

# COMP 5660/6660 - Evolutionary Computing - Lecture Slides

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# Computational Problem Solving

- Step 1: build abstract/computational model of the real-world

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- Step 2: solve computationally in abstract model
- “Everything Should Be Made as Simple as Possible, But Not Simpler”<sup>1</sup>
- Step 3: map solution back to real-world

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- Mad Engineer Thought Experiment

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- Unimodal versus multimodal problems

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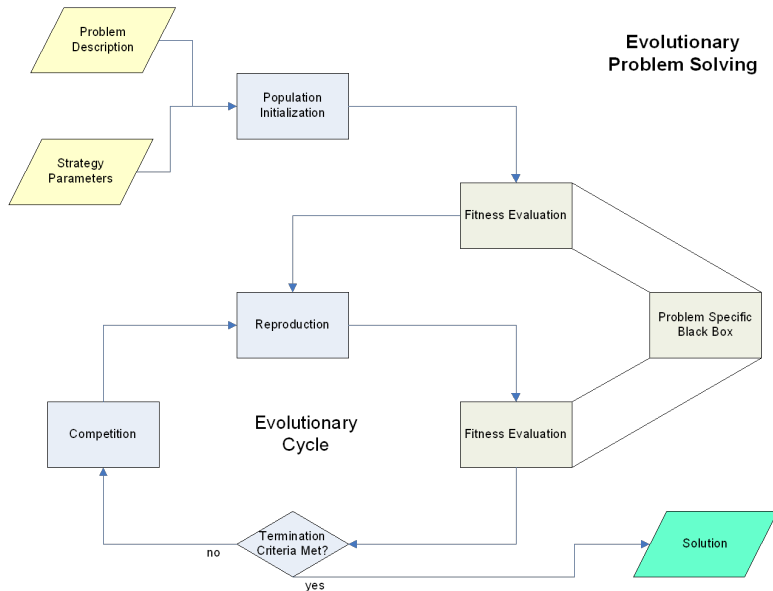
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- **Evolutionary Algorithms (EAs)** can be described as a class of *stochastic, population-based* BBSAs inspired by *Evolution Theory*, *Genetics*, and *Population Dynamics*

# Evolutionary Cycle



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- Ability to solve “difficult” problems
- Solution availability during computation
- Robustness
- Inherent parallelism

- Fitness function and genetic operators often not obvious
- Premature convergence
- Computationally intensive
- Difficult parameter optimization

# Biological Metaphors - Darwinian Evolution

- Macroscopic view of evolution
- Natural selection
- Survival of the fittest
- Random variation
- Genetic drift

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- Alleles - variant forms of a gene

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- $F$  does not need to be injective, but realize there is less to search if  $F$  is injective so there should be sufficient compensation, such as limiting  $F(G)$  to valid solutions in a constraint satisfaction problem.

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- 1  $fitness(p) = \sum_{i=1}^n (v_i \cdot g_i)$
- 2 Modify  $fitness(p)$  to exclude items that would exceed  $C_{max}$

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