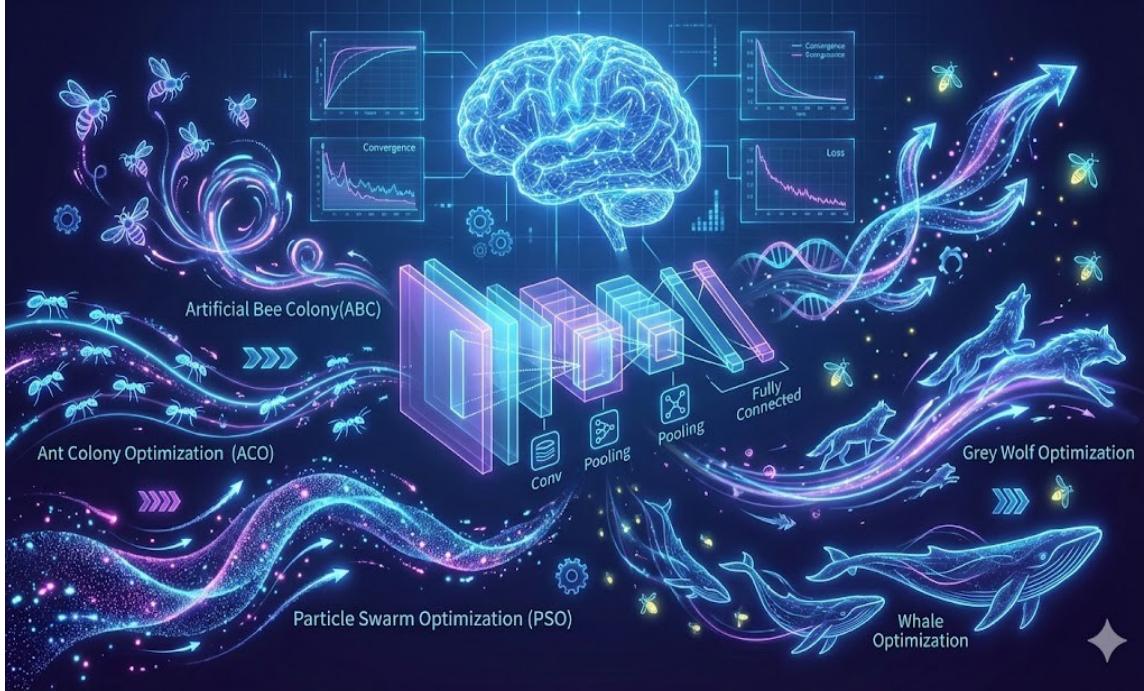


# DeepEvoOpt Project Report

‘Hyperparameter Optimization for Deep Learning Using Evolutionary Algorithms’



## AIvolution Team

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# ★ 1. Project Overview

The **DeepEvoOpt** project is a complete optimization framework designed to improve the performance of deep learning models through **meta-heuristic optimization algorithms**. The project evaluates and compares nine different evolutionary and swarm-based optimization techniques to tune hyperparameters for:

- **Convolutional Neural Network (CNN)**
- **Feed-Forward Neural Network (MLP)**

Both models are trained on the **Fashion-MNIST** dataset.

The system is fully modular, with separate components for:

- Data loading
- Model definitions
- Optimization algorithms
- Objective evaluation
- Experiment execution
- Results logging and visualization

The repository follows a clean structure:

```
DeepEvoOpt/
|__ data/
|__ notebooks/
|__ results/
|__ src/
|   |__ models/
|   |__ optimizers/
|   |__ utils/
|   |__ train.py
|   |__ run_experiments.py
```

## 2. Models Used

### **Convolutional Neural Network (CNN)**

The CNN architecture used in this project includes:

- Two convolutional layers
- ReLU activations
- MaxPooling layers
- Dropout for regularization
- Fully Connected (FC) layers for classification

All hyperparameters such as filter sizes, kernel sizes, dropout rates, and FC dimensions are tunable by the optimizers.

### **Feed-Forward Neural Network (MLP)**

The MLP model consists of:

- Multiple fully connected layers
- ReLU activation
- Dropout layers
- Configurable hidden layer sizes

This makes it suitable for optimization using meta-heuristic algorithms.



### 3. Optimization Algorithms Applied

The following **9 optimization algorithms** were implemented:

- 1. Genetic Algorithm (GA)**
- 2. Particle Swarm Optimization (PSO)**
- 3. Grey Wolf Optimizer (GWO)**
- 4. Ant Colony Optimization (ACO)**
- 5. Firefly Algorithm**
- 6. Artificial Bee Colony (ABC)**
- 7. Opposition-Based Chaotic Whale Optimization Algorithm (OBC-WOA)**
- 8. Fitness-Centered Recombination (FCR)**
- 9. Fuzzy-Controlled Grey Wolf Optimizer (FCGWO)**

Each optimizer:

- Generates a population of hyperparameter sets
- Evaluates them using the unified objective function
- Trains the model for a small number of epochs
- Updates solutions iteratively
- Logs validation loss over time

## 4. Workflow Summary

Step 1 — Define Search Space

Each hyperparameter (learning rate, dropout, filter sizes, optimizer type, etc.) has a defined search interval.

Step 2 — Run Optimization

Each meta-heuristic algorithm runs for:

- **POP\_SIZE = 6** individuals
- **MAX\_ITER = 5** iterations

Step 3 — Objective Function

Each candidate solution:

- Builds the CNN model
- Trains for a few epochs
- Returns validation loss

Step 4 — Logging & Visualization

All results are saved into:

`results/logs/`

`results/figures/`

The notebook plots convergence curves and compares all optimizes.



## 5. Results Comparison (CNN Model)

Below is a summary of the **best validation loss** achieved by each optimizer as recorded in the project notebook:

Optimizer	Best Validation Loss	Notes
ACO	<b>0.2314</b>	Best overall performance – fast convergence
GWO	<b>0.2453</b>	Very strong and stable
FCGWO	<b>0.2456</b>	Improved exploration via fuzzy-controlled parameter adaptation
GA	<b>0.2616</b>	Good start then plateaued early
Firefly	<b>0.2616</b>	Similar pattern to GA
OBC-WOA	<b>0.2665</b>	Gradual improvement, moderate performance
PSO	<b>0.2833</b>	Slower convergence, moderate accuracy
FCR	<b>0.2951</b>	Weaker performance, needs tuning
ABC	<b>0.3216</b>	Weakest performance in this experiment

## ★ 6. Analysis of Results

### Why ACO performed best

- Strong exploitation of promising solutions
- Efficient pheromone-based reinforcement
- Fast and stable convergence patterns

### GWO & FCGWO advantages

- GWO provides a solid balance between exploration and exploitation
- FCGWO enhances GWO by adapting the parameter "a" using fuzzy logic → improved convergence quality

### GA & Firefly performance

- Both show early improvements but struggle to escape local minima
- Require larger populations or more iterations to outperform GWO/ACO

### Why ABC scored worst

- Sensitive to initialization
- Requires larger populations for stable results

## 7. Conclusion

The **DeepEvoOpt** framework successfully demonstrates how meta-heuristic algorithms can be used to optimize deep learning models. Through this experiment:

- **ACO** achieved the best overall performance
- **GWO** and **FCGWO** provided strong and consistent results
- Some algorithms (ABC, FCR) require more tuning or more iterations

The project is modular, extensible, and can be further developed to:

- Train models on larger datasets
- Add more optimization algorithms
- Improve GPU utilization
- Automate full training of best-found hyperparameters