

Concurrency in evolutionary algorithms

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1

Course Agenda

- ❖ Why it is now the moment of concurrent algorithm languages.
- ❖ Basic concepts of concurrency.
- ❖ Functional programming and what it's got to do with concurrent programming.
- ❖ The concept of state and how it's related to concurrent programming.
- ❖ Stateless algorithms HOWTO
- ❖ How to eliminate state from evolutionary algorithms
- ❖ Levels of concurrency and programming patterns for concurrent evolutionary algorithms
- ❖ Issues and challenges in concurrent evolutionary algorithms.



3

Instructors

- ❖ Juan J. Merelo is Professor of Computer Architecture at the University of Granada. He's also an active open source developer, and as such has released free software libraries for evolutionary algorithms in Perl 6, Perl and JavaScript. He supports open science through extensive use of repositories. His repo can be found at <https://github.com/JJ>



2

Concurrency

- ❖ High-level abstract interface to low-level threads
- ❖ Several types of concurrency
 - Channel-based
 - Actor-based
- ❖ Modern languages including concurrency :
 - Perl 6
 - Julia
 - Scala
 - Go



4

Functional programming

- ❖ Functions as first-class entities.
- ❖ No side effects → Stateless algorithms
- ❖ Functional data structures.
- ❖ Reactive programming: Asynchronous events that *react* to events.
 - Messages or events from channels.



5

Working with no state

- ❖ What kind of functions use or induce state.
- ❖ Stateless algorithms
- ❖ Functional equivalence and *ab initio* design of algorithms.
- ❖ Lambda functions and serverless architectures.



6

Stateless evolutionary algorithms

- ❖ Granularity of functions.
- ❖ Escaping functional equivalence
- ❖ Dataflow design for concurrent evolutionary algorithms.
- ❖ The importance of communication.



7

Concurrent programming patterns

- ❖ Thread clusters.
- ❖ Thread scaling patterns.
- ❖ Message design for concurrent evolutionary algorithms.
- ❖ Debugging and logging.
- ❖ Auto-threading.



8

Implementations of concurrent evolutionary algorithms



- ❖ Implementations in Perl 6 using Algorithm::Evolutionary::Simple
- ❖ Some concurrent libraries that can be used.
- ❖ Cloud-native implementations
 - Use of message brokers.
- ❖ Examples in other languages.

9

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11

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10