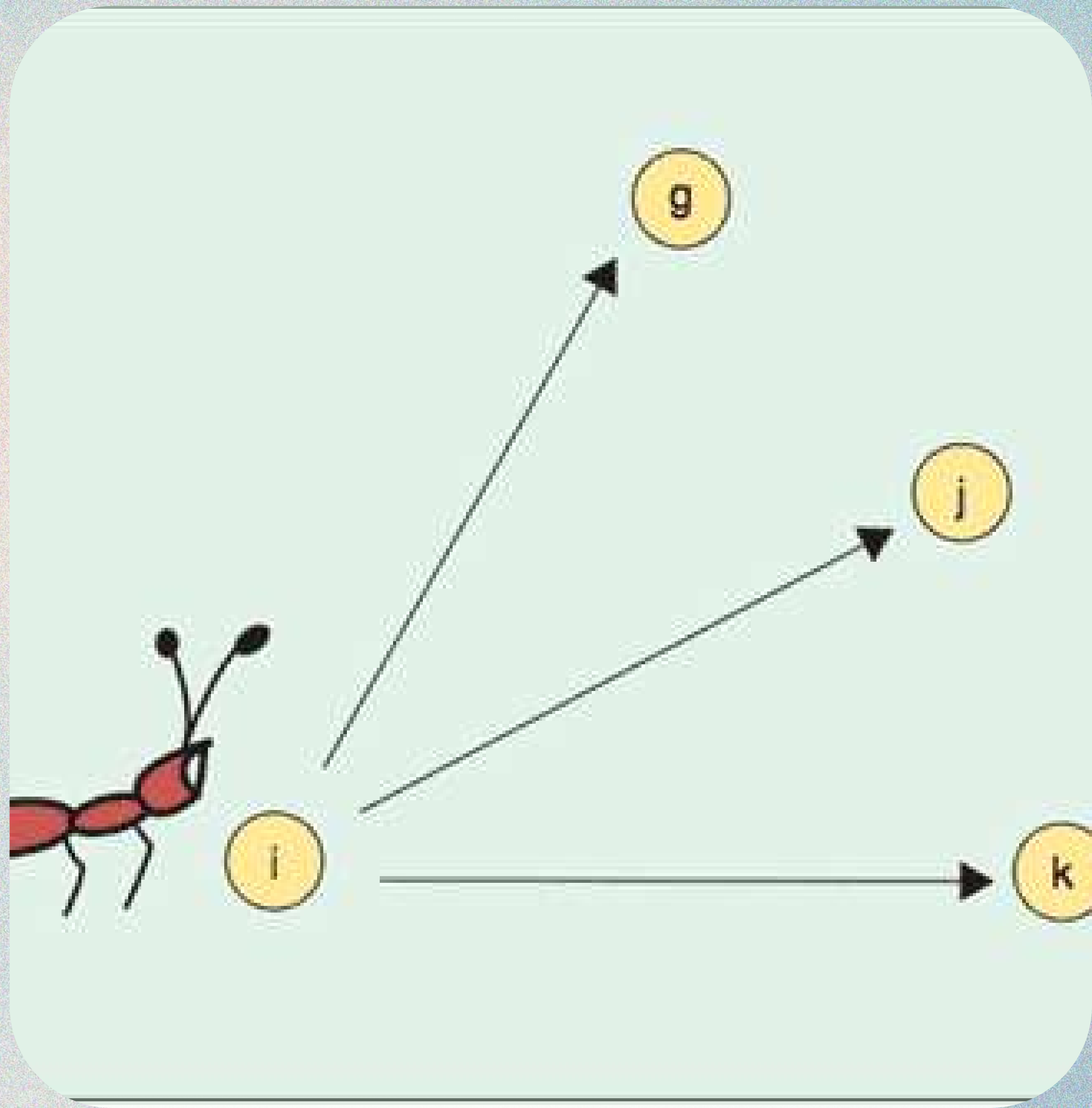


# ANT COLONY OPTIMIZATION

PRABESH BASHYAL

PRATIK ADHIKARI

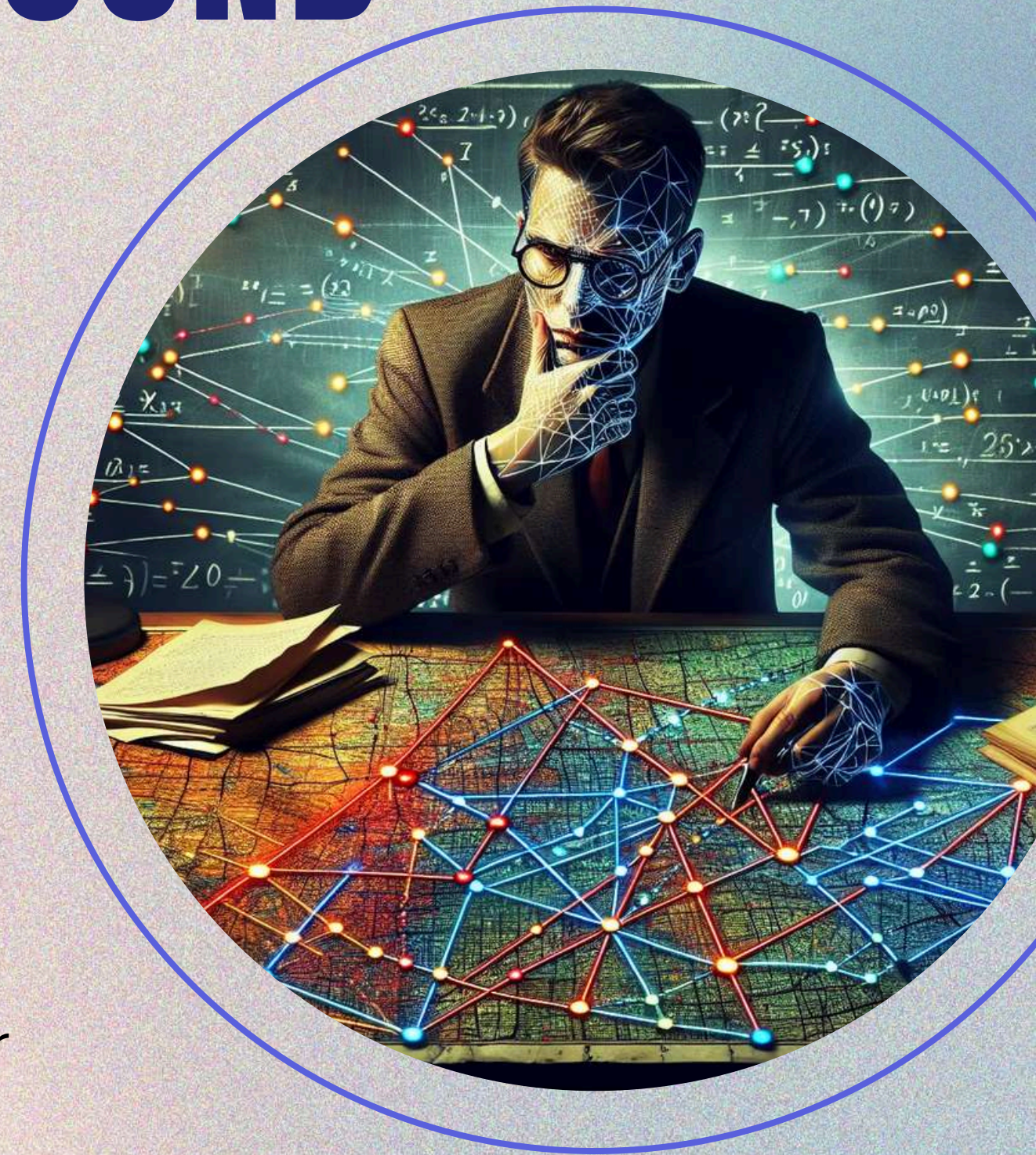
SAROJ POUDEL



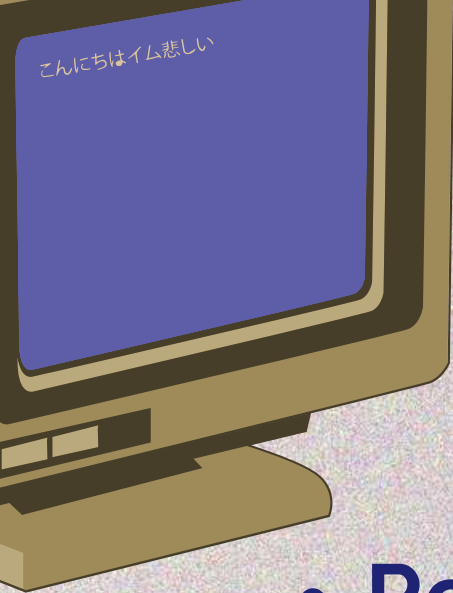


# PROBLEM BACKGROUND

- **Traveling Salesman Problem (TSP):** NP-hard problem of finding the shortest route visiting each city exactly once.
- **Exponential Complexity:** Becomes computationally infeasible for large instances.
- **Scalability Issues:** Traditional methods struggle with efficiency.
- **Biomimetic Approach:** Inspired by ant foraging behavior.
- **Stigmergic Communication:** Collective intelligence for optimal pathfinding.







# PROJECT OBJECTIVES

- **Robust ACO Algorithm Implementation**
  - Configurable parameters
  - Flexible problem instance handling
- **Interactive Visualization System**
  - Real-time algorithm behavior exploration
  - Intuitive understanding of swarm intelligence
- **Comprehensive Performance Analysis**
  - Parameter sensitivity investigation
  - Comparative evaluation with alternative methods
- **Practical Geographic Routing**
  - Capabilities Support for real-world coordinate systems
  - Haversine distance calculations





# THE INSPIRATION: NATURE'S PROBLEM SOLVERS

- **How Ants Find the Best Path**
  - Ants explore their environment randomly
  - They leave chemical trails (pheromones) while moving
  - Other ants follow stronger pheromone trails
  - Shortest, most efficient paths get reinforced
  - Longer, less efficient paths fade away
- **Key Biological Insight**
  - Collective intelligence emerges from simple individual behaviors
  - No single ant knows the entire optimal route
  - The colony solves complex navigation problems together





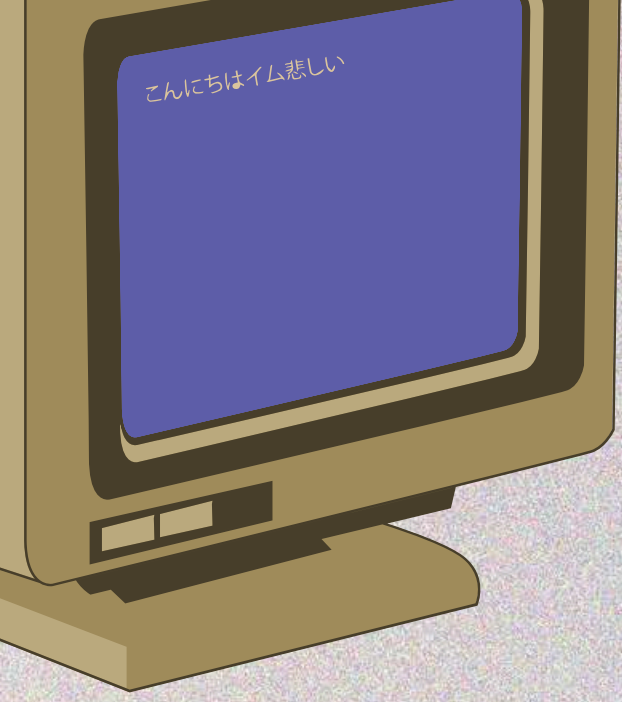


# ANT COLONY OPTIMIZATION (ACO)

- **Nature-Inspired Algorithm**
  - Mimics ant foraging behavior to solve optimization problems.
- **Solving the Traveling Salesman Problem (TSP)**
  - Finds the shortest route visiting each city once.
- **Pheromone-Based Path Selection**
  - Ants deposit pheromones, reinforcing optimal paths over time.
- **Collective Intelligence**
  - Uses stigmergic communication for adaptive learning.







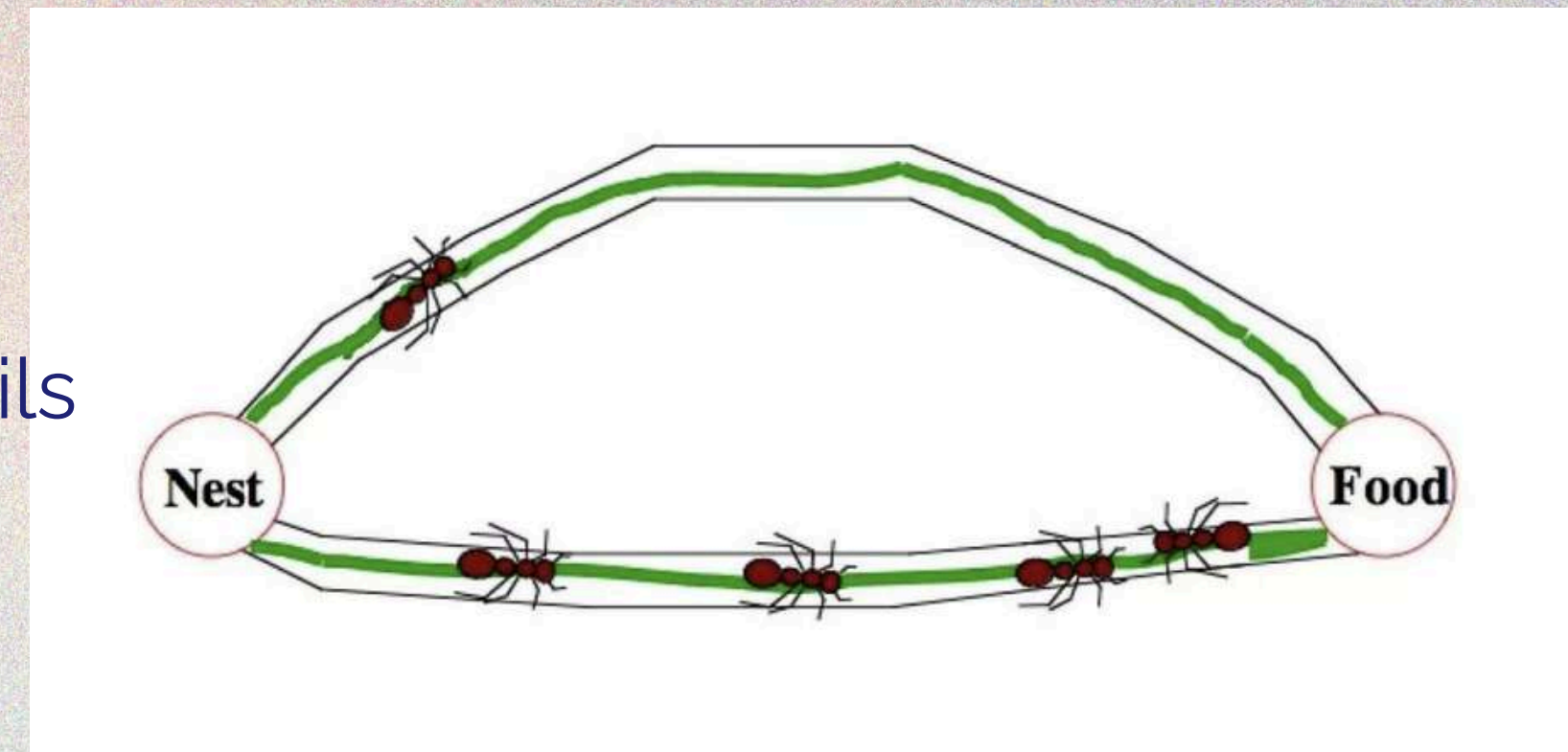
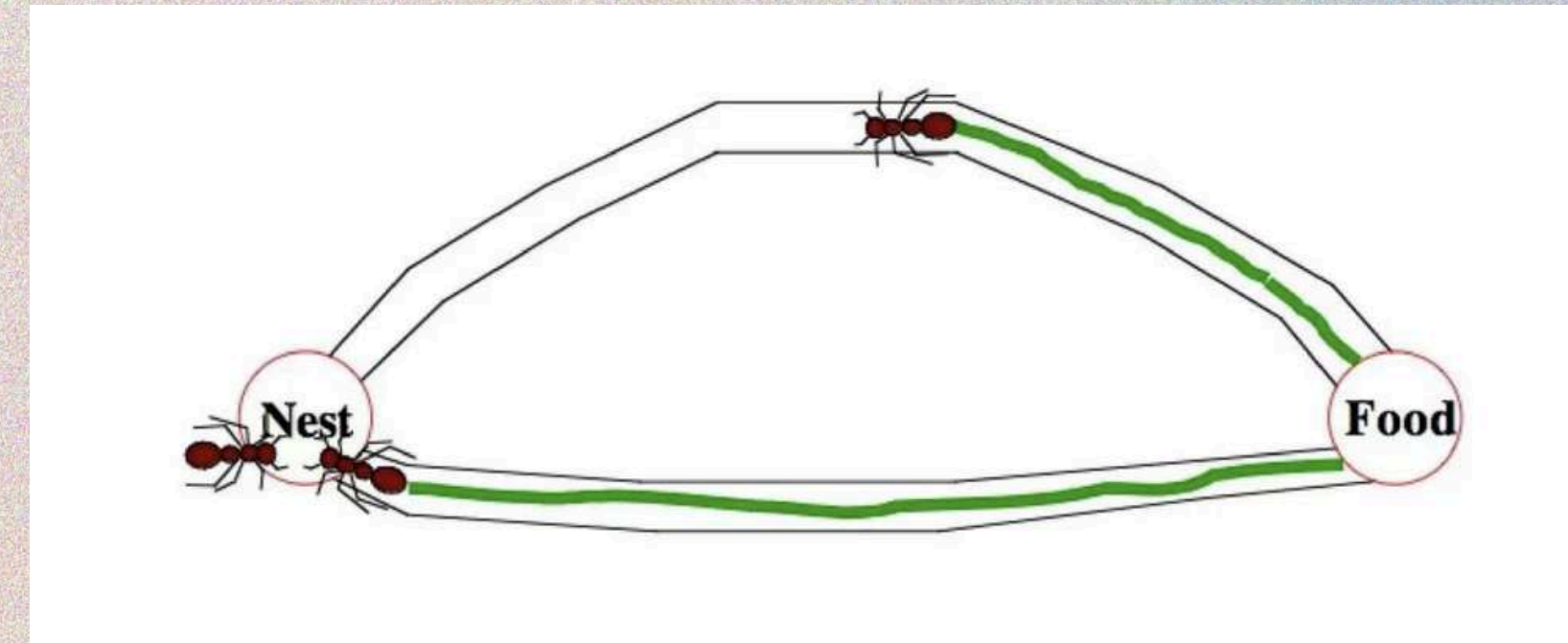
# HOW ACO WORKS ?

- **Initialization**

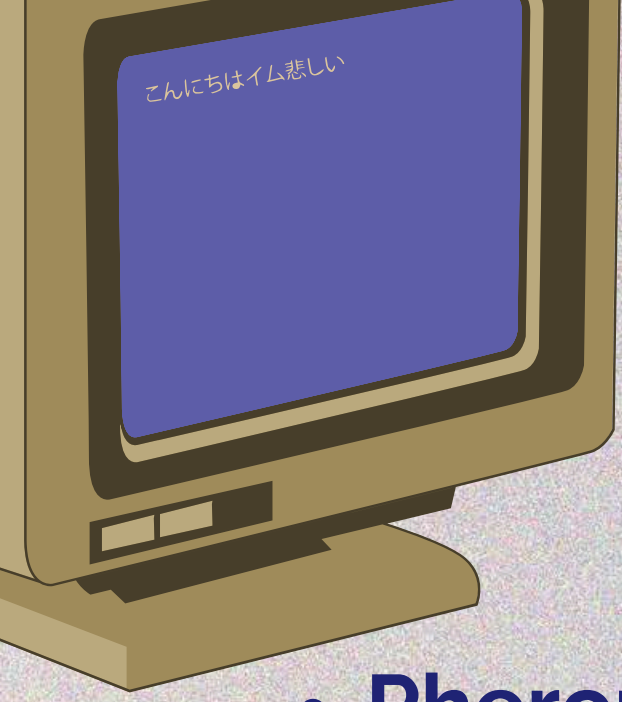
- Place virtual ants on different cities
- Create initial pheromone trails

- **Path Construction**

- Ants build complete routes
- Choose paths probabilistically
- Favor paths with stronger pheromone trails







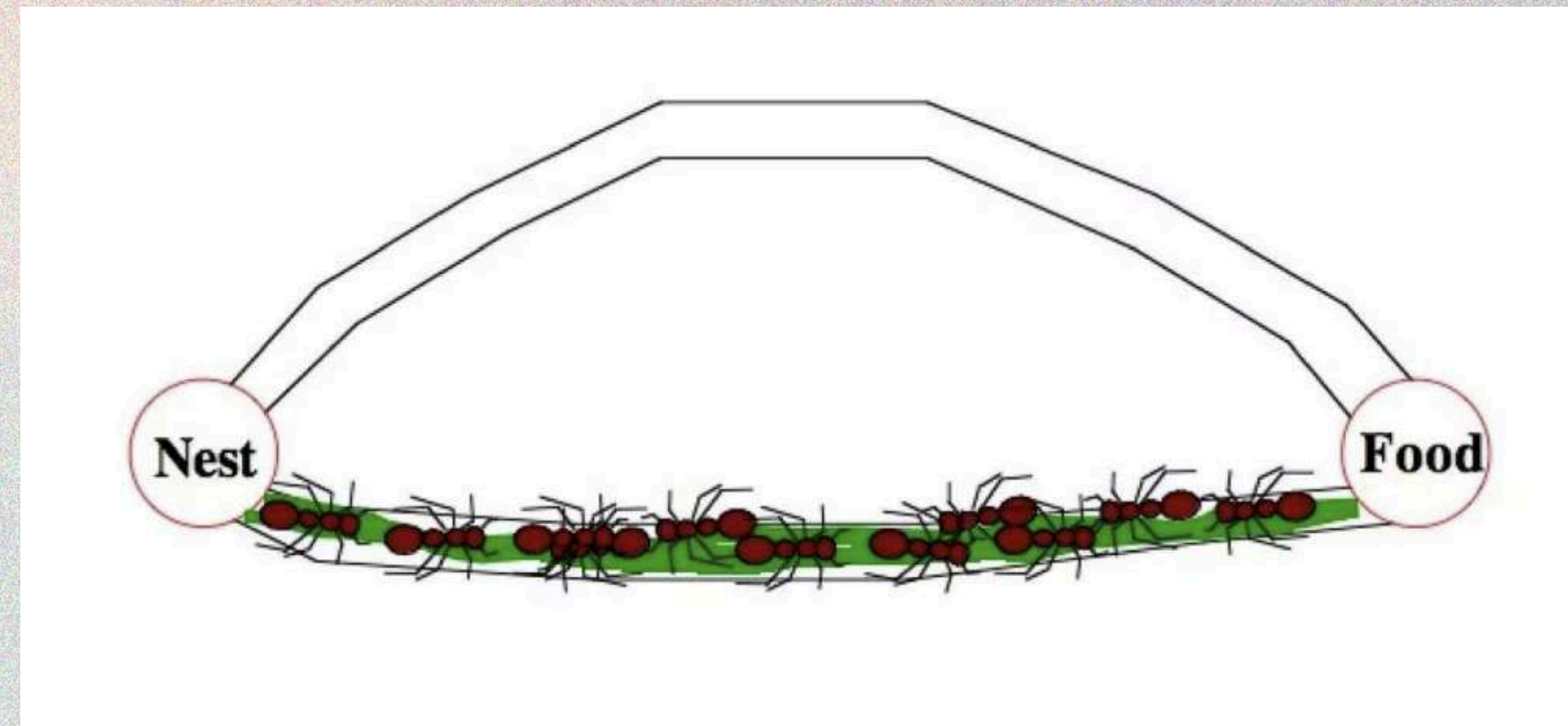
# HOW ACO WORKS ?

- **Pheromone Update**

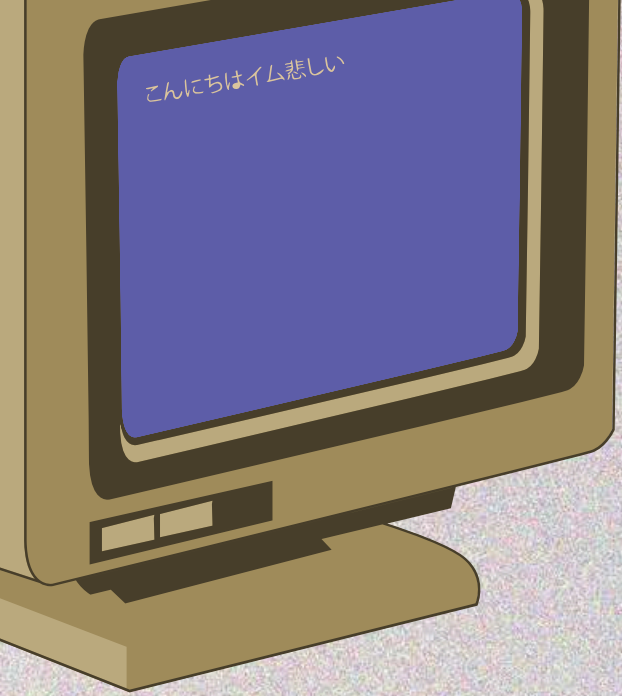
- Deposit more pheromones on shorter routes
- Gradually reduce (evaporate) existing pheromones
- Prevent getting stuck in bad solutions

- **Iteration and Improvement**

- Repeat the process multiple times
- Converge towards optimal solution







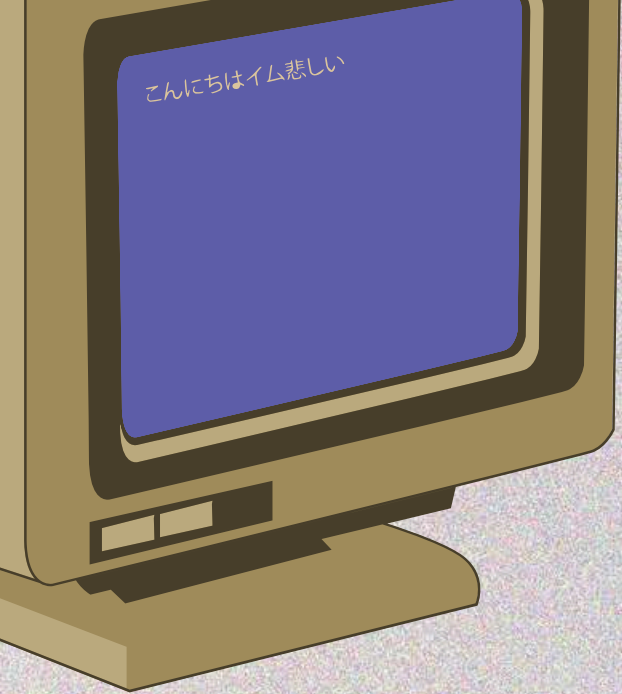
# ALGORITHMIC ABSTRACTION

$$p_{ij}^k = \begin{cases} \frac{[\tau_{ij}]^\alpha \cdot [\eta_{ij}]^\beta}{\sum_{l \in N_i^k} [\tau_{il}]^\alpha \cdot [\eta_{il}]^\beta}, & \text{if } j \in N_i^k \\ 0, & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$

- $\tau$ : Pheromone trail intensity
- $\eta$ : Heuristic desirability
- $\alpha$ : Pheromone importance
- $\beta$ : Heuristic importance







# ALGORITHMIC ABSTRACTION

- **Mathematical Modeling of Ant Behavior**
- **Probabilistic Path Selection**
  - Influenced by pheromone trails
  - Guided by heuristic information
- **Pheromone Dynamics**
  - Trail deposition
  - Evaporation mechanism
  - Positive feedback loop







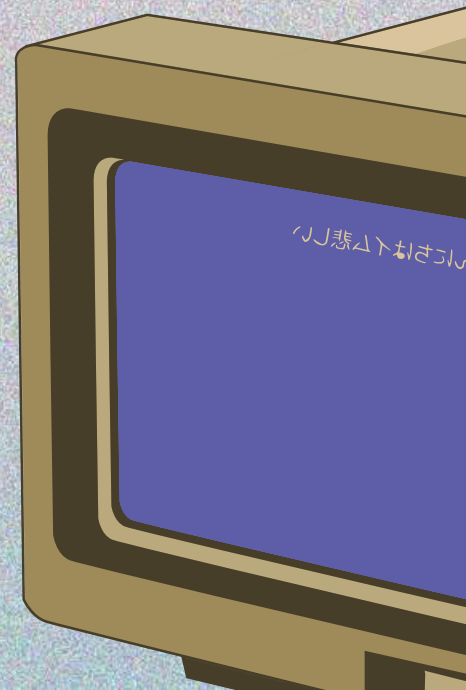
# PERFORMANCE AND EFFECTIVENESS

- **Comparative Results**

Problem Size	Nearest Neighbor	Simulated Annealing	Genetic Algorithm	ACO
20 Cities	15.7%	3.2%	1.8%	0.9%
50 Cities	22.4%	7.9%	5.3%	4.1%
100 Cities	28.3%	12.6%	8.7%	7.2%

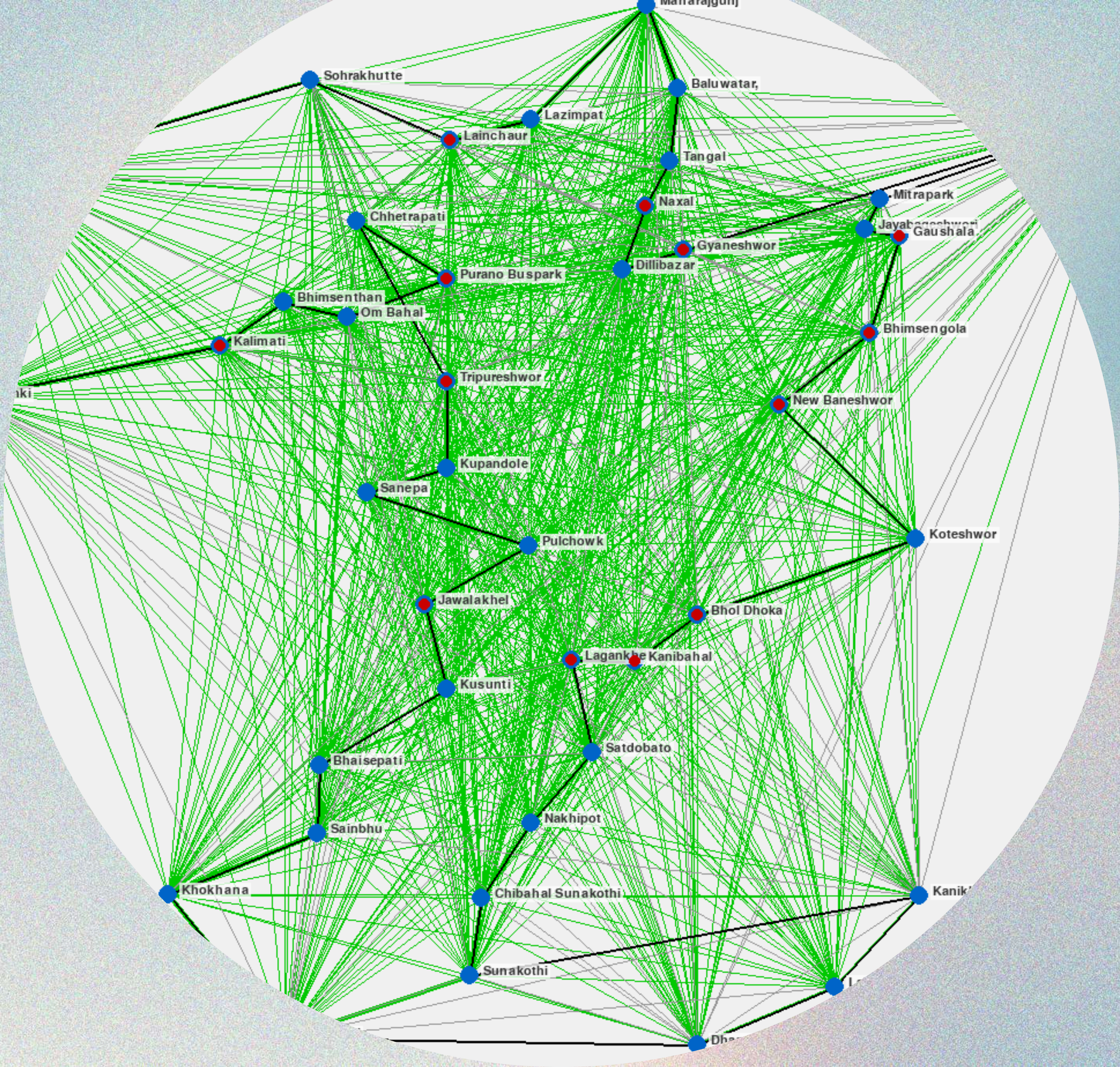
- **Key Strengths**

- Adaptable to various problem types
- Handles complex optimization challenges
- Mimics natural problem-solving strategies





# RESULTS







# EXPANDED APPLICATION DOMAINS

- Vehicle routing
  - Network design
  - Resource allocation problems
- 





# CHALLENGES AND SOLUTIONS

## Challenges

- Sensitive to parameter settings
- Computationally intensive
- No guaranteed global optimal solution
- Performance varies with problem complexity

## Ongoing Research Directions

- Hybrid algorithm development
- Adaptive parameter mechanisms
- Integration with machine learning
- Expanding application domains





# FUTURE POTENTIAL

- **Advanced Optimization Techniques**
  - Combining with other AI methods
  - More sophisticated decision mechanisms
- **Broader Application Domains**
  - Complex network design
  - Dynamic optimization problems
  - Real-time decision support systems
- **Computational Efficiency**
  - Parallel processing
  - Improved algorithmic variants



# CONCLUSION

- **The Power of Nature-Inspired Computing**
  - Demonstrates collective intelligence
  - Solves complex problems through simple rules
  - Bridges biological observation and computational methods
- **Key Takeaways**
  - Optimization can emerge from simple interactions
  - Nature provides powerful problem-solving strategies
  - Interdisciplinary approach to computational challenges



**THANK  
YOU!**