

MAKING DARWIN PROUD

Coding Evolutionary Algorithms





SPECIAL DAY



Let's Sing Happy Birthday!

Happy Birthday to You

Happy Birthday to You

Happy Birthday Dear **Olivier**

Happy Birthday to You.





MAKING DARWIN PROUD

Coding Evolutionary Algorithms



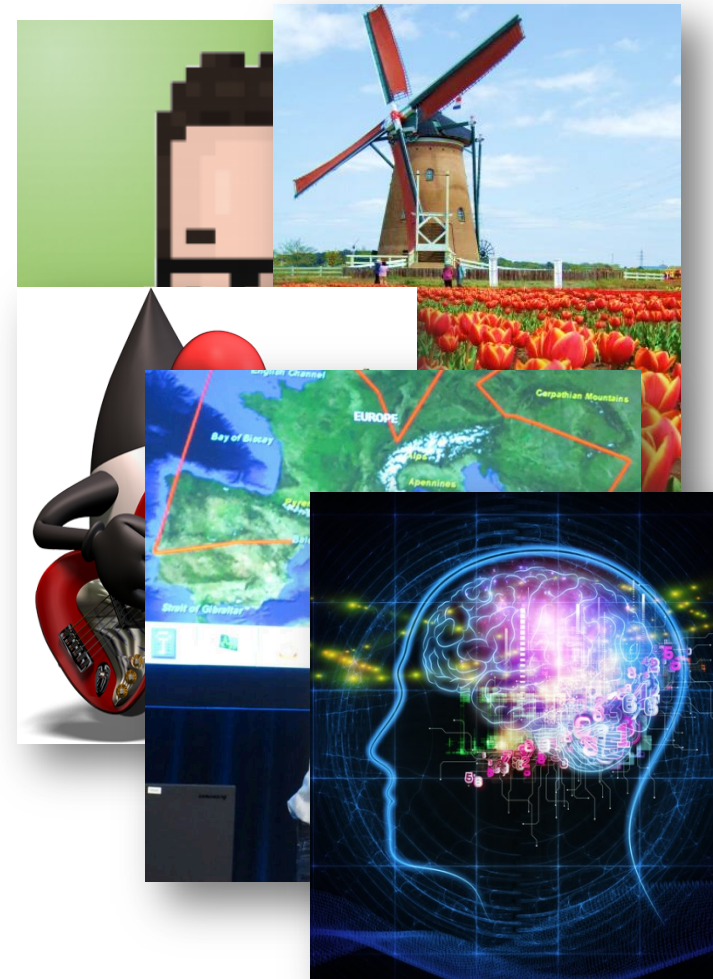






Let me introduce myself...

- Bas W. Knopper
- Dutch
- Java Developer
 - JDriven (IT Services Company)
 - 10+ years Java exp
- JavaOne, J-Fall, GeeCon, JFokus Speaker
- AI enthusiast
 - Soft spot for Evolutionary Algorithms



What I would like to accomplish...

- Interest
- Understanding
- How & when
- Add to toolbox
- Attention

#JFokus

#EvolutionaryAlgorithms

@BWKnopper



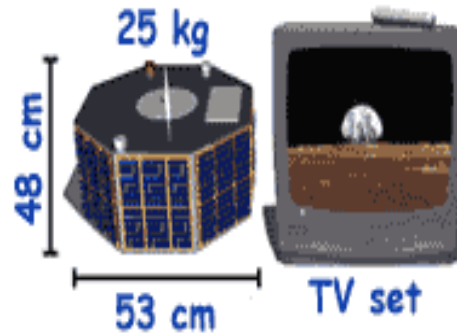
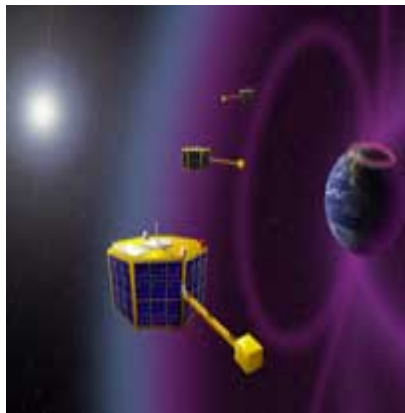
Agenda

- Singing Happy Birthday (Thanks!)
- Introduction
- NASA
- Evolution Concepts
- Puzzle Solving Time: Traveling Salesman Problem
 - Evolutionary Algorithm Design
 - Plain Java Code
 - Demo!
- Frameworks
- Checklist



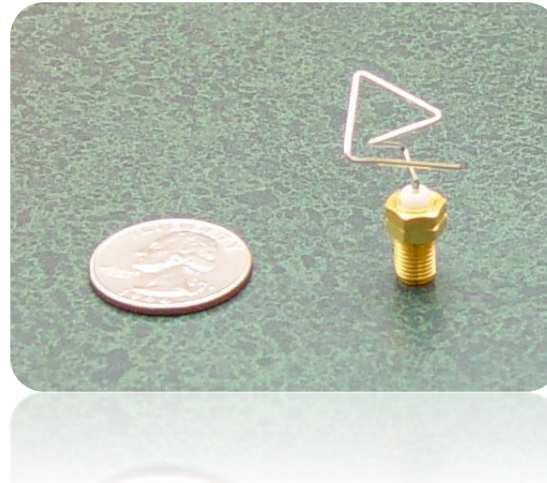
NASA

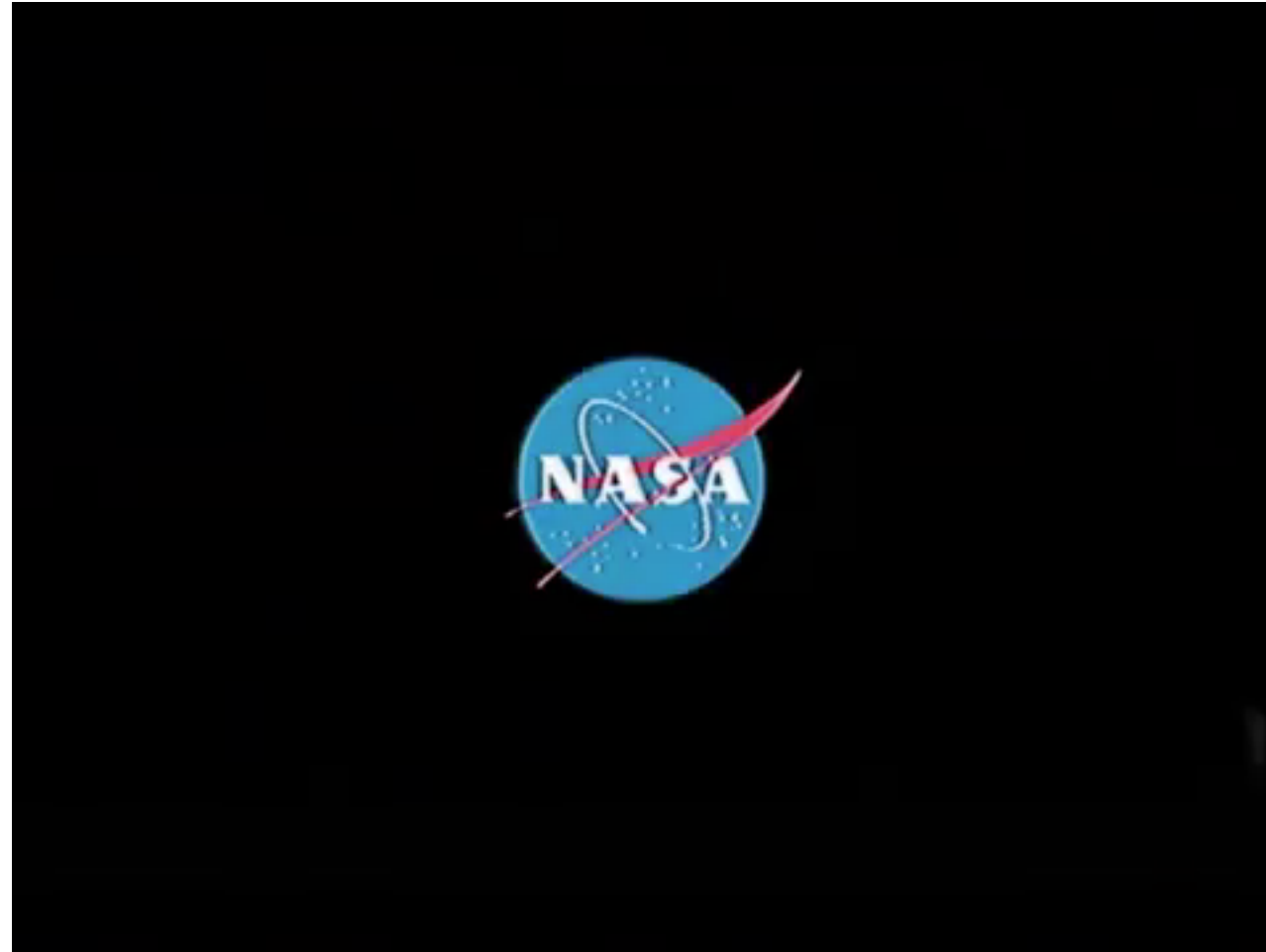
- Space Technology 5 mission
 - launched March 22, 2006, and completed June 20, 2006
- Three full service 25-kilogram-class spacecraft



NASA Continued

- Needs even smaller antenna
- That still functions according to spec
- Need for solution that's not easy to engineer
- So they used an EA that made these:



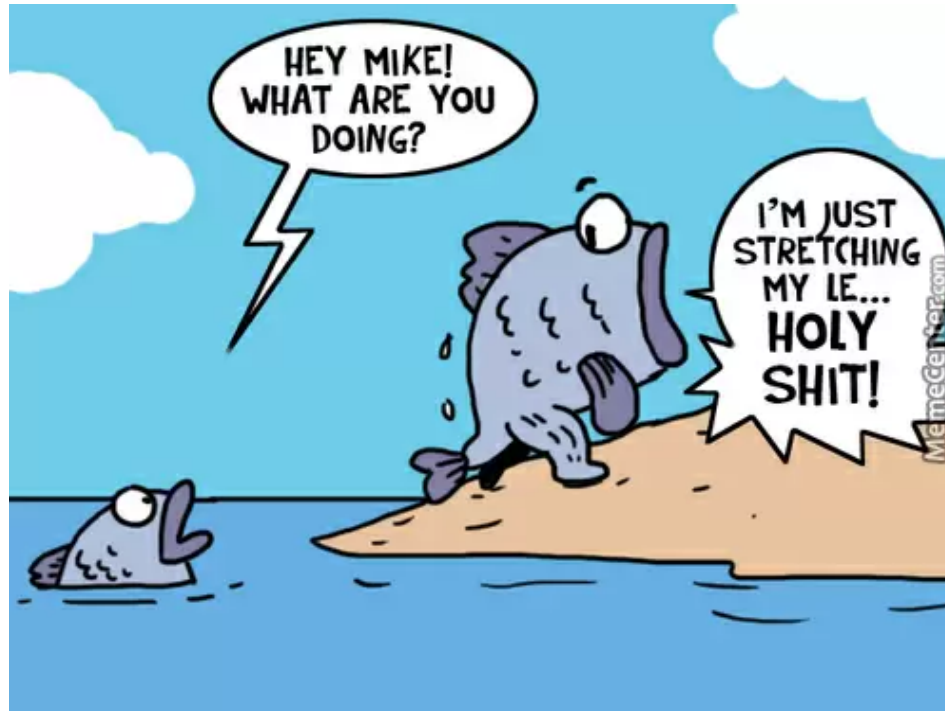


Recap

- Powerful example
- First evolved object to travel through space
- How?

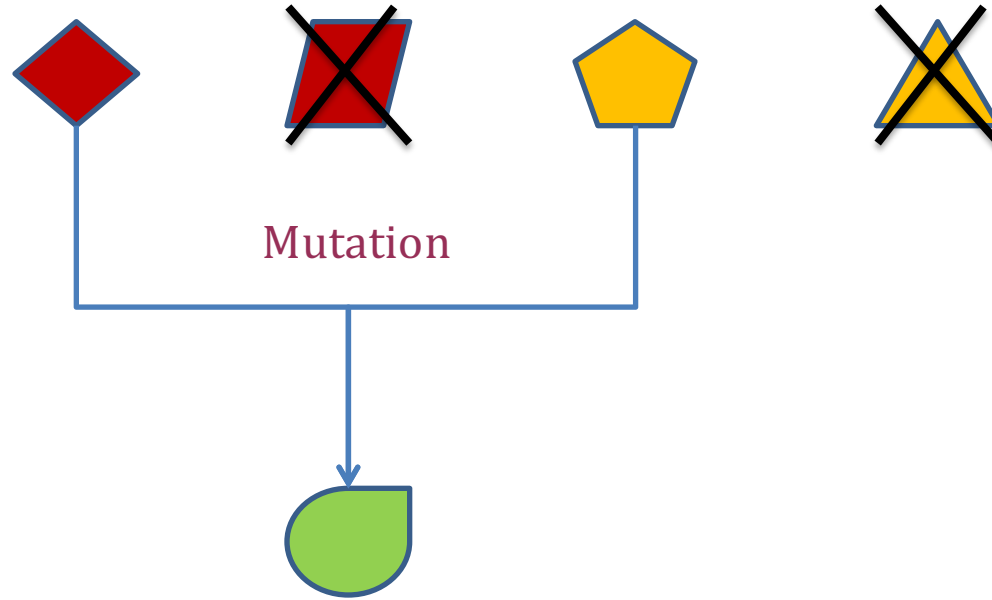
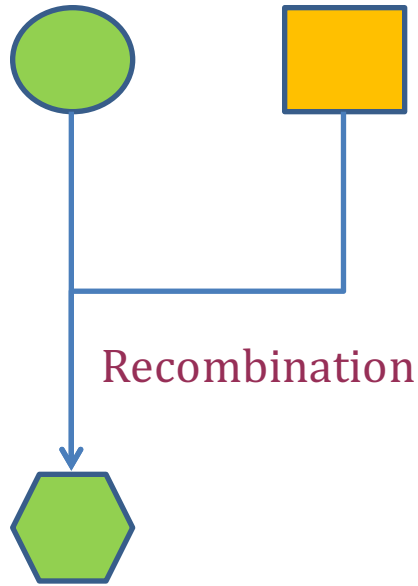


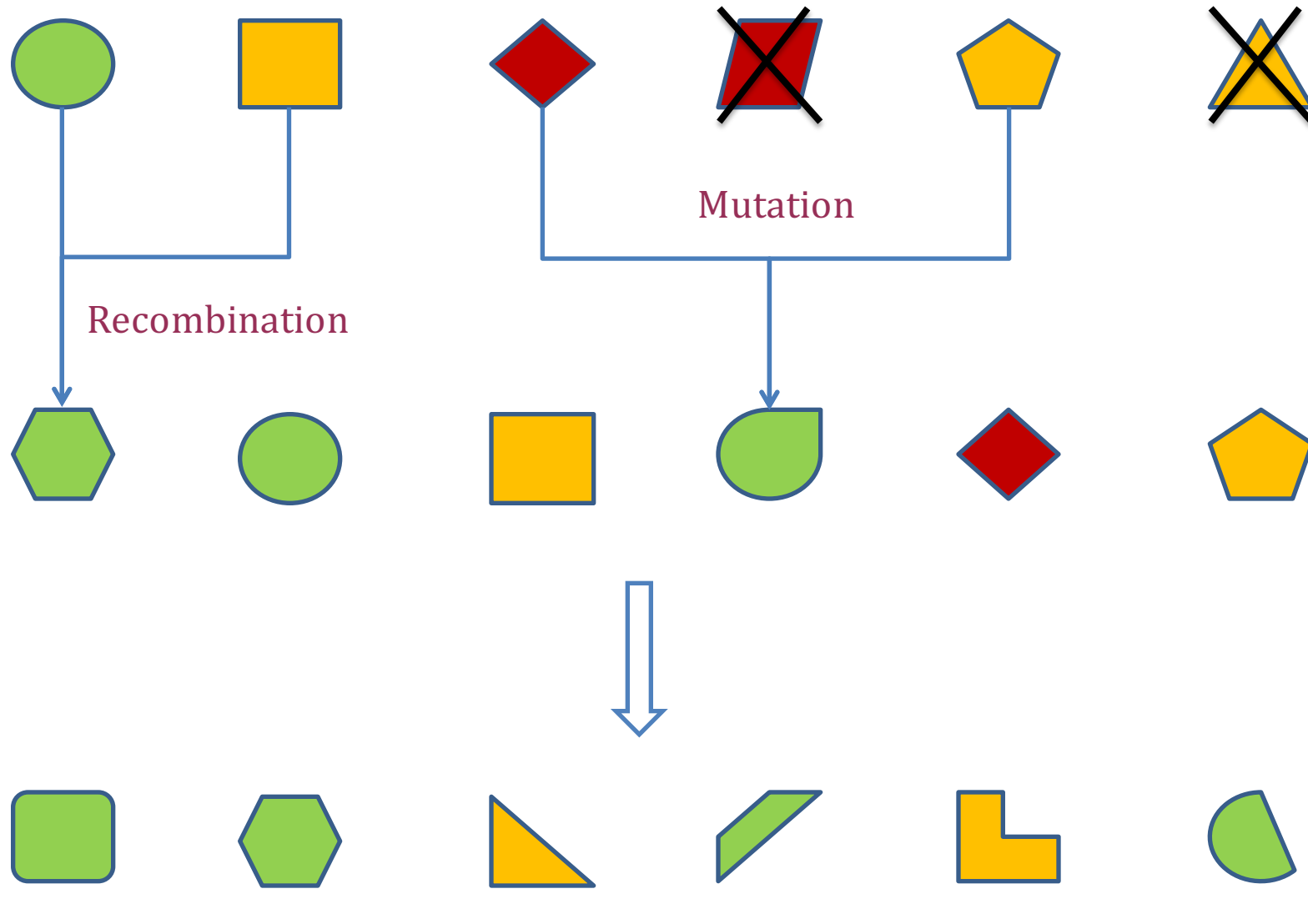
Evolution



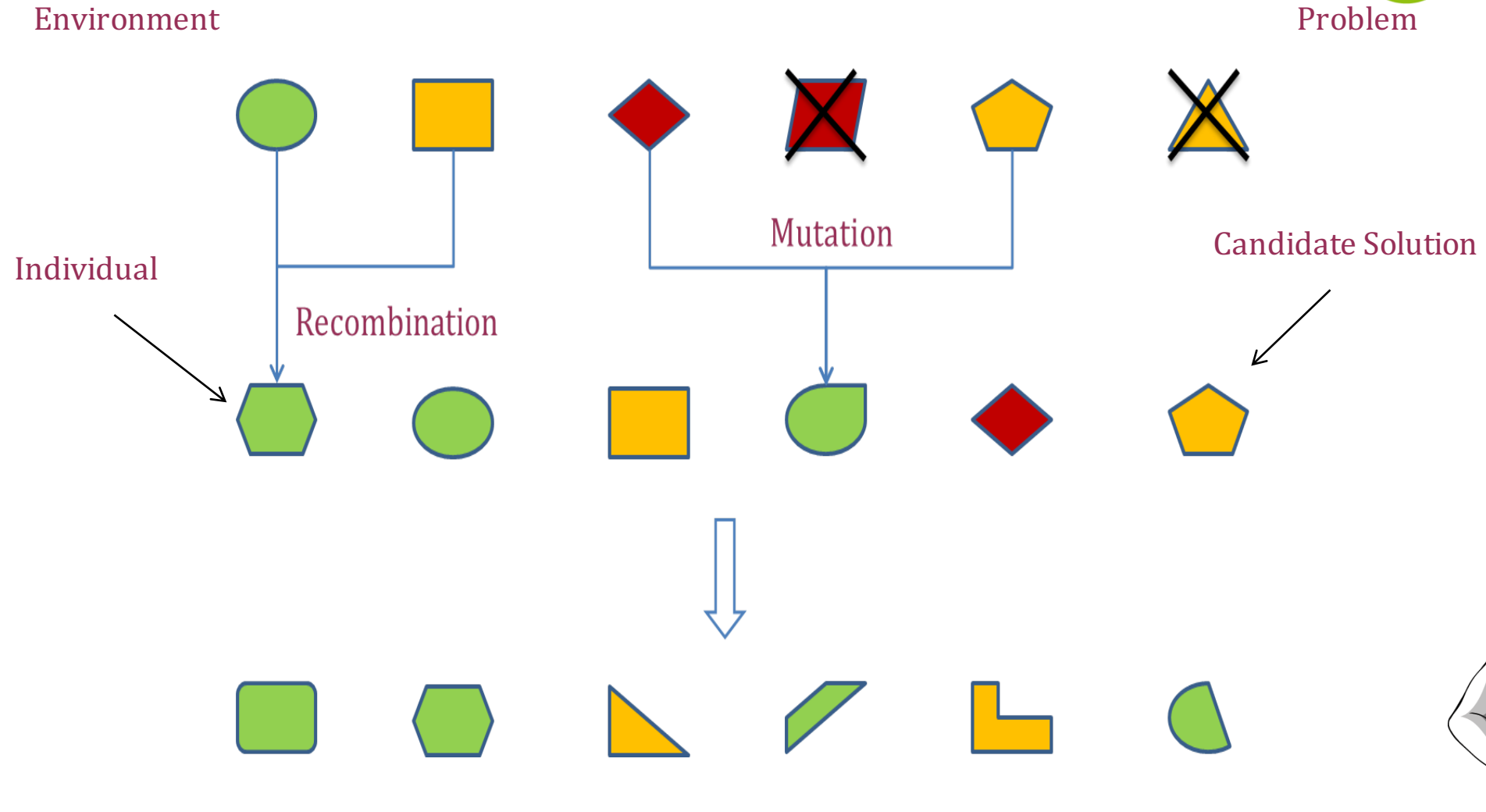
Evolution - “Survival of the fittest”







From evolution to problem solving



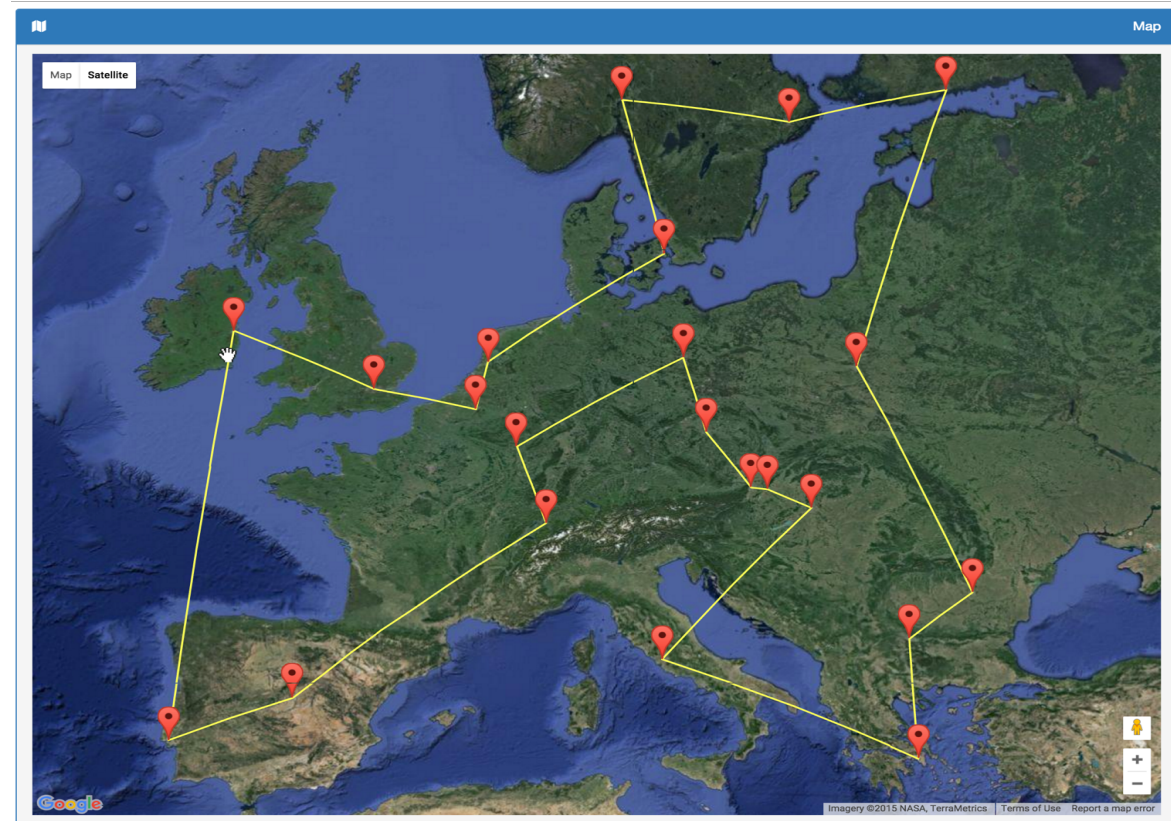
Puzzle solving time!

- More down to earth example
 - Travelling Salesman Problem



Travelling Salesman Problem

- Given n cities
 - $n = \text{number of cities to visit}$
- Find (optimal) route for visiting all cities
 - Visit every city only once
 - Return to origin city
- Search space is huge
 - For 30 cities there are $30! \approx 10^{32}$ possible routes



That's 100.000.000.000.000.000.000.000.000.000 possible routes!

Brute force might not be the best solution...



Puzzle solving time!

- More down to earth example
 - Travelling Salesman Problem
- Use case to show you
 - Evolutionary Algorithm Design
 - Plain Java Code
 - Demo



EA Algorithm (Pseudocode)

INITIALISE population with random candidate solutions;



EA Algorithm (Pseudocode)

INITIALISE population with random candidate solutions;



Candidate Solution - Representation

- $n = 6$
- Label cities 1,2,3,4,5,6
- And base city 1
- Candidate Solution
 - Signifying the route
- for $n = 10$
- Enables
 - Calculating distance (fitness function)
 - Mutation
 - Recombination



EA Algorithm (Pseudocode)

INITIALISE population with random candidate solutions;



EA Algorithm (Pseudocode)

INITIALISE population with random candidate solutions;
EVALUATE each candidate;



Evaluation Function (Fitness Function)

- Summed distance:
 - $d_{1,2} + d_{2,4} + \dots + d_{5,1}$
 - Used NASA WorldWind
- Minimize!




```
/**
 * Calculates the total distance of the whole route and stores it as this
 * candidate solution's fitness
 */
private void calculateFitness() {

    /* initialize total distance */
    double totalDistance = 0;

    /* calculate total distance */

    /* store totalDistance as this candidate solution's fitness */
    this.fitness = totalDistance;
}
```



```
/**
 * Calculates the total distance of the whole route and stores it as this
 * candidate solution's fitness
 */
private void calculateFitness() {

    /* initialize total distance */
    double totalDistance = 0;

    /*
     * For all Cities in the route (except the last one) get the distance between this
     * City and the next and add it to the totalDistance
     */
    for (int i = 0; i < route.size() - 1; i++) {

    }

    /* store totalDistance as this candidate solution's fitness */
    this.fitness = totalDistance;
}
```



```
/**
 * Calculates the total distance of the whole route and stores it as this
 * candidate solution's fitness
 */
private void calculateFitness() {

    /* initialize total distance */
    double totalDistance = 0;

    /*
     * For all Cities in the route (except the last one) get the distance between this
     * City and the next and add it to the totalDistance
     */
    for (int i = 0; i < route.size() - 1; i++) {

        City city = route.get(i);
        City nextCity = route.get(i + 1);
        totalDistance += city.calculateDistance(nextCity);
    }

    /* store totalDistance as this candidate solution's fitness */
    this.fitness = totalDistance;
}
```



EA Algorithm (Pseudocode)

INITIALISE population with random candidate solutions;
EVALUATE each candidate;



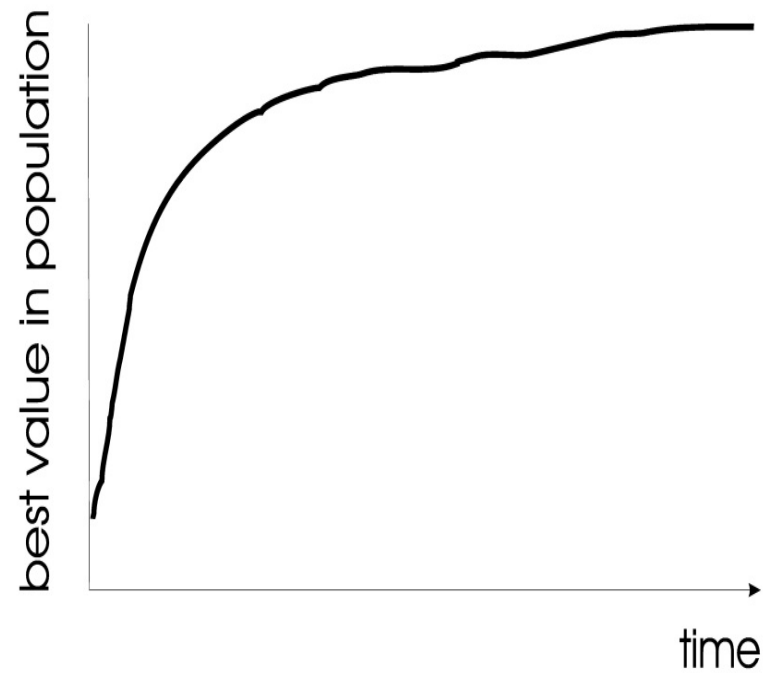
EA Algorithm (Pseudocode)

```
INITIALISE population with random candidate solutions;  
EVALUATE each candidate;  
WHILE ( TERMINATION CONDITION is not satisfied ) {  
  
  
  
  
  
  
}
```



Termination Condition

- EA's are stochastic
 - May never find optimum



Figures from "Introduction to Evolutionary Computing" by A.E. Eiben & J.E. Smith (Springer)



Termination Condition

- Combination
- Sure to terminate
 - Time
 - Max number of runs (generations)
- Goal
 - Fitness threshold
 - Fitness improvement stagnation

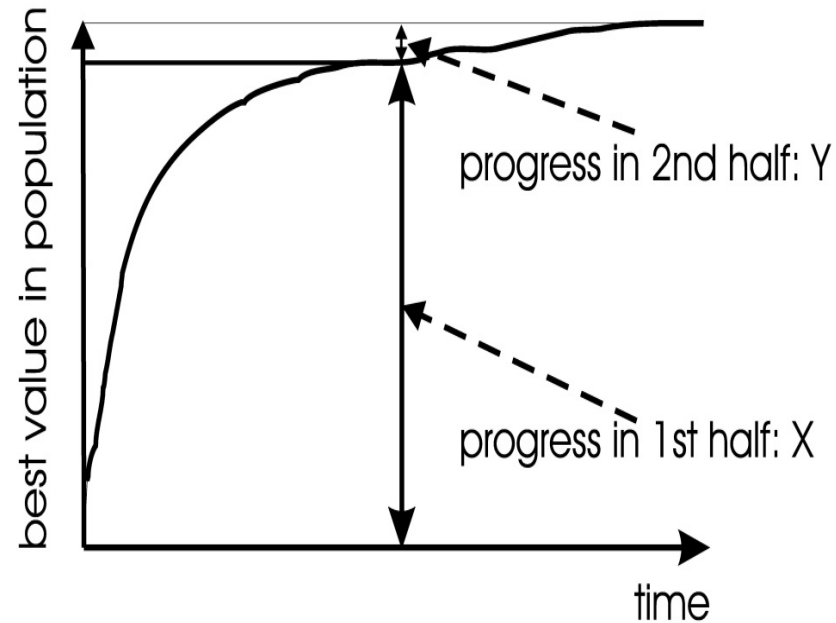


Figure from "Introduction to Evolutionary Computing" by A.E. Eiben & J.E. Smith (Springer)



EA Algorithm (Pseudocode)

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INITIALISE population with random candidate solutions;  
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WHILE ( TERMINATION CONDITION is not satisfied ) {  
  
  
  
  
  
  
}
```



EA Algorithm (Pseudocode)

```
INITIALISE population with random candidate solutions;  
EVALUATE each candidate;  
WHILE ( TERMINATION CONDITION is not satisfied ) {  
    1 SELECT parents;  
  
}
```



Parent Selection

- Where x is the number of parents:
 - Pick x best
 - Random x
 - Best x out of random y
- In our example:
 - Best x out of random y



```
private List<CandidateSolution> parentSelection() {
```



```
}
```




```
private List<CandidateSolution> parentSelection() {  
  
    List<CandidateSolution> tempPopulation = new ArrayList<>(population);  
    List<CandidateSolution> randomCandidates = new ArrayList<>();  
  
    /* create parent pool */  
    for(int i = 0; i < parentPoolSize; i++)  
    {  
        /* select a random candidate solution from the temp population */  
        int randomlySelectedIndex = random.nextInt(tempPopulation.size());  
        CandidateSolution randomSelection = tempPopulation.get(randomlySelectedIndex);  
        randomCandidates.add(randomSelection);  
  
    }  
  
}
```



```
private List<CandidateSolution> parentSelection() {  
  
    List<CandidateSolution> tempPopulation = new ArrayList<>(population);  
    List<CandidateSolution> randomCandidates = new ArrayList<>();  
  
    /* create parent pool */  
    for(int i = 0; i < parentPoolSize; i++)  
    {  
        /* select a random candidate solution from the temp population */  
        int randomlySelectedIndex = random.nextInt(tempPopulation.size());  
        CandidateSolution randomSelection = tempPopulation.get(randomlySelectedIndex);  
        randomCandidates.add(randomSelection);  
  
        /* delete the candidate from the temp population, so we can't pick it again */  
        tempPopulation.remove(randomlySelectedIndex);  
    }  
  
}
```



```
private List<CandidateSolution> parentSelection() {  
  
    List<CandidateSolution> tempPopulation = new ArrayList<>(population);  
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        randomCandidates.add(randomSelection);  
  
        /* delete the candidate from the temp population, so we can't pick it again */  
        tempPopulation.remove(randomlySelectedIndex);  
    }  
  
    /* Sort the population so that the best candidates are up front */  
    Collections.sort(randomCandidates);  
  
}
```




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private List<CandidateSolution> parentSelection() {

    List<CandidateSolution> tempPopulation = new ArrayList<>(population);
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        CandidateSolution randomSelection = tempPopulation.get(randomlySelectedIndex);
        randomCandidates.add(randomSelection);

        /* delete the candidate from the temp population, so we can't pick it again */
        tempPopulation.remove(randomlySelectedIndex);
    }

    /* Sort the population so that the best candidates are up front */
    Collections.sort(randomCandidates);

    /* return a list with size parentSelectionSize with the best CandidateSolutions */
    return randomCandidates.subList(0, parentSelectionSize);
}
```



EA Algorithm (Pseudocode)

```
INITIALISE population with random candidate solutions;  
EVALUATE each candidate;  
WHILE ( TERMINATION CONDITION is not satisfied ) {  
    1 SELECT parents;  
  
}
```



EA Algorithm (Pseudocode)

```
INITIALISE population with random candidate solutions;  
EVALUATE each candidate;  
WHILE ( TERMINATION CONDITION is not satisfied ) {  
    1 SELECT parents;  
    2 RECOMBINE pairs of parents;  
  
}
```



Recombination

- In our example:
 - half-half does not work
 - “Cut-and-crossfill”



```
public List<CandidateSolution> recombine(CandidateSolution otherParent) {
```



```
}
```




```
public List<CandidateSolution> recombine(CandidateSolution otherParent) {  
    /* get routes of both parents */  
    List<City> parentRoute1 = getRoute();  
    List<City> parentRoute2 = otherParent.getRoute();  
  
}
```



```
public List<CandidateSolution> recombine(CandidateSolution otherParent) {  
    /* get routes of both parents */  
    List<City> parentRoute1 = getRoute();  
    List<City> parentRoute2 = otherParent.getRoute();  
    /* initialize the routes for the children */  
    List<City> childRoute1 = new ArrayList<City>();  
    List<City> childRoute2 = new ArrayList<City>();  
  
    }  
}
```



```
public List<CandidateSolution> recombine(CandidateSolution otherParent) {  
    /* get routes of both parents */  
    List<City> parentRoute1 = getRoute();  
    List<City> parentRoute2 = otherParent.getRoute();  
    /* initialize the routes for the children */  
    List<City> childRoute1 = new ArrayList<City>();  
    List<City> childRoute2 = new ArrayList<City>();  
  
    /* randomize cutIndex for "cross-and-fill point" */  
    int cutIndex = new Random().nextInt(parentRoute1.size());  
  
}
```



```
public List<CandidateSolution> recombine(CandidateSolution otherParent) {
    /* get routes of both parents */
    List<City> parentRoute1 = getRoute();
    List<City> parentRoute2 = otherParent.getRoute();
    /* initialize the routes for the children */
    List<City> childRoute1 = new ArrayList<City>();
    List<City> childRoute2 = new ArrayList<City>();

    /* randomize cutIndex for "cross-and-fill point" */
    int cutIndex = new Random().nextInt(parentRoute1.size());

    /* copy the first part of the parents cut into the children */
    childRoute1.addAll(parentRoute1.subList(0, cutIndex));
    childRoute2.addAll(parentRoute2.subList(0, cutIndex));

}
}
```



```
public List<CandidateSolution> recombine(CandidateSolution otherParent) {
    /* get routes of both parents */
    List<City> parentRoute1 = getRoute();
    List<City> parentRoute2 = otherParent.getRoute();
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    /* randomize cutIndex for "cross-and-fill point" */
    int cutIndex = new Random().nextInt(parentRoute1.size());

    /* copy the first part of the parents cut into the children */
    childRoute1.addAll(parentRoute1.subList(0, cutIndex));
    childRoute2.addAll(parentRoute2.subList(0, cutIndex));

    /* perform crossfill for both children */
    crossFill(childRoute1, parentRoute2, cutIndex);
    crossFill(childRoute2, parentRoute1, cutIndex);
}
```




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public List<CandidateSolution> recombine(CandidateSolution otherParent) {
    /* get routes of both parents */
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    childRoute2.addAll(parentRoute2.subList(0, cutIndex));

    /* perform crossfill for both children */
    crossFill(childRoute1, parentRoute2, cutIndex);
    crossFill(childRoute2, parentRoute1, cutIndex);

    /* create new children using the new children routes */
    CandidateSolution child1 = new CandidateSolution(childRoute1);
    CandidateSolution child2 = new CandidateSolution(childRoute2);
}
```



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public List<CandidateSolution> recombine(CandidateSolution otherParent) {
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    childRoute2.addAll(parentRoute2.subList(0, cutIndex));

    /* perform crossfill for both children */
    crossFill(childRoute1, parentRoute2, cutIndex);
    crossFill(childRoute2, parentRoute1, cutIndex);

    /* create new children using the new children routes */
    CandidateSolution child1 = new CandidateSolution(childRoute1);
    CandidateSolution child2 = new CandidateSolution(childRoute2);

    /* put the children in a list and return it (omitted for layout reasons) */
}
```



```
/**
 * Check the rest of the route in the crossing parent and add the cities
 * that are not yet in the child (in the order of the route of the crossing
 * parent)
 */
private void crossFill(List<City> childRoute, List<City> parentRoute, int cutIndex) {

}
```

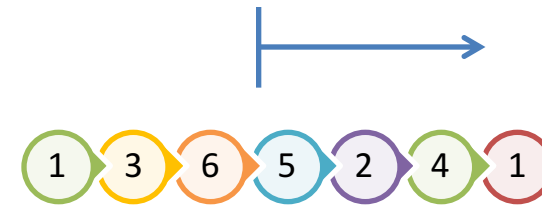


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 * Check the rest of the route in the crossing parent and add the cities
 * that are not yet in the child (in the order of the route of the crossing
 * parent)
 */
private void crossFill(List<City> childRoute, List<City> parentRoute, int cutIndex) {

    /* traverse the parent route from the cut index on and add every city not yet in the child to the child */
    for (int i = cutIndex; i < parentRoute.size(); i++) {

    }

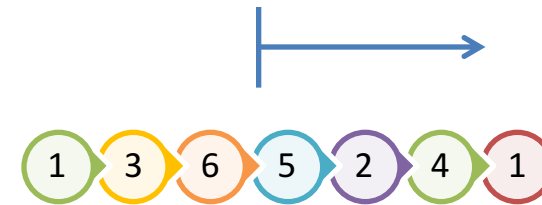
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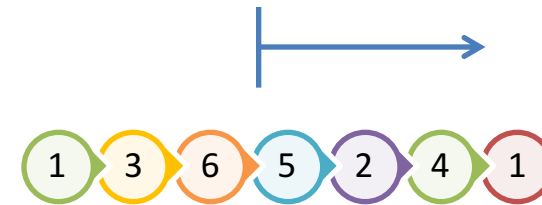
    /* traverse the parent route from the cut index on and add every city not yet in the child to the child */
    for (int i = cutIndex; i < parentRoute.size(); i++) {
        City nextCityOnRoute = parentRoute.get(i);

        if (!childRoute.contains(nextCityOnRoute)) {
            childRoute.add(nextCityOnRoute);
        }
    }
}
```

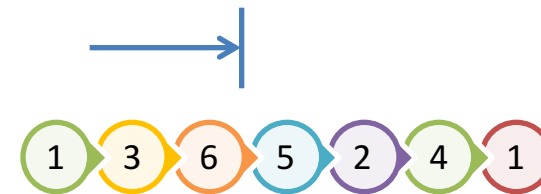



```
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 * Check the rest of the route in the crossing parent and add the cities  
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 * parent)  
 */  
private void crossFill(List<City> childRoute, List<City> parentRoute, int cutIndex) {
```

```
    /* traverse the parent route from the cut index on and add every city not yet in the child to the child */  
    for (int i = cutIndex; i < parentRoute.size(); i++) {  
        City nextCityOnRoute = parentRoute.get(i);  
  
        if (!childRoute.contains(nextCityOnRoute)) {  
            childRoute.add(nextCityOnRoute);  
        }  
    }
```



```
    /* traverse the parent route from the start of the route and add every city not yet in the child to the child */  
    for (int i = 0; i < cutIndex; i++) {  
        City nextCityOnRoute = parentRoute.get(i);  
  
        if (!childRoute.contains(nextCityOnRoute)) {  
            childRoute.add(nextCityOnRoute);  
        }  
    }  
}
```



EA Algorithm (Pseudocode)

```
INITIALISE population with random candidate solutions;  
EVALUATE each candidate;  
WHILE ( TERMINATION CONDITION is not satisfied ) {  
    1 SELECT parents;  
    2 RECOMBINE pairs of parents;  
}
```



EA Algorithm (Pseudocode)

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INITIALISE population with random candidate solutions;  
EVALUATE each candidate;  
WHILE ( TERMINATION CONDITION is not satisfied ) {  
    1 SELECT parents;  
    2 RECOMBINE pairs of parents;  
    3 MUTATE the resulting offspring;  
}
```



Mutation

- Change of nr won't work
 - Infeasible candidate solution
- Swap to the rescue!



```
/**  
 * Mutates the current individual by swapping two random cities in its  
 * route.  
 */  
public void mutate() {
```



```
}
```



```
/**
 * Mutates the current individual by swapping two random cities in its
 * route.
 */
public void mutate() {

    Random random = new Random();

    /* randomly select two indices in the route */
    int indexFirstCity = random.nextInt(route.size());
    int indexSecondCity = random.nextInt(route.size());

}
```



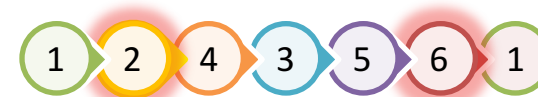

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/**
 * Mutates the current individual by swapping two random cities in its
 * route.
 */
public void mutate() {

    Random random = new Random();

    /* randomly select two indices in the route */
    int indexFirstCity = random.nextInt(route.size());
    int indexSecondCity = random.nextInt(route.size());

    /* Make sure they are different */
    while (indexFirstCity == indexSecondCity) {
        indexSecondCity = random.nextInt(route.size());
    }

}
```



```
/**
 * Mutates the current individual by swapping two random cities in its
 * route.
 */
public void mutate() {

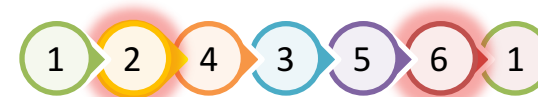
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    /* randomly select two indices in the route */
    int indexFirstCity = random.nextInt(route.size());
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    /* Make sure they are different */
    while (indexFirstCity == indexSecondCity) {
        indexSecondCity = random.nextInt(route.size());
    }

    /* retrieve the Cities on the given indices */
    City firstCity = route.get(indexFirstCity);
    City secondCity = route.get(indexSecondCity);

}
```



```
/**
 * Mutates the current individual by swapping two random cities in its
 * route.
 */
public void mutate() {

    Random random = new Random();

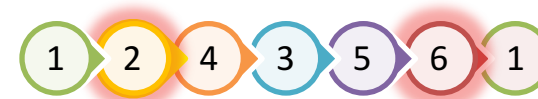
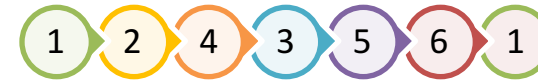
    /* randomly select two indices in the route */
    int indexFirstCity = random.nextInt(route.size());
    int indexSecondCity = random.nextInt(route.size());

    /* Make sure they are different */
    while (indexFirstCity == indexSecondCity) {
        indexSecondCity = random.nextInt(route.size());
    }

    /* retrieve the Cities on the given indices */
    City firstCity = route.get(indexFirstCity);
    City secondCity = route.get(indexSecondCity);

    /* Changer! */
    route.set(indexFirstCity, secondCity);
    route.set(indexSecondCity, firstCity);

}
```



EA Algorithm (Pseudocode)

```
INITIALISE population with random candidate solutions;  
EVALUATE each candidate;  
WHILE ( TERMINATION CONDITION is not satisfied ) {  
    1 SELECT parents;  
    2 RECOMBINE pairs of parents;  
    3 MUTATE the resulting offspring;  
}
```



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INITIALISE population with random candidate solutions;  
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WHILE ( TERMINATION CONDITION is not satisfied ) {  
    1 SELECT parents;  
    2 RECOMBINE pairs of parents;  
    3 MUTATE the resulting offspring;  
    4 EVALUATE new candidates;  
}
```



EA Algorithm (Pseudocode)

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INITIALISE population with random candidate solutions;  
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WHILE ( TERMINATION CONDITION is not satisfied ) {  
    1 SELECT parents;  
    2 RECOMBINE pairs of parents;  
    3 MUTATE the resulting offspring;  
    4 EVALUATE new candidates;  
    5 SELECT individuals for the next generation;  
}
```



Survivor Selection

- Replacement Strategy
- Do nothing
- Replace Worst




```
/**  
 * Selects the survivors by removing the worst candidate  
 * solutions from the list, so we have the original  
 * population size again  
 */  
private void selectSurvivors() {  
  
}  
}
```



```
/**  
 * Selects the survivors by removing the worst candidate  
 * solutions from the list, so we have the original  
 * population size again  
 */  
private void selectSurvivors() {  
  
    Collections.sort(population);  
  
}
```



```
/**  
 * Selects the survivors by removing the worst candidate  
 * solutions from the list, so we have the original  
 * population size again  
 */  
private void selectSurvivors() {  
  
    Collections.sort(population);  
    population = population.subList(0, populationSize);  
}
```



EA Algorithm (Pseudocode)

```
INITIALISE population with random candidate solutions;  
EVALUATE each candidate;  
WHILE ( TERMINATION CONDITION is not satisfied ) {  
    1 SELECT parents;  
    2 RECOMBINE pairs of parents;  
    3 MUTATE the resulting offspring;  
    4 EVALUATE new candidates;  
    5 SELECT individuals for the next generation;  
}
```

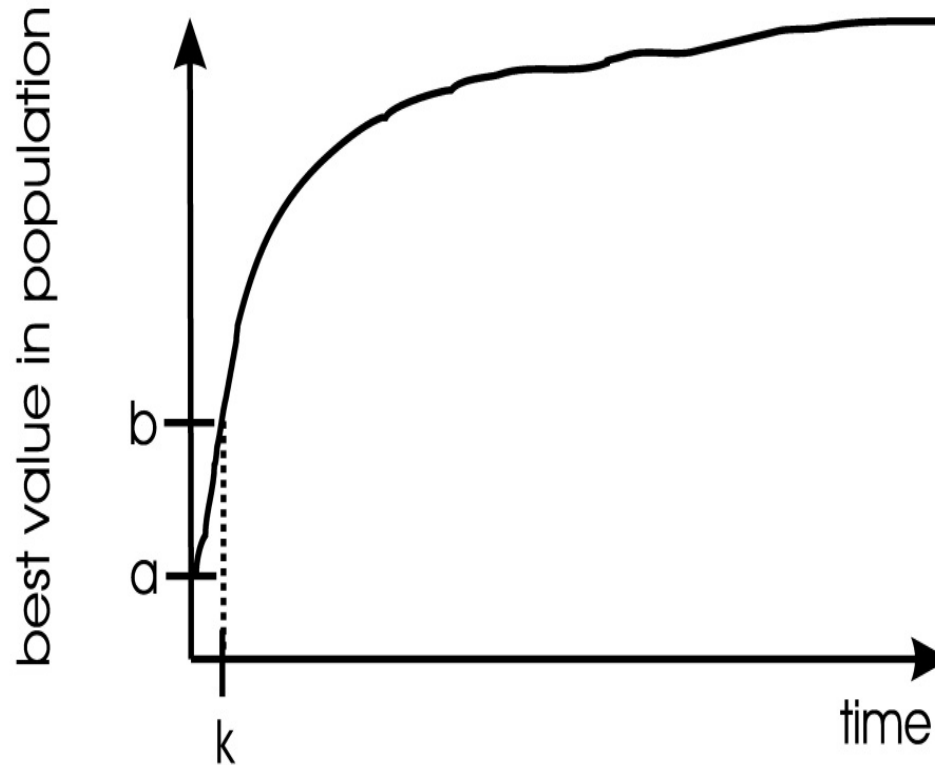


Tuning...

- Mutation probability
- Population size
- Nr of offspring
- Termination condition (# runs or fitness)
- Parent selection
- Survival selection
- Initialisation
 - Random



EA Behavior



Figures from “Introduction to Evolutionary Computing” by A.E. Eiben & J.E. Smith (Springer)



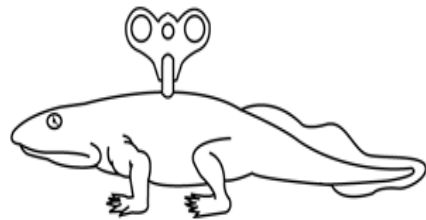
Fork me on GitHub

Demo!

- Backend
 - Java code shown
 - Used NASA World Wind to do calculations on the backend
- Frontend
 - AngularJs + Bootstrap + Google Maps 😊
- <https://github.com/bknopper/TSPEvolutionaryAlgorithmsDemo.git>



Java Frameworks & API's



WATCHMAKER FRAMEWORK
FOR EVOLUTIONARY COMPUTATION

<http://watchmaker.uncommons.org>

JGAP
G A T A G A G C G P_m = (P_m)^{φH}
JAVA GENETIC ALGORITHMS PACKAGE
0100111001001100

<http://jgap.sourceforge.net/>



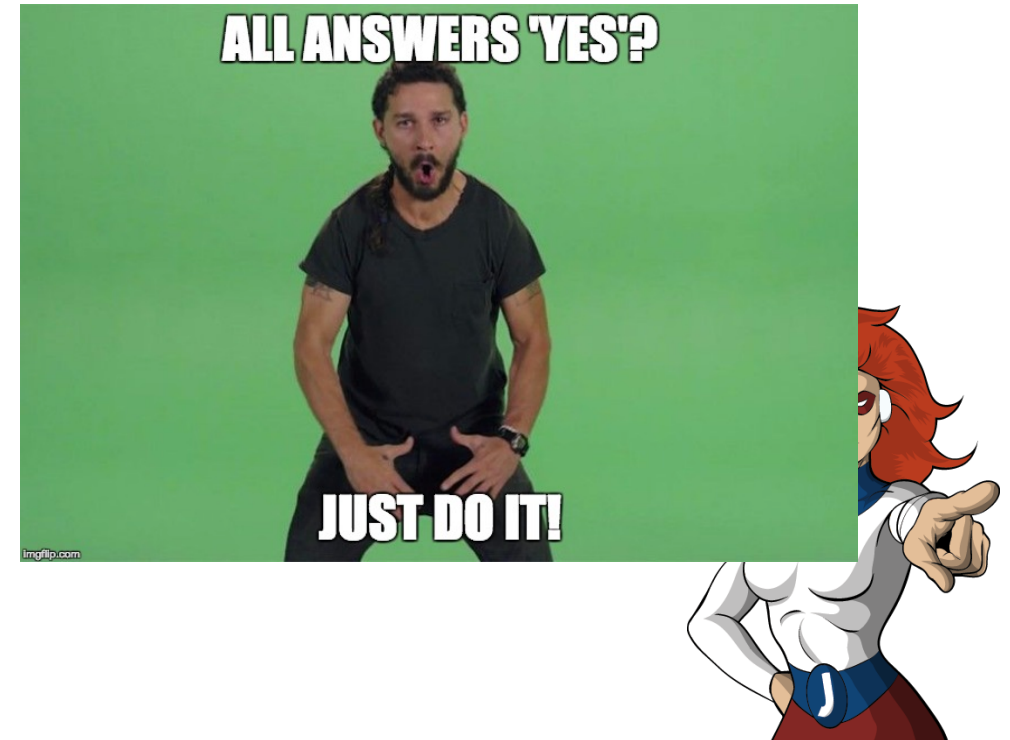
Java Frameworks & API's

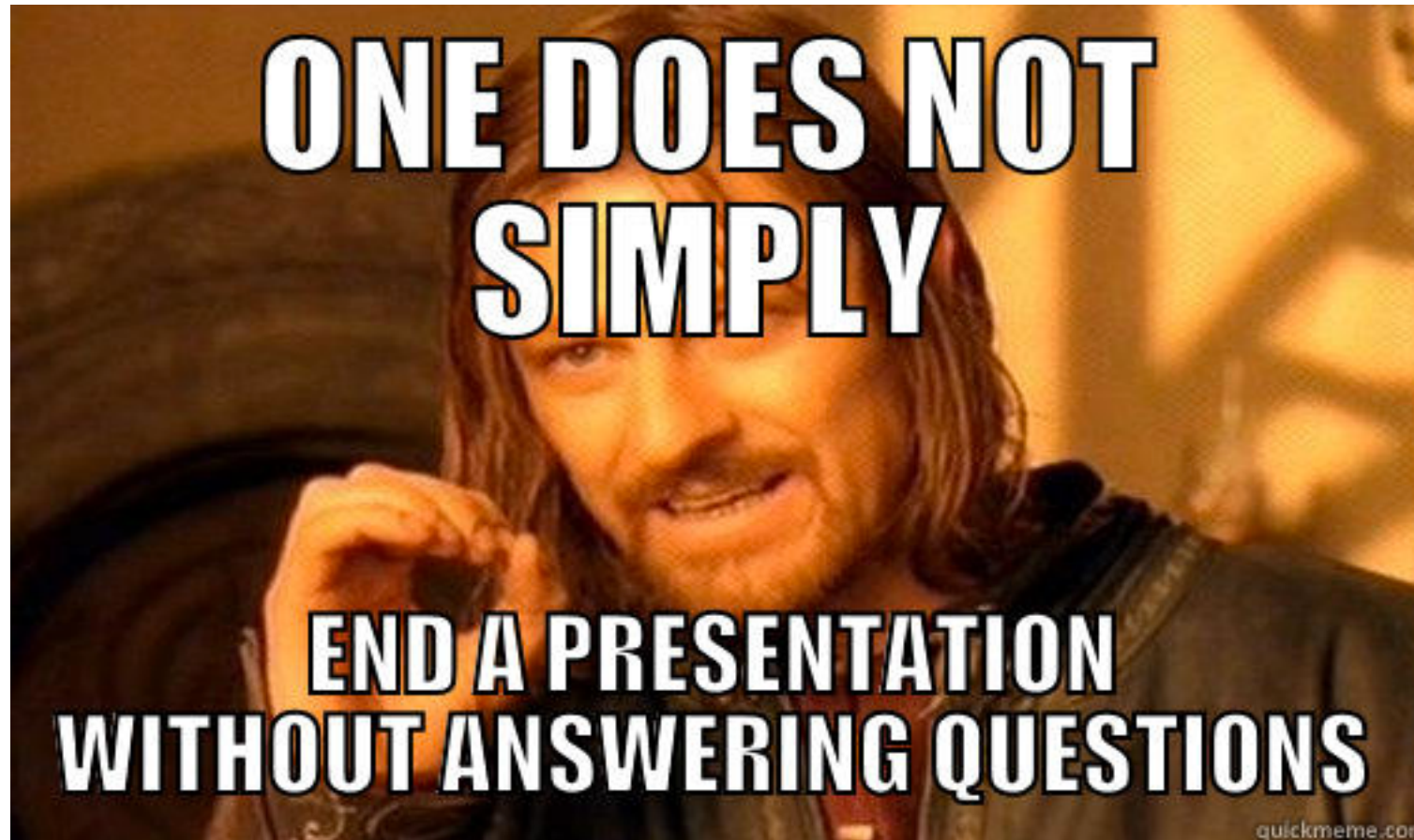
- ECJ
 - <http://cs.gmu.edu/~eclab/projects/ecj/>
- MOEA Framework
 - <http://www.moeaframework.org>
- JEAFF
 - <https://github.com/GII/JEAFF>
- ...



With great power comes great responsibility

- I'm sure I cannot find a solution using a brute-force approach?
 - (within a reasonable amount of time)
- Am I facing an optimization or search problem?
- Can I encode a candidate solution to the problem?
 - Representation possible?
- Can I determine the fitness of a candidate solution?





Additional questions?

- Contact me on @BWKnopper
- Google it!
 - There's lots to find...
 - Papers
 - Demo's
 - Aforementioned Frameworks/API's



THANK
YOU

