

# Genetic Algorithm Comparison with Beam Search

## Problem Setup

### 1. Vocabulary:

$V = \{'A', 'B', 'C', 'D'\}$

### 2. Sequence Length:

Generate sequences of fixed length 5.

### 3. Fitness Function:

Define fitness of a sequence as the **sum of ASCII values** of its characters.

- Example: "ABCAA"  $\rightarrow 65 + 66 + 67 + 65 + 65 = 328$ .

## Approach 1 – Beam Search

- Use **beam width  $k=3$** .
- At each step, expand candidate sequences by adding one character from  $V$ .
- Keep only the **top 3 sequences** ranked by fitness.
- At the end, return the best sequence and its fitness score.

## Approach 2 – Genetic Algorithm (GA)

- Initialize a population of **6 random sequences** of length 5.
- Perform the following for **10 generations**:
  1. **Selection**: Choose parents based on fitness (higher fitness = higher chance).
  2. **Crossover**: Combine two parents by swapping part of the sequence.

3. **Mutation:** With small probability (e.g., 10%), randomly replace a character.
- After 10 generations, return the best sequence and its fitness score.
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## Tasks

- (a) Implement both **Beam Search** and **Genetic Algorithm** in Python.
- (b) Print the **best sequence and fitness score** found by each method.
- (c) In your code comments, discuss:
- Which method found more **diverse solutions**?
  - Which is more **deterministic** and why?
  - Which might be preferable for **language generation tasks** where diversity matters?
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