

Artificial Bee Colony Algorithm

What is ABC?

- **Creator:** Dervis Karaboga, 2005.
- **Inspiration:** The food foraging strategy of honey bees.
- **Key Idea:** It models how bees find, share information about, and exploit food sources with the highest nectar.
- The “food source” is our solution, and the “nectar” is the fitness or quality of that solution.
- The algorithm divides the population into three types of bees: employed, onlooker, and scout.
- The approach balances exploration, finding new areas, and exploitation, refining good solutions.

The Bee Colony in Action

- **Employed Bees:** Each employed bee is assigned to a specific food source (a solution). They locally search for a better solution in their neighbourhood.
- **Onlooker Bees:** These bees wait at the hive and decide which food source to exploit based on the waggle dances of the employed bees.
- The more *nectar* an employed bee’s source has, the more likely an onlooker will choose it.
- **The Search Equation:** A new candidate solution, v_{ij} is created for an employed or onlooker bee from its current position x_{ij} and a randomly chosen neighbour x_{kj} using the formula:

$$v_{ij} = x_{ij} + \phi_{ij}(x_{ij} - x_{kj})$$

- Here ϕ_{ij} is a random number between $[-1, 1]$, controlling the search step size

What about the Onlooker and Scout Bees?

- **Onlooker bees:** These bees wait at the hive and decide which food source to exploit based on the waggle dances of the employed bees.
- **Selection:** The better a food source’s nectar, the higher the probability that an onlooker bee will choose it. The probability is calculated with the fitness of the source:

$$p_i = \frac{fit_i}{\sum_{j=1}^{FN} fit_j}$$

- After choosing a source, the onlooker bee goes to it and performs a local search, similar to an employed bee.
- **Scout Bees:** If an employed bee’s food source doesn’t improve after a certain number of trials, it’s considered abandoned.
- That employed bee then becomes a scout bee, which means it flies off to find a brand new, randomly generated food source.

- This scout phase is critical for preventing the algorithm from getting stuck in a local optimum.
- The overall process is a cycle of employed, onlooker, and scout bee phases, with the best solution found so far always being remembered.

Flowchart

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Spider Monkey Optimisation Algorithm

Introducing Spider Monkeys and their combined intellect

- **Creator:** J. C. Bansal et al., 2014.
- **Inspiration:** The “fission - fusion” social structure of spider monkey groups as they forage for food.
- **Key Idea:** Monkeys live in a large group, but for foraging, they split into smaller, more manageable subgroups (fission) to reduce competition.
- Later, they come back together (fusion) to share information.
- This is a population-based algorithm that uses this group dynamic to find optimal solutions.

The Fission - Fusion Process

- The algorithm starts with an initial population of “spider monkeys” (candidate solutions).
- The entire group has a “global leader” who guides the main search.
- The group splits into smaller subgroups, each with a “local leader.”
- **Local Leader Phase:** Monkeys in a subgroup update their positions by moving towards their local leader’s best position and incorporating information from other random monkeys in the subgroup:

$$SM_{new,ij} = SM_{ij} + rand(0,1)(LL_{kj} - SM_{ij}) + rand(-1,1)(SM_{rj} - SM_{ij})$$

- **Global Leader Phase:** The entire swarm is considered one group. All monkeys update their positions based on the best solution found by the entire swarm, the Global Leader:

$$SM_{new,ij} = SM_{ij} + rand(0,1)(GL_j - SM_{ij}) + rand(-1,1)(SM_{rj} - SM_{ij})$$

Global Collaboration

- **Global Leader Learning Phase:** The global leader is updated using greedy selectio from the population. If the GL remains the same the GL limit is incremented.

- **Local Leader Learning Phase:** The local leader is updated using greedy selection from the specific groups. If the LL remains the same the LL limit is incremented.
- **Local Leader Decision Phase:** If the LL limit goes beyond a set constant, all monkeys in that group are randomly redistributed with weightage for the GL and LL:

$$SM_{new,ij} = SM_{minj} + U(0,1)(SM_{maxj} - SM_{minj}) \dots \dots \dots \text{if } U(0,1) \geq pr$$

$$SM_{new,ij} = SM_{ij} + U(0,1)(GL_j - SM_{ij}) + U(0,1)(SM_{ij} - LL_{kj}) \dots \dots \dots \text{otherwise}$$

- **Global Leader Decision Phase:** If the GL limit goes about a set a constant, the population is divided.

Flowchart

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Particle Swarm Optimisation

The Swarm and the Solution

- **Creators:** James Kennedy and Russell C. Eberhart, 1995.
- **Inspiration:** The social behaviour of bird flocks or fish schools.
- **Key Idea:** It models how individuals in a group can find an optimal solution by following the best-performing members of the group.
- Each “particle” in the swarm is a potential solution.
- The search space is multi-dimensional, and each particle “flies” through this space.

How Particles Fly

- Each particle keeps track of its own best-known position, which we call its personal best, or pbest.
- The entire swarm keeps track of the best-known position found by any particle so far, which is the global best, or gbest.
- The magic is in the velocity update equation. A particle’s new velocity is a mix of three things:
 1. Its previous velocity (momentum).
 2. A pull towards its own pbest.
 3. A pull towards the swarm’s gbest.
- The equation for velocity update is:

$$v_i(t+1) = \omega v_i(t) + c_1 r_1 (pbest_i(t) - x_i(t)) + c_2 r_2 (gbest(t) - x_i(t))$$

Putting it All Together

- After a new velocity is calculated, the particle updates its position using a simple formula:

$$x_i(t+1) = x_i(t) + v_i(t+1)$$

- This process is repeated over generations.
- The balance between the pbest and gbest terms is crucial. The pbest term gives the particle its individual exploration, while the gbest term provides social cooperation.

$$pbest_i(t+1) = x_i(t+1) \dots \dots \dots \text{if } f(x_i(t)) < f(pbest_i(t))$$

$$pbest_i(t+1) = pbest_i(t) \dots \dots \dots \text{otherwise}$$

$$gbest(t+1) = \arg \min_{pbest_k \text{ in all } pbests} f(pbest_k)$$

- This simple yet powerful mechanism allows the swarm to collectively converge on an optimal solution.

Flowchart

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Genetic Algorithm

Evolution in Computation

- **Creator:** John Holland, 1960-1970s.
- **Inspiration:** Charles Darwin's theory of natural evolution and "survival of the fittest."
- **Key Idea:** It applies the principles of natural selection—heredity, mutation, and crossover—to a population of candidate solutions.
- A solution is represented as a "chromosome" (a string of genes, like a binary string).
- The algorithm iteratively improves the population by selecting the "fittest" individuals to produce a new generation.

The Three Core Operators

- **Selection:** The "fittest" individuals (solutions with high-quality fitness scores) are selected from the current population to act as "parents."
- This is often done using methods like roulette wheel selection, where better solutions have a higher probability of being chosen.
- **Crossover:** Pairs of parents are chosen, and a "crossover" point is selected. Their genetic material (the solution string) is swapped to create new "offspring."

- For example, in a one-point crossover on binary strings, if Parent 1 is 110011 and Parent 2 is 001100, they could produce offspring 111100 and 000011.
- **Mutation:** After crossover, a small, random change is introduced to the offspring's genes. This is vital for maintaining diversity and preventing premature convergence.
- For a binary string, this might mean flipping a 0 to a 1 or vice-versa.

The Evolutionary Loop

- The process starts with an initial, randomly generated population.
- The population is evaluated for fitness, and the cycle of Selection, Crossover, and Mutation is repeated.
- The goal is for each new generation to have a higher average fitness than the last one.
- The process continues until a stopping condition is met, such as a maximum number of generations or a sufficiently good solution being found.
- GA is great for problems where the solution space is vast and complex.

Flowchart

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Differential Evolution

What is it anyway?

- **Creators:** Kenneth Price and Rainer Storn in the 1990s.
- **Inspiration:** Like GA, it's an evolutionary algorithm inspired by biological evolution, but it's simpler and has a different approach.
- **Key Idea:** It uses vector differences to explore the search space, which is where the “differential” part of the name comes from.
- The algorithm operates on a population of real-valued vectors.
- Instead of using binary strings and crossover like GA, it relies on vector subtraction and addition.

The Core Operators

- DE has three main phases: mutation, crossover, and selection.
- **Mutation:** For each individual vector in the population, a “mutant vector” is created. This is done by taking a base vector and adding the scaled difference of two other randomly selected vectors.
- The classic mutation is often expressed as:

$$v_i = x_{r1} + F(x_{r2} - x_{r3})$$

- Here, x_{r1} , x_{r2} , x_{r3} are three different vectors randomly chosen from the population, and F is a scaling factor.
- *Crossover*: The mutant vector is then combined with the original target vector to create a “trial vector.”
- This is done element by element with a certain probability, called the crossover rate (CR). This ensures that the trial vector inherits some properties from both the original and the mutated vector.

Selection and The Loop

- **Selection**: The final step is a greedy selection. The new trial vector is compared to the original target vector.
- If the trial vector has a better fitness value, it replaces the target vector in the population for the next generation; otherwise, the original vector is kept.
- The process repeats, with new individuals being generated, evaluated, and selected in each generation.
- Because DE uses a direct, vector-based approach, it’s often simpler to implement and can converge faster than GA on certain types of problems.

Flowchart

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