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Pierre Liardet
Pierre Collet
Cyril Fonlupt
Evelyne Lutton
Marc Schoenauer (Eds.)

Artificial Evolution

6th International Conference, Evolution Artificielle, EA 2003
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Revised Selected Papers



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Preface

This book is based on the papers presented at the 6th Conference *Evolution Artificielle*, EA 2003, held in Marseilles. Previous EA meetings took place in Toulouse (1994), Brest (1995), Nîmes (1997), Dunkerque (1999), and Le Creusot (2001), while the best presented papers were published in Springer's LNCS, volumes 1063, 1363, 1829, and 2310.

This year again, authors were invited to present original works, relevant to simulated evolution, including but not limited to evolutionary optimization and learning, theory of evolutionary computation, artificial life, population dynamics, and implementation and real-world applications of evolutionary paradigms. EA 2003 turned out to be very international, and the proposed papers were selected through a rigorous process, each of them being examined by at least three referees from the international program committee. We are greatly indebted to each of them for the hard work and time they spent to ensure a high quality of editing in this volume. We also would like to thank all the participants of the conference and the numerous authors who chose to submit their manuscripts.

We are particularly grateful to Prof. Hans-Paul Schwefel for his invited lecture on *Genesis and Future of Evolutionary Computation* which presented a wide survey of the art with a deep analysis, promising many further interesting applications.

Contributions in this book were organized into nine parts according to their main topics, and these are briefly presented below.

1. **Theoretical Issues:** Variable-length representations in evolutionary algorithms are investigated by M. Defoin Platel et al. using parametrical models in between the royal road landscapes and the NK landscapes according to Kauffman. M. Nicolau, A. Auger and C. Ryan explore the mathematical formalization of an encoding process using grammatical evolution and give asymptotics estimates and experimental results. A basic but general method to maximize many fitness functions is to choose – at random – an initial point and apply random perturbations (following a given or updated random process) to it in order to improve the fitness. The response to the increase in the number of variables for such perturbations is studied by L. Grosset, R. Le Riche, and R.T. Haftka, both for random stochastic hill climber and univariate marginal distribution algorithms, while S. Aupetit, P. Liardet and M. Slimane applied such a method to produce binary sequences with low out-of-phase aperiodic autocorrelations.

Asymptotic distribution laws of upper-order statistics were used by S. Puechmorel and D. Delahaye for improving the efficiency of selection and crossover operators. The last theoretical contribution, by M. Drugan and D. Thierens, was a survey on evolutionary Markov Chain Monte Carlo algorithms

related to evolutionary schemes; they proposed a new algorithm relying on elitist coupled acceptance rules.

2. **Algorithmic Issues:** Constraint satisfaction problems are considered by V. Barichard et al. in a general evolutionary framework based on the collaboration between constraint propagation techniques and local search methods. R. Baños et al. proposed a new parallel evolutionary algorithm for graph partitioning that mixed simulated annealing, tabu search and selection mechanisms. F. Lardeux, F. Saubion and J.-K. Hao investigated hybrid evolutionary algorithms involving recombination operators specially designed for SAT problems. This part ended with the presentation of B. Sareni, J. Regnier and X. Roboam on the efficiency of some crossover operators associated with self-adaptive procedures in the case of real-encoded multiobjective genetic algorithms.
3. **Applications:** The difficult technological problem of optical fiber alignment was efficiently solved using new genetic algorithms by M. Murakawa, H. Nosato and T. Higuchi. They incorporated a local-learning method to accelerate the alignment. K. Deb and A.R. Reddy dealt with a very large-sized scheduling problem often encountered in automated foundries: find an optimal sequence for casting a number of molds. A method for creating image classification is described by J. Korczak and A. Quirin. They used evolutionary operators applied to remote sensing data and derived well-adapted classification rules to recognize large objects on the image as well as the smaller ones. M. Segond et al. adapted an ant algorithm to detect vortex structures in coastal waters, using data from hydrodynamical simulations of the stream circulation. In order to speed up the selection of the flight aircraft by the controllers, D. Delahaye and S. Puechmorel presented a virtual keyboard whose optimal efficiency is related to an NP-hard assignment problem. They applied it to real instances. A.B. Garmendia-Doval, S.D. Morley and S. Juhos proposed and applied cartesian genetic programming to evolve postdocking filters automatically for removing false positives from virtual hit sets.
4. **Implementation Issues:** A number of various evolutionary algorithms are encountered in the literature. The graphic user interface (GUIDE) of P. Collet and M. Schoenauer unified all kinds of such algorithms and gave us facilities to create quite new combinations. ParaDisEO is a framework that uses evolving objects in parallel and distributed computing which is efficiently applied for large combinatorial problems. S. Cahon et al. made use of this approach in three evolutionary models involving asynchronous migration and parallel or distributed evaluation, experimenting on two real-world problems. Y. Yang, J. Vincent and G. Littlefair proposed a new model of coarse-grained parallel genetic algorithm managing clustered groupings. They tested their approach on multimodal optimization problems.
5. **Genetic Programming:** Maintaining a structural diversity and controlling the code size are the main challenges in genetic programming, a promising variant of evolutionary programming which produces solutions to problems in the form of computer programs. A measure of genotypic and phenotypic

pic diversity, based on the notions of entropy and variance, was applied by M. Tomassini et al. to three standard test problems, related to even parity, symbolic regression and artificial ants, while B. Wyns, S. Sette and L. Boulart introduced a self-improvement operator to reduce the effects of code growth.

Discrepancies, constantly encountered in genetic programming when the learning result issuing from training data is specialized over the entire distribution of instances, lead to the so-called overfitting that G. Paris, D. Robilliard and C. Fonlupt explored on two benchmarks, and they proposed guidelines to reduce its effect.

6. **Coevolution and Agent Systems:** Evolutionary processes may be issued from various paradigms. In auction theory A.J. Bagnall and I. Toft gave an adaptive agent model using a basic learning mechanism for optimal strategies in common auction scenarios. The multipopulation approach was used by F. Streichert et al. to extract global and local optima in multimodal search spaces: they proposed a niching-like method associated with cluster analysis for identifying species from an initially undifferentiated population. In their contribution R. Groß and M. Dorigo showed how to obtain an efficient cooperative transport of a prey using two simple autonomous mobile robots without any intercommunication facility and using very limited computing resources.
7. **Artificial Life:** The plant model considered by C. Lattaud is based on multi-agent systems, each agent being a plant organ and each plant being composed either of a unique organ or of three organs. This approach allowed us to define interactions between plants through a diffusion process of chemical substances (allellopathy model) and to simulate evolution of artificial plant communities. M. Annunziato et al. proposed an on-line adaptive control and optimization of complex processes, based on artificial environments.
8. **Cellular Automata:** The analysis presented by M. Giacobini, M. Tomassini and A. Tettamanzi concerned the takeover time for selection mechanisms applied on a spatially structured population, involving circular cellular automata with synchronous or asynchronous propagation. Their theoretical approaches are corroborated by empirical results. A class of 2-D cellular automata are studied by E. Sapin, O. Bailleux and J.-J. Chabier to search transition rules leading to automata that can be used to simulate the logic AND and NOT gates.
9. **Machine Learning:** Methods for learning integrate evolutionary strategy and cover a large range of applications. M.C. Codrea et al. proposed a feature-learning algorithm which does an automatic identification of plant species from their fluorescence induction curves. Receiver operating characteristics (ROC) curves figure out the dependency of the true positive rate with respect to the false positive one in test interpretations, and the area under the curve (AUC) is a popular learning criterion in medical data analysis. M. Sebag, J. Azé and N. Lucas presented the ROGER algorithm, implementing an evolution strategy based on optimization of the AUC criterion. Its per-

formances were compared to those issuing from a support vector machine, namely SVMTorch. The last contribution, by D. Kazakov and M. Bartlett, dealt with a model that simulated the evolution of language on the basis of learning communication systems.

We take this opportunity to thank the different partners whose financial and material support contributed to the success of the conference: the *Université de Provence*, the *Institut National de Recherche en Informatique et en Automatique* (INRIA), and the *Centre National de la Recherche Scientifique* (CNRS), with the LATP (*Laboratoire d'Analyse, Topologie et Probabilité*) and the CNRS *Groupe de Recherche ALP* (Algorithmique Langage et Programmation), the *Association Française d'Intelligence Artificielle*, and the *Association Évolution Artificielle*.

EA 2003 took place at the *Institut Universitaire de la Formation des Maîtres* (IUFM) nicely located on *La Canebière*. We are indebted to Mme Catherine Ponsin-Costa, administrative manager, and her team Mme Shirley Chemouny, Max Laffont and Xavier Campagna, for their particular kindness.

Finally, we wish to express our gratitude to Josy Liardet and Valérie Collet for their efficiency and enthusiasm in setting up the conference. LATP and INRIA linked their sponsorship to their efficient teams: Aline Blanc and Marie-Christine Tort from Marseilles; and Nathalie Gaudechoux, Dominique Potherat, Chantal Girodon and Marie-Jo Cardet from Rocquencourt. Many thanks to all of them as well as to Mario Giacobini from Lausanne for his general and efficient help.

January 2004

Pierre Liardet
Pierre Collet
Cyril Fonlupt
Evelyne Lutton
Marc Schoenauer

Evolution Artificielle 2003 – EA 2003

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Université de Provence, Marseilles, France
6th International Conference on Artificial Evolution

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