

# **ARTIFICIAL BEE COLONY ALGORITHM**



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- The artificial bee colony (ABC) algorithm is based on the behavior of bees and was first published in [Bastürk and Karaboga, 2006], [Karaboga and Bastürk, 2007].
- ABC is based on the **search by bees** for an optimal **food** source.
- The **location of a food source** is analogous to a **location in the search space** of an optimization problem.
- The **amount of nectar/honey** at a location is analogous to the **fitness of a candidate solution**.

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- ABC simulates three different types of bees.
- **Forager bees**, also called employed bees, travel back and forth between a food source and their hive.
- Each **forager** is **associated with a specific location**, and **remembers that location** as it travels back and forth between the hive.
- When a **forager takes its nectar to the hive**, it returns **to its food source**, but it **also engages in local exploration as it searches in the nearby vicinity for a better source**.

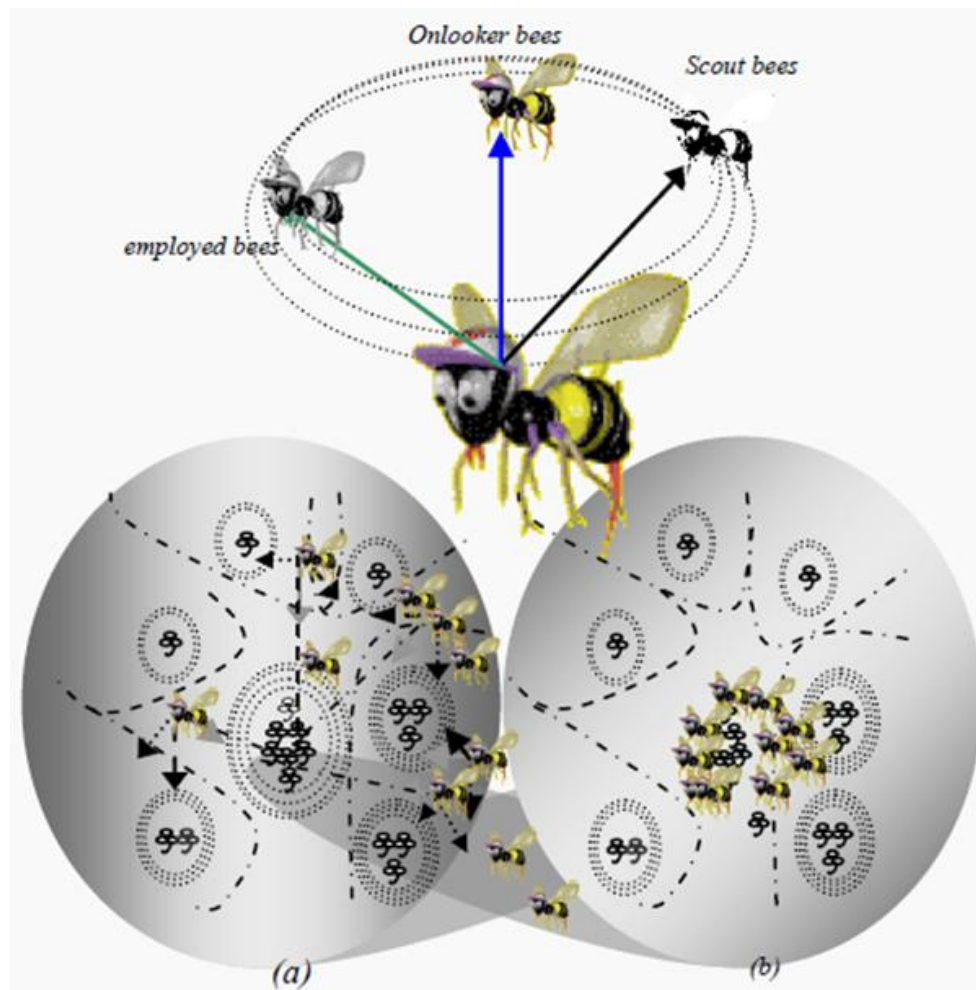
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- **Onlooker bees** are not associated with any particular food source, but they **observe the behavior of the foragers** when they return to the hive.
- **Onlookers** observe the **amount of nectar that is returned by the foragers** (that is, the **fitness of each forager's location** in search space), and use that information to decide **where to search for nectar**.
- The onlookers search location is decided **probabilistically based on their observations of the foragers**.

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- **Scout bees** are **explorers** and, like onlookers, are not associated with any particular food source.
- If a **scout** sees that a **forager** has **stagnated** and is not progressively increasing the amount of nectar that it returns to the hive, then the scout **randomly searches** for a new nectar source in the search space.
- **Stagnation** is indicated when the **explorer** fails to increase the amount of nectar it brings to the hive after a certain number of trips.

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- The key idea of the ABC algorithm is that **foraging, on-looking, and scouting** behaviors are simulated in the search for a global optimum

$N$  = population size

Initialize the positive integer  $L$ , which is the stagnation limit

Initialize the forager population size  $P_f < N$

Initialize the onlooker population size  $P_o = N - P_f$

Initialize a random population of foragers  $\{x_i\}$  for  $i \in [1, P_f]$

Initialize the forager trial counters  $T(x_i) = 0$  for  $i \in [1, P_f]$

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While not(termination criterion)

**Forager Bees:**

For each forager  $x_i, i \in [1, P_f]$

$k \leftarrow$  random integer  $\in [1, N]$  such that  $k \neq i$

$s \leftarrow$  random integer  $\in [1, n]$

$r \leftarrow U[-1, 1]$

$v_i(s) \leftarrow x_i(s) + r(x_i(s) - x_k(s))$

If  $f(v_i)$  is better than  $f(x_i)$  then

$x_i \leftarrow v_i$

$T(x_i) \leftarrow 0$

else

$T(x_i) \leftarrow T(x_i) + 1$

End if

Next forager



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## Onlooker Bees:

For each onlooker  $v_i$ ,  $i \in [1, P_o]$

    Select a forager  $x_j$ , where  $\text{Pr}(x_j) \propto \text{fitness}(x_j)$  for  $j \in [1, P_f]$

$k \leftarrow$  random integer  $\in [1, P_f]$  such that  $k \neq j$

$s \leftarrow$  random integer  $\in [1, n]$

$r \leftarrow U[-1, 1]$

$v_i(s) \leftarrow x_j(s) + r(x_j(s) - x_k(s))$

    If  $f(v_i)$  is better than  $f(x_j)$  then

$x_j \leftarrow v_i$

$T(x_j) \leftarrow 0$

    else

$T(x_j) \leftarrow T(x_j) + 1$

    End if

Next onlooker

$$pr(xi) = \frac{fit(xi)}{\sum_{i=1}^{pf} fit(xi)}$$

*roulette – wheel – selection*

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## Scout Bees:

For each forager  $x_i$ ,  $i \in [1, P_f]$

    If  $T(x_i) > L$  then

$x_i \leftarrow$  randomly-generated individual

$T(x_i) \leftarrow 0$

    End if

Next forager

Next generation

## For further read

1. Karaboga, D., & Basturk, B. (2007). A powerful and efficient algorithm for numerical function optimization: artificial bee colony (ABC) algorithm. *Journal of global optimization*, 39(3), 459-471.
2. Karaboga, D., & Basturk, B. (2008). On the performance of artificial bee colony (ABC) algorithm. *Applied soft computing*, 8(1), 687-697.

**Thank you**