

Improving a Hierarchical Evolutionary Algorithm with Applications in Optimization and Machine Learning

Evolutionary Graph Generation

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Graph Generator based on EA

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- Graph Generator based on EA
- Suitable for complex graphs

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- Graph Generator based on EA
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 - Graphs which exhibit structural similarities

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- Graph Generator based on EA
- Suitable for complex graphs
 - Graphs which exhibit structural similarities
- How to efficiently represent repetitive patterns?



- Graph Generator based on EA
- Suitable for complex graphs
 - Graphs which exhibit structural similarities
- How to efficiently represent repetitive patterns?
 - Suitable for evolution

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Evolutionary Graph Generation





Topics



- Introduction
- Graph Encodings
- Our Approach
- Results and Demo
- Conclusion





Graph Encodings

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Requirements



Efficient encoding of *repetitive* patterns

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Requirements



- Efficient encoding of repetitive patterns
- Encodes topology and connection weights

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Requirements



- Efficient encoding of repetitive patterns
- Encodes topology and connection weights
- Suitable for evolutionary optimization (effective genetic recombination)

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Adjacency Matrix



- Direct encoding
- Fixed length (number of nodes fixed)
- No efficient encoding of repetitive patterns

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Edge List



- Direct encoding
- Variable length
- Multiple connection between pairs of nodes
- No efficient encoding of repetitive patterns



First documented indirect encoding method

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- First documented indirect encoding method
- Encodes binary connection matrix using L-system

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- First documented indirect encoding method
- Encodes binary connection matrix using L-system
- Uses 2x2 matrices



$$S \to \begin{pmatrix} A & B \\ C & D \end{pmatrix}, A \to \begin{pmatrix} a & a \\ a & a \end{pmatrix}, B \to \begin{pmatrix} i & i \\ i & a \end{pmatrix}, C \to \begin{pmatrix} i & a \\ a & c \end{pmatrix}, D \to \begin{pmatrix} a & e \\ a & e \end{pmatrix}$$
$$a \to \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix}, c \to \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 0 \\ 1 & 0 \end{pmatrix}, e \to \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix}, i \to \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix}$$



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S

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$$S \to \begin{pmatrix} A & B \\ C & D \end{pmatrix}, A \to \begin{pmatrix} a & a \\ a & a \end{pmatrix}, B \to \begin{pmatrix} i & i \\ i & a \end{pmatrix}, C \to \begin{pmatrix} i & a \\ a & c \end{pmatrix}, D \to \begin{pmatrix} a & e \\ a & e \end{pmatrix}$$
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Shows significantly higher scalability and faster convergence

Direct Encoding Grammar Encoding

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Shows significantly higher scalability and faster convergence



Only binary matrix

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Shows significantly higher scalability and faster convergence



- Only binary matrix
- Matrix size power of 2





Evolves a graph from a single cell (= node)

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- Evolves a graph from a single cell (= node)
- Based on the concept of *cell division*

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- Evolves a graph from a single cell (= node)
- Based on the concept of *cell division*
- Graph transformations are node-centric. Applied in parallel

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Cellular Encoding (Gruau 1992)

Parallel Division (P)







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Cellular Encoding (Gruau 1992)

Sequential Division (S)







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Cellular Encoding (Gruau 1992)

Division T, variation of S







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Cellular Encoding (Gruau 1992)

Disconnect C3













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Starts with zygote cell embedded in environmentInstructions encoded in a binary tree





Very powerful graph transformations

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Cellular Encoding (Gruau 1992)



Very powerful graph transformations
 Explicit specification of connections

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Cellular Encoding (Gruau 1992)



- Very powerful graph transformations
- Explicit specification of connections
- No efficient genetic recombination (no gene alignment)

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Cellular Encoding (Gruau 1992)



- Very powerful graph transformations
- Explicit specification of connections
- No efficient genetic recombination (no gene alignment)
- Weight patterns (gradients) cannot be encoded efficiently

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Parametric L-System to generate list of edge transformations

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Transformations applied *sequentially* on active edge





Definition of parametric modules





- Definition of parametric modules
- Needs many transformations even for simple graphs

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- Definition of parametric modules
- Needs many transformations even for simple graphs
- No efficient genetic recombination (no gene alignment)

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Hierarchical Encoding (Schmidt 2009)



Genome contains module definitions which can be instanciated

Module def 1 Module def 2 Module def 3

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Hierarchical Encoding (Schmidt 2009)



- Genome contains module definitions which can be instanciated
 Module def 1 Module def 2 Module def 3
- Modules can instanciate submodules recursively



Hierarchical Encoding (Schmidt 2009)





Problems of Hierarchical Encoding



Realization of intermodular connections



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Problems of Hierarchical Encoding



Realization of intermodular connectionsInefficient recombination

Problems of Hierarchical Encoding



- Realization of intermodular connections
- Inefficient recombination
- Module variation only by copying a whole module definition

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Our Approach

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- weighted, acyclic, directed network
- inputs $x_i \in \mathcal{R}$
- outputs $f_i: (x_1, \ldots, x_m) \to \mathcal{R}$
- activation functions $a_i \in \{ sin, atan, gauss, id, const, \dots \}$
- accumulation functions Σ , Π



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$$f_1 = 1 \cdot \cos(2 \cdot x_1)$$





•
$$f_1 = 1 \cdot \cos(2 \cdot x_1)$$

• $f_2 = 4 \cdot x_1$

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•
$$f_1 = 1 \cdot \cos(2 \cdot x_1)$$

• $f_2 = 4 \cdot \cos(2 \cdot x_1)$

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•
$$f_1 = 1 \cdot \cos(2 \cdot x_1)$$

• $f_2 = (4 \cdot \cos(2 \cdot x_1)) \circ atan(x_1)$





•
$$f_1 = 1 \cdot \cos(2 \cdot x_1)$$

• $f_2 = (4 \cdot \cos(2 \cdot x_1)) + atan(x_1)$





•
$$f_2 = (4 \cdot \cos(2 \cdot x_1)) \cdot atan(x_1)$$





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Function terms can be shared

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- Function terms can be shared
- Graph representation allows use of topological analysis



Periodic functions (sin): Repetition











Imperfect symmetric function (arctan)



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atan(x * y)



Combination of periodic and symmetric



G(sin(x) * y)= > ~ ~ ~

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Combination of periodic and imperfect symetric



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 $\sin x \cdot e^{\sin y}$



How can we generate graphs from a CPPN?





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Query CPPN for each node pair to determine connectivity





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Substrate Placement



Application specific



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Substrate Placement



- Application specific
- Can make use of geometry of environmental system (sensors)

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Substrate Placement





Genetic Operators



 Structural mutation (AddNode, DropNode, ModifyNode, Connect, Disconnect, ...)



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Genetic Operators



- Structural mutation (AddNode, DropNode, ModifyNode, Connect, Disconnect, ...)
- Mutation of connection weights

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Genetic Operators



- Structural mutation (AddNode, DropNode, ModifyNode, Connect, Disconnect, ...)
- Mutation of connection weights
- Crossover of weights of matching edges

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Results and Demo



Bipartite



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Bipartite



Bi-Fan



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Bipartite



Bi-Parallel



Bi-Fan



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Bipartite



Bi-Parallel



Bi-Fan

Feed-Forward Loop (FFL)





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Similarity to target graph



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- Similarity to target graph
 - Neighbor matching (M. Nikolic 2012)
 - Triadic census

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- Similarity to target graph
 - Neighbor matching (M. Nikolic 2012)
 - Triadic census
- Behavioral Diversity

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- Similarity to target graph
 - Neighbor matching (M. Nikolic 2012)
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- Behavioral Diversity
 - Compressed form of the function of the CPPN

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- Similarity to target graph
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 - Average hamming distance of behavior to all other CPPNs of the population



- Similarity to target graph
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 - Prefers CPPNs with diverse behavior (avoids domination)



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- Connection Cost



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Connection Cost

Sum of connection lengths



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Connection Cost

- Sum of connection lengths
- Prefers local connections



- Similarity to target graph
 - Neighbor matching (M. Nikolic 2012)
 - Triadic census
- Behavioral Diversity
 - Compressed form of the function of the CPPN
 - Average hamming distance of *behavior* to all other CPPNs of the population
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Connection Cost

- Sum of connection lengths
- Prefers local connections
- Results in higher modularity

CPPNs for bipartite Graph





z = -1

z = 1



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CPPNs for bipartite Graph





z = -1

z = 1



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CPPNs for bipartite Graph





N=5



1.0

N=5

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CPPNs for bipartite Graph













Complexity of CPPN independent of size of graph

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CPPNs for bipartite Graph

Demo





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CPPN encode all aspects of graphs (edge/node weights, connectivity)



- CPPN encode all aspects of graphs (edge/node weights, connectivity)
- Patterns with following properties can be efficiently encoded:

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- CPPN encode all aspects of graphs (edge/node weights, connectivity)
- Patterns with following properties can be efficiently encoded:
 - symmetry

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- CPPN encode all aspects of graphs (edge/node weights, connectivity)
- Patterns with following properties can be efficiently encoded:
 - symmetry
 - imperfect symmetry



- CPPN encode all aspects of graphs (edge/node weights, connectivity)
- Patterns with following properties can be efficiently encoded:
 - symmetry
 - imperfect symmetry
 - repetition



- CPPN encode all aspects of graphs (edge/node weights, connectivity)
- Patterns with following properties can be efficiently encoded:
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 - imperfect symmetry
 - repetition
 - repetition with variation

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- CPPN encode all aspects of graphs (edge/node weights, connectivity)
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- Functional dependencies of structure and weighting.



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- Manual substrate placement and fixed number of nodes



- CPPN encode all aspects of graphs (edge/node weights, connectivity)
- Patterns with following properties can be efficiently encoded:
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 - repetition with variation
- Functional dependencies of structure *and* weighting.
- For regular graphs the complexity of CPPNs in independent of the size of the graph.
- Manual substrate placement and fixed number of nodes
 - BUT: HyperNEAT-ES (Evolvable Substrate)


Questions?

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• Parallel string replacement system $G = \langle \Sigma, \omega, P \rangle$

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•
$$\Sigma = \{F, +, -\}$$

• $P = \{F \to F - F + +F - F\}$
• $\omega = F + +F + +F$



•
$$\Sigma = \{F, +, -\}$$

• $P = \{F \to F - F + +F - F\}$
• $\omega = F + +F + +F$
• $S_1 = F$



•
$$\Sigma = \{F, +, -\}$$

• $P = \{F \to F - F + +F - F\}$
• $\omega = F + +F + +F$
• $S_1 = F$
• $S_2 = F - F + +F - F$



$$\Sigma = \{F, +, -\}$$

$$P = \{F \rightarrow F - F + +F - F\}$$

$$\omega = F + +F + +F$$

$$S_1 = F$$

$$S_2 = F - F + +F - F$$

$$S_3 = F - F + +F - F - F - F - F + +F - F + F$$





Uses Genetic Programming

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- Uses Genetic Programming
- Evolves LISP S-expression (P (₩ (+ 1.1 0.74) ...))

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- Uses Genetic Programming
- Evolves LISP S-expression (P (₩ (+ 1.1 0.74) ...))
- Special symbols to represent network nodes

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(P (W (+ 1.1 0.74) (P (W 1.66 DO) (W -1.38 D1))) (W (* 1.2 1.58) (P (W 1.19 D1) (W -0.98 D0))))









Only acyclic networks with one output can be represented



- Only acyclic networks with one output can be represented
- Cannot encode repetitive patterns

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