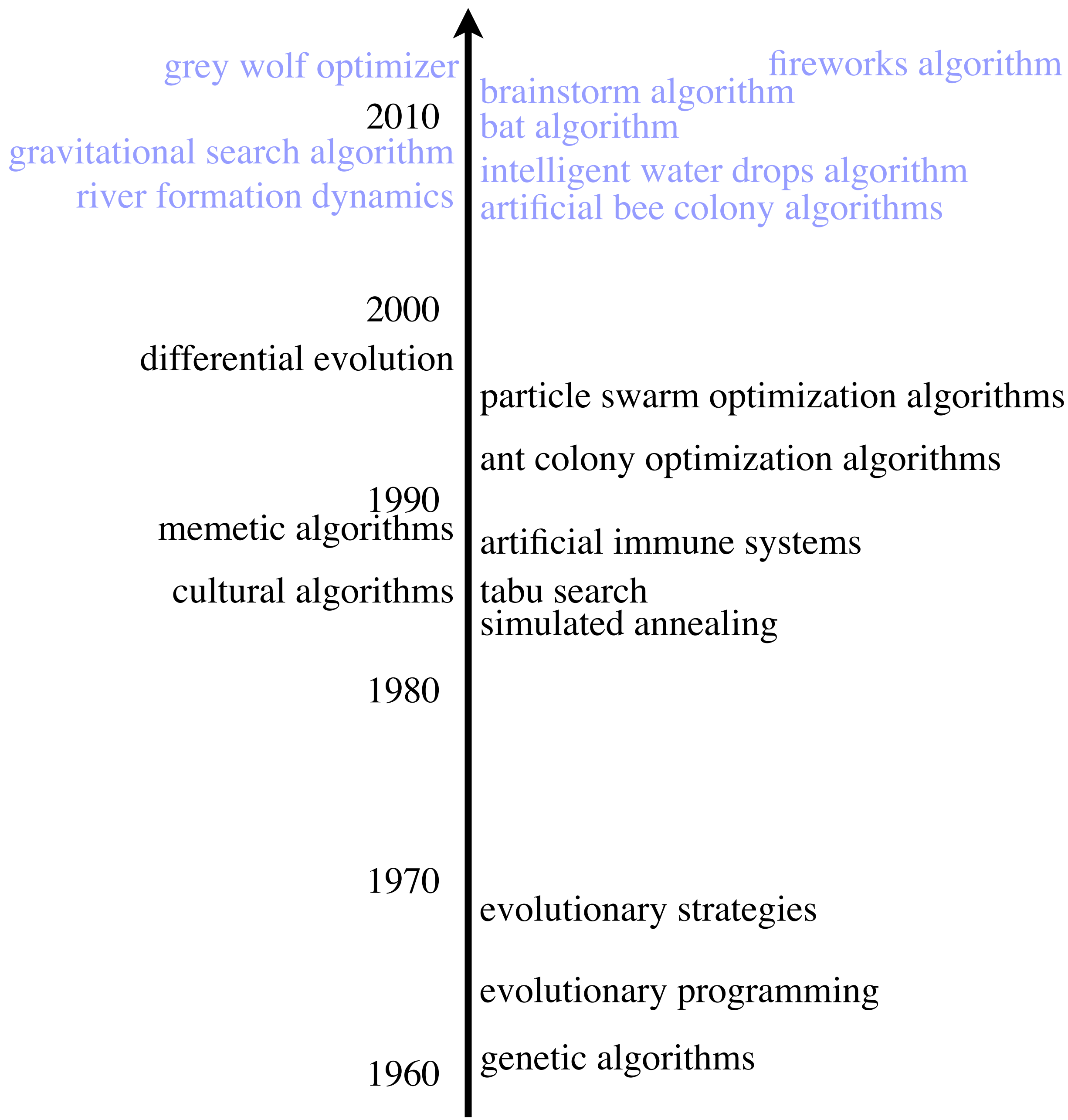
a missing link

observation → simulation

observation → **principle** → application

Properties of meta-heuristics



Example

hard to apply traditional optimization methods
but easy to test a given solution

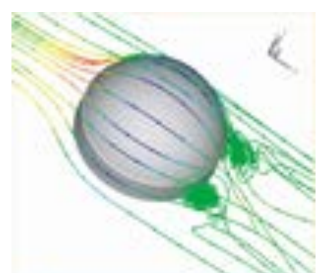
Representation:

parameterize

represented as a vector of parameters

Fitness:

x_i



$f(x_i)$

test by simulation/experiment

Example

Series 700

Series N700

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

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[1]*Central Japan Railway Company, Tokyo, Japan,* [2]*West Japan Railway Company, Osaka, Japan*

Abstract

In March 2005, Central Japan Railway Company (JR Central) has completed prototype

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.

On the Tokaido Shinkansen line, Series N700 cars save 19% energy than Series 700 cars, despite a 30% increase in the output of their traction equipment for higher-speed operation (Fig. 4).

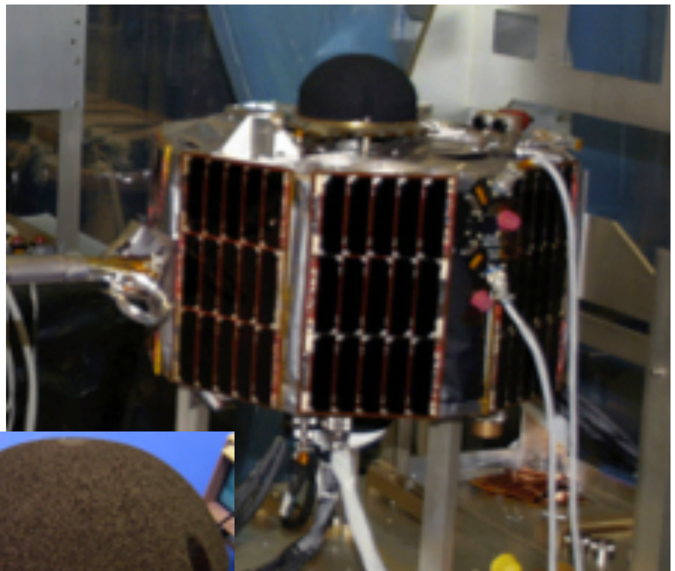
This is a result of adopting the aerodynamically excellent nose shape, reduced running resistance thanks to the drastically smoothened car body and under-floor equipment, effective

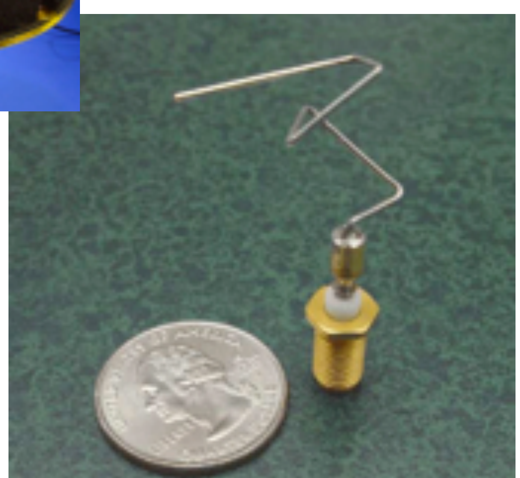
this nose ... has been newly developed ... using the latest analytical technique (i.e. **genetic algorithms**)

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

Example

NASA ST5 satellite

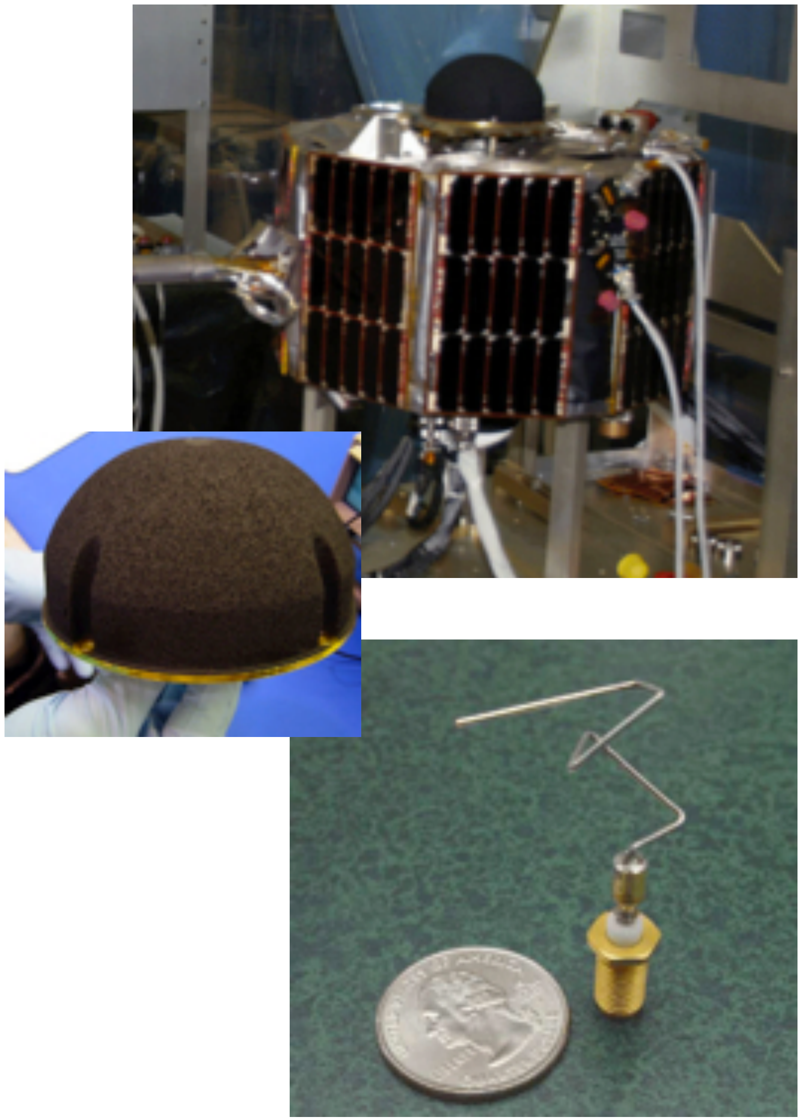




hard to apply traditional optimization methods but easy to test a given solution

Example

NASA ST5 satellite



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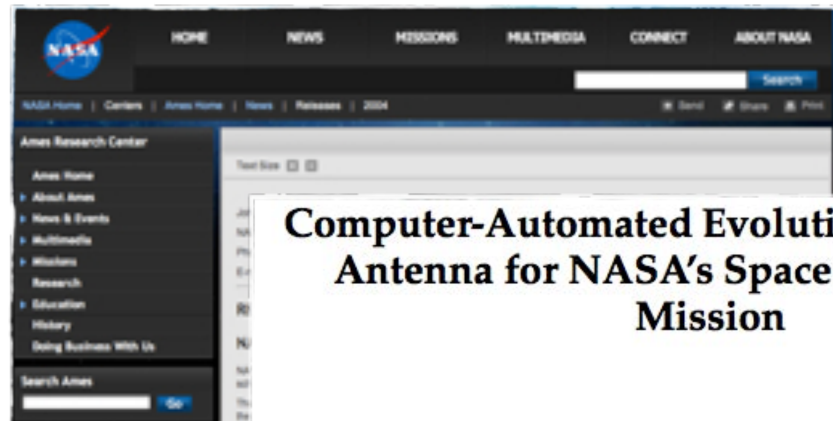

Computer-Automated Evolution of an X-Band Antenna for NASA's Space Technology 5 Mission

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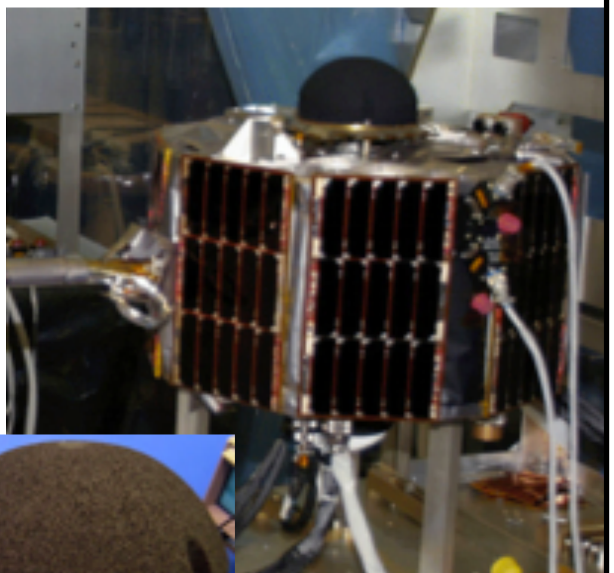
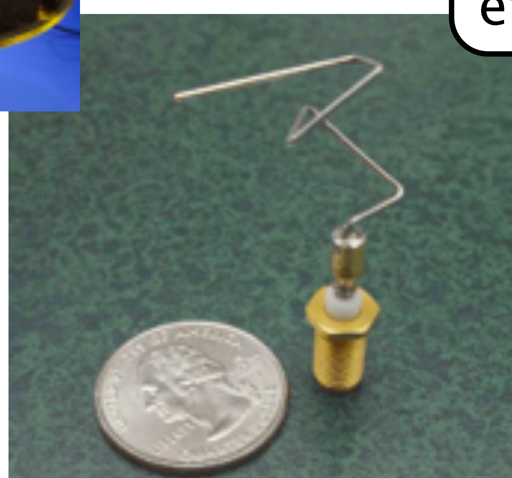
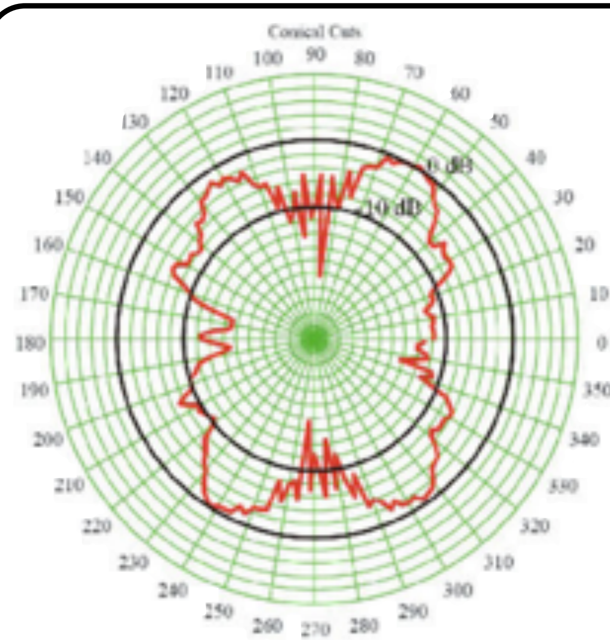
Since there are two antennas on each spacecraft, and not just one, it is important to measure the overall gain pattern with two antennas mounted on the spacecraft. For this, different combinations of the two evolved antennas and the QHA were tried on the the ST5 mock-up and measured in an anechoic chamber. 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

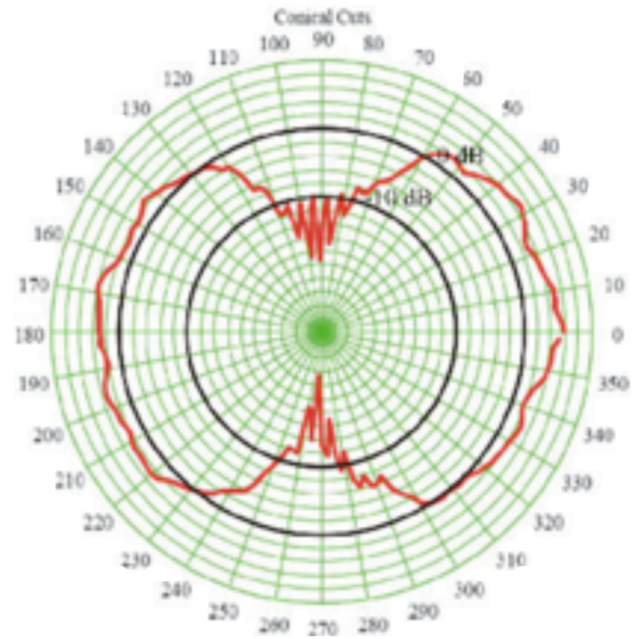
Example

NASA ST5 satellite









QHAs(人工设计) 38% efficiency

evolved antennas resulted in 93% efficiency

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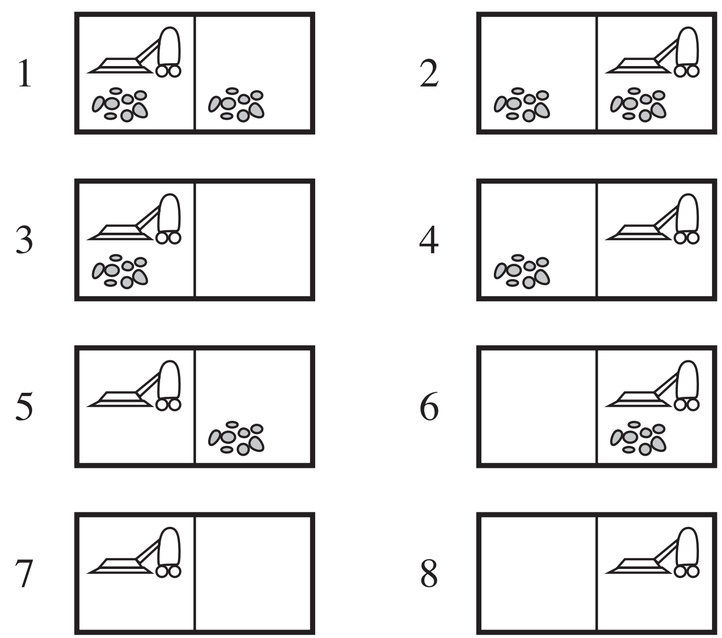
Different Environment Properties

Nondeterministic actions

In the **erratic vacuum world**, the *Suck* action works as follows:

- When applied to a dirty square the action cleans the square and sometimes cleans up dirt in an adjacent square, too.
- When applied to a clean square the action sometimes deposits dirt on the carpet.[9]

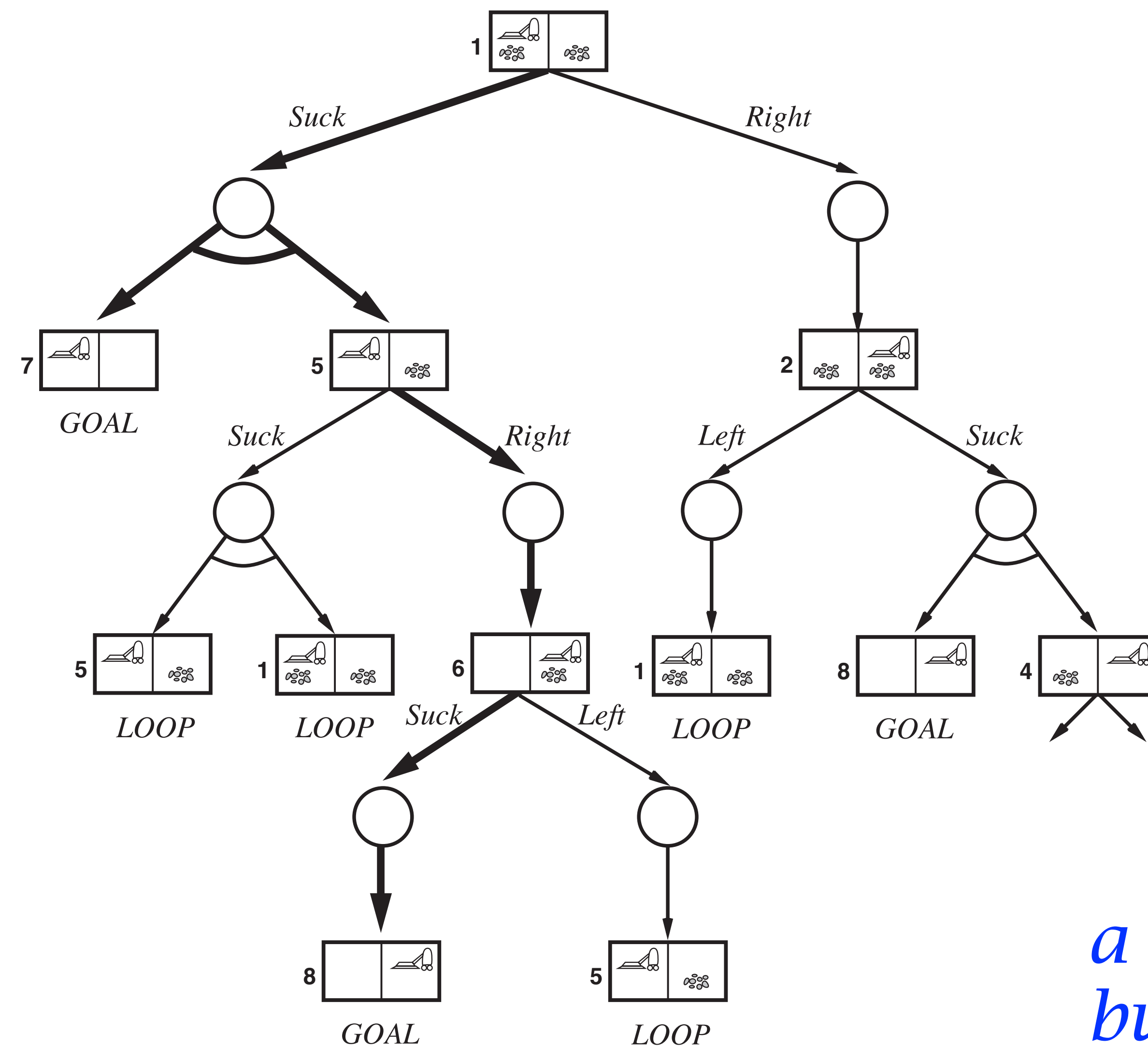


almost all real-world problems are nondeterministic

how do you solve this problem?

AND-OR tree search

OR node: different actions (as usual)
AND node: different transitions



a solution is not a path but a tree

Depth-first AND-OR tree search

function AND-OR-GRAPH-SEARCH(*problem*) **returns** *a conditional plan, or failure*
  OR-SEARCH(*problem*.INITIAL-STATE, *problem*, [ ])

---

function OR-SEARCH(*state*, *problem*, *path*) **returns** *a conditional plan, or failure*
  if *problem*.GOAL-TEST(*state*) **then return** the empty plan
  if *state* is on *path* **then return** *failure*
  for each *action* **in** *problem*.ACTIONS(*state*) **do**
    $plan \leftarrow$ AND-SEARCH(RESULTS(*state*, *action*), *problem*, [*state* | *path*])
    if $plan \neq failure$ **then return** [*action* | *plan*]
  return *failure*

---

function AND-SEARCH(*states*, *problem*, *path*) **returns** *a conditional plan, or failure*
  for each s_i **in** *states* **do**
    $plan_i \leftarrow$ OR-SEARCH(s_i, *problem*, *path*)
    if $plan_i = failure$ **then return** *failure*
  return [**if** s_1 **then** $plan_1$ **else if** s_2 **then** $plan_2$ **else** ... **if** s_{n-1} **then** $plan_{n-1}$ **else** $plan_n$]

Search with no observations

search in **belief (in agent's mind)**